

## **Thomas C. McRae Papers, 1885-1929**

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## Summary Information

**Repository:** UALR Center for Arkansas History and Culture

**Title:** Thomas C. McRae Papers, 1885-1929

**Identifier:** UALR-MS-0030

**Date:** 1885-1928

**Physical Description:** 1 Linear Feet (; 2 document boxes)

**Language of** English

**Materials:**

## Scope and Contents Note

This collection contains correspondence, notes, speeches, and news clipping of Thomas Chipman McRae, U.S. congressman and Arkansas governor, concerning his political career.

Note: Additional McRae papers (1.5 linear feet, dating from 1879-1938) are held at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville.

## Biographical Note

Thomas Chipman McRae, son of Duncan L. McRae and Mary Ann Chipman, was born in Mount Holly, Arkansas, on 1851 December 21. He graduated from Soule Business College in New Orleans in 1869 and Washington and Lee University's law school in 1872. The following year, McRae was admitted to the Arkansas bar and established a law practice at Rosston, Arkansas. He married Ameria Ann White 1874 December 17. Five of the couple's nine children survived to adulthood.

In 1876, McRae was elected state representative from Nevada County and moved his practice to Prescott. A Democrat, McRae was elected to represent Arkansas's Third Congressional District in 1885. He remained in office through successive elections until his voluntary retirement in 1903. In 1909, Governor Donaghey appointed McRae to the board of trustees which managed the operations of the state's charitable institutions (the Arkansas Deaf Mute Institute, the School for the Blind, and the Hospital for Nervous Diseases).

In 1920, McRae defeated Republican Wallace Townsend in the gubernatorial election and was re-elected in 1922. His administration is noted for its focus on public education and highway construction. After leaving office in 1925, McRae returned to Prescott where he practiced law and served as president of the Bank of Prescott until his death 1929 June 2.

## Conditions Governing Access

This collection is available for viewing at the Arkansas Studies Institute.

## Conditions Governing Use

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17-U.S. Code) governs the making of photocopies or other

reproductions of copyrighted material. The person using this material is liable for any infringement.

Copyright for correspondence in the collections belongs to those correspondents or their beneficiaries. Persons wanting to re-use those materials are advised to obtain permission from copyright holders.

## **Arrangement**

By material type: postal affairs correspondence, general correspondence, elections, legislative issues, pocket notebooks, printed speeches, biographical material, and newsclippings.

## **Note**

When requesting materials, please specify UALR.MS.0030, box number, and file number.

## **Citation Notes**

Bibliographic citation:

Thomas C. McRae Papers, 1885-1928, UALR.MS.0030. UALR Center for Arkansas History and Culture, Arkansas Studies Institute, Little Rock.

Footnote or Endnote info:

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## **Administrative Information**

### **Publication Statement**

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### **Controlled Access Headings**

- Arkansas. General Assembly. House of Representatives
- Governors -- Arkansas
- Lawyers -- Arkansas -- History -- 20th century
- United States. Congress. House.

## **Collection Inventory**

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Box 1

1. Correspondence concerning post offices and postmasters [arranged alphabetically by town name; A-J], 1885-1913

2. Correspondence concerning post offices and postmasters [K-O], 1885-1886

3. Correspondence concerning post offices and postmasters [P-Z], 1886-1902

4. Correspondence concerning rural mail routes, 1886

5. Outgoing general correspondence, 1892-1923

6. Outgoing general correspondence, 1924-1926

7. Outgoing general correspondence, 1927-1928

8. Incoming general correspondence [A], including discussion of the Commission on Interracial Cooperation, 1886-1928

9. Incoming general correspondence [Ba-Bk], 1886-1920

**Selected names and topics:**

James H. Berry

Ozan Lumber Company

10. Incoming general correspondence [Bl-Bz]; selected names and topics include Stephen Brundidge, cotton claims, and "self-help objectives for colored tenants," 1886-1928

11. Incoming general correspondence [Ca-CI], 1886-1928

**Selected names and topics:**

Lee Cazort

James P. Clarke

State capitol motherhood monument

temperance

12. Incoming general correspondence [Cm-Cz], 1886-1928

**Selected names and topics:**

Calvin Coolidge, regarding appointment of Wallace Townsend as U.S. Judge for the Eastern District of Arkansas

Harvey Couch

Little Rock Light and Street Railway

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13. Incoming general correspondence [D-E], 1902-1928

**Selected names and topics:**

Jeff Davis

George W. Donaghey

W. J. Echols

Agricultural development prospects

Arkansas Diamond Company

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14. Incoming general correspondence [F], 1885-1928

**Selected topics:**

Arkansas Children's Home

Arkansas Tuberculosis Association

Cotton tax refund

University of Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station

Farm tax relief

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15. Incoming general correspondence [G], 1886-1928

**Selected names and topics:**

U. A. Gentry

Inheritance tax

Income tax

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16. Incoming general correspondence [H-I], 1886-1928

**Selected names and topics:**

Brooks Hays

J. N. Heiskell

Arkansas bar and judiciary directory

Tax relief

Education

Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce

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17. Incoming general correspondence [J-K], 1886-1925

