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**Finding Aid to the  
Dean Alba Bales Records  
College of Human Development and Education**

**Bales, Dean Alba**

Dean Alba Bales records, 1926-1937, 1940-1942

Record Group 14.2.2

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**OVERVIEW**

**Links:** Finding Aid to the [Alba Bales House Records](#)

**Access:** The collection is open under the rules and regulations of the University Archives.

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**BIOGRAPHY**

Alba Bales was the first female academic Dean at North Dakota Agricultural College. She was born in Lewis, Iowa in 1879, attended Oberlin College, and received her bachelor's and master's from Columbia University. Prior to coming to NDAC in 1920, she taught in normal schools in Idaho and Kansas and at Montana State College. From 1920 to 1926, she served as Head of the School of Home Economics and in 1926 she became Dean. In 1937 she was fired in the infamous "Purge" but was reinstated in 1940. She retired from NDAC in 1942 and moved to Florida. She died in 1967 at the age of 88.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT**

The records consist of two folders – one contains biographical information and the other included photocopies of news articles and correspondence dealing with Alba Bales reinstatement as Dean (1939-1940).

## **BOX AND FOLDER LIST**

Alba Bales – biographical information  
Alba Bales - Reinstatement information - Photostats 1939-1940  
Appreciation to Alba Bales form Students and Friends 1954