

**JOHN HOLLIS BANKHEAD (1872-1946) PAPERS,
1880-1947 and undated**

Finding aid

Call number: LPR53

Extent: 8 cubic ft.

(17 archives boxes, 1 oversized box, and 6 oversized scrapbooks.)

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JOHN H. BANKHEAD, JR. (1872-1946) PAPERS
SERIES DESCRIPTION AND CONTAINER LISTING
Collection Number: LPR53

I. BIOGRAPHICAL AND GENEALOGICAL RECORDS, 1992-1946 and n.d.

This subgroup contains three series, which are further described below: A. BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES, n.d.; B. CORRESPONDENCE, GENEALOGICAL, 1910-1946; and C. CORRESPONDENCE, BIOGRAPHICAL, 1920-1945.

A. BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES, n.d.

This series is composed of a large number of biographical sketches that detail the life and career of Bankhead.

Unarranged.

Box 1, Folder 1

B. CORRESPONDENCE, GENEALOGICAL, 1910-1946

This series is composed of correspondence, including clippings, regarding the Bankhead family. None of the correspondence is to or from John H. Bankhead, Jr., although some of it is about him. The majority of the correspondence is with Mary B. Owen, his sister. Of special interest is the 18 Nov. 1930 letter from Mrs. Owen to "Orlie", Dolly Dalrymple Shipman, detailing family history and growing up as a child. Other matters discussed include family members and a possible land claim in Texas. Other correspondents include Walter Will Bankhead (his son), Madge Bankhead, Grover C. Hall, Sr., and W. B. McCain.

Arranged chronologically exact.

Box 1, Folder 2

C. CORRESPONDENCE, BIOGRAPHICAL, 1920-1945

This series is composed of correspondence about the life of John H. Bankhead (1872-1946). Most of the letters are from him. Frequent correspondents include Marie B. Owen, John Temple Graves II, and students.

Arranged chronologically exact.

Box 1, Folder 3

II. PERSONAL RECORDS, 1905-1946

This subgroup contains five series, further detailed below: A. CORRESPONDENCE, 1905-1946; B. FINANCIAL RECORDS, 1920-1944; C. DIPLOMA AND RESOLUTION, 1935; D. INVITATIONS, 1939-1945; and E. ADDRESS BOOK, n.d.

SERIES A. CORRESPONDENCE, 1905-1946

This series contains three subseries further detailed below: 1. Correspondence, general, 1905-1945; 2. Correspondence by correspondent; and 3. Correspondence by subject, 1920-1946.

1. Correspondence general, 1905-1945

This series contains a few letters discussing family matters and business matters, including

SUBGROUP II. PERSONAL RECORDS, 1905-1946 (continued)

SERIES A. CORRESPONDENCE, 1905-1946 (continued)

Subseries 1. Correspondence, general, 1905-1945 (continued)

the announcement of the marriage of his daughter Marion in 1917 to Carl McMahon; the death in 1920 of John H. Bankhead, Sr.; and the 1920 presidential election. The subseries also contains personal letters from Charles Crow, Bankhead's son-in-law, and from Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Airey regarding Marie B. Owen being honored by the Alabama Pen Women in 1943.

Box 1, Folder 4

2. Correspondence by correspondent, 1920-1946

This subseries is divided into three groupings further described below: (1) Correspondence with Mr. and Mrs. Warren G. Harding, 1920-1921; (2) Letters to Louise B. Davis, 1936-1937; and (3) Correspondence with Marie B. Owen, 1926-1946.

Correspondence with Mr. and Mrs. Warren G. Harding, 1920-1921

Subjects discussed include: the presidential elections of 1920, the friendliness of the Bankheads toward Harding, and sectional reconciliation. Arranged chronologically.

Box 1, Folder 5

Letters to Louise B. Davis, 1936-1937

These letters are also known as the "turtle" letters. Bankhead wrote these letters to his daughter as he recovered from illness. The letters are very personal, and some are quite witty. Unfortunately, the replies from Louise are not present. Arranged chronologically.

Box 1, Folder 6

Correspondence with Marie B. Owen, 1926-1946

The correspondence, 1926-1937, discusses the following subjects: Alabama politics; the 1926-1930 Alabama senatorial elections; family matters; Marie's literary efforts; U. S. Senator Tom Heflin; genealogy; Bankhead's illnesses; and Senator Hugo Black's appointment to the U. S. Supreme Court in 1937.

Subjects discussed in 1938 correspondence include: the construction of the Alabama Memorial Building in Montgomery by the Works Progress Administration (WPA), 1937-1938; the opening of Lock 17 on the Warrior River in 1915; agriculture; cotton farming; tenant farming; U. S. Senator Lister Hill; Alabama Gov. Frank M. Dixon; and Grover C. Hall. Worth noting is the correspondence documenting the attempt by John H. Bankhead and Marie B. Owen to get wings added to the Alabama Memorial Building constructed in 1938 by convincing Gov. Bibb Graves and Sec. of Interior Harold Ickes of its necessity. See particularly the 26 July 1938 letter with a photo of a rendering of the building with the wings. Subjects discussed in 1939 include: Dixon's budget cutting efforts and the efforts of selling Marie B. Owen's Alabama history book to raise funds for a bronze memorial dedicated to Alabama veterans; Marie B. Owen's salary; William B. Bankhead's presidential campaign; Joe Poole; ADAH employees' salaries; and an appointment to the ADAH Board of Trustees.

SUBGROUP II. PERSONAL RECORDS, 1905-1946 (continued)

SERIES A. CORRESPONDENCE AND LETTERS, 1905-1946 (continued)

2. Correspondence by correspondent, 1920-1946 (continued)

Correspondence with Marie B. Owen, 1926-1946 (continued)

Also documented is the effort to undermine the Alabama Dept of Archives and History (ADAH) and the denial by Richard C. Foster, University of Alabama president, that the University of Alabama was behind it, Jan-Feb 1939

Subjects discussed in 1940 include: the divorce of Major William Audley Taylor from Evelyn Saffold Taylor; the attempt to add the wings to the ADAH building; and microfilming of ADAH collections.

