



Ethan A.H. Shepley Constitutional Convention Papers (C0027)

Collection Number: C0027

Collection Title: Ethan A.H. Shepley Constitutional Convention Papers

Dates: 1943-1944

Creator: Shepley, Ethan A.H., 1896-1975

Abstract: Letters and papers of a St. Louis lawyer and Republican delegate-at-large. Shepley was chairman of the Committee on Taxation - Levy, Assessment, and Collection, and served on the Committees on the Legislative Department, Executive Department, Judiciary Department, Military Affairs, and Miscellaneous Provisions.

Collection Size: 2.0 cubic feet
(209 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. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

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Donor Information: The papers were donated to the University of Missouri by Ethan A.H. Shepley on March 21, 1945 (Accession No. CA0218).

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Historical Note:

Ethan A.H. Shepley was born in St. Louis. He attended Smith Academy in St. Louis and Hill Academy in Pennsylvania. He graduated from Yale University with an A.B. degree, and from Washington University in St. Louis with an L.L.B degree. He practiced law in St. Louis beginning in 1921. He was a member of the law firm of Nagel, Kirby, Orrick and Shepley. He was a member of the Board of Washington University and a director of Shaw's Garden, the Boy Scouts of America, the Red Cross, and Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance, Co.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into the following two series:

Committees
Miscellaneous Papers and Correspondence

Scope and Content Note:

More complete series descriptions are located in the container list.

Container List:

Committees Series

- | | |
|----------|---|
| f. 1-96 | Committee on Taxation, Levy, Assessment, and Collection. Proposals, amendments, subcommittee and committee reports of this committee. |
| f. 2 | Several papers on the general subject of taxation by V. E. Phillips |
| f. 4 | Tax provisions for blighted areas and road districts |
| f. 6 | Minority report of the committee and suggestion with reference to it |
| f. 7-12 | Various versions of different sections of the report of this committee, especially sections 3 and 4. |
| f. 13-16 | Different versions of the complete report of this committee |
| f. 17 | Remarks concerning the report of the committee |
| f. 18-20 | Minutes of this committee as presented to the president of the convention, Robert Blake |
| f. 21-23 | Answers to a questionnaire on various tax propositions |
| f. 24 | Memoranda of comments and suggestions by the Tax Committee |

- on the Missouri Railroad Association concerning various proposals before this committee.
- f. 25 Factual information and legal opinions referring to the proposed taxation of municipal tax certificates of purchase as personal property.
- f. 26-27 Miscellaneous papers pertaining to this committee such as clippings, Shepley's personal notations, grafts.
- f. 28-36 Letters urging increases constitutional provisions for public libraries, arguments for and against freezing of tax assessments in blighted areas, letters regarding taxation of real property, taxation of intangibles, property classification and tax limitations.
- f. 28 Letter protesting Alroy S. Phillips' proposed tax amendment
- f. 29 S. R. Dempsey of Sedalia, Missouri, protests cities' abuse of constitutional provision for taxing property; enclosures by M. L. Faust of the University of Missouri on State Tax Provisions.
- f. 31 Memorandum on provisions of Missouri Constitution in relation to public libraries
- f. 36 Letters relating to taxation for schools
- f. 37-38 Correspondence urging proposal 55, allowing 2/3 of voters to increase local taxes for specific county, city, and school purposes. Correspondence against tax increase on real estate.
- f. 39-40 Letters pertaining to tax income for state park maintenance
- f. 41 Photostatic copy of letter covering various matters before the convention, especially those affecting religious organizations, a letter suggesting that 1/3 of general revenue may be too much for public education
- f. 42 Sale of property for delinquent taxes, tax fund for recreational purposes
- f. 46-50 County judges' opinions of different counties having different assessed evaluations.
- f. 49 V. E. Phillips draft of Article X on Taxation and State Finance. Folder 50 contains a comparison of this draft and Shepley's by a St. Louis lawyer, Charles C. Allen.
- f. 51 Letter by W. A. Allen, tax law specialist, criticizing the easy possibility of evading property taxes and urging tax on more at lower rates.
- f. 52-54 Letters protesting municipalities paying sales tax
- f. 53 Letter urging no property be sold for delinquent taxes except by judicial proceedings
- f. 55-85 Mostly correspondence for and against Section 11 of File 19 allowing increase in property tax levies for libraries, hospitals, public health, and other public purposes. Correspondence on dissolution of special road districts (folders 56, 59, 61).
- f. 55-60 Largely favorable

