

**H. DONALD DEVOL COLLECTION
ON HUEY P. LONG**
Mss. 3653
Inventory

Compiled By
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Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections
Special Collections, Hill Memorial Library
Louisiana State University Libraries
Baton Rouge, Louisiana State University

2015

CONTENTS OF INVENTORY

SUMMARY	3
BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE	4
SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE	5
INDEX TERMS.....	6
CONTENTS LIST	7

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SUMMARY

Size.	2 linear ft.
Geographic locations.	Baton Rouge, LA; Washington, D. C.
Inclusive dates.	1932-1936
Language.	English
Summary.	H. Donald DeVol was the personal secretary of Huey P. Long from 1932 until Long's death in 1935. The collection includes notes, speeches, and photographs of Huey P. Long in addition to personal items of both Long and DeVol.
Restrictions on access.	Access to material housed in the vault is restricted. Facsimiles of materials are housed with the collection.
Related collections.	Don Devol Oral History Interview, Mss. 4700.0009 Huey P. Long Scrapbooks, Mss. 1666 Huey P. Long Newspaper Clippings, Mss. 2031 Huey P. Long Newspaper Clipping Scrapbook, Mss. 2600-73
Arrangement.	Collection is arranged by material type.
Copyright.	For those materials not in the public domain, copyright is retained by the descendants of the creators in accordance with U.S. Copyright law.
Citation.	H. Donald DeVol Collection on Huey P. Long, Mss. 3653, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, La.
Stack locations.	1:35-36; OS:D; Vault:38

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

Huey Pierce Long was born on August 30, 1893, in Winnfield, La. He briefly attended the University of Oklahoma School of Law in Norman, Okla., and later Tulane University Law School in New Orleans, La. He practiced law in Winnfield and later in Shreveport, La. Long was a member of the Louisiana Railroad Commission (later the Louisiana Public Service Commission) (1918-1928), governor of Louisiana (1928-1932), and U.S. Senator from Louisiana (1932-1935). Charismatic and immensely popular for his social reform programs, Long was accused by his opponents of dictatorial tendencies for his near-total control of the state government. He was shot on September 8, 1935, at the Louisiana State Capitol in Baton Rouge and died two days later at the age of 42.

H. Donald DeVol was the personal secretary of Huey Long from 1932 until Long's death in 1935. Prior to his employment with Senator Long, DeVol worked for Shell Oil Company, starting as a station attendant and later in bookkeeping. DeVol left Shell Oil Company in order to avoid a transfer to Baltimore, Maryland. DeVol sought out Huey Long at his Senate office in Washington and waited to speak with him about a job. Once hired, DeVol did mostly government work for Senator Long but did not handle Long's Louisiana business affairs. DeVol also supervised the secretarial staff but only those who worked in Washington. After Long's death, DeVol worked with the National Democratic Committee campaign for Roosevelt's reelection in 1936. DeVol later worked with a funeral director and in 1947 he founded DeVol Funeral Home in Washington, D.C.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Collection is primarily composed of ephemera, printed items, speeches, notes, photographs, and personal items belonging to Huey P. Long. Printed items in the collection include copies and reprints of the *Congressional Record* for the 72nd, 73rd, and 74th Congress (1935). These issues contain transcripts of Long's speeches and debates in the Senate. Speeches are comprised of reprints, typed copies, and handwritten notes. Research notes taken for Long's speeches cover a multitude of topics: the Democratic and Republican parties' platforms, people and third parties, and the DuPont family. Long used many sources of information for his speeches including the Bible. Long's personal Bible is included in this collection, along with Biblical quotes to use for speeches. In addition, photographs of Huey P. Long are in the collection. These photos include professional photographs taken of Senator Long and candid photographs taken of Long interacting with others in various settings. The collection includes a portrait of Long by artist Fred J. Mello. Printed sheet music of songs composed by and about Long are included as well as published books. The collection also includes correspondence, articles, and commemorative items relating to Long's assassination.

Personal items belonging to DeVol include materials which reflect his work as Long's secretary. Also present are broadsides and campaign materials for Roosevelt's 1936 re-election campaign. Including printed items relating to the "Roosevelt Caravans." The collection includes a badge given to DeVol by Senator Long. According to DeVol, the badge was given to both DeVol and Murphy Roden in order to permit them to go anywhere they wanted.

INDEX TERMS

Assassination – Louisiana
Democratic National Committee (U.S.)
Legislators – United States
Long, Huey Pierce, 1893-1935.
Louisiana -- Politics and government -- 1865-1950.
Political parties – United States
Sheet music
United States. President (1933-1945: Roosevelt)

CONTENTS LIST

<u>Stack</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents with dates</u>
	1:35	1	1	Correspondence, 1933-1935
			2	Correspondence – telegrams, 1932-1935
			3	Ephemera, 1933-1935, undated
			4	Notes and memoranda, undated
			5-10	Photographs and portraits, 1932-1935, undated
			11	Press releases, 1934-1935
			12-13	Printed material – <i>Congressional Record</i> , 1935
			14	“ – Democratic National Committee, 1936
			15	“ – Louisiana State Capitol Building, 1932
			16	“ – magazines, 1932
			17-18	“ – <i>The New Louisiana</i> , 1936
			19	“ – newspaper clippings, 1932-1941, undated
			20	“ – “Share Our Wealth,” 1934
			21	“ – sheet music, 1935
	1:36	2	1	“ – speeches, 1935
			2	Speeches, 1935
			3	“ – Bible quotes, undated
			4	“ – Drafts, 1933-1935, undated
			5	“ – Phonodisc recording, undated
			6	“ – Research notes, undated
		3	--	Huey P. Long’s Personal Bible
		4	--	Published books: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · <i>Proceedings of the Democratic National Committee</i>, 1932 · <i>Senate Manual</i>, 1933 · <i>Official Register of the United States</i>, 1934 · <i>Roster of Officials of the State of Louisiana</i>, 1935 · <i>Huey Pierce Long: Late a Senator from Louisiana, Memorial Addresses Delivered in Congress</i>, 1936
		5	--	Bust of Huey P. Long
	Vault:38	6	--	Badge given to DeVol by Huey P. Long (facsimile in Box 1, folder 3)
	OS:D	--	1	Ephemera – Broadside, undated Printed material – <i>The American Progress</i> , 1935 Printed material – “Hattie and Huey,” <i>The Saturday Evening Post</i> , 1932 Speeches – list of speeches given by Senator Long, 1935
			2	Photographs and portraits, undated