

Chapter 1 : Bessie Ng Yee Obituary - Sacramento, CA

Coney Island: Where Harry met Bessie Harry and Bess Houdini first met while they were performers at Coney Island in ; Harry as part of the Brothers Houdini and Bess with a song and dance troupe known as The Floral Sisters.

Please use the follow button to get notification about the latest chapter next time when you visit LightNovelFree. Use F11 button to read novel in full-screen PC only. Drop by anytime you want to read free "fast" latest novel. Lady Latimer protested against this conclusion by her absence, but she permitted Dora Meadows to go to the church to look on. The wedding differed but very little from other weddings. Harry Musgrave was attended by his friend Forsyth, and Polly and Totty Carnegie were the bridesmaids. Moxon married the young couple, and Mr. Carnegie gave the bride away. Laurence Fairfax was present, and the occasion was further embellished by little Christie and Janey in their recent wedding garments, and by Miss Buff and Mr. Phipps, whose cheerful appearance in company gave rise to some ingenious prophetic remarks. The village folks p. Harry Musgrave went through the ceremony with composure: Miss Buff said he was as cool as a cuc. I should think he is a faithless, unsentimental sort of person, Aunt Olympia. Dora found it easier to express an opinion than to give her reasons for it: You talk nonsense, Dora. There may be persons as foolish and contemptible as you suppose, but Elizabeth has more wit than to have set her affections on such a one. My lady was peremptory and decisive, as usual. The bridegroom only she prudently omitted, and was sarcastically rebuked for the omission by and by with the query, "And the bridegroom was nowhere, then? The projected yacht-voyage had been given up, and the young people travelled in all simplicity, with very little baggage and no attendant except Mrs. They went through Normandy until they came to Bayeux, where Madame Fournier was spending the long vacation at the house of her brother the canon, as her custom was. In the twilight of a hot autumnal evening they went to call upon her. The elderly people welcomed their young visitors with hospitable warmth. Then Madame Fournier inquired with respectful interest concerning her distinguished pupil, Madame Chiverton, of whose splendid marriage in Paris a report had reached her through her nephew. Was Monsieur Chiverton so very rich? Monsieur Chiverton, Bessie believed, was perfectly devoted and submissive to his wife--he was not handsome nor youthful--he had great estates and held a conspicuous position. Here the amiable old lady checked herself, and said with kind re. Harry Musgrave still carry their gayety of heart wherever they go. They are not fas. They have adopted Italy for their country, and are most at home in Florence, but they do not find their other home in England too far off for frequent visits. They are still only two, and move about often and easily, and see more than most travellers do, for they charter queer private conveyances for themselves, and leave the beaten ways for devious paths that look attractive and often turn out great successes. It was during one of these excursions--an excursion into the Brianza--that they not long ago fell in with a large party of old friends from England, come together fortuitously at Bellagio. Descending early in the evening from the luxuriant hills across which they had been driving through a long green June day, they halted at the hospitable open gate of the Villa Giulia. There was a pony-carriage at the door, and another carriage just moving off after the discharge of its freight. Harry Musgrave and Elizabeth! Oliver Smith and his sisters, and Mr. Cecil Burleigh and his dear Julia. To Bessie it was a delightful encounter, and Harry Musgrave, if his enthusiasm was not quite so eager, certainly enjoyed it as much, for his disposition was always sociable. My lady, after a warm embrace and six words to Elizabeth, said, "You will dine with me--we are all dining together this evening;" and she communicated her commands to one of the attendants. It was exactly as at home: Cecil Burleigh stood a little at a loss, and asked, "What are we to do? They had been making a picnic with Lady Latimer and her party that day, and were just returning when the young Musgraves appeared. The dinner was served in a room looking upon the garden, and afterward the company walked out upon the terraces, fell into groups and exchanged news. My lady had already enjoyed long conversations with Mr. Harry Musgrave to talk to. Before the tale was told Sir Edward joined them in the rose-bower whither they had retreated, and contributed some general news from Norminster and Abbotsmead and the neighborhood. Jones, had been made rural dean; Mrs Stokes had a little girl; Mrs. Chiverton was carrying on a hundred beneficent projects to the Wolds. Bessie looked up inquiringly. Gifford died of malignant fever last autumn,"

