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## **Clyde Fisher and Te Ata Collection** **1924-1985**

### **OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION**

Title: Clyde Fisher and Te Ata Collection

Creator: Clyde Fisher

Dates: 1924-1985

Bulk Dates: 1924-1949

Media: Documents

Quantity: 1 linear foot

Location: Manuscript Shelving

### **COLLECTION SUMMARY**

The Clyde Fisher and Te Ata Collection is mainly comprised of Dr. Fisher's travel journals, as well as biographical information related to him. We have travel journals from 1924 to 1946 from all over the world. Also in the collection are photographs, biographies, and articles written about Fisher. There are also publications written by Dr. Fisher during his career at the American Museum of Natural History.

### **PROVENANCE OF THE COLLECTION**

The collection was created and owned by Clyde Fisher. His widow, Te Ata donated the materials to Miami University in 1974.

### **BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION**

George Clyde Fisher was born on May 22, 1878 near Sidney, Ohio. He obtained an A.B. from Miami in 1905 and a Ph.D. in botany from Johns Hopkins in 1913. He was later conferred an LL.D. from Miami in 1926. He became Principal of Palmer College Academy from 1907-1909 and acting President from 1909-1910. He also served as an instructor at Cornell, the University of Florida and the University of Tennessee before joining the staff at the American Museum of Natural History in 1913. In 1928 he became the Curator of the Department of Education and in 1935 was named the Head of the Hayden Planetarium. Later, in 1941, became the Honorary Curator.

In 1905, he married Bessie Wiley and had three daughters, but they eventually divorced.

Dr. Fisher had a great interest in the languages and customs of North American Indians, making several trips to the American Southwest. He also visited Arctic Lapland twice. His interest in Native American culture led him to meet his future wife, a Chickasaw Indian Princess Te Ata. They married in 1933.

Dr. Fisher was a member of several professional organizations including: the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Astronomical Society, the Association of Variable Star Observers, the Society of Research in Meteorites, the Amateur Astronomers' Association, the Nature Study Society, the Torrey Botany Club, and the Explorers Club. He was also a fellow of the New York Academy, the New York Zoological Society, and the Linnaean Society in New York, and was elected to Fellowship of the Royal Astronomical Society in 1932. He passed away on January 7, 1949.

### **SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF THE COLLECTION**

The first series in the collection is Clyde Fisher's travel journals. Fisher was a dedicated traveler and spent a good amount of time between 1924 and 1946 traveling. He traveled to Lapland, Siberia, parts of Europe and the United States as well as other regions of the world.

As a scholar, Fisher produced quite a few publications in his career and the second series in this collection are just a few of them. Some of his publications are related to his travels, as some of his traveling was for professional reasons.

The last series in this collection are miscellaneous items. These include photocopies of biographies of Fisher, other items related to him, and some photographs.

### **ORGANIZATION OF THE COLLECTION**

- Series I: Travel Journals
- Series II: Publications
- Series III: Miscellaneous Materials

### **RELATED MATERIALS**

*Te Ata: Chickasaw Storyteller, American Treasure* by Richard Green E99.C55 A725 2002

### **ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

- Access: This collection is open under the rules and regulations of the Walter Havighurst Special Collections, Miami University Libraries.
- Preferred Citation: Researchers are requested to cite the *Clyde Fisher and Te Ata Collection, The Walter Havighurst Special Collections, Miami University Libraries* in all footnote and bibliographic references.
- Provenance: Donated by Te Ata in 1974.
- Processed By: Johnathan Cooper (2015)
- Property Rights: The Walter Havighurst Special Collections, Miami University Libraries, owns the property rights to this collection.
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**DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION**

Note to Researchers: To request materials, please note both the box and folder numbers shown below.

