

Collection #
SC 3270

**ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION OF THE UNITED STATES,
INDIANAPOLIS BRANCH
RECORDS ADDITION, 1993–2002**

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Indiana Historical Society
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Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF
COLLECTION: 1 manuscript folder

COLLECTION
DATES: 1993–2002

PROVENANCE: Thomas A. Mason, Indianapolis, IN; May 2004

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE
FORMATS:

RELATED
HOLDINGS: English-Speaking Union of the United States, Indianapolis
Branch Records M 0644

ACCESSION
NUMBER: 2004.0362

NOTES:

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 people 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). She was succeeded by attorney Robert S. Ashby (1973-1989).

The branch holds luncheon and dinner meetings with speakers usually provided by the speaker's 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 British 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.

Sources:

Materials in collection

English Speaking Union, Indianapolis branch website

<http://www.esuus.org/indianapolis/news/welcome/> Accessed on January 29, 2015.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection addition contains materials related to the Indianapolis branch of the English-Speaking Union of the U.S. In particular, these materials relate to Homer Earl Capehart, Jr. and Harriet Capehart. Earl served on the Board of Directors for the union's Indianapolis Branch and also worked on the Scholarship Committee. Following Earl's death, Harriet filled his position on the Board of Directors. The addition includes obituaries and funeral service programs for Earl and Harriet Capehart, condolence letters, a postcard and letter from the Capeharts to friends, and miscellaneous notes.

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CONTAINER

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