Sir Edward told her. Edward has taken himself off, so I may tell you that there never was anybody so good as he is, so generous and considerate. She could have borne an equal tribute to her dear Harry, and probably if Mrs. Cecil Burleigh had been as effusive as these young folks, she might have done the same; for while they talked in the rose-bower Mr. Cecil Burleigh and his wife came by, she leaning on his arm and looking up and listening as to the words of an oracle. What a pity it would have been had those two not married! Botanical and other specimens were on the window-sill, on the table was a sheaf of popular Italian street-songs collected in various cities, and numerous loose leaves of ma. Harry had decided that Bellagio was a pleasant spot to rest in for a week or so, and Bessie had produced their work in divers kinds. They were going to have a delightful quiet morning of it, when my lady tapped on the gla. He did not reseate himself to enjoy his tranquil labors for nearly an hour, and Bessie stood in her cool white dress like a statue of Patience, hearing Lady Latimer discourse until the sun had evaporated the dew from the roses. Then Miss Juliana and Miss Charlotte appeared, returning from a stroll beyond the bounds of the garden, and announced that the day was growing very hot. I have some photographs that I am sure would interest you," urged my lady. She seemed surprised and displeased when Harry entreated comically that his wife might not be taken away, waving his hand to the numerous tasks that awaited them. Afterward she found her way to the village school, and had an instructive interview with an old priest; and on the way back to the Villa Giulia, falling in with a very poor woman and two barefooted little boys, her children, she administered charitable relief and earned many heartfelt blessings. Then they sauntered home to their inn by narrow, circuitous lanes between walled gardens--steep, stony lanes where, by and by, they came upon an iron gate standing open for the convenience of a man who was busy within amongst the graves, for this was the little cemetery of Bellagio. It had its grand ponderosity in stone and marble sacred to the memory of n. Lady Latimer walked in; Harry Musgrave and Bessie waited outside. My lady had many questions to ask of the gardener about the tenants of the vaults beneath the huge monuments, and many inscriptions upon the wall to read--pathetic, quaint, or fulsome. At length she turned to rejoin her companions. They were gazing through a locked grate into a tiny garden where were two graves only--a verdant little spot over which the roses hung in clouds of beauty and fragrance. An inscription on a slab sunk in the wall stated that this piece of ground was given for a burial-place to his country-people by an Englishman who had there buried his only son. The other denizen of the narrow plat was Dorothea Fairfax, at whose head and feet were white marble stones, the sculpture on them as distinct as yesterday. Bessie turned away with tears in her eyes. Harry Musgrave had walked on. When Lady Latimer looked round her face was stern and cold, and the pleasant light had gone out of it. I had forgotten it was at Bellagio that Dorothy died. Has Oliver seen it, I wonder? I must tell him. However, my lady made no further sign except by her unwonted silence. She left the Villa Giulia the following day with all her party, her last words to Elizabeth being, "You will let me know when you are coming to England, and I will be at Fairfield. I would not miss seeing you: She appears to have no object in life but to serve other people even while she rules them. Not unhappy, and so lonely! But doing all the good she can--and so much good--she must have many hours of pure and high satisfaction. I am glad we have met. These chance meetings so far away gave her sweet intervals of reverie about friends at home. She sat musing with lovely pensive face. Harry looked up from his work again. The sky was heavenly serene, there was a cool air stirring, and slow moving shadows of cloud were upon the lake. We will ask for a roll or two of bread and some wine, and we can stay as late as we please.

