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Dame Enid Lyons



Enid Lyons, politician, nd. NAA: SP1011/1, 3062

Enid Muriel Lyons (1897–1981) was born at Duck River (Smithton) in Tasmania to William Charles and Eliza Burnell. She received her early schooling in Burnie, showing some dramatic talent, before entering the Hobart Teachers' College at 14.

She was a 17-year-old trainee teacher when she married Joseph Lyons in 1915. Their son Desmond was born in 1916, followed by Sheila (1918); Enid (1919); Kathleen (1920); Moira (1922); Kevin (1923); Garnet (1924), who died as a baby; Barry (1926); Brendan (1927); Rosemary (1928); Peter (1931); and Janice (1933).

At Desmond's birth Enid broke her pelvis, and although often causing crippling pain, this was not diagnosed until after she had borne all 12 children.

Family and political life

Despite this affliction and the heavy demands of motherhood, Enid 'carried on from election to election, moving the family from home to home, packing and unpacking'.¹⁸ Joseph actively encouraged Enid's public involvement in politics. 'It was not I who influenced Joe, but Joe who encouraged me to arouse in women a sense of their own power and wider responsibilities.'¹⁹ This was a recurring theme in Enid's subsequent political speeches and actions, both as the Prime Minister's wife and as a Federal politician in her own right.

Even her honeymoon was spent at a Premiers' Conference. Enid delivered her first political speech in 1920, accompanied Joseph to ALP conferences, and in 1925, when the mother of six young children, stood as a Labor candidate for the seat of Denison, losing by

18. *Sydney Morning Herald*, 15 January 1966.

19. Enid Lyons, *Among the Carrion Crows*, Rigby Ltd (1972), Lansdowne Sydney (1997), prologue, p. iv.

only 60 votes. By then, however, she enjoyed an established public role and was her husband's closest political ally. Enid, however, denied the general assumption that she was privy to all Joseph's political decisions and prompter of his political actions. 'Neither my public activities, my family responsibilities nor the state of my health would have permitted it.'²⁰ Those were indeed the three main elements of Enid's life while Joseph was Prime Minister, as illustrated in the records described later in the guide.

She was the first prime minister's wife to engage directly in a public political career. Although suffering chronic pain and frequent illness, she campaigned actively on his behalf, including in the 1931 election which brought him to office as Prime Minister. She gave public speeches and broadcasts, both when travelling with him and independently, on such topics as women's rights, buying Australian goods, and defence. She was passionately involved in the anti-secessionist campaign in Western Australia, as demonstrated in the National Archives file 'Western Australia secession campaign – Mrs Lyons' notes', prepared for her address to a women's rally held in Perth in March 1933.²¹

Enid accompanied Joseph to the Royal Jubilee celebrations for King George V and Queen Mary in England in 1935 and to the Coronation of King George VI in 1937. Typically, on her return, when describing her experiences to an 'enthralled' audience of nearly 3 000 people in the Melbourne Town Hall, she compared the lack of opportunity for the mass of people in England with Australia, praised local efforts to wipe out slums, and urged other action to eradicate 'the worst of the best' and make Australia a land of achievement.²² Her compassionate, confident and practical personality also found expression in her response to direct requests for help, her wifely role as sympathetic conduit to the Prime Minister being fully called upon in the dire circumstances facing many unemployed families.



Enid Lyons in her kitchen, c1930. NLA: PIC/6629

20. Enid Lyons, *Among the Carrion Crows*, prologue, pp. iv and v.

21. Personal correspondence of J A Lyons, 1931–39, NAA: CP103/19, 104.

22. *The Australasian*, 31 August 1935.

Separated from her family and often ill and tired, Enid did not always enjoy her public responsibilities, but her later political prominence owed much to the recognition of her earlier political influence. As for family life, its heart was 'Home Hill' built for Joseph and Enid Lyons in 1916 in Devonport, Tasmania, but children and parents were often separated.

Sometimes the Lyons children lived in The Lodge in Canberra – they were the first children to do so – and Joseph combined prime ministership with childcare while Enid was in hospital. However, for most of the time, the elder children went to boarding schools. The longest continuous period Enid herself spent at The Lodge was five weeks, but images of the Prime Minister's family in residence provided 'a unifying and comforting symbol for the many seeking security in those years'.²³

Federal politics

In 1943, four years after Joseph Lyons' death, Enid Lyons was elected the first woman member of the House of Representatives. 'I was fully aware of the mass of prejudice against them [Australian women in public office], and on that account was the more sensitively conscious of the burden of responsibility devolving upon me as a pioneer.'²⁴ Her maiden speech was widely applauded, including by the ALP Prime Minister, John Curtin, who told her that if she continued to make speeches in that vein she would have little opposition from the Labor Party.

