

C Fitzgerald, Alice Irene (1911-1994), Papers, 1954-1990
3919 6 linear feet, 2 audio tapes

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

INTRODUCTION

Alice Irene Fitzgerald was a Professor of Education at the University of Missouri from 1961 until her retirement in 1981. Her papers contain correspondence with faculty, students, and friends; records of her activities at the university and in many professional organizations such as the American Association of University Women (Columbia branch, Missouri Division, and National), and the Missouri State Teachers Association; and manuscripts of articles and her book, *Missouri's Literary Heritage for Children and Youth: An Annotated Bibliography of Books About Missouri*, as well as two audio tapes of Fitzgerald discussing her book.

DONOR INFORMATION

The Alice Irene Fitzgerald Papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Professor Fitzgerald on 26 June 1990 (Accession No. 2790). Additions were made on 25 September 1990 (Accession No. 2796) and 27 June 1991 (Accession No. 2841).

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Alice Irene Fitzgerald was a Professor of Education at the University of Missouri from 1961 until her retirement in 1981. She was born on 9 June 1911, in Miller County, Missouri. Fitzgerald earned her three degrees at the University of Missouri: Bachelor of Science (1938), Master in Education (1956), and Doctorate in Education (1960). Her education career began in 1932 as a teacher in the rural schools of her home county. In 1936, she moved to Eldon, Missouri, where she taught elementary school until 1954.

In 1954, Fitzgerald came to the University of Missouri as an instructor in the College of Education's Laboratory School. She was an Associate Professor of Elementary Education during the 1960-1961 school year at Northeast Missouri State Teacher's College in Kirksville. She returned to the University of Missouri in 1961 with the title Assistant Professor of Education.

During her career, Fitzgerald was active in several organizations. She held membership in the American Association of University Women and participated in the Missouri State Division and the Eldon and Columbia branches. The University of Missouri appointed her as its corporate representative to attend national and regional meetings. From 1969 to 1973 she served on the International Fellowships Committee which provided funding to female scholars for advanced study in the United States. The AAUW honored her in 1986 with the certificate of Recognition of Distinction.

Fitzgerald's interest in children's literature guided her professional activities throughout her life. Besides teaching children's literature classes at the university, she served as a member of the Missouri State Teachers' Association Reading Circle Committee from 1955 to 1981.

In 1980, she completed her book, *Missouri's Literary Heritage for Children and Youth: An Annotated Bibliography of Books About Missouri*. During this project, she amassed a collection of 300 children's books which she donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri. The collection, known as the Alice Irene Fitzgerald Collection of Missouri's Literary Heritage for Children and Youth, includes fiction, nonfiction, and poetry written about Missouri or by Missouri authors for children under the age of fourteen. Through donations the collection has grown to more than one thousand volumes.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Fitzgerald Papers are divided into seven series: **American Association of University Women, Missouri State Teachers Association, Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, University of Missouri, Miscellaneous Activities, Personal Correspondence** and **Audio/Visual**.

The **American Association of University Women (AAUW)** series is the largest in the collection and is arranged into five subseries: Columbia Branch, Missouri State Division, National, Fellowships, and Southwest Region. Materials in the Columbia Branch subseries include bylaws, correspondence, clippings, newsletters, programs, and membership lists. The final folder represents Fitzgerald's work with the Eldon, Missouri branch.

The Missouri State Division subseries includes bylaws, scattered issues of the *Bulletin*, correspondence, and state meeting information. Fitzgerald served as Implementation Chair in charge of developing programs for the local branches. Her correspondence and research materials on the program topic, "Testing Values in a Changing Society" are present.

The National subseries is comprised of material from Fitzgerald's activities as the University's corporate representative at the National Biennial Conferences from 1963 to 1981. These include delegate's reports to the chancellor and various programs, flyers, and publications she shared with administrators.

The Fellowships subseries is arranged alphabetically by committee or group and includes correspondence, application lists, and recipient lists from the Committee on International Fellowships, on which Fitzgerald service from 1969 to 1973. This committee reported to the AAUW Educational Foundation. As a result, materials appear from the Foundation, the Committee on Fellowships to American Women, and the Fellows Program Committee.

The Southwest Region subseries reflects Fitzgerald's attendance at meetings. Present are programs and information regarding the regional group.

The **Missouri State Teachers Association** series contains Fitzgerald's correspondence and meeting minutes from her work with the Reading Circle Committee, arranged by academic year. This committee reviewed many books, chose those deemed best for children at various reading levels, and made them available to Missouri public schools. Folders which hold book lists, order blanks, and miscellaneous correspondence appear in alphabetical order following the Reading Circle Committee files.

