

ARCHIVES RECORD

RGI Nebraska. Governor
SG23 Shallenberger, Ashton Cokayne, 1862-1938

Papers, etc. : 1908-1930
State Governor: Lincoln, Nebraska, 1909-1911
Linear Feet: 1.5
Approx. 900 Items.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Ashton C. Shallenberger, governor of Nebraska from 1909-1911, enjoyed a long and active career as one of the state's leading political figures. He was born at Toulon, Illinois, December 23, 1862. After having attended the public schools at Toulon, and, for a short time, the University of Illinois, he moved at the age of 18 to Nebraska. He first settled in Stromsburg, but in 1887 he moved to Alma, where he maintained a residence for the rest of his life. He soon became prominent in the financial and agricultural life of Alma. He organized the Bank of Alma during his first year of residence in the community. He became one of the state's leading raisers and exhibitors of pure-bred cattle, serving for a quarter century as president and director of the American Shorthorn Breeders Association. Mr. Shallenberger's political career began in 1876 when he campaigned for William J. Bryan for President. In 1900 he was elected to Congress from the 5th District, but was defeated for re-election in 1902 by George W. Norris. He ran for Governor on the Democratic ticket in 1906, but was defeated by George L. Sheldon. In 1908, with Bryan carrying Nebraska in the presidential race, he defeated Mr. Sheldon. Governor Shallenberger served only one term as the state's chief executive. He was defeated for re-nomination in the Democratic primary of 1910 by James C. Dahlman, Omaha's colorful mayor. An important issue of the campaign was a proposed "County option" law to restrict the liquor traffic. Mr. Shallenberger favored the law, and Mr. Dahlman opposed it. Two years after his defeat for re-nomination, he was nominated by a Democratic primary for the position of United States Senator, but was defeated by George W. Norris in the preferential election. Beginning in 1914, however, success again came to Shallenberger at the polls in the form of election to Congress. He served in the House of Representatives from 1915-1919, 1923-1929, and 1931-1935. He died suddenly of a heart attack, February 22, 1938, shortly after he had spoken at a Feeder's Day meeting in Franklin. He was buried in Alma, Nebraska.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This subgroup consists of three boxes of papers of Governor A.C. Shallenberger, arranged in two series: (1) General Correspondence, 1908-1911 ; and (2) Miscellany, 1909-1930. Material relates to the affairs of the Governor's office during the administration of Ashton C. Shallenberger, 1909-1911. The bulk of the collection consists of general correspondence, incoming and outgoing, regarding such matters as

resignations; applications; appointments; pardons; matters relating to H.R. #58 on assessment and taxation of farm mortgages; affidavits and petitions supporting reduction of sentence for R. Mead Shumway; increase of railway fare; the Italian controversy at Wymore; alleged fraud in obtaining public lands, especially in vicinity of Mullen; complaints and petitions relative to the federal cattle quarantine; homesteader's desire for protection against ranging cattle; conditions at the Soldiers and Sailors Home at Grand Island, Nebraska; division of Deuel County; and charges of illegal sale of liquor.

ADDED ENTRIES:

DEUEL COUNTY, NEBRASKA. HISTORY
MINORITIES. NEBRASKA
NEBRASKA. ATTORNEY GENERAL
RAILROADS. NEBRASKA
STATE INSTITUTIONS. NEBRASKA
PUBLIC LANDS. NEBRASKA
CRIME AND CRIMINALS. NEBRASKA
REPUBLICAN PARTY, NEBRASKA
COUNTY GOVERNMENT. ORGANIZATION

DESCRIPTION

SERIES ONE GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE, 1908-1910

Box 1

Folder 1	December 24, 1908-January 16, 1909
Folder 2	January 18, 1909-January 30, 1909
Folder 3	February 1, 1909-February 15, 1909
Folder 4	February 16, 1909-February 28, 1909
Folder 5	March 1, 1909-March 30, 1909
Folder 6	April 2, 1909-April 30, 1909
Folder 7	May 1, 1909-May 28, 1909
Folder 8	June 1, 1909-June 30, 1909
Folder 9	July 1, 1909-July 31, 1909
Folder 10	August 2, 1909-August 31, 1909
Folder 11	September 1, 1909-September 30, 1909
Folder 12	October 1, 1909-October 15, 1909
Folder 13	October 16, 1909-October 30, 1909

Box 2

Folder 14	November 1, 1909-November 30, 1909
Folder 15	December 1, 1909-December 30, 1909
Folder 16	January 10, 1910-January 31, 1910
Folder 17	February 2, 1910-February 28, 1910
Folder 18	March 4, 1910-March 31, 1910
Folder 19	April 1, 1910

Folder 20 April 2, 1910-April 30, 1910
Folder 21 May 2, 1910-May 31, 1910
Folder 22 June 1, 1910-June 30, 1910
Folder 23 July 1, 1910-July 15, 1910

Box 3

Folder 24 July 18, 1910-July 28, 1910
Folder 25 August 1, 1910-August 31, 1910
Folder 26 September 1, 1910-October 31, 1910
Folder 27 November 2, 1910-December 29, 1910

SERIES TWO MISCELLANY

Box 4

Folder 1 1909-1930; Speeches & Reports
Folder 2 1909-1910; Legal Ordinances, Notices, Court Proceedings &
indictments, com-plaints
Folder 3 Same as above
Folder 4 1909-1910; Petitions

Box 4 Miscellany, Oversize

Campaign Posters for Governor, total of 5 copies