Finding Aid to the Beatrice Ludlow Flick Oral History MS 957

Finding aid prepared by California Historical Society staff; revised by Marie Dunlap in 2010.
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Title: Beatrice Ludlow Flick oral history
Date: 1973
Collection Number: MS 957
Creator: Flick, Beatrice Ludlow, 1906-
Extent: 1 folder (0.1 Linear feet)
Repository: California Historical Society
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URL: http://www.californiahistoricalsociety.org/
Physical Location: Collection is stored onsite.
Language of Materials: Collection material is in English.
Abstract: Contains a transcript of Carol Farley's 1973 interview with Beatrice Ludlow Flick documenting her activities as president of the San Francisco League of Women Voters from 1940 to 1941.
Access
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[Identification of item], Beatrice Ludlow Flick Oral History, MS 957, California Historical Society.
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Related Collections
Harriet Judd Eliel Oral History, MS 954
Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library’s online public access catalog.
League of Women Voters of San Francisco.
Women civic leaders--California--San Francisco.
Oral histories.
Donor
This oral history was transcribed from an interview with Beatrice Ludlow Flick conducted by Oberlin College student Carol Farley in 1973.
Biographical Information
Beatrice Ludlow Flick was born in 1906 in San Francisco. She attended the University of California, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English around 1927, and taught at Alameda High School in Alameda, California, for five years. In 1938, she joined the San Francisco League of Women Voters, serving as president of that organization from 1940 to 1941. As president of the San Francisco League, she organized a number of programs, including "The ABC's of City Government" and a controversial civil liberties program for which American novelist Theodore Dreiser delivered an address. Under her leadership, the San Francisco League of Women Voters worked with the Commonwealth Club and the Young Women's Christian Association to assist Jewish refugees from Europe. In 1940, she served as a delegate to the national convention of the League of Women Voters. Flick was also a member of the National Association of Parliamentarians, resigning in protest from the national organization in the 1950s after it refused to admit Willa Evans, a distinguished African American San Franciscan who had joined the association at the local level. Flick resumed her teaching career in the 1950s, teaching...
English at Miss Burke's School in San Francisco. She and her husband had two children, a son and a daughter.

**Scope and Contents**

This oral history collection includes a transcript of Carol Farley's 1973 interview with Beatrice Ludlow Flick, an interview history, and an index to the transcript.

The interview documents Flick's activities as president of the San Francisco League of Women Voters from 1940 to 1941, as well as her insights into the organization, governance, and political influence of the League of Women Voters in San Francisco, California, and nationwide in the late 1930s and 1940s. In particular, the interview addresses the organizational and political peculiarities of the San Francisco League of Women Voters; its educational programs and work with Jewish refugees under Flick's leadership in 1940 and 1941; the California League of Women Voters' advocacy of federal aid to education during the Great Depression; the 1940 national convention of the League of Women Voters; and racial discrimination within the National Association of Parliamentarians in the 1950s. Included is an anecdote about American novelist Theodore Dreiser, who delivered an address on civil liberties to the San Francisco League of Women Voters during Flick's presidency.