



The New York Public Library  
Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

**Anderson Lawler correspondence**

1927-1959

\*T-Mss 2001-034

## Summary

**Creator:** Lawler, Anderson, 1902-1959

**Title:** Anderson Lawler correspondence

**Date:** 1927-1959

**Size:** .1 linear feet. (1 portfolio)

**Source:** Transfer, Manuscripts Division

**Abstract:** Anderson Lawler was a stage and screen actor, later a producer. Born in Russellville, Alabama, in 1902 (some sources say 1904), Anderson Lawler acted in several stage plays in the 1920s, went to Hollywood in 1929, and acted in a number of films over the next ten years, including BE YOURSELF! (1930) with Fanny Brice, George Cukor's GIRLS ABOUT TOWN (1931), Frank Capra's AMERICAN MADNESS (1932), RIPTIDE (1934) with Norma Shearer, and EVER SINCE EVE (1937) with Marion Davies. Lawler also worked as a talent scout, and after 1939 he gave up acting and served as an associate producer for 20th Century Fox, for whom he produced Joseph L. Mankiewicz' SOMEWHERE IN THE NIGHT (1946). Returning to New York in the 1950s he produced several plays, including OH MEN, OH WOMEN. Anderson Lawler died of a heart attack on April 6, 1959. The Anderson Lawler correspondence spans 1927-1959, and consists mostly of telegrams, most of them from Lawler to his mother sending best wishes on various holidays and other occasions, and sometimes giving updates on his career. In addition to the notes from Lawler, there are brief messages and invitations from such Hollywood notables as George Cukor, Janet Gaynor, and Tallulah Bankhead. A late 1920s program from the Mayfair Club of Los Angeles displays two pencilled caricatures of actress Lupe Velez.

**Access:** Some collections held by the Dance, Music, Recorded Sound, and Theatre Divisions at the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts are held off-site and must be requested in advance. Please check the collection records in **the NYPL's online catalog** for detailed location information. For general guidance about requesting offsite materials, please consult:  
<https://www.nypl.org/about/locations/lpa/requesting-archival-materials>

**Preferred citation:** Anderson Lawler correspondence, Billy Rose Theatre Division, The New York Public Library

## Creator History

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## Scope and Content Note

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## Key Terms

### Subjects

Motion picture actors and actresses -- California -- Los Angeles  
Theater -- New York (State) -- New York

### Genre/Physical Characteristic

Telegrams

### Names

Lawler, Anderson, 1902-1959  
Bankhead, Tallulah, 1902-1968  
Cukor, George, 1899-1983  
Gaynor, Janet  
Ve\_lez, Lupe, 1906-1944  
Mayfair Club (Los Angeles, Calif.)