Chapter 2 : Bess Truman Biography :: National First Ladies' Library

Harry William White was an English immigrant farming near Wadena, Saskatchewan in when he met Bessie Atkinson, the daughter of an American music teacher. Bessie was 19 and writing her teacher's qualification exams, Harry was

Joe got a good basic education in a one-room schoolhouse, where he excelled in arithmetic. When he was only 14, he came to Harrisburg and went to work for the gas company, later for the International Correspondence School, Scranton, and served as page boy in the Legislature and then in Congress. Joe began in Harrisburg real estate in , where he was a member of the Kogh, Brightbill and Kline Co, a real estate and insurance firm. Fourteen years later, he bought out his partners and established the J. He was adventurous, shrewd, perspicacious, thrifty, and gloriously visionary in matter of when to buy and sell. He really was a one-man operation, dealing with tenants personally and paying his debts the same day the bills arrived. He later served as clerk in the State Law Library from Joe went on to be a successful realtor and builder, etching his signature on the Harrisburg skyline. They married on September 14, They lived in a modest home at Market and Taylor Boulevard in Harrisburg. Joe and Bessie never had any children. Bessie was a great cook who grew her own tomatoes and bought cracked eggs to save a little money. Their idea of a fun weekend was to pull into Hotel Hershey, as Joe liked Hershey food. Furthermore, he regarded Milton Hershey as his idol. Kline was told by many of his friends and advisors that he was needlessly risking his money on a shopping center venture that would be a disappointment. But Kline, a financial wizard, knew better. He deliberately located his shopping center between Harrisburg and Susquehanna Township and next to a cemetery so he would have no competition. In Joe and Bessie established the non-profit organization, Kline Foundation. Joe took great care in selecting the Administrators of the Kline Foundation. Simpson Harsco , Robert F. Nation , John A. Russell and Paul B. On its board have been such notables as the late Judge Homer L. Kreider, the late Dr. Joe and Bessie Kline achieved much success by their own efforts. They came from humble backgrounds and never let their wealth go to their heads. They enjoyed a modest life and they never forgot where they made their money, and the Kline Foundation is a fitting legacy.

Chapter 3 : Was Henry VIII the Father of Bessie Blount's Daughter? - The Anne Boleyn Files

When Harry met Bessie Bess told her version in the book Houdini His Life Story (). According to Bess, Harry was performing at her school and accidentally spilled acid on her dress during a magic trick.

One major way women can see their own stories reflected on the big and small screen is to write their own screenplays and give a voice to strong female characters. Turns out, some of the best films of all time were written by women. She was married to actor Harrison Ford from to , and together they had two children. Mathison died of cancer in at the age of Though many people saw the ending as bleak, she insists it was supposed to be symbolic. She decides to follow him to law school, while she is there she figures out that there is more to her than just looks. Silkwood, cowritten with Alice Arlen, told the true story of Karen Silkwood, a labor union activist who died under mysterious circumstances. Ephron died in from leukemia. They are both nominated for Best Screenplay at the Golden Globes. Taylor is also known for writing the film Hope Springs and two seasons of Game of Thrones. Her movie Mean Girls became an instant classic teen film. Her very traditional, old-world parents feel that now is the time for Ana to help provide for the family, not the time for college. Over the summer she learns to admire the hardworking team of women who teach her solidarity and teamwork. Still at odds with what her mother expects of her, Ana realizes that leaving home to continue her education is essential to finding her place proudly in the world as an American and Chicana. The screenplay for Heavenly Creatures was nominated for an Oscar and introduced actor Kate Winslet to the world. Dashwood dies, leaving his second wife and her three daughters poor by the rules of inheritance. The two eldest daughters are the titular opposites. Brie Larson took home the Oscar for Best Actress in Her screenplay is currently nominated for Best Screenplay by the Golden Globes. Travers reflects on her childhood after reluctantly meeting with Walt Disney, who seeks to adapt her Mary Poppins books for the big screen.

Chapter 4 : When Harry Met Sally - Wikipedia

When Harry Met Bessie In , when they were both small children, Harry Truman met Bess Wallace at the Baptist Church in Independence, Missouri. They were both attending Sunday school.

