



Dorothy Roe Lewis Papers (C2233)

Collection Number: C2233

Collection Title: Dorothy Roe Lewis Papers

Dates: 1926-1984

Creator: Lewis, Dorothy Roe, 1904-1985

Abstract: Papers of a feature writer for Universal News Service, women's editor for Associated Press, columnist for Chicago Tribune-New York News Syndicate, assistant professor of journalism at the University of Missouri-Columbia, editor of the *Missouri Republican*, and freelance writer. Material on ghostwriting assignments and freelance articles for newspapers and magazines.

Collection Size: 1.2 cubic feet
(72 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](https://www.shsmo.org). If you would like more information, please contact us at columbia@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: The donor has relinquished all their rights in the papers and authorized their release to the public domain.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Dorothy Roe Lewis Papers* (C2233); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Columbia].

Donor Information: The papers were donated to the University of Missouri by Judith L. White and Joanne Schreiber on September 12, 1985 (Accession No. CA4667). An addition was made by Betty Cook Rottmann on October 25, 1989 (Accession No. CA4933).

Processed by: Processed by Nancy Saddleback on March 20, 1986. Finding aid revised by Anne Cox on May 18, 2020.

Biographical Note:

Dorothy Roe Lewis was born on 18 May 1904 to Daniel and Anna Tibbs Roe. She attended high school in Webb City, Missouri, and upon graduation in 1920, she entered the University of Missouri's Journalism School.

Four years later, with her degree completed, Lewis joined her parents in Arkansas. Soon after her arrival, she started work at the *Eldorado Daily News*, progressing from shopping news columnist to full reporter within a few months. A year later she took an extended trip west. She remained in Los Angeles for a few months, writing a shopping news column for the *Examiner*, and then returned home.

Determined to write for a major newspaper, Lewis again left her job and moved to Chicago. She immediately began work for the *Herald-Examiner* as a feature writer. Six months later she ventured on to New York City. Her first day there, she landed both a part-time position with International News Service (INS) and a free-lance feature writing spot with the *New York World*. Lewis later quit her job with INS and took a full-time writing position at the *Brooklyn Times*. She left the *Times* several months later and returned to Arkansas, where she gave birth to a daughter Joanne, the only child of her brief marriage to cartoonist and photographer, Haile Hendrix.

Upon her return to New York, Dorothy was hired by Universal News Service as a feature writer. She remained there until 1937, when she married John Lewis, a reporter for the Los Angeles *Examiner*, and moved to New Jersey.

After a failed attempt at publishing their own newspaper, the *Daily Enterprise*, the Lewises returned to New York in 1940. Dorothy soon began work for King Features as assistant women's editor. A year later, and after the birth of a second daughter, Judith, Dorothy became women's editor for the Associated Press.

In 1960, Dorothy started writing a column for the Chicago Tribune-New York News Syndicate. She continued writing the column even after she began teaching journalism at the University of Missouri. Dorothy retired from the faculty in 1974, but remained active, editing the *Missouri Republican* for the next six years. Dorothy continued writing articles for various magazines and newspapers until an illness sapped her strength. She died in Columbia, Missouri, on 24 March 1985.

Arrangement:

The collection is arranged topically, then chronologically within, with undated items at the end of each section.

Scope and Content Note:

This collection is not, unfortunately, very representative of Ms. Lewis' extensive career as a journalist, author, ghost-writer, professor of journalism, and free-lance writer. Only three decades—the 1920s, 1950s, and 1980s—are fairly well represented by newspaper clippings, photographs, and feature articles.

