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Bennet, Augustus W.; Papers

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M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives

Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Biographical History	3
Scope and Contents	4
Arrangement of the Collection	4
Administrative Information	4
Controlled Access Headings	5
Collection Inventory	5

Summary Information

Repository:	M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives
Title:	Augustus Bennet Papers
ID:	apap225
Date [inclusive]:	1935-1948
Physical Description:	16.13 cubic ft.
Physical Location:	The materials are located onsite in the department.
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	The collection contains materials from Augustus Bennet's campaigns for the House of Representatives and files from his subsequent service in Congress.

Preferred Citation

Preferred citation for this material is as follows:

Identification of specific item, series, box, folder, Augustus Bennet Papers, 1935-1948. M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University at Albany, State University of New York (hereafter referred to as the Augustus Bennet Papers).

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical History

Augustus Witschief Bennet was born in New York City on October 7, 1897, the son of William Stiles Bennet, who served in the U.S. Congress from 1905-1911. Augustus Bennet attended the public schools of New York City and Washington, D.C., and graduated from Amherst College in 1918. During World War I, he served in the United States Naval Reserve Flying Corps with the rating of chief quartermaster from June 8, 1918, to January 19, 1919. He graduated from Columbia University Law School in 1921, was admitted to the bar the same year, and commenced practice in Newburgh, N.Y.

Bennet was a United States referee in bankruptcy from 1923-1944. He initially attempted a campaign for Congress in 1942 and was subsequently elected in 1944 to the 79th Congress from the 29th Congressional District of New York. Bennet defeated Hamilton Fish, an incumbent who had served 24

years in Congress. Fish initially defeated Bennet in the Republican primary, but Bennet then ran in the general election on the Democratic, American Labor, Liberal and Good Government tickets. Bennet subsequently sat in Congress as a Republican. Bennet served from January 3, 1945-January 3, 1947, but was not re-elected in 1946. He then resumed the practice of law.

Bennet married Maxine Layne in 1929 and had three children. He later resided in Laguna Hills, Calif. until his death in Concord, Mass. on June 5, 1983. His ashes are interred at Cedar Hills Mausoleum in Newburgh.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of materials from Augustus Bennet's Congressional election campaigns, correspondence, bills, invitations, subject files, news releases, and speeches. There also are 16 scrapbooks, composed predominantly of newspaper clippings and memorabilia, documenting Bennet's campaigns and subsequent Congressional service.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Arrangement of the Collection

The collection is arranged alphabetically. There are no series.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives

Revision Description

EAD file created Encoded in EAD by Jodi Boyle Arranged and described by Cristina Casado 2014 2015 2019

Processing Information

Processed in 2018 by Cristina Casado.

Acquisition Information

In 1963 Augustus Bennet initially donated his papers to Syracuse University. The papers were transferred to the M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections and Archives in 2006.

Access

Access to this collection is unrestricted with the exception of one file related to service academy appointments.

Copyright

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[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Controlled Access Headings

- Politics and Politicians
- Bennet, Augustus, W., 1897-1983
- New York (State)--Politics and government
- Political Campaigns--New York (State)
- Correspondence
- Files by subject
- Bills (legislative records)
- Clippings (information artifacts).

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Instances	
2nd Ad, Undated	Box 1	Folder 1

A- Several, 1945-1946Undated	Box 1	Folder 2
Adams, Mr. Gridley, 1944	Box 7	Folder 3
Addresses Washington, 1944-1946	Box 1	Folder 4
Advertisement, Undated	Box 1	Folder 5
Advertisement of Other Candidates, Undated	Box 1	Folder 6
Advertising Set Up, 1944Undated	Box 1	Folder 7
Aero- Administrations (1 of 2), 1944-1946	Box 1	Folder 8
Aero- Administrations (2 of 2), 1944-1946	Box 1	Folder 9
Agriculture, 19431945-1946Undated	Box 1	Folder 10
Agriculture, 19441945	Box 1	Folder 11
Agriculture- Sev, 19401946Undated	Box 1	Folder 12
Agriculture Yearbook, 19451946	Box 1	Folder 13
AIP Endorsement, Undated	Box 1	Folder 14
Airport Program E.M. Van Name, 1945Undated	Box 1	Folder 15
Alaska, Undated	Box 1	Folder 16
Alfred Envelope Co., 1944	Box 1	Folder 17
American Creed- Delaware County, 1946	Box 1	Folder 18
American Creed- Delaware County High Schools, 1946	Box 1	Folder 19
American Creed- Orange County High Schools, 1946	Box 1	Folder 20
American Creed- Rockland County High Schools, 1946	Box 1	Folder 21
Amherst College, 1946	Box 1	Folder 22
Andrews, Hon. William T., Member of State Assembly, 1944	Box 1	Folder 23
Angell, M. B., 1942	Box 1	Folder 24
Annapolis General - RESTRICTED, 1942-1946	Box 1	Folder 25
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u>		
Conditions Governing Access		
Must consult an archivist before viewing this material.		
Anonymous, 1945Undated	Box 1	Folder 26
Applications, 1944	Box 1	Folder 27
Arax Photo Studios, 1944	Box 1	Folder 28
Autobiography- A.W. Bennet, Undated	Box 1	Folder 29
Autographs, 19451946	Box 1	Folder 30

