Guide to the George E. Crothers Papers SC0130

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Note
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Language of Material: Undetermined
Contributing Institution: Department of Special Collections and University Archives
Title: George E. Crothers papers
creator: Crothers, George E. (George Edward)
Identifier/Call Number: SC0130
Physical Description: 16.5 Linear Feet
Date (inclusive): 1905-1957
Abstract: Correspondence (1905-1957), speeches, articles, legal documents, photographs, newscloppings and scrapbooks. Major subjects include Stanford University, Republican Party activities (1909-1930), California State Normal Schools, United States monetary policy and U.S. relations with the Republic of China (1920-1940). Correspondents include persons prominent in educational and political affairs in the U.S. as well as many leading California lawyers and educators. Also includes correspondence between Crothers and his brother T. G. Crothers relating to Stanford Board of Trustees matters and University legal problems, minutes of the Board (April 1905, May-June 1907), a typescript description of the founding grant and an anonymous diary (1895-1902).

Immediate Source of Acquisition note
Gift of George Crothers to the Stanford Library, 1962; transferred to University Archives, 1975.

Information about Access
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Cite As
George E. Crothers Papers (SC0130). Department of Special Collections and University Archives, Stanford University Libraries, Stanford, Calif.

Biographical/Historical Sketch
Judge and member of the Stanford Board of Trustees (1902-1912). He served as attorney to Jane Lathrop Stanford and was part donor of two graduate dormitories at Stanford University.

1870  Born (May 27), Wapello, Iowa; son of John and Margaret Jane (Fair) Crothers.
1883  Family moved to San Jose, California. Crothers attends San Jose High School.
1895  Received A.B., Stanford University (in “Pioneer Class”).
1896  Received A.M. (in law), Stanford University. Admitted to California Bar.
1897  Formed partnership with brother in San Francisco law practice.
1898  Retained by Mrs. Jane Stanford to write amendment to California State Constitution for purpose of reducing tax burden on University.
1899  Began serving as attorney in Fair Trust case (to 1902). Became president, General Alumni Association of Stanford University. Elected to membership, Golden Gate Commandery # 16, Masonic order. Received Order of Red Cross, Masonic order.
1900  Received Order of Temple, Masonic order.
1902  Became first alumnus to serve on Stanford Univ. Board of Trustees.
1904  Formulated By-Laws & Rules of Order for board of trustees. Devised articles of faculty organization adopted by board of trustees, March 31, 1904
1905  Acted as attorney for board of trustees on death of Jane Stanford. Recommended establishment of Jewel Fund for acquisition of library books for Stanford University. As chairman, committee on medical education, brought about association of Cooper Medical College with Stanford University.
1911  Married Elizabeth Mills (March 23). Became chairman, Board of Trustees, San Francisco State Normal School. (to 1921)
1912  Became chairman, Republican County Committee (to 1913).
1913  Appointed judge of Superior Court of San Francisco.
1915  Elected to succeed himself on bench by highest vote ever accorded by San Francisco Bar Association.
1916  Resigned as chairman of Republican County Committee.
1919  Served as presiding judge of Superior Court.
1920  Wife, Elizabeth, died (August 18).
1921  Returned to active practice of law.
1924  Made a summer tour of Europe.
1932  Published article, "Outline of History of Founding of Stanford University".
1933  Delivered speech, "Educational Ideals of Jane Lathrop Stanford"
1946  Announced he would help to finance building of graduate dormitory for law students to be called "Crothers Hall".
1948  Completion and dedication of Crothers Hall.
1951  Two new wings added to Crothers Hall.
1953  Announced he would help to finance building of graduate dormitory for engineering students to be dedicated to his mother, Margaret Jane Fair Crothers, and to be called "Crothers Memorial Hall".
1955  Completion and dedication of Crothers Memorial Hall.
1957  Died, May 16.

Honorary trustee, San Francisco Boys Club.
Director, Western States Life Insurance Company.
Life trustee, Leland Stanford Junior Kindergarten Trust.

For further reference see Container # 13 for biographical data concerning George Crothers.

