ARCHIVES RECORD

RG0001 Nebraska Governor
SG019 Dietrich, Charles Henry, 1853-1924
Papers: 1888-1924
State Governor, U.S. Senator, Nebraska: 1901-1904
Cubic ft.: 2
Approx. No. of Items: 1000

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Charles Henry Dietrich was born November 26, 1853 in Aurora, Illinois, the son of Leonhardt Dietrich, a shoemaker and patriot who fled Germany in 1848 to the United States.

Charles received his early education in Aurora. At age 16 he went to St. Joseph, Missouri, and later to Chicago, to engage in the hardware business. After being robbed of everything he went to the Black Hills as a prospector and merchant. He was one of the locaters of the town of Spearfish, South Dakota. He later opened the Aurora mine near Deadwood which he sold and came to Hastings, Nebraska, in 1879. He was president of the Hastings Board of Trade and founder of the German National Bank at Hastings.

In May, 1900, Dietrich was nominated by the Republicans to run for Governor. After a hard-fought campaign against William A. Poynter, he was elected and assumed office January 3, 1901. Early in 1901, when the legislative session began, Dietrich was selected to replace U.S. Senator M. L. Hayward (deceased). He resigned as Governor on May 1, 1901 to serve as Senator, a post he held until 1905. His term as Governor lasted only five months, the shortest term in the history of the state.

Dietrich’s legislative interests while in the Senate centered on the need for enlarged homestead bill for Nebraska, the advocacy of a commission form of government for Alaska, development of the beet sugar industry in the United States, and his work on the committee which drew up the famed Newland Reclamation Act.

His first wife, Elizabeth (Slaker) Dietrich, died in 1887. He married Margaretta Shaw (Stewart) in Philadelphia on October 27, 1909. Governor Dietrich died in Hastings on April 10, 1924 and is buried in Parkview Cemetery in Hastings. He had one daughter, Gertrude, who married Herbert Knox Smith in Washington, D.C., 1908.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of four manuscript boxes of material arranged into Four series: 1) Correspondence of the Governor, 1901; 2) Correspondence of Senator Dietrich, 1901-1904; 3) Scrapbooks and Miscellany, 1901-1905; 3) Dietrich personal papers and Dietrich Family, 1888-1924.

Much of the Series One relates to applications for positions with the state and endorsements made to Dietrich on his election in 1900. Correspondence and reports concerning the business of the state include reports on public land transfers, the various institutions, requests for extraditions, and appointments and resignations.
ADDED ENTRIES:

Agriculture
Alaska--Government
Beet Sugar Industry--Cuba
Beet Sugar Industry--Hawaii
Beet Sugar Industry--Nebraska
Cuba--Trade and Commerce
Dietrich, Margaretta Shaw (Stewart), 1881-
SMITH, GERTRUDE (DIETRICH),
SMITH, HERBERT KNOX,
Employment Applications--Nebraska
Holdrege, George W. (George Ward), 1847-1926
Homesteads--Law and Legislation
Land Sales and Transfers
Livestock--Quarantines--Nebraska
Manderson, Charles F. (Charles Frederick), 1937-1911
Morton, J. Sterling (Julius Sterling), 1832-1902
Nebraska Land Transfer Commission
Philippine Islands
Politics
Republican Party
United States. Congress. House
United States. Congress. Senate
United States Post Office Department
Correspondence relating to his term as U.S. Senator concerns his interests in irrigation, sugar beets, leasing of public lands, Cuban reciprocity, Alaska, and the Philippine Islands. There is also information on the charges brought against Dietrich in 1903 alleging bribery in case of selection of postmaster at Hastings.

DESCRIPTION

SERIES ONE  CORRESPONDENCE OF THE GOVERNOR, 1900-1901

B.01  Applications and Endorsements, 1900-1901

Misc., A-Z
State Penitentiary
Alderman, Frank B. - Oil Inspector
Bowers, H. M. - Oil Inspector
Brown, E. A. - Oil Inspector
Carter, George L. - Game Warden
Counasman, P. C. - Game Warden
Dobson, Adna - State Engineer
Fox, G. W. - School for the Deaf
Glasgow, Hugh - Oil Inspector
Hannibal, Rasmus - Labor Commission
Harris, William H. - Engineer
Hass, John C. - Oil Inspector
Houston, James L. - Pure Food Commission
Jenal, Julius F. - Oil Inspector
Johnson, Swan J. - Oil Inspector
Kilian, Col. J. N. - Adjutant General
Langley, James - Oil Inspector

