

ARCHIVES RECORD

RG001 **Nebraska. Governor**
SG028 **Bryan, Charles Wayland, 1867-1945**

Papers: 1908-1938
Governor of Nebraska: 1923-1925; 1931-1935
Cubic feet: 9.5
No. of Items: 19 boxes

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Charles W. Bryan, who served three terms as governor (1923-1925, 1931-1935), although overshadowed by the commanding figure of his brother William J. Bryan, was one of Nebraska's most colorful political figures and an important person in his own right. He was born at Salem, Illinois, February 10, 1867. After attending Illinois College and the University of Chicago, he went into farming and the raising of purebred livestock. In 1891, he came to Lincoln, Nebraska, where William J. had already made a name for himself and had been elected to Congress. In Lincoln, he became manager and salesman for a manufacturing and brokerage business. When William Jennings Bryan rose to national prominence, Charles became his political secretary and business agent, a post he retained until William's death in 1925. An important feature of this relationship was Charles Bryan's service as publisher and associate editor of The Commoner, a nationally known publication through which William Jennings Bryan expressed his views on the questions of the day. Politics was the bread of life to the Bryan brothers, and it was not long before Charles decided to try for public office.

Charles W. Bryan was elected to the Lincoln City Council in 1915 and chosen mayor by his fellow councilmen. He was re-elected in 1921. He first tried for the governorship in 1916 and unsuccessfully sought the Democratic nomination for that post. He was passed over again by the Democratic primary in 1918, but in 1922 was nominated and elected. During the campaign, he vigorously attacked the "civil administration code," but facing a hostile legislature, was unable to do anything about it as governor. Mr. Bryan was nominated again in 1924 but withdrew to accept the Democratic nomination for the vice presidency. He returned to the Nebraska political front to become the nominee for governor in 1926. He was defeated in the general election of that year, as he was in 1928, but in 1930 he won the election, and was re-elected in 1932.

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ADDED ENTRIES:

AGRICULTURE--NEBRASKA
ANTHRAX
ARBOR LODGE (Nebraska City, Neb.)
BANKS AND BANKING--NEBRASKA
Bryan, William Jennings
CIVIL ADMINISTRATION CODE--NEBRASKA
Coolidge, Calvin
Driscoll, C. H.
DROUGHT RELIEF--NEBRASKA
DRUGS
ELECTIONS--NEBRASKA
FARM RELIEF--NEBRASKA
Funk, William D., State of Nebraska vs.
Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Tidewater Association
Greevy, Matthew J.
HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION--NEBRASKA
HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER
IMMIGRATION
INFLATION
International Narcotic Education Association
Keck, B. S.
LABOR--UNEMPLOYMENT--NEBRASKA
LAW ENFORCEMENT--NEBRASKA
LAWS AND LEGISLATION--NEBRASKA
LINCOLN HIGHWAY--NEBRASKA
Lydick, Jonathan, d.1913
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)
NATURAL RESOURCES--NEBRASKA
NEBRASKA. BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES
NEBRASKA. CAPITOL COMMISSION
NEBRASKA. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEBRASKA. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
NEBRASKA. LIBRARY COMMISSION
Nebraska Farm Bureau Federation
NEBRASKA STATE COLLEGE SYSTEM
NEBRASKA STATE PENITENTIARY
The Nebraska Negro Democratic Club
OREGON TRAIL HIGHWAY--NEBRASKA
PARDONS AND PAROLES--NEBRASKA
PERU STATE NORMAL SCHOOL (Neb.)
POLITICS

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ADDED ENTRIES (cont)

PROHIBITION

Quinton, Carl D., State of Nebraska vs.

ROADS--NEBRASKA

Roxas, Manuel

Rogers, George Hippee

Simmons, Walter Ray, State of Nebraska vs.

