

C Heinkel, Dorothy Hart Riley (1903-1990), Papers, 1915-1973
4132 .6 cubic feet

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INTRODUCTION

The papers of Dorothy Hart Riley Heinkel contain materials documenting the life of a musician, businesswoman, and wife of MFA president Fred Heinkel, including music education notebooks; files of her first husband, John W. Riley; Alpha Phi sorority materials; correspondence from family and friends; and funeral materials of her mother, Cora Hart.

DONOR INFORMATION

The papers were donated to the University of Missouri by Charles O'Dell in May 1995 (Accession No. 5534).

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Dorothy Hart was born on November 18, 1903, in Clinton, Missouri, to Watson and Cora Hart. She studied music as a child and young adult, obtaining an associate's degree from Christian College (now Columbia College), and a degree in music education from the University of Missouri. She lived in Columbia, Missouri, for most of her adult life, teaching music for one year at Christian College and later for seven years at Jefferson Junior High School, as well as teaching private piano lessons.

On August 21, 1928, Hart married John W. Riley, a University of Missouri graduate who ran an insurance company in Columbia. Riley had served in Company A of the 140th Infantry in World War I, where he was injured in action. Riley died in 1935, and Dorothy operated the insurance company for the next 17 years, becoming a well-respected member of the Columbia business community. She was also active in many organizations, including the Alpha Phi sorority and the Panhellenic Council of Columbia. Dorothy Hart Riley married Fred V. Heinkel, president of the Missouri Farmers Association, on June 29, 1946; they remained together until her death on March 14, 1990. They had no children.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The papers include materials documenting Dorothy Heinkel's early life, including her music education, marriage to John W. Riley, and World War II home front activities. Also documented are her lifelong leadership role in the Alpha Phi sorority and her mother's death in 1952. Education materials consist primarily of handwritten music notebooks from her time at Columbia College and the University of Missouri, as well as some notes and exams in other subjects. These will be of particular interest to researchers studying early 20th century music education practices.

The collection contains quite a few materials from John W. Riley, including materials from the U.S. Veteran's Bureau regarding disability payments and training; Company A, 140th Infantry Association materials, including membership lists; a few photographs of the University of Missouri campus from the 1920s; and a single folder

from his insurance company, documenting the insurance policies of the John Epple Construction Company, which continued as a Columbia business into the 21st century. The Epple construction files document the building of MU and Stephens College campus buildings, as well as Douglass, Lee, Jefferson, and Ridgeway school construction contracts.

Dorothy Hart's war work folders primarily contain membership lists from various women's WWII home front organizations in Columbia, including the Columbia Service Organization and the Victory Club. The Alpha Phi folders contain extensive material relating to this University of Missouri sorority. Dorothy served as president of the Pan Hellenic Association and president of the Columbia Alpha Phi Alumnae in the 1950s. She also, served as Alpha Phi financial advisor prior to becoming president. Included are correspondence, financial statements, and lists of members and alumnae. These files document the organization's finances, its 50th anniversary celebration, and the building of a new house in 1955.

Correspondence consists of cards and letters expressing sympathy for the loss of her mother, Cora Hart, in 1952, as well as some earlier correspondence from friends and family. A memorial from Cora Hart's funeral is also included.

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