Elizabeth Kee: A Clarion Voice of and for the People of Southern West Virginia 1951-1964

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Abstract
Elizabeth Kee served as the first woman to represent West Virginia in the House of Representatives from 1951-1964. Newly available sources: taped interviews with her son, Jim Kee, from 1978 and 1980; a complete copy of Elizabeth Kee's entries into the Congressional Record; copies of many of her “Keenotes” columns from the late 1950s and early 1960s; and correspondence between Elizabeth Kee and veterans from West Virginia from 1961-1963 allow a more complete picture of Kee to emerge. Elizabeth Kee was not only a hardworking politician, who laid the groundwork for future programs like the War on Poverty, she was also a religious and moral person, who shared her values with members of the House in an effort to raise the standards and behavior within that institution. Finally, Kee was a talented writer whose weekly columns illustrate a woman ahead of her time in terms of her ability to remain connected to her constituents.

Subject
Kee, Elizabeth

Subject
Women in politics

Subject
Women politicians - West Virginia

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