**Series I: Travel Journals**

Box	Folder	Title	Date
1	1	<i>Diary of Clyde Fisher's expedition to Lapland</i> [Sweden]. In addition to the writing, the first binder contains three photographs and one postcard of "Solrosen," a sculpture by Axel Ebbe in King's Park, Malmö, Sweden, as well as one postcard of an unnamed work by Ebbe. The second binder contains a photograph of Maria Gonnari Rarewanda (???), a newspaper clipping of the poem "More Truth than Poetry," and a slip of paper with information on it. (Originally in two black ring binders with 7.25"x4.25" paper; 234 pages; handwritten)	05/10/1924 - 08/25/1924
1	1a	<i>Diary of Clyde Fisher's expedition to Lapland</i> . Typewritten and bound copy.	05/10/1924 - 08/25/1924
1	2	<i>Diary of Clyde Fisher: Trip to Europe with Bessie Wiley Fisher</i> . (Originally in black ring binder with 7.25"x4.25" paper; 80 pages; handwritten)	08/20/1925 - 10/06/1925
1	3	<i>Diary of Woodcraft Indian Trip by Clyde Fisher</i> . (Originally in black ring binder with 7.25"x4.25" paper; 80 pages; handwritten)	06/30/1927 - 07/27/1927
1	4	<i>Diary of Clyde Fisher to Iceland and Lapland</i> . (Originally in black ring binder with 7.25"x4.25" paper; 45 pages; typed)	06/17/1930 - 08/04/1930
1	5	<i>Western Trip 1932 Clyde Fisher, American Museum of Natural History, New York City and Western Trip 1934, Clyde Fisher, American Museum of Natural History + Te Ata (Bearer of the Morning)</i> . Diary contains two sets of entries, one for a trip to the western United States in 1932 and another for a trip to the western United States in 1934 with Te Ata. (Originally in black ring binder with 7.25"x4.25" paper; 76 and 49 pages; handwritten)	06/29/1932 - 08/26/1932; 06/28/1934 - 07/14/1934
1	6	<i>Diary of Clyde Fisher of the Hayden Planetarium, American Museum of Natural History, New York City. Member of the Harvard-M.I.T. Eclipse Expedition 1936</i> . The Eclipse Expedition was a joint effort by Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (M.I.T.) to view the total eclipse of the Sun that occurred on June 19, 1936. The group observed the eclipse from Ak-Bulak in the region of	05/16/1936 - 08/25/1936

Box	Folder	Title	Date
		Siberia (modern day Kazakhstan). (Originally in black ring binder with 7.25"x4.25" paper; 196 pages with images; handwritten)	
1	7	<i>Trip to Florida Feb. 25, 1939 to Mar. 14, 1939 Te Ata &amp; Clyde Fisher.</i> (7.25"x4.25" paper; 41 numbered pages with three additional pages; handwritten)	02/25/1939 - 03/14/1939
1	8	<i>To Mississippi Sept. 22, 1939 to Oct. 2, 1939 Te Ata &amp; Clyde Fisher.</i> (7.25"x4.25" paper; 24 numbered pages with two additional pages; handwritten)	09/22/1939 - 10/02/1939
1	9	<i>To the Finger Lakes Region of New York, October 15 to 28 1939, Te Ata &amp; Clyde Fisher.</i> (7.25"x4.25" paper; 25 numbered pages with three additional pages; handwritten)	10/15/1939 - 10/28/1939
1	10	<i>To Florida.</i> (Originally in envelope on 7.25"x4.25" paper; 22 numbered pages with five additional pages; contains photographs; handwritten)	02/22/1940 - 03/04/1940
1	11	<i>To Florida 1940, Te Ata &amp; Clyde Fisher.</i> According to information in the actual diary, the trip took place in 1941. (Originally in envelope on 7.25"x4.25" paper; 33 numbered pages with three additional pages; handwritten)	01/18/1941 - 02/03/1941
1	12	<i>To the Southwest August 1 to Sept. 15, 1941 Te Ata &amp; Clyde Fisher.</i> (Originally in envelope on 7.25"x4.25" paper; 66 numbered pages with seven additional pages; handwritten)	08/01/1941 - 09/15/1941
1	13	<i>Lecture trip into New York and Pennsylvania, March &amp; April, 1941.</i> (Originally in envelope on 7.25"x4.25" paper; 93 numbered pages with three additional pages; handwritten)	03/02/1941 - 04/08/1941
1	14	<i>Loon Island in Lake Winnepesaukee, New Hampshire August 16, 1942 to November 3, 1942 Te Ata &amp; Clyde Fisher.</i> (7.25"x4.25" paper; 106 numbered pages with five additional pages; handwritten)	08/16/1942 - 11/03/1942
1	15	<i>Paricutin Expedition from the America Museum of Natural History, and the University of Michigan, to Mexico 1943-1944.</i> Also includes: an envelope with 4 photographs and 2 tickets; a letter from E.J. Alexander of the New York Botanical Garden related to a sample Fisher sent him; and a typed document titled, <i>American Museum Expedition to Volcano Paricutin in Mexico.</i> (7.25"x4.25" paper; 39 and 45 numbered with three additional pages; handwritten)	11/05/1943 - 11/29/1943; 02/21/1944 - 03/25/1944
1	16	<i>To Alberta, Canada.</i> (Originally in envelope on 7.25"x4.25" paper; 106 and 20 numbered pages; handwritten)	06/14/1946 - 09/05/1946

