

## **Mary Fox Herling Collection**

**Papers, 1914-1980  
(Predominantly, 1940s-1960s)**

**4.5 linear feet**

Accession # 1729  
DALNET #  
OCLC #

Mary Fox Herling was born in New York City on December 12, 1893 and grew up in Montclair, New Jersey. After graduation from Vassar College and a year at Oxford University, she taught first in a private school in Colorado Springs and later in Chicago's Francis Parker School and the Brooklyn Ethical Culture School.

During the 1930s Mary Fox, a member of the Socialist Party, served as executive secretary of the League for Industrial Democracy, recruiting field workers, editing its pictorial magazine, *The Unemployed*, and establishing a series of national lectures and chautauquas. She also established and managed Bleecker Gardens in Greenwich Village, a major conversion of tenements into housing for artists and writers. In the late 1930s she was active in the movement to aid refugees from Hitler's Europe, helping to organize the American Friends for German Freedom.

She moved to Washington, D. C. in 1941 and during World War II worked as an administrator for the cooperative housing section of the War Labor Board, which later became the Federal Public Housing Authority. After the war she served as administrative secretary for the Washington Newspaper Guild and then as president and driving force of Group Housing Cooperative, whose members bought an old golf course in Bethesda, Maryland and built the Bannockburn community.

In 1925 Mary Fox married labor publicist and author Benjamin Stolberg. They had a son, David, divorcing in 1929, and in 1937 she married labor writer John Herling. Mary Fox Herling died in Bethesda, Maryland on November 4, 1978.

The papers of Mary Fox Herling consist largely of personal correspondence with family and friends and reflect to a lesser extent her professional activities with the League for Industrial Democracy, the War Labor Board and the cooperative housing movement. Related material may be found in the John Herling Collection.

The cost of processing the Mary Fox Herling papers was underwritten by a gift from the estate of John Herling.

**Important subjects in the collection:**

American Friends for German Freedom  
Bannockburn Cooperators, Inc.  
Housing, Cooperative--United States  
League for Industrial Democracy  
Refugees--World War, 1939-1945  
Socialist Party U.S.A.

**Important correspondents in the collection:**

Austen Albu  
Mary Blanshard  
Anna Caples  
McAlister Coleman  
George C. Edwards, Jr.  
Marie Feiler  
Ruth Fox  
Ruth Schechter Gold  
John Herling  
Kurt Lachmann  
Jennie Lee  
Frank Loeb  
H. L. Mitchell  
David Stolberg  
Norman Thomas

**Non-manuscript material:**

A few photographs of Mary Fox, John Herling, the David Stolberg family and the Austen Albu family have been transferred to the Archives Audiovisual Department.

- 3 -

**Contents**

**9 manuscript boxes**

**Series I, Family Correspondence**, 1930s-1970s, Boxes 1-5

**Series II, General Correspondence**, 1930s-1970s, Boxes 5-7

**Series III, Subject Files**, 1914-1980, Boxes 7-9

- 4 -

**Series I**  
**Family Correspondence, 1930s-1970s**  
**Boxes 1-5**

**Box 1**

1. Achtenberg, Hannah, 1967-68
2. Allen, Ann Coleman, n.d., 1940s-1970s
- 3-4. Case, Lelia Fox, n.d.
5. Case, Lelia Fox, 1950s
- 6-9. Case, Lelia Fox, 1960-70
10. Coleman, McAlister, n.d., 1942-50

**Box 2**

1. Coleman, McAlister and Peggy, n.d., 1940s-1960s
2. Collier, Pru Fox Conover, and family, n.d., 1957-68, 1976
3. Ducas, Jacques and Nettie Herling, and family, 1954-69
4. Fox, Barbara (Bob) Condit, n.d.
5. Fox, Barbara (Bob) Condit, 1942-74
6. Fox, Frank, n.d., 1942-74
7. Fox, Leslie, n.d., 1953-58
8. Fox, Mike Condit, and family, n.d., 1942, 1946, 1967
9. Fox, Ruth, n.d., 1951-68, 1975
10. Fox, Ruth Marie Treadwell, n.d., 1935, 1949-72
11. Green, Stan and Pat Fox, and family, n.d., 1940s-1960s
12. Herling, John, n.d.
- 13-14. Herling, John, 1937-41

**Box 3**

1. Herling, John, 1942-43
- 2-3. Herling, John, 1946
4. Herling, John, 1947, 1949-50
- 5-6. Herling, John, 1953-59
7. Herling, John, 1960-62, 1974
8. Herling, John; Geneva trip, 1963
9. Lessard, Louise Fox, n.d.
10. Lessard, Louise Fox, 1948-62
11. Miscellaneous, 1939, 1943-75
12. Rinker, Ralph and Tess Herling, n.d., 1946, 1972
13. Stolberg, Benjamin, 1945, 1950
- 14-15. Stolberg, David; articles in *Rocky Mountain News*, 1950s-1960s
16. Stolberg, David; articles in *Scripps-Howard News*, 1960s