TAXATION--NEBRASKA

UNITED STATES. DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY. USS NEBRASKA

VETERANS--NEBRASKA

WHEAT UTILIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Following his retirement from the governorship he was elected mayor of Lincoln and served one term. In 1938 he ran unsuccessfully as an independent candidate for the governorship. He died March 4, 1945.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Series one deals with correspondence received by the Governor's office during Bryan's terms, 1923-1924 and 1931-1932. This collection is arranged into five series: 1) General Correspondence, 1919-1934; 2) Topical Files, 1922-1933; 3) Public Works Department, 1931-1932; 4) Miscellaneous; and 5) Newspaper Scrapbooks, 1908-1938. There is no General Correspondence for the Governor during his term of office, 1933-1935. Alcohol permits that were made during that time as well as Governor's proclamations and messages are shelved in RG1, SG1, General Records of the Governor's Office.

Series Two contains topical files of Governor's correspondence, mostly for the years 1923-1924. The bulk of correspondence for 1931-1932 exists in Series Three.

Series Three contains correspondence and petitions for the Public Works Department, 1931-1932. The drought conditions in Nebraska led to employment of veterans and persons suffering from the drought. There are included many pleas and petitions for employment included in this series. There are numerous letters from county officials and municipal offices wanting specific road work done. Correspondence from individuals for local road work is arranged in town files of this series.

Series Four contains one box of miscellaneous documents, memorabilia, and a folder of material relating to the life of Charles Bryan. Also included in this series are oversize posters relating to Bryans run for Vice President in 1924.

Series Five contains sixteen scrapbooks of newspaper clippings, 1908-1938.

Collection includes information on cattle embargos from South Dakota; letters dealing with ways and means to influence the Republican Negro vote in Nebraska; the civil administration code, appointments and resignations, and law enforcement correspondence relating to the apprehension of criminals and requisitions for their extradition.

DESCRIPTION

SERIES ONE GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE, 1919-1934

B.01	f.1	1919-1922
	f.2-10	January 1 - May 15, 1923
B.02	f.11-17	May 16 - August 31, 1923
B.03	f.18-26	September 1 - December 31, 1923
B.04	f.27-34	January 1 - April 30, 1924
B.05	f.35-42	May 1 - August 31, 1924
B.06	f.43-50	September 1 - December 31, 1924
	f.51	1928
	f.52	1930-1932
	f.53	1933-1934
	f.54	n.d.

SERIES TWO TOPICAL FILES, 1922-1933

B.01	Agriculture, 1923-1924
	Agriculture - Animal Industry, 1923-1924
	Agriculture - School of Agriculture, 1923
	Agriculture - Irrigation School, Scottsbluff, 1923
	Appointments & Resignations, 1923-1924
	Appointments & Resignations, 1930
	Arbor Lodge, 1924
	Banking, 1923-1924
	Boy Scouts, 1924
	Capitol Commission, 1923-1924
B.02	Calvin Coolidge, 1923-1924
	Capitol Punishment, 1923-1924
	Civil Administration Code, 1923
	Deppe Motors Corporation, 1924
	Drugs, 1923-1924
	Farm Credit, 1923-1924
	Federal, 1923-1924
	Funk, William D., State vs., 1924
	Governors' Conferences, 1923-1924
	Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Tidewater Association

