
Guide to the Virginia Prince Papers, 1930-1980

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California State University, Northridge

18111 Nordhoff St.

Northridge, CA 91330

URL: <http://library.csun.edu/SCA>

Email: oviattsca@csun.edu

Phone: (818) 677-2832

Fax: (818) 677-2589

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Overview of the Collection

Collection Title: Virginia Prince Papers

Dates: 1930-1980

Identification: SC/VP

Creator: Prince, Virginia, 1912-2009

Physical Description: 1.67 linear feet

Language of Materials: English

Repository: Special Collections

Abstract: Virginia Prince established, edited, and wrote for the magazine *Transvestia*. As editor and writer for *Transvestia*, Prince collected newspaper clippings, magazine articles, cartoons, and photographs on cross dressing that appeared in other print media outlets. The clippings date from the 1930s to 1970s. She subscribed to a news service which scanned a number of publications across the country, and sent clippings to her. The clippings file served as a resource for the magazine.

Biographical Information:

Virginia Prince was born a male on November 23, 1912, in Los Angeles. She began cross-dressing at about the age of twelve, at first using her mother's clothes. In 1939, she received a PhD in pharmacology from the University of California, San Francisco. As a research assistant and lecturer in pharmacology, Prince used the opportunity of access to the medical library to become acquainted with medical literature on transvestism.

By 1956, Prince began to develop her philosophy of transvestism and began her mission to educate the medical profession, transvestites themselves, and the rest of the world. This involved the development of the idea of 'femmiphilia', or, love of the feminine. Prince preferred to call herself a femmiphile (FP) rather than a transvestite. At the time little information was available in print, even in the medical literature, and most people's knowledge of transvestism was gleaned from newspapers such as the British *People* and *News of the World*.

In 1960, Prince established *Transvestia*, a magazine she also edited and wrote for. The magazine was published by Prince's Chevalier Publications, and was sold by subscription and through adult bookshops. Over the years Chevalier Publications also published transvestite fiction, some of it written by Prince herself. Prince continued her efforts on behalf of the transvestite and transgender communities until shortly before her death in 2009.

Access Terms

This Collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

Genre/Form of Material:

Paper records

Publications

Personal Name:

Ashley, April, 1935

Coccinelle, 1935

Cowell, Roberta, 1918

Jorgensen, Christine, 1926-1989

Rees, Tamara

Topical Term:

Transsexuals -- Press coverage

Transvestites -- Press coverage

Processing Information:

Tony Gardner

Conditions Governing Use:

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Conditions Governing Access:

The collection is open for research use.

Preferred Citation:

[Identification of item], [date], *Virginia Prince Papers*, Special Collections and Archives, Oviatt Library, California State University, Northridge.

Related Materials:

This collection is a part of the [Vern and Bonnie Bullough Collection on Sex and Gender](#)

Arrangement of Materials:

Series I: People

Series II: Advertisements, Cartoons, and Newspaper Photographs

Series III: Dated News Clippings, 1930-1972

Series IV: Topical News Clippings

Series V: News Clippings A-Z, 1937-1972

Scope and Contents

As editor and writer for *Transvestia*, Virginia Prince collected newspaper clippings, magazine articles, cartoons, and photographs on cross dressing that appeared in various print media outlets. The clippings date from the 1930s to 1970s, and served as a resource for the magazine.

The Virginia Prince Papers are arranged into five series. Series I, People, contains clippings about specific individuals, and is arranged alphabetically. Series II, Advertisements, Cartoons, and Newspaper Photographs, is arranged alphabetically by format or title. Series III, Dated News Clippings (1930-1972), is arranged chronologically. Series IV, Topical News Clippings, is arranged alphabetically by subject. Series V, News Clippings A-Z (1937-1972), is arranged alphabetically by publication title.