A.W. Bennet Radio Speech, 1942	Box 1	Folder 31
B- General (1 of 3), 1945-1946Undated	Box 1	Folder 32
B- General (2 of 3), 1945-1946Undated	Box 1	Folder 33
B- General (3 of 3), 1945-1946Undated	Box 2	Folder 1
B and L General, 1946 March	Box 2	Folder 2
B and L General, 1946 April	Box 2	Folder 3
B and L General, 1946 June	Box 2	Folder 4
B and L General, 1946 July	Box 2	Folder 5
B and L General, 1946 September	Box 2	Folder 6
Ballot (Set Up), Undated	Box 2	Folder 7
Beacon Light and Fisher, Undated	Box 2	Folder 8
Beacon News, Undated	Box 2	Folder 9
Bennet and Bennet, Undated	Box 2	Folder 10
Bennet, A.W., Personal (1 of 2), 1945Undated	Box 2	Folder 11
Bennet, A.W., Personal (2 of 2), 1945Undated	Box 2	Folder 12
Bennet Bills, 1945-1946Undated	Box 2	Folder 13
Bennet Broadcast, 1942	Box 2	Folder 14
Bennet for Congress Committees (Sponsorship), 1944	Box 2	Folder 15
Bennet Letter for Delaware County, 1944	Box 2	Folder 16
Bennet Radio Speech, 1942	Box 2	Folder 17
Bennet Statement on Election Results and on Primary Results, Undated	Box 2	Folder 18
Bennet, Wm., Personal II (1 of 2), 1946Undated	Box 2	Folder 19
Bennet, Wm., Personal II (2 of 2), 1946Undated	Box 2	Folder 20
Bennet, Wm. S., 1945-1946	Box 2	Folder 21
Bennet's Pictures, Undated	Box 2	Folder 22
Bernard, Mrs. Marian, 1944	Box 2	Folder 23
Berry, Jas. S., 1945Undated	Box 2	Folder 24
Bids (1 of 2), 1945-1946Undated	Box 2	Folder 25
Bids (2 of 2), 1945-1946Undated	Box 2	Folder 26
Bills- General, 1946	Box 2	Folder 27
Bills Payable, 19401942	Box 2	Folder 28
Bird, Clarence E., 1944Undated		

	Box 2	Folder 29
"Black Mail", 1944	Box 3	Folder 1
Boice, Mr. Russell, 1944	Box 3	Folder 2
Brandt, Mrs. Evelyn, 1944	Box 3	Folder 3
Breakdown of 1940 Democratic Votes (Congressional) in Rockland County, Undated	Box 3	Folder 4
Brewster Standard, Undated	Box 3	Folder 5
Briker, Mr. Harry, 1944	Box 3	Folder 6
Brown, Mr. Alfred and Mrs. Phyllis, 1944Undated	Box 3	Folder 7
Budget, 1942Undated	Box 3	Folder 8
Budget, 1944	Box 3	Folder 9
Budget, Undated	Box 3	Folder 10
Budget for Election, Undated	Box 3	Folder 11
Buttons and Lapel Tags, 1944	Box 3	Folder 12
C Directory, 19451946	Box 3	Folder 13
C- General (1 of 2), 19451946Undated	Box 3	Folder 14
C- General (2 of 2), 19451946Undated	Box 3	Folder 15
Calendars, 1945Undated	Box 3	Folder 16
Campaign 1942, 1942 May	Box 3	Folder 17
Campaign 1942, 1942 June	Box 3	Folder 18
Campaign 1942, 1942 July	Box 3	Folder 19
Campaign 1942 (1 of 2), 1942 August -September	Box 3	Folder 20
Campaign 1942 (2 of 2), 1942 August -September	Box 3	Folder 21
Campaign 1942, 19401942 October-December	Box 3	Folder 22
Campaign 1946, 1946 May-June	Box 3	Folder 23
Campaign 1946, 1946 June	Box 3	Folder 24
Campaign 1946, 1946 July-August	Box 3	Folder 25
Campaign Material, 1945Undated	Box 3	Folder 26
Campaign Organization, 1946	Box 3	Folder 27
Campaign Radio Talks, 1942Undated	Box 3	Folder 28
Cartels, 1945	Box 3	Folder 29
Change of Address Letters, 1944Undated	Box 3	Folder 30
Chester News, Undated	Box 3	Folder 31

