BERTHA MARION (KALISCH) BARTUSCH
DIARY AND LETTERS, 1905-1965

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Processed by
Paul Brockman
September 2019

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

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**COLLECTION INFORMATION**

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<th><strong>VOLUME OF COLLECTION:</strong></th>
<th>1 manuscript folder</th>
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<td>Inclusive 1905–1965, bulk 1905–1919</td>
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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Bertha Marion (Kalisch) Bartusch (1883–1964) was born in Cook County, Illinois, but later moved to Vandenburgh County, Indiana, where she worked rolling cigars.

In October 1905, she married Alfred J. Bartusch (1877–1970), and the couple soon moved to Elmhurst, DuPage County, Illinois. In their later years, the couple move to Laguna Beach, Orange County, California.

Sources:
SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The main item in the collection is a diary kept by Bertha Bartusch from January 1905–December 1919. While not a daily record, it does contain entries of significance to Bertha, such as her courtship with Alfred and the birth and raising of their children including the anguish of a deformed daughter and subsequent surgeries to correct the deformity. On the inside cover she wrote that the book was full but hopes future generations would read it to understand what it was like growing up in her age.

There are also three letters. Two of the letters were written by her husband in February 1965, describing their early meetings and how they got together. A third letter was to “Aunt Clara,” from “Elsa” that was sent to her with the diary. Also included are two newspaper clippings that were found in the diary.

CONTENTS

CONTENTS
Diary, 1905–1919; letters, 1965; newspaper clippings, n.d.

CONTAINER
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