

Ralph Carr and Lee E. Sanders

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Summary Information

Repository	History Colorado. Stephen H. Hart Research Center
Creator	Carr, Ralph L., (Ralph Lawrence), 1887-1950
Title	Ralph Carr and Lee E. Sanders
Date	January 1939-November 1939
Extent	0.25 Linear feet 0.25 lf
Language	English
Collection [Box]	0.25 lf
Abstract	This collection is composed of nine letters of correspondence from Governor Ralph Carr to Lee Ellen Sanders from January to November, 1939. The letters discuss Carr's feelings and thoughts on the political climate of the time, as well as his own personal correspondence with Sanders. Folders also contain some of the envelopes originally used to mail the letters, and translations of various Spanish sections of the letters, added by the archive staff.

Preferred Citation note

Cite collection as: Ralph Carr and Lee E. Sanders collection, Mss.02272 (accession 2013.53), History Colorado.

Biographical note

In 1939, Ralph Carr was the newly elected governor of Colorado after previously being involved in journalism, water law, and serving as the US District Attorney. Politically, Carr was critical of many New Deal policies, and sought to balance the state budget by taking income taxes from public schools for use in the general fund. Carr is best known for his support of disenfranchised Japanese-Americans during World War II. Carr served as governor until 1943. He passed away in 1950.

Carr developed a friendship with Lee Ellen Sanders while editing newspapers and practicing law around Trinidad, Colorado prior to his governorship. Sanders was a reporter for the Trinidad paper, the Morning Light. Sanders often provided support to Carr politically through the paper, and as a close friend. During World War II, Sanders joined the Women's Army Air Corp where she met her husband, Harvey Henry Frell. After the war, she was a preliminary court transcriptionist at the Nuremberg trials. She passed away in 2011 at the age of 91.

Scope and Contents note

Governor Ralph Carr's letters to Lee Ellen Sanders offer insight into the political climate of the New Deal in Colorado shortly after his election to office, as well as his personal views in 1939. Specifically, the letters touch on Carr's early efforts to balance the state budget by diverting funds from public school income taxes toward the general fund. Carr writes from both Denver and from other cities in the country, like New York, discussing his political views and forays. Carr also discusses his personal frustrations with the process, and criticism he received from political opponents and newspapers. Carr included special messages in his letters to Sanders as well, which are often written in Spanish. The letters were received by Sanders in Trinidad, Colorado.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

History Colorado. Stephen H. Hart Research Center

Conditions Governing Access note

Open to researchers without restrictions.

Provenance

The collection was donated by Marta Krell Katana, the daughter of Lee Ellen Sanders. Sanders' family had kept the letters after receiving them in 1939. The collection was donated after Sanders' death, in 2013.

Processing Information note

Processed by Kevin Smith, June 2013.

Related Materials

Related Archival Materials note

See also: Ralph L. Carr collection, Mss.01709

Controlled Access Headings

Genre(s)

- Correspondence.

Personal Name(s)

- Carr, Ralph L., (Ralph Lawrence), 1887-1950
- Sanders, Lee E., (Lee Ellen), 1919-2011

Subject(s)

- Budget--Colorado.
- Colorado--Politics and government.

- Governors--Colorado

Accession number

2013.53

Collection Inventory

FF 1 Gov. Ralph Carr to Lee Ellen Sanders January 21, 1939 2.0 Item(s)

FF 2 Gov. Ralph Carr to Lee Ellen Sanders January 25, 1939 3.0 Item(s)

FF 3 Gov. Ralph Carr to Lee Ellen Sanders February 1939 3.0 Item(s)

FF 4 Gov. Ralph Carr to Lee Ellen Sanders February 5, 1939 3.0 Item(s)

FF 5 Gov. Ralph Carr to Lee Ellen Sanders February 19, 1939 2.0 Item(s)

FF 6 Gov. Ralph Carr to Lee Ellen Sanders April 24, 1939 3.0 Item(s)

FF 7 Gov. Ralph Carr to Lee Ellen Sanders November 14, 1939 2.0 Item(s)

FF 8 Gov. Ralph Carr to Lee Ellen Sanders [1939] 2.0 Item(s)

FF 9 Gov. Ralph Carr to Lee Ellen Sanders [1939] 3.0 Item(s)