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Lortz, Helen B., Collection, MS 218

Helen B. Lortz Collection

Overview of the Collection

Collection Number	MS 218
Title	The Helen B. Lortz Collection
Repository	Pittsburg State University, Leonard H. Axe Library, Special Collections & University Archives 1701 S. Broadway Pittsburg, Kansas 66762 (620) 235-4883 speccoll@pittstate.edu
Dates	1929-2002
Collection Size	.4 linear foot
Creator	Helen B. Lortz
Scope and Content	A collection of documents, records, and items pertaining to Helen B. Lortz's college education, personal life, and career.
Access Restrictions	This collection is open for access. Researchers must use the collection in accordance with the policies of the Special Collections & University Archives, Leonard H. Axe Library, Pittsburg State University
Languages	English
Biographical Note	Helen Beatrice Lortz, a Food for Peace Program Officer, was born in 1910 and died in 2009. She graduated from Kansas State Teachers College (Pittsburg State University) with a B.S. in Education in 1932. Lortz was a member of the Kappa Delta Pi sorority, staying involved with throughout her life. In 1933, Lortz earned a job with the Civilian Conservation Corps where she trained workers to work office jobs, working with the CCC until 1941. She transferred to the Farm Security Administration as a secretary and procedure editor and was assigned by the Department of Agriculture in 1945 to the Cabinet Committee on World Food Problems. This job took her all over the world with U.S. aid programs. In 1962, Lortz became a Food for Peace Program Officer for Latin America until her retirement in 1973. After retirement, Lortz continued travelling and wrote accounts of the places she visited.

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Processing Note

Collection processed in August 2019

Content Description

This collection is primary and secondary resources and is divided into the following series:

1. Personal Correspondence

- a. Envelope addressed to Oklahoma
- b. Letters to family and friends

2. College Education

- a. Commencement
- b. Diploma
- c. Sorority
- d. Assignments
- e. Report Cards and Transcript

3. Personal Travel Accounts/Typescripts

- a. Accounts of boat trip from Paris
- b. Travel account of Germany, the Soviet Union, India/Sri Lanka, and China

4. Publications

- a. Articles
- b. Reports

Detailed Description of Collection:

Series 1: Personal Correspondence

F. 1 Envelope addressed to Oklahoma 1975; Travel letters to “Kids” 1953; Holiday Letters 1997, 1999, 2000, and 2002; Letters to and from Bob Timmons; Letter and critique to Ron Womble; Checks paid to and letters from George N. Spiva 1929-1934

Series 2: College Education

F. 2 Commencement invitation 1932; Senior Banquet program; Senior Class Day program; Baccalaureate Service program; Commencement Exercises program; Kansas State Teachers College Bachelor of Science in Education Diploma to Helen B. Lortz 1932; Checks paid to and letters from Kappa Delta Pi; Collegio articles and assignments; Report cards; Transcript

Series 3: Personal Travel Accounts/Typescripts

F. 3 Account of boat trip from Paris to New York 1949; Business trip and vacation in Germany 1953; “A Chronological Account of My Experience in the Soviet Union, September 11, 1975 to October 2, 1975”; “Some ‘Snapshots’ from My Trip to India/Sri Lanka – January 29, 1979 – February 17, 1979”; “My ‘China’ Experience March 28, 1981 – April 18, 1981”

Series 4: Publications

F. 4 Front Lines newspaper, March 8, 1973; Front Lines newspaper clipping “Long Career for Helen Lortz”; Alpha Sigma Alpha magazine “ASA broke ground for career women”; “Extension Information: A report of the Central American agricultural and home economics extension information seminar” 1957 English transcription; The “Extension Information” report Spanish publication