

REBECCA TRAILL HODGES

POEM, 1939

Collection #'s:
SC 2598

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USER INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 item

COLLECTION DATES: 1939

PROVENANCE: Mrs. Harley W. Rhodehamel, Jr., New Augusta, IN, March 1971

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ALTERNATE FORMATS: None

OTHER FINDING AIDS: None

RELATED HOLLDINGS: SC 762, Rebecca T. Hodges; SC 2453, Sallie E. Coleman Diary

ACCESSION NUMBERS: 1971.0311

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Rebecca Traill (Andrews) Hodges (1881?-1973), was the daughter of R. T. Andrews. A native of Massachusetts, she moved to Indianapolis, in 1902, to teach physical education. Her husband was Dr. Fletcher H. Hodges (d. 1964).

Rebecca Hodges was a member of various social clubs in Indianapolis, including the Propylaeum Club. She was a 65-year member of that organization, and served terms as president and vice-president. She also served three terms as president of the Indiana Society, National Society of Colonial Dames of America.

Sallie E. (Downing) Coleman (fl. 1860-1947) was the daughter of Col. Michael A. Downing, who made a fortune with cable cars in Denver, then moved to Indianapolis and served as police commissioner (1884), president of the board of public works (1895-1901), and park commissioner (1901-1908).

Sallie Downing's first husband was John H. Vajen, Jr.; they had a daughter, Suemma. After Mr. Vajen's death, she married William H. Coleman, a "self-made man" who owned lumber factories in Indianapolis, Terre Haute and Tennessee. He also had a lucrative contract to make oil barrels for Standard Oil.

Beginning in 1890, the Colemans lived in a house at 1006 North Meridan Street in Indianapolis, where they entertained extensively. They gave generously (reportedly over \$1 million) to many causes, especially to several hospitals and to the libraries of Butler and Yale Universities. Sallie Coleman was an active volunteer for the Red Cross and the Indianapolis Flower Mission.

Note: Variations of Sallie E. Coleman's name are as follows: Sally D. (Hodges, "My Day..."), Sallie D. (Dunn, p. 858-859), Sally E. (*IBS*, vol. 27, p. 106), and Sallie E. (*IBS*, vol. 27, p. 106; *IBS*, vol. 33, p. 7).

Sources: Collection Guide - SC 2453, Sallie E. Coleman Diary.
Dunn, J. P. *Greater Indianapolis*. vol 2. p. 857-859.
Indiana Biography Series. vol. 27. p. 105-106; vol. 33. p. 7.; vol. 78. p. 6.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of a typewritten poem by Rebecca Traill Hodges, entitled "My Day, Twenty Four Hours in the Private Life of Sally D. Coleman, by Sally D. Coleman." It was read at a birthday dinner in honor of Mrs. Coleman at the Indianapolis Propylaeum, January 13, 1939.

A two-page photocopy of the poem is included.

CATALOGUING INFORMATION

MAIN ENTRY: Hodges, Rebecca Traill, 1880 or 81-1973

SUBJECT ENTRIES: Coleman, Sallie., d. 1947--Poetry

Indianapolis (Ind.)--Social life and customs

END