

## ARCHIVES RECORD

RG1 Nebraska. Governor  
SG21 Mickey, John Hopwood, 1845-1910

Papers, etc.: 1902-1907  
State Governor: Lincoln, Nebraska  
Cubic Feet: 3.5  
Approx. No. of Items: 2,000

## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

John H. Mickey, who served as governor from 1903-1907, was born on a farm near Burlington, Iowa, September 30, 1845. Thus, when first elected in 1902, he was considerably over the average age of Nebraska's chief executives. Governor Mickey's early life follows the pattern of many of our influential pioneers. He grew up on a farm, attended the rural schools, and did farm work during the summers. He served in the Union Army during the Civil War. After the war he attended Iowa Wesleyan College for two years, then taught school. Mickey emigrated to Nebraska in 1868, taking a homestead in Polk County. He immediately became involved into public affairs, and two years after his arrival was elected treasurer of Polk County, a position he held for 10 years. Following that, he served two terms in the state legislature. Mickey's nomination for the governorship by the Republican Party in 1902 came on the 13<sup>th</sup> ballot after a heated convention battle with John B. Dinsmore of Sutton. The campaign, too, was hot, and he defeated W. H. Thompson of Grand Island, fusion candidate, by a narrow margin. In 1904 Mickey, seeking re-election, had to meet George A. Berge of Lincoln, who made a whirlwind campaign on the fusion ticket under the slogan "abolish the free pass". Again the margin was close, but again Mickey was victorious. Governor Mickey's messages show a deep interest in all phases of government. He urged the direct primary and the establishment of an adequate auditing system. An unusual feature of his administration was the record number of instances in which he granted executive clemency to prisoners—12 pardons, 65 commutations. Following his retirement from the governorship, Mr. Mickey returned to Osceola to engage in banking and farming. He died at home in Osceola, June 2, 1910, after a prolonged illness, leaving his wife and nine children.

## Scope and Content Note

This subgroup consists of seven boxes of papers of Governor John H. Mickey, arranged in three series: (1) General Correspondence, 1902-1907; (2) Applications, 1902-1907; and Miscellany, 1902-1906, & undated.

This material relates to the affairs of the Governor's office during the administration of John H. Mickey, 1902-1906. The bulk of the collection consists of general correspondence, incoming and outgoing, regarding such matters as routine applications for appointive positions; resignations; Louisiana Purchase and the Lewis and Clark Expositions; requests for paroles and commutation of sentence; Missouri-Nebraska boundary controversy; U.S.S. Nebraska; investigation reports of various state institutions,

the State debt; Nebraska Children's Home; Kidnapping of Elizabeth Mickey, the governor's daughter; and State appropriation.

#### DESCRIPTION

#### SERIS ONE            GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE, 1902-1907

##### Box 1

Folder 1	Oct 31, 1902-Nov 6, 1902
Folder 2	Nov 7, 1902-Nov 8, 1902
Folder 3	Nov 11, 1902-Nov 20, 1902
Folder 4	Nov 21, 1902-Nov 29, 1902
Folder 5	Dec 3, 1902-Dec 31, 1902
Folder 6	Jan 2, 1903-Jan 31, 1903
Folder 7	Feb 2, 1903-Feb 15, 1903
Folder 8	Feb 16, 1903-Feb 28, 1903
Folder 9	March 1, 1903-March 19, 1903
Folder 10	March 20, 1903-March 31, 1903
Folder 11	April 1, 1903-April 9, 1903

##### Box 2

Folder 12	April 11, 1903-April 15, 1903
Folder 13	April 17, 1903-April 30, 1903
Folder 14	May 1, 1903-May 15, 1903
Folder 15	May 16, 1903-May 30, 1903
Folder 16	June 1, 1903-June 15, 1903
Folder 17	June 16, 1903-July 1, 1903
Folder 18	July 1, 1903-July 10, 1903
Folder 19	July 11, 1903-July 31, 1903

##### Box 3

Folder 20	Aug 1, 1903-Aug 31, 1903
Folder 21	Sept 1, 1903-Sept 18, 1903
Folder 22	Sept 21, 1903-Sept 30, 1903
Folder 23	Oct 1, 1903-Oct 31, 1903
Folder 24	Nov 2, 1903-Nov 2, 1903
Folder 25	Dec 1, 1903-Dec 31, 1903
Folder 26	Jan 2, 1904-Jan 28, 1904
Folder 27	Feb 1, 1904-March 21, 1904

##### Box 4

Folder 28	April 1, 1904-April 30, 1904
Folder 29	May 2, 1904-May 30, 1904
Folder 30	March 1, 1904-March 30, 1904
Folder 31	June 2, 1904-June 30, 1904
Folder 32	July 1, 1904-July 30, 1904

Folder 33 Aug 1, 1904-Aug 29,1904  
Folder 34 Sept 2, 1904-Oct 31, 1904  
Folder 35 Nov 3, 1904-Nov 30, 1904  
Folder 36 Dec 1, 1904-Dec 31, 1904  
Folder 37 Jan 2, 1905-Jan 31, 1905  
Folder 38 Feb 2, 1905-March 30, 1905  
Folder 39 April 5, 1905-April 29, 1905  
Folder 40 May 3, 1905-May 31, 1905  
Folder 41 June 5, 1905-June 29, 1905

Box 5

Folder 42 July 1, 1905-July 31, 1905  
Folder 43 Aug 1, 1905-Aug 30, 1905  
Folder 44 Sept 5, 1905-Sept 30, 1905  
Folder 45 Oct 4, 1905-Oct 31, 1905  
Folder 46 Nov 1, 1905-Nov 29, 1905  
Folder 47 Dec 1, 1905-Dec 27, 1905  
Folder 48 Jan 1, 1906-Jan 31, 1906  
Folder 49 Feb 1, 1906-March 30, 1906  
Folder 50 April 2, 1906-April 30, 1906  
Folder 51 May 1, 1906-May 31, 1906  
Folder 52 June 1, 1906-June 29, 1906  
Folder 53 July 3, 1906-July 30, 1906

Box 6

Folder 54 Aug 1, 1906-Aug 17, 1906  
Folder 55 Aug 18, 1906  
Folder 56 Aug 21, 1906-Aug 30, 1906  
Folder 57 Sept 3, 1906-Oct 29, 1906  
Folder 58 Nov 6, 1906-Nov 26, 1906  
Folder 59 Dec 2, 1906-Dec 10, 1906  
Folder 60 Dec 13, 1906-Dec 31, 1906  
Folder 61 Undated

Vol. 1 Letterpress Book, 1904-1906

Vol. 2 Letterpress Book, 1906-1907

SERIES TWO

MISCELLANY

Box 7

Folder 1 Petitions, 1902-1906  
Folder 2 Petitions, Undated  
Folder 3 Miscellany, 1902-1906

JEP/pmc 8/18/71

SPB 1/10/07

