Collection Information

Historical Sketch

Scope and Content Note

Contents

Cataloging Information

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 COLLECTION: 1 folder

COLLECTION DATES: ca. 1906-07

PROVENANCE: John and Anita Kay Coomer, Greenwood, IN.

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:


ACCESSION NUMBER: 2012.0089

NOTES:
**HISTORICAL SKETCH**

Central Normal College opened on September 5, 1876 in Ladoga, Indiana with 48 pupils. The school was led by W.F. Harper and Warren Darst. In two years, attendance at the school had grown so much that Ladoga was unable to accommodate more students or buildings for the college. Harper accepted an offer from the town of Danville and moved the school and pupils there in on May 10, 1878. Many families in Danville rented rooms to students and local businesses employed students to help them pay tuition.

The college was in operation until 1946, and served about 75,000 students over the years. There were more women students than men. The college, whose campus eventually was made up of five buildings, offered courses in business, music and law, but was most renowned for its teacher training courses.

The college had a low tuition cost compared to other institutions, which allowed many people to receive an education who may not have otherwise been able to afford it. At the time it closed, it was the last self-supporting private normal school in the Midwest.

Sources:

Materials in the collection

Julian D. Hogate, *History of Central Normal College*, 1925

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**SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

Contained in this collection are materials most likely belonging to Miss Elsie Collicut of Greensburg, Indiana. There is a typewritten letter dated 25 October 1906 signed by G.W. Dunlavy informing Miss Collicut that he has sent a catalog, that she can enroll at any time, and encouraging her to enroll if she so chooses. Also included are two blank forms for prospective students, an advertisement pamphlet, and a catalog that explains curriculum and has pictures of buildings and faculty.
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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://opac.indianahistory.org/
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, SC 2980).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.