

M-8

## Inventory to the George L. Lilley Papers (1899-1909)

Finding aid updated by Stephanie Crawford in July 2020

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### Descriptive Summary

Creator: Lilley, George Leavens (1859-1909)

Title: The George L. Lilley Papers

Dates: 1899-1909

Collection Number: M-8

Quantity: 3.5 cubic feet (7 manuscripts boxes, 2 newspaper boxes, and 2 ledgers)

Abstract: George L. Lilley served in the Connecticut State House of Representatives from 1901-1903. From 1903 through 1909 he serves as a US Congressman. Finally, he served as Governor from January 5 through April 21, 1909, when he passed away in office. This collection documents his various activities as a politician. Additionally, there is a small amount of personal material.

Language: English

Repository: Max R. Traurig Library and Archive, Mattatuck Museum. Advance notice required.

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### Biographical History:

George L. Lilley was born in Oxford, Massachusetts on August 3, 1859. He attended Worcester High School, and Worcester Technical Institute. In 1881 he moved to Waterbury, CT to pursue a business opportunity in real estate.

Lilley served in the State House of Representatives from 1901-1903. Running as a Republican, he served in the US Senate from 1903 through 1909. He chose not to run for re-election to Congress in 1908, because he was a candidate for Governor of Connecticut. He served as Governor from January 5 through April 21, 1909, when he passed away in office.

Sources: <https://bioguideretro.congress.gov/Home/MemberDetails?memIndex=L000308>

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#### Scope and Content Notes:

The George L. Lilley Papers document Lilley's career as a politician in Waterbury, and representing Connecticut as a whole. The collection spans 1899 through 1909, and is largely composed of correspondence. In addition to documents relating to Lilley's Congressional and Gubernatorial sessions, there is a small amount of personal items including bills, dealings as a landlord, and scrapbooks relating to his death.

Boxes 11 and 12 are oversized newspaper boxes. Items 8, 9, and 10 are ledgers/scrapbooks and are housed separately.

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#### References and Related Collections:

[Office of the Governor Records. RG005. Connecticut State Library.](#)

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#### Administrative History:

Preferred Citation: George L. Lilley Papers. M-8. Max R. Traurig Library and Archive, Mattatuck Museum.

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Container List: This section provides descriptions of the materials found within each series. Each series description is followed by a container list, which gives the titles of the folders and their locations in the numbered boxes that comprise this collection.

Box Folder

1 "Report of the Isthmian Canal Commission" (Plates). Senate Documents, Vol. 24, Part 2, 58<sup>th</sup> Congress, 2<sup>nd</sup> Session.

Maps of proposed sites for Panama Canal, 1899-1901

Box Folder

2 A Naval Affairs Committee, Letters of petition re: naval appropriations, 1905

B Naval Affairs Committee, Letter and proposed bill re: battleships, circa 1905

C Naval Affairs Committee,

- Review of Atlantic fleet by Pres. Roosevelt in Long Island Sound, Sept. 3, 1906
- A Souvenir of the Congressional Party to Hawaii in 1907 (when Lilley was a U.S. congressman, 1903-1909).

D Naval Affairs Committee, Promotional material for N.Y. (Brooklyn ?) Navy Yard, 1908

E Naval Affairs Committee, Clippings re: battleships, circa 1908

F Naval Affairs Committee,

- Resolution & speech, Navy Yards and Naval Appropriations Bill, April 1908
- Price quotation for printing copies of speech , July 1908

G Naval Affairs Committee, Summary of work done by Naval Affairs Committee, July 1908

H Naval Affairs Committee, Correspondence re: House Committee on Naval Affairs, 1907-08

I Promotional material for submarines, circa 1907-08

J Personal notes re: Electric Boat investigation, 1908

Box	Folder	
2	K	Resolution re: Government contracts for submarine building, Feb. 1908
	L	Incoming correspondence (excluding anonymous letters) re: Electric Boat Investigation, Feb. 25-Aug. 22, 1908
	M	Unsigned Correspondence re: Electric Boat investigation, suggesting fruitful areas of inquiry (some probably by F. B. Whitney, vice-president of Lake Submarine Co.) 1908.
	N	Statement and H. W. Elliot's letter Re: Frank Lord, Feb. 22-23, 1908
	O	Letters to prospective witnesses or suppliers of evidence, March 7, 1908
	P	Letters to Boutell Com. re: conduct of investigation, March-April 1908
	Q	Requests to Boutell for subpoenas on key witnesses, March 1908
	R	Formal statement to Boutell Committee re: Conduct investigation, 1908
	S	Memo to Boutell re: questions to be asked of witnesses, 1908
	T	Deposition of witnesses John C. Lake and Sam Ferguson, March 1908
	U	Deposition of Charles M. Robinson, March 1908
	V	Minutes of Boutell Committee hearings (1pp)
	W	Minutes of Boutell Committee hearings (complete?), March 17, 1908
	X	Lilley's speech in the House re: Naval Appropriations Bill, April 11, 1908
	Y	Lilley's statement to Speaker (Cannon) re: shoddy nature of investigation. Written after committee report was submitted, circa May 1908
	Z	Letter from Department of Agriculture, Meat inspection & Lilley, Swift Co., Aug 7, 1907
	AA	Correspondence, Acquisition of Department of Agriculture, Publications aimed at getting out Connecticut farm vote, July 1908
	BB	Post Office letter from J. H. Edwards re: regarding site of Willimantic Post Office, Sept 4, 1907
	CC	Immigration letter of petition re: Chinese immigration to Hawaii, Dec 31, 1904

