



## **E. Herbert Smith Papers (R0184)**

**Collection Number:** R0184

**Collection Title:** E. Herbert Smith Papers

**Dates:** 1954

**Creator:** Smith, E. Herbert, 1865-1956

**Abstract:** The E. Herbert Smith Papers contain photocopies of a thirteen-page autobiography by a newspaper publisher and editor of southeastern Missouri. At one time or another during his sixty-year career, Smith was associated with the *Benton Record*, the *Charleston Democrat* and *Enterprise*, the *Sikeston Star*, and the *Clarkton News*.

**Collection Size:** 0.01 cubic foot  
(1 folder)

**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-Rolla](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at [rolla@shsmo.org](mailto:rolla@shsmo.org). Collections may be viewed at any research center.

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**Preferred Citation:** [Specific item; box number; folder number] *E. Herbert Smith Papers* (R0184); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Rolla [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Rolla].

**Donor Information:** The papers were donated to the University of Missouri by Benjamin Bird Moore on January 31, 1984 (Accession No. RA0209).

**Processed by:** Processed by John F. Bradbury, March 20, 1984. Revised by Kathleen Seale, February 16, 2021.

**Biographical Note:**

Eugene Herbert Smith was born in Garrard County, Kentucky, in March 1866 to Harry A. and Elmia *Potts* Smith. His father, Harry Ackerman Smith, was a teacher and Methodist minister who held pulpits in several southern states. He was also a veteran of the 21<sup>st</sup> Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Harry moved to Cape Girardeau in 1883, where his son secured his first newspaper employment as a printer's assistance with the Cape Girardeau *News*. With the exception of a few short gaps, it was the beginning of a newspaper career which lasted until his retirement in 1940.

E. Herbert married Stella Rowe in 1892 and together they had four children Faye D., Rowland H., and Lois. After the death of Stella,, Herbert married again to Erma Ogilvie. Herbert's oldest daughter, Faye married Benjamin B. Moore in 1920. Together they had three children, Benjamin Bird, Joseph Handy, and Faye E.

**Arrangement:**

The collection has been arranged in its original order.

**Scope and Content Note:**

Smith's autobiography, written in 1954, contains the chronological details of his career and anecdotes connected with it. He was proud of his newspapers, and considered them to be decent, respectable testimonials for the communities in which they were published. A strong temperance advocate, Smith fought against two local option campaigns in Scott and Mississippi counties. He commented in his autobiography on these campaigns, and on his policy of refusing to accept advertisements for alcoholic beverages in his newspapers.

Appended to the autobiography are two items concerning Smith which were added by the donor, Benjamin Bird Moore, who is Smith's grandson. The first is a testimonial to Smith given in 1948 at the Clarkton Methodist Fellowship by John H. James. Following it is a letter from Mrs. E. Herbert Smith at Charleston, Missouri, to Myrtle Goodin, written in 1915. The donor's typed introduction to Smith's autobiography includes notes on the individuals mentioned in the letter.

**Container List:**

Box 001    f. 1                      E. Herbert Smith autobiography, 1954

**Index:**

Index Term	Folder
Benton (Mo.)	1
<i>Benton Record</i> (Mo.)	1
Cape Girardeau (Mo.)	1
Charlston (Mo.)	1
<i>Charleston Democrat</i> (Mo.)	1
<i>Charleston Enterprise-Courier</i> (Mo.)	1
Clarkton (Mo.)	1
<i>Clarkton News</i> (Mo.)	1
Clinton (Ky.)	1

Index Term	Folder
Goddin, Myrtle	1
Hafner, Phil	1
James, John H.	1
Kirksville (Ky.)	1
Loebe, Simon	1
Methodist Episcopal Church, South	1
Mississippi County (Mo.)	1
Mitchim, J. F.	1
Newspaper publishing--Missouri	1
Ogilvie, Irma	1
Scott County (Mo.)	1
Sikeston (Mo.)	1
<i>Sikeston Star</i> (Mo.)	1
Smith, E. Herbert, 1866-1956	1
Smith, Harry Ackerman	1
Smith, Stella Rowe, 1872-1922	1