Dame Enid held the Tasmanian seat of Darwin for the United Australia Party (from 1944, the Liberal Party) through three general elections, until her retirement in March 1951 because of ill health. The seat had been contested unsuccessfully by her husband as a Labor candidate in 1919.²⁵

Dame Enid was the first wife of a State Premier, and the first (and so far, the only) Prime Minister's wife, to enter Federal politics. When the Menzies Government came into power in December 1949, she was the first woman to be appointed to a Cabinet post, as Vice-President of the Federal Executive Council, a position that she wryly recognised as 'toothless'.²⁶ However, she introduced welfare payments for mothers and equal training allowances for women and men. Her role as Prime Minister's wife may well have carried greater weight than that of her later official positions, an impression lent some support by the greater variety and extent of records of that earlier period held at the National Archives.

Later years

After leaving politics, Dame Enid retained her interest in women's issues and public affairs. She was chair of the Jubilee Women's Convention in 1951, which was established by the Women's Subcommittee of the Commonwealth Jubilee Celebrations Council, and a member of the governing board of the Australian Broadcasting Commission (1951–62). Dame Enid was a columnist for the Melbourne *Sun* (1951–54) newspaper and the

23. Henderson, p. 165.

24. Enid Lyons, op cit., p. 5.

25. *ibid.*, p. 20.

26. D Langmore, *Prime Ministers' Wives*, p. 108

Woman's Day (1951–52), and she published two autobiographies, *So We Take Comfort* (1965) and *Among the Carrion Crows* (1972). She also gifted 'Home Hill' to the Australian people. It is now a house museum owned by Devonport City Council and managed by the National Trust of Tasmania.

Dame Enid was affectionately known as 'Australia's Greatest Mother'. She was created a Dame Grand Cross of the Order of the British Empire (GBE) in 1937, an honour conferred personally by His Majesty King George VI, and a Dame within the Order of Australia (AD) in 1980. She was also an Honorary Fellow of the Australian College of Nursing. She died in Ulverstone on 2 September 1981 and is buried beside her husband in Devonport.



Portrait of Joseph and Enid Lyons, c1933. NLA: PIC/6631

Records in the National Archives

As a prime minister's wife, Enid Lyons was unusual. She was Lyons' active political partner and a popular public figure in her own right. She was the first woman elected to the House of Representatives and the first female Cabinet member. The volume of records that exist about her and her activities reflects her personal prominence. The records listed below are arranged chronologically. A section on photographs and portraits is also included.

Many records about Enid Lyons have been digitised and are available for viewing online through the National Archives RecordSearch database.

'SHEDDEN COLLECTION', 1901-71

A5954

Recorded by: Department of Defence (CA 19)

Quantity: 201 metres (Canberra); smaller quantities in all State offices of the National Archives

Sir Frederick Geoffrey Shedden was the Secretary of the Department of Defence from 1937 to 1956. This series contains records collected by Shedden during his career within the department. For a more detailed description, see p. 22.

Broadcast address by the Prime Minister and Dame Enid Lyons: 'Campaign to increase the strength of the militia forces to 70,000', 4 December 1938

A5954, 1949/4

Correspondence about book, 'H' to 'Q', box file no. 2, Dame Enid Lyons, 1959-66

A5954, 1179/4

CABINET PAPERS (FOLDERS OF COPIES), 1901-

A6006

Recorded by: 1976-81 Australian Archives (CA 1720)
1981-94 Australian Archives (CA 3196)
1994 National Archives of Australia (CA 7970)

Quantity: 9 metres (Canberra); microfilm in each State office of the National Archives

Please see pp. 18 and 19 for a brief description of the method of recording Cabinet decisions and the creation of A6006.

A6006 item numbers are the date of the Cabinet meeting. In some cases, items have the same item number because they relate to the same meeting. When citing items from this series, the series number, item number and title need to be quoted.

Conveyance of wife of Prime Minister, 1937

A6006, 1937/12/31

Provision for Dame Enid Lyons and family, 1939

A6006, 1939/04/17

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1901–**A432**

Recorded by: c1929– Attorney-General's Department (CA 5)
1958 Deputy Crown Solicitor's Office (CA 832)

Quantity: 2 046.6 metres (Canberra); 352.6 metres (Sydney)

This is the department's main file series and commenced in 1929, replacing the existing systems. It contains material top-numbered from those previous series, including papers dating back to 1901.

