

Collection #
SC 3421
BV 5352

**HERMAN LIEBER AND CARL H. LIEBER
MATERIAL, 1902 – CA. 1984**

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Processed by

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April 2018

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Indiana Historical Society
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Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 4 manuscript folders; 1 bound volume; 1 cold storage color photograph folder

COLLECTION DATES: 1902 – ca. 1984

PROVENANCE: Mrs. William J. (Ruth Dunwoody) Kothe, Indianapolis, Indiana

RESTRICTIONS: Color photographs must be requested in advance and may be viewed by appointment only and with the assistance of library staff.

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: *Carl H. Lieber, 1866-1929*, CT233.L42 C3 1929; Carl H. Lieber Family Collection P 0268; Herman Lieber Family Papers M 0215

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1989.0320

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Herman Lieber (1832-1908) was a member of a family that came to Indianapolis from Germany following the 1848 revolutions. The Lieber family made a considerable impact on business and cultural life in the Hoosier capital.

Born in Dusseldorf on 23 August 1832, Lieber came to Indianapolis in 1854, where he opened a small bindery near Washington and Meridian streets. He married Mary Metzger in 1857, thus making an alliance with another prominent German family. Their six children (Otto R., Carl H., Robert, Herman P., Ida, and Anna) married members of the Pfaff, Pantzer, Kothe, and Stempfel families.

Herman Lieber, along with members of the Fletcher banking family, was one of the patrons who made it possible for T. C. Steele, William Forsyth, and other artists to study painting in Munich in the early 1880s. Herman established the H. Lieber Company (a firm specializing in picture frames and framing) in 1884, a business which the family kept going for several generations.

Herman influenced the establishment and operation of German institutions in Indianapolis, including the Athenaeum, the German-English School, and the Normal School of the North American Gymnastic Union. A prohibitionist, Lieber served as president of the Anti-Prohibition League of Indiana in 1882. Herman Lieber, Sr. died on 22 March 1908 on a train near Flagstaff, Arizona.

Carl H. Lieber, the second son of Herman and Marianne (Metzger) Lieber, was born on 16 March 1866 in Indianapolis. He joined the H. Lieber Company as a teenager after receiving his education at the German English School and Shortridge High School. He married Meta Pantzer of Sheboygan, Wisconsin, in 1894. The union bore four children: Lili (Hofmann), Carl T., and twins Hilda (Turner) and Meta (Hatcher).

Devoted to civic causes, Lieber was a founding member of the Art Association of Indianapolis and the Portfolio Club. He served on the Board of Directors of the John Herron Art Institute from 1898, and was chairman of the Fine Arts Committee at the time of his death. Other memberships included Portfolio Club, the Athenaeum, the University Club, and the Little Theater Society. Lieber was also president of the Normal School of the North American Gymnasium Union. He died on 6 April 1929 while golfing in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

Sources:

Collection guide for Carl H. Lieber Family Collection (P 0268)

Collection guide for Herman Lieber Family Papers (M 0215)

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection contains birthday correspondence for Herman Lieber from 1902 and 1907, a document of the descendants of Herman Lieber and Mariana Metzger Lieber through 1984, a copy of an article about James Whitcomb Riley, and a photograph and articles about Carl H. Lieber.

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Birthday correspondence for Herman Lieber, 1902

Birthday correspondence for Herman Lieber, 1907

Carl H. Lieber portrait, undated

Descendants of Herman Lieber and Mariana Metzger Lieber from 1861 to 1984, ca. 1984

James Whitcomb Riley article, 24 July 1916

Post-life articles about Carl H. Lieber, 1929-1930

CONTAINER

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Folder 1 of 4

Cold Storage:
Color Photographs
Folder 1 of 1

Folder 2 of 4

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