

John D. M. Hamilton Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



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Washington, D.C.
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LC Online Catalog record:

<http://lcn.loc.gov/mm82024638>

Prepared by William Parham

Collection Summary

Title: John D. M. Hamilton Papers

Span Dates: 1935-1972

ID No.: MSS24638

Creator: Hamilton, John D. M., 1892-1973

Extent: 7,000 items ; 26 containers ; 8 linear feet ; 1 microfilm reel

Language: Collection material in English

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Summary: Lawyer, state legislator, and public official of Kansas. Correspondence, speeches, interviews, subject files, and other papers relating primarily to Hamilton's career in the Republican Party, including as chairman of the Republican National Committee.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

People

Hamilton, John D. M., 1892-1973.

Hoover, Herbert, 1874-1964.

Landon, Alfred M. (Alfred Mossman), 1887-1987.

MacArthur, Douglas, 1880-1964.

McNary, Charles Linza, 1874-1944.

Taft, Robert A. (Robert Alphonso), 1889-1953.

White, William Allen, 1868-1944.

Willkie, Wendell L. (Wendell Lewis), 1892-1944.

Organizations

Republican National Committee (U.S.)

Republican Party (U.S. : 1854-)

United States. Congress--Elections.

Subjects

Political conventions--United States.

Presidents--United States--Election--1936.

Presidents--United States--Election--1940.

Presidents--United States--Election--1944.

Presidents--United States--Election--1952.

Places

United States--Politics and government--20th century.

Occupations

Lawyers.

Legislators--Kansas.

Public officials--Kansas.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of John D. M. Hamilton, lawyer, state legislator, and public official of Kansas, were obtained by the Library of Congress as a bequest of Hamilton via William M. Groza in 1974.

Processing History

The papers of John D. M. Hamilton were arranged and described in 1974. The finding aid was revised in 2013.

Transfers

Sound recordings have been transferred to the Library's Motion Picture, Broadcasting, and Recorded Sound Division where they are identified as part of these papers.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of John D. M. Hamilton is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of John D. M. Hamilton are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Microfilm

Microfilm on one reel was received as part of the papers of John D. M. Hamilton and is listed and described in this finding aid. This microfilm is not available for interlibrary loan.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, John D. M. Hamilton Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of John Daniel Miller Hamilton (1892-1973) span the years 1935-1972 and consist of correspondence, speeches, interviews, subject files, and other papers relating primarily to Hamilton's career in the Republican Party. Main topics include Herbert Hoover, Alfred M. Landon, the Republican National Committee, Robert A. Taft, William Allen White, and Wendell L. Willkie. Hamilton was chairman of the Republican National Committee from 1936 until 1937. He was from Topeka, Kansas, and was a delegate to the 1936 and 1940 Republican national conventions. The collection is arranged by type of material, including groupings of political files, subject files, and speeches by Hamilton.

From 1936 through 1952, Hamilton was at the center of Republican national politics. Contained in the political and subject files is correspondence and other material relating to party leaders throughout the country, including diary-type confidential memoranda in which he recorded conversations with party representatives and important events such as the Republican national conventions of 1936 and 1940. The memoranda treat conversations with Hebert Hoover; Douglas MacArthur and the 1944 nomination; the nomination of Charles Linza McNary for vice president in 1940; Republican congressional successes in 1938; and the balloting in the 1940 convention.

The correspondence in the papers is entirely political, relating most prominently to the campaigns of 1940, 1944, and 1952. Included are communications with newspaper editors and columnists. Miscellaneous items include news clippings and a few photographs. A file of speeches contains copies of political addresses by Hamilton.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material.

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BOX 1	Notes on the Republican convention and campaign of 1936
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BOX 14	Interview with Hamilton on Alfred M. Landon's nomination and campaign and the nomination and campaign of Wendell L. Wilkie, 1972
BOX 14	"John Hamilton and the Revitalization of the Republican Party, 1936-1940," by Karl A. Lamb with notes by Hamilton, 1952
BOX 14	"The Republican Congressional Comeback of 1938" by Milton Plesur, <i>The Review of Politics</i> , 1962
BOX 14	<i>Roosevelt and Willkie</i> , by Warren Moscow and an annotation by Hamilton, 1968-1969
BOX 14	<i>Newsweek</i> , on Wendell Willkie, 22 July 1968
BOX 14	Daybooks, 1941-1953
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BOX 15	Printed matter
BOX 15	"A Republican Views His Party's Future," by Hamilton, 1945
BOX 15	"Political Parties: An American Way," by Franklin L. Burdette, 1945
BOX 16	"The Republican Strategy and the Congressional Elections of 1936 and 1940," Ph.D. dissertation by Henry O. Evjen, Western Reserve University, with comments by Hamilton, 1950 <i>Dissertation also available on microfilm, shelf no. 24,192</i>
BOX 17	"Abstract of Republican Strategy and the Congressional Election of 1938," thesis by Karl A. Lamb, Brasenose College, Oxford, with comments by Hamilton, 1957
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