



John C. Parrish Papers (C0034)

Collection Number: C0034

Collection Title: John C. Parrish Papers

Dates: 1877-1954

Creator: Parrish, John C., 1854-1944), Papers

Abstract: Correspondence, business papers, and account books of John C. Parrish of Vandalia, Missouri. He was a member of the board of curators of the University of Missouri, 1905-1917; held interests in the lead and zinc mining industry in Missouri and Oklahoma; and was active in the Republican Party in Missouri.

Collection Size: 5.4 cubic feet
(515 folders, 8 volumes)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

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Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *John C. Parrish Papers* (C0034); 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 Mrs. J.C. Parrish on August 15, 1960 (Accession No. CA3452).

Processed by: Processed by The State Historical Society of Missouri staff, date unknown. Finding aid revised by John C. Konzal, April 17, 2020.

Historical Note:

John Conley Parrish was born near St. Joseph in Buchanan County, Missouri on November 5, 1854. He was the son of John Conley and Mary Ann Pritchett Parrish.

The Parrish family returned to West Virginia in 1858, and Parrish resided near Mannington, West Virginia, until he was nineteen. Parrish moved to St. Louis where he received his medical degree from the North American College of Medicine in 1877. He then began his practice in Vandalia, Missouri, and practiced medicine there for forty-five years. Parrish married Mary Alice Hanna in Trenton, Missouri, in 1919. They had two daughters, Mary Ellen and Frances Ann.

Parrish was active in Vandalia civic affairs. He attempted to bring industry into Vandalia, to provide better transportation facilities, and to provide efficient and adequate public utilities for that community. He was a director of the Vandalia Banking Association for many years. He also served as a member of the Vandalia School Board.

Parrish was a member of the Board of Curators of the University of Missouri from 1905 through 1916. He was especially active in his endeavors to obtain funds necessary for a medical school as it would help meet the state's need for more qualified physicians.

Parrish was an active member of the Republican Party, and he also held interests in the lead and zinc mining industry in Jasper County, Missouri, and Ottawa County, Oklahoma. He invested in the stock of companies including the Pet Milk Company, West St. Louis Water and Light, and the United Railways of St. Louis.

Parrish died on December 4, 1944 in Vandalia, Missouri.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into the following nine series:

General Correspondence
Maps
Medical Speeches
Correspondence Course
Medical Papers,
Business Papers
Miscellaneous Papers
A. Ross Hill Correspondence
Account Books

Scope and Content Note:

The Parrish Papers include personal and business correspondence, business papers, maps, speeches, and account books.

The early correspondence deals primarily with medical practices and the raising of trotting horses. The later correspondence primarily concerns Parrish's business interest in the lead and zinc mining industry, including production and drill reports. There is a great deal of

correspondence with Republican candidates and their qualifications for office. Some of Parrish's political correspondents include Governors Hadley, Hyde, Major, and Donnell, as well as Champ Clark, Selden Spencer, and William Warner.

During the period Parrish served as curator at the University of Missouri, he corresponded with A. Ross Hill, president of the University and a personal friend of Parrish. The correspondence between them contains a great deal of information regarding University affairs, including faculty appointments, state appropriations, enrollment, construction of new buildings, the attitude of the state legislature toward the University, the effect of local politicians on the University, and the need for a hospital and clinical facilities for a four-year medical school.

Container List:

