

ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION, INDIANAPOLIS BRANCH RECORDS, 1922-1991

Collection #
M 644
OM 304

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Processed by

Charles Latham
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USER INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 6 manuscript boxes, 2 oversize folders

COLLECTION DATES: inclusive 1922-1991; bulk 1946-1973

PROVENANCE: Estate of Mary Black, c/o L. Robert Lowe, Jr., Lowe Gray Steele and Hoffmann, Suite 4600 Bank One Tower, Indianapolis IN 46204-5146, 23 November 1993; Evaline H. Rhodehamel, Indianapolis, IN, 5 August 1996

RESTRICTIONS: None

REPRODUCTION RIGHTS: Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the Indiana Historical Society

ALTERNATE FORMATS: None

OTHER FINDING AIDS: None

RELATED HOLDINGS: None

ACCESSION NUMBER: 94.0086, 96.0661

HISTORICAL SKETCH

The national organization of the English-Speaking Union was founded in New York in 1920. Its stated purpose was to strengthen friendly relations between the people of the United States and the other English-speaking peoples of the world, in order to work for a world with equal justice for all, with democratic government and with a concern for the rights of all individuals. The first three national presidents were William Howard Taft (1921), lawyer and statesman John W. Davis (1921-1938), and Yale University president James Rowland Angell (1938-1946).

The Indianapolis Branch of the organization was founded in 1949 by Charles J. Lynn, retired vice president of Eli Lilly and Company. He served as president from 1949 to 1958, and was then succeeded by his wife, Dorothy B. Lynn (1958-1973) and she by attorney Robert S. Ashby (1973-1989).

The branch holds luncheon and dinner meetings with speakers usually provided by the speakers bureau of the national headquarters. Speakers have included Admiral Chester W. Nimitz (1951), historian Denis Brogan (1956), British ambassadors Lord Harlech (1964) and Sir Antony Acland (1990), Margaret Thatcher (1969), and General Maxwell D. Taylor (1973). At times meetings have been monthly, at other times more occasional.

Since 1951 the Branch has provided scholarships for Commonwealth students to study at Indiana University, and since 1976 for teachers from Marion County to study at British universities. The Branch has regularly provided hospitality for visitors from the Commonwealth, and has supported special projects such as a memorial to Winston Churchill. Since 1988 the Branch has sponsored an annual Shakespearean Competition, with contestants from Marion County high schools giving dramatic presentations.

Source: Materials in collection

SCOPE AND CONTENT

This collection, filling six manuscript boxes and one oversize folder, contains correspondence, circular letters, and printed material from the period 1922-1991. Coming from the estate of Mary Black, sister of Mrs. Charles J. Lynn, the collection is most complete for the period of the presidencies of Mr. Lynn (1949-1958) and Mrs. Lynn (1958-1973).

The records for most years are organized in three main categories. The first is Programs and Speakers, including both the announcement of each program and correspondence about and with the speaker. For many meetings the menu is included, providing an interesting study of changes in organizational eating habits. A second category is general correspondence. A third is material regarding exchange students and visitors and about the Branch's drive for scholarship funds. In the most recent years a new category, Hospitality, appears.

Box 1 (1922-1960) contains material 1922-1946 on Charles J. Lynn's individual membership in the E-SU, material 1946-1949 on his successful effort to found the local branch, and records of the years of his presidency. OM 304 folder 1 contains pages from a scrapbook of clippings from the years 1949-1959. OM 304 folder 2 contains a reproduction of an illuminated scroll the original of which was presented to Sir Winston Churchill during WW II in the United States; transmittal note included.

Records from the years of Mrs. Lynn's leadership form the bulk of the collection. Box 1 contains records of the years 1958-1960, Box 2 the years 1961-1963, Box 3 1964-1965, Box 4 1966-1968, Box 5 1969-1971, and Box 6 1972-1973. Box 6 also contains partial records for the years since 1973.