Subjects discussed in the 1941 correspondence include: the dedication on the Bankhead tunnel; ownership of archeological discoveries unearthed near Childersburg; Sam Dale; Marie Owen's literary efforts; and Tallulah Bankhead.

In 1942-1943 subjects discussed include Eugenia and Bill Sprouse; Tallulah Bankhead; Gov. Chauncey Sparks; Jim Rice; ADAH; Marie B. Owen's salary; and the celebration of Marie B. Owen by the Alabama chapter of American Pen Women.

The 1944-1946 correspondence discusses Marie B. Owen's continued literary efforts; a copy of a letter to Thomas Owen, Marie Owen's son, regarding Tallulah Bankhead; publishing of the Territorial Papers (H. R. 4667); U. S. politics; the ADAH (see the 6 Nov 1944 letter containing the annual report); Marie B. Owen's salary; Gov. Chauncey Sparks; Bill Sprouse's service in the US Marines; salaries of the Alabama constitutional officers and department heads; and river improvements in Alabama.

Arranged chronologically.

Box / Folder

1	7	1926-1937
1	8	1938-May 1939
1	9	July 1939-1940
1	10	1941
1	11	1942-1943
1	12	1944-1946

3. Correspondence by subject, 1920-1946

This category contains three groupings, further detailed below: (1) Judgeship, 1907; (2) Illness, 1946; and (3) Sympathy to Marie B. Owen, 1946.

Judgeship, 1907

This group includes letters received in Feb. regarding John H. Bankhead becoming a U. S. judge for the Northern District of Alabama by appointment of Pres. Theodore Roosevelt.

Correspondents include: John H. Bankhead, Ernest B. Fite, Robert F. Peters, James W. Shepherd, Edward B. Almon, Charles P. Almon, William W. Brandon, A. H. Carmichael, W. M. Coleman, Sam Will John, John R. McCain, Walter D. Seed, T. L. Sowell, R. T. Goodwyn, Ernest Lacy, R. E. Steiner, Thomas M. Owen (1866-1920), William B. Bankhead,

SUBGROUP II. PERSONAL RECORDS, 1905-1946 (continued)

SERIES A. CORRESPONDENCE AND LETTERS, 1905-1946 (continued)

3. Correspondence by subject, 1920-1946 (continued)

Judgeship, 1907 (continued)

Alex M. Garber, and many others.

Box 2, Folder 1

Illness, 1946

Hundred of letters, telegrams and cards sent to the senator regarding his illness, a stroke.

Correspondents not noted. Arranged chronologically by month.

Box / Folder

2 2 1946 May

2 3 1946 June

Sympathy to Marie B. Owen, 1946

Telegrams, letters and cards received in June and July regarding the death of John H.

Bankhead in June. Correspondents not noted.

Arranged chronologically by month.

Box / Folder

2 4 1946 June

2 5 1946 June-July

SERIES B. FINANCIAL RECORDS, 1920-1944

This series is composed of a very small amount of financial records, including accounts, receipts and a few letters regarding stock transactions. Unarranged.

Box 2, Folder 6

SERIES C. DIPLOMA AND RESOLUTION, 1935

This series includes a 1935 honorary doctorate from Alabama Polytechnic Institute signed by Bibb Graves and L. N. Duncan and a copy of a resolution, 1935, H. J. 31, by the Alabama Legislature. Both of the documents honor John H. Bankhead, Jr.

Box 2, Folder 7

SERIES D. INVITATIONS, 1939-1945

This series is composed of invitations to inaugurals and other events. Unarranged.

Box 2, Folder 8

SERIES E. ADDRESS BOOK, n.d.

Handwritten entries.

Box 2, Folder 9

SUBGROUP III. CAMPAIGN RECORDS, 1926-1942

This subgroup contains five series further described below: A. CAMPAIGN FOR U. S. SENATOR, 1926; B. CAMPAIGN FOR U. S. SENATOR, 1930-31; C. CAMPAIGN FOR U. S. SENATOR, 1936; D. CAMPAIGN FOR U. S. SENATOR, 1942; and E. DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE (DNC) LETTERS, 1940.

SERIES A. CAMPAIGN FOR U. S. SENATOR, 1926

Letter, 1926 July 22, from J. Bibb Mills, state supt. of the Anti-Saloon League of Alabama containing a pamphlet, "*What His Home People Say About Him.*" There is also a printed speech of Bankhead delivered in Russellville, Alabama used as a campaign device.

Box 3, Folder 1

SERIES B. CAMPAIGN FOR U. S. SENATOR, 1930-31

This series contains four subseries, further described below: 1. Correspondence, 1930; 2. Congratulatory election letters, 1930; 3. Speeches, clippings and printed records, 1930; and 4. Contest of election, 1931.

1. Correspondence, 1930

A few letters about the campaign, none of them substantial. Arranged chronologically.

Box 3, folder 2

2. Congratulatory election letters, 1930

Hundreds of letters congratulating Bankhead on his victory. Arranged alphabetically by the first letter of the last name, except for Box 3, Folders 8-9, which parallel each other in listing P-Y.

Box / Folder

3	3	A-B
3	4	C-D
3	5	E-G
3	6	H-K
3	7	L-O
3	8	P-Y
3	9	P-Y

3. Speeches, clippings and printed records, 1930

Of particular interest is the typescript copy of a speech delivered on the radio on 1930 Nov 3 at 9:30 pm, and the speech of Marion J. Rushton supporting him. There is also campaign literature such as the pamphlet "*Alabama Democracy: United Democracy and Party Harmony vs. Heflin Republicanism and Party Disruption,*" (1930). Anti-Heflin clippings from newspapers are also included in this subseries.