Query re constitutional position of Enid Lyons as MHR for the Darwin (Tasmania) electorate, 1943

A432, 1943/754**SIR JOSEPH COOK – ASSORTED LETTERS, TELEGRAMS AND CARDS, c1910–40****M3603**

Recorded by: 1910–40 The Rt Hon. Sir Joseph Cook PC, GCMG (CP 611)
c1919–38 Dame Mary Cook GBE (CP 937)
1910 Department of Defence (I) (CA 6)
1913–14 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)
1917–20 Navy Office (II), Department of the Navy (I) (CA 13)
1920–21 Department of the Treasury [I] (CA 11)
1923–27 Australian High Commission, UK (CA 241)

This series contains various personal papers accumulated by Sir Joseph Cook during his political life and as High Commissioner to the United Kingdom.

Acknowledgment from Dame Enid Lyons of condolences on the death of her husband, Joseph Lyons, 1939

M3603, 7**JOSEPH LYONS (LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION AND PRIME MINISTER), CORRESPONDENCE, 1931–39****CP103/19**

Recorded by: The Rt Hon. J A Lyons PC, CH (CP 254)
Hon. Dame Enid Muriel Lyons AD, GBE (CP 928)

Quantity: 2.34 metres

Most of the material in this series relates to Lyons' first term as Prime Minister (1932–34). The series also contains some subject files relating to broadcasting, conversion bonds, iron ore in Western Australia, the sale of scrap iron to Japan, Mrs Enid Lyons and condolences on the death of Lyons in 1939.

Western Australia secession campaign, Mrs Lyons' notes, 1933

CP103/19, 105

Mrs Lyons, correspondence received in hospital, 1934

CP103/19, 59

JOSEPH LYONS (LEADER OF THE UNITED AUSTRALIA PARTY, ACTING TREASURER AND PRIME MINISTER), CORRESPONDENCE, 1932-34**CP30/3**

Recorded by: 1932-34 The Rt Hon. J A Lyons PC, CH (CP 254)
 1932-34 Hon. Dame Enid Muriel Lyons AD, GBE (CP 928)
 1932-34 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 2 metres

This series mainly relates to Lyons' first term as Prime Minister. It includes personal representations; papers on broadcasting, political associations, industry and pensions; and correspondence from community organisations, friends and political associations. Other items deal with the 1937 Imperial Conference, The Lodge and a tour of Queensland. Some files contain personal correspondence of Enid Lyons.

Personal correspondence of Mrs Enid Lyons, 13 January – 12 December 1932**CP 30/3, 48**

This folder includes 'get well' wishes from the Governor-General Sir Isaac Isaacs; correspondence with the Child Welfare Association (Hobart) and other women's organisations; and a request (complied with) from Mrs R A Lindner, asking Mrs Lyons to add her initials and those of her husband and children on a name cloth embroidered with the new (Sydney Harbour) Bridge. The folder also contains letters pleading for help, usually from the wives or mothers of unemployed men. One of Mrs Lyons' replies, dated 24 June 1932, reads in part:

The delay in answering has been due to the fact that Mrs Lyons has been attempting to interest some charitable institutions in your case, but, unfortunately, without success. She herself is unable personally to assist owing to the numerous demands made on the Prime Minister and herself in connection with the many cases of dire distress in his own electorate.

(See also example on p. 82.)

Personal correspondence of Mrs Enid Lyons, 21 November 1922 – 2 February 1934**CP30/3, 51**

This folder contains correspondence between Joseph and Enid Lyons.

Personal correspondence of J A Lyons, 12 September 1932 – 21 May 1935**CP 30/3, 56**

UNREGISTERED CORRESPONDENCE FILES – ABC CHAIRMAN AND COMMISSIONERS, 1932–73**SP1489/1**

Recorded by: Australian Broadcasting Commission (ABC) (CA 251)

Quantity: 3.42 metres (Sydney)

Dame Enid Lyons – correspondence as an ABC Commissioner, 1951–64**SP1489/1, NN****RADIO ARCHIVES MASTER AUDIO TAPES (BY SUBJECT CLASSIFICATION), 1933–71****C102**

Recorded by: ABC (CA 251)

Quantity: 47.5 metres (Sydney)

The tapes in this series are master and working copies of gramophone discs in the ABC's sound library. The discs are spoken word recordings and cover a wide variety of subjects. They were catalogued and controlled by a subject classification system. Among the subject classifications relevant to the Lyons are broadcasting (personalities and occasions); education (personalities and events); features and/or documentaries; occasions (State and national); and political (Australian personalities, speeches and Parliament).

Lyons, Dame Enid (sound recording), 1940**C102, POL16****Lyons, Dame Enid – talk – guest of honour (audio tape), 1943****C102, POL25****Lyons, Dame Enid (audio tape), 1966****C102, POL70****JOSEPH LYONS, GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE, 1938–39****CP167/1**Recorded by: The Rt Hon. J A Lyons PC, CH (CP 254)
Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 0.18 metres

Known as the 'General Series', this correspondence relates to the last 15 months of Lyons' term as Prime Minister (from 1938 to early April 1939). Several letters were addressed to Dame Enid Lyons rather than her husband. The correspondence was essentially all handled by Lyons' prime ministerial staff. Main subjects include the personal situation of the writer or a member of his/her family, the imminence of war, H G Wells, radio broadcasts, social and political issues, and condolences offered on Lyons' death.

