State of Tennessee
Department of State
Tennessee State Library and Archives
403 Seventh Avenue North
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0312

MCCORD, JIM NANCE
(1879-1968)
PAPERS
1919-[1950-1970]- 1975
THS COLLECTION

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William M. Thomas
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INTRODUCTION

This finding aid focuses on the papers of Jim Nance McCord, newspaper publisher, auctioneer, Governor of Tennessee, and Commissioner of Conservation. This collection comes from the Tennessee Historical Society and is separate from the Jim Nance McCord papers (accession number 71-191). Although the collection spans the years 1919-1975, the bulk of the material is concentrated between approximately 1950-1970. The majority of the collection consists of unidentified slides, color and black-and-white negative, and photographs. The collection also contains personal correspondence, drafts of speeches, genealogical materials, and an album of newspaper clippings.

The collection was acquired by the Tennessee Historical Society in 1997. There are no restrictions on the material. Single photocopies of unpublished materials in the Jim Nance McCord Papers may be made for individual or scholarly research.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH
Jim Nance McCord

1879	March 17, born at Unionville, Bedford County, Tennessee
1896	Opened, with brother Dr. W. A. McCord, book, stationary, and school supply store in Lewisburg, Tennessee
1901	Married Vera Kercheval, daughter of W. K. and Mollie Kercheval
1910	Purchased *Marshall Gazette* with W. K. Kercheval
1912	Purchased W. K. Kercheval's interest in *Marshall Gazette*
1914	Elected to Marshall County Court, served until 1942
1916	Elected mayor of Lewisburg, Tennessee, served until 1942
1920	Began career as auctioneer specializing in the sale of pure bred Jersey cattle and of real estate
1932	Served as Democratic presidential elector for Tennessee
1935	Instrumental in founding of Tennessee Walking Horse Breeders Association
1940	Delegate to the Democratic National Convention; elected president of Middle Tennessee Press Association
1942	Elected to United States Congress from the Fifth Congressional District
1944	Elected Governor of Tennessee
1946	Re-elected Governor of Tennessee
1948	Defeated in re-election bid by Gordon Browning
1953	Delegate to the Tennessee Constitutional Convention; appointed Commissioner of Conservation by Governor Frank G. Clement
1954	November 3, married Sula Tatum Sheeley
1956	Delegate to the Democratic National Convention
1958	Ran as independent candidate for Governor of Tennessee
1967	July 8, married Nell Spence Estes
1968	September 2, died in Nashville, Tennessee; buried in Lone Oak Cemetery in Lewisburg, Tennessee

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Jim Nance McCord papers, containing approximately 1.75 cubic feet of material and 1200 documents, span the years 1919-1975, with the bulk of the material concentrated between approximately 1950-1970. The majority of the documents in the collection are unidentified color slides and unidentified color and black-and-white negatives. The remainder of the collection is predominantly photographs, personal correspondence, drafts of speeches, awards, invitations, and genealogical materials. There is also an album of newspaper clippings.

There are 172 color slides in Box 4 dating from ca. 1945-1948, which were spread over several boxes. In order to put them in some sort of order and because several were identifiable as the Parthenon and Centennial Park, the slides were roughly grouped under the following subjects: the Parthenon and Centennial Park, unidentified people, animals, interiors, an unidentified cave and lake, and unidentified landscapes.

There are also 738 negatives in the collection (in Box 3), of which, 370 are black-and-white negatives and 368 are color. While the majority of the negatives in the collection are individual negatives, there are also many that were never cut down to individual negatives (meaning that there are often two or more on a single strip). As a result, the color negatives are housed in 167 folders and the black-and-white negatives are housed in 348 folders. To date, of the 738 negatives in the collection, only one has been identified and found to correspond to one of the photographs in the collection (negative B&W 211 matches photograph 3 in Box 3). The photographs in the collection are predominantly press/publicity photographs.

There are two boxes of documents in the collection (Boxes 1 and 5). Among the documents are several drafts of newspaper articles and speeches. There are also four folders of correspondence and a folder of genealogical material. There is a folder of invitations, which includes an invitation to the 1965 Johnson/Humphrey inauguration in Washington, DC. Box 5 contains an album of newspaper clippings, which are mostly articles about McCord.

This collection from the Tennessee Historical Society should be used in conjunction with McCord's Governors papers (Record Group 45) and his other collection of papers (Accession number 71-191). As the governor who first passed a sales tax in Tennessee and a long-time Commissioner of Conservation, McCord played a prominent role in Tennessee government and his papers, therefore, provide an importance source for mid 20th century Tennessee and United States history.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

McCord, James Nance. *Address of Governor McCord at His Second Inauguration, Tuesday, January 14, 1947*. n.p., 1947.

_____. *Governor McCord's Recommendation of Meharry as a Regional School*. n.p., n.d.

_____, Governor's Papers [RG 45]. Tennessee State Library and Archives, Nashville.

_____, Papers [Acc. No. 71-191]. Tennessee State Library and Archives, Nashville.

_____. *Message of the Governor to the 75th General Assembly, January 8, 1947*. n.p., 1947.

_____. *The Speeches of Jim McCord, Governor of the State of Tennessee to the 74th, 75th and 76th General Assemblies*. n.p., n.d.

