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W06-1308.50. Dame, Louis P. (1886-1953).
Papers, n.d., 1917-1955. 3.50 linear ft.



Abstract

Dr. Louis P. Dame was a native of the Netherlands. He attended Chicago schools and graduated from the University of Illinois College of Medicine and Lewis Institute. He married the former Elizabeth Purdie, a 1908 graduate of the Chicago Normal College. He was a veteran of World War I, serving in Puerto Rico. The Dames served as missionaries with the Arabian missions from May 1918 to November 1936, where Louis conducted a clinic at Riaah and won the goodwill of King of Saudi Arabia Ibn Saud. The greater part of his time was spent in Bahrain as the doctor in charge of the Mason Memorial Hospital. Mrs. Dame re-established a Girls' School in 1922. After leaving the missionary field, Dr. Dame and his wife settled in Rockford, Illinois, where he practiced medicine for 11 years. The collection contains essays written by Dr. Dame about Arabian life; newspaper and magazine articles about Arab affairs; photographs of Arab men and women, the Dames and the Dame's home, private quarters of His Majesty King Ibn Saud, and a school for girls; and correspondence with the Board of Foreign Missions, E. H. Lewis, the Field Museum of Natural History, Henry Bilkert, possibly Harold Storm, the Legation of the United States of America, P. J. Van Bruggen, Paul W. Harrison, Samuel M. Zwemer, the W. K. Kellogg Arabian Horse Ranch, Wells Thoms, Arab friends, British officials, and the Second Reformed Church, Fulton, Illinois.

Accession No.: W06-1308
Provenance: Louis P. Dame
Donor: Marian D. Hoekstra
Photographs: 15 images (Box 2)
Processed by: Carolyn Nienhuis, ca. 2008

Biography

Dr. Dame was born December 16, 1886, in the Netherlands, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Dame. He attended Chicago schools and graduated from the University of Illinois College of Medicine and Lewis Institute. He married the former Elizabeth Purdie in Chicago, September 18, 1918. He was a veteran of World War I, serving in Puerto Rico. Following service in World War I, he was connected with the Arabian missions, from May 1918 to November 1936. He conducted a clinic at Riaah, and won the goodwill of Bin Saud, which continued for many years. The greater part of his time was spent in Bahrain as doctor in charge of the Mason Memorial Hospital. When they returned to the United States, Dr. Dame and his wife settled in Rockford, Illinois, where he practiced medicine for 11 years.

Dr. Louis P. Dame died on July 2, 1953.

Elizabeth (Purdie) Dame was born in Plano, Illinois, on September 11, 1889. She graduated in 1908 from Chicago Normal College. She married Louis Paul Dame on September 18, 1918. She and Dr. Dame were associates with the Arabian Mission from 1918 to 1936. Mrs. Dame re-established a Girls' School in 1922.

Upon returning to the U.S., they settled in Rockford, Illinois. She and Dr. Dame continued their interest in the Arabian Mission and often entertained returning colleagues at their home.

Mrs. Elizabeth (Purdie) Dame died on August 21, 1968.

Scope and Content

The collection contains essays written by Dr. Dame about Arabian life; articles about Arab affairs; photographs of Arab men and women, the Dames and the Dame's home, private quarters of His Majesty King Ibn Saud, and a school for girls; and correspondence with the Board of Foreign Missions, E. H. Lewis, the Field Museum of Natural History, Henry Bilkert, possibly Harold Storm, the Legation of the United States of America, P. J. Van Bruggen, Paul W. Harrison, Samuel M. Zwemer, the W. K. Kellogg Arabian Horse Ranch, Wells Thoms, Arab friends, British officials, and the Second Reformed Church, Fulton, Illinois.

Container List

Box 1

Digitized Collection CD, 2017

An Account by the Oman Committee, 1926

Biographical, 1953

Correspondence

Board of Foreign Missions, 1923-1936

E. H. Lewis, 1931-1933

Field Museum of Natural History, 1935

Henry Bilkert, 1927-1929

Harold Storm, n.d., 1936

Legation of the United States of America, 1932, 1933

P. J. Van Bruggen, n.d.

Paul W. Harrison, 1928-1936

Samuel M. Zwemer, 1933, 1936

W. K. Kellogg Arabian horse ranch, 1933

Wells Thoms, n.d., 1936

Letters from Arab Friends, n.d., 1932, 1933, 1950 (Arabian)

Miscellaneous, n.d., 1926-1936

Regarding Resignation from Mission, n.d., 1935-1936

Round Robin Letters, n.d., 1924-1932

With British Officials, n.d., 1926-1934

Second Reformed Church, Fulton, Illinois, regarding shipments, 1927

Essays

"Arabia and the Problem of Its Penetration," n.d.

"Bahrein's Little Traveller," by [Elizabeth] Dame, n.d.

"Experiences in Central Arabia," by Dr. Louis P. Dame, n.d.

"[History of Arabian Missions]," by L. P. Dame, n.d.

Box 2

Essays (cont.)

“Intolerance in Inland Arabia,” by Dr. Louis P. Dame, n.d.

“Missions, a Test of Faith,” by L. P. Dame, n.d.

“New Territory Opened in Arabia,” by L. P. Dame, *The Special News Bulletin*, n.d.

“Objectives in Arabia,” by Louis P. Dame, n.d.

A Plea for Help, by L. P. Dame, n.d.

“Reopening Old Territory,” by Dr. Louis P. Dame, n.d.

“Some Results of Medical Missions in Arabia,” n.d.

“A Trip to Taif,” by Dr. Louis P. Dame, n.d.

Hospital Reports, n.d., 1917, 1921-1936

“Islam Puritans Again on the Warpath,” by A. H. Roberts, *The New York Times Magazine*, April 1, 1928

Lewis Alumni News, March 1935

Life of Mahomet by Charles J. Finger, Ten Cent Pocket Series, No. 412, ca. 1923

Modern Arabian Tales: Leaves from a Doctor’s Diary, by L. P. Dame, n.d.

A Disgruntled Wedding Guest

Old Red Beard

The Wily Captain

Newspaper Articles

“Beklemmende Woestijnrit,” n.d. (Dutch)

“Het Oproer in den Hidjaaz,” 1932 (Dutch)

“Peace Making on a British Warship,” *The Literary Digest*, April 12, 1930

Photographs

Arab Man and Women Dress, n.d. (1 image)

Home of the Dames, n.d., 1955 (3 images)

Louis and Elizabeth Dame, n.d., 1923-1924 (9 images)

Private Quarters of His Majesty King Ibn Saud, n.d. (1 image)

School for Girls, 1922 (1 image)

Poem, Recessional, n.d.

“Shipping Goods to Lonely Places,” by Marion T. Byrnes, reprinted from issue of *Success Magazine*, January 1927

Special Orders, from War Department, 1918

“The Sultanate of Muscat and Oman,” *The Near East and India*, November 4, 1926

Tours, 1933, 1934

Box 3 (Oversized)

Coat made by a royal seamstress and given to Louis P. Dame by King Ibn Saud of Saudi Arabia in appreciation for his health service to the staff and family of King Ibn Saud

Poem, To Dr. Dame A Token of Gratitude, 1934