GOVERNOR ALBERT H. ROBERTS
PAPERS
1918-1921

GP 38

Processed by:

Greg T. Yates
Archival Technical Services

Date Completed: April 2, 1998

MICROFILMED
INTRODUCTION

The Governor Albert H. Roberts Papers span the period 1918 - 1921, although the bulk of the collection is concentrated in the years 1919 - 1920. The collection consists of material relating to the work done during Albert Roberts’ term of office.

Albert H. Roberts was elected Governor in 1918, and assumed office in 1919. He served a two year term, which ended in January 1921. He was unsuccessful in an attempt at re-election.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Governor Albert H. Roberts Papers span the period 1918 - 1921. The collection consists of 20.37 cubic feet and contains correspondence, telegrams, subject files, letters of recommendation for positions in state government, petitions, applications for requisitions, and files dealing with pardons and paroles.

Of interest in the collection are items pertaining to the pending ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, affording women the right to vote. Governor Roberts called a special session of the Legislature, and with Tennessee’s approval, this amendment became the law of the land. A large amount of the correspondence deals with this issue, both for and against ratification. Also, there is a large amount of correspondence and telegrams with Carrie Chapman Catt, head of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, in favor of ratification.

During Governor Roberts’ term, Tennessee also ratified the Eighteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution dealing with prohibition. There is very little material in this collection dealing with this subject, only an occasional letter or telegram.

During Governor Roberts’ term, the War Memorial Building was built in downtown Nashville. However, there is very little information in the collection regarding this achievement. Box 27, Folder 7 contains some information concerning the building.

For additional information concerning Albert H. Roberts, see the Albert Houston Roberts Papers, MS. AC. 93-031, Microfilm No. 1394.
**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

**Albert Houston Roberts**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>1868</td>
<td>July 4, born in Alpine, Overton County, Tennessee, the son of John Allen and Sarah Emaline Carlock Roberts</td>
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<tr>
<td>1874-1881</td>
<td>Educated in Overton County schools.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1881</td>
<td>Removed with his family to Kansas</td>
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<tr>
<td>1881-1886</td>
<td>Educated in elementary and secondary schools in Columbus, Kansas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1886-1889</td>
<td>Attended Hiwassee College at Sweetwater, Tennessee and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree</td>
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<tr>
<td>1889</td>
<td>May 16, married Nora Dean Bowden, daughter of Professor Bailey Owen and Molly Sproul Bowden</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Awarded a Master of Arts degree from Hiwassee College</td>
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<tr>
<td>1889-1894</td>
<td>Teacher, and later, President of Alpine Institute in Madisonville, Tennessee</td>
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<tr>
<td>1894</td>
<td>Admitted to bar in Tennessee to practice law</td>
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<tr>
<td>1894-1910</td>
<td>Legal practice in Overton County, Tennessee</td>
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<tr>
<td>1896-1901</td>
<td>Served two terms as Overton County’s superintendent of public instruction</td>
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<tr>
<td>1910-1918</td>
<td>Chancellor of the Fourth Judicial Division of Tennessee</td>
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<tr>
<td>1914</td>
<td>Unsuccessful candidate for Democratic nomination for Governor</td>
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<tr>
<td>1919-1921</td>
<td>Governor of Tennessee</td>
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<tr>
<td>1920</td>
<td>Defeated by Alfred Taylor in bid for re-election</td>
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<tr>
<td>1921-1925</td>
<td>Practiced law in partnership with James W. Cooper in Nashville</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Event</td>
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<tr>
<td>1925-1946</td>
<td>Practiced law in partnership with his son, Albert Houston Roberts, Jr., in Nashville</td>
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<tr>
<td>1946</td>
<td>June 25, died in Nashville and is interred in Good Hope Cemetery, Livingston, Tennessee</td>
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<td>Correspondence—Incoming—Moss—Myers, 1920</td>
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<td>Correspondence—Incoming—Peace—Petway, 1920</td>
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5. Correspondence—Incoming—Watkins—Westerman, 1920
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1. Letters of Recommendation to Gov. Roberts for Positions—Talley—Vigus, 1919
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4. Letters of Recommendation to Gov. Roberts for Positions—Davis—Foster, 1920

Box 40
1. Letters of Recommendation to Gov. Roberts for Positions—Garard—Jones, 1920
2. Letters of Recommendation to Gov. Roberts for Positions—Kimbrough—Nowlan, 1920
3. Letters of Recommendation to Gov. Roberts for Positions—Parker—Swartz, 1920
4. Letters of Recommendation to Gov. Roberts for Positions—Tatum—Young, 1920
5. Letters of Recommendation to Gov. Roberts for Positions—Douglas—Link, 1921

Microfilm Roll #16
6. Applications—Stenographers, Bookkeepers, Clerks, 1918
7. Applications—Matron or Warden at State Prison, 1918
8. Applications—State Feed, Seed, and Fertilizer Inspector, 1918
9. Applications—Superintendent for Old Soldier’s Home, 1919
10. Applications—Miscellaneous, ----

Box 41
1. Applications—Chief Tax Statistician, 1919
2. Applications—Coal Oil Inspector—Alford—Kirk, 1919
3. Applications—Coal Oil Inspector—Lehman—Woodard, 1919
4. Applications—Commissioner of Agriculture, 1919
5. Applications—County Judge in Dickson and Hardeman County, 1919
6. Applications—Deputy Marshall, 1919
7. Applications—Election Commissioner, 1919
8. Applications—Membership on the Board of Electrical Examiners, 1919
9. Applications—State Shop and Factory Inspector, 1919
10. Applications—Fertilizer and Seed Inspector, 1919
11. Applications—Fire Prevention Commissioner, 1919
12. Applications—Guard at State Prison, 1919
13. Applications—State Highway Commissioner, 1919
14. Applications—Insurance Commissioner, 1919