Description of the Collection
The Crothers Papers contain George Crothers' correspondence dated from 1905-1957. The bulk of the outgoing correspondence was written between 1930 and 1955. The collection also includes manuscript and typescript copies of Crothers' speeches, articles, legal documents, photographs, newscuttings and scrapbooks and memoranda, as well as printed matter collected by Crothers.

Of primary interest are Crothers' writings on his alma mater, Stanford University, which he served as attorney for Jane Stanford, as member of the university's Board of Trustees, and as part-donor of two graduate dormitories. The collection also includes materials concerning United States relations with the Republic of China, c. 1920-1940; Republican party activities, c. 1909-1930; California State Normal Schools; and United States economic affairs and monetary policy, c. 1920-40.

Correspondents include persons prominent in educational and political affairs in the United States, as well as a large number of leading California lawyers and educators. Also includes correspondence between Crothers and his brother T. G. Crothers relating to Stanford Board of Trustees matters and University legal problems, minutes of the Board (April 1905, May-June 1907), a typescript description of the founding grant and an anonymous diary (1895-1902). A partial list of the correspondents is included in the Register.

Material removed from the collection
Five framed items were labelled and shelved with the picture collection in the Department of Special Collections:

Missing Title
1. Photograph or Painting of Jane L. Stanford
2. Photograph or Painting of George Crothers
3. Photograph or Painting of Thomas G. Crothers
4. Printed note to Crothers from student residents of Crothers Hall, Nov. 17, 1951
5. Letter from Herbert Hoover, copies of which can be found in the Crothers Papers (in "Related correspondence," filed under "Hoover")

These five items were removed in 1962 at the time the collection was first arranged.
In May 1966 Ralph Hansen removed all the Trustee Minutes from the collection (formerly in boxes 17 and 18). These Minutes were added to the group of Trustee Minutes in the University Archives (#1011). Rather than renumber the rest of
the boxes in the collection, a note simply was made that Boxes 17 and 18 no longer existed. (For an exact list of the Minutes transferred, see the original 1962 Register filed in the "Crothers" correspondence file in the general files of University Archives.)

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**
United States -- Foreign relations -- China
Articles.
Photoprints.
Speeches.
Judges.
Lawyers.
Newsclippings.
Monetary policy -- United States.
China -- Foreign relations -- United States
Scrapbooks
United States -- Foreign relations
Shortridge, Samuel Morgan, b. 1861.
Simpson, Sidney Post
Sinclair, Upton
Rogers, Frederick Rand
Roseberry, L. H.
Spreckels, Rudolph.
Sproul, Robert Gordon.
Spaeth, Carl B.
Carpenter, Thomas P.
Stanford University. Board of Trustees
Chandler, Harry.
Stone, Harlan Fiske
Boynton, Albert E.
Swain, Robert E. (Robert Eccles)
Burk, Frederic
Terman, Frederick Emmons, 1900-1982
Wilbur, Curtis D.
Stephens, William D.
White, Andrew Dickson,
Warren, Earl
Stanford, Thomas Welton
Lane, Franklin K.
Jordan, David Starr
Cubberley, Ellwood Patterson
Lane, Arthur Bliss.
Kirkwood, Marion.
Wilbur, Ray L. (Ray Lyman)
MacArthur, Walter.
Lurie, Louis R.
Lillick, Ira.
Leib, Samuel F. 1848-1924.
Older, Fremont, Mrs.
Norman, R. S.
Neylan, John Francis.
Kefauver, Grayson Neikirk
Robinson, Edgar Eugene
Morell, George
Elliott, Orrin Leslie
Cowley, W. H. (William Harold)
Republican Party (U.S.)
Hughes, Charles Evans, 1962-1948
Reid, Whitelaw
Osborne, George.
Keesling, Francis V. (Francis Valentine)
Davis, Horace
French, Will J. (Will John), b. 1871
Fuller, W. Palmer.
Gerberding, Elizabeth.
Abbott, Nathan, 1854-1941
Hoover, Herbert
Gunst, Morgan.
Stanford University. Crothers Hall
Hassett, William D.
Hayes, J. O.
Howe, Louis M. (Louis McHenry)
Stanford, Jane Lathrop
Jones, Herbert C. (Herbert Coffin)
Sterling, J. E. Wallace (John Ewart Wallace)
Coolidge, Calvin, 1872-1933
Considine, John W.
Crothers, George E. (George Edward)
Hopkins, Timothy
Johnson, Hiram, 1866-1945
Eurich, Alvin C. (Alvin Christian)
Crothers, George E. (George Edward)
Dailey, M. E.
Cutler, Leland W. (Leland Whitman)
Dern, George T.
Downs, Winfield Scott
Dinkelspiel, Lloyd W.
Edwards, Paul C. (Paul Carroll)
Tresidder, Donald Bertrand
Dunn, Francis.
Eells, Walter C.
James, William
Correspondence Series I

