



## **A. Evan Hughes Constitutional Convention Papers (C0019)**

**Collection Number:** C0019

**Collection Title:** A. Evan Hughes Constitutional Convention Papers

**Dates:** 1943-1944

**Creator:** Hughes, A. Evan, 1893-1951

**Abstract:** Letters and papers of a St. Louis lawyer and delegate from the 25th Senatorial District. Convention work, especially the Committee on Local Government (City of St. Louis, St. Louis County, and Jackson County) which he chaired. He also served on Committees on Military Affairs; Miscellaneous Provisions; and Information, Submission and Address to the People.

**Collection Size:** 0.5 cubic feet  
(51 folders)

**Language:** Collection materials are in English.

**Repository:** The State Historical Society of Missouri

**Restrictions on Access:** Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia](http://www.shsmo.org). If you would like more information, please contact us at [columbia@shsmo.org](mailto:columbia@shsmo.org). Collections may be viewed at any research center.

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**Preferred Citation:** [Specific item; box number; folder number] *A. Evan Hughes Constitutional Convention Papers* (C0019); The State Historical Society of Missouri

Research Center-Columbia [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Columbia].

**Donor Information:** The papers were donated to the University of Missouri by A. Evan Hughes on October 26, 1944 (Accession No. CA0165).

**Processed by:** Processed by The State Historical Society of Missouri-Columbia staff, date unknown. Finding Aid revised by John C. Konzal, April 15, 2020.

**Historical Note:**

A. Evan Hughes was born in St. Louis, Missouri, on October 12, 1893. He was graduated from the Benton Law School, St. Louis, in 1915 and established a law practice. In 1920, he was appointed executive secretary and attorney for the St. Louis Real Estate Exchange, and from 1933 to 1938 he served as probate judge of St. Louis County. He also served as a member of the commission which drafted the 1950 St. Louis County charter. Hughes died in St. Louis on 6 August 1951.

**Arrangement:**

The collection has been arranged into the following two series:

Committees  
General Correspondence and Press Releases

**Scope and Content Note:**

More complete series descriptions are located in the container list.

**Container List:**

**Committees Series**

- f. 1-17            Committee on Local Government (City of St. Louis, St. Louis County, and Jackson County)
  - f. 1-9            Reports, proposals and similar papers
    - f. 1              Committee proposals and their phraseology as adopted by the convention
    - f. 2-3            Subcommittee and committee reports
    - f. 3-6            Proposals, articles, amendments and references to Local Government (City of St. Louis, St. Louis County and Jackson County)
    - f. 7              Transcript of the proceedings held before the committee on annexation of St. Louis and St. Louis County
    - f. 8-9            Minutes of committee meetings
    - f. 10-15        General correspondence regarding work of this committee,

- especially arguments for and against county annexation or extension of City of St. Louis boundaries, protests against the fee system for local officers, and letters from the St. Louis and Kansas City Chambers of Commerce. A letter quoting Loren B. Miller, director of the Civic Research Institute of Kansas City, in his criticism of the committee substitute proposal on county and city home rule. Letters suggesting Boston Metropolitan Plan and that St. Louis City be declared a part of St. Louis County. A bulletin prepared by W. Brooke Braves entitled "What Shall a Constitution Contain?"
- f. 16-17 Correspondence and committee reports
    - f. 16 Correspondence urging the placement of law enforcement officers on a salary basis and the abolition of the fee system.
    - f. 17 Correspondence pertaining to proposals relating to the grand jury system
  - f. 18-23 Committee on Taxation--Levy, Assessment, and Collection. Correspondence urging Hughes' support or opposition to various proposals. Most of the letters deal with the increased real estate tax rate and tax limits, especially the school tax.
    - f. 18-21 Taxation for libraries and state parks
    - f. 22 Letter from St. Louis Real Estate Exchange protesting discrimination against St. Louis City and County and the counties of Jackson and Buchanan in the 1931 school law.
    - f. 23 Letters approving the proposed tax increase
  - f. 24-25 Committee on Executive Department. General correspondence and papers dealing mostly with merit system, short ballot, and powers of the governor in pardon and parole.
  - f. 26 Committee on Legislative Department. A pamphlet entitled "A Modern General Assembly for Modern Missouri." Copies of letters distributed to members of the convention giving a cross-sectional picture of Nebraska businessmen's opinions of the unicameral legislature.
  - f. 27-29 Committee on Judicial Department. Correspondence and reports.
    - f. 27 Subcommittee report
    - f. 28 Suggestions on the proposals of the non-partisan court plan signed "Geo. H. Hubbell."
    - f. 29 Correspondence urging Hughes' support of the nonpartisan court plan. One letter from the judge of the St. Louis Circuit Court urges more court flexibility.
  - f. 30 Committee on Agriculture and Conservation. Correspondence from various associations, clubs, and federations urging the retention of the Missouri Conservation Commission asset up in the Constitution of 1875 by Amendment 4. A letter from the St. Louis Chamber of Commerce giving its reaction to this question as well as other proposals. A letter from the Missouri Farmers Association urging that forestry be left under the Conservation Commission. A bulletin on the

