S0463 Carlson, Avis Dungan (1896-1987)
Papers, 1940-1976
35 Folders

This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri. If you would like more information, please contact us at shsresearch@umsystem.edu.

Avis Dungan Carlson donated her papers to the Western Historical Manuscript Collection at the University of Missouri-St. Louis on November 20, 1981. The papers complement collection S0419, which contains Carlson's daybooks, loaned to this repository in 1980 for microfilming.

Born in Moline, Kansas, Avis Dungan graduated from Southwestern College in Winfield, Kansas. The summer after graduation, she married Harry G. Carlson, who she had met in college. They moved to Urbana, Illinois where both attended the University of Illinois. There Avis Carlson studied for a master's degree in English, and Harry Carlson obtained a law degree.

Harry Carlson's career as a lawyer took the family to Kansas, Washington, D.C., and to Missouri. After her arrival in St. Louis in 1946, Avis Carlson took an active role in community affairs. She served on the Citizens' Committee on Public Housing and Social Services, the St. Louis Human Rights Commission, and the Citizens Supervisory Bond Issue Committee. From 1953-1955, Avis Carlson served as president of the League of Women Voters. While a member of the Adult Education Council of Greater St. Louis in the 1960s, she organized reading and mathematics classes in the city's public housing areas.


Carlson died on January 2, 1987 after a brief illness.

SCOPE AND CONTENT
The Avis Dungan Carlson Papers are arranged in alphabetical order. First drafts of her books, Small World - Long Gone (1975) and In the Fullness of Time (1977), make up the bulk of the material. Small World's drafts (f. 13-19) contain autobiographical material covering the period from early childhood through Avis Dungan's wedding to Harry Carlson. Drafts for In the Fullness of Time (f. 21-31), entitled That Specter, Old Age and That Crown of Glory, discuss the process and effects of aging. The collection also includes articles on St. Genevieve, education, family and the St. Louis League of Women Voters. An appointment book, a family genealogy, and newscippings comprise the rest of the collection.

Avis Carlson's microfilmed daybooks comprise collection S0419. The roll contains eight
volumes covering her life from 1923-1943.

**FOLDER LIST**
**BOX 1, FOLDERS 1-26**
1. Appointment Book, 1953


3. Diary Notes, 1953

4. "Educating the Undereducated Won't be Easy," Speech to Missouri State Adult Education Association, early 1960s


10. "Missouri is also Romantic!" (St. Genevieve), c.1950


20. "Sweet are the User" in American Magazine, late 1940s


BOX 2, FOLDERS 27-35
27. That Specter, Old Age, pp. 1-45, 1970s
29. That Specter, Old Age, pp. 97-130, 1970s
30. That Specter, Old Age, pp. 131-164, 1970s
31. That Specter, Old Age, pp. 165-218, 1970s
33. "A Woman and Her Vote," 1940s
34. The Woman's Journal, November 1928
35. "Working with People - What it Involves" by Rose Cologne and Avis Carlson, c.1947

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