

Missouri State Archives

Finding Aid 3.32

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

HERBERT SPENCER HADLEY, 1909-1913

Abstract: The Records (1909-1911) of Governor Herbert Spencer Hadley (1872-1927) include certificates of election, commission notes, city ordinances, petitions, resignations, and vacancy notifications.

Extent: 1 folder

Physical Description: Paper

Location: MSA stacks

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Access Restrictions: No special restrictions.

Publication Restrictions: Copyright is in the public domain.

Required Citation: [Item description], [date]; Herbert Spencer Hadley, 1909-1913, Record Group 3.32; Missouri State Archives, Jefferson City.

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HISTORICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Herbert Spencer Hadley was born in Olathe, Kansas on February 20, 1872 to John Milton Hadley and Harriet Beach Jones. He attended local public schools and graduated from the University of Kansas in 1892. Hadley obtained a law degree in 1894 from Northwestern University Law School in Chicago and opened a law practice in Kansas City immediately thereafter. He married Agnes Lee on October 8, 1901 and the couple raised three children.

In 1898 Hadley was elected as assistant Kansas City counselor. In 1900, Hadley successfully campaigned for Jackson County prosecuting attorney. During the next two years, he established his reputation as a forceful prosecutor. He tried 225 felony cases and

lost only six. In 1902, he accepted a position with the Kansas City Metropolitan Street Railway as legal counsel.

Hadley was elected attorney general in 1904 where he began, or continued law suits for anti-trust violations against Standard Oil Company, as well as other companies. The breadth of evidence Hadley uncovered during the Standard Oil case (1905-1908) was later successfully used by other states and the federal government for similar prosecutions. Hadley called 119 witnesses in five different states. The Missouri Supreme Court ruled in favor of Hadley on December 23, 1908. Three subsidiaries of Standard Oil were fined \$50,000 each and forfeited their right to operate in Missouri.

Hadley defeated Democrat William Cowherd in the 1908 gubernatorial election. He was sworn in on January 9, 1909 as the 32nd governor of Missouri and the first Republican since 1870 to hold that office. The Hadley administration promoted progressive legislation which improved public health. The regulatory duties of the State Board of Health were expanded, the office of state food and drug commissioner was created, and a board of nursing examiners was established. Also during his administration, the working hours of women were regulated and state safety inspections of mines were expanded. The Hadley administration created a fish and game commission, a game board was established, a waterways commission was founded, and funds were appropriated to study land drainage and reclamation.

On February 5, 1911, lightning struck the Missouri Capitol and the building was completely destroyed. Hadley signed legislation on March 24, 1911 providing for the construction of the new capitol. On August 1, 1911 Missouri voters overwhelmingly approved construction bonds and the creation of a new state capitol commission to oversee the organization and construction process. Ground was broken on May 6, 1913 for the structure (which was completed on September 8, 1917).

At the end of his term, Hadley resumed his law practice in Kansas City and he served as special counsel to the Interstate Commerce Commission from 1913 to 1916. Diagnosed with tuberculosis, he moved to Colorado in 1916 where he taught law at the University of Colorado and acted as special counsel for the Colorado state railway commission. Appointed chancellor of Washington University in St. Louis, he returned to Missouri in November 1923. Herbert Spencer Hadley died in St. Louis on December 1, 1927 and is interred in Riverview Cemetery, Jefferson City.

ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION

Bibliography

Carnahan, Jean. *If Walls Could Talk: the Story of Missouri's First Families* (Jefferson City, Mo.: Missouri Mansion Preservation, Incorporated, 1995), pp. 144-159.

Christensen, Lawrence O., et al. *Dictionary of Missouri Biography* (Columbia, Mo.: University of Missouri Press, 1999), pp. 362-363.

National Governor's Association, Governor's Information—Herbert Spencer Hadley (online) <http://www.nga.org>

Shoemaker, Floyd Calvin. *Missouri and Missourians: Land of Contrasts and People of Achievements* (Chicago, Ill.: Lewis Publishing Company, 1943), volume II, pp. 241-264.

Weinberg, Steve. *Taking on the Trust: How Ida Tarbell Brought Down John D. Rockefeller and Standard Oil* (New York, N. Y.: W. W. Norton and Company, 2009.).