**Series II: Publications**

Box	Folder	Title	Date
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Box	Folder	Title	Date
1	17	"Garrett P. Serviss: One Who Loved the Stars" by Clyde Fisher. Journal Article reprinted from <i>Popular Astronomy</i> Vol. 37, No. 7, August/September 1929.	1929
1	18	"With John Burroughs at Slabsides: Recollection of the Famous Poet-Naturalist and His Mountain Retreat near Riverby" by Clyde Fisher. Journal article reprinted from <i>Natural History: The Journal of the American Museum of Natural History</i> Vol. 31, No. 5, Sept./Oct. 1931	1931
1	19	"The Eclipse in Kazakhstan" by Clyde Fisher. Reprinted from <i>Natural History</i> Vol. 38, No. 3, 1936. Photocopy included.	1936
1	20	"The Meteor Craters in Estonia" by Clyde Fisher. Reprinted from <i>Natural History</i> Vol. 38, No. 4, 1936.	1936
1	21	<i>Birds of Oxford, Ohio and Vicinity</i> by G. Clyde Fisher	n.d.

**Series III: Misc. Materials**

Box	Folder	Title	Date
1	22	"G. Clyde Fisher Speaks" <i>Alumni News Letter</i> May, 1926. A photocopy of an article that mentions Mr. Fisher.	May 1926
1	23	"The Fishers: Famous Sons of Miami" <i>The Miami Alumnus</i> Sept. 1947. A photocopy of an article that mentions Mr. Fisher.	Sept. 1947
1	24	"In Memoriam:" <i>The Miami Alumnus</i> March 1949. A photocopy of an article that mentions Mr. Fisher.	March 1949
1	25	Letter from F. Dale Pontus to Mel (???) that mentions Mr. Fisher, photocopy.	01/09/1985
1	26	5 photographs of Clyde Fisher	n.d.
1	27	Fisher, (George) Clyde encyclopedia entry, <i>Who Was Who</i> , pg. 187, photocopy.	n.d.
1	28	Fisher, [George] Clyde encyclopedia entry, <i>The National Cyclopaedia of American Biography</i> , pg. 555-556, photocopy.	n.d.
1	29	<i>Clyde Fisher Illustrated Lectures on Nature and Astronomy</i> . A brochure listing his publications and accomplishments.	n.d.
1	30	<i>Catalo</i> . A postcard of Catalo, the only living male offspring from a bison bull and domestic cow.	n.d.
1	31	2 miscellaneous envelopes	n.d.