17. Stolberg, David; articles in *Washington Daily News*, 1950, 1966-67

**Box 4**

1. Stolberg, David, and family, n.d.
2. Stolberg, David, 1930s
- 3-7. Stolberg, David, 1943-50
8. Stolberg, David; correspondence from Korea, 1950-52
- 9-13. Stolberg, David, and family, 1951-55

**Box 5**

- 1-9. Stolberg, David, and family, 1956-65
10. Stolberg, David, and family, 1966-67, 1969, 1971
11. Touf, Leda Fox, 1940s
12. Weissman, Bernard and Rita Herling, n.d., 1958, 1966
13. Whelden, Harry and Jane Fox, and family, n.d., 1949-72

**Series II**  
**General Correspondence, 1930s-1970s**  
**Boxes 5-7**

**Box 5**

- 14-15. Albu, Austen, n.d., 1942-74
16. Albu, Colin, 1941-45, 1956-68
17. Albu, Martin, 1941-44, 1959-72
18. Albu, Rose, n.d., 1943-45

**Box 6**

- 1-2. Albu, Rose, 1946-56
3. Blanshard, Paul and Mary, 1958, 1963
4. Branting, Sonja, 1935, 1940-41
5. Dillmann, Fritz, and family, n.d., 1950s-1960s
6. Edwards, George and Peg, and family, n.d., 1937-68
7. Ehrmann, Henry, and family, n.d., 1948-68
8. Feiler, Marie, 1952-55, 1962-68
9. Gilbert, Jim and Cecil, 1957-58, 1964-69
10. Gold, Ruth Schechter, 1950s
11. Heller, Doris Tullar, 1947, 1955, 1957, 1965
12. Jahoda, Marie (Mitzi), 1945, 1955, 1958
13. Keegan, Mary, n.d., 1954-58, 1967
- 14-15. Lachmann, Kurt and Margot, n.d., 1945-77
16. Lee, Jennie, 1933, 1939-41
17. Miscellaneous, n.d.
- 18-19. Miscellaneous, 1930s-1970s
20. Nobbe, Susanne, 1953-77

**Box 7**

1. Raskin, Rose, n.d., 1957
2. Rosenthal, Clarice, n.d., 1947, 1954-56
3. Thomas, Norman, 1932-40, 1957
4. Yaffee, Ruth, 1955-57

**Series III**  
**Subject Files, 1914-1980**  
**Boxes 7-9**

**Box 7**

5. American Friends for German Freedom; corres., n.d., 1939, 1942-44
- 6-8. American Friends for German Freedom; *In Re: Germany*, 1941-44
- 9-10. American Friends for German Freedom; *Inside Germany Reports*, 1940-44
11. American Friends for German Freedom; minutes, 1940-42, 1944
12. American Friends for German Freedom; misc., 1939-43
13. Bannockburn; corres., misc., 1946-49
14. Bannockburn; news clippings, n.d., 1945-47, 1957

**Box 8**

1. "Bannockburn: The Story of a Cooperative Community," 1978
2. Chou-Chou, 1950s
- 3-4. Federal Public Housing Authority job, Dec 1942-Mar 1944
5. Fox family history and genealogy
6. Group Health Cooperative, 1941
- 7-9. Herling, Mary Fox; condolences, 1978
- 10-11. Herling, Mary Fox; job applications, 1940-42
12. Herling, Mary Fox; marriage to John Herling, 1937

**Box 9**

1. Herling, Mary Fox; memorial service, Dec 1978
2. Herling, Mary Fox; obituaries, 1978
3. Herling, Mary Fox; passports
4. Herling, Mary Fox; Vassar transcript, 1917
5. Herling family genealogy
6. Housing cooperatives, misc.; corres., speech, 1935-53
7. *Labor Problem: Outline for Reading and Study* by Herbert Elmer Mills, 1915
8. League for Industrial Democracy; corres., meeting programs, publications, n.d., 1937-41, 1950, 1955
9. National Sharecroppers Week, 1940-42
10. Norman Thomas Scholarship in Memory of Mary Fox Herling, 1979-80
11. *Socialism: Outline for Reading and Study* by Herbert Elmer Mills, 1914
12. Socialist Party; corres., membership cards, 1932-40
13. Stolberg, Benjamin; death and estate, 1951
14. Stolberg, David, and family, articles about, 1950s-1960s
15. Stolberg, David; birth, education, marriage, 1927, 1940-50

16. Stolberg, David; U.S. Army, 1948-49
17. Superstition, Please contest, 1941
18. War Production Board job, 1944-45
19. Washington Newspaper Guild job, 1946-47