

**Title:** La Follette, Robert Marion Collection

**Reference Code:** Mss-0697

**Inclusive Dates:** 1909 – 1965

**Quantity:** 0.5 cu. ft.

**Location:** WHS, Sh. A105

**Abstract:** Robert La Follette was one of Wisconsin's most prominent politicians of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Born in Primrose, Wisconsin, in 1855, he attended the University of Wisconsin and was admitted to the bar in 1880. He served in the U.S. Congress from 1884 to 1891 and as Governor of Wisconsin from 1900-1904. He was a leading force of the progressive wing of the Republican Party and fought for legislation to institute the use of primaries and regulation of railroads. He was elected U.S. Senator in 1905 and continued to champion progressive causes, such as women's suffrage and busting corporate monopolies. His opposition to the U.S. entry in World War I made him one of the most hated men in the country. He unsuccessfully ran for president in 1924, but he polled more than five million votes. The campaign physically exhausted him, and he passed away in June 1925 of cardiovascular disease.

**Scope and Content:** The collection consists of several issues of *La Follette's Weekly* magazine, 1909-1912; campaign booklets, cards and pamphlets (primarily regarding his presidential run in 1924); a December 1919 speech to U.S. Senate re government retention of railroads; and 1925 memorial resolution by Wisconsin State Legislature.

**Access and Use:** No restrictions

**Language:** English