

**Collection #**  
**M 1120**

**RUTH EBNER DONELSON**  
**MATERIALS, 1884–1968**

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Processed by

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## **COLLECTION INFORMATION**

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: ½ manuscript box, ½ photograph box, 1 OVB graphics folder, 1 OVC photograph folder

COLLECTION DATES: 1884–1968

PROVENANCE: Charlotte Carmichael, Indianapolis

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: “Survival Under Atomic Attack.” Indianapolis: Success Printing, ca. 1950. Pamphlet Collection. UA928.I6 S86 1950

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2011.0002

NOTES:

## **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Ruth Donelson was born Ruth Ebner in Indianapolis around 1910. Her father Edward Ebner had served as a private in the 161<sup>st</sup> Indiana Volunteers, Company C, during the Spanish-American War. She attended Thomas D. Gregg School and Arsenal Technical High School, graduating in 1926. Her brother Charles A. Ebner, who also attended Arsenal Technical, fought in the Second World War.

In 1933 she married Norman “Don” Donelson, with whom she operated Donelson’s Pharmacy in Greencastle. The couple had three daughters, Marilyn, Janet, and Deborah. Marilyn attended Indiana University and Methodist Hospital’s School of Nursing. A year after her husband’s 1983 death, Ruth Donelson moved to North Fort Myers, Florida. She relocated to Hilton Head, South Carolina in 1992, and then to Orlando in 2005. She died in 2010 at the age of 100.

Sources:

Collection Materials.

Indiana Marriage Records.

Indiana Spanish-American War Records.

Indiana University Yearbooks.

Ruth Donelson Obituary. *Greencastle Banner-Graphic*. 8 September 2010.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The materials in this collection belonged to Ruth Donelson and were donated by her niece Charlotte Carmichael. The first series comprises miscellaneous family materials, such as commencement programs and military records. It also includes Ruth Donelson's 1926 Arts-and-Crafts style diploma from Arsenal Technical High School, a 1950 "Survival Under Atomic Attack" pamphlet, and an undated group portrait of Indiana Bell long-distance operators.

The second series consists solely of photographs associated with Edward Ebner's time in Cuba during the Spanish-American War. Most of the images depict military personnel, camps, or ships, but some show civilian Cuban architecture and locations such as cemeteries and squares. Of particular note in this series is a photograph of the wreckage of the U.S.S. *Maine*.

## **SERIES CONTENTS**

### **Series 1: Family Materials**

#### CONTENTS

Indiana Bell Long Distance Operators, not dated

Unidentified Woman, not dated

Industrial Scene, 1884

Thomas D. Gregg School Graduation Program, 1923

Arsenal Technical High School Diploma for Ruth  
Ebner, 1926

Arsenal Technical High School Commencement and  
Supreme Day Programs, 1926–31

Charles A. Ebner Military Documents, ca. 1942–45

Methodist Hospital School of Nursing  
Commencement Program, 1956

“Survival Under Atomic Attack” Pamphlet

Charles A. Ebner Obituaries, 1968

#### CONTAINER

OVC Photographs  
Folder 1 of 1

Photographs  
Box 1, Folder 1

Photographs  
Box 1, Folder 2

Box 1, Folder 1

OVB Graphics  
Folder 1 of 1

Box 1, Folder 2

Box 1, Folder 3

Box 1, Folder 4

Box 1, Folder 5

Box 1, Folder 6

### **Series 2: Spanish-American War Photographs**

#### CONTENTS

Battle Ships, ca. 1898–99

Cuban Scenes, ca. 1898–99

Individual Soldiers, ca. 1898–99

Military Scenes, ca. 1898–99

#### CONTAINER

Box 1, Folder 3

Box 1, Folder 4

Box 1, Folder 5

Box 1, Folder 6

## CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog:  
<http://opac.indianahistory.org/>
2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.
3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.
4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, M 1120).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.