

Collection #  
SC 3319

**JOHN H. HOLLIDAY  
COLLECTION ADDITION, 18 MAY 1943**

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Processed by

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Indiana Historical Society  
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Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

[www.indianahistory.org](http://www.indianahistory.org)

## COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 manuscript folder

COLLECTION DATES: 18 May 1943

PROVENANCE: Evaline H. Rhodehamel, Indianapolis, IN; November 2000

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: John H. Holliday SC 770; John H. Holliday SC 771; Letters SC 1837; Letter SC 2226; A hundred days of war SC 2287; Paper SC 2415; Holliday family expense book SC 3288; Hitz family papers M 0997; Benjamin D. and Elizabeth Hitz house records SC 3149

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2001.0069

NOTES:

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

**John Hampden Holliday:** John was born 31 May 1846 to Rev. William A. Holliday and Lucia Shaw Cruft in Indianapolis. He attended Northwestern Christian University, now Butler University, and received an A.B. degree from Hanover College in 1864. During the Civil War, John served in the 137th Indiana Volunteer Infantry, a 100-day regiment. He returned to Hanover and received an A.M. degree in 1867.

John took up a career in journalism, working for the Indianapolis *Sentinel*, *Herald* and *Gazette* in addition to working as a correspondent for papers in Cincinnati, Chicago, and New York. In 1869 he founded the *Indianapolis News*, an independent paper less strictly partisan than the Democratic *Sentinel* and the Republican *Journal*. Shortly thereafter, John married Evaline M. Rieman in 1875. Together they had seven children.

John was owner and managing editor of the *Indianapolis News* until he sold his interest in the paper in 1892 to William Henry Smith and Charles R. Williams. John's retirement was spurred by concerns over his health. Apparently recovered, he founded the Union Trust Company in 1893, of which he was president until 1899. At this time, John founded the *Indianapolis Press* as competition for the *News*. By 1901, the *Press* was sold to the *News*. John resumed his position as president of Union Trust Company until 1916, at which point he became chairman of the board of directors. Union Trust later merged with Indiana National Bank.

John was active in many civic causes, notably the founding of the Commercial Club and its campaign to have the railroad tracks in Indianapolis elevated. He served on several different boards of educational and other institutions, including the Charity Organization Society. He was also the first president of the Society of Indiana Pioneers. In 1916, John and Evaline donated their 80-acre country estate to the City of Indianapolis, to be made into a park following their deaths. John died on 20 October 1921. After Evaline's death in 1929, their estate became Holliday Park.

**Benjamin Hitz:** Benjamin was born in Indianapolis and attended Indiana University. In September 1917 he married Elizabeth Holliday, daughter of John Holliday. They had two children, Benjamin and Evaline. Hitz served as an officer in World War I with Base Hospital No. 32 and was stationed in France with that unit and dealt with the handling of medical supplies and became adjutant in October 1918. After the war, he edited a history of Base Hospital No. 32. In addition to real estate business, Hitz was involved in many intellectual and charitable organizations including his work with the Willa Cather Papers at the Newberry Library, Chicago and serving on the Library Committee for the Indiana Historical Society for 15 years.

Sources:

Bodenhamer, David J. and Robert G. Barrows, ed. *The Encyclopedia of Indianapolis*. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 1994.

Brockman, Paul and Betty Alberty. Collection Guide. M0997 Hitz Family Papers, 1917–1951. Indiana Historical Society. (Guide completed January 2011)

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

John H. Holliday Paper, collection guide.

Markle, Augustus R. "The Ancestry of John Hampden Holliday," *Indiana Magazine of History* Vol 36 No 1 (1940): 66–70.

U.S., Sons of the American Revolution Membership Applications, 1889-1970, via Ancestry.com

1880, 1900, 1910, and 1920 U.S. Federal Censuses, via Ancestry.com

#### **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

This collection addition contains a sheet of World War II V-Fuel Oil Ration Class Three Consumer Coupons. The coupons were issued to Benjamin Hitz on 18 May 1943.

## **CONTENTS**

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John H. Holliday addition, 18 May 1943

CONTAINER

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