B.02  Applications and Endorsements, 1900-1901

Massey, W. C. - Soldiers & Sailors Home - Grand Island
Morey, J. T. - School for the Blind
Nippell, Charles A. - Boundary Commission
Osborne, R. C. - Oil Inspector
Randall, H. L. - Soldiers & Sailors Home - Grand Island
Shields, W. D. - Surgeon
Spencer, John T. - Board of Education
Thomas, W. A. - State Veterinarian
Todd, W. Z. - Oil Inspector
Watson, C. E. - Labor Commission
Wright, A. J. - Oil Inspector
Appointments and Resignations, 1900-1901
## SERIES ONE CORRESPONDENCE OF THE GOVERNOR, 1900-1901

### B.02 General Correspondence, 1901

- Agriculture
  - Drought
  - Fairs and Expositions
  - State Veterinarian
- Attorney General
- Auditor
- Banking
- Beatrice Institute
- Boundary Commission (mostly applications)
- Boxing
- Budget
- Clippings
- Commissioners of Deeds
- Complaints
- Corrections
- Crime and Criminals
- Economic Development
- Election Correspondence
- Equipment and Supplies
- Gadsen, Fannie (Guardianship), 1901
- Game and Fish Commission
- Conference of ex-governors, Lincoln, Feb. 22, 1901
- Governor’s Office
- Board of Health
- Home for the Friendless
- Institutions
- Invitations
- Labor

### B.03 Nebraska Land Transfer Commission, 1901

- Legislation
- Legislature
- Media
- Military Department
- Morton, J. Sterling
- Notaries Public (appointments)
- Pardons and Paroles
- Political
- Proclamations
- Public Lands and Buildings
- Requests
- School for the Blind
- School for the Deaf
- Social Services
- Soldiers and Sailors Homes
- State Surveyor
- Taxation
SERIES ONE  CORRESPONDENCE OF THE GOVERNOR, 1900-1901

B.03  (cont), 1900-1901
State Treasury
U.S. Presidential Inaugural
University of Nebraska
Letterpress Book, 1901

SERIES TWO  CORRESPONDENCE OF SENATOR DIETRICH, 1901-1905

B.03  Senator Dietrich - Congrats, 1901
Agriculture, 1903
Alaska, 1903-1905
Certificate of Election, 1901
Endorsements, 1901-1904
Foreign Relations, 1905
   Cuba, 1902-1905
   Philippine Islands, 1901-1903
GAR, 1904
Holdrege, George Ward, 1903-1904
Invites, 1904

B.04  Legal (relating to charges against Dietrich), 1903-1904
   Clippings, 1903-1904
   Letters of Support, 1903-1904
   Congratulations, Jan-Apr 1904
Legislature - Nebraska, 1902-1904
Legislation - U.S., 1902-1905
Manderson, Charles F., 1903, 1905
Mc Kinley (letter of appreciation for condolences)
Media, 1901
Prison Survey, 1904
Republican Party, 1902-1905
U.S. Armed Services
U.S. Congress - House, 1902-1903
U.S. Congress - Senate, 1902, 1905
U.S. Post Office, 1901-1902
University of Nebraska, 1905
White House, 1901-1905
General Correspondence, n.d.
SERIES THREE  SCRAPBOOKS AND MISCELLANY, 1901-1905

Item #1  Scrapbook (indexed)
        Alaska and Philippine Islands
Item #2  Scrapbook
        relating to railroad rates, beet sugar, and irrigation
Item #3  The Boston Budget: The Senate
        (contains autographs of U.S. Senators, 1905)

SERIES FOUR  CHARLES DIETRICH AND DIETRICH FAMILY, 1887-1924

B.04  Dietrich Correspondence, 1887-1900
        Campaign for Governor, 1900
        Campaign Clippings, 1900
        Congratulations, May 1900
        Congratulations, Nov. 1900
        Dietrich Correspondence, 1904-1908
        Dietrich, Gertrude
        Dietrich Family
        (includes obituaries of Charles and wedding accounts of daughter, Gertrude)
        German National Bank, Hastings, 1888-1900
        Hastings Board of Trade, 1888-1890
        Mapes, W.S., 1901
        Receipts, 1901
        Dietrich, Margaretta - Tribute to Charles H. Dietrich
        (Nebraska State Historical Society, 1928)
        Political clippings
        Misc. clippings, 1889-1924 & n.d.
        Miscellaneous, n.d

End of Inventory

DAB/ab  8/30/1967
JEP/PMC  10/12/1971
PMC/PMC  1/24/2006  WORD