

Walter P. Reuther Library  
Wayne State University Archives  
Wayne State University, Detroit, MI

**Helen Dushkin Papers**  
.25 linear feet (1 MB)  
1912-1984, bulk 1947-1948

Finding aid written by Meghan McGowan on October 24, 2014.

**Accession Number:** WSP000581

**Creator:** Helen Dushkin, 1896-

**Acquisition:** Donated to Reuther Library by Helen Dushkin on August 20, 1984.

**Language:** Material entirely in English.

**Access:** Collection is open for research.

**Use:** Refer to the Walter P. Reuther Library *Rules for Use of Archival Materials*.

**Restrictions:** Researchers may encounter records of a sensitive nature – personnel files, case records and those involving investigations, legal and other private matters. Privacy laws and restrictions imposed by the Library prohibit the use of names and other personal information which might identify an individual, except with written permission from the Director and/or the donor.

**Notes:** Citation style: “Helen Dushkin Papers, Box [#], Folder [#], University Archives, Wayne State University.”

**Abstract**

Helen Dushkin, maiden name Sachse, was born in Aranac County in 1896. Her family moved to Bay City and then to Detroit, where she would remain. Helen Sachse first attended Cass School (later Cass High School and then Cass Technical High School) and then Central High School. At Central High School, she earned top grades and gave speeches, including a commencement toast in 1914. This collection contains her written recollections from Central High School, as well as her report cards, student essays, a commencement program, and copies of her speeches.

Helen Dushkin was an outside correspondent for the Detroit News and the Jewish Chronicle. She also served as the President of the Women's Division of the American Jewish Congress. Additionally, she participated in the Council of Jewish Women, the Committee on Interracial and Intercultural Understanding in the Schools, the Women's Auxiliary of the United Hebrew Schools, the League of Women Voters, the Torch Fund, and the Speakers Bureau.

In addition to the papers regarding Central High School, this collection also contains the meeting minutes, correspondence, and reports from the Committee on Interracial and Intercultural Understanding in the Schools. The committee's goal was to promote interracial and intercultural education in Metro Detroit Schools through calculated curriculum, trained school personnel, and active parent-teacher organizations.

**Important Subjects:**

Equality, Racial  
Judaism and culture  
Schools -- Michigan

**Important Names:**

Central High School  
Detroit, Michigan  
Dushkin, Helen, 1896-  
Jewish Community Center

**Arrangement**

The original order of the collection has been preserved.

**Box 1**

1. Report cards and commencement materials, 1912-1914
2. Recollections of Central High School, 1984
3. Speeches given by Helen Dushkin at Central High School, n.d.
4. Central High School student essays, n.d.
5. Committee on Interracial and Intercultural Understanding in the Schools, 1947-1948
6. Contact notecards and name vote for Intercultural Committee, circa 1947