Container List:

- f. 1-7 Correspondence, 1946-1982. Correspondence between Ms. Lewis and various publishers, magazine and newspaper editors, and notables of the day concerning ghostwriting, royalties, and freelance feature writing. Some personal correspondence is included.
- f. 8-56 Articles and Books, 1933-1984. Articles written for newspapers and magazines on various topics, often accompanied by extensive background information. Series also contains rough drafts of books either written or edited by Lewis. Correspondence, newspaper and magazine articles, and typescripts are included. The material is arranged alphabetically by topic.
- f. 8 A. Sterl Artley, undated. Typescript on Artley, coauthor of the first Dick and Jane reader series.
- f. 9 *Bittersweet*, 1975. Typescript and newspaper article on a group of Missouri high school students learning Ozark pioneer skills.
- f. 10 Broadway Christian Church, 1980-1984. Typescripts and bulletins announcing meetings and programs.
- f. 11 Church Bazaar, undated. Magazine article on bazaar held by the Christian Church, St. Charles, Missouri.
- f. 12 *Columbia Missourian*, undated Typescript summarizing Lewis' experiences working on the newspaper.
- f. 13 Columbia Women's Club, 1977-1983. Newsletters and typescripts announcing meetings and fund raisers.
- f. 14 Cornshuck Angels, 1975. Magazine articles on Ozark handicraft.
- f. 15 Dental Clinic, 1983. Correspondence and typescript.
- f. 16 Egger, 1975. Magazine and newspaper articles, type- scripts, and contact prints on the art of decorating plastic eggs.
- f. 17 *Eldorado Daily News*, undated. Typescript summarizing Lewis' experiences working on the newspaper.
- f. 18-19 Ellis Fischel State Cancer Hospital, 1976-1984. Correspondence, newsletters, newspaper articles, and typescript on the hospital and its patients.
- f. 20-21 Rosemary Ginn, 1974-1980. Correspondence, newspaper articles, resume, and typescripts on Ginn's diplomatic and political career.
- f. 22 Christian Gohl, undated. Typescripts on Brother Christian and his pottery studio.
- f. 23 Growing Older, undated. Humorous typescript on the problems of growing old.
- f. 24 Bruno Hauptmann, c. 1982. Newspaper article and typescript.
- f. 25 William Randolph Hearst, undated Typescript briefly exploring Hearst's relationship with Marian Davies.
- f. 26 Heartland, U.S.A., undated Magazine article and typescripts discussing volunteer services in Columbia, Missouri.
- f. 27 Mary Paxton Keeley, 1933-1975. Photograph and newspaper articles on Keeley's journalism career.
- f. 28 Ozark Hill Dolls, undated Catalogs, typescripts, and contact prints illustrating doll making and the Ozark Hill Dolls Studio.
- f. 29-30 Ozarks, 1973-1975. Magazine and newspaper articles, catalog, guideline sheets, typescripts, and recipes describing Silver Dollar City and various Ozark handicrafts.

- f. 31 Pachyderm Club, 1979-1984. Newsletters and typescript.
- f. 32 Pioneer Dolls, 1975. Typescript and newspaper article on Mary Crump's doll-making business.
- f. 33 Quilling, 1972. Catalog, magazine and newspaper articles, and typescript.
- f. 34 Quilts, 1975. Newspaper and magazine articles and typescript.
- f. 35 Ranch Roy-L, undated. Typescript and photographs highlighting this working ranch owned and operated by the Roy Longstreet family.
- f. 36 *Reader's Digest*, 1981-1982. Correspondence and typescripts for the "All in a Day's Work" section.
- f. 37 Barbara J. Remkus, 1975. Typescript and newspaper article on teaching grade school children to read.
- f. 38 Bob Robertson, 1975. Typescript and slides illustrating Robertson's woodcarving techniques.
- f. 39 Eleanor Roosevelt, 1981. Typescript and newspaper article recounting incident between Roosevelt and her core of female journalists.
- f. 40 Damon Runyan, undated Typescript highlighting Runyan's newspaper and writing career.
- f. 41 Taylors, 1974. Typescript and newspaper article on the Calico Cupboard, a restaurant in Calico Country Antique Village, and its owners.
- f. 42 Florence Teets, undated. Typescript summarizing Teets' life.
- f. 43 *Who's Who of American Women*, 1982. Correspondence and rough draft of entry for the 1983 edition.
- f. 44-46 Autobiography, 1977. Rough draft of first six chapters of Lewis' autobiography, with accompanying correspondence.
- f. 47-50 *Heritage of the Hills*, 1974-1975. Correspondence, photographs, newspaper articles, and rough drafts of book on the Ozark hill people and their handicrafts.
- f. 51-56 *Pocketbook of Prayers*, 1979-1983. Correspondence, newspaper articles, and several rough drafts of prayer book.
- f. 57-58 Contracts, 1944-1968. Contracts between Lewis and several major publishers for her efforts as a ghostwriter, coauthor, and editor. Also contains agreements between Lewis and her agent, George T. Bye. Includes correspondence, contracts, and agreements.
- f. 59-62 Miscellany, 1928-1983. Material on the Associated Press, Authors League of America, Columbia Art League, Broadway Christian Church, and other topics. Includes newsletters, press releases, speeches, programs, booklets, and bulletins arranged in chronological order.
- f. 63-68 Newspaper Clippings, 1926-1982. Clippings of feature articles and a financial column Lewis wrote for the Chicago *Herald-Examiner*, Universal Service, International News Service, New York *World* and the *Brooklyn Times*. A series on urban transportation problems run in other newspapers across the country, articles about Lewis, and sections of the column she wrote for the Chicago Tribune-New York News Syndicate are also included.
- f. 69-72 Photographs, c. 1927-c. 1984. A large portion of the photographs are of Lewis, spanning the whole of her journalism career of over sixty years,