Series I: People

Box 1, Folder 1	April Ashley
Box 1, Folder 2	April Ashley
Box 1, Folder 3	Bambi (Jean Pierre Rene or Jean Pierre Pruvot)
Box 1, Folder 4	Gladys Bentley
Box 1, Folder 5	John Breckinridge
Box 1, Folder 6	Coccinelle
Box 1, Folder 7	Compton Cuties (Softball)
Box 1, Folder 8	Roberta Cowell
Box 1, Folder 9	Roberta Cowell
Box 1, Folder 10	Julie Desmond
Box 1, Folder 11	Senorita Herrero
Box 1, Folder 12	Christine Jorgensen, 1950s
Box 1, Folder 13	Christine Jorgensen, 1950s
Box 1, Folder 14	Christine Jorgensen (3 of 5), 1950s
Box 1, Folder 15	Christine Jorgensen, 1950s
Box 1, Folder 16	Christine Jorgensen, 1950s
Box 1, Folder 17	Peter Kastner
Box 1, Folder 18	Tizzie Lish
Box 1, Folder 19	Frank Little
Box 1, Folder 20	Arnold Lowman
Box 1, Folder 21	Rev. William C. McImont
Box 1, Folder 22	Charlotte McLeod (Charles McLeod)
Box 1, Folder 23	Delisa Newton
Box 1, Folder 24	Martha Olmos (Jorge Olmos)
Box 1, Folder 25	Wilfred Pettitt
Box 1, Folder 26	Michelle Marie Poulain (Michael Poulain)
Box 1, Folder 27	Tamara Rees
Box 1, Folder 28	Tamara Rees
Box 1, Folder 29	George M. Sanchez

Box 1, Folder 30	Arlene Teasdale
Box 1, Folder 31	Titanic (George Rodgers)
Box 1, Folder 32	Georgina Turtle (George Turtle)
Box 1, Folder 33	Alberto Vargas
Box 1, Folder 34	Dr. Hugh Young

Series II: Advertisements, Cartoons, and Photographs

Box 1, Folder 35	Advertisements
Box 1, Folder 36	Archie Comic Strips
Box 1, Folder 37	Blondie Comic Strips
Box 1, Folder 38	Dick Tracy Comic Strips
Box 1, Folder 39	Mutt and Jeff Comic Strips
Box 1, Folder 40	Cartoons
Box 1, Folder 41	Cartoons
Box 1, Folder 42	"Mirror of Your Mind" Articles
Box 1, Folder 43	Newspaper Photographs
Box 1, Folder 44	Newspaper Photographs
Box 1, Folder 45	Newspaper Photographs
Box 1, Folder 46	Newspaper Photographs
Box 1, Folder 47	Newspaper Photographs
Box 1, Folder 48	Newspaper Photographs
Box 1, Folder 49	Newspaper Photographs
Box 1, Folder 50	Newspaper Photographs
Box 1, Folder 51	Newspaper Photographs

Series III: Dated News Clippings, 1930-1972

Box 2, Folder 1	1930s
Box 2, Folder 2	1940s
Box 2, Folder 3	September 1944
Box 2, Folder 4	March 1947
Box 2, Folder 5	April 1947
Box 2, Folder 6	June 1947
Box 2, Folder 7	May 1948
Box 2, Folder 8	June 1948
Box 2, Folder 9	October 1948
Box 2, Folder 10	June 1949
Box 2, Folder 11	September 1949
Box 2, Folder 12	1950s
Box 2, Folder 13	July 1950
Box 2, Folder 14	August 1950
Box 2, Folder 15	April 1952
Box 2, Folder 16	September 1952
Box 2, Folder 17	October 1952
Box 2, Folder 18	November 1952
Box 2, Folder 19	November 1953
Box 2, Folder 20	March 1954
Box 2, Folder 21	April 1954
Box 2, Folder 22	June 1954
Box 2, Folder 23	February 1955
Box 2, Folder 24	August 1955
Box 2, Folder 25	1960s
Box 2, Folder 26	July 1968
Box 2, Folder 27	1970s
Box 2, Folder 28	September 1971
Box 2, Folder 29	March 1972
Box 2, Folder 30	August 1972
Box 2, Folder 31	September 1972
Box 2, Folder 32	November 1972

Box 2, Folder 33	January
Box 2, Folder 34	February
Box 2, Folder 35	March
Box 2, Folder 36	April
Box 2, Folder 37	May
Box 2, Folder 38	June
Box 2, Folder 39	July
Box 2, Folder 40	August
Box 2, Folder 41	September
Box 2, Folder 42	October
Box 2, Folder 43	November
Box 2, Folder 44	December