Unarranged.

Box 3, Folder 10

SUBGROUP III. CAMPAIGN RECORDS, 1926-1942 (continued)

SERIES B. CAMPAIGN FOR US SENATOR, 1930-31 (continued)

4. Contest of election, 1931

Hearings before the U. S. Senate Subcommittee of the Committee on Privileges and Elections in which J. Thoms Heflin challenged the election of John H. Bankhead to the US Senate.

Box 3, Folder 11

SERIES C. CAMPAIGN FOR U. S. SENATOR, 1936

This series includes the vote count of the Democratic primary, 5 May 1936, one handwritten and two typescript copies. Unarranged.

Box 4, Folder 1

SERIES D. CAMPAIGN FOR U. S. SENATOR, 1942

Correspondence regarding the reelection of Bankhead to the U. S. senate. Many are to and from newspaper men such as Victor H. Hanson of the *Birmingham News* and many others. The state Democratic leadership and Senator Lister Hill are also represented. Most letters are congratulatory as Bankhead had no serious opposition. Campaign expense statements are also included. Arranged chronologically exact.

Box 4, Folder 2

SERIES E. DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE (DNC) LETTERS, 1940

Letters, 1940 Sept-Oct, sent by Bankhead favoring the reelection of Franklin D. Roosevelt. Some acknowledge donations, others give statistics about how FDR helped the South, and others are designed as political surveys. Arranged chronologically.

Box / Folder

4 3 1940 Sept.

4 4 1940 Oct.-Nov.

SUBGROUP IV. RECORDS AS A US SENATOR, 1926-1946

This subgroup contains four series, described in detail below: A. CORRESPONDENCE, GENERAL, 1933-1946; B. SUBJECT FILES, 1930-1946; C. PATRONAGE, 1936-1943; and D. BILLS, HEARING AND RESOLUTIONS, 1926-1946.

SERIES A. CORRESPONDENCE, GENERAL, 1933-1946

This series is divided into eight subseries further described below: 1. Correspondence, 1933-1935; 2. Correspondence, 1936-1937; 3. Correspondence, 1938; 4. Correspondence, 1939-1940; 5. Correspondence, 1941; 6) Correspondence, 1942-1943; 7. Correspondence, 1944; and 8. Correspondence, 1945-1946. The list of correspondents in each subseries description is only a partial index.

SUBGROUP IV. RECORDS AS A US SENATOR, 1926-1946 (continued)

SERIES A. CORRESPONDENCE, GENERAL, 1933-1946 (continued)

1. Correspondence, 1933-1935

Subjects discussed in this subseries include several Subsistence Homestead Projects; freight rates; Alabama economic conditions; agriculture; tenant farming; political patronage; Alabama and U. S. politics; African American farmers; African Americans in Alabama; Lowndes Co. (Ala.) economic conditions; and cotton.

Correspondents include; Robert Jemison, Jr.; Demps A. Oden; George R. McCurdy; W. P. Russell; Charles E. Pynchon; Thomas W. Gilmer; Dr. Norman G. James; Erskine Ramsey; Mrs. Eva Comer Ryding; U. S. Senator Hugo L. Black; Gov. Bibb Graves; Oscar Dugger; C. E. Jones; Hugh McRae; Clarence Pope; David R. Cocker; Harry L. Hopkins; John M. Ward; Ira H. Virgin, Jr.; R. H. Kessler, Resettlement Administrator; Dr. Will W. Alexander; and George Sutherland.

Arranged chronologically.

Box / Folder

4	5	1933-1934
4	6	1935 Jan.- Apr.
4	7	1935 May-Dec.

2. Correspondence, 1936-1937

Subjects covered include: tenant farmers; the Bankhead - Jones Tenant Purchase Act; Alabama and U. S. politics; agriculture; the Interstate Commerce Commission; freight rates and political patronage.

Correspondents include Dr. Will W. Alexander; M. F. Jackson of TCI; Rexford G. Tugwell; Frank L. Tenton; Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace; Demps A. Oden; J. W. Porter, J. B. Mitchell; Charles B. Crow; U. S. Representative Marvin C. Jones; F. Patterson, president, Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute; Walter L. Randolph, president, Alabama Farm Bureau Fed.; Hugh White, president, Alabama Public Service Commissioner; and U. S. Senator Hugo L Black.

Arranged chronologically.

Box / Folder

5	1	1936
5	2	1937

3. Correspondence, 1938

Subjects discussed include: the Interstate Commerce Commission; freight rates; land grant work; the cooperative extension service; cotton; agriculture; tenant farming; the Bankhead - Jones Tenant Purchase Act; Bill 3836 prohibiting the moving of cotton; the Agricultural Adjustment Act (AAA) of 1938; and Bankhead's speaking tour supporting the AAA.

Correspondents include Donald Comer; Walter L. Randolph; Henry A. Wallace; J. Haden Alldredge of TVA; Alabama Governor Bibb Graves; Richard B. Woods; Dr. L. N. Duncan, president, Alabama Polytechnic Institute (API); Dr. C. W. Warburton, Dir. Extension

SUBGROUP D. RECORDS AS A US SENATOR, 1926-1946 (continued)

SERIES A. CORRESPONDENCE, GENERAL, 1933-1946 (continued)

3. Correspondence, 1938 (continued)

Service; P. O Davis of API; M. F. Jackson; Hugh White; W. R. McDonald, chair of the Georgia Public Service Commission; A. J. Ribe, Alabama Public Service Commission; Dr. A. G. Black, USDA; Alexander V. Dye, Dept. of Commerce, Dir. Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce; L. L. Self, a Cooperative Extension Supervisor, Alabama; Roland H. Gray; U. S. Senator John J. Sparkman; I. W. Duggan, USDA; James L. Lawson, Cooperative Extension Service Supervisor; B. R. Holston; U. S. Congressman Sam Hobbs; and J. Mitchell, county agent with the Cooperative Extension Service.

