EMERGENCY CLUB (INDIANAPOLIS, IND.) RECORDS, 1915–1997

Collection Information 1
Historical Sketch 2
Scope and Content Note 3
Contents 4

Processed by

Chris Harter
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Indiana Historical Society
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Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org
**COLLECTION INFORMATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VOLUME OF COLLECTION:</th>
<th>1 manuscript box; 1 bound volume; 1 photograph folder</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COLLECTION DATES:</td>
<td>1915–97</td>
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<tr>
<td>PROVENANCE:</td>
<td>Mrs. Richard T. Hill, 7328 Lions Head Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46260, 27 October 1997</td>
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<tr>
<td>RESTRICTIONS:</td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td>ALTERNATE FORMATS:</td>
<td>None</td>
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<td>RELATED HOLDINGS:</td>
<td>None</td>
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<td>ACCESSION NUMBER:</td>
<td>1998.0041</td>
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<td>NOTES:</td>
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HISTORICAL SKETCH

The Emergency Club was founded in 1898 in Indianapolis, Indiana. Its purpose was "to assist indigent mothers, by furnishing them layettes, and rendering such further assistance as seems advisable; also to assist in civic welfare work as occasion demands." Charter members included Mrs. Homer Price, Miss Jennie Rafert, Mrs. William Schomberg, Mrs. Thomas McDonald, Mrs. Sam Faber, and Mrs. Wallace Allison-Stanton.

By 1911, the club had a limited membership of twelve with dues of 25 cents. All sewing was done by hand, and the layettes were passed on from one meeting to another until they were completed. At this time, cases came from the Mother's Aid Society. Besides layettes, members often made donations of money, coal, bedding, and groceries to those families in need.

During World War I, members sewed or rolled bandages once a week. By the end of the war, membership had been increased to sixteen. A material cutting meeting was held each October, and some of the sewing was now done by machine.

The office of Social Worker was established and cases were obtained through the Welfare Society, the Public Health Nurses Association, and school nurses. Members delivered layettes directly to the mothers and reported upon the cases at the next meeting. A loan scholarship was established at the Central Business College (a branch of the Indiana Business College), and two loan scholarships were established at Butler University. Contributions were also made to charitable projects such as the Penny Ice Fund, Nutrition Camp, Flower and Fruit Mission, and the Public School Milk Fund.

The Emergency Club has continued their charity and scholarship work up to the present day.

Source: Material in the collection.
SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of the records (1915–97) of the Emergency Club, a charitable organization located in Indianapolis. Early minutes (October 1915 to May 1935) are contained in two bound minute books. The material in folders 3–12 was formerly contained in two binders; the first contained records from October 1925 to May 1942, and the second from October 1942 to June 1949. The records for these years contain minutes, treasurer reports, and roll calls.

Folders 13–21 contain records from a third binder, which was divided into seven sections with a table of contents (located in the front of folder 13). The material includes the club's constitution and by-laws, an early club history, photographs, correspondence (mostly thank-you letters), and information regarding the Visiting Nurses Association of Indianapolis (See also: M 0071, Flower Mission Records, and M 0675, Mary Black Collection) and Stopover, Inc., a shelter for runaway teenagers. Loose material found in the binder includes newspaper clippings, presidents' reports, a list of layette material, an Emergency Club yearbook, and an Indiana Business College Bulletin.
CONTENTS

Minute Book, Oct. 1915–May 1919
Box 1, Folder 1

Minute Book, Oct. 1919–May 1935
BV 1971

Secretary's Book, Oct. 1935–May 1936
Box 1, Folder 2

Secretary's Book, Oct. 1936–May 1937
Box 1, Folder 3

Secretary's Book, Oct. 1937–May 1938
Box 1, Folder 4

Secretary's Book, Oct. 1938–June 1939
Box 1, Folder 5

Secretary's Book, Oct. 1939–June 1940
Box 1, Folder 6

Secretary's Book, Oct. 1940–May 1942
Box 1, Folder 7

Secretary's Book, Oct. 1942–Sept. 1943
Box 1, Folder 8

Secretary's Book, Oct. 1943–June 1944
Box 1, Folder 9

Secretary's Book, Oct. 1944–June 1945
Box 1, Folder 10

Secretary's Book, Oct. 1945–June 1949
Box 1, Folder 11

Constitution and By-Laws; History
Box 1, Folder 12

Photographs
Visual Collections: Photographs, Folder 1

Membership Lists, 1965–66 to 1996–97
Box 1, Folder 13

Correspondence, 1926–69
Box 1, Folder 14

Correspondence, 1970–74
Box 1, Folder 15

Correspondence, 1975–79
Box 1, Folder 16

Correspondence, 1980–96
Box 1, Folder 17

Re: Visiting Nurses Association of Indianapolis
Box 1, Folder 18

Re: Stopover, Inc.
Box 1, Folder 19

Newspaper Clippings, 1934–91, n.d.
Box 1, Folder 20
President's Reports, 1961–67
Layette Material Purchased, 1962