

Archives & Manuscript Collections
National Sporting Library
Middleburg, VA

Vladimir S. Littauer Papers

Name: **Vladimir Stanislas Littauer** **MC0043**

Materials: Correspondence, typescripts, documents, ephemera

Dates: c.1893-1995

Volume: 3 cubic feet

Donation: Gift of Andrew and Anya Littauer and the Estate of Vladimir S. Littauer, 2006.

Usage: Unless otherwise stated by NSL staff, these records are open for research without restrictions.

Biographical Note

Captain Vladimir S. Littauer (1892-1989) was an influential horseback riding master and the author of books and films on educated riding and the training of horses. He was an outstanding proponent of forward riding in 20th Century America. Littauer was born in the Ural Mountains of Russia but grew up in St. Petersburg. In the fall of 1911, at age 19, he entered the two-year officer training program at the Nicholas Cavalry School in St. Petersburg, where he was trained according to the French tradition.

During the Summer Olympics of 1912, Russian cavalry officers who had spent time in Pinerolo, Italy learning methods pioneered by Captain Federico Caprilli distinguished themselves and excited much interest in Caprilli's new system of "forward riding." Around 1913 senior coronet Vladimir Sokolov introduced Littauer to Caprilli's revolutionary method of riding. In 1913, Littauer was commissioned as a cornet (second lieutenant) in the 1st Sumsy Hussars, where he served against Germany during World War I, rising to the rank of Captain. After the October Revolution of 1917, Littauer joined the White Army, fighting in the Russian Civil War in Ukraine and Siberia before fleeing with his family to Canada in 1920. Littauer came to the United States in 1921.

In 1927, Littauer and two other former Russian cavalry officers founded the Boots and Saddles Riding School to teach principles of dressage they had learned in cavalry school. Soon they began experimenting with teaching Caprilli's forward riding methods, and the school found success at its New York City location. Littauer married Mary Aiken Graver in 1935.

Littauer began a 30-year writing career in 1931 with his book "Jumping the Horse." In 1937, Littauer left Boots and Saddles to begin working with students on their own horses and to offer riding clinics at schools, colleges and hunt clubs. He was a frequent guest lecturer at Sweet Briar College in Virginia where one of his students, Harriet Rogers, founded a riding program for the college. Over the years Captain V. S. Littauer conducted original research which, through his writing, resulted in major contributions to the sport of riding.

Although Littauer retired from teaching in the late 1970s, he continued to write until the early 1980s. He died at his home on Long Island on August 31, 1989 at the age of 97.

Collection Description

The Vladimir S. Littauer Papers collection includes pamphlets, collections of Littauer's published articles, correspondence with leading authors, editors, and horsemen, and personal documents and ephemera. This collection accompanies a 250-volume portion of Littauer's book collection. Another portion of the book collection is retained at the International Museum of the Horse at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, Kentucky.

Series and Subseries

- I. **Horse Show and Camp Materials** **5 folders**
Five folders of pamphlets, letters, and other materials relating to Littauer's participation in horse shows, camps, and clinics.
- II. **Correspondence** **36 folders, 1 clamshell box**
Contains folders and a clamshell box on general correspondence to Vladimir Littauer. Most folders are arranged by date, with individual letters sorted alphabetically by correspondent last name.
- III. **Research Materials** **3 folders**
Three folders of clippings on riding and the forward seat.
- IV. **Books by Littauer** **1 folder, 1 typescript, 1 clamshell box**
Contains typescripts, drafts, and correspondence relating to the publication or reprinting of Vladimir Littauer's books.
- V. **Articles by Littauer** **15 clamshell boxes**
15 clamshell boxes containing clippings, pamphlets, and publications containing articles or essays by Vladimir Littauer.
- VI. **Papers and Ephemera from Book Collections** **83 folders**
Post cards, letters and other ephemeral items inserted in volumes from Littauer's book collection. This series is organized by the author of the book in which items were found.