- f. 60-84
 - f. 76
 Mostly correspondence from real estate opposing the issue
 Letter and memorandum from W. E. Davis, commerce
 counsel for the Kansas City Southern Railway
 Company, protesting unlimited authority in the General
 Assembly to effect classification of property for tax
 purposes.
- f.86-88 Missouri Bankers Association and St. Louis Clearing House
 correspondence sent from Thomas C, Hennings, Sr., of St. Louis
 to Shepley evidently to be used in working out the file on
 taxation.
- f. 86
 - f. 87
 - f. 88
 Senate Joint and Concurrent Resolution 4 of the 62nd
 General Assembly
 Consulting economist J. Ray Cable's report to the Committee
 on Taxation of the St. Louis Clearing House
 Miscellaneous correspondence from banking interests on
 taxation problems
- f. 89-96 Miscellaneous tax pamphlets and bulletins pertaining to the
 problems of this committee. A number of the publications were
 put out by the Missouri Public Expenditure Survey.
- f. 93
 - f. 95
 Research paper by Carl Tauernicht on Local Government
 Bonds
 Articles on taxation of intangibles and taxation of bank
 deposits
- f. 97-113 Committee on Legislative Department
 - f. 97-98
 - f. 99
 - f. 100-102
 - f. 103
 - f. 104-105
 - f. 106
 - f. 109
 - f. 110
 - f. 111-113
 Articles favoring a unicameral legislature
 Resolutions before this committee
 Subcommittee and committee reports
 Report of the Committee on Phraseology, Arrangement and
 Engrossment
 Missouri Public Expenditure Survey publications pertaining to
 the Legislative Department
 Material assembled by the Missouri State Highway Department
 in connection with the Legislative Article 44a of the 1875
 Constitution
 Recommendations to this committee from the Women's City
 Club of Kansas City
 Statements of a cross section of businessmen of Nebraska on
 their one-house legislature
 Miscellaneous pamphlets and bulletins
- f. 114-124 Committee on Executive Department
 - f. 115-117
 - f. 118-119
 Proposals, amendments, and files
 Bulletins published by the Public Expenditure Survey,
 Government Research Institute and Missouri League of Women
 Voters regarding the Executive Department
- f. 120-124 Correspondence pertaining to pardons, paroles, reprieves and the
 cabinet system. Appraisal of various proposals before this

- committee by the Kansas City Chamber of Commerce.
- f. 121-122 Letters from the Missouri Farmers' Association urging that the New Constitution be clear that the Governor have no authority to reduce appropriations for free school purposes.
- f. 125-142 Committee on Judicial Department
- f. 125 Subcommittee reports
- f. 126 Report of the Judicial Council to the 60th General Assembly of Missouri; proposed compromise plan to the nonpartisan court plan; Report of the Special Committee on the Constitutional Convention of the Bar Association of St. Louis.
- f. 127 Proposed Judiciary Article
- f. 133 Report of Joint Committees of Missouri Judicial Conference and Missouri Bar Association
- f. 134-135 Correspondence in regard to Proposal 21
- f. 136 Letter from Judge Kimbrough Stone, Sr. giving his reaction to the United States system of transfer of judges
- f. 137 Nonpartisan Judiciary Compromise Plan 2-A by Alroy S. Phillips, paper on court structure as covered by Proposals 4, 21, and 351
- f. 138 Report of H. Sam Priest
- f. 140 Clerk of Circuit Court, City of St. Louis; Report of the Committee on Judicial Department
- f. 143-149 Committee on Miscellaneous Provisions. Various papers and letters pertaining to the problems and work of this committee.
- f. 143 Paper on loan charges
- f. 145-149 Correspondence for and against local option; against Proposals 300 and 301, dealing with death damages and negligence; correspondence concerning constitutional limits of interest rates on small loans and constitutional requirements that each county have a grand jury called at stated intervals.
- f. 145 Statement by James G. Conzelman, assistant to the President, American Investment Company, opposing constitutional limits of interest rates.
- f. 150-151 Committee on Military Affairs. Various papers and letters pertaining to this committee. Proposals, amendments before this committee concerning the state militia.
- f. 151 List of officers mobilization of First Missouri Infantry
- f. 152-154 Committee on Education
- f. 152 Resolution from the St. Joseph, Missouri, Federation of Teachers favoring constitutional ear-marking of 1/3 of state revenue for public education, a proposed constitutional amendment for school funds.
- f. 153-154 Material urging equal educational opportunities for Negroes from the NAACP and the Urban League of St. Louis; a letter from E. E. Crader, past president of South East Missouri Teachers Association, opposing appointive state commissioner

