

Be Ri 35

**The Los Kamp Family**

By Emily Inserra  
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Ridgewood Public Library: Bolger Heritage Center  
125 North Maple Avenue  
Ridgewood, NJ 07450  
201-670-5600 x135  
www.ridgewoodlibrary.org

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**Descriptive Summary:**

**Title:** The Los Kamp Family

**Dates:** 1872-1986

**Quantity:** (4 mss. Boxes, 1 flat mss. Box)

**Abstract:**

This collection is on the members of the Los Kamp family. It contains correspondences between family members through letters, pictures, diaries, and journals depicting the timeline and life of the family and friends from the late nineteenth century until the 1980s. The family started in Orange County, New York, moved to Brooklyn, but eventually dispersed and began moving into Ridgewood by the 1920s. There is also government issued documentation such as World War I papers, bills, and event programs that reveal the private and professional lives of the various members of Los Kamp family.

**Collection No.:** Be Ri 35 Los Kamp

**Language:** English

**Repository:** Ridgewood Public Library: Bolger Heritage Center

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**History:**

Conrad Los Kamp, married to Eliza Los Kamp, was head of the family. Together, they had 8 children, with 7 surviving into adulthood. These children include Susan (Conrad's daughter from a previous marriage/relationship), Conrad, Paul, Anna, Caroline, Virginia, Edith, and Harold. Conrad Los Kamp purchased the deed for 46 acres of land in Newburgh, Orange County, New York in 1862, having a house built here shortly after. The family lived in this house until 1893, when they moved to Brooklyn. As the children grew older they dispersed

across the country and into other continents. By the 1930s, Susan, Anna, and Edith had moved to Ridgewood. Paul Los Kamp married a woman named Lois, and together they had a daughter named Marian before moving to San Francisco, California. Caroline Los Kamp lived and worked in Peru starting in the 1900's where she married Carl J. Kingston. Together, the couple had three children, and by the 1920s were living in Ridgewood, New Jersey. Virginia Los Kamp worked as a vocal instructor and singer, even working as an overseas YMCA entertainer during World War I. Members of the family continued to live in Ridgewood throughout the 1980s.

### **Personal Names:**

- Conrad Los Kamp- Head of Household
- Caroline Elizabeth- Wife of Conrad's (often just referred to as "Mother")
- Harold Los Kamp-Son
- Virginia Los Kamp- Daughter/ Singer/ Vocal Instructor/ YMCA Entertainer during WWI
- Anna Los Kamp- Daughter
- Edith- sister Virginia
- Susan Los Kamp- Step daughter to Eliza
- Charles Los Kamp- Conrad's son
- Caroline- Daughter
- Carl Kingston – Husband to Caroline
- John Kingston- Son of Caroline & Carl
- Eliza Kingston- Daughter of Caroline & Carl
- Margaret Kingston- Daughter of Caroline & Carl
- Paul Los Kamp- Son
- Lois Los Kamp- Wife to Paul
- Marian- Daughter to Lois and Paul
- Oresto Bellisario- Italian sailor living in Naples who ferries tourists, friend/suitor for Virginia
- Molly – Friend of Caroline's

### **Historical Events/Topics:**

- Commercial Whaling Industry
- Sinking of the *Titanic*
- *RMS Carpathia*
- *CS Mackay Bennett*
- Eugenics
- The Whaling Industry
- Cerro De Pasco Mining
- Becker-Rosenthal Trial
- World War I, 1917-1919 (WWI)
- Rise of the Progressive Party

- 1912 shooting of Theodore Roosevelt
- Perry versus Cook in the discovery of the North Pole

### **Subject Headings:**

### **Scope & Content Note:**

The collection is housed in four mss. boxes and one flat mss. box. The entire collection spans the years of 1872- 1986. The type of documents within the collection consist of letters, diaries, journals, bills, insurance checks, photographs of the family, photo negatives, World War I service papers, event programs, and transportation paperwork,. The collection has four series: Los Kamp Letters; Los Kamp Diaries and Journals; Los Kamp Family; and Los Kamp Photographs.