General Correspondence Series

- f. 1-14 1886-1904. Correspondence pertaining to: current medical practices, raising and breeding of trotting horses, raising and breeding of trotting horses, Republican Party affairs, election campaigns, and business interests in the lead and zinc mines of Jasper County, Missouri.
- f. 15-17 1907-1908. Correspondence pertaining to: the resignation of Richard H. Jesse and the appointment of Albert Ross Hill as president of the University of Missouri, affairs of the Board of Curators, Republican Party politics, establishment of a School of Journalism at the University, and the raising and breeding of trotting horses.
- f. 18-24 1908-1909. Correspondence pertaining to the site of the post-office building in Mexico, and miscellaneous political correspondence.
- f. 25-33 1909-1910. Correspondence regarding the Republican Party.
- f. 28 Increase in enrollment.
- f. 34-45 1910-1911. Correspondence regarding Republican Party.
- f. 46-91 1911-1914. Correspondence pertaining to University affairs, and the Republican Party.
- f. 55-56 Construction of chemistry and physics buildings at the University.
- f. 69 Establishment of Missouri Industrial Institute at Rolla, moving the School of Mines to Columbia.
- f. 73, 85 Construction of University Library.
- f. 92-119 1915-1916. Correspondence pertaining to University affairs, appropriations for the University, administration of School of Mines, enrollment at the University, possibility of H.S. Hadley's candidacy for the U.S. Senate, and affairs of the Mexico-Joplin Land and Mining Company.
- f. 120-148 1916. Correspondence regarding University affairs, appropriation and revenue for the University, summer school enrollment, Republican Party affairs, and public utilities of Vandalia, Mo.
- f. 138 Form letter from President Wilson regarding the Industrial Preparedness Committee of the Naval Consulting Board.
- f. 149-170 1916-1917. Correspondence pertaining to University affairs, Military Training Camps Association, and operations of the Mexico-Joplin Land and Mining Company, and of the Union Zinc Company.
- f. 149 St. Louis Times wants to know if there is a move by the Board of Curators to oust A.R. Hill as President of the University of Missouri.

- f. 162-165 University regulations concerning whether S.L. Baysinger can serve as a member of the Board of Curators while his son-in-law is on the faculty of the School of Mines at Rolla.
- f. 171-208 1917-1919. Correspondence regarding the mining operations of the Union Zinc Company, including assay and production reports and the price of lead and zinc ore. Correspondence pertaining to the grain market in St. Louis, Parrish's interest in the stock of the West St. Louis Water and Light Company and Tex-La-Homa Oil Corporation.
- f. 209-240 1919. Correspondence pertaining to the mining operations of the Union Zinc Company, solicitation of funds for the Roosevelt Memorial Association, and Parrish's interest in stock of the Tex-La-Homa Oil Corporation.
- f. 241-268 1920. Correspondence pertaining to the affairs of the Union Zinc Company, the fund drive for America's Gift to France, re-establishment of clinical instruction in university medical school, and Republican Party and the 1920 election campaigns. Parrish's interest in stock of Globe and Tex-La-Homa Oil Companies.
- f. 245 Senator Spencer opposes U.S. admission to the League of Nations.
- f. 264 C.B. Rollins to resign from the Board of Curators so his daughter may join the faculty.
- f. 269-300 1921-1922. Correspondence pertaining to mining affairs of the Union Zinc Company, fund drive for Russian Relief, campaign to obtain a hospital for the university, Republican Party affairs, and utilities in Vandalia.
- f. 289 Threat to Texas cotton by boll weevils
- f. 301-336 1923-1925. Correspondence pertaining to affairs of Union Zinc and Mexico-Joplin Land and Mining Co., Vandalia telephone service, Republican Party affairs and campaign, hospital and a four-year medical course at the University of Missouri.
- f. 308 Control of cotton boll weevil in Texas.
- f. 337-375 1926-1933. Correspondence pertaining to affairs of the Union Zinc Company, Republican Party affairs, Drought Relief program, and the program of Agricultural Adjustment Administration.
- f. 376-421 1934-1954. Correspondence pertaining to Missouri Relief and Reconstruction Commission, Drought Relief, and Republican Party affairs and campaigns.
- f. 384-385 Campaign for the passage of a tax bill for revenue for Ellemosynary and Penal Institutions.
- f. 389 Letter from A.L. Shapleigh, Republican National Finance Committee, stating that Jesse W. Barrett is a popular candidate for governor.