Container List
MC0043

I. Horse Show and Camp Materials, Research Materials

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Dates</u>
J52	01	Horse Show Programs and Prize Lists	1936-1960
J52	02	Annual Roster of Organized Hunts	1954-1967
J52	03	Camp Brochures	1957-1973
J52	15	United States Equestrian Team	1959-1963
J52	18	Photos and Post Cards	1949-1973

II. Correspondence

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Dates</u>
J52	04	Sweet Briar College	1949-1968
J52	05	Sweet Briar College	1968-1975
J52	06	Schools and Colleges	1948-1972
J52	07	Riding Schools and Camps	1963-1966
J52	08	Personal Correspondence	1968-1975
J52	09	J. A. Allen & Co.	1965-1973
J52	10	Andrew Littauer	undated
J52	11	Jane Marshall Dillon	1954-1974
J52	12	Alexander Mackay-Smith	1954-1975
J52	13	Paul Cronin	1973
J52	14	Paul Cronin	1959-1974
J52	16	Miscellaneous Correspondence	1964
J52	17	Film Invoices	1968
J52	19	Filed Letters: 1940s	1940-1949
J52	20	Filed Letters: 1950-1955	1950-1955
J52	21	Filed Letters: 1956-1959 (A-L)	1956-1959
J52	22	Filed Letters: 1956-1959 (M-Z)	1956-1959
J52	23	Filed Letters: 1960-1962 (A-L)	1960-1962
J52	24	Filed Letters: 1960-1962 (M-Z)	1960-1962
J52	25	Filed Letters: 1963-1964 (A-L)	1963-1964
J52	26	Filed Letters: 1963-1964 (M-Z)	1963-1964
J53	01	Filed Letters: 1965-1968 (A-L)	1965-1968
J53	02	Filed Letters: 1965-1968 (M-Z)	1965-1968
J53	03	Filed Letters: 1968-1970 (A-L)	1968-1970
J53	04	Filed Letters: 1968-1970 (M-Z)	1968-1970
J53	05	Filed Letters: 1971-1972 (A-L)	1971-1972
J53	06	Filed Letters: 1971-1972 (M-Z)	1971-1972
J53	07	Filed Letters: 1973-1974	1973-1974
J53	08	Filed Letters: 1972-1973	1972-1973
J53	09	Filed Letters: 1975	1975
J53	10	Filed Letters on Clinics (A-J)	1956-1975
J53	11	Filed Letters on Clinics (K-R)	1956-1975
J53	12	Filed Letters on Clinics (S-Z)	1956-1975
J53	13	Letters on Films and Film Rentals	1948-1970
J53	15	Filed Letters: 1953-1954 (A-L)	1953-1954
J53	16	Filed Letters: 1953-1954 (M-Z)	1953-1954

II. Correspondence (continued)

<u>Location</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Dates</u>
MC0043 01	Letters, Common Sense Horsemanship	1953-1983

III. Research Materials

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Dates</u>
J53	17	Clippings - Equestrian Articles	1940-1975
J53	18	Clippings - Equestrian Articles	1940-1975
J53	19	Clippings - Equestrian Articles	1940-1975

IV. Books by Littauer

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Dates</u>
J53	14	Photos: The Development of Modern Riding	1962
L55	--	Typescript and Materials for Common Sense Horsemanship	1951

<u>Location</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Dates</u>
MC0043 02	Letters, Images for Horseman's Progress	1990

V. Articles by Littauer

<u>Location</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Dates</u>
MC0043 03	Various Booklets on Riding	1937-1980
MC0043 04	Various Booklets on Riding	1946-1966
MC0043 05	Articles for Horse Magazine	1956-1958
MC0043 06	Articles for Horse Magazine	1957-1959
MC0043 07	D.G.W.S. Riding Guide Articles	1960-1969
MC0043 08	D.G.W.S. Riding Guide Articles	1948-1960
MC0043 09	Articles for Rider & Driver	1932-1943
MC0043 10	Articles for Various Magazines	1972-1981
MC0043 11	Articles for Various Magazines	1937-1981
MC0043 12	Articles for Various Magazines	1928-1966
MC0043 13	Serialization of "Schooling Your Horse"	1953-1982
MC0043 14	Serialization of "Defense of the Forward Seat"	1933-1982
MC0043 15	Serialization of "Common Sense Horsemanship"	1955-1958
MC0043 16	Articles for L'Eperon	1958
MC0043 17	Pamphlets, Letters on Equestrian Films	1946-1968
MC0043 18	Articles from 1901	1901

