

**JONES MEMORIAL LIBRARY
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MRS. AND MISS MARTHA RIVERS ADAMS PAPERS

The collection includes the papers of two women, both of whom were named Martha Rivers ADAMS. Mrs. ADAMS, the mother, was editor of the Women's Page of the Lynchburg, Virginia, *News*. The collection contains four stories written by Mrs. ADAMS, lists of men from Lynchburg who served in World War I, lists of men registered with the Draft Board, a letter from James Southall WILSON, and copies of her newspaper column, "Browsings." Miss ADAMS, the daughter, kept scrapbooks of mementos of various parties and plays in Lynchburg, as well as a scrapbook of her senior year in high school (1925-1926).

- BOX 1**
- | | | |
|-----|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1-1 | ADAMS, Martha Rivers (1882-1959) | |
| 1-2 | "Buttermilk Josh" | 1-6 "Browsings" 1952 |
| 1-3 | Correspondence | 1-7 "Browsings" 1953 |
| 1-4 | Short Stories | 1-8 "Browsings" 1954 |
| 1-5 | "Browsings" 1951 | 1-9 "Browsings" 1955 |
- BOX 2**
- 2-1 "Browsings" 1956
 - 2-2 "Browsings" 1957
 - 2-3 "Browsings" 1958
 - 2-4 "Browsings" 1959
 - 2-5 Casualties (World War I)
 - 2-6 Induction Lists (World War I)
 - 2-7 Newspaper Clippings (World War I)
 - 2-8 Registration Lists (World War I)
 - 2-9 Service Records (World War I)
 - 2-10 Student/Alumni Lists (World War I)
- BOX 3**
- 3-1 "Did You Know" Advertisements, Martha Rivers ADAMS (1907-1971)
 - 3-2 Scrapbook (1919-1922)
 - 3-3 Scrapbook (1923)
 - 3-4 School Scrapbook (1916-1926)

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MARTHA RIVERS ADAMS (1882-1959)

Martha RIVERS, daughter of James W. RIVERS and Mary FLOURNOY, was born 10 November 1882 at Conway, Giles County, Tennessee. She was graduated from Athens College, Athens, Alabama, and from Martin College, Pulaski, Tennessee. She also attended Randolph-Macon Woman's College in Lynchburg, Virginia, for two years, a member of the class of 1904.

On 12 January 1904, Martha RIVERS married William Duval ADAMS, Jr., son of William Duval ADAMS and Elizabeth Victorine MULLAN, of Lynchburg.

Martha Rivers ADAMS was employed by *The News* of Lynchburg, first as a substitute for the society editors. During a career that spanned 45 years at the newspaper, she worked in almost every department as a reporter, covering courts, municipal offices, and "activities of military units and individuals during and after World War I." She also reported on numerous groups, "including all women's organizations." She eventually became Women's Editor of *The News*.

In 1951, Martha Rivers ADAMS began a weekly column entitled "Browsings." This column covered a variety of topics, but concentrated on local history. The column continued until her death in 1959.

Martha Rivers ADAMS was a director of the Travelers Aid Society from 1914 until 1950. She was an honorary member of the Woman's Club of Lynchburg, a member of Kirkwood Otey Chapter, UDC, and a member of the Lynchburg Art Club. She died 28 June 1959 and was buried in the Spring Hill Cemetery in Lynchburg.

[Phillip Wayne Rhodes, "The Adams Family of Lynchburg, Virginia," Mss., FF1985, Jones Memorial Library, Lynchburg, VA.]

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MARTHA RIVERS ADAMS (1907-1971)

Martha Rivers ADAMS, daughter of William Duval ADAMS, Jr., and Martha RIVERS, was born 23 June 1907 in Lynchburg, Virginia. She was graduated from Lynchburg High School in 1926, where she was alumni editor and literary editor of The Critic, a member of the Wilsonian Literary Society, and assistant editor-in-chief of The Critic-Crest. She was also graduated from Randolph-Macon Woman's College in 1930. "Always interested in civic and cultural activities," she was a member of the Junior League of Lynchburg, the Dogwood Garden Club, the Fine Arts Center, the Sarah Winston Henry Branch of the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, and the Lynchburg Historical Society.

Martha Rivers ADAMS died 26 May 1971 and was buried in Spring Hill Cemetery in Lynchburg.

[*The Critic-Crest, 1926* (Lynchburg: Lynchburg High School, 1926), p. 11; *Directory of Graduates and Former Students 1893-1958* (Lynchburg: RMWC Alumnae Assoc., 1958), p. 8; Obituary, *Lynchburg News*, 27 May 1971, Sect. B, p. 5 col. 1; Burial record, Diuguid Funeral Home, Lynchburg, VA, Book 61 p. 19.]