Maps Series

- f. 422 State Labor Commissioner's Official Map of Missouri showing surplus food productions shipped from each county, 1898.
- f. 423 Map of West Virginia showing the oil and gas developments, prominent anticlinal axes and outcrop of different coad series, 1899.
- f. 424 Map of the mining districts of Southwestern Missouri, 1899.
- f. 425 Map of the approved mineral surveys in the Cripple Creek, Col. Mining District, 1900.
- f. 426 Maps of Huntington Park, California; Map of coastal Texas near Matagorda Bay; Missouri State Road Map, 1924.

- f. 427 Map of Denverside and East St. Louis, Illinois; Map and facts about East St. Louis, Illinois.
- f. 428 [See Miscellaneous Papers series]

Medical Speeches Series

- f. 429 Speech pertaining to appendicitis.
- f. 430 Speeches pertaining to infectious diseases; eczema and rheumatism.

Correspondence Course Series

- f. 431 Course pertains to hypnotism and faith healing.

Medical Papers Series

- f. 432-433 Miscellaneous medical and pharmaceutical pamphlets.
- f. 434 Record of Dr. Parrish's interesting medical cases, 1877-1883.

Business Papers Series

- f. 435-436 Promissory notes.
- f. 437-438 Grocery and meat bills.
- f. 439-444 Miscellaneous bills and receipts.
- f. 445-446 Mining leases.
- f. 447 Legal documents of mining companies.
- f. 448-452 Financial and bank statement of the Mexico-Joplin Land Co. and Union Zinc Co.
- f. 453 List of checks issued by Union Zinc Co.
- f. 454 Weekly production reports of the Harrisburg Mining and Milling Company.
- f. 455 Mining drill records and assay reports.
- f. 455-459 Miscellaneous Papers regarding mines and mining stock of companies in the Cripple Creek, Colorado mining area.
- f. 460 Financial reports of the Tex-La-Homa Oil Corporation and the Globe Consolidated Oil Corporation.
- f. 461-464 Miscellaneous reports of stocks, including Pet Milk Company, and United Railways of St. Louis.
- f. 465 Agreement for the reorganization of the St. Louis Public Service Company.
- f. 466 Miscellaneous deeds.
- f. 467 Miscellaneous papers in regard to the programs of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, Drought Relief, and the Missouri Relief and Reconstruction Commission.
- f. 468-469 Newspaper clippings.
- f. 470-472 Bank statements.
- f. 473 Tax assessment notices and receipts.
- f. 474 Insurance policies.
- f. 475 Miscellaneous papers pertaining to Republican Party affairs.

Miscellaneous Papers Series

- f. 428 Miscellaneous papers and pamphlets pertaining to the breeding, raising, and racing of trotting horses.

- f. 476 Pertaining to the Roosevelt Memorial Association fund drive.
- f. 477-479 Blueprints, building specifications.
- f. 480 Pertaining to Parrish's position as surgeon for the Chicago and Alton Railroad.
- f. 481 Photographs.
- f. 482 Pertaining to municipal utilities.
- f. 483 Miscellaneous pamphlets.
- f. 484 Pertaining to the University of Missouri.
- f. 485 Statement of royalties on fire-clay mined at Vandalia, Missouri.
- f. 486 Regarding a tax to provide revenue for state eleemosynary and penal institutions.
- f. 487 Legal papers.
- f. 488 Business and credit cards.
- f. 489-491 Miscellaneous business papers.

A. Ross Hill Correspondence Series

- f. 492-515 Correspondence between Parrish and the president of the University of Missouri, 1908-1926.

Account Books Series

- v. 1 Record of prescriptions and treatments.
- v. 2 Account book, 1877-1879.
- v. 3 Account book, 1880-1881
- v. 4 Account book, 1882-1886
- v. 5 Account book, 1887-1903
- v. 6 Account book, 1903-1940
- v. 7 Account book, 1914
- v. 8 Surgeon reports for the Chicago and Alton Railroad.