In Chicago years later, Bessie decided she would become a flier. She had to go to France to find a school that would take her, as the skies proved easier to conquer than contemporary prevailing stereotypes. Fulfilling her dream sparked a revolution and led the way for new generations of dreamers and future aviation legends, such as the Tuskegee airmen. She was the first civilian licensed African-American pilot in the world. She toured the country barnstorming, parachute jumping, and giving lectures to raise money for an African-American flying school. Bessie would only perform if the crowds were desegregated and entered thru the same gates. Her parents, Susan and George Coleman, were sharecroppers. In , George Coleman left his family to return to Oklahoma. Bessie completed all eight grades of her one-room school, yearning for more. She saved her money and then in took her savings and enrolled in the Colored Agricultural and Normal University in Langston, Oklahoma. Bessie completed only one term before running out of money and returning to Waxahachie. In , at the age of 23, Bessie Coleman went to Chicago to stay with her brother. Both brothers had served in France during World War I. Bessie departed for France in November Returning to New York in September , she was greeted by a surprising amount of press coverage. Flying as entertainment could provide financial benefits for an aviator, but required skills that Bessie did not have. Again, she departed for France for more training. When Bessie returned to the United States, she knew she needed publicity to attract paying audiences. In a plane borrowed from Glenn Curtiss, she was checked out in the Jenny in front of the crowd. More shows followed in Memphis and Chicago, and then in Texas in June She traveled to California to earn money to buy a plane of her own, but promptly crashed that plane and returned to Chicago to form a new plan. It was another two years before she finally succeeded in lining up a series of lectures and exhibition flights in Texas. Bessie then traveled to the southeast where she did a series of lectures in black theaters in Florida and Georgia. She opened a beauty shop in Orlando to hasten her accumulation of funds to start the long-awaited aviation school. Using borrowed planes, she continued exhibition flying and occasional parachute jumping. As she had done in other U. Bessie made the final payment on her plane in Dallas and arranged to have it flown to Jacksonville. On the evening of April 30, , she and her mechanic took the plane up for a test flight. Once aloft, the plane malfunctioned and the mechanic lost control. Bessie fell from the open cockpit several hundred feet to her death. Five thousand mourners attended a memorial service for Bessie in Orlando. An estimated 15, people paid their respects in Chicago “ at the funeral of that little girl from Texas who dreamed of a better life as she picked cotton at the dawn of the 20th century. Only after her death did Bessie Coleman receive the attention she deserved. Her dream of a flying school for African Americans became a reality when William J. In , the U.

Harry William White was an English immigrant farming near Wadena, Saskatchewan in when he met Bessie Atkinson, the daughter of an American music teacher and farmer. Bessie was 19 and writing her teacher's qualification exams, Harry was

According to Bess, Harry was performing at her school and accidentally spilled acid on her dress during a magic trick. He had his mother make her a new dress, and then took her on a date to Coney Island. But when he kept her out too late, Bess became panicky that she would get in trouble. Houdini then gallantly proposed. This version is now considered to be pure fiction, but it does make for a cute short film below. Dash dated Bess first; but then made the mistake of introducing her to his charismatic older brother. A quick courtship and proposal followed. This version is generally accepted to be the truth, and has evidence in the form of two newspaper articles from the Coney Island Clipper which mention Harry and "Bessie Raymond" her stage name. Under the subheading, "Willing Wilhelmina", Houdini says: I eloped with my wife from her school books: I was only about 20 and was working in a little Brooklyn theater, which she used to pass every day coming from school. Her name was Wilhelmina Rahner and she came about No. I saw her passing the place one day and I said, "Hello. I asked if I might take her home after school. She said she would like it. But it is a fun story and I love their banter. Now, why Harry felt compelled to make Bess only 16 is a mystery. Bess was actually 18 when they met and married. But the idea of a "child bride" was not unheard of at this time. Bess confessed to Dorothy that she, "sold her virginity to Houdini for an orange. Unpublished photo of Houdini and Bess made possible via our Hinson Endowment.

Chapter 6 : Dear Bessie – Google Arts & Culture

In 1906, while performing with his brother Dash at Coney Island as The Brothers Houdini, Harry met and married fellow performer Wilhelmina Beatrice Rahner.

