



*Center for The Study of The History of Nursing*

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA - SCHOOL OF NURSING - NURSING EDUCATION BUILDING - PHILADELPHIA, PA 19104-6096 - (215) 898-4502

**Schorr, Thelma M.**

**Papers, 1952-1991**

**MC 79**

**Extent:**

2 linear feet

**Provenance:**

Donor

**Access:**

This collection is unrestricted

**Citation:**

Thelma M. Schorr Papers, Center for the Study of the History of Nursing, School of Nursing, University of Pennsylvania

**Sponsorship:**

This collection was processed with funds provided by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission as part of the Nursing History Processing and Cataloging Project

**Schorr, Thelma M.**  
**MC 79**

**Biographical Sketch.** Born and raised in New Haven, Connecticut, Thelma M. Schorr entered Bellevue School of Nursing in 1942, graduating in the Class of 1945. She later received a Bachelor of Science in nursing from Teachers College, Columbia University. While studying at Columbia, Schorr joined the editorial staff of the American Journal of Nursing Company in 1949 after publicizing the "dumping" of tuberculosis patients on open wards at Bellevue Hospital. Over the next thirty years, she held various positions at the American Journal of Nursing Company before becoming editor in 1970, and president and publisher in 1981. Thelma Schorr, along with Anne Zimmermann co-authored a book on important nursing figures entitled *Making Choices, Taking Chances*, which was published in 1988.

**Summary.** Thelma Schorr's papers constitute 2 linear feet and include files of personal material, organizational material, as well as material relating to a book she co-authored. This collection is particularly strong in documenting her work at the American Journal of Nursing, and in the development of the book, *Making Choices, Taking Chances*.

**Series Description.** This collection has been arranged into three series:

- Series I. Personal, 1968-1991
- Series II. The American Journal of Nursing Company, 1969-1990
- Series III. Publication Files, 1984-1988
- Series IV. Photographs, 1952-1990

Series I. Personal, 1968-1991. This series consists of correspondence, general files, speeches she delivered at professional meetings, clippings about her and information on her trips to China and Israel. There are also two files of material relating to a book that was never published.

Series II. The American Journal of Nursing Company, 1969-1990. This series includes correspondence relating to her tenure at the American Journal of Nursing Company, as well as other miscellaneous documents from that period.

Series III. Publication Files, 1984-1988. This series contains correspondences, subject files, as well as other documents relating to the book, *Making Choices, Taking Chances*. The subject files contain biographical information on nursing leaders considered for inclusion in the book, as well as correspondence with them. Much of the other correspondence in this series is with the publisher of the book. These files document the development of the book from the initial idea to its final publication.

Series IV. This series contains photographs of Schorr at various events in her life. There are also a few photographs that she collected from the International Council of Nurses meeting which took place in Ireland in 1971.

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**Series I. Personal, 1968-1991**

Box 1

- f.1 Correspondence, 1968-1990
- f.2 Congratulatory Cards, 1971
- f.3 Congratulatory Cards, 1981
- f.4 Miscellaneous
- f.5 Programs, 1973-1991  
Speeches
- f.6 Rutgers University, 1973
- f.7 New Hampshire Nursing Association, 1975
- f.8 Boston University, 1975
- f.9 International Year of the Woman, 1976
- f.10 Student Nurses Association of North Carolina, 1979
- f.11 Florida Nurses Association, 1979
- f.12 American Nurses Foundation, 1980
- f.13 Iowa State Nurses Association, 1980
- f.14 Case Western Reserves University, 1981
- f.15 Nebraska Nurses Association, 1981
- f.16 American Nurses Association, 1986
- f.17 National Conference on Cancer Nursing, 1991
- f.18 Michigan, date unknown
- f.19 Texas, date unknown
- f.20 Open Letter to President Carter, 1977
- f.21 Clippings, 1971-1985
- f.22 Personal Notes from Unknown Conference, 1978
- f.23 Trip to Israel, 1976
- f.24 Trip to China, 1977
- f.25 Unpublished Book, *Caring*, 1982
- f.26 Unpublished Book, *Caring*, 1982, cont.

**Series II. The American Journal of Nursing Company, 1969-1990**

Box 2

- f.1 Assignments
- f.2 Board Reports
- Correspondence
- f.3 1969-1980
- f.4 1977
- f.5 1981
- f.6 1981-1989
- f.7 Editor's Conference
- f.8 Miscellaneous
- f.9 Press Releases
- f.10 Research Materials

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Series III. Publication Files, 1984-1988

*Making Choices, Taking Chances*

Subject Files, cont.