**Selected names and topics:**

Dan W. Jones

James K. Jones

Federal court at Texarkana

Reverend L. H. Hitt

Agricultural

Wheel congressional candidate

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18. Incoming general correspondence [L], 1886-1928

**Selected names and topics:**

J. F. Loughborough

Cotton

Prohibition of special acts

Tax relief

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19. Incoming general correspondence [Ma-Md], 1886-1929

**Selected names and topics:**

J. E. Martineau

Mississippi River floods

Road construction

Arkansas National Guard

Ouachita National Park

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20. Incoming general correspondence [Me-Mz], 1886-1929

**Selected topics:**

Ouachita National Park

Prohibition of special acts by state legislature

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Box 2

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1. Incoming general correspondence [N-O], 1886-1928

**Selected names:**

Hal L. Norwood

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2. Incoming general correspondence [P-Q], 1886-1928

**Selected names and topics:**

Harvey Parnell

Tillman Parks

Virgil C. Pettie

Gifford Pinchot

X. O. Pindall

1902 gubernatorial campaign

Improvement of state institutions

Road improvement legislation

Farm tax relief

Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce

Arkansas Negro Business Guide

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3. Incoming general correspondence [R], 1886-1928

**Selected names and topics:**

Heartsill Ragon

H. L. Remmel

Mary K. Roane (widow of Governor John S. Roane)

John H. Rogers

G. B. Rose

Education

Little Rock-Conway highway

Farm tax relief

Pension for Mrs. Isaac C. Parker

Pension for Mary K. Roane



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4. Incoming general correspondence [S], 1886-1928

**Selected topics:**

Mineral resources

Cotton industry

Road improvement

Legislation

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5. Incoming general correspondence [T-V], 1886-1928

**Selected names and topics:**

Tom J. Terral

Jacob Trieber

Workmen's compensation

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6. Incoming general correspondence [W-Z], 1886-1928

**Selected names and topics:**

Otis Wingo

Carroll D. Wood

University of Arkansas at Fayetteville

Arkansas College

Supreme Court of Arkansas

Texarkana district court

Miller County branch of Eastern District [1886]

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7. Incoming general correspondence, multi-party and unidentified individuals; selected names and topics include W. M. Fishback and the Arkansas Deaf Mute Institute [class photograph on postcard, 1909], 1886-1925, and undated

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8. Pocket notebooks, including drafts of speeches, news clippings and handwritten notes, 1885-1886 [2 items]

**Selected names and topics:**

1885 notebook: J. T. Bearden, Bill Blair, H. W. McMillan, D. E. Parker, Bill Regan, and J. M. Smith. Cotton and railroad taxes.

1886 notebook: Bill Blass, Grover Cleveland, and Augustus Garland. Cotton tax, Cutting case, Fishback Amendment, Greenbacks, Iron Mountain Railroad, Knights of Labor, national banks, usury law, Wheelers, and Whigs.

9. Pocket notebooks, including drafts of speeches, news clippings and handwritten notes, 1892-1894 [2 items]

**Selected names and topics:**

1892 notebook: John A. Ansley, John J. Ingalls, A. H. Sevier. Democratic Executive Committee, Force Bill, People's Party, Plutocrats, Prohibitionists, Silver Bill, and Subsidy Bill

1894 notebook: Agriculture, economic conditions, Native Americans, McRae Bill, and Senate Report 559

10. Legislative background materials regarding banking law, education, franchise tax, income tax, local and special legislation, and road funds, 1917-1923, and undated

11. Invitations and announcements, 1914-1927, and undated

12. Campaign materials, 1920 and undated

13. McRae's opposition to Davis' run for a third term as governor, 1904 February 18

14. Congressional speeches by McRae, 1890-1897

**Titles:**

"The Tariff," 1890 September 15

"Swamp-land Grant and the Arkansas Claim," 1890 December 11

"The Arkansas Settlement and Swamp-land Adjustment," 1892 December 20

"Repeal of the Sugar Bounty," 1894 January 22

"The People Want More Money, Not More Taxes," 1897 March 25

"Forfeiture of Unearned Land Grants," 1894 July 10

"Union Pacific Funding Bill," 1895 February 2

"Arkansas Compromise Settlement," 1897 January 23

15. Congressional speeches by McRae, 1898-1903

**Titles:**

"Arkansas Compromise," 1898 April 14 [complete version and annotated abridged version]

"From Bimetallism to the Gold Standard," 1900 March 13

"Western Boundary of the State of Arkansas and the Indian Territory," 1903 February 10

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16. Gubernatorial speeches by McRae, 1921-1923

**Titles:**

"Inaugural address... to the Forty-third General Assembly....," 1921

"Message... to the Extraordinary Session of the 44th General Assembly....," 1923

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17. Prescott, Arkansas, paving districts, undated

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18. Report on the Camp Pike Honorary Commission, 1926

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19. Newsclippings, 1920-1927, undated

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20. Glass slides, containing images of campaign posters for McRae, 1920

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