

Collection #
SC 3398

**THELMA M. (CRANFILL) CORSON
COLLECTION, 1929–1930**

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Processed by

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF
COLLECTION: 3 manuscript folders

COLLECTION
DATES: 1929–1930

PROVENANCE: Twyla M. Cecil, Venice, FL; October 2017

RESTRICTIONS: None

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HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION
NUMBER: 2017.0267

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Thelma May Cranfill was born on 3 April 1917 in Indianapolis, IN to George A. Cranfill and Bessie Lee Dalrymple. Thelma attended Crooked Creek School. She married John Brucker Corson and worked as a banking teller at First Bank and Trust of Speedway for thirty-four years. Thelma died on 24 March 2005.

In 1930, Thelma won a spelling contest for the schools of Marion County held by The Indianapolis News. She was in eighth grade. The contest took place at Warren Central High School over two evenings. Children from forty-two schools attended. Thelma and another student won a five day tour of Washington, D.C. They left for Washington on 14 June 1930 and returned home on 20 June.

Sources:

Collection materials.

Indiana, Death Certificates, 1899-2011, via Ancestry.com

Indiana, Select Marriages Index, 1748-1993, via Ancestry.com

"Obituary, Thelma May Cranfill Corson." *Indianapolis Star*, March 27, 2005.

U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current, via Ancestry.com

U.S., Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936-2007, via Ancestry.com

1920, 1930, and 1940 U.S. Federal Censuses, via Ancestry.com

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection contains materials related to Thelma M. Cranfill Corson's spelling bee win in 1930 and subsequent trip to Washington, D.C. Materials include correspondence to Thelma and others regarding her success, news clippings about the bee and trip to Washington, a spelling bee certificate, two Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company informational books on Washington, Thelma's handwritten travel notes, a Cairo Hotel dining room card, and two Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company cards.

CONTENTS

CONTENTS

Correspondence, April–August 1930; n.d.

News clippings, ca. 1930

Spelling bee certificate and travel materials, 1929–
1930

CONTAINER

Folder 1

Folder 2

Folder 3