The **Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education** series is arranged chronologically. Materials from Fitzgerald's appointment to the Core Competencies and Key Skills Committee comprise most of the series. The

responsibilities of this committee were to detect the competencies and skills that school children should acquire in each discipline at the various grade levels. The final folder, unrelated to the committee folders, contains title pages from literature guides with which the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education asked Fitzgerald to assist.

The **University of Missouri** series is arranged alphabetically by subject and contains material related to Fitzgerald's position with the University of Missouri. There is one folder from the Northeast Missouri State Teachers College which contains a course syllabus. Present is correspondence with students, administrators, and faculty from the University of Missouri; work on accreditation committees and various other committees; items related to the children's literature collection at the State Historical Society of Missouri; and course evaluations.

The **Miscellaneous Activities** series is arranged alphabetically by organization and contains small amounts of information on Fitzgerald's other local and state activities. The manuscript s and correspondence for four of her articles appear at the end of this series as well as the manuscripts and galley proofs for her book and audio tapes of her discussing Missouri authors.

The **Personal Correspondence** series contains communications with family members, former students, colleagues, and friends. Folders with significant amounts of correspondence and photographic enclosures have been arranged in alphabetical order. For example, Fitzgerald corresponded regularly with Missouri author Rhoda Woolridge and with former student Do Dahn Tam, a Vietnamese refugee. The remainder of the correspondence is arranged chronologically and dates from 1954 to 1990. The final folder contains photographs of friends, family, and former students and their families, arranged alphabetically.

The **Audio** series contains audio tapes 14 and 15 of the Reading Improvement Program and includes Fitzgerald talking about Missouri authors.

FOLDER LIST

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- f. 1-8 Columbia Branch
 - f. 1 Bylaws and policies
 - f. 2 Clippings, 1964-1970
 - f. 3 Correspondence, 1974-1981
 - f. 4 Membership lists, 1969-1988
 - f. 5 Newsletter, 1986-1989
 - f. 6 Program correspondence, 1976
 - f. 7 Programs, 1957-1990
 - f. 8 Eldon Branch- Clippings, 1951-1953, 1967
- f. 9-33 Missouri State Division
 - f. 9-10 Bulletin, 1947-1969
 - f. 11 Bylaws, policies
 - f. 12 Community Issues Conference, 1979
 - f. 13 Corporate representative- Correspondence, 1966-1981
 - f. 14 Expectations for Education Committee, 1963-1964
 - f. 15-20 Implementation chair
 - f. 21 Leadership Training Conference, 1973
 - f. 22 Leadership Conference, 1978
 - f. 23 Membership committee, 1953
 - f. 24-25 Membership report, 1953-1955
 - f. 26 Model branch bylaws, 1952
 - f. 27 Plan of action, 1954-1955
 - f. 28-32 State meetings, 1955-1979
 - f. 33 Treasurer's report, 1951-1953
- f. 34-87 National
 - f. 34 *But We Will Persist*
 - f. 35 *Campus 1970: Where Do Women Stand?*
 - f. 36 *Campus 1970-* Correspondence, survey
 - f. 37 *Campus 1970-* Revisited 1976, correspondence and survey
 - f. 38 Charter and bylaws
 - f. 39-40 Convention, 1963
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 - f. 45-49 Convention, 1973
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- f. 158 Meeting minutes, 1958-1963
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- f. 191 Ellis Library Children's Literature Collection, 1958-1969
- f. 192 Evaluation on Undergraduate Advisement, Fall, 1980
- f. 193 Field service, Cape Girardeau Public Schools, 1966
- f. 194 Kappa Delta Pi, 1977-1984
- f. 195 Library reserves
- f. 196 Master's Examination (Problems of Teaching Social Studies in the Elementary School)
- f. 197 Miscellaneous
- f. 198 Missouri Cultural Heritage Center, 1988-1989
- f. 199-200 National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education, 1955-1966
- f. 201 Northeast Missouri State Teacher College- Syllabus for "Language Arts in the Elementary School"
- f. 202 "Problems of Teaching Social Studies in the Elementary School" (E368)-

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- f. 203 Propose Revision for course E96
- f. 204 Retiree Advisory Committee, 1984
- f. 205 Social Studies- Miscellaneous
- f. 206 Social Studies Committee, Subcommittee of the College of Education
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- f. 207 Social Studies Curriculum Center, 1963 proposal
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