Box	Folder	
2	DD	Request for copy of government publication, July 1, 1908
	EE	Fish & Game letter from Charles A. Templeton re: stocking Connecticut streams with fish, July 1908
	FF	Military pension papers re: Michael Kavanaugh, Sept 1905 Patrick McMahan, Feb. 1908
	GG	Annapolis Naval Academy Correspondence & forms re: choice of Candidates for admission, Aug 1907-July 1908
	HH	U.S. Military Academy Blank forms, outline of physical and educational requirements & instructions for application, circa 1908
	II	Marine Corps, Correspondence and applications for 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant, July-Aug 1908
	JJ	Civil Service, Blank application forms & correspondence re: Civil Service positions, April-July 1908
	KK	Customs, Letter from W. H. Sandland requesting customs position for P. T. Mulvaney, undated
	LL	Letters from A. F. Henderson & Alexander Cummings re: possible government or military career, 1907-1908
	MM	Letters re: politics & political favors, including Horace D. Taft regarding, W. H. Taft's presidential prospects, 1907 and 1908
	NN	Telegram from S. Smith requesting support for Hitchcock's bid for position of Party chairman, June 26, 1908
	OO	Draft of campaign pamphlet or statement, summarizing Lilley's Life and accomplishments, 1908
	PP	Political circular or advertisement, 1908
	QQ	Political ad (A card, perhaps distributed at political polling places), 1908
	RR	Bills & receipts for political advertising, 1908
	SS	Stiles, Judson (lawyer) bills for services in case of contested gubernatorial election of 1908, February 1909
	TT	Campaign Correspondence A - B, 1908

Box Folder

- 3 A Campaign Correspondence, C – G, 1908
- B Campaign Correspondence, H – L, 1908
- C Campaign Correspondence, M – O, 1908
- D Campaign Correspondence, P – S, 1908
- E Campaign Correspondence, T – W, 1908
- F Letters re: possible appointments of Albert McC. Matthewson to Superior Court, December 1908 and 1909
- P Letters received as governor, A, Jan.-April 1909
- G Letters received as governor, A – B, Jan-April 1909
- Q Letters received as governor, Ba – Bo, Jan.-April 1909
- R Letters received as governor, Br – By, Jan.-April 1909
- H Letters received as governor, C – E, Jan-April 1909
- 4 A Letters received as governor, Ca – Coi, April 1909
- B Letters received as governor, Col – Cu, Jan-April 1909
- C Letters received as governor, D, Jan-April 1909
- D Letters received as governor, E – F, Jan-April 1909
- 3 I Letters received as governor, F – H Jan-April 1909
- 4 E Letters received as governor, G, Jan-April 1909
- F Letters received as governor, Ha - Hi , Jan-April 1909,
- G Letters received as governor, Ho – Hy, Jan-April 1909
- H Letters received as governor, I – J, Jan.-April 1909
- 3 J Letters received as governor, I – L, Jan-April 1909

Box	Folder	
4	I	Letters received as governor, K – L, Jan. April 1909
	J	Letters received as governor, M, Jan.-April 1909
3	K	Letters received as governor, M – N, Jan-April 1909
4	K	Letters received as governor, N – O, Jan.-April 1909
3	L	Letters received as governor, O – R, Jan-April 1909
4	L	Letters received as governor, P – Q, Jan.-April 1909
	M	Letters received as governor, R, Jan.-April 1909
	N	Letters received as governor, Sa – Sm, Jan.-April 1909
	O	Letters received as governor, So – Sy, Jan.-April 1909
3	M	Letters received as governor, S, Jan-April 1909
	N	Letters received as governor, T – W, Jan-April 1909
4	P	Letters received as governor, T – V, Jan.-April 1909
5	A	Letters received as governor, W, Jan.-April 1909
3	O	3 appointments to State Board of Charities, March 10, 1909
5	B	Governor's office – Outgoing Letters, A, Jan. – April 1909
	C	Governor's office – Outgoing Letters, B, Jan. – April 1909
	D	Governor's office – Outgoing Letters, C, Jan. – April 1909
	E	Governor's office – Outgoing Letters, D, Jan. – April 1909
	F	Governor's office – Outgoing Letters, E-G, Jan. – April 1909
	G	Governor's office – Outgoing Letters, H, Jan. – April 1909
	H	Governor's office – Outgoing Letters, I – J, Jan. – April 1909
	I	Governor's office – Outgoing Letters, K – L, Jan. – April 1909
	J	Governor's office – Outgoing Letters, M, Jan. – April 1909

