

Collection #
OM 0663

**CLARA LEDIG HESTER
COLLECTION, 1911–1916**

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 oversize manuscript folder, 1 OVC photograph folder

COLLECTION DATES: 1911–1916

PROVENANCE: Ruth Lilly Special Collections and Archives, IUPUI University Library, Indianapolis, IN; April 2007

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2007.0096

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Clara Ledig was born in Indiana on 4 September 1897 to Albert Ledig and Anna Doerbandt. She was the eldest of three daughters. Clara graduated from Abraham Lincoln School, an Indianapolis public grammar school, on 14 June 1911. On 16 June 1913, she received a graduation certificate for completing Elementary Studies in Music. A year later, on 12 June 1914, Clara graduated from Manual Training High School of Indianapolis. She continued her education and graduated from the Indianapolis Normal School on 9 June 1916.

Clara went on to teach the fourth and fifth grades in local public schools, including at Abraham Lincoln School. Next, she moved on to the Normal College of the American Gymnastics Union, where she took classes for a year. Clara joined the staff of Normal College in 1922. In 1923, she served as the physical education supervisor for the Indianapolis Public School system. Clara became a full-time professor at the Normal College in 1924.

On 28 July 1929, Clara married Clarence L. Hester. In 1930, she received her Bachelor of Science from Indiana University (IU) and her Bachelor of Physical Education from Normal College of the American Gymnastic Union. Clara was made vice-president of the Normal College in 1934. She held that position until 1941, when the college merged with IU. Following the merge, Clara served as assistant to the dean of the IU physical education school. She later became director of the Normal College, which would later be known as the IU School of Physical Education and Tourism Management.

Clara continued her own education, earning a Master of Science in Education from IU in 1937 and an honorary Master of Physical Education from the Normal College in 1939. She retired as director of the School of Physical Education and Tourism Management in 1963 and retired from teaching in 1968. In addition to her teaching career, Clara served as a president of the Indiana State Physical Education Association and was a charter member of American Camping Association. Clara died on 9 June 1987 in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Sources:

"Clara Ledig Hester Retires After 40-Year Normal College Service." *Indianapolis News*, August 6, 1963.

Collection materials.

Indiana, Death Certificates, 1899-2011, via Ancestry.com.

IU Archives of Institutional Memory. "IU Normal College Bulletin, 1949–1950." Accessed March 19, 2018. <http://institutionalmemory.iu.edu/aim/bitstream/handle/10333/4505/1949-50%20Collegebulletin.pdf?sequence=1>

"Services set for Clara Hester, ex-director of Normal College." *Indianapolis Star*, June 11, 1987.

Stewart, Lotys Benning. "They Achieve." *Indianapolis Star*, September 1, 1946.

Web: Marion County, Indiana, Marriage Index, 1925-2012, via Ancestry.com.

1910, 1920, 1930 and 1940 U.S. Federal Census, via Ancestry.com.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection contains four diplomas for Clara Ledig Hester, as well as a composite photograph of the Class of 1914 at Manual Training High School of Indianapolis. The diplomas came from Abraham Lincoln School in the Indianapolis Public School (IPS) system, Manual Training High School of Indianapolis, and Indianapolis Normal School. The final diploma does not name a school, but conveys graduation for completing courses in Elementary Studies of Music in the city of Indianapolis.

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Clara Ledig Hester diplomas, 1911–1916

Manual Training High School Class of 1914 photo, ca.
1914

CONTAINER

OM 0663, Folder 1

Visual Collections:
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