- f.1 Aiken, Linda
- f.2 Alfanso, Genrose
- f.3 Aydelotte, Myrtle K.
- f.4 Banard, Kathryn
- f.5 Benoliel, Jeanne Q.
- f.6 Bessent, Mattie
- f.7 Bowman, Rosemary
- f.8 Burke, Sheila

Box 3

- f.9 Carnegie, Elizabeth
- f.10 Christman, Luther
- f.11 Cornelius, Dorothy
- f.12 Curtin, Leah
- f.13 Cushing, Maureen
- f.14 Davis, Anne J.
- f.15 Diers, Donna
- f.16 Donley, Rosemary
- f.17 Driscoll, Veronica
- f.18 Dvorak, Eileen
- f.19 Fagin, Claire
- f.20 Griffith, Elsie
- f.21 Hill, Martha
- f.22 Holleran, Constance
- f.23 Igoe, Judith
- f.24 Johnson-Brown, Hazel W.
- f.25 Kalisch, Beatrice J.
- f.26 Kelley, Lucie S.
- f.27 Kinney, Marguerite
- f.28 King, Imogene
- f.29 Kowalski, Karen
- f.30 Kramer, Marlene
- f.31 Lambertson, Eleanor C.
- f.32 Leininger, Madeliene
- f.33 Lenburg, Carrie B.
- f.34 Leone, Lucile-Petry
- f.35 Levine, Myra

Box4

- f.36 Lubic, Ruth
- f.37 Manthey, Marie

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Series III. Publication Files, 1984-1988

*Making Choices, Taking Chances*

Subject Files, cont.

f.38 Martinson, Ida  
f.39 Mauksch, Ingeborg G.  
f.40 McBride, Angela  
f.41 McCafferty, Margo  
f.42 Montag, Mildred  
f.43 Murphy, Catherine  
f.44 Nichols, Barbara  
f.45 Ohlson, Virginia  
f.46 Ripple, Helen B.  
f.47 Roy, Callista  
f.48 Scaffer, Franklin  
f.49 Scolofeldt, Rozella M.  
f.50 Schwartz, Doris  
f.51 Smith, Gloria  
f.52 Stafford, Margaret J.  
f.53 Steel, Jean E.  
f.54 Stone, Virginia  
f.55 Styles, Margretta M.  
f.56 de Tornyay, Rheba  
f.57 Ufema, Joy  
f.58 Werley, Harriet  
f.59 Werner, June

Box 5

f.60 Williams, Virginia T.  
f.61 Woods, Nancy Fugate  
Correspondence  
f.62 Undated  
f.63 1984-1988  
f.64 Galley Prints  
f.65 Letters of Inquiry  
f.66 Memoranda  
f.67 Negative Responses  
f.68 Outlines and Notes  
f.69 Publishing Agreements

Series IV. Photographs, 1952-1990

Box 6

Photographs of Thelma Schorr  
p.1 Thelma Schorr, date unknown  
p.2 At Vermont College, date unknown

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Series IV. Photographs, 1952-1990

Photographs of Thelma Schorr, cont.

- p.3 Norman Schorr at Commission on Graduate of Foreign Nursing Schools banquet, date unknown
- p.4 After Speech at the American Nurses Association Convention, 1952
- p.5 With Gretchin Gerds Managing Editor of American Journal of Nursing Company, 1972
- p.6 At International Council of Nursing Congress in Japan, 1977
- p.7 At Great Wall of China, 1977
- p.8 As President of American Journal of Nursing Company, 1981
- p.9 With Norman Schorr at International Council of Nursing Meeting in Israel, 1985
- p.10 Adele Herwitz at International Council of Nursing Meeting in Israel, 1985
- p.11 At American Journal of Nursing Company Christmas Party, 1985
- p.12 At Washington Roundtable, 1986
- p.13 At podium at the PAHO Meeting in Columbia, 1986
- p.14 At the PAHO Meeting in Columbia, 1986
- p.15 At NSNA Convention, 1986
- p.16 At American Nurses Association Convention in Anaheim, 1986
- p.17 With Margaret Stafford and Mary Kelly Miellane, 1975
- p.18 With Shawn Kennedy in New Orleans, LA. at MCN Convention, 1987
- p.19 Receiving an Award in San Francisco, 1990
- p.20 With Winners of the Thelma Schorr Award in San Francisco, 1990

Photographs Collected by Thelma Schorr

- p.21 Irish Minister of Health at the Podium of National Council of Nurses Meeting in Dublin, 1971
- p.22 Liberia Awarding Plaque to the National Council Nurses of Ireland in Dublin, 1971
- p.23 International council of nurses Representatives with Prize Winning Nursing Students Dublin, Ireland, 1971
- p.24 International Council of Nurses Representatives with the President of Ireland in Dublin, 1971
- p.25 Group at a Banquet for the International Council of Nurses in Dublin, Ireland, 1971
- p.26 Adele Herwitz, Executive Director of the International Council of Nurses with Representatives from the Philippines in Dublin, Ireland, 1971