Theodore Hertzl Thomashefsky later Ted Thomas Boris and Bessie Thomashevsky, their engagement photo Bessie Thomashefsky – July 6, was a Russian-born Jewish American singer, actress and comedian, a star in Yiddish theater beginning in the 1890s. She was the wife and stage partner of Boris Thomashefsky, the most popular Yiddish leading man of his era. Her family emigrated to America in 1884 and finally settled in near Baltimore. She attended school until she was 12 and then went to work in a stocking factory and a sweatshop. Boris moved to romantic male leads. In 1906, year-old Bessie had a daughter, Esther, with Boris and in 1907 they were married. They also had 3 sons. Both Mickey and his Aunt Emma were left paralyzed by the attempted murders by jealous mates and both later died of complications related to their wounds; Emma, many years later, in 1927, and Mickey in 1931. Boris Thomashefsky began and carried on a long-term affair with Yiddish actress Regina Zuckerberg Regina modeled herself on Bessie in dress, speech, style and acting – except that she was 15 years younger. Both Boris and Bessie went on to successful but separate careers. Bessie went on to found her own theatre troupe. The joys and tribulations of a Yiddish star actress, as told to A. Tennenholz, was published in 1931. Boris filed for bankruptcy in 1931. Bessie had never divorced Boris. Even the Gershwin brothers had their start with the Thomashefskys. They were also prominent in addressing controversial social issues of the day and in teaching the Greenhorns how to be Americans. They founded theaters and production companies, as well as publishing houses and many other successful business ventures. Bessie lived in California until her death in 1945, [1] aged 89, and was buried with her husband in the Yiddish theater section of the Mount Hebron Cemetery, New York. Ted Thomas died in 1945, aged 44. Harry died in Los Angeles in 1935, aged 29. Bessie Thomashefsky was portrayed by Judy Blazer.

Chapter 7 : About The Founders - Josiah W. and Bessie H. Kline Foundation

The When Harry Met Sally soundtrack album features American singer and pianist Harry Connick Jr. Bobby Colomby, the drummer for Blood, Sweat & Tears, was a friend of Reiner's and recommended Harry Connick Jr., giving the director a tape of the musician's music.

Reiner remembers, "I was in the middle of my single life. Ephron liked the idea, and Reiner acquired a deal at a studio. Reiner was constantly depressed and pessimistic yet funny. Ephron also got bits of dialogue from these interviews. Sally was based on Ephron and some of her friends. Some of the interviews appeared in the film as the interludes between certain scenes featuring couples talking about how they met, [3] although the material was rewritten and reshot with actors. Ephron supplied the structure of the film with much of the dialogue based on the real-life friendship between Reiner and Crystal. Reiner even started a contest with the crew during principal photography: But I think it is difficult. Men basically act like stray dogs in front of a supermarket. I do have platonic women friends, but not best, best, best friends. When she declined, he later considered Elizabeth Perkins. He also considered casting Elizabeth McGovern. Molly Ringwald was almost cast, but Meg Ryan convinced Reiner to give her the role. Sally claims that men cannot tell the difference, and to prove her point, she vividly fully clothed fakes one as other diners watch. Reiner recalls that at a test screening, all of the women in the audience were laughing while all of the men were silent. While a look-alike couple performed the scene, 30 others joined as if it was contagious. Surprised staff and customers responded in appreciation. The film and follow-up interviews are public. When Harry Met Sally The soundtrack consists of standards performed by Harry Connick Jr. Also appearing on the album are tenor saxophonist Frank Wess and guitarist Joy Berliner. The soundtrack went to 1 on the Billboard Traditional Jazz Chart and was within the top 50 on the Billboard

Chapter 8 : Jab Harry Met Sejal - Wikipedia

Jab Harry Met Sejal (English: *When Harry Met Sejal*) is a Indian romantic comedy film written and directed by Imtiaz Kalandri. The film features Anushka Sharma and Shah Rukh Khan in the lead roles, their third collaboration after *Rab Ne Bana Di Jodi* () and *Jab Tak Hai Jaan* ().