**Box 42**
1. Applications—Mine Inspector, 1919
2. Applications—Police or Detective Force, 1919
3. Applications—Commissioner of Prohibition, 1919
4. Applications—State Purchasing Agent, 1919
5. Applications—Membership on State Board of Education, 1919
6. Applications—Positions at State Institutions, 1919
7. Applications—State Superintendent of Schools, 1919
8. Applications—State Veterinarian, 1919
9. Applications—Superintendent of State Capitol, 1919
10. Applications—Positions at Western Hospital for Insane, 1919
11. Applications—Warden at State Prison, 1919
12. Applications—Night Watchman at State Capitol, 1919
13. Applications—Discharge from Army or Navy, 1919-1920
15. Applications—Coal Oil Inspector, 1919
16. Applications—Membership, State Board of Embalming Examiners, 1920
17. Applications—Factory, Seed, and Hotel Inspector, 1920
18. Applications—Membership on Board of Medical Examiners, 1920

**Box 43**
1. Applications—Pensions, 1920
2. Applications—Superintendent of Tennessee Industrial School, 1920
3. Applications—Pure Food and Drug Inspector of Tennessee, 1919
4. Applications—Miscellaneous—Andrews—Yowell, 1919
5. Applications—Miscellaneous—Bandy—Worsham, 1920
6. Petitions Endorsing Appointment to Positions, 1919-1921

**SERIES # 8**

**Box 43 cont.**
7. Petitions—for ratification of Nineteenth Amendment, ----
8. Petitions—to Investigate Professor G. M. Bentley, State Entomologist and Plant Pathologist, ----
9. Petitions—to change Chancery Court Date, 1918
10. Petitions—for Pension, ----
11. Petitions—for Clemency/Pardon, 1920
12. Petitions—in Favor of Enforcement of the Law, 1919
13. Petitions—Protesting Against Removal of Deaf and Dumb School from Knoxville, 1919
14. Petitions—Inviting Visit to Tennessee Agricultural and Industrial Normal School, 1919
15. Petitions—Requesting Office of Game Warden Be Retained, 1919
17. Petitions—to Pay Expenses for State Board of Equalization, 1919

Microfilm Roll #17

Box 44
1. Petitions—to Governor from Legislature Urging Repeal of Public Act 37 of the 61st General Assembly, ----
2. Petitions—to Members of Legislature Against Bill to Re-District Hamblen County, -- --
3. Petitions—to Members of Legislature Against Senate Bill 964 and Senate Bill 679, -- --
4. Petitions—to Members of Legislature Supporting Amending the Drainage Laws, ----
5. Petitions—to Members of Legislature Supporting Veto of Bill Creating New Civil Districts in Hamblen County, ----
6. Petitions—to Members of Legislature Against Bill Requiring Railroads to Issue Annual Passes to State Officials, 1919
7. Petitions—to Members of Legislature Against Bill to Allow Moving Picture Shows on Sunday in Knoxville, 1919
8. Petitions—to Members of Legislature Against Bill to Re-District Hawkins County, 1919
10. Petitions—to Members of Legislature Supporting First Class Road Law, 1919
11. Petitions—to Members of Legislature Supporting House Bill 966, 1919
12. Petitions—to Members of Legislature Supporting Legislation to Offer A Reward for Capture of A Still and Arrest of Bootlegger, 1919
13. Petitions—to Members of Legislature Supporting Pharmacy Bill, 1919
14. Petitions—to Members of Legislature Supporting Workman’s Compensation Act, 1919
15. Petitions—to Members of Legislature Supporting Issuance of Bonds for Waynesboro, 1920
16. Petitions—to Members of Legislature Supporting Payment for Work on Retaining Wall on West Side of State Capitol, 1920
SERIES # 9
Box 44 Cont.
17. Applications for Requisition — Alexander—Lusk, 1919
18. Applications for Requisition — Mabin—Yarnell, 1919

Box 45
1. Applications for Requisition — Allen—Funk, 1920
3. Applications for Requisition — Self—Williams, 1920
4. Applications for Requisition — Counts—Wells, 1921

SERIES # 10
Box 46
1. Applications for Parole — Adams—Young, 1919
2. Applications for Parole — Able—Woolbright, 1920
3. Paroled—Bunker—Williams, 1920
4. Monthly Reports of Paroled Prisoners — Clark—Young, 1919

Microfilm Roll #18

Box 47
1. Applications and Petitions for Pardon — Blockett—Reed, 1919
2. Applications for Pardon — State Training and Agricultural School for Boys—Billings—Thompson, 1919-1920
3. Applications for Pardon — Marlow—Yett, 1919
4. Applications for Pardon — Carlson—Zackary, 1919
5. Applications for Pardon — Adkins—Justice, 1920
6. Applications for Pardon — King—Woods, 1920

Box 48
1. Petitions for Pardon — Allison—Grooms, 1919
2. Petitions for Pardon — Hargis—Widener, 1919
3. Petitions for Pardon — Barnes—Lewelling, 1920
4. Petitions for Pardon — Manas—Yoder, 1920

Box 49
1. Petitions for Reward—Baron—Willis, 1920
2. Petitions for Pardon—Adcock—Treadway, 1921
3. Pardons—Bailey—Stone, 1919-1920