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Orval E. Faubus papers

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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Summary Information

Repository	Arkansas State Archives
Title	Orval E. Faubus papers
Date [inclusive]	1955-1957
Extent	7.0 Cubic feet 14 boxes
Language	English
Language of Materials	Materials entirely in English.

Preferred Citation

Orval E. Faubus papers, Arkansas State Archives, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Biographical/Historical Note

Orval Eugene Faubus was born on January 7, 1910, to John Samuel "Sam" and Addie Joslin Faubus, on the family farm at Greasy Creek, Madison County, Arkansas. Faubus was educated in rural Madison County. Orval's father urged him to attend college and Faubus attended Commonwealth College in 1935, but did not graduate. In 1931, Faubus married Alta Haskins. After his service in World War II, Faubus returned to Madison County, Arkansas, where he became Postmaster at Huntsville and owner of the local paper, the Madison County Record. In 1948, Governor Sid McMath appointed Faubus to the State Highway Commission, and then later administrative assistant to the governor's office.

Faubus launched his political career in 1954, when he challenged Governor Francis Cherry in the Democratic Primary. He defeated Cherry and in November won a landslide victory over Republican Pratt Rummel in the general election. Faubus would go on to serve six consecutive terms as Governor of Arkansas, giving him the distinction of holding the office longer than any other governor. Faubus' political career, however, was defined by his role in the Little Rock Central High School Crisis.

Faubus chose not to run again for governor in 1966, clearing the way for Winthrop Rockefeller to become the first Republican governor of Arkansas since Reconstruction. In 1969, Orval and Alta Faubus divorced, and he later married Elizabeth Westmoreland. After her death in 1983, Faubus married Jan Hines Wittenberg in 1986.

Faubus would run again for Governor in 1970, 1974 and 1986, but was unable to regain the popularity he had in the 1950s and 1960s. Orval Eugene Faubus died December 14, 1994 and is buried in Combs Cemetery near Greasy Creek in Madison County.

Scope and Contents

Orval E. Faubus papers contain correspondence, appointments, press releases, inauguration materials, speeches, and campaign materials covering the early years of Faubus' governorship.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Arkansas State Archives 12/8/2014

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research use.

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

Secretary of State, Kelly Bryant, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Collection Inventory

	Box
35th Division	1
Activity Sheets, 1956	
American Legion	
Appointments, 1956	
Arkansas Louisiana Gas Company	
Arkansas River: Third Bridge and Expressway	
Arkansas Travelers Certificates(2)	
George H. Benjamin	
	Box
Biography of Orval E. Faubus	2
James L. Bland	
Board of Review	

Campaigns

Frances Brenneke

Budgets

Campaigns

Miscellaneous

Congratulations

Speech

Claude Carpenter, Jr.

Contributions and gifts, 1956

Correspondence:

Box

Autographs and photographs, 1956(5)

2 and 3

House of Representatives

Miscellaneous

Personal

Thank you letters

1954

1955(2)

1956

undated

Secretary of State

Senate

Thank you letters

from Faubus

Box

1955(2)

3 and 4

1956(5)

1957

Undated

To Faubus

Invitations

Box

1956(3)

5

Undated

Democratic National Convention, 1956

Education

E.C. Gathings

Tom Gentry

Governor's Mansion

Governor's Office: Employment

Brooks Hays

Homer Heard

Honorary Appointments

Inauguration file, 1957

Invitations

Accepted

Accepted

1955

Box

1956(4)

6

Representatives Sent

Cancelled

Declined

Box

1956(3)

6 and 7

1957

From Faubus

Postponed

1955

1957

Unanswered

Unanswered

1956(4)

Jim Johnson

Legislative

Legislative Bills

Appropriation

Box

House Bills: 10-180

8

House Bills: 189-669

House Bills: House Segregation

Senate Bills: 3-93

Senate Bills: 109-329

Senate Bills: 333-375

Box

Senate Bill: Sleepy Valley

9

Legislative Bills

Potential Bills

Magazine Articles

John G. McClellan

Medical Center

Memoranda

National Defense

Natural Gas Act

William Norrell

Police

Jake Porter

Press Releases

Purchasing Department

Racing Commission

Real Estate Commission

Revenue Department

Resolutions

Revenue Department

1955

1956(2)

Revenue and Taxation Committee

Roy Ritter

Selective Service

Box

Harold Sherman

10

Arnold B. Sikes(2)

Bitsy Simmons

Speeches

1956(2)

Easter

Trip

Social Security

State Veterinarian

Statements

Witt R. Stephens

Teachers Retirement

Box

Traffic Safety(2)

10 and 11

Jim W. Trimble

Trip

Ontario

Wyoming

Harry S. Truman

Tuberculosis Sanatorium

Union Planters National Bank

Water Projects

United Nations Appointment

University of Arkansas(2)

University of Arkansas School of Medicine

University Hospital

Veterans Service

Box

Vocational Education(2)

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Water Projects

Miscellaneous

Millwood Dam(2)

War Eagle

Pollution Ouachita River

Welfare Department

Box

12 and 13

Box

1956(7)

12 and 13

Welfare Department

1957

Undated

West Memphis Steam Plant

Westing House Appraisal Committee

Workmen's Compensation Commission

Young Democrats

Photographs

PH.OEFaubus.01

Box

Mats(3)

14

Water Projects: Millwood Dam

Veterans Services: Bumper Stickers

Political Cartoons: Jon Kennedy, Arkansas Democrat(6)

1955 Inauguration Programs