China, 1945	Box 3	Folder 32
C.I.O. Political Action Committee, 1944	Box 3	Folder 33
Coal, 1945	Box 4	Folder 1
Coast Guard, 1945Undated	Box 4	Folder 2
Commandy- Roth Co., 1944	Box 4	Folder 3
Committee to Defeat Hamilton Fish, 1944Undated Digital Object: Online Object Uploaded through Hyrax UI	Box 4	Folder 4
Congress Committee, 1942	Box 4	Folder 5
Contracts, 1944	Box 4	Folder 6
Contributors to Campaign Fund (Form Letter to), 1944Undated	Box 4	Folder 7
Controversial Letters, Speech, 1940	Box 4	Folder 8
Cooperatives (1 of 2), 1944-1945	Box 4	Folder 9
Cooperatives (2 of 2), 1944-1945	Box 4	Folder 10
Copy for Monday Ad, 1944	Box 4	Folder 11
Copy for Friday Ad, Undated	Box 4	Folder 12
Cornwall Local, Undated	Box 4	Folder 13
Correspondence, 1944Undated	Box 4	Folder 14
Correspondents, 1946	Box 4	Folder 15
Coulter, Mr. D.W., 1944	Box 4	Folder 16
Crews, Mr. Floyd H., 1944	Box 4	Folder 17
Crist, Mr. Charles, 1944	Box 4	Folder 18
Cullen, Mr. Thomas, 1944	Box 4	Folder 19
Delaware County, 1944	Box 4	Folder 20
Democratic Committee of the Town of Monroe, 1944	Box 4	Folder 21
Dexter, Mrs. L.D., 1944	Box 4	Folder 22
Dick Malkin: Material on Hamilton Fish, 1944Undated	Box 4	Folder 23
Dinner- Hally (at Palatine 10/16/44), 1944	Box 4	Folder 24
Directions to Supporters and Workers, Undated	Box 4	Folder 25
District Results, 1942	Box 4	Folder 26
Donahue, Mr., 1944	Box 4	Folder 27
Election Estimate, Undated	Box 4	Folder 28
Election Material, 1942-1943Undated	Box 4	Folder 29

Election Material, 1944	Box 4	Folder 30
E.R.H., 1944	Box 4	Folder 31
Express Receipts, 1944	Box 4	Folder 32
External Campaign News Release II, 1946	Box 4	Folder 33
Extra Copies News Release, 1945Undated	Box 4	Folder 34
Facts about Fish, 1941-19421946Undated	Box 4	Folder 35
Famers Bulletins I (1 of 2), 1945	Box 4	Folder 36
Famers Bulletins I (2 of 2), 1945	Box 4	Folder 37
Farmers Bulletins II (1 of 2), 1945	Box 4	Folder 38
Farmers Bulletins II (2 of 2), 1945	Box 4	Folder 39
Farmers Bulletins III (1 of 2), 1946	Box 4	Folder 40
Farmers Bulletins III (2 of 2), 1946	Box 4	Folder 41
Farmer's Union- Sullivan City, 1944	Box 4	Folder 42
Farr, Miss Isabelle, 1944	Box 4	Folder 43
First Ad, Undated	Box 4	Folder 44
Fish Cartoon (Letters to Various Organizations Pictured), 1944	Box 4	Folder 45
Fish Material, 1942Undated	Box 4	Folder 46
Fish- Remarks- etc., Undated	Box 4	Folder 47
Fish- Voting Record, 1944	Box 4	Folder 48
Finances, 1942Undated	Box 4	Folder 49
Flag Day Address, 1942Undated	Box 4	Folder 50
Foreman, James F., Undated	Box 4	Folder 51
Franco, Persio Celeste, Undated	Box 4	Folder 52
Friends of Democracy, Inc., 1944	Box 4	Folder 53
G- General (1 of 2), 1944-1946Undated	Box 4	Folder 54
G- General (2 of 2), 1944-1946Undated	Box 4	Folder 55
General B and L, 1946 May	Box 5	Folder 1
General Correspondence, 1944Undated	Box 5	Folder 2
General Legislation B and L, 1945Undated	Box 5	Folder 3
General Legislation Testimonies (1 of 3), 1946Undated	Box 5	Folder 4
General Legislation Testimonies (2 of 3), 1946Undated	Box 5	Folder 5
General Legislation Testimonies (3 of 3), 1946Undated	Box 5	Folder 6