Williams, Walter and Shoemaker, Floyd Calvin. *Missouri: Mother of the West* (Chicago, Ill.: American Historical Society, 1930).

Related Material

Stoxen Library, Dickinson State University, North Dakota holds numerous letters from Governor Hadley to Theodore Roosevelt at the Theodore Roosevelt Center.

Missouri History Museum, St. Louis holds PO436, Herbert S. Hadley Collection, 1909 (Photographs)

State Historical Society of Missouri, Columbia holds the following manuscript collection and additional references:

C0006 Herbert Spencer Hadley (1872-1927) Papers, 1820-1943

15.2 linear feet, 35 volumes on 58 rolls of microfilm

The papers of a Missouri Republican lawyer, politician, educator, and author include correspondence, letterbooks, scrapbooks, manuscripts, photographs, cartoons, and miscellaneous material.

Office of the Chancellor, Washington University in St. Louis holds numerous collections pertaining to Governor Hadley.

World Cat lists miscellaneous speeches and reports by Hadley in Missouri and Colorado.

RECORDS, 1909-1911

Extent: 1 folder

Arrangement: Chronological

Scope and Content

The collection includes certificates of election, commission notes, city ordinances, petitions, resignations, and vacancy notifications.

Container List

Location	Box	Folder	Dates	Contents
1B/1/5	1	3	January 13, 1909	Matilda A. Huertgen, St. Louis; resignation as notary public for Randolph County; includes note from the governor that the resignation was accepted; note on back from John Ephraim Swanger, secretary of state
1B/1/5	1	3	January 19, 1909	Robert A. Briscoe, New London, Ralls County; death of incumbent coal oil inspector James W. Link; note on back from Cornelius Roach, secretary of state, that a commission was issued to N. N. Epperson on January 27, 1909
1B/1/5	1	3	January 20, 1909	John C. McKinley, Jefferson City, Cole County; certificate of the election of William Joel Stone (former governor) as U. S. Senator; includes note on back from Cornelius Roach, secretary of state
1B/1/5	1	3	February 26, 1909	J. M. Epperson, et al, Knox County; requests coal oil inspector be appointed for the county; also signed by Oscar J. Rhodes and Willis R. Hendren; note from Cornelius Roach, secretary of state, commission issued to Francis J. Shafer
1B/1/5	1	3	March 16, 1909	Petition, citizens of Lockwood, Dade County; requesting that W. E. Evans be appointment as coal oil inspector; note from Cornelius Roach, secretary of state, commission issued to Evans

1B/1/5	1	3	February 28, 1910	E. B. Hale, Webster Grove, St. Louis County; previous correspondence with governor; race relations with Negroes (original language); note: letter is torn on right margins and information is missing
1B/1/5	1	3	January 11, 1911	Jacob Friedrich Gmelich, Jefferson City, Cole County; notification from the lieutenant governor that James Alexander Reed was elected to the U.S. Senate; also signed by J. K. Pool unsigned note: certificate of election issued on January 18, 1911
1B/1/5	1	3	January 11, 1911	Herbert Spencer Hadley, Jefferson City, Cole County; certificate of election for James Alexander Reed to the U. S. Senate; also signed by Cornelius Roach, secretary of state
1B/1/5	1	3	February 21, 1911	Llewellyn Jones and James S. Craig, Independence, Jackson County; city ordinance signed by the mayor and city clerk; requests governor appoint a census taker
1B/1/5	1	3	February 24, 1911	Jnow Davis, Independence, Jackson County; recommends Arthur H. Palmer for census taker
1B/1/5	1	3	February 24, 1911	B. Zick, Jr., Independence, Jackson County; recommends Arthur H. Palmer for census taker
1B/1/5	1	3	February 25, 1911	Llewellyn Jones, Independence, Jackson County; the mayor recommends Arthur H. Palmer for census taker; transmittal of ordinance and supporting materials
1B/1/5	1	3	February 25, 1911	Jesse L. Martin, Independence, Jackson County; recommends Arthur H. Palmer for census taker
1B/1/5	1	3	March 28, 1911	J. C. Swift, Kansas City, Jackson County; requesting that Swift's credentials as University of Missouri curator be mailed to Mr. Babb in time for next meeting