SERIES TWO TOPICAL FILES, 1922-1933

- B.02 (cont) Hydro-Electric Power, 1923-1924
Immigration, 1923-1924
- B.03 Inflation and the N.R.A., October 1933
Invitations, 1923-1924
Law Enforcement, 1923-1924
Legislation, 1923
- B.04 Legislation, April 1923-1924 & n.d.
Library Commission, 1923
National Defense Day, 1923
National Guard Funding Requests, 1923-1924
Natural Resources, 1923-1924
Pardons and Paroles, 1923-1924
Penitentiary, 1923-1924
Peru State Normal School, 1923
Petitions-Miscellaneous
 Against Freight rates, 1924
 for veto of HR39, 1923
 To retain SF172 (Farm Bureau Law), 1923
Probate - Estate of Jonathan Lydick, 1923
- B.05 Prohibition, 1923-1924
Quinton, Carl D., State vs. 1923
Requests, 1923-1924
Roxas, Manuel, 1923-1924
Simmons, Walter Ray, 1924
Taxation, 1923-1924
- B.06 U.S. Department of Commerce, 1923-1924
U.S. Department of State, 1923-1924
USS Nebraska Silver Service, 1922-1923
Veterans, 1923-1924
Warehouse Licenses, 1923-1924
Warehouse Licenses, 1930
Wheat Conferences and correspondence, 1923-1924

SERIES THREE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, 1931-1932

- B.01 1931
General Correspondence
Bridge Department
Complaints and Legal
Contractors
Employment
Legislators
Right of Way Department
Road Correspondence - Individuals, A-Z
- B.02 1931
Road Correspondence - Associations
Road Correspondence - Counties, A-W
- B.03 1932
General Correspondence
Bridge Division
Contractors
Driscoll, C. H. (civil engineer)
Labor
Petitions for Employment
Petitions for Employment - n.d.
Legislators
Right of Way Department
- B.04 1932
Road Correspondence - Counties, A-W
Petitions, 1931-1932 for road work
Arnold - Arthur, 5/25/1931
Highway 108, Sutton-York/Hamilton Co line
Highway 108, Hamilton & York Counties
- B.05 1932
Oregon Trail Highway
Road Correspondence - Towns, A-M
- B.06 1932
Road Correspondence - Towns, N-Y

SERIES FOUR MISCELLANEOUS

- B.01 "A Trip through the Lower Platte Country in Nebraska," n.d.
c.1931; Committee from Central Nebraska Supplementary
Water Association, Lower Platte Irrigation Association.
Booklet - "The Campaign of 1916", by Lucien Stebbins
Misc. letters, L.J.G. of O.W., 1923
Poems
"Nebraska The Butter State," Matthew J. Greevy
"The Closing Year," George Hippee Rogers
Tune - "Three O'clock in the Morning," B. S. Keck
Memory Book - Christmas telegrams, 1934
"The Overnight Bag - A Satire on C. W. Bryan, n.d. c.1938
Program - The Century Club, Lincoln, 1938-1939
Bryan Biographical folder
- Oversize B.01
Pierce County Plat Map, c.1931 (Road Correspondence)
Blank Certificate, Nebr. National Guard Commission
Political Posters, Davis-Bryan (1924)
Memorial to Calvin Coolidge, 1923

SERIES FIVE NEWSPAPER SCRAPBOOKS, 1908-1938

NOTE: Scrapbooks include personal and political news clippings, and clippings related to the issues of the day involving Nebraska.

Vol. 1	1908-1913
Vol. 2	1915-1916
Vol. 3	1915-1917 (indexed)
Vol. 4	1915-1918
Vol. 5	1919-1922
Vol. 6	1922-1923
Vol. 7	Feb. 1923 - Sept 1923
Vol. 8	Sept 1923 - July 1924
Vol. 9	July 1924 - Aug. 1924
Vol. 10	Aug. 1924 -Mar. 1926
Vol. 11	1929-1931
Vol. 12	Dec. 1930 - Apr. 1931 (in oversize box)
Vol. 13	Apr. 1931 - Jan. 1932 (in oversize box)

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SERIES FIVE NEWSPAPER SCRAPBOOKS, 1908-1938

Vol. 14	Jan. 1932 - Jan. 1934
Vol. 15	Jan. 1934 - Dec. 1934
Vol. 16	May 1935 - Nov. 1938

Note: for Liquor Permits and Proclamations during Bryan's terms, see RG1, SG1

End of Inventory

WFS/rb	9/11/1964
DJJ/ht	2/28/1973
PMC	5/27/2005 - WORD 2000