

**Ruth Hetzel Harshaw Papers**  
**A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress**



**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**  
**Washington, D.C.**  
**2010**

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm73011403>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms010040>

Prepared by Herbert Swanson

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2010

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Ruth Hetzel Harshaw Papers

**Span Dates:** 1947-1967

**Bulk Dates:** (bulk 1950-1966)

**ID No.:** MSS11403

**Creator:** Harshaw, Ruth Hetzel, 1897-1968

**Extent:** 2,400 items

**Extent:** 10 containers plus 1 oversize

**Extent:** 4.0 linear feet

**Language:** Collection material in English

**Location:** Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

**LC Catalog record:** <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm73011403>

**Summary:** Author and publicist. Correspondence, promotional material, scripts, program listings, broadcast schedules, a scrapbook, and other material concerning Harshaw's radio programs, *Battle of Books*, *Carnival of Books*, and *The Hobby Horse Presents*.

## Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

### People

Harshaw, Ruth Hetzel, 1897-1968.

### Subjects

Radio programs.

Radio scripts.

### Titles

*Battle of Books* (Radio program)

*Carnival of Books* (Radio program)

*Hobby Horse Presents* (Radio program)

### Occupations

Authors.

Publicists.

## Provenance

The papers of Ruth Hetzel Harshaw, author and publicist, were given to the Library of Congress by Mrs. Richard L. Clarke, a daughter of Harshaw, in 1968.

## Processing History

The papers of Ruth Hetzel Harshaw were arranged and described in 1979. The finding aid was revised in 2010.

## Related Material

Tape recordings of *Carnival of Books* were given to the the Recorded Sound Section of the Music Division by Ruth Hetzel Harshaw during her lifetime.

## Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Ruth Hetzel Harshaw is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

## Access and Restrictions

The papers of Ruth Hetzel Harshaw are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

## Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Ruth Hetzel Harshaw Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Biographical Note

Date	Event
1897	Born, Almond, Wis.
1913	Graduated, Wisconsin State College, Stevens Point, Wis.
1917	Married Myron Turner Harshaw
1920s	Taught school, Winnetka, Ill.
1931	Published <i>The Council of the Gods</i> . Chicago: Thomas S. Rockwell Co.
1933-1949	Promotion director, Children's Bookshop, Carson Pirie Scott & Co., Chicago, Ill.
1934	Published <i>My Viking Book</i> . New York: Rand, McNally & Co. Published <i>Reindeer of the Waves</i> . New York: Rand, McNally & Co.
1946-1949	Wrote and conducted <i>The Hobby Horse Presents</i> radio program for Carson Pirie Scott & Co.; program renamed <i>Carnival of Books</i> in 1949
1948	Published with Dilla W. MacBean <i>What Book Is That?</i> New York: Macmillan
1948-1967	Wrote and conducted <i>Battle of Books</i> radio program for the Chicago Board of Education, Chicago, Ill.
1949-1966	Wrote and conducted <i>Carnival of Books</i> radio program for the Public Affairs and Education Department, National Broadcasting Co.
1968, Jan. 18	Died, Glencoe, Ill.
1970	Published with Hope Harshaw Evans <i>In What Book</i> . New York: Macmillan

## Scope and Content Note

The papers of Ruth Hetzel Harshaw (1897-1968) span the years 1947-1967, with the bulk dating from 1950-1966. The papers relate entirely to three radio programs about children's books, *The Hobby Horse Presents*, *Carnival of Books*, and *Battle of Books*, that originated from Chicago, Illinois.

A majority of the collection is comprised of correspondence, scripts, and program listings, most of which concern *Carnival of Books* written and conducted for the National Broadcasting System. The guest author for each *Carnival of Books* program is listed on the folder containing the script.

## Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged by title of radio program and therein by type of material.

# Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	<i>The Hobby Horse Presents</i>
BOX 1	Information letter and copies of the <i>Hobby Horse Review</i> , 1947-1949
BOX 1	Scrapbook of clippings and publicity information <a href="#"><i>See Oversize</i></a>
BOX 1	<i>Carnival of Books</i>
BOX 1	General correspondence, 1956-1967, undated
BOX 1	Foreign correspondence, 1950-1966, undated
BOX 1	Library of Congress, 1959-1965, undated
BOX 1	United States Information Agency, 1956
BOX 1	Program correspondence, 1963-1965
BOX 1	Eastern recording trip, 1965
BOX 1	General correspondence
BOX 1	Correspondence with publishers
BOX 2	Correspondence with publishers
BOX 2	Eastern librarians
BOX 2	New York Graphic Society
BOX 2	Awards
BOX 2	Book lists and reviews
BOX 2	Librarian lists
BOX 2	London, England, recording trip
BOX 2	Publicity
BOX 2	Recording and broadcast schedules and author lists
BOX 2	Program listings, 1949-1966
BOX 3	Scripts
BOX 3	1961, Oct. 1-1962, July 8
BOX 4	1962, July 15-1964, Sept. 6
BOX 5	1964, Sept. 13-1965, July 18
BOX 6	1965, July 25-1966, May 8
BOX 7	1966, May 15-Sept. 18
BOX 7	Miscellany
BOX 7	Clippings file
BOX 8	<i>Battle of Books</i>
BOX 8	Correspondence
BOX 8	Broadcast handbooks
BOX 8	Scripts
BOX 8	1948-1964, May 7
BOX 9	1964, May 7-1966, Sept. 29
BOX 9	Miscellany
BOX 9	Photographs
BOX 10	File cards containing program questions
BOX oversize 11	Oversize
BOX oversize 11	<i>The Hobby Horse Presents</i>

## Container List

### Container

### Contents

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BOX **oversize** 11

Scrapbook of clippings and publicity information (Container 1)