

McKelvie, Samuel Roy, 1881 -1956

RG1 Nebraska. Governor
SG27 McKelvie, Samuel Roy, 1881 -1956
Papers, etc. : 1911 -1955
State Governor; Lincoln, Nebraska
Cubic Feet: 6.5
Approx. 4000 Items.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Samuel Roy McKelvie was born April 15, 1881 in Fairfield, Nebraska. He was the son of Samuel and Jennie (Glandon) McKelvie. He attended the University of Nebraska and the Lincoln Business College before entering the publishing field with the Twentieth Century Farmer magazine in Omaha. In 1904. McKelvie was married to Martha De Arnold. He became the editor of the Nebraska Fanner in 1905, later purchasing and publishing that magazine.

McKelvie launched his political career in 1908 when he was elected to the Lincoln City Council. As a member of the Republican party, he served in the Nebraska House of Representatives from 1911-1913 and as Lieutenant Governor from 1913-15. In 1918, he conducted a successful gubernatorial campaign and was inaugurated the following January at the age of 37. His two terms as governor were active ones. Under McKelvie's direction the present state capitol building was authorized and partially funded. The State Constitution was revised, the state government was reorganized under the Civil Administration Code; highway improvement programs were organized; and a system of state parks was established. After his service as governor, McKelvie returned to publishing the Nebraska Farmer. In 1928, he declined an appointment as Secretary of Agriculture in the cabinet of President Herbert Hoover. The following year, however, he accepted a position on the Federal Farm Board where he served two years. In addition to his public service, McKelvie showed great interest in improving livestock in Nebraska. On his ranch, in Cherry County, By the Way, he maintained a large herd of pure-bred Herefords. He served as President of the American Hereford Association. In addition, he also participated in many civic and fraternal organizations in Lincoln, including the Chamber of Commerce; Commercial Club; Lincoln Country Club; University Club ; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; and the Methodist Church.

Samuel Roy McKelvie died 6 January 1956 at his winter home near Mesa, Arizona following two heart attacks. He was 74.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This subgroup consists of eight boxes and 15 volumes of the papers of Samuel R. McKelvie arranged in eight series : (1) Correspondence of the office of the Governor, 1919-1923; (2) Speeches and Proclamations of the Governor, 1919-22; (3) Petitions to the Governor, 1919-

22; (4) Miscellaneous records of the office of the Governor, 1919-23; (5) Private correspondence, 1917-52; (6) Speeches, 1917-45; (7) Miscellany; and (8) Scrapbooks, 1911-1936.

This subgroup relates to the affairs of the Governor's office during the administration of Samuel R. McKelvie, 1919-1923. Also included are materials relating to McKelvie's private affairs, 1917-1952. The bulk of this subgroup consists of correspondence, both gubernatorial and private relating to McKelvie's term as Governor, his term on the Federal Farm Board, and to his career as editor and publisher of the Nebraska Farmer. Correspondents include: Calvin Coolidge, 1930; Warren G. Harding, 1921; Herbert Hoover, 1928-1952; George W. Norris, 1919-20; and John J. Pershing, 1917-48.

The material in this subgroup was received from Mrs. Samuel R McKelvie, January 20, 1956.

DESCRIPTION

SERIES ONE CORRESPONDENCE OF THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR, 1919-23

Box 1

Folders 1-9 General Correspondence; January, 1919 - March, 1920

Box 2

Folders 10-20 General Correspondence; April, 1920 -December, 1920

Box 3

Folders 21-24 General Correspondence, 1921

Folders 25-27 Liquor Control , 1921

Folders 28-31 General Correspondence, 1922

Box 4

Folders 32-33 Liquor Control , 1922

Folder 34 Liquor Control , 1923

Folder 35 State Governors, 1919-22

Folder 36 Governor Lowden, Illinois, 1919-1920

Folder 37 Governor Allen, Kansas, 1919-1920

Folder 38 Senator George Norris, 1919-1930

Folder 39 Capitol Construction, 1919-1920

Folder 40 Promoting Nebraska, 1921 -1922

Folder 41 President Warren G. Harding, 1921

Folder 42 Campaign, 1919-1922

SERIES TWO SPEECHES AND PROCLAMATIONS, 1919-1922

Box 5

Folders 1-2 Speeches, 1919-1922

Folder 3 Inaugural Addresses, 1919 and 1921

Folder 4 Speeches, undated.

