

Mary Ellen (Winter) Atkins
Secretary, Representative Karl Le Compte of Iowa

Special Exhibit: A Century of Women in Congress

Summers in Iowa

Mary Ellen Atkins recalls continuing to work for the district office during summer recess.
Interview recorded August 24, 2016

Well, it was fine, friendly. Just enjoyed working with the constituents and whatever their needs were. It was just a friendly atmosphere. Margaret was great towards me. And so, of course, was Mr. Le Compte. Occasionally, his wife would come in. She was from Corydon, too. She was pretty active in the Congressional Wives. On the summer recesses, when I would go out to Corydon, I would drive over there and work there during the week, and then drive home on the weekends. I would rent a room in a home. I got well-acquainted with Karl's sister, who was a local librarian. My summers were great there, also.