

McLean County Museum of History

Stevenson, Adlai E. II-Newspaper Clipping Collection

Processed by
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Collection Information

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	2 Boxes
COLLECTION DATES:	1943 to 1970 but mostly mid-1950's to mid-1960s.
RESTRICTIONS:	N/A
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History
ALTERNATIVE FORMATS:	None
OTHER FINDING AIDS:	See: - Stevenson, Adlai E. II Collection - Stevenson Boyhood Home Collection
LOCATION:	Archives
NOTES:	Gift of Bloomington Public Library, 2018.

Historical Overview

On February 5th, 1900, Adlai Ewing Stevenson II was born into a family of renowned political clout. Taking his name from his predecessor Adlai Stevenson I, Vice President to Grover Cleveland, Adlai Stevenson II would continue the tradition of government service. With impeccable oratory capability and political knowledge, Stevenson would pioneer a variety of liberal causes throughout his lifetime, while consistently pining for the democratic nomination for president. Running in 1952, 1956, and 1960 for the Democratic nomination for president, Stevenson came to know a variety of important political figures throughout his days. Serving as the 31st Governor of Illinois from 1949 to 1953, Stevenson worked to reform the state police and remove any sense of nepotism from the role of selection process, instituting a new merit system.

Despite his consistent service to a variety of domestic issues and democratic campaigns, Stevenson could be considered a worldly nomad. Following his loss to Eisenhower in 1952, Stevenson would begin traveling the globe while writing for *Look* magazine, writing various articles about general relations between the United States and various other countries, noting rising tensions wherever they may were. This experience proved useful, as later in life he would be appointed the 5th ambassador to the United Nations in 1961.

Perhaps his most infamous and famous moments can both be attributed to the Bay of Pigs incident. Following a terrible humiliation after resisting and disputing allegations that the U.S. had attacked Fidel Castro's Communist forces in Cuba, Adlai Stevenson quickly regained the limelight on October 25th, 1962. During an emergency session of the Security Council at the United Nations, he grilled Soviet Representative Valerian Zorin as the latter sequestered information about the installation of Soviet missiles in Cuba.

However, the tumultuous and rather stressful life of a politician of his regard came to a head in 1965, when Stevenson suffered a sudden heart attack while in London. Interred at Evergreen Cemetery, Bloomington, Illinois, Adlai Stevenson was mourned both locally and nationally and remembered as a man with impeccable oratory ability, steeled political sense and a warm heart.

Scope

The collection includes primarily newspaper articles from a number of years of Adlai Stevenson II's life (1943-1970) from a variety of different publishers; mostly concentrating on his campaign years for both national elections and gubernatorial elections. Also included are clippings compilations of a multitude of newspapers placed into a single document, campaign brochures, funeral booklets, memorial letters, correspondence from a past teacher, drawings of Adlai, a broadcasting schedule, a school record, articles written by Adlai and a type script of a speech that Adlai Stevenson presented in Chicago at Curtiss Hall.

Box and Folder Inventory

Box 1:

Folder 1: Newspaper Clipping Compilations

- 1.1 Variety of newspaper clippings compiled into a single sheet, centering primarily on Stevenson's campaign for Illinois Governor, the clippings cover a variety of dates but all find a basis in 1948, 2pp.
- 1.2 Variety of newspaper clippings compiled into a singular sheet, centering primarily on Stevenson's arguments against his opponent for Illinois Governor, Dwight H. Green, the clippings cover a variety of dates but all find a basis in 1948, 2pp.

