**COLLECTION INFORMATION**

**VOLUME OF COLLECTION:**
1 half size manuscript box, 1 oversized manuscript folder, 6 photograph folders, 1 cold storage color photograph folder, 3 artifacts, 1 printed item, 2 discs

**COLLECTION DATES:**
1881–2019

**PROVENANCE:**
Anne B. Hoover, Zionsville, IN

**RESTRICTIONS:**
Items in cold storage need at least four hours to acclimate. Patrons are encouraged to call ahead to allow for thawing if the item they wish to see is listed as cold storage.

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**ALTERNATE FORMATS:**

**RELATED HOLDINGS:**

**ACCESSION NUMBER:**
2019.0085

**NOTES:**
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Leonora Uhl Flynn (3 October 1881–3 December 1965) was born in Logansport, Cass County, Indiana, to Dennis and Sophia Jane Croll Uhl. The Uhl family, which included seven children, made their living operating a flour mill and granary. Leonora attended Logansport Public Schools, graduating from Logansport High School in 1901. In 1902, she married Adelbert P. Flynn (12 August 1878–28 March 1946), who was an entrepreneur, and served in county government. The couple had two children, Jane and Mary.

Leonora was interested in organizing people to help others and improve the larger community. To that end, she helped to organize a local chapter of the Red Cross in Cass County in response to the effects of the 1913 flood, and then operated a canteen for troop trains coming through Logansport during WWI. She served as a member and leader of the local Red Cross for over forty-five years. In addition, she was a vice-chair and board member of the Cass County Board of Children’s Guardians and the Associated Charities. Other organizations she participated in included the First Mothers Study Club, the Cass County Historical Society and the Cass County Music League.

The Flynns were a political family, as Adelbert was first elected as the County Auditor for Cass County in 1914, but it was Leonora who rose up the ranks in Democratic Party circles both in Indiana and nationally after women won suffrage in 1920. In Indiana, she served as the vice-chair of the Indiana Democratic State Committee beginning in 1922 and for six consecutive terms after that. In 1928, supporters put in her name forth to run for Secretary of State, but she declined to run, preferring to remain working for the party. Nationally, she served as a delegate to at the Democratic National Convention in 1924, 1932, 1940 and 1944. Additionally, she was named as a Regional Advisor for the Women’s Division of the Democratic National Committee in 1933, a role in which she was specifically urged to take on by Eleanor Roosevelt. Throughout her political career, she traveled the state, region, and to the nation’s capital encouraging women to get involved in the political process and to support the Democratic Party.

Sources:
Materials in the collection
SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection contains clippings, writings, photographs, and artifacts that piece together the story of Leonora Uhl Flynn’s life and political career. A disc containing scans of extra photographs and letters from the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library is also included in the collection. These materials were sourced with the help of Flynn’s grandchildren and were used by researcher Lisa Hendrickson to complete a biographical treatment of Leonora Uhl Flynn and her contribution to the Logansport community as well as her political legacy in the state of Indiana. The completed book, Leonora Uhl Flynn: A Woman Ahead of Her Time is also part of the collection.
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OM 0734
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Leonora Flynn and Jane Kaiser in Red Cross uniforms, ca. 1910s
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Leonora Flynn and unidentified group, ca. 1930s
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