

**McLean County Museum of History**

**William B. Geneva & Carolyn Schertz Geneva Collection**

Processed by  
Rachel Hunt and Aingeal Stone  
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**Collection Information**

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	1 Box
COLLECTION DATES:	1904-1964
RESTRICTIONS:	None
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History
ALTERNATIVE FORMATS:	None
OTHER FINDING AIDS:	None
LOCATION:	Archives

## Brief History

Carolyn Mabel Schertz was born October 13, 1892 in Hudson, Illinois, the daughter of David Schertz and Carrie Kaufman. The Schertz family moved to Normal, Illinois around the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century; their home was on the corner of Franklin and Virginia Avenues.

In 1911 Carolyn began her nursing education at Brokaw School of Nursing, graduating in 1914, eventually becoming head nurse at Brokaw Hospital. During World War I, Carolyn was involved in the Hospital Department of the Red Cross in charge of the new trainees. In August 1917, she entered the Army Medical and was in charge of the surgery tents at Knotty Ash on England's west coast. At this time Schertz contracted influenza which deteriorated to pneumonia and weakened her heart. She was relieved from active duty and returned to Bloomington in 1919.

After her discharge, she joined the Bloomington American Legion Post, where she met William B. Geneva. They married on April 7, 1921 and lived in McLean, Illinois. William Geneva was a graduate of Illinois Wesleyan University in 1911 and of the IWU Law School in 1917. He completed a Bachelor of Education degree from Illinois State Normal University in 1919. After he graduated he served overseas as an officer for the U.S. Army for one year. William was the principal of Community High School in McLean, Illinois and later served the area as superintendent of schools.

In 1927, while Carolyn and William were living in Stockton, Illinois with their first daughter, William died in a boating accident. Carolyn gave birth to their second child shortly thereafter. She and her two daughters, Helen and Bette Lou, moved back to Normal. Carolyn Schertz Geneva died on January 19, 1992 at the age of 99.

~from Emily Swartz's biography of Carolyn Schertz Geneva

<http://www.mchistory.org/research/resources/carolyn-schertz-geneva.php>

## Scope

This collection includes photographs, booklets from Brokaw Hospital (became BroMenn Regional Medical Center in 1991) and booklets from Brokaw Hospital's School of Nursing (which became part of Illinois Wesleyan University in 1962), Carolyn's war service documents, correspondence, photocopies of newspaper articles, and plays.

## Box and Folder Inventory

### Folder 1: Photographs

- 1.1.1 Photograph of nurses including Carolyn Schertz, ca. 1914.
- 1.1.2 Three (3) photo album pages including photos of buildings in ruins, from the May 26 1917 tornado that swept through Mattoon and Charleston, Ill., ca. 1917 (Carolyn was sent with the Bloomington Chapter of the Red Cross to provide relief).

### Folder 2: Brokaw Hospital Booklets

- 1.2.1 Brokaw Hospital, 1904, 36 p.
- 1.2.2 Brokaw Hospital, 1916, 26 p.
- 1.2.3 Brokaw Hospital, 1920, 24 p.

**Folder 3: Brokaw Hospital School of Nursing Booklets**

- 1.3.1 Brokaw Hospital School for Nurses, 1907, 11 p.
- 1.3.2 Brokaw Hospital School for Nurses, 1914, 12 p.
- 1.3.3 Brokaw Hospital School of Nursing, 1925-1926, 18 p.
- 1.3.4 Brokaw Hospital School of Nursing, 1930-1931, 23 p.

**Folder 4: World War I**

- 1.4.1 *The Britannica Book of the War*, 1914, 76 p.
- 1.4.2 Army Nurse Corps appointment document, 22 November 1917, 1 p.
- 1.4.3 Special Emergency Card, Soldier or Sailor, leave ration card, May 29-June 5, 1918.
- 1.4.4 Hospitalization record, final pay, and discharge, April 30, 1919-August 4/5, 1919.

**Folder 5: William B. Geneva, Correspondence, etc.**

- 1.5.1 First Methodist Episcopal Church service bulletin, 11 May 1913. W. Geneva listed on the back page as a local preacher.
- 1.5.2 Letter to F.C. Watkins from Roy Painter, concerning William B. Geneva, 12 July 1916, 1 p., handwritten note from Watkins on the front.
- 1.5.3 Letter to F.C. Watkins from Roy Painter, concerning William B. Geneva, 12 July 1916, 1 p.
- 1.5.4 Letter to W.B. Geneva from John R. Macarthur, 6 January 1917, 1 p.
- 1.5.5 Letter to William B. Geneva from Roy Painter, 8 January 1917, 1 p.
- 1.5.6 Letter to William B. Geneva from Roy Painter, 7 June 1917, 1 p.

**Folder 6: William Eben Schultz and Gay's Beggar's Opera**

- 1.6.1 *The Music of the Beggar's Opera in Print*, by William Eben Schulz, 1923?, pp. 87-99.
- 1.6.2 "Schultz's Book," article from *Megaphone*, 3 May 1923.
- 1.6.3 "Dr. W.E. Schultz Is Honored," article from *Megaphone*, 15 May, 1923.
- 1.6.4 "Our Home Town: A Friend Drops In," article from *Quincy Whig-Journal*, 1923.
- 1.6.5 "The Beggars Opera, Its Content, History and Influence," by Dr. W.E. Schultz, article from *Megaphone*, 10 January 1924, 2 p.
- 1.6.6 "Faculty Man's Work is Reviewed Widely," article from *Megaphone*, 16 December 1924.
- 1.6.7 "Two C.S. Faculty Men Appear in Important Music Circles in St. Louis," from *Megaphone*, January (?) 1925.

**Folder 7: Plays**

- 1.7.1 *Thursday Evening* by Christopher Morley, 1922, 34 p.

- 1.7.2 *Old Moonlight* by William Ellis Jones, 1933, 34 p.
- 1.7.3 *Afraid of the Dark*, by William [sic] E. Callahan play booklet, [1934], pp. 257-279.
- 1.7.4 *The Opening of a Door*, by Wall Spence, 1935, 43 p.
- 1.7.5 *Curses, the Villain is Foiled! Or, Hearts and Flowers*, Henry Rowland, 1937, p. 27.

**Folder 8:      Miscellaneous**

- 1.8.1 *Illinois Training School for Nurses, Chicago*, 1915-1916, 48 p.
- 1.8.2 *Blue Valley Bulletin*, Volume XIII, No. 3, February 1920, pp. 66-96.
- 1.8.3 *The Drop Lite*, published by the senior class of Brokaw Hospital Training School, June 1921, 32 p.
- 1.8.4 “Mrs. Geneva Wins Top Brokaw Award,” article from *The Pantagraph*, August 24, 1964.
- 1.8.5 “Carolyn Schertz Geneva,” by Emily Swartz, 2011, biography printed from the Mclean County Museum of History website, 4 p.