

# MARY BLACK COLLECTION, 1855-1993

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Collection #  
M 675  
OM 303

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## USER INFORMATION

**VOLUME OF COLLECTION:** 2 manuscript boxes, 1 small manuscript box, 3 oversize folders, 1 box of photographs.

**COLLECTION DATES:** Inclusive 1855-1993, bulk 1899-1993

**PROVENANCE:** Estate of Mary Black, Robert Lowe, Jr., Lowe Gray Steele & Hoffman, Suite 4600, Bank One Tower, Indianapolis, IN 46204-5106, 23 November 1993, 17 January 1995.

**RESTRICTIONS:** None

**REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:** Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the Indiana Historical Society.

**ALTERNATE FORMATS:** None

**RELATED HOLDINGS:** None

**ACCESSION NUMBER:** 94.0086, 95.0165

**NOTES:**

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**HISTORICAL SKETCH**

Mary Black (d. 1993) was a graduate of Butler University and a life long resident of Indianapolis. Other individual of prominence in the collection include Black's parents, Frank Morris Black (1872-1937) and Agnes Jane Herd Black. Frank Black was related to and worked for Wasson's Department Store. Also of importance in the collection are Black's sister, Dorothy Black Lynn, also a Butler graduate, and her husband Charles Jackson Lynn (1874-1958), a vice-president for the Eli Lilly Company. The Lynns were married in 1945.

Sources: Information in Collection

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**SCOPE AND CONTENT**

The bulk of the collection contains the personal correspondence of Black's parents, Frank M. and Agnes Herd, and the papers and correspondence of her sister Dorothy Jane Black Lynn and her husband Charles Jackson Lynn. Frank and Agnes Black correspondence are dated during the period of their courtship and the early years of their marriage, 1900-1915. Most of the letters are of a personal nature and most were written between 1900 and 1906. Letters from Agnes Herd include those written while on a Canadian cruise, summer, 1900, and those from Frank Black include letters written while on business in New York City, 1900-1905.

Other materials in the collection include letters from Ralph Low while serving in the American Army in France during World War I, April, 1918-June, 1918, Black and Lynn family correspondence, documents, family history related materials, and general printed materials, 1855-1993. The collection also contains materials related to Dorothy Black Lynn including correspondence regarding her involvement with Butler University class reunions, 1973-1975 and the Visiting Nurse's Association, 1951-1953.

Charles Jackson Lynn materials include clippings, publications, and related materials regarding his career including his involvement in community service as a Purdue University Trustee, 1951-1953 and the English Speaking Union, 1949-1986. There is also a small amount of material regarding his business career with the Eli Lilly Company, 1922-1939, and birthday and anniversary of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Lynn, 1918-1932.

Visual materials include Lynn family photographs, Black and Lynn family vacation snapshots of California and Michigan, and family snapshots of Indianapolis, 1913-1970s.

There also are several photograph portraits of J.K. Lilly, Charles Lynn and others as well as photographs of Lynn's involvement with the Indianapolis Hospital Drive of 1952.

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**BOX AND FOLDER LISTING**

**BOX 1: Agnes Herd (Black) and Frank M. Black Correspondence, 1872-1918**  
**FOLDER**

1 Agnes Herd (Black) Family Correspondence & Receipts, 1872-1899

- 2 Agnes Herd & Frank M. Black Correspondence, Jan., 1900-March, 1900
  - 3 Agnes Herd & Frank M. Black Correspondence, April, 1900-July, 1900
  - 4 Agnes Herd & Frank M. Black Correspondence, Aug. 4, 1900-Aug. 26, 1900
  - 5 Agnes Herd & Frank M. Black Correspondence, Aug. 27, 1900-Aug. 31, 1900
  - 6 Agnes Herd & Frank M. Black Correspondence, Sept., 1900-Dec., 1900
  - 7 Agnes Herd & Frank M. Black Correspondence, Jan., 1901-Sept., 1901
  - 8 Agnes Herd & Frank M. Black Correspondence, Feb., 1902-Nov., 1902
  - 9 Agnes Herd & Frank M. Black Correspondence, Feb., 1903-Aug., 1903
  - 10 Agnes Herd & Frank M. Black Correspondence, Feb., 1904-May, 1904
  - 11 Agnes Herd & Frank M. Black Correspondence, Feb., 1905-March, 1906
  - 12 Agnes Herd & Frank M. Black Correspondence, Feb., 1909-Feb., 1915
  - 13 Agnes Herd & Frank M. Black Correspondence, n.d.
- OM 0303 Handwritten announcements, 1900 and n.d. (Flat File: FF 11-h)

