

ARCHIVES RECORD

RG001 Nebraska. Governor
SG016 Crouse, Lorenzo, 1834-1909

Papers: 1866-1909
Governor of Nebraska: 1893-1895
Cubic ft.: 3.5
Approximate No. of Items: 7,000

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Lorenzo Crouse was born at Sharon, Schoharie Co., NY, on January 27, 1834. The son of John and Margaret (Van Aerman) Crouse, he was educated in the public schools and later attended the New York Conference Seminary for two years. At the age of seventeen he dropped out of the seminary to teach school. Four years later he started to study law at Ft. Plain, NY. In 1857 he was admitted to the bar of the state of New York and began his practice at Ft. Plain.

With the outbreak of the civil war he organized and was elected captain of Battery K, 1st Regiment, New York Light Artillery in 1861. He was discharged that same year due to severe wounds received in a battle on the Rappahannock River in Virginia. He returned to the practice of law at Ft. Plain.

Crouse came to Nebraska in 1864 and took a homestead a year later near Rulo, Richardson County, where he resumed his law practice. In the election of 1865 he was chosen a representative in the House of Nebraska Territory. In that same year he was elected to serve as an Associate Justice of the Territorial Supreme Court. He served in that dual position until six years after Nebraska became a state. He was elected to Congress on the Republican ticket in 1872 and 1874 as Nebraska's single state representative. In Congress he incurred the enmity of the powerful railroad interests by taking stands on taxation of railroad land grants and working for the abolition of the heavy tolls on the railroad bridge across the Missouri River at Omaha. The railroad interests were a major reason for his defeat for a Senatorial seat and he returned to Nebraska. He moved to Ft. Calhoun, Washington County, where he assumed his judicial duties in 1865.

RG001
SG016

Nebraska. Governor
Crouse, Lorenzo, 1834-1909

i

ADDED ENTRIES:

AFRICAN AMERICANS

Bartley, Joseph S.

BEEEMER, ALFRED D. (Cuming Co.)

CRIME AND CRIMINALS--NEBRASKA

ELECTIONS--NEBRASKA

HILL, ISAAC A. (Minden)

HOSPITAL FOR THE INCURABLY INSANE, HASTINGS (NEB.)

HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE, LINCOLN (NEB.)

HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE, NORFOLK (NEB.)

INSTITUTE FOR FEEBLE-MINDED YOUTH, BEATRICE (NEB.)

JACKSON, N. D. (Neligh)

LIVESTOCK QUARANTINE

MAWHINEY, William J. (Fullerton)

NEBRASKA. BOARD OF EDUCATIONAL LANDS AND FUNDS

NEBRASKA. BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES

NEBRASKA. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEBRASKA INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND, OMAHA (NEB.)

NEBRASKA SOLDIERS AND SAILORS HOME, GRAND ISLAND (NEB.)

NEBRASKA STATE PENITENTIARY

NORTHRUP, FRANK M. (Wayne)

POWERS, ISAAC Jr. (Norfolk)

In 1879, he was called to Washington by President Hayes to receive an appointment as Collector of Internal Revenue. After his term in this position and until 1891, Crouse was retired from public life. He spent the time managing his farm and traveling abroad until he was named Assistant Secretary of the Treasury in Washington.

In 1892 he returned to Nebraska to successfully head the Republican ticket against Morton and Van Wyck for the governorship of Nebraska. He was elected by a sizeable majority. His term of office was marked by an economy drive and certain reforms which he initiated in the operation and administration of state institutions. After the expiration of his term, Governor Crouse returned to private life, emerging only briefly in 1901 to fill a vacancy in the Nebraska Legislature. He died in May 13, 1909 in Omaha, Nebraska.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of seven manuscript boxes of material arranged into three series: 1) Correspondence, 1892-1895; 2) Petitions and reports, 1892-1894; 3) Miscellaneous, 1866-1909.

This material relates primarily to Crouse's official duties as Governor of Nebraska. Correspondence is largely composed of letters asking for positions, recommendations, and Board of Parole matters. Other subjects of interest include mining bounties, proposed legislation, state institution complaints, the North-South Gulf Railway, impeachment of Joseph Bartley, activities of the American Protection Association, *Coxey's Army*, irrigation and relief needs.

Series One relates to official correspondence of the Governor.

Series Two included petitions supporting candidates for positions and petitions for parole/pardons of inmates. Included is a petition of residents of Majors, Nebraska, requesting investigation of rumors of impending attack by Catholics on Protestants in 1893. Also included in this series are miscellaneous reports concerning subjects and state departments.

Series Three contains miscellaneous records and printed matter relating to Governor Crouse, elections, railroads, delegates to conferences, convention flyers, and certificates of appointments.

RG001 **Nebraska. Governor**
SG016 **Crouse, Lorenzo, 1834-1909**

3

Series Three, Miscellaneous, includes biographical information on Governor Crouse and memorial resolutions of the Supreme Court on his passing. Also included are election records of the 3rd & 12th districts, 1892-1896; material relating to pardons and paroles; legal documents relating to the impeachment of Joseph Bartley, State Treasurer, 1894; and Crouse's certificates of appointments and elections, 1866-1879.