with heavy concentration on the years she was women's editor for Associated Press (1941-1960). Photographs of family members, friends, and colleagues are also included.

Index:

| Index Terms | Years | Folders | Image |
|--|-------|------------------------------------|-------|
| Artley, A. Sterl | | 8 | |
| Arts and crafts | | 16, 28, 38, 50 | y |
| Arts and crafts | | 9, 11, 14, 16, 28-30, 32-34, 47-50 | |
| Bonus Expeditionary Forces | 1932 | 65 | |
| Broadway Christian Church (Columbia, Mo.) | | 10, 61 | |
| Colt, John W. | | 70-72 | y |
| Columbia Federated Republican Women's Club (Columbia, Mo.) | | 13 | |
| Design, Decorative | | 16 | |
| Design, Decorative | | 16 | Yes |
| Dolls | | 28, 32, 47-50 | |
| Dolls | | 28 | y |
| Education--Experimental methods. | | 8, 37 | |
| Ellis Fischel State Cancer Hospital | | 18, 19 | |
| Etter, Betty | | 3 | |
| Fashion design | | 69, 70 | y |
| Fashion shows | | 69-71 | y |
| Folk art, American | | 9, 14, 28-30, 32-34, 38, 47-50 | |
| Folk art, American | | 16, 28, 38, 50 | y |
| Francis, Arlene | | 71 | y |
| Ginn, Rosemary Lucas | | 20, 21 | |
| Gohl, Christian | | 22 | |
| Hunting | | 35 | y |
| Journalists | | 1-72 | |
| Journalists | | 69-72 | y |
| Keeley, Mary Paxton, 1886-1986 | | 27 | |
| Lewis, Dorothy Roe, 1904-1985 | | 1-72 | |
| Lewis, Dorothy Roe, 1904-1985 | | 69-72 | y |
| Lewis, John | | 1-7, 43-46, 57-62 | |
| Lewis, John | | 69-72 | y |
| Local transit | | 66, 67 | |
| Lyng, Leo | | 1, 2 | |
| Models (Persons) | | 69-71 | y |
| National Women and Media Collection | | 1-72 | |
| Quilting | | 34 | |

| Index Terms | Years | Folders | Image |
|--------------------------|-------|---------------|-------|
| Ranch Roy-L | | 35 | |
| Recipes. | | 29, 30, 47-50 | |
| Remkus, Barbara J. | | 37 | |
| Reporters and reporting | | 1-68 | |
| Rhoads, Geraldine | | 3-5 | |
| Runyon, Damon, 1880-1946 | | 40 | |
| Saint Laurent, Yves | | 70 | y |
| Slides (Photography) | | 69-72 | y |
| Teets, Florence | | 42 | |
| Thompson, Dixie Tighe | | 69 | y |
| Women journalists | | 69-72 | y |
| Women journalists | | 1-72 | |