Introduction

The Dimock Family Publications, 1903-1921, is a collection of author’s copies of magazines in which articles and/or photographs by A.W. Dimock (1842-1918), Julian A. Dimock (1873-1945), Leila Dimock, and/or Annette Dimock (1873-1958) appeared. The collection includes a variety of travel, recreation, nature, and country living periodicals published from 1903 to 1921. Julian A. and Annette Dimock moved to Topsham, Vermont, in 1912.

The family of Julian and Annette Dimock presented the collection to the Vermont State Library (now known as the Vermont Department of Libraries) in the 1960s. The collection was transferred to the Vermont Historical Society in 1997. The collection is shelved in one document storage carton, one Hollinger box, and five flat archival boxes; it consumes 3.75 linear feet of shelf space.

Biographical Notes

A.W. (Anthony Weston) Dimock (August 27, 1842 – September 13, 1918) was born in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, Canada. He married Helen Weston of Elizabeth, New Jersey, in 1865. She died in 1901. His second marriage was to Leila B. Allen, also from Elizabeth, New Jersey, in 1909. A.W. Dimock was a successful businessman, an author of books of fiction for boys and a writer of non-fiction articles about outdoor life and nature subjects such as Tarpon fishing in Florida, wintering in upper Quebec, and the life of a lumberjack.

From his New York Times obituary (copy in Folder 0):

He was graduated from Phillips Academy, Andover, Mass., in 1839, and in 1872 received the A. M. degree from Columbian University, now the George Washington University. He came to New York and began his business career, being accepted as a member of the Stock Exchange before he was 21 years old. He dominated the gold market of the country at the age of 23, and at 30 he controlled the Bankers and Merchants Telegraph Company, and was president of the Atlantic Mail and other steamship lines. He was first a member of the firm of Maquand & Dimock, bankers and brokers, and later A.W. Dimock & Co.

At the height of his career he left New York City to seek adventure among the Indians and ranchers of the West. When he returned East a few years later he took a prominent part in the development of Elizabeth, N. J., building miles of streets and several hundred dwellings.
Leila Allen Dimock (d. November 9, 1946) was born in Elizabeth, N. J. She wrote a book for children, Comrades From Other Lands, published in 1913 and was an editor for the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions in New York for their publication, “Over Sea and Land”. She died at the age of 83 in Willington, Connecticut.

Julian Anthony Dimock (August 9, 1873 – September 21, 1945) son of Helen Weston and A. W. Dimock, was born in Elizabeth, New Jersey. He was educated at the Pingry School. After his graduation, he became a member of the New York Stock Exchange. Because of ill health, he gave up his career in business and became a photographer for his father on his travel expeditions. In 1917 he gave up photography and bought a farm in Topsham, Vermont. During his life he was a photographer, a writer of books and articles on farming and photography, and an orchardist in Topsham, Vermont.

Annette Chase Dimock (March 5, 1873 – May 5, 1958) was a teacher at Massachusetts Agriculture College when she and Julian met while he took a course there. They married July 27, 1912 and moved to Vermont where they owned and operated “the Dimock Orchard, high on a Topsham hilltop...well known for the high quality apples and later for certified seed potatoes.” Julian was known for carefully packing his orchard’s apples individually, wrapped in paper, and in special boxes at a time when most apples were simply packed in barrels. (Vermont Historical Society News and Notes, November 1958, vol. 10, no. 9, p.21.)

Annette also wrote an advice column for the Burlington Free Press called “Letters to Peggy,” under the pen name “Aunt Serena” for 21 years. She served in the Vermont legislature as the representative from Topsham during the 1925-26 term. They had no children.

Scope and Content

The Dimock Family Publications consist of 154 issues of travel, recreation, nature, and country living periodicals published from 1903-1921. Most of the periodicals contain an article written by one of the Dimocks: A. W. Dimock (1842-1918), Julian A. Dimock (1873-1945), Leila Allen Dimock (d. November 9, 1946), and/or Annette Dimock (1873-1958). The articles written by A.W. or Julian describe their experiences fishing, canoeing, camping, and logging and describe wildlife in a variety of places from Florida to Quebec.

A.W. Dimock’s writings also include several articles describing his contact with Native Americans including the Florida Seminoles, the Ojibway, the Navaho, and the Pueblo. Although these are written more from the perspective of a traveler than that of an anthropologist, many are illustrated with photographs of Native American dress and customs. The collection includes two articles by A.W.’s second wife, Leila; the articles are on “The Girl and the Tarpon” and “The Immigrant’s Child: The Citizen of Tomorrow.”
Julian A. Dimock wrote about farming, photography, and protecting wildlife. His photographs illustrate his own articles, A.W.’s articles, and other writers’ articles in this collection. The collection includes three articles of advice to homemakers by Julian’s wife, Annette.

Several periodicals in the collection have neither a Dimock article nor a Dimock photograph.

Related Collections

VHS Library, printed collections
974.30 V598 v.45 The Vermonter, September 1940, cover and pp. 205, “Aunt Serena.”
R974.30 V591n v.10-12 News and Notes, November 1958, pp. 21-23, “Julian and Annette Dimock ‘Aunt Serena’.”, by Mildred Buller Smith (how Julian and Annette came to Vermont and started farming.)
Pam. Dimock, Julian A. “Barnes of Smuggler’s Notch” (In New England Magazine, December 1914, pp. 167-172; illus.) (an article about Willis M. Barnes on the way he treats the Vermont lumberjacks who work for him.)
Folio 917.43 D597f Dimock, Julian A. “Following the winter road.” (in Travel Magazine, February 1916, pp.13 & c). illustrated by photos (using a sleigh and horse the author and his wife travel “through the snowbound country of Vermont.”)

