

Collection #
P 0624

WOMEN'S LIBERTY LOAN COMMITTEE PHOTOGRAPH, 6 MARCH 1918

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF
COLLECTION: 1 photograph folder

COLLECTION
DATES: 1918

PROVENANCE:

RESTRICTIONS: None

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FORMATS:

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HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION
NUMBER: 1968.0245

NOTES:

HISTORICAL SKETCH

On March 6, 1918, the Women's State Liberty Loan Committee held a meeting at the Claypool Hotel downtown Indianapolis to organize and inspire women to take part in the campaign for the third Liberty Loan, which was set to kick off on April 6th of that year. The Liberty Loan Act was first enacted by the United States government to fund American involvement in World War I on April 24, 1917. The idea was that the public would buy the bonds to support the current war effort and the bonds would later be paid back to citizens at a government determined interest rate (in this case between 3 and 4.25%). Around 200 women attended the event, which was led by Alice Foster McCulloch of Fort Wayne. The meeting featured an appeal speech given by Mrs. George Bass of Chicago, Illinois, the national secretary of the organization, who reminded the gathered women that "this is the first time in your life you have been called upon to pay anything for this government from which you are constantly reaping benefits. You are called to a sacred privilege to become a part of a great Federal committee. You will be a part of the history of this war when history is written." The meeting also included a luncheon in the hotel's Riley Room, where attendees were entertained by a musicale of popular and patriotic songs.

Sources:

"Women Prepare for Loan Drive." *Indianapolis Star*. March 7, 1918

"Liberty Bonds." https://www.federalreservehistory.org/essays/liberty_bonds
Accessed October 26, 2017

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This photograph, taken by Holland Photo, shows the interior of the ballroom at the Claypool Hotel in downtown Indianapolis, Indiana. Members of the Women's State Liberty Loan Association (and one lone man in the crowd) are seated around tables for a luncheon or a dinner. No one in the photograph is identified.

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