WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS COLLECTION, 1911–1972

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Processed by

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Manuscript and Visual Collections Department William Henry Smith Memorial Library Indiana Historical Society 450 West Ohio Street Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org

COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF 1 half manuscript box COLLECTION:

COLLECTION 1911-72 DATES:

PROVENANCE: Betty Long, Beech Grove, IN; May 2016

RESTRICTIONS: None

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FORMATS:

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ALTERNATE

RELATED Convention journals, rosters, general orders, and other

materials related to the Woman's Relief Corps can be found in **HOLDINGS**:

the general collection under call numbers beginning E 462.15

ACCESSION 2016.0107

NUMBER:

NOTES:

HISTORICAL SKETCH

In 1881 women's state organizations began forming in support of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR). Their membership consisted of wives and relatives of veterans eligible for the GAR. In July 1883 the GAR organized the National Woman's Relief Corps (WRC) in Denver, Colorado as an auxiliary to its organization. The Indiana department of the WRC was organized in September 1884. In the 1952 edition of the corps' constitution, they list their objectives as: 1. memorializing and helping the Grand Army of the Republic and 2. maintaining and perpetuating loyalty to the United States of America. According to the same constitution eligibility for membership required women to be "of good moral character and correct deportment, who have not given aid and comfort to the enemies of the United States."

Sources:

"Civil War Organizations," via nps.gov

Collection materials

Journal of the national convention of the Woman's Relief Corps, auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic, 1888, via HathiTrust.org

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection contains printed materials regarding the rules, rituals, and services of the National Woman's Relief Corps, miscellaneous news clippings, and materials related to the Spencer, Indiana branch of the WRC, including a meeting minutes and membership records ledger and a note concerning a donation.

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Constitution, Rules and Regulations for the Government of the National Woman's Relief Corps, 1953	Box 1, Folder 1
Initiation Ode/Opening Ode card, April 1934	Box 1, Folder 2
Meeting minutes and membership records ledger, Oct. 1923–Dec. 1929	Box 1, Folder 3
Miscellaneous news clippings, 1911–72, n.d.	Box 1, Folder 4
Note regarding piano donation, n.d.	Box 1, Folder 5
Ritual of the National Woman's Relief Corps, 1953	Box 1, Folder 6
Services of the National Woman's Relief Corps, 1953	Box 1, Folder 7