BOX AND FOLDER LISTING

Box 1: Historical; Records 1922-1960

Folder

- 1 Historical 1949-1973
- 2 Scholarships and fellowships 1951-1990
- 3 Visitors and films 1959-1973
- 4 1922-1946
- 5 1948
- 6 1949
- 7 1950
- 8 1951-- Correspondence and meetings
- 9 1952-- Correspondence and meetings
- 10 1953-- Regional conference
- 11 1953-- Meetings
- 12 1954-- Meetings and correspondence
- 13 1955-- Meetings and correspondence
- 14 1956-- Meetings and correspondence
- 15 1957-- Meetings and correspondence
- 16 1958-- Meetings and correspondence
- 17 1959-- Programs and speakers
- 18 1960-- Programs and speakers
- 19-20 1960-- Bonnie Sue Harrison scholarship
- 21-22 1960-- Correspondence
- 23 (OM 304) Scrapbook 1949-1959
- 24 (OM 304) Broadside: Reproduction of an illuminated scroll

Box 2: Records 1961-1963

Folder

- 1 1961-- Programs and speaker
- 2-3 1961-- Correspondence

4 1962-- Programs and speakers

5-6 1962-- Correspondence

7 1963-- Programs and speakers

8-9 1963-- Correspondence

10 1963 -- Exchange students, visitors

Box 3: Records 1964-1965

Folder

1 1964-- Programs and speakers

2-3 1964-- Correspondence

4-5 1964-- Exchange students, visitors, scholarships

6 1964-- Churchill statue appeal

7-8 1965-- Programs and speakers

9-10 1965-- Correspondence

11-12 1965-- Exchange students, visitors, scholarships

13 1965 -- Bulletins and reports

Box 4: Records 1966-1968 (1967 missing)

Folder

1-2 1966-- Programs and speaker

3-4 1966-- Correspondence

5-6 1966-- Exchange students, visitors, scholarships

7-8 1968-- Programs and speakers

9-10 1968-- correspondence

11-12 1968-- Exchange students, visitors, scholarships

13 1968-1978-- Churchill Scholarship at Cambridge

Box 5: Records 1969-1971

Folder

1-2 1969-- Programs and speakers

3-4 1969-- Correspondence

5-6 1969-- Exchange students, visitors, scholarships

7-8 1970-- Programs and speakers

9-10 1970-- Correspondence

11-12 1970-- Exchange students, visitors, scholarships

13 1971-- Programs and speakers

14-15 1971-- Correspondence

16 1971 -- Exchange students, visitors, scholarships

Box 6: Records 1972-1991
Folder

1-2 1972-- Programs and speaker

3-4 1972-- Correspondence

5 1972 -- Exchange students, visitors, scholarships

6-7 1973-- Programs and speakers

8-9 1973-- Exchange students, visitors, scholarships

10 1973-- Bulletins and reports

11 1978-- Meetings

12 1978-- Correspondence

13 1978-- Scholarships

14 1978 -- Hospitality

15 1979-1980-- Meetings

16 1979-1981-- Correspondence

17 1979-- Hospitality

18 1980-- Hospitality

19 1981-1982-- Meetings

20 1981-- Hospitality

21 1982-- Hospitality

22 1983-1984-- Meetings

23 1984-- Hospitality

24 1985-1986-- Meetings

25 1987-1988-- Meetings

26 1989-1991-- Meetings

CATALOGUING INFORMATION

MAIN ENTRY: English-Speaking Union of the United States. Indianapolis Branch

SUBJECT ENTRIES: English-Speaking Union of the United States. Indianapolis Branch

Lynn, Charles J., (Charles Jackson), 1874-1958

Lynn, Dorothy B., (Dorothy Black), 1902-1989

Ashby, Robert S., (Robert Samuel), d. 1989

English-speaking countries--Societies, etc.

English language--Indiana--Indianapolis-- Societies, etc.

English language--Scholarships, fellowships, etc.--Indiana--Indianapolis

English language--Study and teaching (Higher)-- Indiana

Teacher exchange programs--Indiana

Teacher exchange programs--Great Britain

Student exchange programs--Indiana

Scholarships--Indiana--Indianapolis

British--Indiana--Indianapolis

Indianapolis (Ind.)--Societies, etc.

British Commonwealth

END