Arranged chronologically.

Box / Folder

5	3	1938 Jan.-Aug.
5	4	1938 Sept.-Oct.
5	5	1938 Nov.-Dec.

4. Correspondence, 1939-1940

Subjects discussed include: tenant farming; the Bankhead - Jones Tenant Purchase Act; freight rates; agriculture; World War II; parity prices; the TVA; and diversified farming. Correspondents include: Dr. Will Alexander, Administrator Farm Security Administration; J. F. Jackson; Judge Blanton Fortson; Mark Etheridge, editor of *The Courier-Journal*; U. S. Senator E. D. Smith; U. S. Senator Lister Hill, U. S. Senator Josh Lee; J. R. Mitchell; P. O. Davis; U. S. Senator Warren F. Austin; R. G. Cobb; C. W. Warburton; E. R. Oliver; Cecil W. Creel; M. J. Funches, Dean API School of Agriculture; Central of GA Railway agent J. F. Jackson; Charles B. Crow; *The Birmingham News* editor, Osburn Zuber; Grover C. Hall, editor *The Montgomery Journal*; Barrett C. Shelton, editor *The Decatur Daily*; Alabama Governor Bibb Graves; J. Haden Alldredge; Eugene "Bull" Connor; R. B. Chandler, publisher *The Mobile Register*; US Rep Clyde T. Ellis, Albert Boutewell, Arthur Sartain; M. W. Thatcher, National Farmers Union; Walter Will Bankhead; U. S. Senator Theodore G. Bilbo; Governor-elect of Alabama, Frank Dixon; U. S. Representative Pete Jarman; F. M. Moseley; Demps A. Oden; Henry A. Wallace; J. B. Ivey; U. S. Representative Henry B. Steagall; and Milton H. Fies, Debardeleben Coal Cooperation. Corporate correspondents include the USDA; ICC; D. Scrivanich and Co.; the USDA Cooperative Extension Service; and the Mobile (Ala.) Chamber of Commerce.

Arranged chronologically.

Box / Folder

5	6	1939 Jan.-Apr.
5	7	1939 May-Dec.
5	8	1940

SUBGROUP IV. RECORDS AS A US SENATOR, 1926-1946 (continued)

SERIES A. CORRESPONDENCE, GENERAL, 1933-1946 (continued)

4. Correspondence, 1941

Subjects covered include freight rates; a munitions plant near Childersburg Alabama; tenant farmers; housing laws; the Bankhead - Jones Tenant Purchase Act; establishment of the Federal Housing Authority; conservation; fire protection for forests; the coal industry; land grant colleges; the TVA; the Alabama pulpwood industry; World War II; the lend-lease program; war production; and the National Youth Administration (NYA).

Correspondents include Thad Holt of WAPI; Edward A. O'Neal, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF); Walter L. Randolph; Paul L. Walker of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC); C. E. Widell of the Southern States Industrial Council; Donald Comer; George R. Stuart, Jr.; Charles B. Crow; U. S. Representative Henry B. Steagall; John E. Bryan; Aubry Williams, administrator of the NYA; John R. McClure, Dean at the University of Alabama; U. S. Senator John J. Sparkman, U. S. Representative Joe Starnes; U. S. Representative George Grant; Vice President Harry S. Truman; Henry J. Willingham; P. O. Davis, U.S. Senator E. D. Smith; Brooks Toler; Demps A. Oden; Charles R. Allen of SAE; Ann Gillis of CBS; actress Tallulah Bankhead; Walter Will Bankhead; Arthur Sartain; U. S. Representative Hampton P. Fulmer; U. S. Senator Lister Hill; Oscar Johnston, the president of Delta & Pine Land Co.; E. F. Creekmore; U.S. Representative Frank W. Boykin; and U. S. Rep Pete Jarman.

Arranged chronologically.

Box / Folder

5	9	1941 Jan.-Apr.
6	1	1941 May-June
6	2	1941 July-Dec.

5. Correspondence, 1942-1943

Subjects discussed include conservation; fire protection for forests; the coal industry; land grant colleges; a TVA phosphorus plant; cotton; parity prices; agriculture; World War, II; Defense Plant Corporation; the Bankhead-Jones Tenant Purchase Act; price controls and the Office of Price Administration (OPA).

Correspondents include U. S. Senator Theodore G. Bilbo; L. W. Price; David E. Lilienthal of TVA; J. Craig Smith of Avondale Mills (including a speech he gave in Nov. 1942); J. E. McDonald; Dr. L. N. Duncan of API; Milton H. Fies; Alexander Nunn; Walter L. Randolph; James G. Patton, president, National Farmers Union; R. D. Hayes of the Mobile (Ala.) Chamber of Commerce; U. S. Representative Frank W. Boykin; U. S. Representative Hampton P. Fulmer; Edward J. Meeman, editor, *Memphis Press-Scimitar*; Edward A. O'Neal; Charles B. Crow; John A. McCone; Cash M. Stanley of the *Montgomery Advertiser*; Oscar Zuber of *The Birmingham News*; Albert S. Goss; O. V. Wells of the USDA; Walter Will Bankhead; U. S. Representative Sam Hobbs; and E. S. Morgan.

Arranged chronologically.