Index:

Subject	Folders	Volumes
Akins, T. J.	134-139	
America's Gift to France	241-268	
Anderson, Ben	133,136,138	
Babb, J(erre) G.	24,29,34,41,50,64,69	
Baker, Sam Aaron (1874-1933)	338,342	
Barrett, Jesse W. (1884-1953)	389	
Baysinger, S. L.	37,54,65,69,77,79,92-103,157-163,241,306	
Bishop, R. L.	180-264	
Boll Weevil	289-308	
Bothwell, J. H.	28,36,40-48,52,65,68,88,421	
Brewer, Chester L. (1875-1953)	50,140,153	
Brooks, Stratton Duluth (1869-1949)	312,484	
Buford, Carter M. (1876-1959)	92,95,99,134	
Burton, P. E. (1875-1953)	16-19,36,37,61,63	

Subject	Folders	Volumes
Caldwell, Robert Breckenridge (1882-1956)	55,80	
California, Huntington Parks, Map	426	
Cannon, Clarence (1879-1964)	385,386	
Carnegie Foundation	21,24,121,484	
Church, L. C.	94-266,380,336	
Clark, Bennett Champ (1890-1954)	416	
Clark, Champ (1850-1921)	14,28,34,42,89,128	
Cotton, Texas	289-308	
Cowherd, William Strother (1860-1915)	32-41	
Dockery, Alexander Monroe (1845-1926)	40	
Donnell, Forrest C. (1884-1980)	26-33, 43, 45, 64, 65, 81, 91-95, 125, 127, 195-197, 283, 306, 369, 419	
Downs, P. L.	97-107, 132-139, 160, 183-189, 197-219, 230-236, 251-265, 275-315, 331	
Droughts--Missouri	337-421	
Faris, Charles Breckenridge (1864-1938)	15, 21, 56, 153	
Farris, Frank	92, 95, 96	
Francis, David Rowland (1850-1927)	19, 32, 77-81, 89-96, 103, 106, 110, 119	
Gardner, Albert E.	133	
Gardner, Frederick Dozier (1869-1933)	133, 152, 255	
Globe Consolidated Oil Company	171-268	
Gold Mines and Mining--Colorado	425, 456-459	
Gordon, John Pemberton (1866-1949)	34, 44, 71-72, 92-96, 114, 126, 128, 130, 133, 151-152	
Guitar, Odon (1825-1908)	30, 31, 92	
Hadley, Herbert Spencer (1872-1927)	21-65, 110, 130, 306	
Henderson, S. E.	169-310	
Hill, Albert Ross (1869-1943)	15-169, 204, 215, 224, 241, 264-269, 274, 277, 306-311, 337, 340	
Hirth, William (1875-1940)	34	
Horses	1-17, 428	
Hukriede, Theodore W. (1878-1945)	316, 322, 327, 333, 335	
Hyde, Arthur Mastick (1877-1947)	224-247, 263-266, 279, 281, 303-308, 322-329, 342, 353, 363-369	
Hypnotism	431	
Jackson, C. M.	42, 72	
Jesse, Richard Henry (1853-1921)	15, 17	
Jones, John Carleton (1856-1930)	16, 21, 71, 291, 302-308	
Karnes, Joseph V. C. (1841-1911)	15-16, 21-45	
Kreisler, Fritz (1875-1962)	110	
Lamm, Henry (1846-1926)	128, 140, 254, 256	

