## Senator Hattie Caraway: An Arkansas Legacy



Hattie Ophelia Wyatt Caraway (February 1, 1878 – December 21, 1950) was an American politician who served as a Democratic U.S. Senator from Arkansas from 1931 to 1945. She was the first woman elected to the Senate from the South and the first woman to serve in the Senate without having been appointed to fill a vacancy.

# SENATOR HATTIE CARAWAY AN AMANAS LEGACY Dr. Navy Bradish

#### **Senator Hattie Caraway: An Arkansas Legacy**

by Nancy Hendricks

★★★★★ 4.5 out of 5
Language : English
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Caraway was born in Bakerville, Tennessee, and moved to Arkansas with her family as a child. She married Thaddeus H. Caraway in 1902, and they had two children. Thaddeus Caraway was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1920, and Hattie Caraway became his secretary. When Thaddeus Caraway died in 1931, Hattie Caraway was appointed to fill his seat. She won a special election to fill the remainder of his term in 1932, and she was elected to a full six-year term in 1934.

Caraway was a strong advocate for women's rights and social welfare programs. She introduced the first bill to create a national child labor law, and she supported the Social Security Act and the Fair Labor Standards Act. Caraway also worked to improve conditions for farmers and laborers in Arkansas.

Caraway was a controversial figure, and she was often criticized for her outspoken views. She was also criticized for her close relationship with President Franklin D. Roosevelt and his New Deal policies. However, Caraway was a popular figure in Arkansas, and she was reelected to the Senate in 1940.

Caraway retired from the Senate in 1945. She died in Washington, D.C., in 1950.

#### Legacy

Hattie Caraway was a trailblazing figure in American politics. She was the first woman elected to the U.S. Senate from the South, and she was the first woman to serve in the Senate without having been appointed to fill a vacancy. Caraway was a strong advocate for women's rights and social welfare programs, and she worked to improve conditions for farmers and laborers in Arkansas.

Caraway's legacy lives on today. She is remembered as a pioneer for women in politics, and her work to improve the lives of Arkansans continues to inspire.

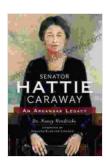
#### **Timeline**

\* 1878: Hattie Ophelia Wyatt is born in Bakerville, Tennessee. \* 1902: Caraway marries Thaddeus H. Caraway. \* 1920: Thaddeus Caraway is elected to the U.S. Senate. \* 1931: Thaddeus Caraway dies, and Hattie Caraway is appointed to fill his seat. \* 1932: Caraway wins a special election to fill the remainder of her husband's term. \* 1934: Caraway is elected to a full six-year term in the Senate. \* 1940: Caraway is reelected to

the Senate. \* 1945: Caraway retires from the Senate. \* 1950: Caraway dies in Washington, D.C.

#### **Further Reading**

\* Hattie Caraway on Wikipedia \* Hattie Caraway, the Senate's pioneering woman by The Washington Post \* Hattie Wyatt Caraway by the Encyclopedia of Arkansas



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