SUBGROUP IV. RECORDS AS A US SENATOR, 1926-1946 (continued)

SERIES A. CORRESPONDENCE, GENERAL, 1933-1946 (continued)

6. Correspondence, 1942-1943 (continued)

Box / Folder

6	3	1942
6	4	1943

7. Correspondence, 1944

Subjects covered include tenant farming; the Bankhead-Jones Tenant Purchase Act; the Farm Security Administration (FSA); cotton farming, cotton manufacturing and the cotton purchasing program; agricultural price supports; World War, 1939-1945; the Office of Price Adjustment (OPA); 1944 presidential campaign; and 1944 Alabama primaries, including Bankhead's reelection bid.

Correspondents include: A. S. Goss of the National Grange; Jack Scatterty; U. S. Representative Joe Starnes; Hugh Comer of Avondale Mills; U. S. Representative Frank W. Boykin; U. S. Representative John J. Sparkman; U. S. Representative George Grant; U. S. Representative Sam Hobbs; B. F. Hagood; Lamar Fleming, Jr., of Anderson Clayton; Oscar Johnston of the National Cotton Council; Chester Bowles, OPA administrator; C. C. Smith; Atticus Mullin of the *Montgomery Advertiser*; John A. Law; C. A. Cannon of Cannon Mills; J. W. Whiteley; Roy A. Cheney of the Underwear Institute; William Rhea Blake of the Nations Cotton Council; Walter L. Randolph, president, AFBF; U. S. Representative Carter Mansco; U. S. Senator Lister Hill; U. S. Representative Jesse P. Wolcott; Edward A. O'Neal; E. F. Creekmore; Marvin Jones, administrator, War Food Administration (WFA); U. S. Senator A. B. Chandler; James G. Rogers, Jr., acting administrator of OPA; William D. Anderson of Bibb Manufacturing Co.; U. S. Representative Stephen Pace; Scott Fitzhugh; P. W. Lundell; B. F. Malone; Charles B. Crow; U. S. Representative Fred Vinson; U.S. Senator Kenneth McKeller; J. B. Mitchell; P. O. Davis; J. B. Hutson of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC); and L. S. Deal of the *Houston Herald* (Dothan Alabama). Arranged chronologically.

Box / Folder

6	5	1944 Jan.-July
7	1	1944 Aug.-Sept. 15
7	2	1944 Sept.-Dec.

8. Correspondence, 1945-1946

Subjects documented in this subseries include the agricultural extension service; parity; the Pace bill; tenant farming; the Bankhead-Jones Tenant Purchase Act; FSA effectiveness, Jesse B. Hearin; cotton; World War II; agricultural credit and the Commodity Credit Corporation; the school lunch program; minimum wages; and the lumber industry.

Correspondents include Walter L. Randolph; P. O. Davis; Vice President Henry A. Wallace; U. S. Senator Tom Connally; U. S. Senator James O. Eastland; Scott Fitzhugh; M. W. Thatcher; U. S. Representative John W. Flannagan; T. B. Symons; J. E. McDonald; Ruth Moore of the Cooperative Extension Service; Charles O. Stokes; Gessner T. McCorvey,

SUBGROUP IV. RECORDS AS A US SENATOR, 1926-1946 (continued)

SERIES A. CORRESPONDENCE, GENERAL, 1933-1946 (continued)

8. Correspondence, 1945-1946 (continued)

Chair, Alabama State Democratic Executive Committee; Thomas W. Martin of Alabama Power Co.; J. T. Stockely; E. S. Morgan, FSA regional director; J. W. Whiteley, E. F. Creekmore; U. S. Representative Stephen Pace; U.S. Representative George Andrews; U. S. Representative Claude Pepper; E. J. Haslerud; U. S. Senator Clyde R. Hoey; H. C. Sanders; U. S. Senator Theodore G. Bilbo; U. S. Senator James O. Eastland; U. S. Senator Walter F. George; U. S. Senator Richard B. Russell; U. S. Senator George D. Aiken; U. S. Senator Joseph H. Ball; U. S. Senator Warren R. Austin; U. S. Senator Robert Wagner; U. S. Senator Wayne Morse; U. S. Senator Guy Gordon; U. S. Senator Arthur Capper; U. S. Senator Styles Bridges; U. S. Senator C. N. Tobey; U. S. Senator Milton R. Young; L. R. Simons, Director of the Cooperative Extension Service in NY; President Harry S. Truman; Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace; Charles B. Crow; Chester Bowles; C. M. Dannelly, superintendent of Montgomery schools; U. S. Senator Elmer Thomas; Mrs. Joseph W. Eshelman, president of the Alabama Congress of Parents and Teachers; Ann Gretschnann, president of the Alabama Dietetic Association; Frank L. Grove, secretary of the AEA; J. R. Stockely; W. R. Ogg of the AFBF; U. S. Senator Leverett Saltonstall; U. S. Senator Thomas C. Hart, and U. S. Senator Theodore Francis Green.

Arranged chronologically.

Box / Folder

7	3	1945 Jan.-Mar.
7	4	1945 Apr.-May
7	5	1945 June-Dec.
7	6	1946 Jan.-May

SERIES B. SUBJECT FILES, 1930-1946

This series is divided into thirteen subseries detailed further below: 1. Agriculture, 1930-1945; 2. Bankhead Act, 1934; 3. Bankhead Banquet, 1941; 4. Bankhead Highway Signs, 1939-1941; 5. Bankhead tunnel, 1933-1941; 6. Battleship Alabama and Cruiser Birmingham, 1941-1942; 7. Economic recovery, 1935-1936; 8. Freight rates, 1930-1939; 9. Legal, 1935; 10. Social Security, 1936-1940; 11. Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway, 1935-1946; 12. "Town Hall" speech, 1942; 13. Veterans benefits, 1936-1945.

These subject files contain reports, memoranda, clippings, and printed matter, as well as correspondence and telegrams.