Wednesday, October 14, Coney Island: But where exactly were they performing? Gibson, who knew Houdini and sourced information from the man himself, says in *The Master Magicians* that they were at the Sea Beach Palace. Sea Beach Palace was not actually on the sea or beach. The main building of Sea Beach Palace was a domed structure feet long and 60 feet deep, with spacious wings on either end. The facility included a dining room that could seat 3, guests, and the railway terminal was to the rear of the structure. Sea Beach Palace stood at the site of what is now Building 5. Modern map showing location of Sea Beach Palace. And that brings us to William Lindsey Gresham who suggests a different and long forgotten venue that was, literally and figuratively, on the other side of the tracks. But Gresham has the evidence to back it up. The clipping concerns a challenge to the "Hunyadi" Brothers box trick from a local man named Risey, and it specifically names the theater where the Brothers Houdini were performing: It also suggests a location in the sub headline: David came through and provided maps and a terrific description of the area: Ocean Avenue was better known as "the Bowery. Attached is a map of so you can get a feel for what the area looked like. In the map, look at the intersection that is immediately above and to the right of the number Overhead of the Bowery today Google Earth. Again, according to David Sullivan, there was no such theater called Vachress. The boy from the Bowery falls for the girl at the Palace. Bowery Street still remains today. Today the area is mostly empty lots. But we now know it was somewhere along this short stretch of Bowery Street, so visitors to Coney Island can still walk in the footsteps of the young Harry and Bess Houdini. Coney Island remained a favorite spot for the Houdinis. If they were in town at the time of their anniversary, they would always spend the day at Coney and have an anniversary photo taken at one of the tourist photo stands or a playful photo on the beach. A very big thanks to David Sullivan of www. A few updates thanks to our readers.

Chapter 9 : Bio | Bessie Coleman - Aviatrix

Harry's parents were older when they began a family, and as a result, he and his sister were spoiled. Though Harry was a bit of a wild child, he respected his parents and worked hard at all he did. His little sister Bessie left home to work at Farm Bureau Co-Op after high school graduation.

There was nothing about being recognized by strangers or superficial adulation that she found flattering. In the s there still remained a stigma attached not only to the memory of the individual who had taken their own life but also to their surviving family members. Conventional in adhering strictly to the upper-middle class societal expectations, Mrs. Truman seemed unable to cope with this ongoing possibility, but less so as a reflection on herself. Her primary concern seemed to have been her daughter and her elderly mother. Bess Truman almost never discussed her father with her daughter to the point where she had to clarify for an unwitting adult Margaret his first and middle name. Most especially, the new First Lady remained even more keenly protective to her demanding elderly and ailing mother. The spouse of a suicide victim was especially singled out, often blamed as either creating an intolerable situation or failing to intercede. Truman lived in fear that emotionally upsetting her mother could have a potentially damaging physical affect on her. A New Press Policy: As she returned with the President and Cabinet to Washington from the funeral of President Roosevelt, she asked Labor Secretary Frances Perkins if it was necessary for her to conduct press conferences as Eleanor Roosevelt had; in fact, her predecessor had already scheduled one for them both to appear, as a way of introducing Bess Truman to the reporters. Assured that she could do as she wished, Bess Truman cancelled the press conference and never held one. Nor did she ever grant a full interview as First Lady to a newspaper or magazine. Although she did respond to submitted written question from the press, her dictated answers were calculated to be cryptic and often sarcastic, reflecting her resentment at even being asked about what clothes she intended to wear to public social functions, considering that a private matter. Eventually, when approached by reporters she knew and trusted, Mrs. Truman might offer a carefully worded response. Initial Resistance to Public Role: Just after the official mourning period for President Roosevelt ended in May of , during what was her first sound and motion picture recorded event as First Lady and soon after seen by millions of Americans in theater newsreels, Mrs. Truman realized how little control a public figure can have over the persona the mass media might convey of them. In the waning days of World War II, she went to christen two naval medical planes. When she swung the traditional champagne bottle on the nose of the first plane, it repeatedly resisted shattering. Always proud of her physical prowess, she kept trying as the media kept recording the incident. Finally, a serviceman smashed the bottle from below with a hammer, and it was later learned that the bottle had not been properly scored with a cut that would have let it smash upon impact. There was no disparaging analysis of the incident but to Bess Truman her personal dignity had felt compromised, according to her daughter. View on YouTube Eager to return to what she assumed would be the relative anonymity of the family home in Independence, Bess Truman discovered that even there she would generate enormous interest. She was shocked to find a startling mob of regional reporters gathered at the local depot when she arrived from Washington, estimated at nearly two hundred. Inside the "Summer White House," there was chaos, the new First Lady having scheduled an entire renovation of the old mansion and not realizing how the presence of carpenters and painters would intensify her feeling she had lost her privacy. Outside the house was an endless stream of tourists, glaring and shuffling along, hoping to glimpse the new First Lady. Some even felt free to snip her prize tulips and roses. Everything worsened when the President made a brief stop home, on his way from the west coast to the east coast. Rather than escape the media, her presence in Missouri made her an easier target for the press and public. Resentful, she refused to pose for wire service photographs in front of the house with her husband and daughter. In Washington, she also discovered that the Secret Service would not permit her to continue driving her own car, and would follow her every move when she left the White House. At least in Missouri, she was able to insist that they not trail her as she went about her mundane tasks. What she could not stop, however, were those bold citizens who might follow her or even snap her photograph as they passed her on the street. She invariably gave them not a smile, but a stone cold glare. View on