General Outdoor Advertising, 1944Undated	Box 5	Folder 7
Gettysburg Address, Undated	Box 5	Folder 8
Goldshine, Mr. Murray, 1944	Box 5	Folder 9
Goldsmith, Arthur, 1944	Box 5	Folder 10
Goldstein, Benjamin M., 1944	Box 5	Folder 11
Goldstein, Benjamin M., 1945Undated	Box 5	Folder 12
The Goshen Democrat, Undated	Box 5	Folder 13
Gov. Dewey's Picture (MAT), Undated	Box 5	Folder 14
Granger, Mr. Lester B., 1944	Box 5	Folder 15
Grant, Milton J., 1944	Box 5	Folder 16
Greystone Studios Inc., 1944	Box 5	Folder 17
Guylay, L.R., 1944	Box 5	Folder 18
H- General (1 of 2), 1945-1946Undated	Box 5	Folder 19
H- General (2 of 2), 1945-1946Undated	Box 5	Folder 20
Hale, Robert, 1942	Box 5	Folder 21
Halleck, Chas. A., 1944	Box 5	Folder 22
Harlem Valley Times Amenia, 1942Undated	Box 5	Folder 23
Hamilton Fish Vote, 1942Undated	Box 5	Folder 24
Harriman, Mr. E. R., 1942	Box 5	Folder 25
Harwick Valley, 1942Undated	Box 5	Folder 26
Hawaii, 1945	Box 5	Folder 27
Hayes, Helen, Speech, 1944Undated	Box 5	Folder 28
Hayes, Mrs., Pictures, 1944	Box 5	Folder 29
Hearings, 1944	Box 5	Folder 30
Highway Alert, 1945	Box 5	Folder 31
Hill and Fish Testimony, 1942-1943Undated	Box 5	Folder 32
Hobbs Bill, 1945Undated	Box 5	Folder 33
Hollenbeck, Mrs. Ruth, 1944	Box 5	Folder 34
Home Owners Loan Corporation, 1945	Box 5	Folder 35
Hornbeck, Mr. Van, 1944	Box 5	Folder 36
Hospitals, 1945	Box 5	Folder 37
Hospitals- Veterans, 1944-1945	Box 5	Folder 38

Housing, Federal (1 of 2), 1946Undated	Box 5	Folder 39
Housing, Federal (2 of 2), 1946Undated	Box 5	Folder 40
Hudson Valley Sunday Career Poughkeepsie, Undated	Box 5	Folder 41
I- General, 1945Undated	Box 6	Folder 1
Immediate Release, 1946	Box 6	Folder 2
Immigration (1 of 2), 1945-1946Undated	Box 6	Folder 3
Immigration (2 of 2), 1945-1946Undated	Box 6	Folder 4
Income Tax, 1943	Box 6	Folder 5
Income Tax Returns, 1945	Box 6	Folder 6
Independent Committee, Undated	Box 6	Folder 7
Independent Republican, Undated	Box 6	Folder 8
Infant Care, 1946Undated	Box 6	Folder 9
Insurance, 1945	Box 6	Folder 10
Insurance B and L, 1945	Box 6	Folder 11
International Petition, 1944-1945Undated	Box 6	Folder 12
Interstate Commerce Commission, 1946	Box 6	Folder 13
Invitations, 1945 JanuaryUndated	Box 6	Folder 14
Invitations, 1945 February	Box 6	Folder 15
Invitations, 1945 March	Box 6	Folder 16
Invitations, 1945 April	Box 6	Folder 17
Invitations, 1945 May	Box 6	Folder 18
Invitations, 1945 June	Box 6	Folder 19
Invitations, 1945 July	Box 6	Folder 20
Invitations, 1945 AugustUndated	Box 6	Folder 21
Invitations, 1945 September	Box 6	Folder 22
Invitations, 1945 October	Box 6	Folder 23
Invitations, 1945 November	Box 6	Folder 24
Invitations, 1945 December	Box 6	Folder 25
Invitations, 1946 JanuaryUndated	Box 6	Folder 26
Immigration, 1946 February	Box 6	Folder 27
Invitations, 1946 March	Box 6	Folder 28
Invitations, 1946 April	Box 6	Folder 29