1. Agriculture, 1930-1945

This subseries is further divided into three groupings further detailed below: 1. Agriculture, general; 2. Agriculture, subsistence and tenancy; and 3. Cotton purchase program, 1944.

Note: For more information on these topics, see also SERIES A. CORRESPONDENCE GENERAL, 1933-1946.

SUBGROUP IV. RECORDS AS A US SENATOR, 1926-1946 (continued)

SERIES B. SUBJECT FILES, 1930-1946

1. Agriculture, 1930-1945

Agriculture, general, 1936-1945

This group contains parity payments for cotton by Alabama county for 1936 and other years. It also includes information about agricultural difficulties; the Cooperative Extension Service; the Pace Bill; parity schedules; the Bankhead – Eastland Act; conservation; and other related subjects. Documents of the Office of Price Administration and the Labor Dept. can also be found in this group.

Unarranged.

Box 8, Folder 1

Agriculture, subsistence and tenancy, 1930-1945

This contains correspondence, reports, diagrams, lists, statistics, statements, memoranda, printed material and other types of materials that discuss farm tenancy and agricultural subsistence.

Of special interest is a series of diagrams, showing farms operated by white tenants and farms operated by African American tenants in 1930, as well as other statistics tracing farm tenancy in the US from 1880 to 1930, published by the USDA. Also worth noting are the following: “*Statement of Facts Regarding the Penderlea Rural Life Project*” (1934?); Henry A. Wallace, “*The Problem of Farm Tenancy*” (1935); Richard P. Doherty, “*Part Time Farming - A Solution,*” (1930's); “*Farm Ownership Program,*” (1944), and the list of applicants for subsistence homesteads in Jasper Alabama, n.d.

Unarranged.

Box 8, Folder 2

Cotton purchase program, 1944

This file consists of Nov. 1944 letters replying to questions about the amount, price, warehouse facilities and other aspects of the cotton purchase program. Arranged alphabetically by county.

Box 8, Folder 3

2. Bankhead Act, 1934

The act itself and forms related to it are included herein. Instructions in the use of the forms are included. Of special interest is “*Instructions to State Allotment Boards Concerned with the Operation of the Cotton Act of April 21, 1934.*” Unarranged.

Box 8, Folder 4

3. Bankhead Banquet, 1941

The banquet was given by the Alabama Farm Bureau on 7 Oct. 1941. This file includes correspondence, clippings, invitations and menus. Most letters offer congratulations before or after the banquet. Arranged chronologically.

Box 8, Folder 5

SUBGROUP IV. RECORDS AS A US SENATOR, 1926-1946 (continued)
SERIES B. SUBJECT FILES, 1930-1946 (continued)

4. Bankhead Highway Signs, 1939-1941

This file includes correspondence about placing signs on the highway, primarily in Alabama, Georgia and South Carolina. Worth noting is the letter of Bankhead to Herman Talmadge, which includes a photo of Bankhead Highway signs. More prints of the same photo are at the back of the folder. Arranged chronologically.

Box 8, Folder 6

5. Bankhead tunnel, 1933-1941

This file includes correspondence, clippings, press releases and printed matter on the subject of the vehicular tunnel under the Mobile River built by the Public Works Administration (PWA). Many prominent Alabama politicians, business leaders and newspapermen corresponded on this issue. Of particular interest is the 22 Dec. 1938 letter from Bankhead to Charles A. Baumhauer, mayor of Mobile. This letter details the effort to get money from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation (RFC) and the PWA. See also the 6 Dec. 1940 letter from Gessner T. McCorvey to Bankhead, regarding the dedication of the tunnel and the hope that President Roosevelt would attend. Also of interest is the printed 1939 letter from the Secretary of War on Mobile Harbor, and a typescript from the USDA entitled, "Spanish Fort, Fort Morgan, Fort Gaines and the Battle of Mobile Bay," (ca. 1938). The latter two are at the back of the folder.

Correspondence and letters are arranged chronologically. Typescripts and printed items are at the back of the folder.

Box 8, Folder 7

6. Battleship *Alabama* and Cruiser *Birmingham*, 1941-1942

This file includes correspondence of Bankhead attempting to keep the original 1902 silver service of the first battleship "Alabama." There is also correspondence attempting to insure that the silver service placed on the original cruiser "Birmingham" (ca. 1908) be placed on the newly built cruiser of the same name. Arranged chronologically.

Box 9, Folder 1

7. Economic recovery (aspects), 1935-1936

This is a small miscellaneous file. Items worth noting include the 3 Dec. 1935 typescript letter from W. S. Mudd, the *Gadsden Times*, to Frank E. Gannett, offering his analyses of the Depression, and a typescript index to votes on important legislation that came before the 74th Congress, 1st and 2nd sessions. Arranged chronologically.

Box 9, Folder 2

SUBGROUP IV. RECORDS AS A US SENATOR, 1926-1946 (continued)
SERIES B. SUBJECT FILES, 1930-1946 (continued)

8. Freight rates, 1930-1939

This file includes typescripts of southern freight rates and a printed speech of Marvin Jones, entitled "Lopsided Rate Schedules" (1930). Correspondence in great quantity on this subject on this subject may be found in Subgroup IV. Records as a U. S. Senator, 1926-1946; Series A. Correspondence, General, 1933-1946.

Box 9, Folder 3

9. Legal, 1935-1936

This file includes a typescript by Bill McDonald entitled "The Schechter Decision," (1935) and printed material on the 1936 Supreme Court ruling on the AAA of 1933.

Box 9, Folder 4

10. Social Security , 1936-1940

Correspondence, clippings, press releases and printed matter that cover the subject of the Social Security Act. Much of the correspondence is with the Social Security Board.

Correspondence arranged chronologically by year only.

