

THEODORE ROOSEVELT LETTER, 1917

Collection #
SC 2404

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Processed by
Charles Latham
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USER INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION 1 item

COLLECTION DATE: 1917

PROVENANCE: James P. Mullin, Brookville IN, 13 September 1993

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

OTHER FINDING AIDS: None

RELATED HOLDINGS: SC 2272, Theodore Roosevelt to Sister Stolla, 1902; Also see card catalog for numerous other listings

ACCESSION NUMBER: 93.0671

HISTORICAL SKETCH

Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919), President of the United States, 1901-1909. In 1917 he was unsuccessfully seeking permission to raise a regiment to fight in France.

Zella O'Hair (d. 1928) was a member of a family prominent in Laurel and Brookville, Indiana. In 1917 she was a teacher of English at Shortridge High School in Indianapolis.

Shortridge was the first high school in Indianapolis. In the spring of 1917 its students, like most Americans, were very much involved in activities to support the World War which the United States had entered on 6 April. The chemistry classes were baking "war bread." The student body "adopted" several French war orphans. (In an unusual display of tolerance, the English and German clubs joined together to study the Ring Cycle of Wagnerian operas.) In May the school, with Miss O'Hair in a leading role, started a Penny-A-Day savings campaign to raise money for the Red Cross. The Mandolin and Glee Clubs combined to give a concert, and the Peter Pan Theater was rented for the showing of a film starring Irene Castle. The campaign raised nearly \$1,000, and the student body raised a total of over \$2,000 for patriotic purposes.

Sources: *Indiana Biographical Series*, Vol. 3 p. 238
Shortridge Echo, May-June 1917 (microfilm)

SCOPE AND CONTENT

This collection consists of one item, an autograph letter dated 22 June 1917 from Theodore Roosevelt in Oyster Bay, New York, to Miss Zella O'Hair in Indianapolis. The letter thanks Miss O'Hair for the contribution by the students at the high school.

CATALOGUING INFORMATION

MAIN ENTRY: Roosevelt, Theodore, 1858-1919

SUBJECT ENTRIES: Roosevelt, Theodore, 1858-1919

O'Hair, Zella, d. 1928

Shortridge High School

World War, 1914-1918--War work--Indiana--Indianapolis

Oyster Bay (N.Y.)

END