

**Finding Aid**  
**Governor Warren T. McCray Collection**  
**(1921-1924)**

**Indiana State Archives**

**Accession Number: 1984137**  
**Policy Files and Correspondence**

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Processing Complete Date: 6/15/2011

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### **3 manuscript boxes:**

Records in this collection pertain to all correspondence filed between Governor McCray, his secretary, and various groups and individuals seeking to get in touch with the Governor's office. Documents include general correspondence, information related to conferences and bills passed during McCray's term, and reports for particular organizations in Indiana. McCray served as Governor from January 10, 1921 until April 30, 1924, at which time he resigned after being convicted of mail fraud. Key issues during his term referenced within the collection relate to the Lincoln Home Trail and State Highway, opposition to imprisonment for debt, and tubercular ex-servicemen in Indiana.

\*\*Oversized documents have been removed to Map Cabinet A-54, Drawer 5. Those documents that were removed are noted throughout the finding aid.

### **Box 1**

- Folder 1: "A"
  - Letter and article filed under Clement Allison regarding the Lincoln Highway and Lincoln Home Trail, Feb. 1, 1921.
- Folder 2: American Chamber of Commerce of Mexico; 2<sup>nd</sup> United States-Mexico Trade Conference
  - Conference held Feb. 11-15, 1924 in Mexico City.
  - Topics discussed included starting businesses in Mexico, importing/exporting.
  - Includes a list of delegates McCray appointed to attend the conference.
- Folder 3: "B"
  - Correspondence with Emmett Forrest Branch (Lt. Governor of Indiana and successor of McCray).
    - McCray tells Branch he opposes the law to remove the Reformatory from the Penal Farm and that it would be a step backward for the institution, June 22, 1921.
  - Correspondence from Charles Butler praising McCray on his veto of the Bonus Bill and Farmers' Cooperative Bill, March 1923.
- Folder 4: "C"
- Folder 5: Ex-Servicemen
  - Correspondence from Joseph Bloomer praising McCray's efforts to take care of tubercular ex-servicemen at the State Sanitarium, May 1921.
  - Letters discuss how other states are handling the hospitalization of ex-soldiers.
- Folder 6: Extradition Papers
  - Larger files removed to the Oversize File, Map Cabinet A-54, Drawer 5, Folder 1.
- Folder 7: "F" – "G"
- Folder 8: Governors' Conferences

- Conference planned for July 1921 in Alaska; McCray writes to other states saying he does not think he can go; correspondence with M.C. Riley, April 30, 1921.
  - Correspondence from M.C. Riley (Secretary, Madison, WI) cancelling the Alaska conference due to the fact that so many governors could not attend, June 22, 1921.
- Folder 9: “H”
- Folder 10: Highway Matters
  - Correspondence urging McCray to order the State Highway Commission to reroute the State Highway so that it would pass through the old Lincoln Farm and be a true Lincoln Home Trail; includes newspaper article from Jan. 26, 1921, with map of route; attached to correspondence from V.C. Arnold.
- Folder 11: “I”
- Folder 12: “M” – “O”
- Folder 13: Old Age Pension Commission
- Folder 14: Oliver, Joseph D.
- Folder 15: In Re: Requisition of Olson, Jourgen
  - Correspondence between Governor R.A. Nestos of North Dakota and McCray; Nestos wanted McCray to withdraw the requisition for Olson; McCray wanted Olson to take care of the depositors of the wrecked banks in Indiana.
  - Olson was indicted by the grand jury of Warrick County for crimes of embezzlement and larceny in the looting of Farmers’ Bank in Newburgh, IN.
- Folder 16: “P”
- Folder 17: Pittsburgh Plus
- Folder 18: Prize Fights
  - Letter from Joshua L. Wilkins to McCray protesting the fact that the Governor stopped the boxing exhibition in Marion County, Aug. 9, 1923; Wilkins said the Governor has no right interfering in such business.
- Folder 19: Superintendent of Public Instruction
- Folder 20: “R”
- Folder 21: Recommendations and Appointments
  - Correspondence from Emmett Branch concerning various commissions and committees on which McCray had him appointed.
- Folder 22: Requisitions, Criminal Matters
  - McCray expresses his opposition to imprisonment for debt; per correspondence with Hale Smith (Secretary to the Governor of Colorado), March 24, 1924.
  - Information related to Jourgen Olson, dated July 31, 1923, filed under Thomas Lindsey.
- Folder 23: Woman’s Roosevelt Memorial Association
- Folder 24: “S” – “T”
- Folder 25: “W”

## **Box 2**

- Folder 1: Attorney General, 1921
  - Ulysses S. Lesh served as Attorney General.
  - Act providing for a tax on the use of gasoline.