- and board of education; a letter from A. L. Herold of Marshall, Missouri, urging liberalization of school and college government; letters urging constitutional provision for public libraries.
- f. 155-157 Committee on Local Government. Pamphlets, papers, and letters pertaining to the work of this committee.
- f. 155 County Government Manual for the Missouri Constitutional Convention of 1943
- f. 157 Letters urging elimination of the fee system method of paying law enforcement officers; recommendations of the Kansas City Chamber of Commerce concerning this file.
- f. 158-162 Committee on Local Government (City of St. Louis, St. Louis County and Jackson County)
- f. 158 *Government of the City of St. Louis*, summary report of the mayor's advisory committee on city survey and audit
- f. 159 *The Movement for Municipal Home Rule in St. Louis* by Thomas C. Barclay, Stanford
- f. 160-162 Material dealing with St. Louis and St. Louis County, especially the matter of consolidation.
- f. 162 Letter and pamphlet from Mayor A. P. Kaufman of St. Louis and a resolution from the Board of Aldermen of St. Louis urging constitutional provision for the City of St. Louis to consolidate at least portions of St. Louis County.
- f. 163-167 Committee on Agriculture and Conservation
- f. 163 Report of Missouri Conservation Commission and a bulletin, "The Constitution and Conservation"
- f. 164 Statements by I. T. Bode, Director of Missouri Conservation Commission, and E. S. Stephens, Chairman of the Commission
- f. 164-166 Resolution from conservation and sportsmen's organizations; letters favoring no change in the Conservation Commission as set up by the constitutional amendment of 1936.
- f. 167 M. E. Gouge (member of this committee) correspondence. Several letters explaining his Proposal 147 making it mandatory for the General Assembly to maintain an efficient Department of Agriculture.
- f. 168-170 Committee on Corporations and Industry. Miscellaneous papers and letters pertaining to the work of this committee.
- f. 168 Proposals before the committee
- f. 169 Report to the Missouri Bar Association for the Missouri Constitutional Convention concerning general business corporations
- f. 170 Correspondence regarding various proposals; letter from the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen urging that employees of transportation companies who have free tickets or passes be allowed to hold municipal offices by amending that part of the

- constitution which prohibits local public officers having passes.
- f. 171-172 Committee on Highways
- f. 171 "History of the Missouri State Highway Department"
- f. 172 Miscellaneous correspondence; letter from the Missouri Farmers Association, the Association of Team and Truck Owners and others opposing constitutional authority to the State Highway Commission to regulate access to, from, and across state highways.
- f. 173-174 Committee on Labor
- f. 173 Material dealing with Section 1 and 2 of the Labor Committee file 10 which would permit political activity on the part of public employees
- f. 174 Correspondence from labor unions favoring proposals before this committee giving labor the right to organize and bargain collectively and against outlawing closed shop and compelling labor unions to incorporate. Letter of appraisal on this file from the Kansas City Chamber of Commerce.
- f. 175-178 Committee on Public Health and Public Welfare and Federal Relations with Respect Thereto. Various pamphlets, papers, and letters pertaining to questions before this committee.
- f. 175 Statement by delegate O. C. Tee on Proposal 210 which was designed to curtail federal authority in affairs of state government
- f. 176 Article on naturopathy, on Missouri's social security problems, and one on relation of state and federal government.
- f. 177 Index of Public Assistance in Missouri
- f. 178 Letters urging the acceptance of the committee's minority report by F. L. McCluer and correspondence urging the creation of a Department of Public Health and Welfare.
- f. 179-180 Committee on Finance. Miscellaneous papers and letters pertaining to the work of this committee.
- f. 180 Letters of appraisal from the Kansas City and St. Louis City Chambers of Commerce on this file and other correspondence regarding the issuance of revenue bonds by municipalities.
- f. 181-182 Committee on Preamble, Boundaries, Bill of Rights and Distribution of Powers
- f. 181 Articles on medical freedom, compulsory vaccination and exclusion of chiropractors from practice in hospitals; editorial page of *The Call*, Negro newspaper of Kansas City, urging equal rights for Negroes; a bulletin, "Liberty Under the Fourteenth Amendment," by John Raeburn Green.
- f. 182 Correspondence pertaining to the right of the citizen to bear arms, equal rights for Negroes, right relating to religious freedom, and a memorandum on freedom of speech by Allen McReynolds.
- f. 183 Committee on Suffrage and Elections. A proposal relating to suffrage

- and elections before the committee. A Missouri Public Expenditure Survey publication on the subject of suffrage and elections.
- f. 184-185 Committee on Phraseology, Arrangement and Engrossment. Reports of this committee on the files of the Committee on Executive Department, Committee on Taxation and the Committee on Legislative Department.
- f. 186 Committee on Congressional, State Senatorial and Representative Districts. A pamphlet entitled "A Solution to the Senatorial Redistricting Problem."
- f. 187 Committee on Information, Submission and Address to the People. Various issues of the Constitutional Convention News and a "Preliminary Draft of Address to the People" by William L. Bradshaw.
- f. 188 Special Committee on Schedule. A tentative draft of a schedule as suggested by Judge Ford.

