



# National Museum of Health and Medicine

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## Otis Historical Archives

### OHA 353 Vogel Collection

**Date of Records:** 1919 – 1981

**Size:** 5.5 cubic feet

**Finding Aid by:** Eric W. Boyle (2012)

**Access and Use:** The Otis Historical Archives is committed to providing open access to its collections as far as possible within the limits of privacy and confidentiality. Some of the records in the Vogel Collection contain restricted material. Access to this collection is at the discretion of the Otis Historical Archives and material contained within the records may be subject to review before access is granted.

**Biographical Note:** Emma E. Vogel was born in Mankato, Minnesota. She graduated from State Teacher's College in 1908 and received a degree in physical therapy training from Reed College in 1918. Vogel's Army career began in 1919 when she was appointed a physical therapist at Army General Hospital No. 24 near Pittsburgh, PA. After World War I, she helped organize the first postwar training course in the country for physical therapists, at Walter Reed Army Hospital, one of the first courses of its type to receive professional recognition from the American Medical Association. In 1942, Vogel was transferred to the Office of the Surgeon General of the Army. She was awarded the Legion of Merit for effectively organizing the Physical Therapist Branch and for formulating policies and plans to ensure the highest standards for treatment of the sick and wounded. She became the first military director of physical therapists to reach the rank of major in 1943. As the first chief of the Women's Medical Specialists Corps, Vogel headed what was formerly three separate groups in the Army Medical Service—dietitians, physical therapists, and occupational therapists and was promoted to the rank of Colonel in 1947. She also became a charter member of the American Physical Therapy Association. Upon her retirement in 1951, Major General Norman T. Kirk, retired, former Surgeon General, stated: "No woman, either as a civilian employee of the Medical Department, or a commissioned officer in one of its corps, has made the contribution to the Medical Department that you have made."

**Series/Scope and Content Note:** The series in this collection are divided by main subject and document type. The wide range of materials are from the personal collection of Col. Emma E. Vogel, and include scrapbooks, personal and professional histories, and records of the AMSC; articles, manuals, reports, and photographs related to physical therapy; along with biographical information, personal documents, personal photographs, and the writings of Vogel on a variety of topics.



**SERIES 001: BIOGRAPHICAL DATA AND CORRESPONDENCE**

This series includes miscellaneous biographical documents from the Museum and other branches of the Department of the Army, outside sources including *Who's Who of American Women*, and clippings from a number of sources. Some correspondence related to legislative history of events leading to the formation of the Women's Medical Specialist Corps is also included. Vogel maintained an active correspondence record with the Museum over a period of several years as she worked on her own historical publications too. Additional topics in this series, along with related correspondence, include the anniversary of the Army Medical Service Corps, Vogel's retirement, and various speeches she delivered throughout her career.

**SERIES 002: PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS**

This series includes reports from physical therapy treatment during World War I and II, along with articles on the history of physical therapists in the Army throughout this period. A number of other articles and pamphlets on related topics, including those authored by Vogel and others, comprise the bulk of the series. Two books, *An Outline of Anatomy* and *Physical Therapists of the Medical Department* are also included.

**SERIES 003: PHOTOGRAPHS, AWARDS, AND CERTIFICATES**

This series includes hundred of photographs documenting the history of physical therapists and treatments from WWI to WWII. Portraits of Vogel and several of her close friends and colleagues are also included. Photos that appear to have been separated from a scrapbook document Vogel's private and professional life from 1919-1910. Additionally, a number of awards and certificates round out the series.

**SERIES 004: SCRAPBOOKS**

Scrapbook I is a photographic essay compiled by Vogel to document the period from 1919-ca. 1941 in the field of physical therapy in the Army. Scrapbook II and a folder of supplemental materials in Box 005 include photographs, clippings and correspondence from 1942-1968 , covering Vogel's career and retirement, along with the work and accomplishments of other physical therapists and colleagues in the Army Medical Department during that same period.

**SERIES 005: PERSONAL ADDRESSES**

These two small boxes include several hundred 3 x 5 personal address cards. They are believed to be students who worked or trained under Col. Vogel.

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- **SERIES 002: PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS**..... 3
- **SERIES 003: PHOTOGRAPHS, AWARDS, AND CERTIFICATES**..... 3
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## **BOX AND CONTENT LIST**

### **SERIES 001: BIOGRAPHICAL DATA AND CORRESPONDENCE**

#### **Box 001:**

- 00001: Original Description/Finding Aid for Emma Vogel Collection
- 00002: Biographical Data
- 00003: Legislative Material, Public Law #828, 36 and 514
- 00004: Correspondence With Museum
- 00005: Army Medical Service Corps Anniversary
- 00006: Retirement and Related Letters
- 00007: Speeches—Notes, Graduation
- 00008: Speeches—Notes, Misc.

### **SERIES 002: PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS**

#### **Box 002:**

- 00001: Reports: PT Activity in Europe and Mediterranean in WWII
- 00002: Charts and Graphs: WWII Physical Therapy
- 00003: Manual: Physical Therapy for Lower-Extremity Amputees
- 00004: Pamphlets: PT Treatment for Patients
- 00005: Articles: Army Physical Therapists
- 00006: Article: Physical Therapists from WWI to WWII
- 00007: Article: History of Women's Medical Specialist Corps
- 00008: Pamphlets and Misc. Articles
- 00009: Articles: Walter Reed
- 00010: Book: An Outline of Anatomy
- 00011: Physical Therapists of the Medical Department

### **SERIES 003: PHOTOGRAPHS, AWARDS, AND CERTIFICATES**

#### **Box 003:**

- 00001: Photographs—WWI Treatment/Apparatus



- 00002: Photographs—WWI Chest Cripples
- 00003: Photographs—Vogel, Nurse Aides, Physiotherapy Scrapbook (1919-20) [1 of 2]
- 00004: Photographs—Vogel, Nurse Aides, Physiotherapy Scrapbook (1919-20) [2 of 2]
- 00005: Scrapbook Material—Missing and Misc.
- 00006: Photographs of Friends of Vogel
- 00007: Photographs—Events Post WWI to WWII
- 00008: Photographs—Various Events from Vogel’s Life (1945-72)
- 00009: Awards, Memberships, Oath of Office
- 00010: Honorary Memberships, Clippings and Letters

**Box 004:**

- 00001: Desk Marker
- 00002: Certificate of Retirement as Colonel (Dec. 1951)
- 00003: Promotion to Major Certificate (Oct. 1947)
- 00004: Certificate of Retirement (Jan 1952)
- 00005: Retirement Certificates (1951)
- 00006: Photograph with Lovett, McDaniel, Snyder and Lee (1958)
- 00007: Photograph of Robinson and Harr
- 00008: Photographs Misc.
- 00009: Photos of Vogel, Portraits
- 00010: Phonograph Record: “The Battle of Emma Vogel”

**SERIES 004: SCRAPBOOKS AND ANNUALS**

**Box 005:**

- 00001: The Army School of Nursing Annual (1921)
- 00002: Scrapbook I—The Early Years to World War II

**Box 006:**

- 00001: Scrapbook—Post-World War II

**SERIES 005: PERSONAL ADDRESSES**

**Box 007:** Personal Addresses (A-K)

**Box 008:** Personal Addresses (L-Z)