YouTube Charges of Racism: The incident might not have generated as much attention as it did had it not been for the fact that, after the First Lady had accepted the invitation, the African-American jazz pianist Hazel Scott had been refused use of the hall for a public concert and the fact that she also happened to be married to the powerful African-American Congressman Adam Clayton Powell. Part of the story of this incident that has never been included in studies of Bess Truman was the perspective of the Congressman. The commissioners were appointed by the President and could be removed by him as well. Truman had accepted the DAR invitation. Powell immediately sent a telegram urging the First Lady to rescind it. She refused, writing him that, "I regret that a conflict has arisen for which I am in no wise responsible. In my opinion, my acceptance of the hospitality is not related to the merits of the issue which has since arisen. I deplore any action which denied artistic talent an opportunity to express itself because of prejudice against race or origin. Angry at the attack on his wife, President Truman refused to ever have the Congressman and his wife invited to any White House events for the remainder of his term. Yet he may have also regretted the failure to coordinate the public response, later issuing a statement deploring such acts of bigotry. Senators supported the move to deny the DAR its tax status. Bess Truman received a share of support from conservative women who praised her for being a "retiring, charming and homey First Lady. The press was uniform in avoiding direct attack on the First Lady, nor did African-American groups or publications, blaming instead the DAR. The controversy was one that dramatically illustrated the risk for political liability created by First Ladies who refused to acknowledge the symbolism of even their small gestures and who gave priority to their personal desires over prevailing public expectations. Six years earlier, First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt had publicly resigned from the DAR and criticized the organization for refusing their auditorium for a concert by African-American opera singer Marian Anderson, a symbolic yet seminal moment of her tenure. In contrast, Bess Truman took the Powell reaction as a personal insult, seemingly refusing to grasp the power of the position she now held. In later years, she never reflected on the incident, specifically, or on racial discrimination, generally. From another perspective, however, Mrs. As her weekly schedules illustrated, she felt it her duty to comply with as many of these requests as possible. Traditional Hostess and Charitable Leader Role: Organizing her day with regularity and order from a tiny office area she created on the second floor, near the family rooms, the First Lady planned the most active social life the White House had seen in almost two decades. She revived the traditional winter and spring schedule of dinners and receptions honoring members of different branches of the government. In planning the formal honor of state dinners for the large increase of foreign leaders who came to meet with the President, Mrs. Throughout her eight years as First Lady, Bess Truman sponsored charities and causes associated with First Ladies, by opening fairs and sales, or accepting honorary membership or title of honorary chairmanship. She would greet leaders of various voluntary organizations in the White House and pose for photographs that were released to the press, or attended a charity luncheon as a headliner whose presence had helped to sell tickets. Bess Truman did not have a particular demographic she chose to support but while she did not limit herself by the intention of any specific social problem, all were organizations intended to provide funding for the financially disadvantaged or living with physical challenges. She continued the Roosevelt fundraising efforts for the March of Dimes, which sought to eradicate polio, and provided consistent support for organizations including the Community Chest, the Salvation Army, the Girl Scouts, the Red Cross and Cerebral Palsy. She handwrote her personal correspondence, including some responses to the public. Spending much of the summertime at her Missouri home, she cultivated her flower garden and even enjoyed grocery shopping for the household. In the private quarters of the White House, Bess Truman was not above occasionally cooking or cleaning for her own family, although she always had a housekeeper and servants to assist her when she wished. Nothing seemed to symbolize the return to regular, if mundane, life better than the visit by her Independence, Missouri bridge club, a dozen or so middle-aged, middle-class Midwestern housewives whose week of activities in Washington were covered by the press. The Trumans also reflected some aspects of the so-called "Latin craze" that had a moment in the popular culture during the late s. After becoming First Lady, Mrs. Truman arranged to relocate from a hotel to the White House her weekly Spanish language classes with other Washington women, including Mamie Eisenhower. The First Lady also joined in the preparation of an elaborate Cuban cuisine feast, using the White House

