

Alaska State Library  
Historical Collections

**Guide to Collection**

**Kelty, Edna M.**

**Edna Kelty Papers, 1956-1959**

**MS 261**

2 folders  
19 letters  
4 b&w photographs

Processed by: Anastasia Tarmann, June 2015  
Revised by: Jacki Swearingen, Dec. 2016

**ACQUISITION:** Purchased from Rena D'Andrea-Corey of Mrs. Hudson's Fine Books and Paper in Cold Springs, New York. Accessioned April 6, 2015. Acc. #2015-007.

**ACCESS:** The collection is unrestricted.

**COPYRIGHT:** Request for permission to publish or reproduce material from the collection should be discussed with the Librarian.

**PROCESSING:** The letters and photographs were placed in Mylar and placed in an acid free folder. The collection has been described at the item level.

## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Edna M. Kelty was born April 7, 1907 in Umatilla, Oregon. Miss Kelty pastored a number of churches in California and Oregon before coming to Alaska in 1950. Her missionary work in Alaska took her to Kotzebue, Point Hope, Fairbanks, and Seward. While in Fairbanks Reverend Kelty founded and established the Christian Girls Ranch which was a sanctuary for unwed mothers and homeless girls. She directed the Ranch from 1956 to 1959. Edna Kelty passed away March 17, 1975 in Linn, Oregon.

## SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTE

The collection consists of 19 letters and 4 b&w photographs, ca. 1956-1959. The bulk of the letters were written by Edna Kelty of the Christian Girls Ranch in Fairbanks, Alaska, to Mrs. Lloyd E. (Lucy) Voss in Fillmore, New York. There are also letters from Mary Stalker and Sister Minnie. Topics included in the letters are: a baby given to a missionary family to adopt, poor conditions at the home, requests of Lucy Voss and the International Gospel League for funds and goods, and differences with Catholics.

## INVENTORY

### Folder 1

#### Letters:

1. June 12, 1956. Kotzebue, Alaska. From Edna M. Kelty to Mrs. Lloyd E. Voss. "My first letter" describes her [Kelty] work. Describes conditions in Kotzebue and shortage of resources. Discusses opportunity to purchase Officers' Mess Hall [which was moved to Fairbanks and became The Christian Girls Ranch.]
2. July 30, [1956]. Fairbanks, Alaska. From Sister Edna to Sister Voss.
3. Sept. 6, 1956. Fairbanks, Alaska. From Christian Girls Ranch, Sister Edna Kelty to Sister Lucy. Thanking Mrs. Voss for her support and contributions.
4. Oct. 30, 1956. Fairbanks, Alaska. From Christian Girls Ranch, Sister Edna Kelty to Sister Lucy Voss.
5. Nov. 9, 1956. Fairbanks, Alaska. From Edna M. Kelty to Sister Voss. Mentions Minnie, mother to a rapidly growing baby [Gary]. Mentions Ann and Elsie. Thanks Sister Lucy for gifts.
6. Nov. 28, 1956. From Sister Minnie to Sister Voss. Thanks Sister Voss for Christmas presents. Says that the baby is doing just fine and growing fat.

7. November 28, 1956. Fairbanks, Alaska. From Christian Girls Ranch, Mary Stalker to Sister Voss.
8. Nov. 29, 1956. Fairbanks, Alaska. From Christian Girls Ranch, Sister Edna Kelty to Sister Lucy Voss. Discussed departure of Ann, and the competition with the Catholics. Also discusses the adoption of Mary's baby by missionaries.
9. Feb. 14, 1957. Fairbanks, Alaska. From Christian Girls Ranch, Sister Kelty to Sister Voss (Lucy). Discusses a Missionary couple who wish to come to Fairbanks but want sponsorship.
10. March 21, 1957. Fairbanks, Alaska. From The Christian Girls Ranch, Sister Kelty to Sister Lucy. Sister Kelty has been ill. Mentions Minnie and other women in the home.
11. April 23, 1957. [Fairbanks, Alaska]. From Sister Kelty to Sister Lucy.
12. May 7, 1957. Fairbanks, Alaska. From Sister Edna Kelty to Sister Lucy.
13. June 7, 1957. [Fairbanks, Alaska]. From Edna to Dearest one in Jesus [Sister Lucy].
14. July 13, 1957. Fairbanks, Alaska. From Sister Edna Kelty to Dearest one in Jesus, Mrs. Lloyd E. Voss. Thanks Sister Voss for offering of \$30.00. Discussed digging a well, and other improvements.
15. Aug. 21, 1957. Fairbanks, Alaska. Thank-U-Gram From The Christian Girls Ranch, Sister Edna to Sister Lucy.
16. Sept. 19, Oct. 11, 1957. Fairbanks, Alaska. From The Christian Girls Ranch, Sister Edna to Sister Lucy.
17. Jan. 17, 1958. Fairbanks, Alaska. Thank-U-Gram From The Christian Girls Ranch, Sister Edna Kelty to Sister Lucy.
18. Feb. 23, 1959. Fairbanks, Alaska. From The Christian Girls Ranch, Sister Edna to Sister Lucy.
19. April 8, 1959. Seward, Alaska. From The Christian Girls Ranch, Missionary Edna M. Kelty to Dear ones in Jesus, Mrs. Lloyd E. Voss.

**Photographs:**

20. Gary Wayne...My first born in the Home isnt he a doll....13 months old
21. Nita and Little Brebda Mae.
22. Me and some of My girls.
23. Mary Ann

**Folder 2**

**Newspaper articles**

24. "Vision Comes True" - Fairbanks News-Miner; Wednesday, July 24, 1957; page 2.
25. "Missionary Making Strides Toward Her Long-Range Plans" by Val Greuel; Fairbanks News-Miner; Wednesday, July 24, 1957; page 2.