VHS Library, manuscript collections
Misc. File 373 Letters from “Aunt Serena.”
Doc 448:0.1 Outdoor Photography by Julian A. Dimock, New York: Outing Publishing Company, 1912. (Gift of Department of Special Collections, Bailey/Howe Library, University of Vermont, 1999.)

Vermont Department of Libraries


**University of Vermont**


**The American Museum of Natural History**

Dimock, Julian A., collection of 6,000 images with negatives. (see “Legacy of a Reluctant ‘Camera Man,’” *Natural History*, August 1996, pp. 79-81, and “Portraits of Tuskegee,” *Natural History*, February 1997, pp. 82-83, copies in Folder 0.)

**Arrangement**

The collection is organized alphabetically by the title of the periodical and then numerically by the date it was published.

**Inventory**


4 ______, February 1915, no article


Wilson C. Dexter (following the common practice of farming in the region for successful farming).


9 ______, July 1904 (p. 246, top photo by Julian A. Dimock).

10 ______, January 1905 (cover and contents design by Julian A. Dimock).


MSB 32:1 ______, January 1910, p. 286, “A Winter Day on the Coast of


3 ______, March 1910, no article.


8 ______, December Mid-Month 1910, pp. 185-188, “Adventures on Skees and Snowshoes,” By A.W. Dimock, photos by Julian A. Dimock (explains shapes, designs and how to walk, run and hurdle).


13 ______, January 15, 1912, p. 9, Contents design, “Tarpon


15 ______, November 1913, pp. 35-38, “True Tales of the Northern Frontier I-’Our Lady of Lime Street’ and Her Fur Makers,” by Julian A. Dimock (the Hudson’s Bay Company dominion over the Canadian Indian and the work involved to get furs).


MSB 33:1 ______, January 1914, pp. 43-45, “True Tales of the Northern Frontier III- Forty Years With the H.B.C.,” by Julian A. Dimock, with photos by the author and R.C.W. Lett (what life is like working for the Hudson’s Bay Company in Canada).


4 ______, April 1914, pp. 43-45, “Tales of the Northern Frontier VI-Royal North West Mounted Police,” by Julian A. Dimock (police help put the inhabitants of Edmonton in order to prevent fighting).


6 ______, May 1915, no article.

7 ______, August 1915, no article.

8 ______, March 1916, no article.

9 ______, April 1916, no article.

10 ______, May 1916, no article.

11 ______, June 1916, no article.

12 ______, July 1916, no article.

13 ______, August 1916, no article.

14 ______, September 1916, no article.

15 ______, October 1916, no article.


Doc 448:6  *The Editor*, July 10, 1910, pp. 4-6, “How We Broke Into Magazinedom,” by A. W. Dimock (how team work enables the author and Julian A. Dimock to produce quality articles).

7  _____, March 27, 1915, no article.

MSB 34:1  *Farm and Fireside*, August 29, 1914, no article.

2  _____, November 7, 1914, no article.


4  *The Farmer’s Wife*, May 1922, no article.


9  _____, November 1910, p. 604, photo by Julian A. Dimock (tarpon fishing).

10  _____, December 1910, pp. 716-721, “Campfires,” by A.W. Dimock, photos by Julian A. Dimock (campfires and how they can be useful in any climate).

11  _____, August 1911, pp. 355-360, “The Bloodstained Aigrette,” by Julian A. Dimock (facts about the plumage of egrets, and encourages hunter’s wives to discourage their husbands from hunting egrets).


13  _____, January 1914, no article.


8  _____, March 1, 1913, pp. 11-12, “Winter in the Catskills,” by A.W. Dimock.


MSB 34:9  *House and Garden*, September 1911, no article.
10 ______, October 1911, no article.
11 ______, November 1911, no article.
12 ______, March 1912, no article.
13 ______, April 1912, no article.
14 ______, October 1912, no article.
16 ______, March 1913, Frontispiece by Julian A. Dimock (buckets on maple trees).
17 ______, March 1914, no article.
18 ______, March 1915, no article.
19 ______, August 1915, no article.
20 ______, Sept. 1915, no article.


18 Metropolitan Magazine, October 1907, pp. 1-11, “The South and Its Problems,” by A.W. Dimock, photos by Julian A. Dimock (a comparison of the South’s racial and commercial phases
before the war and today).


10 *New Enql and Homestead*, December 15, 1923, no article.


22 ____, another copy.


24 ____, September 1909, Foreword of Turkey Tracks and portrait of the author.


30 ____, November 1915, no article.


west coast of Florida).


37 ______, April 24, 1909, p. 3, forward about “Wild Life,” an article to be published in the next issue.


14 ______, March 1909, p.160, “Around Our Campfire,” photo of A.W. Dimock and how an article of his is going to be in April’s Recreation.


17 ______, November 1909, no article.


20 The Rural New Yorker, July 25, 1914, p. 960, “Milk, Eggs and Better Farm Children: Balanced Ration For Humans,” by Annette Chase Dimock (why it is healthy to feed your children vegetarian).

21 School Sixty-Two, June 1912, pp. 3-4, “What the Birds Mean To You,” by A.W. Dimock, illustrations by Julian A. Dimock (a plea not to kill birds because they are needed to control the insect population).


MSA 201:6 The Sun, 1916, a newspaper clipping about A.W. Dimock.


MSB 35:23 Today’s Magazine For Women, August 1914, pp. 22, “The Household: Your Going to Market Business,” by Annette Chase Dimock (an article on how the “one ingredient necessary in every recipe the house wife tries is a dash of common sense”).


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