

Missouri State Archives

Finding Aid RG 6.05

Office of State Auditor

William Henry Holmes

Correspondence, 1949-1953

Abstract: Correspondence of State Auditor William Henry Holmes.

Extent: .5 cubic ft. (1/2 Hollinger box).

Record Description: Paper.

Alternative Formats: None.

Location: Missouri State Archives.

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions: No special restrictions.

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Historical and Biographical Notes

William Henry Holmes was born on April 21, 1883, in Maries County to parents John O. and Sarah M. (nee Sundermeier) Holmes. He married Gladys Pauline Ebling on October 14, 1914.

Holmes served six terms as Maries County prosecuting attorney. He was also a state bank examiner. Holmes was elected to the Missouri House of Representatives in 1944 and 1946 to represent Maries County. While in the House, he served as a member of the special committee to rewrite revenue laws to conform with the *Missouri Constitution* approved by the people on February 27, 1945.

Holmes ran for State Auditor on the Democratic ticket in 1948 and won. According to the *1949-1950 Official Manual of the State of Missouri*, Holmes was elected by “a majority of 256,387 votes, the largest received by any state[wide] candidate.” He was re-elected in the 1950 off-year election, which was mandated by the *1945 Constitution* which established the office of Auditor being elected in a different cycle from the other statewide offices (*1945 Constitution*, Chapter IV, Section 17). Holmes died in-office on March 31, 1953.

Timeline

Year	Event
1883	Holmes was born on April 21.
1914	Holmes married Gladys Pauline Ebling on October 14.
1944	Holmes was elected to the Missouri House of Representatives.
1946	Holmes was re-elected to the Missouri House of Representatives.
1948	Holmes was elected State Auditor.
1950	Holmes was re-elected State Auditor.
1953	Holmes died in-office on March 31.

Additional Descriptive Information

Bibliography

Official Manual of the State of Missouri. Jefferson City, MO: Missouri Secretary of State. Volumes 1878 through 1999-2000. Accessed March 13, 2026.
<https://mdh.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/bluebook>.

Related Material

RG 6.01 [Audit Reports](#)

RG 6.02 Office of State Auditor

Correspondence, 1949-1953

Extent: .2 cubic ft. (1/2 Hollinger box)

Arrangement: Alphabetical

Scope and Content

Correspondence of William Henry Holmes.

Container List

Box	Folder	Contents	Date
1	1	General Correspondence	1949
1	2	General Correspondence	1950
1	3	General Correspondence, A-M	1951
1	4	General Correspondence, N-Z	1951
1	5	General Correspondence	1952
1	6	General Correspondence, A-K	1953
1	7	General Correspondence, L-Z	1953