kitchen and overseen by the class instructor. Among her favorite band leaders of the era was Xavier Cugat, a native of Cuba who helped popularize the mambo and was chosen to perform for guests at one of the Truman Inaugural Balls. She evidently destroyed any of her written responses. When they were both in residence in Washington, Bess Truman spent about two hours every evening with the president, reviewing his speeches, schedule and policy decisions. Precisely what advice she gave him or suggestions she made are speculative and uncertain, accountable only by the informed opinion of those close to them at the time, since there was no documentation generated when the couple was meeting together. It is known that she dismissed widespread speculation that he would name a prominent editor as his press secretary, and successfully recommended that he instead name their former schoolmate Charlie Ross, St. Louis Post-Dispatch Washington editor. There is circumstantial evidence that she also sought to use her influence with the President to intervene on behalf of individuals who appealed to her for help in dire situations, as illustrated in one letter to a Charlie Tucker seeking to have a friend and his wife safely returned from a threatening but unspecified international situation; her letter also suggests Tucker helped facilitate installment of a controversial freezer she was given see Diffused Scandals below. As disclosed by Sara L. Sale in her biographical overview, Bess Wallace Truman: Truman never sought to contradict a decision if the President made it resolutely, but when he wavered between options, she made the case for what she believed to be the most sensible choice. Import-Export Bank loan to develop a railroad. Bess Truman provided reliable, informed and professional advice that gave the President confidence in his decisions to initiate monumental postwar foreign policy. Circumstances placed Harry Truman in the role of making some of the most momentous global decisions of the twentieth century. Truman declared to reporter Marianne Means in , that he never made an important decision without first seeking the advice and reaction of his wife. Although their daughter would later claim otherwise, Truman affirmed to Means that he had consulted her on the dropping of the atomic bombs at Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan, which led to the Japanese surrender and end of World War II. Bess Truman later defended his decisions, affirming that it ultimately saved the lives of countless other Japanese and Americans from an otherwise expected land war. Bess Truman added the important point that if the U. Guided by her sense of morality and compassionate, she also urged immediate action by the U. The President followed her suggestion and the first installment of what came to be known as The Marshall Plan was approved in April of Postwar World Charitable Work: Clothes for Friendship endeavor that created , clothing kits yielding ten sets of clothes per child, and the Schoolmates Overseas program that donated school bags filled with supplies to the children. Despite the postwar increase of White House social events, Bess Truman was able to manage her social schedule and the details of entertaining with the help only of Edith Helm, who continued in the role of Social Secretary from the Roosevelt years. Edith Helm also served as the conduit between the First Lady and the Washington women reporters who covered the White House and First Ladies, functioning as a rudimentary Press Secretary. From April of until January of , Mrs. Truman relied on the secretarial services of Reathel Odum, who had first been employed in the office of Senator Truman and was thus a working colleague of Bess Truman when she was employed there. According to their daughter, when Harry Truman ran for re-election in , Bess Truman viewed his chances with pessimism. One former aide believed that it was Mrs.