Subject	Folders	Volumes
Lawson, John Davison (1852-1921)	17, 53	
Lead Mines and Mining--Oklahoma	209-375	
League of Nations	245	
Loans	257-260	
Mabon, J. S.	93-116, 136-146	
Major, Elliott Woolfolk (1864-1949)	71-72, 77, 88-92, 151-154	
Maps--California, Huntington Park	426	
Maps--Illinois, East St. Louis	427	
Maps--Missouri, 1924	426	
Maps--Texas, Matagorda Bay	426	
Maps--West Virginia, 1899	423	
McAlester, Andrew Walker (1841-1922)	16, 19, 23, 136	
McRae, Austin Lee (1861-1922)	102, 103, 145, 151, 175	
McWilliams, Bruce	162-179, 194	
Medical care--Costs	2-9	
Medicine	1-17, 429-434	v. 1-8
Mexico, Joplin Land and Mining Company	92-336	
Middlebush, Frederick Arnold (1890-1971)	392, 409	
Military Training Camps Association	159-170, 178, 194, 296	
Mines and mineral resources--Maps--Missouri, 1899	424	
Missouri Industrial Institute	69	
Missouri Organization for Russian Relief	288-289	
Missouri, Jasper County	1	
Missouri, Vandalia		
Missouri. Eleemosynary Institutions	384, 385, 479, 486	
Missouri. General Assembly	97, 484	
Missouri. Relief and Reconstruction Commission	376-421	
Missouri--Correctional institutions	384, 385, 479, 486	
Moss, Woodson (1852-1920)	4, 5, 35, 136	
Mumford, Frederick Blackmar (1868-1946)	26-28, 38, 45, 48, 67, 72, 102, 349, 382	
Nagel, Charles (1849-1940)	29, 32-36, 54	
Nardin, William T. (1874-1954)	15-16, 40, 58-309, 317, 327, 329, 339, 340, 349, 351, 363, 383, 404	
Nicholson, Francis	207-254	
Noyes, Guy L. (1872-1930)	53, 90, 129, 251, 255, 267, 269, 277-282, 302, 307, 312	
Painter, William R. (1863-1947)	88, 92	
Park, Guy Brasfield (1872-1946)	378	
Parrish, Amos	110	

Subject	Folders	Volumes
Parrish, John C. (1854-1944)		
Price, R. B., Sr.	25, 30, 40	
Republican Party		
Rodgers, Robert D.	92, 95	
Rollins, Curtis Burnam (1853-1940)	30-45, 64-81, 151	
Rollins, Ruth	264	
Roosevelt Memorial Association	224-240, 476	
Roy, Reuben	15-17	
Seagrave, Frank S.	182, 186, 201, 204, 232, 233, 258, 265-342	
Spencer, Selden Palmer (1862-1925)	196, 244, 245, 258-266, 294, 301	
Spiritual healing	431	
Stephens, E. W. (1849-1931)	36, 39-42, 162	
Stone, Kimbrough (1875-1958)	32, 92	
Sutherlin, J. R.	206-281	
Swanger, John	123	
Swearingen, O. H.	65, 72	
Swift, James Carroll (1869-1938)	46-65	
Tex-La-Homa Oil Company	171-268	
Tolerton, Jesse A.	150, 167--175, 202, 312	
U.S. Agricultural Adjustment Administration, Program	337-421	
Union Zinc Company	209-375	
University of Missouri	15-169	
University of Missouri, Board of Curators	15-149, 484	
University of Missouri, Budget, 1915	484	
University of Missouri, College of Agriculture	18-24	
University of Missouri, Enrollment	28, 120-148	
University of Missouri, Fees	24	
University of Missouri, Library	85	
University of Missouri, School of Journalism	15-17	
University of Missouri, School of Medicine	15-169, 269-336	
University of Missouri, School of Mines and Metallurgy, Rolla	92-119	
University of Missouri, William Alexander Gregory Educational Fund	484	
Wallower, Edgar Z.	172, 173, 212-215, 259, 267-272, 284, 304	
Wallower, Frank C.	164-315	
Warner, William	15, 16, 20, 27-29	
Waters, Henry J.	32, 34, 38	
Williams, Walter	16-22, 30, 32, 128, 132	

Subject	Folders	Volumes
Winter, E. H.	343, 368	
Wornall, T. J.	26, 37, 76-84	
Yeater, Charles E.	41, 66, 97	
Young, Lewis E.	24, 36-37, 54, 60, 77	
Zwick, G. L.	46, 65-66, 97	