Folder 5 Proclamations, 1919-1922

SERIES THREE PETITIONS, 1919-1922

Box 5

- Folder 1 Petitions, 1919-1922
- Folder 2 Petitions, undated.

SERIES FOUR MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS, 1919-1923

Box 5

- Folder 1 Applications for Commissioner of Deeds, 1919-1921
- Folder 2 Recommendations, District Judge, 1921
- Folder 3 Office Itinerary, 1920-1923
- Folder 4 Statements & Affidavits, 1919-1920
- Folder 5 Responses to criticisms by Charles Bryan

SERIES FIVE PRIVATE CORRESPONDANCE OF SAMUEL R. MCKELVIE, 1917-52

Box 6

- Folder 1 General Correspondence, 1925-1935
- Folder 2 General Correspondence, 1926-1930
- Folder 3 General Correspondence, undated.
- Folder 4-5 Correspondence with the editor of Nebraska Farmer, 1923-1928
- Folder 6 Congratulatory letters after appointment to Federal Farm Board, 1929.
- Folder 7-9 Federal Farm Board, 1929-1931
- Folder 10 Calvin Coolidge, 1930
- Folder 11 Ranch Purchase, 1921-1930
- Folder 12 General John J. Pershing, 1917-1948
- Folder 13 Sec. Of Agriculture, W.M. Jardine, 1925-1928
- Folder 14 Filing for Senator, 1928
- Folder 15 Herbert Hoover, 1920-1952

SERIES SIX SPEECHES, 1917-1945

Box 7

- Folders 1-2 As Editor & as private citizen, 1917; 1923-1945, undated.
- Folders 3-4 Political, 1926-1928, undated.
- Folder 5 As member of Legislature, undated
- Folders 6-7 Federal Farm Board, 1930-1931, undated.
- Folder 8 Omaha Bar Association, 1927

SERIES SEVEN MISCELLANY

Box 7

- Folder 1 Editorials, Nebraska Farmer, 1933-34
- Folder 2 Federal Farm Board Press Releases, 1930.

Box 8

- Folder 3 Founder's Day Organization, 1935-1936
- Folder 4 Silver Antelope Award, 1944

Folder 5 Hoover-Curtis Campaign, 1928
Folder 6 Biography
Folders 7-8 Miscellaneous material (Military Service Certificate, Commission from Herbert Hoover as Federal Farm Board member, 1929, Commission from Governor Cochran as State Planning Board Member, Certificates of election 1919-1921)
Folder 9 Autobiography
Folder 10-12 Copies of Material from the Hoover Presidential Library

SERIES EIGHT SCRAPBOOKS

Item 9 Campaign, 1911-1915
Item 10 Campaign, 1914-1920
Item 11-13 Campaign, 1918-1920 (Alphabetical by newspaper, index in Item 11.)
Item 14 Campaign, 1918-1920
Item 15 Campaign, 1919-1920 (indexed)
Item 16 Campaign, 1919-1920
Item 17 Campaign, 1920-1922 (indexed)
Item 18 Campaign, 1922-1931 (indexed)
Items 19-20 Federal Farm Board, 1929-1931
Item 21 Miscellaneous, 1928-1934
Item 22 Miscellaneous, 1934-1936

ADDED ENTRIES:

FEDERAL FARM BOARD
ELECTIONS. NEBRASKA, 1911 -1931
CAPITOL. NEBRASKA
Coolidge, Calvin, 1872-1933
Harding, Warren Gamaliel. 1865-1923
Lowden Frank Orren, 1861-1943
Allen, Henry Justin, 1868-1950 (Governor of Kansas)
Norris, George William, 1861-1944
Bryan, Charles Wayland, 1867-1945
Jardine, William M , 1879-1955
LIQUOR LAWS--NEBRASKA
NEBRASKA. LIQUOR CONTROL COMMISSION