Correspondents include: E. H. Barbour; Samuel Bassett; James E. Boyd; William Jennings Bryan; Amasa Cobb; E. M. Correll; James W. Dawes; Robert W. Furnas; C. H. Gere; G. M. Hitchcock; Silas Holcomb; Church Howe; Thomas J. Majors; Charles F. Manderson; Samuel Maxwell; J. Sterling Morton; A. S. Paddock; John J. Pershing; Edward Rosewater; and Charles H. Van Wyck.

RELATED COLLECTION

RG001, SG001 - Governor's General Records

RG002, Secretary of State

He is also a correspondent in the collections of Samuel Chapman; Edwin Augustus Fry; Frederick W. Taylor; and William Henry Woods held by the Nebraska State Historical Society Manuscript Department.

DESCRIPTION

SERIES ONE CORRESPONDENCE OF THE GOVERNOR, 1892-1895

- B.01 Incoming Correspondence, Nov. 1892 - Jan. 1893
- B.02 Incoming Correspondence, January - February, 1893
- B.03 Incoming Correspondence, March - June 1893
- B.04 Incoming Correspondence, July 1893 - May 1894
- B.05 Incoming Correspondence, May-December 1894 & n.d.
Letterpress Book, January - June 1893
- B.06 Letterpress Book, June 1893 - Dec. 1893
Letterpress Book, Dec. 1893 - July 1894
 includes index to pardons and commutations;
 prize-fighting legislation; proclamations
Letterpress Book, July 1894 - Feb. 1895
 includes index to delegates to Irrigation
 Congress, and information on bonds and

SERIES TWO PETITIONS AND REPORTS, 1892-1894

- B.07 Petitions for misc. appointments, 1892-1894
 Petition - Catholics vs. Protestants, 1893
 Petition for State Labor Commissioner, 1892
 Petition for Warden of State Pen, 1892-1893
 Petition - Afro-Americans for Bartlett, 1893
 Petitions for Omaha Fire & Police Commission, 1893
 Petitions for Supt of Soldiers & Sailors Home, GI
 Petitions for Supt of Hastings Insane Hospital
 Petitions for Supt of Lincoln Insane Hospital, 1893
 Petitions for Supt of Norfolk Insane Hospital, 1893
 Petitions for Judge of 9th District, 1894
 Petitions for Pardons and Paroles w/ attachments
 Ballard, Thomas, 1893
 Bowman, James, 1893
 Clausen, Jasper, 1893
 Coffey, James, 1894
 Dwyer, William, 1893
 Hageman, Fred, 1893
 Halfacre, W. A., 1893
 Haller, Ervin, 1893
 Herron, Alvin & Valentine (w/attachments)
 Hilser, John, n.d.
 Huber, Franklin, 1894
 Mathews, Elsworth E., 1894
 Meddles, James, 1894
 Price, George, 1894
 Reed, George, 1893
 Shatto, Edwin, 1893
 Stevens, Charles, 1893
 Tippey, William, 1894 (w/William Halfacre)
 Towner, Ray, 1894
 Vincent, Thomas, 1893
 Petition for Quarantine re small pox, 1894
 Petitions - World's Fair Commission
 Reports
 Beatrice Institute Semi-Annual 1893
 Educational Lands & Funds - School Fund, 1888-94
 Home for the Friendless supply invoice, n.d.
 Nebr Institute for the Blind investigation
 Nebraska National Guard misc.

RG001
SG016

Nebraska. Governor
Crouse, Lorenzo, 1834-1909
Norfolk Hospital for the Insane, 1894

RG001
SG016

Nebraska. Governor
Crouse, Lorenzo, 1834-1909

6

SERIES THREE MISCELLANEOUS, 1866-1909

B.07 Abstracts of Votes for Crouse and election
affidavits including vote on statehood, 1866
Livestock quarantine flyers and proclamations, 1893-94
Printed Matter including
publication in German
editorial re APA delegates, n.d.
report of funds for civil war, 1893
flyer, North American Bee Keepers' Assn., 1894
21st Annual Conference of Charities and
Corrections, Nashville, May 1894
Nebraska State Irrigation Assn flyers, 1894
Flyer - "Lynching of Negroes in the United
States of America," the Friends, Yorkshire
England, July 4, 1894.
Joint Resolution re coal trusts, 1893
Bulletin, Trans-Mississippi Congress, 1893
Invitation to reception for Gov. Fishback
of Arkansas, 1893
Miscellaneous news clippings, n.d.
Barber, M. H. re Iowa GAR, 1893
State vs. Joseph S. Bartley, 1894
State vs. George Kerr - Extradition, 1894
Certificates of Appointment
Crouse as Collector of Internal Revenue, 1879
Benjamin Benson, State Veterinarian, 1894
F. M. Logan, Livestock agent, 1894
Peter Ostergard, Livestock agent, 1894
Conference delegates lists and certificates, 1893-94
Lorenzo Crouse Biographical material
Memorial Resolutions of Supreme Court on death
of Crouse, 1909

End of Inventory

DAB/HEK/ab 9/2/1967
PMC Word 2000 10/6/2006