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George W. Donaghey political reminiscences, undated

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George W. Donaghey political reminiscences

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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Summary Information

Repository	Arkansas State Archives
Title	George W. Donaghey political reminiscences
Date	undated
Extent	0.04 Cubic feet 1 folder
Language	English
Language of Materials	Materials entirely in English.
Text [Box]	179
Container	6

Preferred Citation

George W. Donaghey political reminiscences, Arkansas State Archives, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Biographical Note

George Washington Donaghey was born July 1, 1856, in Oakland, Louisiana, to C.C. Donaghey and Elizabeth Ingram. The family moved to Union County, Arkansas, in 1858. After spending some time in Texas, Donaghey settled in Conway, Faulkner County, in 1880, where he remained for thirty years. On September 20, 1883, he married Louvenia Wallace, a native of Darlington, South Carolina.

Donaghey spent one year at the University of Arkansas, before becoming a contractor. He was active in local politics and a strong supporter of higher education, responsible for three such institutions moving to Conway. He supported the banning of saloons, making Conway a dry city. He was elected town marshal in 1884 because of his anti-saloon stand but was defeated when he ran for mayor on the same ticket the next year.

From 1899 to 1903, he gained considerable wealth while working as a railroad contractor in Indian Territory. He moved to Little Rock in 1908 and won the Democratic nomination for Governor, defeating Jeff Davis-backed William F. Kirby, and going on to win by a landslide. He was re-elected in 1910. His terms as governor were highlighted by his strong support of higher education, an emphasis on fiscal reform, and the completion of the State Capitol.

After leaving the governorship, he transferred ownership of the Donaghey Building and the Federal Bank and Trust Building to Little Rock Junior College, now the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. The endowment was estimated at \$1.5 to \$2 million, making it one of the largest endowments given within the state. He died December 15, 1937, after suffering a massive heart attack two days earlier and never regaining consciousness.

Scope and Contents

This collection contains typed transcripts of two political reminiscences written by George W. Donaghey, "My Entry into Politics" and "My Campaign for a Third Term." Both are undated.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Arkansas State Archives 9/1/2021

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research use.

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

Donated by Mr. William J. Smith, Little Rock, Arkansas, 1966.

Collection Inventory

"My Entry into Politics," by George W. Donaghey (typed transcription, includes additional photocopy) undated

"My Campaign for a Third Term," by George W. Donaghey (photocopy of typed transcription) undated