

The University of Toledo Archives
Manuscript Collection

Finding Aid

➤Bess V. Cunningham Papers, 1945◀
UM-54

Size: .5 linear foot

Provenance: Dr. Bess V. Cunningham, College of Education

Access: Open

Related Collections:

Processing Note:

Condition: Fair

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Location: 2/A/2

Completed by: Sara Mouch, January 2016

**Bess V. Cunningham
Papers, 1945**

Biographical Sketch

Dr. Bess V. Cunningham was a professor of education at the University of Toledo. She was born in Bethesda, Ohio and moved to Toledo as a child, where she attended the old Toledo High School. She received her bachelors in education from UT in 1917 and was the first UT graduate to earn the doctor of philosophy degree, which she earned from Columbia University in 1923.

Dr. Cunningham headed the elementary education department at UT from 1936 to 1951, when she retired. In 1939, she became the second woman ever to be appointed to full professorship at the University of Toledo. During her tenure, she wrote several books and articles and received awards for her work in family psychology, including the *Parents Magazine* award as author of the outstanding book of the year for parents, *Family Behavior* in 1937. Dr. Cunningham also participated in many organizations, including the American Psychological Association, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Mu Pi Epsilon national music sorority, and the Toledo Women's Club.

Dr. Bess Cunningham passed away on December 29, 1964.

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Scope and Content Note

The collection of Dr. Bess V. Cunningham contains the manuscript copy of her book, *Psychology for Nurses*, published in 1945. The book was the result of her association with student nurses from the five Toledo hospitals whose academic training included study at UT.