Correspondence 'C', 3 January – 11 May 1939**CP167/1, 3**

This item includes details of Dame Enid Lyons' annuity, and telegrams from John Curtin.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1939-46**SP112/1**

Recorded by: Department of Information (CA 34)

Quantity: 13.7 metres

This series consists of general correspondence files of the Press Division of the Department of Information. The files mainly relate to the supply of photographs to various authorities and newspapers and the functions of the division which included the photographic coverage of all major newsworthy events and the censorship of the photographs.

Mission to America – arrangements for lectures by Dame Enid Lyons, 1940

SP112/1, 353/3/6**GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE FILES, MULTIPLE NUMBER SERIES, 1939-82****C2327**

Recorded by: ABC (CA 251)

Quantity: 13.9 metres (Sydney)

This series consists of files raised and maintained by the ABC's central registry.

Members of the ABC – Hon. Dame Enid Lyons, part 2, 1956-71

C2327, 1/2/14**TALKS SESSIONS CORRESPONDENCE, c1940-45****MP298/4**

Recorded by: ABC, Victorian Division (CA 2056)

Quantity: 1.44 metres (Melbourne)

Dame Enid Lyons, 1944

MP298/4, 2/14/1

These files contain correspondence and some scripts of two special talks sessions, 'Nations Forum of the Air' and 'The Watchman', mainly concerned with the preparation of the program and lines of discussion. Each file contains correspondence between the controller of the program and the person who has been asked to take part.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE, 1943-51**MP742/1**

Recorded by: Department of the Army (CA 36)

Quantity: 177.4 metres (Melbourne)

This series consists of files relating to the administration of Australian military forces.

Letter from Dame Enid Lyons to Minister for the Army re withdrawal of prisoner-of-war labour from rural industry, 1945

**MP742/1,
255/15/1301**

Italian prisoners-of-war – letter from Mrs Geo (George) Shaw to Dame Enid Lyons, 1946**MP742/1,
255/15/1534**

This letter to Dame Enid expresses the writer's concern at the delay in repatriating Italian prisoners-of-war, and suggests that prisoners-of-war who wish to do so may remain in Australia.

RT HON. H E HOLT (TREASURER AND PRIME MINISTER), CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1959–67**M2606**

Recorded by: 1959–67 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt PC, CH (CP 27)
1959–66 Department of the Treasury (CA 11)
1966–67 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 3.6 metres

This series was maintained by Holt as Treasurer and subsequently as Prime Minister. The files cover a number of subjects, and include general and personal correspondence.

Correspondence 'L', 1966–67**M2606, 97**

This item includes papers concerning Dame Enid Lyons.



The Menzies Cabinet, with Dame Enid standing directly behind Menzies, Canberra, 1949. NAA: A1200, L12817

Avondale,
Mark St
Hunters Hill
Sydney
16. 2. 32.

Dear Mr Lyons,

No doubt you will wonder who is writing to you and perhaps you will have forgotten me, but I remember you and how you, a second grader, befriended me, a first grader from the West Coast (Zechar), on my first day at the Teachers Training College.

Now I am asking if you could befriend me and incidentally my husband and children. I have four children and my husband has been out of work for two years.

Could you or Mr Lyons possibly do anything in the way of securing work for him (anything but pen work) as work laboring. Mr Radford is a native of Burnie.

Trusting you will be able to help us into a job.

I am
yours faithfully
Mrs E. Radford.
(nee Edna Horcham)

22nd February, 1932.

Dear Mrs. Radford,

I have received your letter of February 16th, and I recall you when we were together at the Teachers' Training College.

I am very sorry, indeed, to hear that your husband has been out of work for two years. Frankly, I do not think it is likely that my husband would be able to do anything at the moment. I am, however, showing him your letter, and can promise you that he will bear you in mind should the opportunity of any suitable vacancy occur.

Yours sincerely,

Enid Lyons

Mrs. E. Radford,
"Avondale",
Mark Street,
HUNTERS HILL, N.S.W.

In the depths of the Great Depression, many people made personal representations to Enid Lyons seeking assistance. NAA: CP30/3, item 48

RT HON. JOHN GREY GORTON (PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR DEFENCE), SUBJECT FILES 1968-71**M3787**

Recorded by: 1968-71 The Rt Hon. Sir John Grey Gorton GCMG, AC,
CH, PC (CP 136)
1968-71 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)
1971 Department of Defence (III) (CA 46)

Quantity: 2 metres

This series consists of subject files maintained by the Rt Hon. John Grey Gorton while he was Prime Minister (1968-71) and then Minister for Defence (1971-72).