Folder 2: Miscellaneous Items

- 2.1 "In Memoriam, Adlai Ewing Stevenson," funeral booklet for Adlai Stevenson E. II at Unitarian Church in Bloomington, Illinois, the booklet features a variety of hymns to be read, along with a list of the participants in the service, the front features a photo of said church, 1965, 4pp.
- 2.2 "My Faith in Democratic Capitalism" by Adlai E. Stevenson II, *Fortune*, October 1955, pp. 1-15.
- 2.3 "Proclamation," typescript by Robert G. Bone President of Illinois State University, July 16th, 1965, announcing a memorial moratorium is placed on classes at Illinois State following the death of Adlai Stevenson II.
- 2.4 Photocopy of correspondence from Bessie McReynolds Moore at 2496 South California Street, Redding, California to Miss Elizabeth Abraham at Bloomington Library, informing her that she was a teacher of Adlai Stevenson and is sending her a document to place within Adlai's file, March 29th, 1954, 2pp.
- 2.5 Pencil drawing of Adlai Stevenson II in his library at his home in Libertyville, Illinois by Franklin McMahan, which had been reprinted and placed in an unidentified magazine.
- 2.6 Correspondence from Bessie McReynolds Moore at 2496 South California Street, Redding, California to Mr. Owen E. Peterson at De Pauw University, Indiana regarding her time as Adlai Stevenson II's teacher in the 5th grade, March 17th, 1953, 3pp.
- 2.7 "Volunteers For Stevenson," informational form/poster which briefly explains why Governor Adlai E. Stevenson II should be voted for in the upcoming presidential election of 1952, the back of the form offers a volunteer instruction sheet, which outlines the various objectives volunteers are to accomplish, 1952, 2pp.
- 2.8 "Stevenson and Sparkman," informational form/poster which features Eisenhower, Taft, and Nixon, McCarthy and a variety of other U.S. representatives during the 1952 election, each individual is accompanied by a text bubble which lambasts over the potential for Eisenhower to be president, the back features a variety of blocks of text which cover Adlai E. Stevenson II's various stances on the topics listed, 2pp.

- 2.9 “Political Broadcasts that are Fact-Packed and Different, featuring Adlai E. Stevenson,” informational document which outlines various dates and times Adlai E. Stevenson II will be featured on WMAQ 670 the Chicago NBC Outlet radio station, the back features a complete list of Stevenson’s television and radio appearances including the: date, network and exact time, the front features dual radio towers and a man speaking into a microphone, 2pp.
- 2.10 “Biographical Sketch of Adlai E. Stevenson,” typescript by the Stevenson-For-Governor Committee at 7 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois, the document outlines the life of Adlai E. Stevenson II from his time in the Bloomington public schools to his time as a U.S. ambassador, 2pp.
- 2.11 “Vote! Vote! Vote!” brochure for Adlai E. Stevenson II’s campaign for governor of Illinois against Dwight H. Green, the brochure features a short snippet about Stephen Decatur’s defeat of the Barbary pirates who threatened the United States in 1815 along with a variety of reasons as to why Dwight H. Green is not a suitable governor, 4pp.
- 2.12 “The FACTS about Adlai E. Stevenson,” informational brochure for Adlai E. Stevenson II’s campaign for Governor against Dwight H. Green, the brochure features a variety of quotes by Stevenson, his work history, his family history, a variety of reasons Governor Green is unsuited for his position and a small cutout for sending checks to the Stevenson-for-Governor Committee, the back features a variety of names of individuals who support Stevenson’s bid for governor, 5pp.
- 2.13 Photograph of Adlai E. Stevenson II flanked by a border which depicts his various accomplishments in life, they are listed as follows: Farm in McLean County, U.N. Delegate in 1946-1947, Attorney at-Law, World Wars I and II, the border was illustrated by McReynolds Moore.
- 2.14 Handwritten list of Adlai E. Stevenson II’s school record at Washington School in Bloomington, Illinois, the list mentions the teacher that was paired to his class along with his attendance for a variety of different years, 1908-1913.
- 2.15 “Address at the Fourteenth Annual Meeting of the Citizens Schools Committee,” typescript by Adlai E. Stevenson which outlines his speech at the Fine Arts Building at Curtiss Hall, 410 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, the speech thanks the Citizens Schools Committee for their various efforts along with outlining plans for the American Education system in Illinois, February 11th, 1948, 6pp.

Folder 3: Newspaper Clippings 1943-1951

Newspaper clippings within this folder date from October 4th, 1943 to December 31st, 1951 but may include a variety of clippings with unmarked dates (while still being within the marked years). The clippings primarily center on Adlai E. Stevenson II’s consideration of the Governor position in Illinois, along with various newspaper articles focusing on his campaign when he eventually accepts. The latter portion of the clippings turns a hearty amount of focus to the divorce of Adlai E. Stevenson II and Ellen Borden in 1949.

