



CENTER FOR POPULAR MUSIC
Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN

BOUTWELL FAMILY CHILDREN'S SONGS

95-048

Creator:

Boutwell, Marguerite J. (1914-2000)
Jacobsen, Ella (1878-1955)
Boutwell, Lane (1912-2002)

Type of Material:

Sheet music, notebook, transcription discs

Physical Description:

.1 linear foot of manuscript materials housed in 2 folders

Dates:

Undated, discs ca. 1950s

Access/Restrictions:

The collection is open for research use. All materials in this collection are subject to standard national and international copyright laws. Center staff are able to assist with copyright questions for this material.

Preferred Citation: (Folder Number/Name), Boutwell Collection 95-048, Center for Popular Music, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Provenance and Acquisition Information:

Given to CPM in March 1997 by Marguerite and Lane Boutwell along with some transcription discs for copying.

Arrangement:

The processing archivist created an organization by format.

Subject/Index Terms:

Children's Songs
Children's games
Music Education
Poetry

Agency History/Biographical Sketch:

Marguerite J. Boutwell was a local school teacher in Murfreesboro. She taught kindergarten and first-grade at the Pittard Campus School until retiring in 1972. The daughter of Richard and Ella (Gillette) Jacobsen, Marguerite earned a Masters in Music from MTSU (then MTSC) and was married to Dr. Lane Boutwell.

Dr. Luther Lane Boutwell Jr., former Speech and Theatre professor at Middle Tennessee State University, served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. He later chaired the department and founded the campus radio station, WMOT. In 1982, the school named the Boutwell Dramatic Arts Building in recognition of his decades of leadership and service.

The vocalist in the recordings, made ca. 1950, is Marguerite Boutwell's mother, Ella Jacobsen, who was about eighty years old at the time of the recording. Mrs. Jacobsen was born in Cherokee, Iowa, and learned these folksongs as a child.

Scope and Content:

The collection includes several sheets of lyrics, and hand-written sheet music. A notebook includes children's songs and poems, apparently copied from other sources and compiled for a class. The collection also includes 4 instantaneous discs (10" Duo discs) of folksongs stored separately. Dr. Lane Boutwell noted their date of circa 1950.

Collection Contents:

The manuscript collection contains two folders:

Folder 1: Six sheets of typed and hand-written lyrics, hand-written music, poetry and games for children. Titles include "I'm Very, Very Tall," "Hippity-Hop," "Step-Run game" (no lyrics), "Airplane," "Leaves in Autumn," "Koala Teddy Bears," and "Fireman." Poems include "Animals at Nite," "Winter," "Clouds," "Thanksgiving Songs," "Babay Seed Song," "Fog," "The Corn," and "Barter."

Folder 2: A notebook of 27 pages and 32 songs, with a typed index pasted onto the first page as a table of contents. In faint pencil writing on the front cover it reads: "The Song Book of the Primary Dept. of the First Presbyterian Church of Evanston, In." Page 3 of the notebook reads in pencil across the top "Marjorie + Mother."

Materials Cataloged Separately:

The (4) transcription discs (10" Duo discs at 78 rpm) are catalogued among the manuscript recordings, with designation TTA-0216, with an available audio log.

Location:

This collection is filed by accession number with other manuscript groups.

Related Materials:

The Albert Gore Research Center includes the "Lane and Marguerite Boutwell Papers," which contain Marguerite's teaching notes, student handouts, memos, games, and lesson plans.

See: "Where We Learn: A bibliography of Gore Center collections related to childhood education and female educators" by Melissa Hope.

<https://albertgoreresearchcenter.wordpress.com/2016/03/31/where-we-learn-a-bibliography-of-gore-center-collections-related-to-childhood-education-and-female-educators/>

Finding aid written by Jon Sewell, June 2026, incorporating notes from the original unattributed finding aid.