Series IV: Topical News Clippings

Box 2, Folder 45	Animal Behavior
Box 2, Folder 46	Beauty Contests
Box 2, Folder 47	Bi-sexuality
Box 2, Folder 48	Bondage & Discipline
Box 2, Folder 49	Breasts
Box 2, Folder 50	Child Behavior
Box 2, Folder 51	Church Figures
Box 2, Folder 52	Costume Balls, Parties & Masquerades
Box 2, Folder 53	Crime, Criminals & The Law
Box 2, Folder 54	Crime, Criminals & The Law
Box 2, Folder 55	Cults
Box 2, Folder 56	Dancers
Box 2, Folder 57	Fashion
Box 2, Folder 58	Female Impersonators
Box 2, Folder 59	Fiction
Box 2, Folder 60	Hair
Box 2, Folder 61	Harems
Box 2, Folder 62	Hermaphrodites
Box 2, Folder 63	Homosexuality
Box 2, Folder 64	Letters to Editors
Box 2, Folder 65	Letters to Editors
Box 2, Folder 66	Letters to Editors (Ann Landers)
Box 2, Folder 67	Letters to Editors (Dear Abby)
Box 2, Folder 68	Letters to Editors (Emily Post)
Box 2, Folder 69	Man - Woman Relations
Box 2, Folder 70	Mona Lisa
Box 3, Folder 1	Nudism
Box 3, Folder 2	Opinion Pieces: Mirror of your Mind
Box 3, Folder 3	Phi Pi Epsilon
Box 3, Folder 4	People & Places
Box 3, Folder 5	Prisoners & Recluses
Box 3, Folder 6	Prostitution
Box 3, Folder 7	Sadism
Box 3, Folder 8	Sex Changes & Transsexual Operations
Box 3, Folder 9	Sex Changes & Transsexual Operations
Box 3, Folder 10	Sexual Envy
Box 3, Folder 11	Spousal Relations
Box 3, Folder 12	Strippers
Box 3, Folder 13	Suicide
Box 3, Folder 14	Transvestites
Box 3, Folder 15	The Worry Clinic
Box 3, Folder 16	You and Your Child