Scope and Contents note
Boxes 1-4. Outgoing correspondence. Yellow tabs; in 95 folders. Letters of George Crothers; arranged chronologically, April, 1905- April, 1957.
Boxes 5-8. Incoming correspondence. Blue tabs; in 95 folders. Letters to George Crothers; arranged alphabetically by author of item and chronologically under each signer.
Box 8. Related correspondence. Red tabs; in 12 folders. Letters neither sent by Crothers nor sent to him. Filed alphabetically by author of item.
Box 9. Form letters. White tabs; in 13 folders. Mimeographed, dittoed or printed letters received by Crothers although not directed to Crothers alone. Filed alphabetically by author of item or by title of company, etc.
Boxes 9-12. Multiple copies of outgoing correspondence. Yellow tabs marked "copies"; in 73 folders. These letters are merely duplicates of letters found in Containers #1-4
Box 12. Multiple copies of incoming correspondence. Blue tabs marked "copies"; in 15 folders. These letters are merely duplicates of letters found in Containers #5-8
Box 12. Multiple copies of related correspondence. Red tabs marked "copies"; in 4 folders. These letters are merely duplicates of letters in folders with red tabs found in Container #8.

Biographical Data Series II
Scope and Contents note

Speeches Series III
Scope and Contents note
Green tabs; in 68 folders. Manuscript, typescript, and, in a few cases, printed versions of speeches composed by George Crothers, Herbert Hoover, Jane Stanford and others. The speeches are filed first alphabetically by the name of the author-speaker and then chronologically by date of speech. The bulk of the section contains copies of Crothers' speeches between 1907 and 1951. Many speeches concern the founding of Stanford University and the school's early years. See also published addresses included in section entitled "printed matter."

Speeches: Branner - Crothers to 1910
Speeches: Crothers 1911-46
Speeches: Crothers - Stanford, Jane 1897-1904
Articles Series IV

Scope and Contents note
Red tabs; in 20 folders. Manuscript and typescript copies of articles by Crothers and others. Filed alphabetically by author and then chronologically by year of the article. Eight folders contain various drafts, copies and outlines of an article by Crothers on the legal history surrounding the early years of Stanford University.

box 16

Articles: Crothers - Smith

Stanford University Board of Trustees. Transactions. Series V

Scope and Contents note
Blue tabs; in 28 folders. Manuscript and typescript versions of memoranda, committee reports, lists of degrees, etc., pertinent to the work of the Stanford Board of Trustees during the years from 1903 to 1912. Arranged alphabetically by the subject of the material. A large bulk of the section deals with data collected by Crothers and compiled in 1908 as a study of entrance requirements in colleges and universities throughout the United States.

box 19

Stanford Board of Trustees transactions.

Scope and Contents note
Subjects covered: Alumni - Stanford, Jane.

Memoranda regarding Stanford University. Series VI

Scope and Contents note
Orange tabs; in 52 folders. Manuscript and typescript versions of memoranda written by Crothers and others concerning Stanford University. Arranged alphabetically by subject. Contains reminiscences concerning campus life, notes on religion at Stanford, and financial data and notes on Crothers and Crothers Memorial Halls.

box 20

Stanford University, memoranda re.

Scope and Contents note
Subjects covered: Administration - Founding Grant.

box 21

Stanford University, memoranda re.

Scope and Contents note
Subjects covered: Harrison, Benjamin - Tuition.

General Memoranda. Series VII

Scope and Contents note
Green tabs; in 15 folders. Manuscript or typescript versions of memoranda written by or collected by George Crothers. Arranged alphabetically by subject. Folder #11 contains office memoranda. Folders #12-#15 contain fragmentary memoranda.

box 21

General memoranda.