Correspondence with Treasurer (Hon. L H E Bury), 1969-70**M3787, 34**

This items includes papers on pensions payable to wives of former prime ministers (Dame Enid Lyons and Mrs Elsie Curtin).

RADIO ARCHIVES LIBRARY, TAPES - ORAL HISTORY RECORDINGS, c1968-80**SP1762/1**

Recorded by: ABC (CA 251)

Quantity: 7.2 metres (Sydney)

These are tapes that form part of the oral history program carried out by the ABC Radio Archives.

Dame Enid Lyons (oral history recording), 1969**SP1762/1, 143/1*****Photographs and portraits, 1934-73*****CORRESPONDENCE FILES, OCCASIONAL 'G' (GENERAL REPRESENTATIONS) INFIX, 1903-****A463**

Recorded by: Prime Minister's Department (CA 12) and subsequently by agency under the control of prime minister

Quantity: 542.6 metres (Canberra); 184 metres (Sydney)

Although this series contains material dating back to 1903, it was raised in 1956 to deal with general and policy matters handled by a department directly under the control of the prime minister. Subjects covered vary, reflecting the coordinating function of the department. Political, social, cultural, economic, industrial and defence matters are all dealt with in this series. Other matters include the administration of the Commonwealth Government, immigration, honours, international conferences and diplomatic relations with other countries.

Photograph of painting of Dame Enid Lyons by Mary Edwards, 1945**A463, 1965/3383**

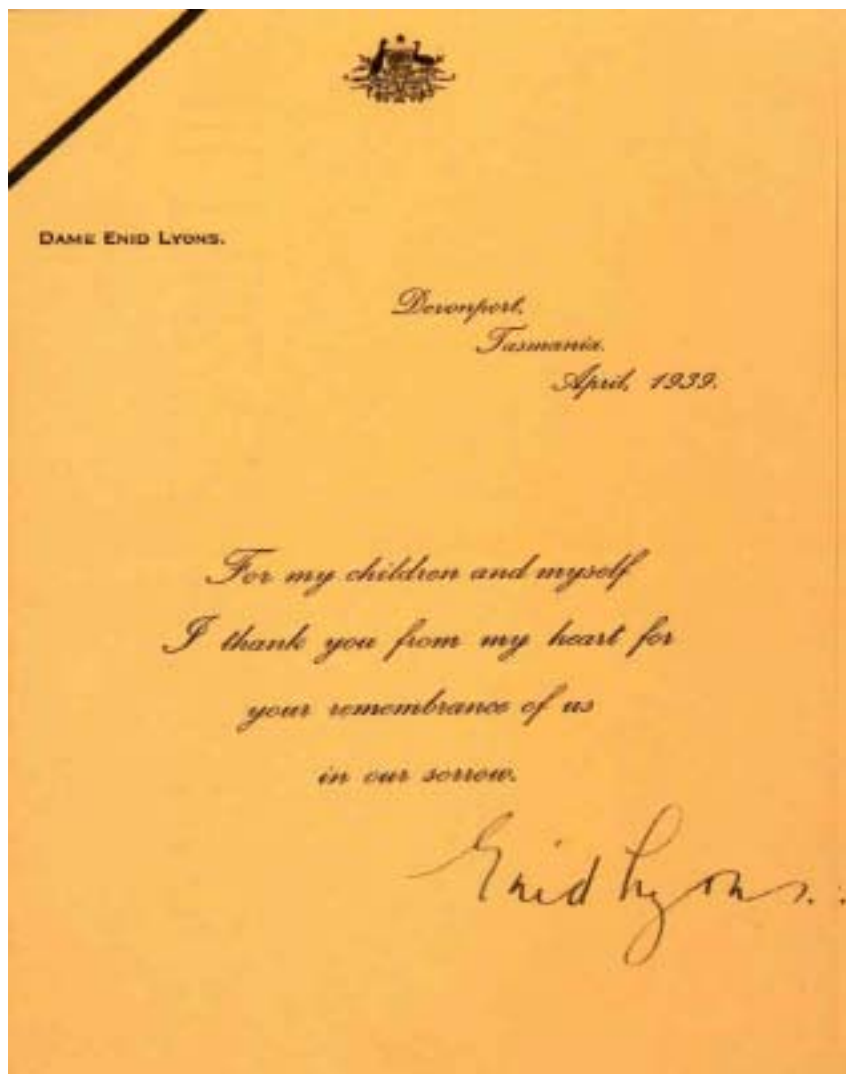
APPLICATIONS FOR ARTISTIC COPYRIGHT (WITH EXHIBITS), 1907-69	A1861
Recorded by: 1907-13 Australian Industrial Property Organisation (AIPO) (CA 555) 1913-30 Copyright Office (II) (CA 556) 1930-69 AIPO (CA 555)	
Quantity: 77 metres	
This series consists of artistic copyright files. Copyright legislation included the requirement to submit an application for the registration of copyright to the Registrar, with the appropriate fee and a copy of the work in question.	
HRH Prince Henry with Prime Minister Lyons and Mrs Lyons, Canberra, 1934	A1861, 6590
TELEVISION, RADIO, AND CONCERT PERSONALITIES (PHOTOGRAPHS), 1940-68	SP1011/1
Recorded by: ABC (CA 251)	
Quantity: 25.5 metres (Sydney)	
This series consists of publicity material compiled by the Australian Broadcasting Commission. The material includes images of television programs produced overseas and broadcast in Australia on the ABC; images created for locally produced television programs; and photographs of prominent artists from both Australia and overseas.	
Dame Enid Lyons, politician (box 108), c1950	SP1011/1, 3062
PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVES AND PRINTS, SINGLE NUMBER SERIES, 'L' (LIBRARY) PREFIX, 1945-71	A1200
Recorded by: 1945-50 Department of Information (CA 34) 1950-71 Australian News and Information Bureau (CA 219)	
Quantity: 80.5 metres	
This series, compiled largely by the Australian News and Information Bureau, shows all aspects of Australian life, including unique and varied views of individuals and scenes. Until 1954, photographs covering conferences and the visits of dignitaries were included in the collection. After that date, photographic records of such events were kept in separate series.	
Dame Enid Lyons standing beside her husband's portrait, 1949	A1200, L12373
Group photo of the Menzies Cabinet after being sworn in, Government House, Canberra, 1949	A1200, L12817
Dame Enid Lyons with Prime Minister Ben Chifley at the Australian National University, nd	A1200, L37000

POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL LIFE (NEGATIVES AND PRINTS), 1971- A6180

Recorded by: 1971-73 Australian News and Information Bureau (CA 219)
1973-87 Australian Information Service, Canberra
(from 1986, Promotion Australia) (CA 1578)
1987-94 Australian Overseas Information Service (CA 6785)
1994- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (CA 5987)

Quantity: 43.8 metres

This series documents a wide range of Australian subjects and themes (eg the political, economic and social life of the country and its people).

Dame Enid Lyons presents a box to Mrs Tammie Fraser, c1970 A6180, 2/7/79/5-6

Dame Enid's acknowledgement of condolences received on the death of Joseph Lyons, 1939. NAA: M3603, 7

Records in other collections

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA

The Manuscripts Section of the National Library of Australia contains many collections relevant to Dame Enid, including a collection of her papers. This is listed first, followed by other collections listed alphabetically.

LYONS, DAME ENID MURIEL, PAPERS, 1931-74

MS 4852

Quantity: 5.6 metres (30 boxes)

The collection consists mainly of correspondence, but also holds photographs, newspaper cuttings, speeches, broadcasts, manuscripts of Dame Enid's books *So We Take Comfort*, *The Old Haggis* and *Among the Carrion Crows*, invitations and programs. The correspondence consists largely of condolence letters following J A Lyons' death in 1939. The remaining letters are from politicians, Tasmanian friends, women's groups, religious organisations, and the Liberal Party. This material covers topics such as maternal and infant welfare, social services and abortion law reform.



Prime Minister Lyons, Dame Enid Lyons and their family on the lawn at The Lodge, Canberra, nd.
NLA Pic 06

ABBOTT, C L A AND H, PAPERS, 1906-71**MS 4744**

Quantity: 2.1 metres

Charles Lydiard Aubrey Abbott was a Federal politician and later Northern Territory Administrator (1937-46). Hilda Abbott was an author and broadcaster. The bulk of the papers comprise Hilda Abbott's drafts of books, articles, broadcasts and correspondence, including letters from Enid Lyons.

DALY, FRED, PAPERS, 1938-95**MS 9300**

Quantity: 20 metres (142 boxes)

Fred Daly was an ALP politician and minister. His papers contain cuttings, notes and letters on political personalities, including Dame Enid Lyons.

HARDS, MARY CAMERON, PAPERS, 1909-83**MS 7986**

Quantity: 0.06 metres (2 folders + 1 volume)

Mary Cameron Hards was the granddaughter of Sir James Grady, Governor of Tasmania (1924-30) and later Governor of the Falkland Islands. This collection includes letters to her mother (Mrs Ken Cameron) from Enid Lyons.

HARRISON, SIR ERIC JOHN, PAPERS, 1931-64**MS 5548**

Quantity: 0.80 metres

Sir Eric John Harrison was a Federal politician. His papers include correspondence with Enid Lyons (1937) and Robert Menzies.

