

C Haskell, Agnes Hadley (1876-1946), Daybooks, 1909-1946
3467 92 folders

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INTRODUCTION

The daybooks of Agnes Lee Hadley Haskell, wife of Governor Herbert S. Hadley and later wife of Henry J. Haskell, editor of the *Kansas City Star*, contain records and diary entries noting her social and club engagements and the activities of her children; and various programs, newspaper clippings, receipts, and correspondence.

DONOR INFORMATION

The Agnes Hadley Haskell Daybooks were given to the University of Missouri by Mrs. Haskell's daughter, Mrs. Warren B. Lammert, on 22 October 1973 (Accession No. 3929).

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Agnes Lee was born in Kansas City, Missouri on 27 March 1876. She attended Vassar and worked as a reporter on the Lawrence, Kansas, *Journal* before graduating from the University of Kansas in 1899. In 1901 she married Herbert S. Hadley, who served as governor of Missouri from 1909 to 1913, and as chancellor of Washington University, St. Louis, from 1923 until his death in 1927. In 1931 she married Henry J. Haskell.

She was involved in local and European interests, making repeated trips to Europe in the 1920s and 1930s; musical and educational organizations; and women's issues. She was a member of the board of curators of the University of Missouri and of the International Federation of University Women. Agnes Lee Hadley Haskell died in Kansas City, Missouri, on 4 February 1946.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Agnes Hadley Haskell Daybooks are arranged chronologically, with the daybook in the year's first folder and any loose material found within that book immediately following. There are 27 daybooks.

The first two daybooks, for the years 1909 and 1912, are more diary-like than those of the later years, and chronicle the life of a state's First Lady, from her first official "At Home," to trips made with her husband, and the illnesses of her children. They provide a good picture of a woman trying to balance the responsibilities placed upon her by her husband's position, with the immediate needs of her family and her own personal interests. Topics include a description of Herbert Hadley's inauguration, notes on President William Howard Taft's inaugural activities, and Hadley's involvement with both Taft and Theodore Roosevelt.

The remaining books contain mostly abbreviated entries listing times, places, and guests for luncheons, dinners, clubs, concerts and parties, with fleshed-out "diary entries" scattered throughout. However, what these daybooks lack in the way of structured daily accounts, they make up with the correspondence, newspaper clippings, invitations, programs and memorabilia of a life spent actively engaged in travel, intellectual pursuits, and social engagements. The combination of the daybooks and these other materials provides a detailed picture of Midwestern academia in the 1920s and of Kansas City's social elite in the 1930s and 1940s.

There are travel descriptions of Canada, Spain, Poland, France, Italy, Germany, Morocco, Scotland, Ireland, and England; as well as reports and thoughts on life on the home front during World War II. Other topics of interest include: notes on the 1924 International Federation of University Women conference in Christiania, Norway; the 1912 Republican National Convention in Chicago; Nazism; and a 1930 League of Nations Conference in Geneva, Switzerland.

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