- Folder 2: Attorney General, 1923 (1 of 2)
  - Many acts pertain to roads and transportation, including vehicle license fees; paving streets occupied by railroads, interurban and street railroads; having cities and the State assist the State Highway Commission in constructing and maintaining highways and bridges; and updates to penalties for driving over the speed limit or driving while under the influence.
- Folder 3: Attorney General, 1923 (2 of 2)
  - House Act No. 58 sought to regulate and control the possession, sale, and use of pistols and revolvers, March 5, 1923.
- Folder 4: Boys' School
- Folder 5: State Board of Charities
- Folder 6: 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Report of the Department of Conservation
  - Report covers the period 1921-1922; Chairman W.A. Guthrie.
  - Includes reports from a number of state governmental agencies, including divisions of Geology, Entomology, Forestry, Lands and Waters, Fish and Game, Engineering, and the Legal Investigator.
- Folder 7: 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Report of the Department of Conservation
  - Report covers the period 1922-1923.
- Folder 8: Fire Marshall
- Folder 9: (Central State) Hospital
  - Chart prepared for McCray compares discharges (recoveries and improved), deaths, and furloughs between New York's and Indiana's state hospitals from 1919-1920; removed to Oversize File, Map Cabinet A-54, Drawer 5, Folder 1.
- Folder 10: Oil Inspectors
- Folder 11: Soldiers' Home
  - Report to the Auditor of the State listing the names and length of time each member was maintained during December 1923.
- Folder 12: Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphans Home

### **Box 3**

- Folder 1: Accounts Paid from Appropriations
  - Charts list amounts paid to various parties via emergency compensation and the military and contingent fund. Some explanations for costs appear.
- Folder 2: Bills Paid from Governor's Fund, Receipts (1 of 2)
- Folder 3: Bills Paid from Governor's Fund, Receipts (2 of 2)
  - Includes numerous toll service statements.
- Folder 4: Cabinet Report
- Folder 5: In Re: Civil War Claims
- Folder 6: Freight Rate Conference
  - Conference held in the Governor's Office of the State House, Indianapolis, IN, Oct. 6, 1921.
  - Called by McCray to discuss rates on road materials that were considered to be too high by the Highway Department.
- Folder 7: Appointments – Special Judges
- Folder 8: Governor McCray Personal File

- Copies of the Aetna Company Trust Agreement made in August 1923 between McCray and Aetna, an Indiana Trust Company.
- Folder 9: Messages and Proclamations
- Folder 10: In Re: New Courts – Wells and Warren Counties
- Folder 11: Oath of Office
  - Appointments by McCray for the position of Commissioner for the State of Indiana in various cities throughout the nation.
- Folder 12: Pardons and Parole Report to General Assembly
  - Report covers all reprieves, commutations, pardons, remissions of fines and forfeitures from January 10, 1921 – January 4, 1923.
    - McCray expresses his opposition to imprisoning people for debt.
    - McCray granted 270 temporary paroles during the period.
- Folder 13: U.S. Adjutant General, War Department
  - Booklet of General Policies and Regulations for the Organized Reserves, 1921.
  - Regulations for the selection of candidates for admission to the U.S. Military Academy.
- Folder 14: U.S. Department of Agriculture
- Folder 15: U.S. Good Roads Association
- Folder 16: U.S. Department of Labor
- Folder 17: U.S. Department of Navy
  - Correspondence relates to the silver service set presented by the State of Indiana to the U.S. Navy for the Battleship Indiana, June-July 1922.
    - Includes letters from Theodore Roosevelt Jr., Acting Secretary of the Navy.
- Folder 18: U.S. Public Health Service
- Folder 19: U.S. Treasury Department – Bureau of War Risk Insurance
  - Many ex-servicemen from Indiana suffering from tuberculosis sent to the National Home for Disabled Volunteer soldiers, in Dayton, OH, due to money made available there, Sept. 1921.
    - McCray and others in Indiana hope to enlarge the State Tuberculosis Sanatorium at Rockville to house patients.
- Folder 20: U.S. Veterans Bureau
- Folder 21: Whaley-Eaton Service
  - Includes numerous bulletins from the Whaley-Eaton Service, an international news organization in Washington, D.C. that published documents related to the formation of various national policies.