The Los Kamp Letters series spans from 1872 to 1986. There are letters between the family members that touch upon everyday life and historical events as they happen. The letters show the family's opinions on topics such as the sinking of the Titanic, the Becker-Rosenthal trial, and eugenics. The letters also reveal information on the actions of Virginia and Harold Los Kamp during World War I. There is a bulk of letters from 1907 to 1913 that details the correspondence between Caroline Los Kamp, who was living and working in Peru at the time, her mother, her sister Anna, and a third individual named Molly.

Los Kamp Diaries and Journals series contains diaries and travel logs separated by year. These journals talk about the weather, everyday happenings, and include journals that depict out-of-country vacations. This series spans the years of 1932-1947 and provides short passages about everyday occurrences. This series also reveals an interest in penmanship and an unknown family member's work reviewing books for newspapers.

The Los Kamp Family series contains documentation and service information on the family members who served during World War I. This documentation focuses namely on Virginia Los Kamp's work as an overseas entertainer for the Y.M.C.A. There are transportation papers, movement orders, identification papers, a Certificate of Release, a Paris Permit, and ceremonial programs. This series also contains holiday and greeting cards, along with postcards. There is also miscellaneous documents, pamphlets, and booklets on various churches and towns. Lastly, this series contains books from the family's collection.

Finally, the Los Kamp Photographs are the third series in this collection. They contain photographs of family members dating back as late as 1908. The photographs include snapshots of the family, but also houses, nature, the family's books, and family friends. This collection also contains a set of photo negatives.

### **Arrangement Note:**

- I. Los Kamp Letters, 1800s – 1980s
  - a. 1800s
  - b. 1901

- c. 1907
  - d. 1908
  - e. 1909
  - f. 1912
  - g. 1913
  - h. 1919
  - i. 1940s
  - j. 1950s
  - k. 1960s
  - l. 1970s
  - m. 1980s
  - n. Completed Undated Letters
  - o. Large Incomplete Letters
  - p. Small Incomplete Letters
- II. Los Kamp Journals & Diaries
- a. The Business Year Book 1933, 1934
  - b. The Business Year Book 1934, 1937-1938
  - c. The Business Year Book 1931, 1942-1943
  - d. The Business Year Book 1932, 1946-1947
  - e. The Wannamaker Diary, 1932
  - f. The Wannamaker Diary, 1939
  - g. Calligraphy Notebook, (Possible date: 1881)
  - h. Bound Letter, 1875
  - i. Raymond-Whitcomb tours & Cruises Log Book, 1923
  - j. "My Trip Abroad," 1929
  - k. Notebook of Book Reviews, 1961-1963
  - l. 1966 Desk Calendar...and Diary, 1966-1967
  - m. Virginia Los Kamp's Address Book
- III. Los Kamp Family
- a. Bills and Receipts
  - b. Holiday and Greeting Cards
  - c. Postcards
  - d. Miscellaneous
  - e. Pamphlets and Booklets
  - f. Los Kamp World War I
  - g. *Bitter-Sweet: A Poem.* by J. G. Holland
  - h. *Little Pillows* by Frances Ridley Halverga
  - i. *Nothing to Wear: An Episode of City Life* (From Harpers Weekly)
  - j. *The Invitation to Learning Reader: From Prison and Exile* Edited by Ralph Backlund
  - k. *The Prophet* by Kahlil Gibran
  - l. *The Right Way; or, The Gospel Applied to the Intercourse of Individuals and Nations* by Reverend Joseph A. Collier

- m. *Un Philosophe sous les toits* by Émile Souvestre
- IV. Los Kamp Photographs
  - a. Family Books
  - b. Photo Negatives
  - c. Photo Negatives Cont.
  - d. Album

### **Name and Subject Tracings:**

#### **Personal Names:**

- Conrad Los Kamp
- Caroline Elizabeth
- Harold Los Kamp
- Virginia Los Kamp
- Anna Los Kamp
- Edith Los Kamp
- Susan Los Kamp
- Charles Los Kamp
- Caroline Carl Kingston
- John Kingston
- Eliza Kingston
- Margaret Kingston
- Paul Los Kamp
- Lois Los Kamp
- Marian Los Kamp
- Oresto Bellisario
- Molly

#### **Historical Events/Topics:**

- Commercial Whaling Industry
- Sinking of the *Titanic*
- *RMS Carpathia*
- *CS Mackay Bennett*
- Eugenics
- The Whaling Industry
- Cerro De Pasco Mining
- Becker-Rosenthal Trial
- World War I, 1917-1919 (WWI)
- Rise of the Progressive Party
- 1912 shooting of Theodore Roosevelt

- Perry versus Cook in the discovery of the North Pole

**Subject Headings:** (LOC subject headings, does not need to be included)

**Administrative Information:**

**Preferred Citation:**

Ridgewood Public Library: Bolger Heritage Center (Be Ri 35)

**Container List:**

- I. Los Kamp Letters, 1872-1986

Arrangement: Materials are arranged in chronological order by year.

