

McLean County Museum of History

Betty Hinckle Dunn Collection

Inventoried by
Carol Straka
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Collection Information

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	One Box
COLLECTION DATES:	1883 - 1983
PROVENANCE:	Various.
RESTRICTIONS:	None
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History
ALTERNATIVE FORMATS:	None
OTHER FINDING AIDS:	None
LOCATION:	Archives
NOTES:	Photos: People – Dunn -- Hinckle

Brief History

Born in Peoria in 1909, Elizabeth “Betty” Hinckle grew up in Peoria and later in Bloomington. Her mother Imogen “Imo” Evans Hinckle was the only child of well-to-do grocer William L. Evans.

Betty’s father, Luther Hinckle, was known as “The Silver Tone Orator of Illinois.” A Peoria lawyer, he lectured publicly on a variety of topics including historical figures such as Lincoln, Washington and the Kaiser. Stricken with tuberculosis in 1917, he was never the same afterwards. His later lectures focused on health foods and on “pyramid prophecies.”

Betty’s family moved to St. Petersburg, FL, in time for Betty to study her senior year of high school. She studied at DePauw in Greencastle, IN, for a year before moving to University of Illinois where she pursued a journalism degree. Betty married fellow graduate Lyman Dunn after college and spent most of her adult life in Chicago pursuing journalism, sorority matters and helping rear several foster teenagers.

Betty composed biographies of some of her ancestors and other relatives.

Scope Note

This collection includes biographies of Betty’s ancestors and other family members, newspaper articles, personal correspondence from friends (especially her senior year of high school) and relatives, calling cards, etc.

General (Folders 1-4)

Folder 1: Biographies of family members

Betty wrote these biographies and notes which are all undated.

- 1.1.1 "Notes on Evans family"
- 1.1.2 Notes on Justus Henckel Sr. and his children
- 1.1.3 Leonard Hinkle and Elizabeth Crutchinger Hinkle
- 1.1.4 Adam Hinkle and Christine Zilor Hinkle and their children
- 1.1.5 George Hinkle and Mary (Polly) Henderson Hinkle
- 1.1.6 Children of George and Mary Henderson Hinkle, 2pp.
- 1.1.7 David Thomas and Hannah Jane Harp Hinkle, 3pp.
- 1.1.8 Luther Calvin and Imogen Evans Hinkle, 3pp.
- 1.1.9 Edward Edgar and Winifred Winfree Hinkle, 2pp.
- 1.1.10 Granville Miller and Minnie Mack Hinkle
- 1.1.11 Donald Earl Hinkle
- 1.1.12 Garnet Winfree and Muriel Roberta Kinker Hinkle
- 1.1.13 William Albert and Emma Roderick Hinkle, 2pp.
- 1.1.14 David Earl Hinkle and Althea Katherine Tune Hinkle
- 1.1.15 David Earl and Elizabeth Almond Maxfield Hinkle
- 1.1.16 David Earl and Elizabeth M. Greenman Hinkle
- 1.1.17 Edith Jane Hinkle and Clarence Allen Whitten, 2pp.
- 1.1.18 "Ancestry of Cowling Family"
- 1.1.19 Notes on George Hinkle and his wife Mary Henderson Hinkle, 3pp., 2 copies.

Folder 2: Death and Memorial of Betty Dunn

- 1.2.1 Correspondence from Lyman D. Dunn to friends of Betty Dunn concerning her sudden death, her plans during the last year of her life, reflections on her style, etc., 30 June 1982, 2pp.
- 1.2.2 Correspondence from Lyman D. Dunn to friends of Betty Dunn eulogizing her and starting a memorial scholarship, 30 October 1982, 11pp.

Folder 3: Newspaper Articles

- 1.3.1 "Death of Mrs. H.? Patrick," unknown, 18 Jan 1883.
- 1.3.2 "The Late Fulton Armstrong," unknown, undated. (Eulogy.)
- 1.3.3 "Devise of a Large Estate: Will of the late Fulton Armstrong," unknown, April 1896.
- 1.3.4 "Will of the Late Fulton Armstrong," unknown, undated.
"Obituary of John T. Armstrong," unknown, 1839.
- 1.3.5 "Underwood-Coleman," *Bloomington Leader*, 4 Aug 1896. (Wedding)
- 1.3.6 "Society Gathers at Bloomington Club," unknown, undated.
(Bloomington Country Club reception hosted by M/M Wm. L. Evans.)
Untitled, about reception held by Mrs. L.C. Hinkle at Barker Av, Peoria, unknown, undated.
"To Hear Grand Opera," unknown, undated, (Mrs. Hinkle & her father to

