

Collection #  
SC 3439

**EDWARD L. MAYER  
DIARY, 1905**

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Processed by

Matt S. Holdzkom  
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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

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## COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF  
COLLECTION: 1 manuscript folder

COLLECTION  
DATES: 1905

PROVENANCE: Gift of Carolyn Autry, Indianapolis, 1998

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE  
FORMATS:

RELATED  
HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION  
NUMBER: 1998.0246

NOTES:

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Edward Mayer was the son of Charles Mayer II and Josephine Kiefer Mayer, born on 15 June 1893. His grandfather, Charles Mayer I, founded the popular Charles Mayer & Co. gift store on Washington Street in 1840. By the time of Edward's birth, his father and uncle, Ferdinand L. Mayer, ran the business.

After the First World War, Edward went to work for the wholesale drug firm of Kiefer-Stewart Company, where he stayed for many years.

Edward died in 1981, when he succumbed to a heart attack at the age of 88.

### Sources:

Ancestry.com. *Indiana, Death Certificates, 1899-2011* [database on-line]. Lehi, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2015.

Ancestry.com. *U.S., World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2005.

Archive.org. *Polk's Indianapolis City Directories* [database on-line].

Materials in the collection.

Markisohn, Deborah B. *Encyclopedia of Indianapolis*, "Charles Mayer and Company." Bloomington & Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 1994.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The collection consists of a small (2.5 x 6 in.) engagement book or pocket calendar kept by Edward Mayer in 1905. Mayer turned eleven years old that year, and the entries consist mostly of baseball, football, and polo games, as well as ice skating and swimming trips. Edward also mentions the comings and goings of “Papa” (Charles Mayer II) and his older brother Charley (Charles Mayer III), who attended Betts Academy in Stamford, Connecticut. He also shows an interest in the Russo-Japanese War and notes the death of General Lew Wallace. In the back of the book, Edward kept a record of sports scores and entered the addresses of people he knew. As a whole, the diary offers a glimpse into the life of an upper-class child in early 20<sup>th</sup> century Indianapolis.

**CONTENTS**

CONTENTS

Edward L. Mayer diary

CONTAINER

Folder 1