Miscellaneous Papers and Correspondence Series

- f. 189-190 Newspaper and magazine articles regarding the convention in general. Routine papers of a general nature.
- f. 191 Shepley, E. A. H. and R. E. Blake Correspondence. Routine correspondence to and from the president of the Convention, R. E. Blake, and Shepley.
- f. 192-202 General Correspondence. Routine correspondence; some deals with the state-wide committee for the Constitutional Convention. Letters from the St. Louis Chamber of Commerce.
- f. 192 Applications for positions in the Convention
- f. 193 Statement of the receipts and expenditures of the campaign by Missouri Institute for the Administration of Justice for the adoption of constitutional Amendments 3 and 4 of the 1875 Constitution.
- f. 194 Letter from D. W. Gramling, Chairman of the Missouri State Legislative Board of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers protesting the unfair set-up for choosing delegates.
- f. 196 Letter from F. W. Thompson on the evils of party election machinery and suggestions for constitutional abolition of it.
- f. 203-209 Miscellaneous Bulletins. Some of these bulletins have to do with the Constitutional Convention: organization and proceedings.
- f. 204 Manual of the Constitutional Convention and a copy of *The Constitution Convention of 1943*
- f. 206 Constitution Convention, 1943 Index
- f. 207 *A Suggested Constitution for Missouri* presented by Fred W. Naeter
- f. 208 *Summary or Findings in the Missouri Jail Survey* by Roy Casey, Inspector of Jail, United States Bureau of Prisons
- f. 209 "The American Legion Stand on Prohibition" and a *Summary of the Amendments Submitted by New York State Constitution Convention of 1938*

Index:

Subject	Folders
American Association of University Women	44
American Medical Liberty League, Incorporated	181
Banks and banking	29,31,86-88
Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers	45,147,170,174
Chamber of Commerce, Kansas City, Missouri	39,44,78,120,123,145-148, 157,170,174,180
Chamber of Commerce, St. Louis, Missouri	37,42.45,55,77,80,146,147, 200,201
Education	44, 152-154
Gouge, M. E. (1884-)	167
Kansas City Southern Railway Company	76
Labor unions	45, 147, 152, 170, 174, 194
League of Municipalities of St. Louis County, Missouri	155
Libraries	28, 31-32, 36, 41, 52, 154
Loans	143-149
Missouri Association of Municipal Utilities	180
Missouri Bankers Association	86-88
Missouri Farmers Association	121-122, 172
Missouri League of Women Voters	37, 80, 81, 118-120, 124, 135, 142, 174, 192-202
Missouri Public Expenditure Survey	89-96, 104, 105, 118, 119, 183
Missouri Railroad Association	24
Missouri Welfare League	120-123
Missouri, St. Louis	29, 33, 158-160, 162
Missouri. Conservation Commission	163-166
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944	1-209
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Agriculture and Conservation	163-167
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Congressional, State Senatorial and Representative Districts	186
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Corporations and Industry	168-170
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Education	152-154
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Executive Department	114-124
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Highways	171-172

Subject	Folders
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Information, Submission and Address to the People	187
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Judicial Department	125-142
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Labor	173-174
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Legislative Department	97-113
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Local Government	155-157
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Local Government (City of St. Louis, St. Louis County, and Jackson County)	158-162
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Military Affairs	150, 151
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Miscellaneous Provisions	143-149
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Phraseology, Arrangement and Engrossment	184, 185
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Preamble, Boundaries, Bill of Rights and Distribution of Powers	181, 182
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Public Health and Public Welfare and Federal Relations with Respect thereto	175-178
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Schedule (Special Committee)	188
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on State Finance (except Taxation)--Expenditures, Public Indebtedness and Restrictions thereon	179-180
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Suffrage and Elections	183
Missouri. Constitutional Convention, 1943-1944. Committee on Taxation--Levy, Assessment and Collection	1-96
Missouri. Highway Commission	171-172
Missouri. Highway Department	106, 171-172
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People	153-182
Public Health, Missouri	175-178
Real Estate Business	43-44, 55, 77, 82-85
Religion	41
Schools	33-34, 121-122
Shepley, Ethan A. H. (1896-1975)	1-209

Subject	Folders
St. Louis Real Estate Exchange	44-82, 85
St. Louis-San Francisco Railway Company	78
Taxation	1, 96, 121-122
Woman's Christian Temperance Union	145-149