Welcome to Treasures from the FCS Archives, a repository of resources for teachers and history enthusiasts! Every month, we are sharing photos, artifacts, documents and other treasures for you to review, discuss and discover. We encourage you to click the links, scan the photos and dig deeper into these treasures, all of which can be found in the Fulton County Schools Archives. Enjoy!

What do a legendary civil rights judge, a pioneering U.S. Congresswoman and a former Georgia governor all have in common? Could it be that they all had an interest in a school teacher from College Park who was fighting for a right she had no intention of exercising?

The answer is yes.

For decades through 1938, the Fulton County Board of Education enforced a policy that female teachers from getting married. If a female teacher got married during the school year, she would be dismissed at the end of the term. This policy applied to female principals as well, and was rooted in a belief that a woman’s place was in the home. Once she became a wife, it was her duty to serve her family instead of pursuing a career. By the end of 1938 however, a little known court case – filed by an unknown teacher who had no intention of getting married - had reversed the rule and furthered the cause of women’s rights.

This month’s Curiosity Corner is a celebration of this impactful court case, Marie Long v. Jere A. Wells, et al and it’s victory for women’s rights, as illustrated by this excerpt from a scrapbook housed in the Fulton County Schools Archives. It was a triumph shared by many women, such as Mamie Collins Aydelotte, Jessilee Sims Shaddix and Mary Jones Hughie, who had all been affected by the rule. As you explore this important court case, you will also discover a few iconic Atlantans that helped move the case along, many of which went on to make an impact on both state and national politics.

Lesson Ideas & Links:

- **Elementary School Connections**
- **Related Primary Sources**
- **Middle School Connections**
- **Ask the Teaching Museum**
- **High School Connections**
- **Additional Online Resources**

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