HART, PHILIP R, PAPERS RELATING TO J A LYONS, 1964-74**MS 9410**

Quantity: 0.09 metres (6 folders)

Philip Hart assembled these papers while preparing his doctoral thesis 'J A Lyons: A Political Biography' in 1968. They include correspondence (1964-74), newspaper cuttings, a photograph and the program of an ABC broadcast on Lyons. It includes correspondence with Dame Enid Lyons.

LATHAM, SIR JOHN, PAPERS, 1868-1964**MS 1009**

Quantity: 18.4 metres

John Latham was Leader of the Opposition (1929-31), Deputy Leader of the Opposition (1931-32), and founder, with Lyons, of the UAP (1931). He was also Attorney-General from 1925 to 1929 and again from 1932 to 1934. This collection of his papers includes five letters from Enid Lyons. A descriptive list is available.

McGUIRE, PAUL, PAPERS, 1878–1987**MS 6453**

Quantity: 11 metres (78 boxes)

Paul McGuire was a novelist, journalist, political commentator and Federal minister. He was later the Australian Ambassador to Italy (1954–59). His correspondence includes letters from Enid Lyons.

MENZIES, SIR ROBERT, PAPERS, 1905–78**MS 4936**

Quantity: 81 metres (578 boxes)

Sir Robert Menzies was a UAP member. From 1934 he was the MHR for Kooyong and Lyons' Attorney-General and Minister for Industry. He later became Deputy Leader and Prime Minister after Lyons' death. His extensive collection includes correspondence with Joseph and Enid Lyons (1935–78), and a typescript copy of Enid Lyons' diary for 1937. A descriptive list is available at www.nla.gov.au/ms/findaids/4936.html.

RAPKE, JULIA, PAPERS ON VARIOUS AUSTRALIAN WOMEN, nd**MS 842**

Quantity: 0.05 metres

Julia Rapke was the first president of the League of Women Voters (Victoria), formed in 1945. Her papers comprise manuscript drafts of biographical papers, including one for Dame Enid Lyons (17 pages).

RISCHBIETH, BESSIE MABEL, PAPERS AND OBJECTS (MANUSCRIPT), 1900–67 MS 2004

Quantity: 7.5 metres

Bessie Rischbieth was a feminist and President of the Australian Federation of Women Voters (1921–42). Her papers relate to Australian and international women's suffrage and her 1935 appointment as Australian delegate to the League of Nations, and include material relating to Enid Lyons. A guide is available.

TANGNEY, DOROTHY, PAPERS, 1938–86**MS 7564**

Quantity: 4.3 metres (38 boxes)

Dorothy Tangney was an ALP senator. Her papers include correspondence, speeches, photographs, cuttings and subject files, including one on Enid Lyons.

WHITINGTON, DON, PAPERS, 1957-76**MS 3810**

Quantity: 0.60 metres

Don Whittington was a journalist with various metropolitan newspapers and founder of the Australian Press Services. His papers include drafts of *The Witness Men* and correspondence and newspaper cuttings relating to the compilation of this book, including correspondence with Enid Lyons. They also include an extract from proofs of *John Curtin - An Atypical Labor Leader* by Kim Beazley.

Audio and video

The material in this section is listed chronologically.

INTERVIEW WITH HENRY BAYNTON GULLETT BY M PRATT, 1970**ORAL TRC 121/1**

Quantity: 2 tapes and transcript

Henry Gullett was a Federal MP, UAP member and a member of the Lyons Cabinet. In this interview he discusses his political career and refers to Joseph and Enid Lyons.

INTERVIEW WITH DAME ENID LYONS BY M PRATT, 1972**ORAL TRC 121/30**

Quantity: 2 tape reels and transcript

Enid Lyons comments on Joseph's background, his career in State and Federal politics and her own; the Australian Labor Party, the United Australia Party and the Country Party; relationships with politicians, including Menzies; and attitudes towards women in politics.

INTERVIEW WITH ERIK BIERRE, 1978**ORAL TRC 682**

Quantity: 1 tape

Erik Bierre, a photographer, discusses photographing Enid Lyons.

INTERVIEW WITH MARGARET WHITLAM BY A McGRATH, 1979**ORAL TRC 652**

Quantity: 1 tape

Margaret Whitlam, wife of former Prime Minister Gough Whitlam, discusses her life and gives her impressions of Enid Lyons and Pattie Menzies.

DAME ENID LYONS - A TRIBUTE (ABC SOUND RECORDING), c1981**ORAL TRC 1113**

This is a compilation of radio interviews with Enid Lyons.

INTERVIEW WITH H B GULLETT BY C HERMES AND P SHAW, 1984–88**ORAL TRC 4900/55**

Quantity: 15 cassettes and transcript

Henry Gullett discusses his political career from 1946 and refers to Enid Lyons.

