

# **Bancroft Library Regional Oral History Office**

**A Register of Its Oral History Collection in the  
Library of Congress**

**Prepared by Margaret McAleer**



**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**

**Washington, D.C.**

**2007**

Contact information: <http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/mss/address.html>

**Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress  
Manuscript Division, 2007**

Finding aid URL: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms007108>

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Oral History Collection of the Bancroft Library Regional Oral History Office

**Span Dates:** 1959-1979

**Bulk Dates:** (bulk 1969-1975)

**ID No.:** MSS54221

**Creator:** Bancroft Library. Regional Oral History Office

**Extent:** 19 items; 8 containers; 3.2 linear feet

**Language:** Collection material in English

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

**Abstract:** Interviews pertaining to California state politics and government, the suffragists, and to the life and career of John S. Service, an American diplomat in China, and his wife, Caroline.

## Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### Personal Names

Service, John S., 1909-

Warren, Earl, 1891-1974.

### Organizations

Bancroft Library. Regional Oral History Office.

### Subjects

Diplomatic and consular service, American--China.

Diplomats' spouses--Interviews.

Labor unions--California.

Politicians--California--Interviews.

Suffragists--Interviews.

Women--Suffrage.

### Locations

California--Politics and government--1850-1950.

California--Politics and government--1951-

China--Foreign relations--United States.

United States--Foreign relations--China.

### Related Names

Bary, Helen Valeska, 1887-1973. Oral history interview.

Earl Warren Oral History Project (Bancroft Library)

Field, Sara Bard, 1882-1974. Oral history interview.

Gordon, Walter, 1894-1976. Oral history interview.

Governmental History Documentation Project (Bancroft Library)

John S. and Caroline Service Oral History Project (Bancroft Library)

Kent, Roger, 1906-1980. Oral history interview.

Matthews, Burnita Shelton, 1894-1988. Oral history interview.

Paul, Alice, 1885-1977. Oral history interview.

Rankin, Jeannette, 1880-1973. Oral history interview.

Reyher, Rebecca Hourwich, 1897-1987. Oral history interview.

Service, Caroline. Oral history interview.

Suffragists Oral History Project.

Vernon, Mabel. Oral history interview.

Walter Gordon Oral History Project (Bancroft Library)

## Administrative Information

### Provenance:

The Oral History Collection of the Bancroft Library Regional Oral History Office, University of California at Berkeley, was given to the Library of Congress by the Bancroft Library from 1974 to 1987 and by Amelia Fry in 1985.

### Processing History:

The records of the Oral History Collection of the Bancroft Library Regional History Office were arranged and described in 1997 and the register revised in 2007.

### Copyright Status:

Each interview transcript contains information concerning the status of copyright.

### Restrictions:

Restrictions apply governing the use, photoduplication, or publication of items in this collection. Consult a reference librarian in the Manuscript Division concerning these restrictions.

### Microfiche:

The Earl Warren Oral History Project and the Suffragist Oral History Project are also available on microfiche in the Library of Congress Microform Reading Room.

### Preferred Citation:

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Oral History Collection of the Bancroft Library Regional Oral History Office, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Scope and Content Note

The Oral History Collection spans the years 1959 to 1979 and consists of nineteen volumes containing transcripts of approximately eighty interviews conducted by the Bancroft Library Regional Oral History Office at the University of California at Berkeley. The transcripts are accompanied by introductions, tables of content, indexes, and supplementary material including photographs and copies of correspondence, reports, and clippings. The interviews are arranged alphabetically by name of the oral history project.

The bulk of the interviews relate to California state government and politics. They include twenty-seven interviews from the Earl Warren Oral History Project concerning health insurance, labor, Japanese-American relocation during World War II, Warren's early years in Bakersfield, and his relations as governor with the public, press, and state legislature. An extensive interview with Merrell Farnham Small, administrative secretary in the governor's office from 1945 to 1953, is also included. Other oral history projects pertaining to California are the Governmental History Documentation Project which is represented in this collection by an interview with Roger Kent, vice chairman and chairman of the California Democratic State Central Committee from 1954 to 1965, and an oral history project documenting the career of Walter Gordon, lawyer, civil rights leader, governor of the Virgin Islands, and chairman of the California Adult Authority, a state agency responsible for setting terms and granting paroles for adult prison inmates.

The collection also contains thirteen interviews from the Suffragists Oral History Project. Included are interviews with Helen Valeska Bary, Sara Bard Field, Burnita Shelton Matthews, Alice Paul, Jeannette Rankin, Rebecca Hourwich Reyher, and Mabel Vernon, among others. The interviews explore their subject's early formative years and their subsequent efforts on behalf of woman's suffrage, welfare and labor reform, world peace, and passage of the Equal Rights Amendment. An interview with Caroline Service, wife of diplomat John S. Service, forms part of the China Series. Her interview covers her years in China from 1933 to 1940 as the wife of a foreign service officer and her husband's arrest in 1945 for allegedly passing secret documents to *Amerasia* magazine, his testimony before the Loyalty Review Board in 1951, and his subsequent firing by the State Department.

## **Arrangement of the Papers**

This collection is arranged alphabetically by name of oral history project.

# Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1	China Series, John S. and Caroline Service Oral History Project, interviews with Caroline Service, 1976
BOX 1	Earl Warren Oral History Project
BOX 1	"Earl Warren and Health Insurance, 1943-49," interviews with Gordon Claycombe, John W. Cline, Russel V. Lee, and Byrl R. Salsman, 1970-1971
BOX 1	"Earl Warren's Bakersfield," interviews with Maryann Ashe, Omar Cavins, Ruth Smith Henley, Ralph Kreiser, Manford Martin, and Ernest McMillan, 1969-1971
BOX 2	"The Governor and the Public, the Press, and the Legislature," interviews with Marguerite Gallagher, Verne Scoggins, and Beach Vasey, 1970-1973
BOX 2	"Japanese-American Relocation Reviewed"
BOX 2	Vol. 1, "Decision and Exodus," interviews with Tom Clark, Edward Ennis, Percy C. Heckendorf, James Rowe, and Herbert Wenig, 1971-1973
BOX 2	Vol. 2, "The Internment," interviews with Robert Cozzens, Ruth Kingman, and Dillon S. Myer, 1969-1971
BOX 3	"Labor Looks at Earl Warren," interviews with Germain Bulcke, Joseph W. Chaudet, Paul Heide, U. S. Simonds, and Ernest H. Vernon, 1969-1970
BOX 3	"Merrell Farnham Small, Departmental Secretary," interviews with Small, 1970-1971
BOX 3	Governmental History Documentation Project, "Roger Kent: Building the Democratic Party in California, 1954-66," interviews with Kent, 1976-1977
BOX 4	Suffragists Oral History Project
BOX 4	Bary, Helen Valeska, 1972-1973
BOX 4	Butler, Jessie Haver, Miriam Allen deFord, Ernestine Hara Kettler, Laura Ellsworth Seiler, and Sylvie Grace Thompson Thygeson, 1972-1974
BOX 5	Field, Sara Bard, 1959-1963
BOX 5	Matthews, Burnita Shelton, 1973
BOX 6	Paul, Alice, 1972
BOX 6	Rankin, Jeannette, 1972
BOX 7	Reyher, Rebecca Hourwich, 1973
BOX 7	Vernon, Mabel, and Hazel Hunkins-Hallinan, 1972-1975
BOX 8	Walter Gordon Oral History Project, interviews with Gordon, his associates, and family, 1971-1979 (2 vols.)