

Collection #
M 0215

HERMAN LIEBER FAMILY PAPERS, 1921-1950

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Processed by

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6 March 1996

Revised by Glenn McMullen, 27 June 2003

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Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF
COLLECTION: 1 document case

COLLECTION
DATES: 1921-1950

PROVENANCE: Mr. and Mrs. Lewis C. Bose, 3915 West 146th Street, Westfield,

IN 46074, 12 February 1996

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: Meta Lieber (M 0183); Charlotte Lieber diary (SC 2361); Freethinkers Society of Indianapolis (SC 2060)

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1996.0273 (part processed as M 0671 Crowder-Bose family)

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Herman Lieber (1832-1908) was a member of a family which came to Indianapolis from Germany following the 1848 revolutions, and made a considerable impact on the business and cultural life of the Hoosier capital. Born in Dusseldorf, Lieber came to Indianapolis in 1854. He married Mary Metzger, thus making an alliance with another prominent German family, and their six children married members of the Pfaff, Pantzer, Kothe, and Stempfel families.

Herman Lieber, along with members of the Fletcher banking family, was one of the patrons who made it possible for T. C. Steele, William Forsyth, and others to study painting in Munich in the early 1880s. The family was involved for several generations with H. Lieber and Company, a firm specializing in picture frames and framing. Robert Lieber, a son of Herman, was a pioneer in the film industry, and was a prime mover in building the Circle Theater in Indianapolis. Carl H. Lieber, another son, was a founder of the Art Association of Indianapolis. Richard Lieber, leader in conservation and in founding Indiana state parks, was a nephew.

From 1921 to 1950, descendants of the Herman Lieber family met for a family reunion and Thanksgiving dinner—to begin with at the home of Herman's son Otto, later mainly at the Athenaeum.

Sources:

Materials in collection.

Dunn, Jacob Piatt. *Indiana and Indianans: A History of Aboriginal and Territorial Indiana and the Century of Statehood*. Chicago: American Historical Society, 1919. Vol. 4, pp. 1736-37. General collection: [F526.D85 I53 1919](#)

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection, filling one small manuscript box, contains three items dating from 1921 to 1950.

In Folder 1 is the scrapbook kept by participants in the Herman Lieber family Thanksgiving dinner from 1921 to 1950. Letters and other items are tipped in. Occasionally everyone present signs the book. At the end is a list showing where the dinner was held, how many attended, and what younger member of the family was appointed “secretary.”

In Folder 2 is a parody Thanksgiving hymn which was laid in the scrapbook.

In Folder 3 is a memorial booklet published at Carl H. Lieber's death in 1929, with tributes by Evans Woollen, Herman W. Kothe, and the *Indianapolis Star*.

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Thanksgiving dinner scrapbook, 1921-50	Box 1, Folder 1
Parody Thanksgiving hymn	Box 1, Folder 2
Memorial booklet	Box 1, Folder 3

CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog: <http://157.91.92.2/>
2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.
3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.
4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, M 0215).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.