Box 9, Folder5

11. Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway, 1935-1946

Correspondence, typescripts, memoranda and printed matter about the Tennessee - Tombigbee waterway. The correspondence, 1944-1946, documents Bankhead's support of the project, as well as opposition from other areas. Some items of special interest include a typescript of cost comparisons on shipping with the Tennessee-Tombigbee built vs. it not built, n.d.; the 4 Dec. 1944 records of the Senate vote on the Tennessee-Tombigbee project and the testimony before the Senate of various individuals, and remarks made by various senators. Correspondence arranged chronologically. Other items unarranged.

Box 9, Folder 6

12. "Town Hall" speech, 1942

Congratulatory letters to Bankhead regarding his 24 Sept. 1942 speech on price controls in Birmingham Alabama, delivered over the radio. Many of the letters are from farmers. Most letters were sent between Sept 24-Oct 2. Unarranged,

Box 9, Folder 7

13. Veterans benefits, 1936-1945

Correspondence, memoranda and printed matter regarding veterans benefits. Several letters request help for specific veterans. Unarranged.

Box 9, Folder 8

SUBGROUP IV. RECORDS AS A US SENATOR, 1926-1946 (continued)

SERIES C. PATRONAGE, 1936-1943

This small series is divided into three subseries, further detailed below: 1. Coal Commission, 1937-1938; 2. Cotton Price Adjustment, 1936-1937; and 3. General applications, 1937-1943.

Note: Consult also the Charles B. Crow papers, LPR56, as Crow and Bankhead worked closely on patronage matters.

1. Coal Commission, 1937-1938

This subseries is composed of letters of individuals applying for jobs with the National Bituminous Coal Commission. There is much correspondence on this with Charles B. Crow and E. C. Smith, the Commissioner. Arranged chronologically.

Box 9, Folder 9

2. Cotton Price Adjustment, 1936-1937

This subseries contains letters of individuals wanting jobs in the Office of Cotton Price Adjustment, USDA and correspondence with the USDA on the issue of jobs there. Charles B. Crow, Arthur Sartain, Walter L. Randolph and USDA officials frequently corresponded on various issues and appointments with Bankhead. Arranged chronologically exact.

Box 9, Folder 10

3. General applications, 1937-1943

This subseries contains requests by individuals on behalf of themselves or others for many different types of jobs. Not all are addressed to Bankhead originally; some were referred to him. Often Charles B. Crow was the original addressee, even after he left to become Clerk of the Federal district Court in Birmingham Alabama in 1937. Related letters may be found in his papers (LPR56). This may be a merged file of Bankhead and Crow.

Arranged alphabetically by the first letter of the applicant's last name, but not alphabetically exact. E.g., Miller might follow Moore.

Box / Folder

9 11 A-L

9 12 M-Z

SERIES D. BILLS, HEARINGS AND RESOLUTIONS, 1926-1946

This series contains memoranda, notes, testimony, drafts of bills, copies of approved bills, messages, reports, clippings, and printed matter related to the business of the U. S. Congress to enact laws. As Bankhead was a U. S. Senator, more material relates to the Senate than to the House of Representatives.

Subjects discussed include cooperative education; farm tenancy; transportation; the Tennessee Valley Authority; World War II; price control; and agricultural subjects. Relief and recovery for southern agricultural and agricultural workers were topics that dominated Bankhead's senatorial career. In many cases one can trace the legislative history of a bill from first draft through final passage or defeat here.

SUBGROUP IV. RECORDS AS A US SENATOR, 1926-1946 (continued)
 SERIES D. BILLS, HEARINGS AND RESOLUTIONS, 1926-1946 (continued)

Particularly interesting are notes throughout the file by Bankhead; the 1933 bills and hearings related to the first Agricultural Adjustment Act; the 1935 attempt create the Farmers' Home Corporation; the 1938 document, "*Laws Related to Vocational Education and Agricultural Extension Work*," by Elmer A. Lewis; the 1942 AAA bill marked by Walter A. Randolph; the Hearings on the AAA for 1943 (Box 12, Folder 1)

Arranged chronologically.

<u>Box / Folder</u>		
10	1	1926-1929
10	2	1933
10	3	1935
10	4	1936-1937
10	5	1938
10	6	1939
11	1	1940
11	2	1941 Jan.-Mar.
11	3	1941 Apr.-June
11	4	1941 July-Dec. and n.d.
11	5	1942
12	1	1943
12	2	1943-1944
12	3	1945
12	4	1946

SUBGROUP V. PHOTOGRAPHS, ca. 1880-1946 and n.d.

These are photographs of John H. Bankhead, Jr., as well as other family members. The earliest photo is of Bankhead as a child of about eight. Particularly interesting are photos of John H. Bankhead, and Marie B. Owen taken at "Sunset" at the time of their mother's funeral in 1924 (see both Box 13, Folders 1 and Box 19). There are several extended family photos too, though many family members are unidentified. There is a photo of "Sunset" itself also. Oversized photos are in Box 18.

Note: To see other Bankhead family photographs, check the other Bankhead collections in the department. These collections include the John Bankhead, Sr., (1842-1920) papers (LPR49); the Bankhead family photographs (LPP62); the Tallulah Bankhead papers (LPR45); and the William B. Bankhead papers (LPR66),

Arranged somewhat chronologically, though most of the photos are not dated.

<u>Box / Folder</u>		
13	1	ca. 1890-ca.1946
18		Oversize materials

SUBGROUP VI. SPEECHES, 1929-1946

This subgroup contains two series further described below: A. BANKHEAD SPEECHES, 1929-1946; and B. SPEECHES BY OTHERS, 1936-1946.