Summary: The material in this series contains information on the Los Kamp family's life and everyday along with personal perspective on historical events. Between 1907 to 1913, there is a bulk of letters that detail the correspondence between Caroline Los Kamp, who was living and working in Peru at the time, and her mother, sister Anna, and a third individual named Molly.

Box	Folder
1	1800s
1	1901
1	1907
1	1908
1	1909
1	1912
1	1913
1	1919
1	1940s
1	1950s
1	1960s
1	1970s
1	1980s
1	Completed Undated Letters
1	Large Incomplete Letters
1	Small Incomplete Letters

- II. Los Kamp Journals & Diaries, 1875-1967

Arrangement: The books in this collection are arranged in bulk by book titles and chronologically by when the books were used. The collection is also partially arranged by size, as some of the larger books are placed near the end of the box.

Summary: The material in this series contains information on various members of the Los Kamp family's everyday activities and interactions. They also provide descriptions on the daily weather report and information on the different interests of various members of the family. The materials in this series are comprised of diaries, calendars, travel journals, a calligraphy practice notebook, an address book, and book reviews. The books are generally handwritten, with a few typed, and there are also a few newspaper clippings of the published reviews written in one of the books

Box	Object
2	The Business Year Book 1933, 1934
2	The Business Year Book 1934, 1937-1938
2	The Business Year Book 1931, 1942-1943
2	The Business Year Book 1932, 1946-1947
2	The Wannamaker Diary, 1932
2	The Wannamaker Diary, 1939
2	Calligraphy Notebook, (Possible date: 1881)
2	Bound Letter, 1875
2	Raymond-Whitcomb tours & Cruises Log Book, 1923
2	"My Trip Abroad," 1929
2	Notebook of Book Reviews, 1961-1963
2	1966 Desk Calendar...and Diary, 1966-1967
2	Virginia Los Kamp's Address Book

### III. Los Kamp Family

Arrangement: The folders in this section are arranged in Box 1 chronologically and in Boxes 3 and 4 alphabetically.

Summary: This series contains World War I transportation papers, movement orders, identification papers, a Certificate of Release, a Paris Permit, and ceremonial programs. Most of these pertain to Virginia Los Kamp's work as an entertainer for the Y.M.C.A during WW I. It also contains any government issued documents such as those pertaining to business endeavors or tax forms. This series contains holiday and greeting cards, postcards, and books from the family's collection.

Box	Folder
3	Bills and Receipts
3	Holiday and Greeting Cards
3	Miscellaneous Papers

3	Pamphlets and Booklets
3	Postcards
4	<i>Bitter-Sweet: A Poem.</i> by J. G. Holland
4	<i>Little Pillows</i> by Frances Ridley Halverga
4	<i>Nothing to Wear: An Episode of City Life</i> (From Harpers Weekly)
4	<i>The Invitation to Learning Reader: From Prison and Exile</i> Edited by Ralph Backlund
4	<i>The Prophet</i> by Kahlil Gibran
4	<i>The Right Way; or, The Gospel Applied to the Intercourse of Individuals and Nations</i> by Reverend Joseph A. Collier
4	<i>Un Philosophe sous les toits</i> by Émile Souvestre

#### IV. Los Kamp Photographs

Arrangement: The folders are arranged in alphabetical order. Loose photographs are partially separated into bulks.

Summary: The Los Kamp photographs contains photographs of the family, the possible family house in Ridgewood, snapshots of nature, and family friends. There is also a set of photonegatives within this collection.

Box	Folder
5	Family Books
5	Los Kamp Photographs
5	Photo Negatives
5	Loose Photo Negatives Cont.
4	Album