Invitations, 1946 May	Box 6	Folder 30
Invitations, 1946 June	Box 6	Folder 31
invitations, 1946 July	Box 6	Folder 32
Italy, 1946Undated	Box 6	Folder 33
J-General, 1945	Box 6	Folder 34
Jewish Affairs (1 of 2), 19451946Undated	Box 7	Folder 1
Jewish Affairs (1 of 2), 19451946Undated	Box 7	Folder 2
Joe's Material, Undated	Box 7	Folder 3
K- General, Undated	Box 7	Folder 4
Kenneth and Clark, 19451946	Box 7	Folder 5
Kyle, A.C. Dr. Gen., 19451946	Box 7	Folder 6
L- General, 1945Undated	Box 7	Folder 7
Labor, 1945-1946	Box 7	Folder 8
Labor B and L, 1945-1946Undated	Box 7	Folder 9
Labor B and L II (1 of 2), 1945-1946Undated	Box 7	Folder 10
Labor B and L II (2 of 2), 1945-1946Undated	Box 7	Folder 11
Labor B and L III (1 of 2), 1946Undated	Box 7	Folder 12
Labor B and L III (2 of 2), 1946Undated	Box 7	Folder 13
Lend- Lease, 1945	Box 7	Folder 14
Letter No. 3 "Joe", 1942	Box 7	Folder 15
Letters, 1942	Box 7	Folder 16
Letters- Dick Scandrett, 1942	Box 7	Folder 17
Letters Dictated By Mr. Bennet, 1944Undated	Box 7	Folder 18
Letters, Dutchess Co. Committee, 1942	Box 7	Folder 19
Letters of Support, 1942	Box 7	Folder 20
Library of Congress, 1939194119431945-1946	Box 7	Folder 21
List of Newspapers, Undated	Box 7	Folder 22
Lists, 1945Undated	Box 8	Folder 1
Loeb, Mr. James, 1944	Box 8	Folder 2
M- General (1 of 2), 1945Undated	Box 8	Folder 3
M- General (2 of 2), 1945Undated	Box 8	Folder 4
Mahapac Mercury, Undated	Box 8	Folder 5

Manpower Seal, 1945Undated	Box 8	Folder 6
Material and Book Matches, 1944Undated	Box 8	Folder 7
McGiffert, Mr. Wm. J., 1944	Box 8	Folder 8
Medicine Legislation, 1945-1946Undated	Box 8	Folder 9
Merchant Marine Institute, 1945-1946Undated	Box 8	Folder 10
Middletown, 1942Undated	Box 8	Folder 11
Middletown Star Eagle, 1942Undated	Box 8	Folder 12
Miguel, Major M.C., 1944	Box 8	Folder 13
Millbrook Round Table, Undated	Box 8	Folder 14
Miller, Mr. Wm. L., 1944	Box 8	Folder 15
Miscellaneous General, 1944January 1945Undated	Box 8	Folder 16
Miscellaneous General, 1943-1944February 1946Undated	Box 8	Folder 17
Miscellaneous General, 1945 March	Box 8	Folder 18
Miscellaneous General, 1945 April	Box 8	Folder 19
Miscellaneous General, 1945 May	Box 8	Folder 20
Miscellaneous General, 1945 June	Box 8	Folder 21
Miscellaneous General, 1945 July	Box 8	Folder 22
Miscellaneous General, 1945 August	Box 8	Folder 23
Miscellaneous General, 1945 September	Box 8	Folder 24
Miscellaneous General, 1945 October	Box 9	Folder 1
Miscellaneous General, 1945 November	Box 9	Folder 2
Miscellaneous General, 1945 December	Box 9	Folder 3
Miscellaneous General, 1946 January	Box 9	Folder 4
Miscellaneous General, 1946 February	Box 9	Folder 5
Miscellaneous General, 1946 March	Box 9	Folder 6
Miscellaneous General, 1946 April	Box 9	Folder 7
Miscellaneous General, 1946 May	Box 9	Folder 8
Miscellaneous General, 1946 June	Box 9	Folder 9
Miscellaneous General, 1946 JulyUndated	Box 9	Folder 10
Miscellaneous General, 1946 August	Box 9	Folder 11
Miscellaneous General, 1946 September	Box 9	Folder 12
Miscellaneous General, 1946 October	Box 9	Folder 13

