

Title: McGovern, Francis E. Papers

Call Number: Mss-0867

Inclusive Dates: 1905 – 1944

Bulk: 1.1 cu. ft.

Location: ER, Sh. G009

Historical Note: Francis McGovern was one of Wisconsin's most influential "Progressive" Republicans of the early 20th century. Born in Sheboygan County in 1866, McGovern served as Milwaukee's assistant district attorney from 1901-1904 and as district attorney from 1905-1908. He gained statewide prominence for his fight against corruption and that helped secure his nomination for governor. He won the governor's seat in 1910 and again in 1912. During his two terms, the state passed some of the most far-reaching reforms of the era. After his stint as governor, McGovern continued practicing law in Milwaukee, but he also served as judge advocate for the 18th Division during WW I and as general counsel for the U.S. Shipping Board. He passed away on May 19, 1946.

Scope and Content: The records overwhelmingly pertain to McGovern's political career but also contain material relating to his law practice. They consist of William Essman's (McGovern's campaign chairman) correspondence relating to the 1910 gubernatorial campaign; correspondence relating to McGovern's role at the 1912 Republican National Convention; campaign material; McGovern's speeches, notes, and articles; newspaper clippings; and miscellaneous items, including a statement by Henry Goll re: graft in Mayor David Rose's administration.

Contents	Box #	Folder #
Francis McGovern Material		
Correspondence, Political & Miscellaneous, 1906-1910	1	1
Correspondence re: Republican National Convention, 1912	1	2
Correspondence, Political, 1912-1943	1	3
Speeches, 1912-1916, 1921-1929	1	4
Speeches, 1930-1938	1	5
Speeches, Undated	1A	6
Campaign Material	1A	7
Notes by McGovern	1A	8
Articles by McGovern	1A	9
Military Material, 1919	1A	10
Newspaper Clippings, ca. 1905-1940	1A	11
Miscellaneous Political Material	1A	12
Miscellaneous Material (includes memorial booklet for Henry F. Cochems)	1A	13
William L. Essman Material	Box #	Folder #
Correspondence re: McGovern Gubernatorial Campaign, July 1910	2	14

Correspondence re: McGovern Gubernatorial Campaign, August 1910 (A – L)	2	15
Correspondence re: McGovern Gubernatorial Campaign, August 1910 (M – Z)	2	16
Correspondence re: McGovern Gubernatorial Campaign, Sept. 1910	2	17