- Chicago.)
- 1.3.8 "L.C. Hinkle to Address Y.M.C.A.," unknown, undated.
 "Talked of Washington," unknown, undated, about Hinckle's YMCA address.
 Untitled, about Hinckle and Rennick's talks at picnic, *Herald Transcript*, 1 Sep, 1907
 Untitled, about Hinckle and Rennick's talk at picnic, unknown, undated.
- 1.3.9 "R. Frank Evans Called Suddenly," *Bulletin*, 2 Apr 1906.
- 1.3.10 "Death of R.F. Evans," *Pantagraph*, 3 Apr 1906, 2pp.
- 1.3.11 "Consigned to Earth" and "Funeral on Thursday," unknown, undated. (R.F. Evans funeral)
- 1.3.12 "In Two Estates," unknown, undated. (Estate of R.F. Evans)
- 1.3.13 "The Hinckle-Evans Wedding Last Night," unknown, 16 Oct 1906.
- 1.3.14 Untitled on speeches at Old Settlers meeting, *Peoria Journal*, 1 Sep 1907.
 "Citizens Alliance: A Letter to the Public on the 'Open Shop,'" from L.C. Hinckle, unknown, 2 Sep 1907.
- 1.3.16 "Old Settlers Reunion," *Peoria Star*, 25 Aug 1907, Hinckle to speak.
 "Luther C. Hinckle," *Herald Transcript*, 25 Aug, 1907, captioned photo on above.
 Untitled, announcing above event, *Harold Transcript*, 25 Aug 1907.
 "L.C. Hinckle's Speech," *Peoria Star*, 25 Aug 1907.
- 1.3.17 "Non-Union Man's View," *Peoria Evening Star*, 18 Sep 1907, 2pp.. (Response to Hinckle's 2 Sep 1907 letter above.)
- 1.3.18 "Why Die," advert, unknown, undated. For Hinckle guest lectures on health.
- 1.3.19 "Change in Firm of Evans Bros.," unknown, 26 Mar 1908.
- 1.3.20 "Deer Creek Man Suicides," *Peoria Star*, 28 Sep 1908. (W.H.Green)
- 1.3.21 "Is Suicide a Sin?" *Peoria Star*, 29 Sep 1908. (W.H.Green)
- 1.3.22 "Deer Creek Progress," unknown, 1 Oct 1908, 2pp. (W.H.Green)
- 1.3.23 "Hinckle's Statement: Which the Attorney Brands his Accusers as Infamous Liars," *Peoria Star*, Oct 1908. (W.H.Green)
- 1.3.24 "More of the Suicide of Deer Creek Man," *Peoria Star*, 1 Oct 1908. (W.H.Green)
- 1.3.25 "A Layman Gives Some Pointers to Pulpit," *Daily Bulletin*, 20 Dec 1908, 2pp. (Hinckle addresses ministers)
- 1.3.26 Obituary for David T. Hinckle, *Waverly Enterprise*, 30 Apr 1909.
- 1.3.27 "A Prince in Israel Has Fallen," *St. Louis Christian Advocate*, 30 Apr 1909. (David Hinckle obit)
- 1.3.28 "Alice R. Armstrong," unknown, 19 Aug 1913. Obituary.
- 1.3.29 "Memorial Services of Modern Woodmen and Royal Neighbors," advert in unknown, undated. (Hinkle to speak.)
- 1.3.30 Obituary/funeral for Mrs. W.L. Evans and Mr. W.L. Evans, various.
- 1.3.21 "Oldest Grocery in City is Sold," unknown, 20 Jan 1920. (Evans Bros.)
- 1.3.22 "Suit on Note Barnett Vs. L. Hinkle Today," *Peoria Star*, 2 June 1924.
 "Another Chapter to be Written in DeLong Will Case," *Peoria Daily*

- Journal*, 2 June 1924.
- 1.3.23 "Bloomington Girl Ranks High in Journalism Class," unknown, undated. (Betty Hinckle)
- 1.3.24 "Local Residents Gain Many Honors While in Florida," *Daily Bulletin*, 8 Apr 1926. (Betty and Luther Hinckle)
- 1.3.25 "House President," unknown, 5 Sep 1929. (Betty Hinckle sorority president)
- 1.3.26 "Social Notes," on Betty's Coming Out Party, *Pantagraph*, 1928. Untitled on Betty Hinkle's on U of I homecoming activity, 23 Sep 1929.
- 1.3.27 "Miss Betty Hinckle, Lyman DeWitt Dunn Wed at Bride's Home," *Pantagraph*, 19 Jul 1931.
- 1.3.28 "Hinckle Speaks Monday Evening," *Independent*, 3 Mar 1934. Speech on Great Pyramid and forecast of World's End. Also, advertisement for same.
- 1.3.29 "Booklover's Hear Fascinating Talk on Literary Trail," *Peoria Star*, 17 Oct 1935. (Betty Hinckle Dunn speaks)
- 1.3.30 "America and Japan," *Chicago Tribune*, 12 Oct 1937. (B.H. Dunn letter) Untitled on Alpha Chi Omega, *Chicago Tribune*, 25 May 1939.
- 1.3.31 "IWU Art School Gets New Home," *Pantagraph*, 3 April 1947. (sale of family home at 1101 N. Main after Imo's death)
- 1.3.32 "Success Tied to 'Stitch in Time,'" unknown, Apr 1974. (John E. Hinckle at AMF)
- 1.3.33 Memorial Obituary of Garnet W. Hinckle, *Hopewell (VA.) News*, 5 Apr 1976.
- 1.3.34 Misc articles on W.L. Evans illness, dance party, 1912 construction of 1101 N. Main, Harry Evans.
- 1.3.35 Mrs. Luther Hinckle's tea, undated.

