Accession # 48M16
Title Karsner, David Fulton. Papers.
Approximate inclusive dates 1912-1929.
Date of receipt 1948
Received from Mrs. David E. Karsner (wife)
Volume on arrival
Number of boxes (after reboxing) 2 ab
Condition good
Restrictions The rights to the letters from Eugene V. Debs are owned by the Eugene V. Debs Foundation, Inc.

Description The socialist, journalist, and biographer, David Fulton Karsner, was born in Baltimore in 1889, and died in New York City in 1941. His career as a newspaperman began in Chicago where he became friendly with Jack London and Carl Sandburg. In 1911 he returned to the east and worked on newspapers in Philadelphia and New York City and later became managing editor of the socialist New York Call. At this time he became a close associate of the socialist leader and presidential candidate, Eugene V. Debs. In 1919 he wrote Debs: His Authorized Life and Letters, and, Debs Goes to Prison; and in 1922, Talks with Debs in Terre Haute which was about Debs’s imprisonment for treason in 1919. Karsner also wrote biographies of Andrew Jackson, and the millionaire, H. Tabot. At the time of his death Karsner was employed as a copyreader by the New York Post.

The papers consist of correspondence, 1912-1929, with Eugene V. Debs, his brother, Theodore Debs, and his wife, Kathryn M. Debs, and others, including, Theodore Dreiser, relating to socialist issues, the trial and imprisonment for treason of Eugene V. Debs. There also are some writings by Debs and Karsner, papers relative to Debs’s imprisonment, and photographs of Eugene Debs.

Box listing
2. Correspondence, 1922, Nov.-1929, n.d.; writings by Debs & Karsner; papers relative to Debs’s trial, 1918; photographs; printed material

Special Formats ☐ Photographs ☐ Maps ☐ Audio Tapes ☐ Films ☐ Graphics ☐ Artifacts ☐ Machine-readable records ☐ Other (list)

Temporary catalog card added entries Biographers; Editors; Draft resistance; Journalists; Newspapers; Photographs; Prisons and prison reform; New York Call; Prisons—Correspondence with inmates; Presidential candidates; Radicals; Trials (Treason); Socialism; ✦Debs, Eugene V. ✦Debs, Kathryn M.

Accessioned by Richard Salvato
Date 4-27-84