Miscellaneous Newsclippings, 1942Undated	Box 9	Folder 14
Montgomery Standard Reporter, 1942Undated	Box 9	Folder 15
Morris, Newbold, Letter, 1944	Box 9	Folder 16
N- General, 1945	Box 9	Folder 17
Negroes, 1945-1946Undated	Box 9	Folder 18
New York Daily News, Undated	Box 9	Folder 19
New York Times, Undated	Box 9	Folder 20
Newburgh, Albert P. Fyrmier, 1946	Box 9	Folder 21
Newburgh Democratic City Committee, 1944	Box 9	Folder 22
Newburgh News, 1942Undated	Box 9	Folder 23
Newburgh Office (1 of 2), 1945-1946Undated	Box 10	Folder 1
Newburgh Office (2 of 2), 1945-1946Undated	Box 10	Folder 2
News of the Highland, Undated	Box 10	Folder 3
News Releases, 1945Undated	Box 10	Folder 4
News Releases (1 of 2), 1945-1946Undated	Box 10	Folder 5
News Releases (2 of 2), 1945-1946Undated	Box 10	Folder 6
News Releases, 1946Undated	Box 10	Folder 7
Newspapers, 1944-1945Undated	Box 10	Folder 8
Newspapers, 1946	Box 10	Folder 9
Nurses' Draft Bill, 1945Undated	Box 10	Folder 10
Nyack, New York (1 of 2), 1944Undated	Box 10	Folder 11
Nyack, New York (2 of 2), 1944Undated	Box 10	Folder 12
O- General, 1945-1946Undated	Box 10	Folder 13
O.D.T.- General, 1944-1945Undated	Box 10	Folder 14
O.P.A., 1945	Box 10	Folder 15
O.P.A., 1945-1946	Box 10	Folder 16
O.P.A., 1946	Box 10	Folder 17
O.P.A., 1946Undated	Box 10	Folder 18
O.P.A. B and L, 1945	Box 10	Folder 19
O.P.A. B and L II (1 of 3), 1946	Box 10	Folder 20
O.P.A. B and L II (2 of 3), 1946	Box 11	Folder 1
O.P.A. B and L II (3 of 3), 1946	Box 11	Folder 2

O.P.A. B and L III, 1946Undated	Box 11	Folder 3
O.P.A. B and L IV (1 of 2), 1946Undated	Box 11	Folder 4
O.P.A. B and L IV (2 of 2), 1946Undated	Box 11	Folder 5
O.P.A. B and L V, 1945-1946Undated	Box 11	Folder 6
O.P.A. B and L VI, 1946	Box 11	Folder 7
O.P.A. General I (1 of 2), 1945Undated	Box 11	Folder 8
O.P.A. General I (2 of 2), 1945Undated	Box 11	Folder 9
O.P.A. News II (1 of 2), 1945	Box 11	Folder 10
O.P.A. News II (2 of 2), 1945	Box 11	Folder 11
O.W.L., 1944-1946	Box 11	Folder 12
Oil and Gas, 1945	Box 11	Folder 13
O'Neill, Mr. Edward G., 1944Undated	Box 11	Folder 14
O'Neill, Mr. Wm., 1944	Box 11	Folder 15
Orange County Courier, 1942Undated	Box 11	Folder 16
Orange County Letter Committee, Undated	Box 11	Folder 17
Orange County Lists, 1946	Box 11	Folder 18
Orange County Post, 1942Undated	Box 11	Folder 19
Orange County Yes Cards, Undated	Box 11	Folder 20
Ostegren, Mr. Edwin, 1944	Box 11	Folder 21
Overseas Services Men, Undated	Box 11	Folder 22
Pawling News Chronicle, Undated	Box 11	Folder 23
Pending Letters to Editors, 1944Undated	Box 11	Folder 24
Petition Material, 1944	Box 11	Folder 25
Petition Material- Liberal Party, 1944	Box 11	Folder 26
Petition Names, 1944Undated	Box 11	Folder 27
Petition Tax, 1944Undated	Box 11	Folder 28
Petitions Regarding Use of Grain for Beverages, 1945Undated	Box 12	Folder 1
Pine Bush News, Undated	Box 12	Folder 2
Placard with Blowup of Newspaper Clipping about Plans to Defeat Hamilton Fish, 1942 August	Oversized 8	
Porter, Mr. Tom, 1944	Box 12	Folder 3
Post Cards Mailed (Completed Circulation), Undated	Box 12	Folder 4
Poughkeepsie Eagle News, Undated		