CONTAINER LIST

Box 1:

1. Articles, 1962-1965, undated
2. Awards, 1955-1969
3. Certificates, 1960-1972
4. Correspondence – Jim McCord, 1919-1968
5. Correspondence – Nell Estes McCord, 1967-1975
6. Correspondence – Miscellaneous, 1959-1963
7. Correspondence – Telegrams, 1956, 1967
8. Ephemera – 1946, 1962, undated
9. Genealogical materials, undated
10. Invitations, 1965-1975, undated
11. Programs, 1947-1971
12. Speeches, 1945-1958, undated

Box 2:
Negatives

B&W 1-348. Unidentified black and white negatives
C 1-167. Unidentified color negatives

Box 3:
Photographs/Oversize

1. Jim McCord, 1964
2. Unidentified woman, 1964
3. Rufus Spence, n.d. [See negative B&W 211]
4. Group photograph at tree planting ceremony [with McCord], 1957
5. Group photograph [with McCord, Gov. Gordon Browning, Sen. Herbert Walters], n.d.
6. Group photograph [with McCord, Gov. Browning, & Gov. Prentice Cooper], n.d.
7. Group photograph at dinner party [McCord sitting left of podium], 1954
8. Group photograph [Gov. Browning, McCord, Gov. Cooper, Joe C. Carr (Secretary of State), Greg O'Rear (Department of Safety)], n.d.
9. Group photograph at Tennessee Tech [Sen. John Maddux, Gov. Cooper, McCord, Gov. Browning, Gov. Frank Clement, William E. Derryberry (President of Tennessee Tech), et al.], 1966
10. Group photograph at Tennessee Tech [Sen. John Maddux, Gov. Cooper, McCord, Gov. Browning, Gov. Clement, et al.], 1966
11. Unknown woman, n.d.
12. Group photograph [with McCord and Gov. Clement, et al.], n.d.
13. Rep. J. Percy Priest presenting service flag to Maj. General Edwin M. Watson for Pres. Roosevelt, 1944
14. Group photograph [with McCord, Gov. Clement, et al.], 1954
15. Group photograph for "Pulp and Paper Day Proclamation" [with McCord, Gov. Clement, et al.], 1958

Box 3, cont.:

16. Group photograph [with McCord, Gov. Clement, et al.], n.d.
17. "Scout Citizenship Day" [with McCord, Jimmy Malone, B. Richardson], 1957
18. Group photograph [with McCord, et al.], n.d.
19. Group photograph [with McCord, et al.], n.d.
20. Group photograph [with McCord, Dr. George M. Baker, Dr. Alex Guerry], n.d.
21. Group photograph [with McCord, Dr. C. E. Brown, et al.], n.d.
22. Group photograph [with McCord, et al.], n.d.
23. McCord speaking in front of War Memorial Building, n.d.
24. Staff photograph [with McCord, et al.], n.d.
25. Group photograph at public event [with McCord, Gov. Cooper, Gov. Browning, et al.], n.d.
26. Group photograph [with McCord, et al.], n.d.
27. Group photograph [with McCord, Silas Green, Rep. Fred C. Atchley, Mary Nicely, et al.], 1955
28. McCord and Royce Hardin, 1957
29. McCord and unidentified woman, n.d.
30. McCord with Sevierville Jaycees, 1955
31. McCord with unidentified woman, n.d.
32. Carl I. Peterson, State Forester, Jim McCord, Dr. Quill Cope, Commissioner of Education, and James L. Bailey, Director of Educational Services of Dept. of Conservation discussing plans for the distribution of "Smokey Bear's Story of the Forest," a conservation teaching aid, 1957.
33. McCord with Gilbert Dorland, 1954
34. McCord with Gilbert Dorland, 1954
35. McCord with unidentified man, n.d.
36. Group photograph [with McCord, et al.], n.d.
37. Group photograph at unveiling of McCord's portrait, 1941
38. Group photograph [with McCord, et al.], n.d.
39. Group photograph at Arnold Engineering Development Center [with McCord, Gov. Clement, et al.], 1955
40. Group photograph [with McCord, et al.], n.d.
41. Group photograph with plan for David Crockett Memorial Museum [with McCord, et al.], n.d.
42. Group photograph [with McCord, Gov. Clement, et al.], 1954
43. Group photograph [with McCord, et al.], n.d.
44. Group photograph at Belle Meade Country Club Officers Club [with McCord, et al.], 1958
45. Staff photograph [with McCord, et al.], n.d.
46. Unidentified house, n.d.
47. Unidentified child on telephone, n.d.
48. "Shaker's Shocker, Grand Champion Walking Horse," n.d.
49. Group photograph "Honorary Citizens of Fayetteville" [with McCord, Gov. Browning, Gov. Cooper, Gov. Clement, et al.], 1960

Box 3, cont.:

50. Portrait of McCord, n.d.
51. Certificate naming McCord Commissioner of Conservation, 1955
52. Group photo [with McCord, et al.] at site for proposed park near Mooresburg, 1957.

Box 4:
Slides

1-27. Parthenon and Centennial Park
28-81. Unidentified people
82-89. Animals
90-94. Interiors
95-99. Unidentified cave and lake
100-172. Unidentified landscapes

Box 5:

1. Scrapbook of newspaper clippings