VI. Papers and Ephemera from Book Collections

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Dates</u>
L56	01	2 Catalog/Bookstore Notes	undated
L56	02	Article about Adams [French]	1964
L56	03	Catalog label	1962
L56	04	Astley Biography [French]	undated
L56	05	Articles on Akhal-Teke and Russian Horse Racing	1995
L56	06	Purchase Label	undated
L56	07	2 Bookmarks	undated
L56	08	2 Wedding Announcements	1955-1961
L56	09	5 Holiday Cards [French], 3 'Editions du Palais Royal,' Book Reviews	1973-1982
L56	10	Letter from Benoist-Gironiere	1979
L56	11	Letter from Benoist-Gironiere	1962
L56	12	Cards, Letter from Benoist-Gironiere	1950-1958
L56	13	Cards from Benoist-Gironiere	1970
L56	14	Letters from Benoist-Gironiere	1955
L56	15	Cards from Benoist-Gironiere	1957
L56	16	Exhibit Card	undated
L56	17	Letter from Benoist-Gironiere	1967
L56	18	Letter from Harry Worcester Smith	1922
L56	19	Cards from Lida Fleitmann Bloodgood	1960-1965
L56	20	Bookmark	undated
L56	21	Exhibit Card, Purchase Label	undated
L56	22	Exhibit Card	undated
L56	23	Exhibit Card	undated
L56	24	Exhibit Card	undated
L56	25	2 Exhibit Cards	undated
L56	26	2 Magazine Clippings	undated
L56	27	Exhibit Cards, Bookmarks	1969
L56	28	Postcard	undated
L56	29	Articles by Andre Monteilhet	1951-1974
L56	30	Magazine Clipping, Book Review	1946-1975
L56	31	2 Sale Notes	1962
L56	32	Articles on Spanish Riding School	1964
L56	33	Liquidation Catalog, Purchase Note	undated
L56	34	Letters from Jan Dickerson	1970-1976
L56	35	Letters from Jane Marshall Dillon	1946
L56	36	Christmas Card, Eduardo Yanez [Spanish]	1940-1970
L56	37	Book Review; Letter from Benoist-Gironiere	1962
L56	38	Letters from W. Sidney Felton	1969
L56	39	Letters from Lida Fleitmann Bloodgood	1959-1974
L56	40	Note by Lida Fleitmann Bloodgood	undated
L56	41	Exhibit Card	undated
L56	42	Magazine Clippings	undated
L56	43	2 Exhibit Cards	undated
L56	44	Obituary and Letters of Lt. Col. Hope	1957-1971
L56	45	Decorative Bookmark	undated

VI. Papers and Ephemera from Book Collections (continued)

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Dates</u>
L56	46	Exhibit Card	undated
L56	47	Article on Russian Influence on Jumping	1970
L56	48	Exhibit Card	undated
L56	49	"Country Life" Book catalog	undated
L56	50	Article on Gen. Humberto Mariles	1973
L57	01	Letters - Derrydale Press, Duell, Sloan & Pearce	1942-1976
L57	02	2 Letters from Grolier Society	1953
L57	03	Letter from Hurst & Blackett	1953-1954
L57	04	2 Hand Written Notes	1976
L57	05	Riding School Profile	1971
L57	06	Book Catalog Clippings	1973-1976
L57	07	Clippings, Letter from Eugene Connett	1973-1985
L57	08	Magazine Clippings	1965-1985
L57	09	Letter [Spanish]	1965
L57	10	MOA between Littauer and Curtis Brown	1939-1948
L57	11	Letters on Copyright	1946-1964
L57	12	Letters from Timoleon Razelos	1962
L57	13	Dust Jacket	undated
L57	14	List of Books and Authors	1963-1974
L57	15	Magazine Clipping [French]	1967
L57	16	Book Review, Photos of Coins	undated
L57	17	Articles by David H. Munroe	1953-1959
L57	18	Letter from David H. Munroe	1959
L57	19	Magazine Clippings [French]	1956
L57	20	Clippings on Pellier	undated
L57	21	Article by Jeanette Vigneron	1974-1975
L57	22	Magazine Clippings [French]	1946-1955
L57	23	2 Letters from Harriet Rogers	1948-1959
L57	24	Clippings on Paul Rodzianko	1981
L57	25	Articles by Gregor Romaszkan	1966-1972
L57	26	Letters from George Saunders	1974-1976
L57	27	Pamphlet on Russian Horses	1893
L57	28	Clippings on Bill Steinkraus	1962-1982
L57	29	Newspaper and Magazine Clippings	1937-1978
L57	30	Address of John McCreary	undated
L57	31	Article by Alex Brant	1984
L57	32	Articles by Julia Wynmalen	1962-1956
L57	33	Letters by Ginger Tadin and John Richard Young	1971-1973

This collection was processed by John Connolly, September 2016.