Folder 4: Family memorabilia

- 1.4.1 6 calling cards: Wm. L. Evans, Mrs. Wm L. Evans (2 styles); Miss Evans, Mrs. Luther Calvin Hinckle plus and "At Home" card for Barker Avenue, Peoria.
- 1.4.2 Photocopies of "At Home" birthday party invitation card for Imogene Evans, 1884, and permission to visit town on Saturday (presumably from Wilson College) dated 3 May 1893.
- 1.4.3 Funeral notice for Hannah Jane Hinckle, 1932.
- 1.4.4 Three different brochures for Luther C. Hinckle, lawyer and lecturer.

Correspondence: Family & Friends (Folders 5-12)

Note: Several folders contain an envelope with typed description of the folder contents. Presumably these descriptions are from Betty Dunn.

Folder 5: D.T. Hinckle

One handwritten letter concerning farming matters. Separate handwritten note at bottom says written Aug 30, 1906 to Earl Hinckle in Peoria by his father, David T. Hinckle in Palmyra, IL.

Folder 6: Luther Hinkle to Imo & Elizabeth Hinckle

11 handwritten letters including a few enclosures. A few are written on Luther's legal letterhead (Peoria) but all are from Woodman, CO, where he was in the Woodmen tuberculosis sanitarium.

Folder 7: Elise Gyles and Gerald "Bud" Gyles to Betty Hinckle

Six handwritten letters from young Elise and 4 from Bud plus 2 Christmas cards. Written to Betty in her senior year of high school in St. Petersburg, FL, 1925-26.

Elise is the younger sister of Doris and Bud Gyles, all of Bloomington. Elise includes description of smallpox epidemic's impact in Bloomington. Bud discusses activities at ISNU where he is studying.

Folder 8: Doris "Dot" Gyles to Betty Hinckle

Over thirty handwritten letters from Doris of Bloomington to Betty Hinckle during Betty's senior year of high school in St. Petersburg, FL, August 1925- January 1926.

Discusses high school academics and friends, etc.

Folder 9: Doris "Dodo" Gyles to Betty Hinckle

Nineteen handwritten letters from Doris of Bloomington to Betty Hinckle during Betty's senior year of high school in St. Petersburg, FL, January - June 1926.

Folder 10: Jerita V."Petie" Blair to Betty Hinckle

Thirty-one handwritten or typed letters from Jerita of Bloomington to Betty Hinckle during Betty's senior year of high school in St. Petersburg, FL, 1925-26

Folder 11: Jerita V."Petie" Blair to Betty Hinckle

Twenty-six handwritten or typed letters from Jerita of Bloomington to Betty Hinckle at the start of Betty's senior year of high school in St. Petersburg, FL, Aug-Sep 1925.

Folder 12: Other family correspondence, 1975-78

1.12.1 Photocopy of Garnet (Hinckle) to Uncle Earl & Betty (Hinckle)

- 1.12.2 concerning health, spousal separations, birth, etc., 13 Nov 1975, 2 pp.
Photocopy of Garnet (Hinckle) to Uncle Earl & Betty (Hinckle) concerning health and holiday visits, 2 March 1976, 2 pp.
- 1.12.3 From Earl and Betty (Hinckle) to Betty and Lyman (Dunn) concerning photographs, gift subscription, Luther Hinckle's later life, etc., 27 Nov 1977, 2 pp.
- 1.12.3 Photocopy from Edith to Earl (Hinckle) concerning "End of the Journey" and life in Hawaii, 24 Feb 1978, 2 pp.
- 1.12.4 From Earl (Hinckle) to Betty and Lyman (Dunn) concerning Edith's book, genealogy particulars, etc. 28 Feb 1978, 4 pp.

Miscellaneous (Folders 13- 16)

Folder 13: Poetry

- No author specified; may have been Betty.
- 1.13.1 "A Small Town Saga," 2 copies 10 pp & 7 pp. Note on one reads "Sent New Yorker Magazine July 5, 1958."
- 1.13.2 "In a Mid-Western Town," 2 pp.
- 1.13.3 "Thoughts on Leaving You at the Station Sunday Night," 2 versions.

Folder 14: DePauw Directory and Budget Books

One DePauw Univ. Directory (1926-27) plus 6 budget journals of personal expenses from the 1930s.

Folder 15: Dance cards

Six dance cards from Alpha Chi Omega Sorority at Univ. of Illinois, 1929-30.
One dance card from Omega Bet Pi fraternity at Univ. Of Illinois, 1929.
One dance card from Pan Hellenic Council at Univ. of Illinois, 1929.

Folder 16: Miscellaneous books

Address book from Imogen Hinckle
Autograph book from Betty Hinckle's high school graduation, 1926.