Series V: News Clippings A-Z, 1937-1972

Box 3, Folder 17	<i>American Weekly, 1937-1955</i>
Box 3, Folder 18	<i>Arizona Republic, 1950s</i>
Box 3, Folder 19	<i>Asia Magazine, 1971</i>
Box 3, Folder 20	<i>Atlanta Journal, 1968</i>
Box 3, Folder 21	<i>Atlanta Journal & Constitution, 1971</i>
Box 3, Folder 22	<i>Bunk, 1956</i>
Box 3, Folder 23	<i>Call Bulletin, 1960s</i>
Box 3, Folder 24	<i>Candid Press, 1960s</i>
Box 3, Folder 25	<i>Chicago-American, 1950s</i>
Box 3, Folder 26	<i>Chicago Tribune, 1950s</i>
Box 3, Folder 27	<i>Chronicle</i>
Box 3, Folder 28	<i>Citizen News, 1950s</i>
Box 3, Folder 29	<i>Cleveland Press, 1965</i>
Box 3, Folder 30	<i>Closeup</i>
Box 3, Folder 31	<i>Color</i>
Box 3, Folder 32	<i>Confidential Flash, 1960s</i>
Box 3, Folder 33	<i>Coronet, 1967</i>
Box 3, Folder 34	<i>Daily Argus</i>
Box 3, Folder 35	<i>Daily Mirror</i>
Box 3, Folder 36	<i>Daily News, 1955</i>
Box 3, Folder 37	<i>Daily Pilot</i>
Box 3, Folder 38	<i>Denver Post, 1955</i>
Box 3, Folder 39	<i>Detroit Free Press, 1960s</i>
Box 3, Folder 40	<i>Detroit News, 1960s</i>
Box 3, Folder 41	<i>Duarte Dispatch, 1952</i>
Box 3, Folder 42	<i>Dude</i>
Box 3, Folder 43	<i>Eagle, 1949</i>
Box 3, Folder 44	<i>Enterprise, 1955</i>
Box 3, Folder 45	<i>Evening Bulletin, 1963</i>
Box 3, Folder 46	<i>Evening Paper-Wilmington, Del</i>
Box 3, Folder 47	<i>Evening Standard, 1959</i>
Box 3, Folder 48	<i>Evening Sun, 1960s</i>
Box 3, Folder 49	<i>Evening Tribune, 1971</i>
Box 3, Folder 50	<i>Examiner</i>
Box 3, Folder 51	<i>Facts of Life</i>
Box 3, Folder 52	<i>Femme Mirror, 1964</i>
Box 3, Folder 53	<i>Flair, 1950</i>
Box 3, Folder 54	<i>Flint Journal, 1969-1970</i>
Box 3, Folder 55	<i>Foo, 1952</i>
Box 3, Folder 56	<i>Florida Times-Union, 1965</i>
Box 3, Folder 57	<i>Foto-Rama</i>
Box 3, Folder 58	<i>Free Press</i>
Box 3, Folder 59	<i>Galuce</i>
Box 3, Folder 60	<i>Geo</i>
Box 3, Folder 61	<i>Girl Friend, 1953</i>
Box 3, Folder 62	<i>Hartford Courant, 1955</i>
Box 3, Folder 63	<i>Herald</i>
Box 3, Folder 64	<i>Herald News, 1955</i>
Box 3, Folder 65	<i>Hot Line</i>
Box 3, Folder 66	<i>Houston Chronicle, 1972</i>
Box 3, Folder 67	<i>Humboldt Standard, 1952</i>
Box 3, Folder 68	<i>The Independent</i>
Box 3, Folder 69	<i>INS</i>
Box 3, Folder 70	<i>Inside News, 1964-1968</i>
Box 3, Folder 71	<i>Insider</i>
Box 3, Folder 72	<i>International News/Special Service, 1947</i>
Box 3, Folder 73	<i>Justice Weekly, 1965-1966</i>
Box 3, Folder 74	<i>The Keyhole</i>

Box 3, Folder 75	Know Yourself, 1938-1939
Box 3, Folder 76	La Mesa Scout, 1952
Box 3, Folder 77	Largo Sentinel, 1955
Box 3, Folder 78	Let's Talk About You
Box 3, Folder 79	Life, 1938
Box 3, Folder 80	Life Guide Magazine
Box 3, Folder 81	London Daily Sketch, 1964
Box 3, Folder 82	Long Beach Press Telegram, 1948-1955
Box 3, Folder 83	Los Angeles Daily News, 1953
Box 3, Folder 84	Los Angeles Examiner
Box 3, Folder 85	Los Angeles Herald Express, 1940s-1950s
Box 3, Folder 86	Los Angeles News, 1951-1952
Box 3, Folder 87	Los Angeles Times, 1952-1970
Box 4, Folder 1	Medical Women's Journal
Box 4, Folder 2	Melbourne Truth, 1967-1972
Box 4, Folder 3	Miami Herald, 1972
Box 4, Folder 4	Midnight, 1962-1971
Box 4, Folder 5	Milady
Box 4, Folder 6	Milwaukee Journal, 1962
Box 4, Folder 7	The Mirror, 1950s
Box 4, Folder 8	Mirror News
Box 4, Folder 9	Monitor
Box 4, Folder 10	My, 1966
Box 4, Folder 11	My Confession, 1954
Box 4, Folder 12	National Bulletin, 1966-1971
Box 4, Folder 13	National Close Up, 1966
Box 4, Folder 14	National Edition
Box 4, Folder 15	National Enquirer
Box 4, Folder 16	National Examiner
Box 4, Folder 17	National Geographic
Box 4, Folder 18	National Geographic
Box 4, Folder 19	National Informer, 1964-1971
Box 4, Folder 20	National Insider, 1960s
Box 4, Folder 21	National Insider, 1970s
Box 4, Folder 22	National News, 1974
Box 4, Folder 23	National Police Gazette
Box 4, Folder 24	National Spotlight
Box 4, Folder 25	National Star
Box 4, Folder 26	National Tattler, 1967-1972
Box 4, Folder 27	New Haven Regents, 1972
Box 4, Folder 28	New Haven Register
Box 4, Folder 29	New York News
Box 4, Folder 30	New York Times, 1967-1972
Box 4, Folder 31	The News, 1965
Box 4, Folder 32	News of the World
Box 4, Folder 33	News Pilot, 1952
Box 4, Folder 34	News Review, 1972
Box 4, Folder 35	Observer, 1969
Box 4, Folder 36	Ohio News Bureau Co., 1952
Box 4, Folder 37	Orange Leader, 1962
Box 4, Folder 38	Outlook
Box 4, Folder 39	Pacific Stars and Stripes, 1968
Box 4, Folder 40	People, 1969
Box 4, Folder 41	The People-London, 1969
Box 4, Folder 42	PGH Press, 1965
Box 4, Folder 43	Philadelphia Bulletin, 1960s
Box 4, Folder 44	Photo-Journal, 1962
Box 4, Folder 45	Pix, 1940-1962

