

Collection Number: MS-382

Title: Miles S. Kuhns Papers

Dates: 1920-1939

Creator: Miles S. Kuhns

Summary/Abstract:

The Miles S. Kuhns Papers consist mainly of correspondence related to Kuhns' political career. It contains many lobbying letters from citizens and organizations. Almost half of the collection relates to Kuhns' work with the Ohio Revolutionary War Memorial Commission. A third section consists of personal correspondence and ephemera Kuhns received throughout his career.

Quantity/Physical Description: .75 linear feet.

Language(s): English

Repository:

Special Collections and Archives, Paul Laurence Dunbar Library, Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45435-001, (937) 775-2092

Restrictions on Access:

There are no restrictions on accessing material in this collection.

Restrictions on Use:

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Preferred Citation:

(Box Number, Folder Number), MS-382, Miles S. Kuhns Papers, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio

Acquisition:

The collection was donated by Kuhns' son, M. Edward Kuhns, in June of 2003.

Processed by: Emily C. Roush, Winter 2009

Arrangement:

The collection is divided into three series:

Series I Legislation Correspondence

Series II The Ohio Revolutionary War Memorial Commission

Series III Personal Correspondence and Miscellaneous Items

Biographical/Historical Note

Miles Standish Kuhns was born on November 14, 1877. A resident of Dayton, Kuhns served his community as a lawyer and then a Republican member of the Ohio House of Representatives and Senate in the 1920s and 1930s. His local roots and appreciation of history led him to help create, and then serve as vice chairman for, the Ohio Revolutionary War Memorial Commission. This commission was responsible for dedicating historic sites from the Revolution as well as creating George Rodgers Clark Park. After his political career ended in the late 1930s, Kuhns continued to be an active member of the Dayton community. He belonged to the Dayton Lawyers Club, the local chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, and served as the president for the Dayton Historical Society. Kuhns died at the age of 94 on June 20, 1972.

Scope and Content

The Miles S. Kuhns papers contain correspondence, documents, various ephemera, and newspaper clippings related to his political career. The collection chronicles different aspects of his professional life, from his first campaign for the House in 1920 to the end of his time with the Ohio Revolutionary War Memorial Commission in 1939.

Series I, Legislation Correspondence, contains letters, telegrams, and documents relating to different bills up for vote in the Ohio House and Senate. Most of the correspondence in this series is requests from local citizens asking Kuhns to support or reject pending legislation. All items in this series are categorized in groups by bills relating to particular subjects. This is aimed to help researchers access specific bills more easily. Some of the correspondence mentioned several bills in one letter. In others, the subject matters of bills were unidentified. All of the items that fall in these two categories can be located in the file entitled "Miscellaneous." It should also be noted that Kuhns made copies of his responses to letters. As many as possible have been placed with their coinciding letter. Some items within this series can be found in oversize location 74, file 16.

Series II, Ohio Revolutionary War Memorial Commission, contains various forms of correspondence including letters, telegrams, and post cards as well as newspaper articles. It also has copies of the actual bill that founded the commission. This series is arranged chronologically to show the progression and lifespan of the commission. As with the first series, Kuhns made copies of his responses and as many of them have been matched to their coinciding letters as possible. Some items within this series can be found in oversize location 74, file 16.

Series III, Personal Correspondence and Miscellaneous Items, contains items that are neither related to a particular legislation or the commission. However, most of the letters are to and from Kuhns' colleagues in the House and Senate, as well as other local politicians and businessmen. This series comprises different formats such as postcards and ephemera including: Ohio state fair tickets, members' passes to the United States House of Representatives, ball invitations, sample ballots, election cards, and house and senate rosters. This series is arranged chronologically. Some items in this series can be found in oversize location 74, file 16.

Subject Terms

Persons/Families:

Kuhns, Miles S. (Miles Standish), 1877-1972

Organizations/Corporate Names:

Ohio. Senate

Ohio. House of Representatives

Ohio Revolutionary Memorial Commission

Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society

Places:

Dayton (Ohio)

Montgomery County (Ohio)

Subjects (General):

Ohio -- politics and government,

Material Types:

Telegrams

Photographic Post Cards

Postal Cards

Occupations:

State Representative

State Senator

Lawyer

Collection Inventory

Series I		Legislation Correspondence	
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	1	Taxation	1927, 1929
	2	Law enforcement and the courts	1922, 1927-1929
	3	Appropriation	1927
	4	Aviation	1927-1929
	5	Buildings	1927
	6	Conservation	1921, 1927, 1929
	7	Abandonment of the Miami and Erie Canal (see also Location 74, File 16)	1927
	8	Health and Healthcare	1927
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	9	Teachers and Schools	1927, 1929
	10	Cemeteries	1927
	11	Labor	1927

	12	Public Works and Utilities	1927-1929
	13	Social Vice	1921, 1927, 1929
	14	Soldiers and Veterans	1927-1928
	15	Real Estate and Mortgages	1927
	16	Miscellaneous	1927-1929, 1937
Series II		Ohio Revolutionary War Memorial Commission	
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	17	Correspondence (see also Location 74, File 16)	1929
	18	Correspondence	1930
	19	Correspondence	1933
	20	Correspondence	1934
	21	Correspondence	1935
2	1	Correspondence	1936
	2	Correspondence	1937
	3	Correspondence	1938-1939
	4	Correspondence	Undated
Series III		Personal Correspondence and Miscellaneous Items	
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
2	5	Personal Correspondence and Ephemera	1920-1922
	6	Personal Correspondence and Ephemera	1924, 1926
	7	Personal Correspondence and Ephemera	1927
	8	Personal Correspondence and Ephemera	1928
	9	Personal Correspondence and Ephemera	1929-1930
	10	Personal Correspondence and Ephemera (see also Location 74, File 16)	Undated
		Oversize Material	
OS 74	16	Map of Ohio with the Miami and Erie Canal Highlighted	Circa 1927
	16	Article about D.A.R. memorial at Miami University	Undated
	16	Kuhns' certificate for the Ohio Revolutionary Memorial Commission	1929
	16	Page from Dayton Herald with Kuhn's Picture	1928