Photographs

The National Library holds a number of photographs of both Joseph and Enid Lyons. See its online picture catalogue at www.nla.gov.au/catalogue/pictures. Some of these photographs are reproduced on the PictureAustralia website at www.pictureaustralia.org, and can be found by searching for Enid (or Mrs) Lyons.

Portrait of Dame Enid Lyons, nd	PIC/6553
Portrait of Enid Lyons, nd	PIC/6628
Joseph and Enid Lyons and their children on the lawn at The Lodge, Canberra, nd	NLA PIC 06
Enid Lyons in her kitchen, photograph by Alexander Collongridge, c1930	PIC/6629
Enid Lyons using a treadle sewing machine, photograph by Alexander Collongridge, c1930	PIC/6630
Portrait of Joseph and Enid Lyons by Howard Harris, c1930s	PIC/6631
Portrait photograph of Dame Enid Lyons by Antoine Kershaw, c1950	PIC P634
Dame Enid Lyons, Lady Gullett and Dame Mary Hughes, Parliament House, Canberra, c1955	PIC/6462

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

The material on Dame Enid Lyons held at the Australian War Memorial is listed chronologically under media format.

Transcript

Department of Information – Broadcasting Division: Talks by Dame Enid Lyons (transcripts), July 1940	AWM80, 1/265
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Films

20,000th WAAAF, 1939–45	F01879
Induction ceremony of 20 000 WAAAF (Women's Auxiliary Australian Air Force) recruits attended by Air Commodore Lukis and Dame Enid Lyons during World War II (silent, b&w film).	

Duke of Gloucester at Parliament taking Oath of Office as the Governor-General of Australia

FO1749

Ceremony held on 30 January 1945 witnessed by MPs and guests, including Dame Enid Lyons (silent, b&w film).

Photographs

The following images have been digitised.

Portrait photograph of Dame Enid Lyons, c1939–45

Neg 015731

Dame Enid Lyons buys a tin hat from a button seller in aid of the Returned Services League service fund, Melbourne, 17 September 1943

Neg 139671

W M Hughes greets Dame Enid Lyons, the newly elected member for Darwin electorate (in Tasmania), Canberra, 24 September 1943

Neg 139707

Senator Dorothy Tangney and Dame Enid Lyons entering the House of Representatives, Canberra, 24 September 1943

Neg 139712

Members of the Opposition (including Enid Lyons), in UAP committee room, House of Representatives, 24 September 1943

Neg 139711

SCREENSOUND AUSTRALIA

The following material is listed chronologically under media format.

Films

Prime Minister Lyons visits Gippsland (includes Enid Lyons), 1932

Film 208812

Prime Minister and Mrs Lyons enjoy sea trip, 1935

Film 136347

Prime Minister and Mrs Lyons back from tour, 1935

Film 137992

Sloop HMAS *Swan* launched at Cockatoo Island: Mrs Lyons, 1936

Film 78871

Enid Lyons speaks on the world crisis, 1938

Film 88578

Eucharistic Congress at Newcastle (includes the Lyons in the congregation), 1938

Film 78638

Nation unites in mourning for Lyons, 1939 (includes Enid Lyons), 1939

Films 116561 and 127197

Lyons laid to rest in his home State (includes Enid Lyons), 1939

Film 127193

Australia at war, 1940: Women learn tractor driving, Victoria (inspection by Enid Lyons)	Film 264827
Speech for the UAP by Enid Lyons, c1943	Film 15242
Dame Enid Lyons introduces Senator Dorothy Tangney to Movietone News with a message for women to be more involved in national politics, 1943	Film 317059
New Cabinet sworn in: Menzies speaks (includes Enid Lyons), 1949	Film 118344
Personalities (Enid Lyons), 1949	Film 91904

Sound recordings

Enid Lyons voice test (poetry reading), nd	Recorded sound (RS) 188518
Enid Lyons: Three speeches, nd	RS 339208, 339215 and 339220
Dorothy Tangney's maiden speech (includes Enid Lyons), 1942	RS 483102
Enid Lyons' first speech in the House of Representatives, 1943	RS 483285
Enid Lyons' speech to Lyons Primary students, 1968	RS 273487

STATE LIBRARY OF NSW – MITCHELL LIBRARY

GAME FAMILY PAPERS, 1924–63

ML MSS 2166

Quantity: 0.22 metres (5 volumes); also available on microfilm (CY 3269–CY 3272)

This collection includes a letter from Enid Lyons to Lady Game (dated 22 May 1934).

SIMPSON FAMILY, PAPERS, 1852–1963

ML MSS 498

Edward Telford Simpson was a solicitor and company director in Sydney. These papers include a letter from Enid Lyons (dated 25 May 1939). See also p. 68. A descriptive list is available.