Roberta G. Applegate Papers  
(C3840)

Collection Number: C3840

Collection Title: Roberta G. Applegate Papers

Dates: 1935-1987

Creator: Applegate, Roberta G., 1919-1990

Abstract: The papers of Roberta Applegate consist of awards, correspondence, miscellaneous material, newspaper clippings, and speeches. Applegate was a student at Michigan State University and reporter for the Associated Press of Michigan from 1935 through 1946, first female press secretary to the governor of Michigan from 1946 through 1949, reporter and editor for the Miami Herald from 1950 to 1964, and Associate Professor of Journalism and Mass Communication at Kansas State University in Manhattan beginning in 1964.

Collection Size: 2.0 cubic feet, 3 oversize items  
(77 folders)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia. If you would like more information, please contact us at columbia@shsмо.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: The donor has given and assigned to the University all rights of copyright, which the donor has in the Materials and in such of the Donor’s works as may be found among any collections of Materials received by the University from others.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] Roberta G. Applegate Papers (C3840); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHS Мо-Columbia].

Donor Information: The papers were donated to the University of Missouri by Applegate on October 20, 1988 (Accession No. CA4884). They are part of the National Women and Media Collection.

Biographical Note:

Roberta Applegate was one of the first female journalists in Michigan. She received her A.B. degree in German and French from the Michigan State University, East Lansing, in 1940, and her M.A. degree in journalism from Northwestern University in 1942. She then became a reporter for the Associated Press of Michigan. From 1947 to 1949 she was press secretary for Michigan Governor Kim Sigler, the first woman to hold that post. When Governor Sigler was not re-elected, Applegate became a reporter and editor for the Miami Herald in 1950. She wrote several newspaper articles about celebrities, children with disabilities, nurses, and widows. She remained with the Herald until 1964 when she became an Associate Professor of Journalism and Mass Communication at Kansas State University. Applegate received many journalistic awards and held various positions in organizations involved with journalism.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into the following six series:

Student and Michigan Reporter
Michigan Press Secretary
Miami Herald Reporter and Editor
Kansas State University Professor
Family Correspondence
Oversize

Scope and Content Note:

The Student and Michigan Reporter series is arranged into three sections: correspondence, newspaper clippings, and miscellaneous. Within these sections the papers are arranged chronologically. The newspaper clippings are concerned with politics in Michigan.

The Michigan Press Secretary series is arranged into articles, correspondence, legislative material, messages, miscellaneous material, newspaper clippings, press releases, proclamations and speeches. Material within these sections is arranged chronologically. The speeches contain rough and finished copies of radio speeches that Applegate wrote for the governor. Most of the rough speeches do not appear as finished speeches.

The Miami Herald Reporter and Editor series is arranged into awards, certificates, correspondence, newspaper clippings, speeches, and Kansas State University; and then chronologically within these sections. She wrote a series of newspaper articles for the Herald about celebrities, handicapped children, nurses and widows.

The fourth series, Kansas State University Professor, is arranged into awards, biographical articles, book reviews, Kansas Press Women, and professional activities.

The Family Correspondence series consists of correspondence to her parents, arranged chronologically.

The Oversize series contains her press secretary appointment and miscellaneous items.
Container List:

**Michigan Student and Reporter Series**
- f. 1-2 Correspondence, 1943-1946
- f. 3-7 Newspaper clippings, 1941-1946
- f. 8 Miscellaneous, 1935-1944

**Michigan Press Secretary Series**
- f. 9-11 Articles and pamphlets, 1947-1948
- f. 12-14 Correspondence, 1946-1950
- f. 15 Legislative material, 1947-1948
- f. 16 Messages, 1947-1948
- f. 17 Miscellaneous, 1947-1948
- f. 18-19 Newspaper clippings, 1947-1949
- f. 20 Press releases, 1947-1948
- f. 21 Proclamations, 1947
- f. 22 Speeches, 1947-1948
- f. 23-26 Rough radio speeches, 1947-1948
- f. 27-31 Radio speeches, 1947-1948

**Miami Herald Reporter and Editor Series**
- f. 32 Award, 1957
- f. 33 Certificate, 1956-1964
- f. 34-37 Correspondence, 1954-1964
- f. 38-43 Newspaper clippings, 1952-1964
- f. 44-45 Speeches, 1950-1963
- f. 46-47 Kansas State University, 1964-1965

**Kansas State University Professor Series**
- f. 48-50 Awards, 1971-1985
- f. 51 Biographical articles, 1970-1986
- f. 52 Book reviews, 1978-1985
- f. 53 Kansas Press Women, 1977-1978
- f. 54-56 Professional activities, 1968-1987

**Family Correspondence Series**
- f. 57-77 Correspondence with her parents, 1942-1970

**Oversize Series (Location: CC-1)**
- Item #1 Appointment as press secretary to the Governor of Michigan, 1947
- Item #2 Article, “Love is Basic Need of Disabled Person,” Roberta Applegate
- Item #3 McKay Trial Preparedness
Index:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Index Terms</th>
<th>Folders</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applegate, Roberta G. (1919-1990)</td>
<td>1-77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Celebrities</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children–Diseases</td>
<td>24,40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children with disabilities</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communism</td>
<td>24,25,27-31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journalism</td>
<td>1-56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kansas. State University, Manhattan</td>
<td>46-56, 76-77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mentally ill children</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami Herald, Miami, Florida</td>
<td>32-47, 62-75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Women and Media Collection</td>
<td>1-77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radio addresses, debates, etc.</td>
<td>22-31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radio scripts</td>
<td>23-31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rewards (Prizes, etc.)</td>
<td>32-33, 48-50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sigler, Kim</td>
<td>6, 9-31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans</td>
<td>23, 25, 28, 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Widows</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>