



Arizona Historical Society

founded by Arizona pioneers in 1884

Southern Arizona Division • 949 E. Second St. • Tucson • AZ 85719 • (602) 628-5774 • FAX (602) 628-5695

James Fred McKale Collection

MS 456

November 14, 1994

ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS • PUBLICATION OFFICES •

Tucson
949 E. Second Street
85719
602/628-5774

MUSEUMS • LIBRARIES • ARCHIVES •

Flagstaff
2340 N. Fort Valley Road
86001
602/774-6272

Tempe
1300 N. College Avenue
85281
602/929-0292

Tucson
949 E. Second Street
85719
602/628-5774

Yuma
240 Madison Avenue
85364
602/782-1841

DESCRIPTION

The biographical collection consists of James F. McKale's Lansing High School Yearbooks from 1902 to 1906, and letters, newspaper clippings, magazine articles, and other ephemera from his time as teacher, coach and administrator at Tucson High School (1911-1914) and later at the University of Arizona (1914 to 1964). Also in the collection is McKale's pamphlet Abraham Lincoln: The Politician, and the pamphlet of McKale's Memorial Service, June 4, 1967. Most of the information is either biographical, or centers on University of Arizona sports programs.

2 Boxes, 1 cubic foot

DEACCESSIONS

None.

TRANSFERS

None.

ACQUISITION

Donated to the Arizona Historical Society by James Fred McKale on 30 November 1963. Further material donated 21 March 1963 and last donation ca. 5 May 1981.

ACCESS

There are no restrictions to access.

COPYRIGHT

Requests for permission to publish materials from this collection should be addressed to the Arizona Historical Society, Archives Department.

PROCESSING

This collection was processed on November 14, 1994 by Charles H. Becker, Jr. under the supervision of Archivist Rose Byrne.



James Fred McKale

MS 456

November 14, 1994

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE:

James F. McKale, or "Pop" as he was known to athletes and students, became nationally recognized as Athletic Director for the University of Arizona. Born in Lansing Michigan on 12 June 1887 he graduated from Lansing High School in 1905, going on to Albion College where he received a bachelor's in History and Chemistry. He was a born athlete, quarterback, catcher, and broad-jumper, winning all-Michigan intercollegiate honors his junior year. That same year he turned down an offer to play professional baseball. Devoted to education McKale believed that a man should enter school to learn and prepare for life. Competitive sports was a part of that preparation.

After graduating Albion he taught in Superior Wisconsin for a year before moving south to Arizona. He arrived in Tucson in 1911 where he taught history and coached at Tucson High School until he was invited, by "popular acclaim," in 1914 to join the faculty of the University of Arizona. His coaching skills had shined through his high school football teams that over the three previous years continually beat their college level opponents.

In 1915 he was appointed University of Arizona's Athletic Director and coach. A post he served for forty-two years before retiring in 1957. After appointment he married his college sweetheart, Ada Sackett, on 31 July 1915. In the coming years they had three children; Marian, Elizabeth, and Ruth. Later in 1919 he received his Master's in Education with a minor in Law.

During his tenure he coached every major university sport, leading the football team onto the field for seventeen years and the baseball team for thirty-five. He was president of the American Association of College Baseball Coaches and elected into the Helms College Baseball Hall of Fame in 1954. He was elected to the Pioneer's Historical Society (Arizona Historical Society) in 1944.

James Fred McKale

MS 456

December 14, 1994

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection contains .1 cubic foot of material arranged in two boxes consisting of the biographical material of James Fred McKale professional career as Athletic Director of University of Arizona, 1914 to 1957 in six series: 1) Correspondence, Ephemera, and Printed Material, 1902-1967, 2) Newspaper Clippings and Magazine Articles, 1925-1964, 3) Programs, 1912-1961, 4) Song Books and Athletic Souvenirs, and 5) Lansing High School Yearbooks, Lansing Michigan, 1902-1906.

Series 1, Correspondence, Ephemera, and Printed Material, 1902-1967, consists of two folders. Folder 1 contains printed reference material centering on the University of Arizona and Southwest Arizona. Included is James F. McKale's Abraham Lincoln: The Politician. Folder 2 contains personal correspondence, a petition, and some biographical material centering on McKale's late career (1950's) at the University.

Series 2, Newspaper Clippings and Magazine Articles, 1925-1964, consists of two folders. Folder 1 is thirty biographical and related articles from Tucson Newspapers from 1925 to 1964. Folder 2 contains fifteen biographical articles from 1938 to 1958 centered mostly on McKale's appointment in 1915 and retirement in 1957.

Series 3, Programs, 1912-1961, Song Books and Athletic Souvenirs, consists of two folders. Folder 1 contains game programs of the and other assorted programs centered around the late 1950's. Folder 2 contains programs from the Arizona High School Basketball Tournament, from 1933 to 1955, held yearly at the University of Arizona.

James Fred McKale

MS 456

December 14, 1994

INVENTORY

SERIES 1: Correspondence, Ephemera, and Printed Material, 1902-1967.

- F.1 2 pamphlets: Abraham Lincoln: the Politician, by J.F. McKale, one autographed; 2 pamphlets: J.F. McKale Memorial Service; Designs for Learning, University of Arizona Record, October, 1962; The Main Street Through Arizona. Tombstone Commercial Club, n.d.; The University of Arizona: Historical and Pictorial; University Faculty and Staff Directory, 1956-1957; General Information for Members of the Faculty and Staff of the University of Arizona, September 1, 1956.
- F.2 Letter from Sadie Schmidt to McKale of completing yearbook, December 1, 1959; Biographical Sketch written by J.F. McKale for Arizona Pioneers' Historical Society, 1944; Petition for Holiday, March 16, 1904; 2 addresses by J.F. 'PoP' McKale at the Annual Meeting of the Arizona Pioneers' Historical Society, November 14, 1964; Memorandum for First Annual Field Day, February 22, 1897 with copy of program; Letter from Swede Johnson with the last Alumni Bulletin McKale Worked on; Program for Mikado, at Tucson Opera House, 1905.

SERIES 2: Newspaper Clippings and Magazine Articles, 1925-1964.

- F.3 30 newspaper clippings from local papers, 1925-1964. Mostly biographical essays of McKale and the University of Arizona's sports program.
- F.4 15 magazine articles from Arizona Alumnus, Mentor, and Albion's Alumni Magazine, etc., 1938-1958. Biographical essays of James McKale.

SERIES 3: Programs, 1912-1961.

- F.5 Programs, University of Arizona, 1950-1964, sport program and graduate sports program. University Honors Convocation Program, 1960 and 1962; Founder's Day Convocation, March 12, 1962.
- F.6 Programs, Arizona High School Basketball Tournament at the University of Arizona, 1933-1955 (incomplete).

SERIES 4: Song Books and Athletic Souvenirs

- F.7 University of Arizona Song Books, 1903 and 1941;
Athletic Souvenirs Broadside, 1911-1912.

SERIES 5: Lansing High School Yearbooks, Lansing, Michigan, 1902-1906.

- F.8 The Oracle, Lansing High School Yearbooks, Lansing,
Michigan 1902-1906.