	Box 12	Folder 5
Poughkeepsie New Yorker, Undated	Box 12	Folder 6
Press News Releases (1 of 2), 19421944Undated	Box 12	Folder 7
Press News Releases (2 of 2), 19421944Undated	Box 12	Folder 8
Press- Newspaper Letters Subscribing to, 1944Undated	Box 12	Folder 9
Press Release, 1942Undated	Box 12	Folder 10
Primary Campaign, 1942Undated	Box 12	Folder 11
Primary Material, 1944Undated	Box 12	Folder 12
Primary Paid Bills, 1944Undated	Box 12	Folder 13
Prince, Leslie (Address by), 1944	Box 12	Folder 14
Putnam County's Republican, 1942Undated	Box 12	Folder 15
Rabbi Bloom Telegram to Dewey, 1944	Box 12	Folder 16
Radio Address (WJZ- New York) (Mr. Bennet), Undated	Box 12	Folder 17
Radio Addresses, Undated	Box 12	Folder 18
Radio Addresses (Helen Hayes), Undated	Box 12	Folder 19
Radio Addresses (Monticello), 1944Undated	Box 12	Folder 20
Radio Addressed (Spot Announcements), Undated	Box 12	Folder 21
Radio Contracts, 1944	Box 12	Folder 22
Radio Debate (Notes on Fish - Bennet Debate), Undated	Box 12	Folder 23
Radio Station in New York City - Correspondence, 1944Undated	Box 12	Folder 24
Rally Material, 1944Undated	Box 12	Folder 25
Ratcliff, Mr. J.D, 1944	Box 12	Folder 26
Red Hook Advertiser, Undated	Box 12	Folder 27
Registration, Undated	Box 12	Folder 28
Report From Worker- Ceddes, 1944	Box 12	Folder 29
Republican City Committee (Finance Committee), Undated	Box 12	Folder 30
Republican National Committee, 1944	Box 12	Folder 31
RE: Absentee Ballots, 1944	Box 12	Folder 32
RE: Bennet- Hayes Tour of Delaware County, 1944Undated	Box 12	Folder 33
RE: Cronin Petition, 1944	Box 12	Folder 34
RE: School Debate- Bennet vs. Fish (Delhi School), 1944	Box 12	Folder 35
The Rhinebeck Gazette, Undated	Box 12	Folder 36

Rockland County List, 1946	Box 12	Folder 37
Rogers, Fred S., Telegrams, 1944	Box 12	Folder 38
San Francisco Conf., 1945Undated	Box 12	Folder 39
Savell, Mrs. Isabelle, 1944	Box 12	Folder 40
Savell, Mrs. Morton K., 1945	Box 12	Folder 41
Schimmel, Mr. Sidney, 1944	Box 12	Folder 42
Scrapbook One, 1942 May-August	Oversized 1	
Scrapbook Two, 1942 May-October	Oversized 2	
Scrapbook Three, 1944 April-October	Oversized 3	
Scrapbook Four, 1944 June-1945 January	Oversized 4	
Scrapbook Five, 1944 July	Oversized 5	
Scrapbook Six, 1944 July-August	Oversized 4	
Scrapbook Seven, 1944 August-October	Oversized 6	
Scrapbook Eight, 1944 October	Oversized 3	
Scrapbook Nine, 1944 October-November	Oversized 6	
Scrapbook Ten, 1944 October-1945 April	Oversized 7	
Scrapbook Eleven, 1944 November-1945 January	Oversized 3	
Scrapbook Twelve, 1945 March-June	Oversized 7	
Scrapbook Thirteen, 1945 April-1946 April	Oversized 1	
Scrapbook Fourteen, 1946 April-June	Oversized 6	
Scrapbook Fifteen, 1946 June-August	Oversized 8	
Scrapbook Sixteen, 1948 January-October	Oversized 4	
Selective Service (1 of 2), 1945-1946Undated	Box 12	Folder 44
Selective Service (1 of 2), 1945-1946Undated	Box 12	Folder 45
Shannon- Bennet (1 of 2), 1944-1946	Box 12	Folder 46
Shannon- Bennet (2 of 2), 1944-1946	Box 13	Folder 1
Shannon- Personal (1 of 2), 1944-1946Undated	Box 13	Folder 2
Shannon- Personal (2 of 2), 1944-1946Undated	Box 13	Folder 3
Small Businesses- Seal, 1944-1945Undated	Box 13	Folder 4
Smith, Caroline, 1945-1946	Box 13	Folder 5
Smith, Mr. Harland N., 1944	Box 13	Folder 6
Social Security, 1944-1946Undated	Box 13	Folder 7