Scope and Contents note
Subjects covered: Education - US political affairs.

Organizational Data. Series VIII

Scope and Contents note
Yellow tabs; in 13 folders. Manuscript and typescript material re. organizations to which Crothers belonged. Arranged alphabetically by type of data (e.g., legislation, minutes).

box 22

Organization data
Legal Material. Series IX

Scope and Contents note
White tabs; in 16 folders. Manuscript and typescript data of a strictly legal nature. Arranged alphabetically by type of document (e.g., case studies, leases). Most of the documents in this section concern Stanford University. Included is a photostatic copy of Jane Stanford’s will.

box 22

legal material

Extracts. Series X

Scope and Contents note
Orange tabs; in 21 folders. Manuscript and typescript excerpts from various books, documents, speeches, etc., written by Crothers and others. Arranged alphabetically by type of data (e.g., books) from which excerpts are drawn.

box 23

Extracts

Miscellaneous Data. Series XI

Scope and Contents note
Green tabs; in 18 folders. Material of a miscellaneous nature. Includes bills, receipts, certificates, etc.

box 23

Miscellaneous data

Plans & Designs. Series XII

Scope and Contents note
Yellow tabs; in 13 folders. Various architectural plans and artistic designs. Filed alphabetically by type of data. The bulk of the section contains designs for Crothers Hall and Crothers Memorial Hall at Stanford University.

box 24

Architectural plans and designs.

Photographs. Series XIII

Scope and Contents note
Red tabs; in 21 folders. First 8 folders contain photographic portraits and snapshots with one person as subject. Filed alphabetically by name of subject. Folders #9-12 contain photographs of large groups or snapshots at memorable occasions. Filed chronologically by date of photo. Folders #13-19 contain general photographs and pictures of landscapes and buildings. Filed alphabetically by subject of photograph. In the last section much of the material concerns Crothers Hall and Crothers Memorial Hall. Folder #20 contains miscellaneous negatives.

box 24

Personal photographs

Scope and Contents note
Arranged alphabetically by subject: Crothers - Stanford.

box 25

Group photographs; general photographs; negatives

Newspaper Clippings. Series XIV

Scope and Contents note
Blue tabs; in 38 folders. Divided into two sections: 1) clippings re Stanford University, 2) general clippings. All of the clippings are arranged alphabetically by subject.

box 25

Newspaper clippings re. Stanford University.

Scope and Contents note
Subjects, arranged alphabetically: Administration - Presidents.

box 26

Newspaper clippings re. Stanford University.

Scope and Contents note
Subjects, arranged alphabetically: Religion - student affairs.
Newspaper clippings on general subjects.
Scope and Contents note
Subjects, arranged alphabetically: California - World Affairs.

Printed Matter. Series XV
Scope and Contents note
Orange tabs. Folders are not numbered consecutively, because material is often too large to permit storage in file folders.
Box 27. Books, booklets, bound articles, legal data.
Box 28. Unbound articles, published addresses, directories, reports, pamphlets.
Box 29. Periodicals, magazines, bulletins.
Box 30. Commemorative data (e.g., programs, invitations) and miscellaneous.

Printed matter: Books, booklets, bound articles, legal data.
Printed matter: unbound articles, addresses, pamphlets, directories.
Printed matter: periodicals, magazines, bulletins.
Printed matter: commemorative data and newspapers.

Scrapbooks & Albums. Series XVI
Scope and Contents note
This material is not boxed. Container numbers run consecutively from one bound volume to the next.

Scrapbook of miscellaneous news clippings
Scrapbook containing clippings of "The Story of Stanford University"
Scrapbook containing further clippings of "The Story of Stanford University"
Album of photographs concerning the construction of Crothers Hall
Notebook containing photostatic copy of memoirs concerning Battle of Santiago, 1898

Oversized Materials. Series XVII
Wrapped package
Scope and Contents note
Stored in wrapping paper. Contains printed copies of 1) Statute for Permanent Court of International Justice, 2) "The Christmas Wasp"; photographs of G. E. Crothers, Herbert Hoover, Charles G. Lathrop, David Starr Jordan, George Osborne and Crothers Hall; various awards and certificates.