
ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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MS 1230
Curlee, Arthur, 1894-1973
Lewis W. Douglas Campaign Collection, 1926

DESCRIPTION

The items in this collection were brought together by Arthur Curlee, the campaign manager for democrat candidate, Lewis W. Douglas, in his campaign for Arizona Congressman in 1926. This collection consists of correspondence from voters interested in the Douglas campaign, publicity materials such as advertisements, position papers and news releases, and Arizona supporter/voter information.

3 boxes, 1.5 linear ft.

ACQUISITION

Provenance is unknown.

ACCESS

There are no restrictions on access to this collection.

COPYRIGHT

Requests for permission to publish material from this collection should be addressed to the Arizona Historical Society - Tucson, Library/Archives Department.

PROCESSING

The collection was processed by Erika Abad, intern, under the supervision of Riva Dean in March 2002.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Arthur Curlee (1894-1973) was born in Denver, Colorado, but spent most of his life in Douglas, Arizona. Politics was an influential factor in his life. He represented Cochise County in the Arizona House of Representatives in the fifth and six legislatures. In the House of Representatives, he became chairman during the fifth legislature and served on the Appropriations committee for both terms. He was also a member of the Arizona Democratic State Central committee for thirty years and was the founding commander of the American Legion post in Douglas. He served as the campaign manager for Lewis W. Douglas run for Arizona Congressman in 1926. This collection is based on the information he gathered.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

This collection of Arthur Curlee consists of correspondence, publicity items, miscellaneous political literature and Arizona voter/supporter information for the Lewis W. Douglas campaign for Arizona Congressmen in the 1926 election. The items in the collection have retained their original order.

The correspondence is from numerous Arizona citizens arranged alphabetically from June to November 1926. The alphabetical listings are incomplete, due to several missing files. The topics of these letters vary from women temperance leagues requesting information on the candidate's stance on Prohibition, to men wanting to start a "Douglas for Congress Club" in their county. There is also a sundry of congratulatory letters and telegrams for his victory in the 1926 congressional election. Those letters and telegrams are accompanied with copies of thank-you notes sent out from the campaign headquarters in Phoenix.

The publicity items in the Lewis W. Douglas campaign collection varies. There are biographical materials, which highlight Douglas's pioneer roots in Arizona, his achievements in World War I and his occupational accomplishments as an educator, businessman and politician. There are Douglas's position papers stressing the support for Democratic ideals and Prohibition, advertisements and paraphernalia, which include his campaign copper cards. There is a copy of the by-laws for the "Douglas for Congress Clubs," for Douglas, AZ. The form letters contain seven different styles, which were sent to the Democrats and supporters of Lewis W. Douglas throughout Arizona. The newspaper advertising letters contain correspondence from major newspapers throughout Arizona confirming ad space for Douglas's announcement to run for Congress. There are newspaper clippings, press releases written on issue stance and public appearances, and political endorsements that include partial speech transcripts from the opposing congressional candidate O.J. Baughn.

The miscellaneous political literature contains information on, the *State of Arizona Initiative and Referendum Publicity Pamphlet* of 1926, the substitute House bill NO. 57 introduced by Lewis W. Douglas, a listing of Mexican voters in Arizona and a resolution listing adopted by the Maricopa county Democratic Woman's Club.

The index cards hold the names of people who are affiliated to the Douglas campaign. The cards usually hold the persons name and address and what relationship they hold to Lewis W. Douglas.

BOX AND FOLDER LIST

Box 1

Correspondence

- f. 1-13 Campaign Correspondence, 1926 'A' – 'M'
- f. 14 Campaign Correspondence, 1926 'R'

Publicity

- f. 15 Biographical Materials/Position Papers
- f. 16 Advertisements and Paraphernalia
- f. 17 By-laws for "Douglas for Congress Clubs"
- f. 18 Form Letters

- f. 19 Newspaper Advertising Letters
- f. 20 Newspaper Clippings
- f. 21 News Releases
- f. 22 Political Endorsements and Partial Speech Transcripts

Miscellaneous

- f. 23 Issues, Legislation, Voting Information

Box 2

Index cards of people affiliated with the Douglas Campaign
Alphabetized by town: Ajo-Phoenix

Box 3

Index cards of people affiliated with the Douglas Campaign
Alphabetized by town: Phoenix cont. - Yuma