Box Folder

- 5 K Governor's office – Outgoing Letters, N – R, Jan. – April 1909
- L Governor's office – Outgoing Letters, S – T, Jan. – April 1909
- M Governor's office – Outgoing Letters, U – W, Jan. – April 1909
- N Torrington-Winsted properties-memo of insurance policies,  
circa 1907-08
- O Torrington-Winsted properties-Correspondence from T.J. Wall, agent,  
Feb. – Mar.1907, July 1908, Feb & April 1909  
From Louis Reutter, tenant, Nov. 1906
- P Torrington-Winsted properties-Monthly list of properties, tenants, rents  
paid. Per; T. J. Wall, agent, Nov. 1906-June 1907
- Q Torrington-Winsted properties -Receipts bank deposit T. J. Wall Feb -  
March 1908
- R Torrington-Winsted properties-Bills and receipts, Nov.1906
- S Torrington-Winsted properties-Bills and receipts, Dec. 1906
- T Torrington-Winsted properties-Bills and receipts, Jan. 1907
- U Torrington-Winsted properties-Bills and receipts, Feb. 1907
- V Torrington-Winsted properties-Bills and receipts, Mar. 1907
- W Torrington-Winsted properties-Bills and receipts, Apr. 1907
- X Torrington-Winsted properties-Bills and receipts, May 1907
- Y Torrington-Winsted properties-Bills and receipts, June 1907
- 6 A Torrington-Winsted properties-Bills and receipts, July 1907
- B Torrington-Winsted properties-Bills and receipts, Aug. 1907
- C Torrington-Winsted properties-Bills and receipts, Oct. 1907
- D Torrington-Winsted properties-Bills & receipts, Nov. 1907
- E Torrington-Winsted properties-Bills & receipts, December 1907



Box	Folder	
6	F	Torrington-Winsted properties-Bills & receipts, January 1908
	G	Torrington-Winsted properties-Bills & receipts, February 1908
	H	Torrington-Winsted properties-Bills & receipts, March 1908
	I	Torrington-Winsted properties-Bills & receipts, April 1908
	J	Torrington-Winsted properties-Bills & receipts, May 1908
	K	Torrington-Winsted properties-Bills & receipts, June 1908
	L	Reckoning of private business accounts (some probably involve Lilley, Swift & Co.), undated
	M	Receipts for payment received of Lilley and Swift, 1907-1908
	N	Correspondence re: misc. business interests; including Lilley, Swift & Co., 1908
	O	Correspondence re: misc. business interests; Jan.-Apr. 1909
	P	Bills & receipts of family members, 1903-1905
	Q	Bills of Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Company, 1904
	R	Personal Bills & Receipts, A - C, Dec. 1907-Dec. 1908
	S	Personal Bills & Receipts, D - P, Dec. 1907-Dec. 1908
	T	Personal Bills & Receipts, S-Waterbury B, Dec. 1907-Dec. 1908
	U	Personal Bills & Receipts, Waterbury C - Y, Dec. 1907-Dec. 1908
	V	Personal bills, contracted while governor, Jan.-Apr. 1909
	W	Calling cards, circa 1909
	X	"Mrs. Lilley and friends"-tickets Admission to Senate chamber. Signed O. H. Platt, 1904
	Y	Invitations to White House receptions, 1904-08
	Z	Misc. Personal Correspondence and Invitations, 1904-08

Box	Folder	
6	AA	Correspondence, automobile license tags - Benjamin Webster, July 1908
7	A	Letters from sons to George and Mrs. Lilley, 1904-05
	B	Letters to Mrs. Anna Lilley (mostly social), 1904-05
	C	Pictures postcards of Adirondacks, undated
	D	2 illustrated cards, with lines from "Who killed Cock Robin?", undated
	E	Instructions for oil lamp, circa 1909
	F	"Appointment for Lent"-St. Thomas Church, Washington, DC, 1904
	G	Misc. business cards, etc, undated
	H	Empty envelopes, undated
	I	Bookplates of Theodore Lilley of Watertown and Thomas Carleton Sanford Quea, undated
11		Newspaper stories re: Lilley's political career, 1906-09 (Oversize)
12		Newspaper stories re: Lilley's death and funeral, 1909 (Oversize)
Item		
8		(Ledger) "Memorial" April 22, 1909 New Haven Young Men's Republican Club
9		(Ledger) "In Memoriam 1909 Scrapbook of newspaper clippings from the time of Lilley's death. Many obituaries, memorial articles.
10		(Ledger) Scrapbook of newspaper clippings, c. 1909-34 (Kept by Lilley's wife or son?) Contains many memorial & retrospective items re: George Lilley, Also many items of interest, unrelated to Lilley family.