- achievements of the commission.
- f. 31-34 Committee on Miscellaneous Provisions. Letters and papers pertaining to the work and proposals of this committee.
- f. 31 Letters from individuals urging support of Proposal 115 giving counties and City of St. Louis power to prohibit sale of alcoholic beverages.
- f. 32-34 Correspondence dealing largely with arguments for and against a constitutional maximum rate of interest on loans.
- f. 33 Letters pertaining to changes in the grand jury system
- f. 35-36 Committee on Education. Correspondence and papers, mostly dealing with state aid to public libraries.
- f. 35 Petition from the Adult Discussion Group of the St. Louis Ethical Society urging removal of the provision making separate schools for black and white children mandatory.
- f. 37-38 Committee on Public Health and Public Welfare and Federal Relations With Respect Thereto. Correspondence dealing with the protection of states' rights and the minority report on public health and welfare submitted by F. L. McCluer.
- f. 37 A bulletin prepared by delegate O.C. Lee of Hamilton, Missouri, stating the purpose and benefit of Proposal 210 guarding states' rights.
- f. 38 Article by O.C. Lee denouncing federal bureaucracy
- f. 39 Committee on State Finance (except Taxation)--Expenditures, Public Indebtedness, and Restrictions Thereon. General correspondence and papers regarding the work of this committee. A paper on the Missouri Memorial Trust Fund and papers on financing municipal improvements. A Missouri Farmers Association letter urging retention of constitutional proviso restraining the governor from reducing appropriations for free public schools.
- f. 40 Committee on Highways. General correspondence on work of the committee. Letters from Missouri Farmers Association and the Association of Team and Truck Owners opposing Highway Commission authority to regulate access to state highways.
- f. 41 Committee on Labor. Correspondence which in the main opposes the inclusion of rights of employees and specific laws and regulations regarding them in the constitution.
- f. 42 Committee on Congressional, State Senatorial and Representative Districts. A pamphlet depicting weaknesses in representation and offering suggestions for correction.
- f. 43 Committee on Corporations and Industry. One letter from the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen urging that employees of transportation companies having passes or tickets not be discriminated against in serving as municipal or county officers. A letter from the Kansas City Chamber of Commerce analyzing the file of this committee.
- f. 44-45 Committee on Information, Submission, and Address to the People.

General correspondence pertaining to this committee. Reports of a rural newspaper survey showing newspaper response over the state to convention news releases. Sample copies for personal letters from delegates to individuals and mailing lists.

- f. 46 Committee on Suffrage and Elections. Correspondence urging Hughes' opposition to proposal that jury duty for women be stricken from constitution.

### General Correspondence and Press Releases Series

- f. 47-49 Letters from President Robert E. Blake pertaining to the mechanics of the convention, including suggested schedule of committee meetings and a subcommittee report. Memorandum suggesting arrangement of proposed constitution.
- f. 50-51 "Constitutional Convention News"

### Index:

Subject	Folders
Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers	43
Caulfield, Henry Stewart (1873-1966)	48
Chamber of Commerce, Kansas City, Missouri	10-15,37,38,40,42
Chamber of Commerce, St. Louis, Missouri	10-44,37,38,40
Chambers of commerce	10-15,37,38,40-42
Education	35-36
Ethical Society of St. Louis	35
Hughes, A. Evan (1893-1951)	1-51
Labor unions	43
Libraries	18-21, 35, 36, 39
Loans	32-34
Missouri Farmers Association	39-40
Missouri Public Expenditure Survey	1
Missouri, St. Louis	1-15
Missouri, St. Louis County	1-15
Missouri. Conservation Commission	30
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944	1
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Agriculture and Conservation	30
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Congressional, State Senatorial and Representative Districts	42
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Corporations and Industry	43

Subject	Folders
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Education	35-36
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Executive Department	24-25
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Highways	40
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Information, Submission and Address to the People	44-45
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Judicial Department	27-29
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Labor	41
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Legislative Department	26
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Local Government	16-17
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Local Government (City of St. Louis, St. Louis County, and Jackson County)	1-15
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Miscellaneous Provisions	31-34
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Public Health and Public Welfare and Federal Relations with Respect thereto	37-38
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on State Finance (except Taxation)--Expenditures, Public Indebtedness and Restrictions thereon	39
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Suffrage and Elections	46
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Taxation-Levy, Assessment and Collection	18-23
Missouri. Highway Commission	40
Missouri. Highway Department	40
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People	35
Race relations	35-36
Real Estate Business	18-23
Schools	22-23, 35-36, 38-39
Stark, Lloyd Crow (1886-1972)	47
Women--Suffrage	46