SERIES A. BANKHEAD SPEECHES, 1929-1946

Among the speeches delivered is one on Thomas Jefferson delivered in 1929; a 1933 speech on the Subsistence Homestead Law; and speeches on various New Deal programs such as AAA and WPA. The series also contains speeches on national unity and World War II; parity income for farmers; conservation; youth; and agriculture. Also worth noting is a 1930 campaign speech that covers a wide variety of topics, including the U. S. Senate; good roads; Muscle Shoals, water transportation and the Mobile Port; electrical power development; cooperative marketing; taxation and economy; states' rights; immigration; veterans; prohibition; education; and world peace. Arranged chronologically.

Box / Folder

13	2	1929- 1941 May 6
13	3	1941 May 17-1946

SERIES B. SPEECHES BY OTHERS, 1936-1946

This series is composed of speeches given by others. Of interest are the Feb. 1939 speech on freight differentials by E. R. Oliver; the March 1939 speech on civil liberties by Frank Murphy; the May 1939 speech on Alabama economic problems by Frank M. Dixon; and the March 1942 speech on the renomination of John H. Bankhead to the U.S. Senate by Lister Hill.

Arranged chronologically.

Box 13, Folder 4

SUBGROUP VII. SCRIPT, 1939

The 1939 script, "Public Friend No. 1," was given over WAPI radio on Birmingham. It praises Bankhead for helping farmers.

Box 13, Folder 5

SUBGROUP VIII. PRESS RELEASES AND INTERVIEW, 1937-1946 and n.d.

Most, but not all, of the press releases are from or about Bankhead. Of most interest are the 1940 release on the Dixon forces opposing the Bankhead-Graves-Hill "machine," and the 5 May 1946 statement accusing Drew Pearson of lying about Bankhead profiting illegally on the cotton futures market. Also of interest is the 6 Dec. 1937 interview of Bankhead and U.S. Rep. Hope on the Farm Bill. Unarranged.

Box 13, Folder 6

SUBGROUP IX. CLIPPINGS, 1931-1946 and n.d.

These newspaper and magazine clippings detail activities of the Bankhead family, with a particular concentration on the senatorial career of John H. Bankhead, William B. Bankhead, Marie B. Owen, and other family members are represented as well. Typescript copies of articles are present in place of clippings in some cases.. Clippings from June 1946 and after discuss Bankheads's death. (Box 16, Folder 6 through Box 17, Folder 1).

SUBGROUP IX. CLIPPINGS, 1931-1946 and n.d. (continued)

<u>Box / Folder</u>		
13	7	1931-1934
13	8	1935
14	1	1936
14	2	1937
14	3	1938
14	4	1939
15	1	1940 (1 of 2)
15	2	1940 (2 of 2)
15	3	1941 (1 of 3)
15	4	1941 (2 of 3)
15	5	1941 (3 of 3)
15	6	1942 (1 of 2)
15	7	1942 (2 of 2)
16	1	1943
16	2	1944 (1 of 2)
16	3	1944 (2 of 2)
16	4	1945
16	5	1946 Jan.-May
16	6	1946 June (Bankhead's death)
17	1	1946 June-July
17	2	n.d.

SUBGROUP X. LISTS, 1914-1915

This group consists of a list of Alabama lawyers, 1941 and a list Alabama county health officers, 1915.

Box 17, Folder 3

SUBGROUP XI. PRINTED RECORDS AND DRAWING, 1913-1947

This subgroup contains two series: A. Congressional Records, 1932-1947 and B. General, 1913-1914.

SERIES A. CONGRESSIONAL RECORDS, 1932-1947

This series consists of excerpts containing remarks of and about Bankhead, including remarks on his death. Of special interest is the Memorial Address by Carter Manasco, 19 May 1947.

Arranged chronologically by year.

Box 17, Folder 4

SERIES B. GENERAL, 1913-1944

Subjects covered in this series include roads and transportation; education; U. S. and Alabama politics; presidential elections; veterans; agriculture; voting registration; race relations; and other topics.

SUBGROUP XI. PRINTED RECORDS AND DRAWING, 1913-1947 (continued)

SERIES B. GENERAL, 1913-1944 (continued)

Of particular interest are the "Rule and Regulations of the Tennessee Coal & Iron Co.," (TCI). 1918; and "Report of the Proceedings of the Coordination Meeting of Federal Agencies in Alabama," 1939. See also the "Reconstruction dollar," drawn in pencil.

Box / Folder

17	5	1913-1939
17	5	1940-1944

SUBGROUP XII. SCRAPBOOKS, 1926-1946

This subgroup contains four series described below: A. CAMPAIGN CLIPPINGS SCRAPBOOKS, 1926-1930; B. DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE (DNC) SCRAPBOOK, 1940; C. POLITICAL CLIPPING SCRAPBOOKS, 1929-1938; and 4. DEATH OF JOHN H. BANKHEAD SCRAPBOOKS, 1946. For related records see also SUBGROUP III. CAMPAIGN RRECORDS, 1926-1942, SERIES A.

SERIES A. CAMPAIGN CLIPPINGS SCRAPBOOKS, 1926-1930

These scrapbooks document the Bankhead campaigns for the US Senate in 1926 and 1930. Arranged chronologically.

Box

19	1926 Campaign
20	1929-1930

SERIES B. DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE (DNC) SCRAPBOOK, 1940

This scrapbook contains clippings that document Franklin D. Roosevelt's race for the presidency by the southeastern region of the DNC. Bankhead (1872-1946) was named regional campaign manager for the South.

Box 21

SERIES C. POLITICAL CLIPPING SCRAPBOOKS, 1929-1938

These scrapbooks primarily document political matters and legislation over this time periods. They concentrate particularly on the Bankheads, but also on broader matters.

Boxes 22-23

SERIES D. DEATH OF JOHN H. BANKHEAD SCRAPBOOKS, 1946

These scrapbooks contain clippings, telegrams, sympathy cards, resolutions, cards accompanying flowers, postcards and letters, all related to the death of John H. Bankhead, Jr..

Box 24