

ARCHIVES RECORD

RG0001
SG0030

Nebraska. Governor
Weaver, Arthur J., 1873-1945

Papers: 1928-1930
Cubic ft.: .25
No. of Items: 5

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Arthur J. Weaver was born on a farm near Falls City, Nebraska, November 18, 1873, the son of Sen. Archibald J. and Martha (Myers) Weaver. The parents had migrated from Massachusetts in 1869. His father had been a member of the constitutional conventions 1871 and 1875, and later served as district judge and as a member of Congress. The elder Weaver died in 1887. His manuscript collection is stored at the Nebraska State Historical Society.

The future governor of Nebraska received his education in the public schools of Falls City, Richardson County, and received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Nebraska in 1896. A year later he received his law degree and began practice at Falls City. He was city attorney from 1899-1901 and county attorney 1902-1903. In 1904 he discontinued law practice and concentrated on his farming and stock-raising interests. Later he served on the city council and was elected mayor of Falls City in 1915.

Weaver was elected as a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1919-1920 and served as president of that body. He was made chairman of the Nebraska electoral college of 1920 and the Republican State Convention of 1924. In 1925 he received wide support for appointment as United States Secretary of Agriculture but failed to receive that post.

Arthur Weaver was nominated and elected Governor in 1928. He served for one term mainly focusing on budget issues. As Governor he began the practice of submitting the biennial state budget in two parts - one for the appropriation of revenue arising from general taxation and the other for the appropriation of revenue received from federal grants, the gasoline tax and miscellaneous fees. He also tried to enforce by his veto the view that each increase by the legislature of any executive budget recommendation must be approved separately by a three-fifth vote, and not merely as part of the "omnibus" appropriation bill. This viewpoint was later overruled by the supreme court.

Weaver was defeated in the 1930 election by Charles W. Bryan. In 1932 he was delegate-at-large and chairman of the Nebraska delegation to the Republican National Convention. He ran for nomination as candidate for the U.S. Senate but was defeated by Hugh Butler in the Republican primary of 1940.

For years Mr. Weaver was actively identified with the agricultural, recreational and historical development of Nebraska, and with that of mid-western waterways. He served as agricultural director of the Omaha branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City from 1924-1927. In the 1920's he was a member of the State Board of Agriculture for eight years and part of the time served as vice-president. He was president of the State Horticultural Society for two terms. He was one of the organizers and for years trustee of the Nebraska Dairy Development Society. In 1925 he was chosen

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ADDED ENTRIES:

TAXATION--NEBRASKA
CRIME AND CRIMINALS--NEBRASKA
State of Nebraska vs. Arven Dyson
POLITICS--NEBRASKA
ELECTIONS--NEBRASKA

president of the Missouri River Navigation Association and was one of the members of the first Nebraska State Parks Board. In addition he served as president of the Native Sons and Daughters of Nebraska, 1933-1934 and was a member of the governing board of the Nebraska State Historical Society for several years and served as president of the Society from 1936-1940.

Governor Weaver died on October 17, 1945 at his home in Falls City shortly after suffering a stroke. He was survived by his second wife, Maude E. Hart of White Pigeon, Michigan, who he had married on September 2, 1908. His first wife, Persa Morris of Humboldt, Nebraska, died in January 1906. Six children were born to the second marriage, two sons and four daughters.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The official correspondence of Governor Weaver was never accessioned by the Historical Society. Only four items exist in the records of the Governor arranged in one series: Miscellaneous, 1928-1930. Among the items is Weaver's views on taxation in 1929, being excerpts from his inaugural address. A search is on to determine the whereabouts of the official papers which were taken with him upon leaving office.

Additional records for Governor Weaver's term of office can be found in RG1, SG1, General Records of the Governor's office, and in the correspondence collections of different agencies. For administrative information during this term, patrons can try the correspondence in the Secretary of State's office. Other records included in SG1 include:

Messages and Proclamations, 1929-1930 (V.7, pp. 569-643)
(also published in "Messages and Proclamations of the Governors of Nebraska, 1854-1941," available in the Historical Society Library)
Messages relate to penitentiary inmates; Depositors Guarantee Fund; Niobrara Island transfer to Nebraska; complaints against public officials; the North Platte Negro situation; Constitutional amendments; messages to the Legislature; budget messages; and proclamations.

Executive Appointments, Vol. #4

Notary Appointments, 1928-1930 (Vol. 13)

Proclamations of the Governors (RG1, SG1)

Liquor Permits, one box, 1929-1930 (RG1, SG1)

Extraditions and Requisitions (RG002, Secretary of State)

Related Collections (to Arthur J. Weaver)

RG002, Secretary of State
RG014, Nebraska State Historical Society
RG022, Nebraska. State Board of Agriculture
RG030, Nebraska State Horticultural Society

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DESCRIPTION

SERIES ONE MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS, 1928-1930

B.01 f.1 Position Statement on Taxation, 1929
f.2 Extradition correspondence, 1929-1930 (2 items)
f.3 Campaign brochure, "Republican Candidate for Governor of Nebraska"

End of Inventory

DJJ/ht 12/14/1972
PMC/PMC 6/22/2005 Word 2000