Box 4, Folder 46	Playboy, 1965
Box 4, Folder 47	Poughkeepsie Journal, 1972
Box 4, Folder 48	Press-Courier, 1969
Box 4, Folder 49	Press Gazette, 1951
Box 4, Folder 50	Press Telegram
Box 4, Folder 51	Pub-Scrantonian, 1955
Box 4, Folder 52	Publishers Syndicate, 1948
Box 4, Folder 53	Real Confessions
Box 4, Folder 54	Redbook, 1965
Box 4, Folder 55	Register
Box 4, Folder 56	Rocky Mountain News
Box 4, Folder 57	San Francisco Chronicle, 1952-1964
Box 4, Folder 58	San Francisco Examiner, 1937-1974
Box 4, Folder 59	San Francisco News, 1957
Box 4, Folder 60	Santa Ana Register, 1966
Box 4, Folder 61	Saturday Evening Post
Box 4, Folder 62	Seattle Times, 1970
Box 4, Folder 63	Sepia
Box 4, Folder 64	Sex Guide
Box 4, Folder 65	Sex Health
Box 4, Folder 66	Sex Health
Box 4, Folder 67	Sex Psychology
Box 4, Folder 68	Sexology, 1930s
Box 4, Folder 69	Sexology, 1940s
Box 4, Folder 70	Sexology, 1950s
Box 4, Folder 71	Sexology, 1960s
Box 4, Folder 72	Sexual Behavior, 1971
Box 4, Folder 73	St. Louis Globe-Democrat, 1955
Box 4, Folder 74	St. Louis Post, 1969
Box 4, Folder 75	St. Petersburg Times, 1955
Box 4, Folder 76	State Times, 1970
Box 4, Folder 77	Star Chronicle
Box 4, Folder 78	The Sun, 1955
Box 4, Folder 79	Sun-Times
Box 4, Folder 80	Sunday Mirror, 1951
Box 4, Folder 81	Sunday News, 1950-1964
Box 4, Folder 82	Sunday Pictorial, 1956-1962
Box 4, Folder 83	Tattler, 1964
Box 4, Folder 84	Texas City Carbide News
Box 4, Folder 85	This Week Magazine, 1959
Box 4, Folder 86	Time Magazine, 1949-1964
Box 4, Folder 87	Times, 1951
Box 4, Folder 88	Toledo Times
Box 4, Folder 89	Tribune, 1952
Box 4, Folder 90	Tribune and News, 1955
Box 4, Folder 91	Tribune-Chronicle, 1954
Box 4, Folder 92	True Confessions
Box 4, Folder 93	True Romances, 1971
Box 4, Folder 94	United Feature Syndicate, Inc.
Box 4, Folder 95	Variety, 1952-1968
Box 4, Folder 96	Vista Press, 1952
Box 4, Folder 97	Vue, 1956
Box 4, Folder 98	Wall Street Journal, 1952
Box 4, Folder 99	Washington Post, 1968
Box 4, Folder 100	Weekend Mail, 1956
Box 4, Folder 101	Whisper
Box 4, Folder 102	Wide World
Box 4, Folder 103	Wilmington Press Journal, 1955