Song Sheets, 193519391944	Box 13	Folder 8
Spain, 1945	Box 13	Folder 9
Special Enrollment Forms, Undated	Box 13	Folder 10
Speech WGNV, 1942	Box 13	Folder 11
Speeches, 1942	Box 13	Folder 12
Speeches (1 of 4), 1945Undated	Box 13	Folder 13
Speeches (2 of 4), 1945Undated	Box 13	Folder 14
Speeches (3 of 4), 1945Undated	Box 13	Folder 15
Speeches (4 of 4), 1945Undated	Box 13	Folder 16
Speeches (1 of 2), 1946Undated	Box 13	Folder 17
Speeches (2 of 2), 1946Undated	Box 13	Folder 18
Speeches- Lincoln Day, 1946	Box 13	Folder 19
Sprague, Mr. Floyd L., 1944	Box 13	Folder 20
St. George, Mrs., 1944	Box 13	Folder 21
Stanley, Mr. James, 1944	Box 13	Folder 22
Starr, Wilton P., 1944	Box 13	Folder 23
Stationary Room, Seal, 1945-1946	Box 13	Folder 24
Stratton, Earl (Letter), 1944	Box 13	Folder 25
Subscription, Charities, Contributions, etc., 1944	Box 13	Folder 26
Sugar, 1945	Box 13	Folder 27
Suggested Speech by Blackburn Hughes, Undated	Box 13	Folder 28
Sullivan County Lists, 1946	Box 14	Folder 1
Sullivan County Show Removal, 1945	Box 14	Folder 2
Sully, Myra, 1945	Box 14	Folder 3
Surplus Property, 1945-1946Undated	Box 14	Folder 4
Surplus Property (1 of 3), 1946	Box 14	Folder 5
Surplus Property (2 of 3), 1946	Box 14	Folder 6
Surplus Property (3 of 3), 1946	Box 14	Folder 7
Surplus Reporter, 1945-1946	Box 14	Folder 8
T- General, 1945Undated	Box 14	Folder 9
Total Enrollment and Registration (First Assembly, District Orange County), 1943-1944	Box 14	Folder 10
Towler, Col. Gray B. Tower, 1944		

	Box 14	Folder 11
Trainer, Mr. Thomas, Undated	Box 14	Folder 12
Tribute to the Flag, 1949	Box 14	Folder 13
U- General, 1945Undated	Box 14	Folder 14
U.N.R.R.A (United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Authority), 1943-19441946	Box 14	Folder 15
U.S. Empl. Comm., 1946	Box 14	Folder 16
V- General, Undated	Box 14	Folder 17
Van Cleek- Madden Printing Co., 1944	Box 14	Folder 18
Van Hyper, George S., 1944	Box 14	Folder 19
Vandercook, Mr. John W., 1944Undated	Box 14	Folder 20
W- General (1 of 2), 1945Undated	Box 14	Folder 21
W- General (2 of 2), 1945Undated	Box 14	Folder 22
Wall Radio Addresses (Middletown), Undated	Box 14	Folder 23
War Food Admin, 1945	Box 14	Folder 24
Waterman, Mr. Edmund, 1944	Box 14	Folder 25
Welsh, J.K., 1946	Box 14	Folder 26
WGNY Radio Addresses (1 of 2), 1944Undated	Box 14	Folder 27
WGNY Radio Addresses (2 of 2), 1944Undated	Box 14	Folder 27
White, Mr. Walter, 1944	Box 14	Folder 29
Wightman, Mrs. Gordon, 1944	Box 14	Folder 30
Williams, Paul, 1944	Box 14	Folder 31
Wilson, Mrs. Jean Rushmore Patterson, 1944	Box 14	Folder 32
Wilson, Mrs. John H., 1944	Box 14	Folder 33
Wirths, Roland P., 1944	Box 14	Folder 34
W.L.B (War Labor Board), 1945-1946	Box 14	Folder 35
Wolf, Mr. P.A., 1944	Box 14	Folder 36
Wood, Mr. Glen (Master of Mountain Ville Grange), 1944	Box 14	Folder 37
Workers' Questions and Answers, Undated	Box 14	Folder 38
W.P.B, 1945Undated	Box 14	Folder 39
W.P.B, 1945-1946Undated	Box 15	Folder 1
W.P.B, 1946	Box 15	Folder 2
Wyer, Mr. A.C., 1944	Box 15	Folder 3

Wyer, Mr. Robert, 1944

Box 15

Folder 4