Folder 4: Newspaper Clippings 1952 (Jan.-Oct.)

Newspaper clippings within this folder date from January 16th, 1952 to October 10th, 1952 but may include a variety of clippings with unmarked dates (while still being within the marked years). The clippings primarily center on Adlai E. Stevenson II's bid for a second term as Governor of Illinois, but begin to transition into his consideration and then finally race for the 1952/1953 presidency.

Folder 5: Newspaper Clippings 1952 (Aug.-Sept.)

Newspaper clippings within this folder date from August 2nd, 1952 to September 29th, 1952 but may include a variety of clippings with unmarked dates (while still being within the marked years). The clippings primarily center on Adlai E. Stevenson II's views during the 1952 presidential campaign between himself and Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Folder 6: Newspaper Clippings 1952 (Oct.-Nov.)

Newspaper clippings within this folder date from October 1st, 1952 to November 22nd, 1952 but may include a variety of clippings with unmarked dates (while still being within the marked years). The clippings primarily center on the final portion of Adlai E. Stevenson II's presidential campaign, making special notice of his achievements along the way.

Folder 7: Newspaper Clippings 1953

Newspaper clippings within this folder date from January 7th, 1953 to October 10th, 1953 but may include a variety of clippings with unmarked dates (while still being within the marked years). The clippings primarily center on the final portion of Adlai E. Stevenson II's trips to various countries, writing along the way for *Look* magazine.

Folder 8: Newspaper Clippings 1954

Newspaper clippings within the folder date from February 10th, 1954 to October 14th, 1954 but may include a variety of clippings with unmarked dates (while still being within the marked years). The clippings primarily center on Stevenson's efforts during a variety of gubernatorial campaigns within the Democrat party.

Folder 9: Newspaper Clippings 1955

Newspaper clippings within the folder date from April 12th, 1955 to December 19th, 1955 but may include a variety of clippings with unmarked dates (while still being within the marked years). The clippings primarily center on Stevenson's renewed interest in a second Democratic nomination for president and the beginnings of his campaign.

Box 2:**Folder 10: Newspaper Clippings 1956**

Newspaper clippings within the folder date from March 22nd, 1956 to November 10th, 1956 but may include a variety of clippings with unmarked dates (while still being within the marked years). The clippings primarily center on Stevenson's various attempts at the Democratic nomination for president against Tennessee Senator Estes Kefauver and New York Governor Averell Harriman.

Folder 11: Newspaper Clippings 1957-1959

Newspaper clippings within the folder date from February 5th, 1957 to August 7th, 1959 but may include a variety of clippings with unmarked dates (while still being within the marked years). The clippings primarily center on rumors that Stevenson will attempt for another try at the Democratic nomination for president in 1960 following his loss against Eisenhower once more in 1956.

Folder 12: Newspaper Clippings 1960-1965

Newspaper clippings within the folder date from February 28th 1960, to July 15th, 1965 but may include a variety of clippings with unmarked dates (while still being within the marked years). The clippings cover a wide variety of happenings in five years including: Stevenson's reattempt at a third presidential nomination, active campaigning by Stevenson for the Kennedy campaign, Stevenson's appointment to ambassador to the United Nations and Stevenson's eventual death onset by an unexpected heart attack.

Folder 13: Newspaper Clippings 1965 (July)

Newspaper clippings within the folder date from July 15th, 1965 to July 16th, 1965 but may include a variety of clippings with unmarked dates (while still being within the marked years). The clippings primarily focus on the sudden death of Stevenson.

Folder 14: Newspaper Clippings 1965 (July-Dec.)

Newspaper clippings within the folder date from July 17th, 1965 to December 14th, 1965 but may include a variety of clippings with unmarked dates (while still being within the marked years). The clippings center primarily on the death of Stevenson and include a variety of memorials, interviews with those close to Stevenson and the various impacts Stevenson had while in his various governmental positions.

Folder 15: Newspaper Clippings 1966-1970

Newspaper clippings within the folder date from May 1st, 1966 to January 11th, 1970 but may include a variety of clippings with unmarked dates (while still being within the marked years). The clippings center primarily on memorials to Adlai Stevenson or various remembrances to his legacy.