

Collection #  
M 0997  
OM 0493

**HITZ FAMILY  
PAPERS, 1917–1951**

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## **COLLECTION INFORMATION**

**VOLUME OF COLLECTION:** 4 boxes, 1 box photographs, 2 oversize folders

**COLLECTION DATES:** 1917–1951

**PROVENANCE:** Evaline H. Rhodehamel, Indianapolis, IN, December, 2007

**RESTRICTIONS:** None

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**ALTERNATE FORMATS:**

**RELATED HOLDINGS:**

**ACCESSION NUMBER:** 2007.0384

**NOTES:**

## **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Benjamin D. Hitz (1890–1949) was born in Indianapolis and attended Indiana University. In September 1917 he married Elizabeth Holliday (1894–1979) and they had two children, Benjamin and Evaline. Hitz served as an officer in World War with Base Hospital No. 32 and was stationed in France with that unit and dealt with the handling of medical supplies and became adjutant in October, 1918. After the war, he edited a history of Base Hospital No. 32. In addition to real estate business, Hitz was involved in many intellectual and charitable organizations including his work with the Willa Cather Papers at the Newberry Library, Chicago and serving on the Library Committee for the Indiana Historical Society for 15 years.

Sources:

Ancestry, Library Edition <http://www.ancestrylibrary.com/default.aspx> accessed 26 January 2011.

Information in collection.

Collection Guide for the Benjamin D. Hitz–Willa Cather papers at the Newberry Library, Chicago. <http://www.newberry.org/collections/FindingAids/hitzcather/hitzcather.html>

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

Most of the collection consists of approximately 400 letters between Benjamin and Elizabeth Hitz while Benjamin was serving with the AEF in France during World War I, November, 1917–April, 1919 and one from September, 1928. They are arranged chronologically by correspondent. Each correspondent numbered the majority of their letters. Most of the letters are of a personal nature and detail everyday life. Benjamin writes of his duties with supplies for the unit and relates local encounters with the French. Elizabeth writes of her daily activities and news of friends and family and asks questions about finances. Also included are postcards from France both with and without correspondence written on them and a photograph of Elizabeth. Additional items include two stock books for the Hitz Realty Company, 1928–1951.

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Elizabeth Hitz (?), ca. 1910s	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 4
Hitz Realty Company, Preferred Stock, 1928–1951	OM 0493 Folder 1
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