**BOX 2: Black and Lynn Families Documents, Correspondence & Historical Materials, 1885- 1993**  
**FOLDER**

- 1 Ralph Low, World War I Letters, April, 1918-June, 1918
- 2 Family Documents and Related Materials, 1855-1945
- 3 Black & Lynn Families Correspondence and Documents, 1922-1976
- 4 Family History and Correspondence, 1969-1993
- 5 Mary Black Business Correspondence, 1989-1992
- 6 Butler University, 1973-1975
- 7 Visiting Nurses Association, 1951-1953
- 8 Notes and Postcards, 1970-1989
- 9 Frank Black Composition Book, n.d.
- 10 Address Book, n.d.
- 11 Indianapolis May Festival Programs (2), 1891 & 1892
- 12 Collection of Quotes & Practical Advice, n.d.

13 (OM 303) Calendar, 1900

14 (OM 303) Handwritten Announcements, 1902 & n.d.

**BOX 3: Lynn Family Records, 1892-1987**

**FOLDER**

1 Charles J. Lynn Clippings & Publications, 1892-1958

2 Mr. & Mrs. W. C. Lynn, 50th Wedding Anniversary Guest Book, 1918 & 1919

3 Mr. & Mrs. W. C. Lynn, Anniversary & Birthday Greetings, 1919-1932

4 Charles Lynn, Newsclippings, 1929-1958

5 Charles Lynn, Purdue University, 1951-1953

6 Charles Lynn, Eli Lilly & Co., 1922-1939

7 English Speaking Union, 1949-1986

**BOX 4: Visual Images, 1913-1983**

**FOLDER**

1 Lynn Family Photographs, n.d., Folder 1

2 Lynn Family Photographs, n.d., Folder 2

3 Charles Lynn, Indianapolis, Hospital Drive, 1952

4 Snapshots, Los Angeles, CA, 1919

5 Trip to Temple City, CA, 1938

6 Vacation Snapshots, 1939 & n.d.

7 Snapshots, Los Angeles, CA, 1940s

8 Dorothy Black Lynn, Vacation, Calm River, MI, 1948

9 Charles & Dorothy Lynn, Temple City, CA, 1952-1953

10 Snapshots, Indianapolis, ca. 1950s

11 Family Snapshots, 1913-1956

12 Family Snapshots, Unidentified

13 Photographic Portraits, 1930, n.d. (also OVB)

14 Color Snapshots, 1950s-1970s

15 Trip to Lake Straits Bridge, Autumn, 1957 (color)

16 Millie Compton Gala, 1982-1983 (color)

17 Morris Family Photograph Album, n.d.

**BOX 5: Negatives (black & white)**

**BOX 6: Negatives (color)**

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## CATALOGUING INFORMATION

MAIN ENTRY: Black, Mary V., d. 1993

SUBJECT ENTRIES: Black, Mary V., d. 1993

Lynn, Dorothy Black, 1902-1989

Lynn, Charles J. (Charles Jackson), 1874-1958

Lynn family--Photographs

Lilly, Josiah Kirby, 1893-1966--Photographs

English-Speaking Union of the United States. Indianapolis Branch

Visiting Nurse Association of Indianapolis

Family archives--Indiana--Indianapolis

Livestock--Breeding--Indiana--Hamilton County

Love-letters--Indiana--Indianapolis

World War, 1914-1918--France

Postcards--Indiana--Indianapolis

Class reunions--Indiana--Indianapolis

Visiting nurses--Indiana--Indianapolis

Calendars--Indiana--Indianapolis

Philanthropists--Indiana--Indianapolis

Lynnwood Farm (Ind.)

ADDED ENTRIES: Black, Frank M. (Frank Morris), 1872-1937

Black, Agnes Herd, b. ca. 1875

Low, Ralph L.

END

