Guide to the George Daniel Butler Collection

MS 899

compiled by Staff of Manuscripts and Archives

March 1982

Yale University Library
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New Haven, CT 06520-8240
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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Manuscripts and Archives
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CALL NUMBER: MS 899

CREATOR: Butler, George D. (George Daniel), 1893-1985

TITLE: George Daniel Butler collection

DATES: 1917–1919

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 0.5 linear feet

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: Approximately 600 photographs collected by George Daniel Butler, depicting the Yale section of the U.S. Ambulance Service with the French army, June 22, 1917–April 23, 1919. Also included are postcards of cities and historic sites in France.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0899

Requesting Instructions
To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0899.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html. The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:
b. box

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Conditions Governing Access
The materials are open for research.
Biographical / Historical

George Daniel Butler was born in Seymour, Connecticut, on November 14, 1893. He graduated from Yale with the Class of 1916. After graduation, Butler joined the war effort by assisting the U.S. Army Ambulance Service with the French army, for which he received a Croix de Guerre. Butler spent most of the rest of his working life with the National Recreation Association, where he was Director of Research, Assistant Executive Director and Associate Editor of "Recreation."

For several years he was a member and chairman of the Board of Adjustment, Playground Committee and Recreation Commission (1947-62) in Leonia, N.J.; also president, Home School Association and other agencies. He received a Special Citation from the American Recreation Society and Honorary Life Memberships in the Recreation and Park Associations of New York and New Jersey. In November, 1966, the renowned Bob Kiphuth, (now deceased) who was then Honorary President of the Council for National Cooperation in Aquatics, awarded But a Certificate of Recognition “for outstanding service and contribution in the field of aquatics”, at Purdue University.

George wrote many pamphlets, booklets and magazine articles and several books, among them, "Introduction to Community Recreation", "Playgrounds-their Administration and Operation", "Recreation Areas-their Design and Equipment", "Municipal Recreation Administration", "Pioneers in Public Recreation", "Country Parks", "Recreation Activities for Adults". For some time he was editor of the "Recreation and Park Yearbook". A lecturer, he has participated in workshops at several universities, chaired many national committees on recreation subjects and has taken part in local recreation surveys. He was Recreation Consultant in the planning of the town of Kitimat in British Columbia.

He was a member of the Leonia Presbyterian Church where he taught Sunday School and was a member and treasurer of the Session. He belongs to the Church of the Palms and the Yale and Ivy League Clubs in Sarasota. He retired in December 1962. In retirement his hobbies were flower gardening, photography, vacationing in Friendship, Maine, swimming in the Gulf of Mexico and “hiking on the most beautiful beaches in the U.S.A.”

On September 6, 1921, he married Rebecca Preble Jones, with whom he had two children. He died in May 1985.

Scope and Contents

Approximately 600 photographs collected by George Daniel Butler, depicting the Yale section of the U.S. Ambulance Service with the French army, June 22, 1917-April 23, 1919. Also included are postcards of cities and historic sites in France.
Collection Contents

Inventory

A group of men, mostly students or graduates of Yale were recruited in June, 1917 to serve as an ambulance unit with the French Army. This unit was known as the Yale section United States Ambulance Service and they served with the French Division in France, Belgium and Germany. The collection consist of ca. 600 photographs mounted in an album, which are of general interest and show some evidence of the war.

b. 1  Album of approximately 600 photographs  1917–1919
b. 1  Album containing postcards of French cities and historic sites [some evidence of World War I destruction; includes small amount of postcards depicting England, Belgium, Germany, and Wales]  1917-1919
Selected Search Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library’s online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects
World War, 1914-1918

Genres / Formats
Photographs

Corporate Bodies
American Field Service
United States. Army (Ambulances)
Yale University -- History