



DALLAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Jessie Daniel Ames papers

Finding aid

Descriptive Summary:

Creator: Jessie Daniel Ames

Title: Jessie Daniel Ames papers

Dates: 1918-1938

Quantity: 1 box (1.25 linear ft.)

Abstract: Documents covering the political career of activist Jessie Daniel Ames from 1918 to 1930.

Identification: A.65.51

Language: The materials are in English.

Repository: Dallas Historical Society

Biographical Sketch:

Jessie Harriet Daniel Ames, suffragist and anti-lynching reformer, was born in Palestine, Texas on November 2, 1883. In 1893 the family moved to Georgetown where Jessie entered the Ladies Annex of Southwestern University at the age of thirteen. In 1902, Jessie graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree. In 1905, she married Roger Post Ames and had one son and two daughters. When Roger died in 1914, Jessie helped her mother run the Georgetown Telephone company to support her family. In 1916, Jessie organized and became president of the *Georgetown Equal Suffrage League*. At this time, she began writing a column called "Women Suffrage Notes" for the Williamson County Sun newspaper. As the protégée of Minnie Fisher Cunningham, president of the Texas Equal Suffrage Association, Ames was elected treasurer of the state association in 1918; from this position she helped to make Texas the first southern state to ratify the Nineteenth Amendment. Jessie founded the *Texas League of Women Voters* in 1919. She is best known for founding the *Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching* in 1930, a politically active organization designed to combat vigilante justice. She served as director of the organization until 1942. Ames died of pneumonia on February 21, 1972, in Austin, Texas.

Jon D. Swartz, "Ames, Jessie Harriet Daniel," *Handbook of Texas Online*, accessed June 29, 2021,

<https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/ames-jessie-harriet-daniel>.

Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

Scope and Contents Note:

The collection is housed in one box and is made up mostly of archival materials but also includes several pictures. Documents in this collection relate to her extensive career in social and political activism during the early twentieth century. Materials include personal correspondence, letters from different organizations, newspaper articles, and miscellaneous documents.

Arrangement:

The collection is in chronological order.

Restrictions:**Access Restrictions**

Available for research by appointment only

Use Restrictions

Permission to publish, reproduce, distribute, or use by all other current or future developed methods or procedures must be obtained in writing from the Dallas Historical Society. All rights are reserved and kept regardless of current or future development or laws that may apply to fair use standards.

Index Terms:

Woman suffrage
Voting
Temperance
Anti-Lynching

Subjects (Organizations)

National League of Woman Voters, Democratic Party, Leslie Woman Suffrage Commission, Texas Council of Methodist Missionary Societies, Texas League of Woman Voters, National American Woman Suffrage Association, Texas Commission on Inter-Racial Cooperation, Woman's Missionary Society, Woman's Democratic Association, Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching, Texas Woman's Christian Union, Woman's Christian Temperance Association

Subjects:

Woman suffrage, the temperance movement, and other political issues from 1918 to the 1930s.

Places:

United States

Texas

Document Types:

The collection is made up of archival materials but there are several pictures within the collection as well.

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

From the archives of the Dallas Historical Society

Acquisition Information:

Donation

Processing Information:

Finding Aid Author: Valme Alvarez

Date Finding Aid Completed: January 2021

Description of Series:

The following section contains a detailed listing of the materials in the Jessie D. Ames Collection collect.

Box #	Folder #	Title/Description	Date
1	1	Newspaper clippings: "Women 5 Vote in Primaries" "Digest of Woman Vote in July Primaries" "Woman's Registration Receipt" "Democratic Ticket" "Information for Women Voters and Some of their activities of the Present Week" "County Organization of Woman League Perfected" "Woman's Citizens League Meeting County Organization of Woman League Perfected" "Mrs. Ames Addresses Woman Citizens League To the Women of Williamson County" "Will Attack Woman Suffrage Law"	 06/21/1918 07/05/1918 07/12/1918 07/12/1918 07/12/1918 07/12/1918 08/09/1918

		<p>“Chairman Sansom’s Address Democratic Convention” “Williamson County Democratic Convention”</p> <p>Photo depicting the signing of the Primary Suffrage Bill in Texas</p> <p>Miscellaneous notecards- house bill 105, special stories, county chairman Bill notecards</p>	<p>08/09/1918</p> <p>03/1918</p> <p>1918</p>
1	2	<p>Correspondence: Between Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames (Laten Stanberry, Jasper Collins, Clyde A. Sweeton, Cullen F. Thomas).</p> <p>Photograph: National Democratic Convention San Francisco 1920</p>	<p>March - June 1920</p>
1	3	<p>The National League of Women Voters (Board of Directors) Meeting Notes and correspondence</p>	<p>05/06/1920 05/11/ 1920 05/28/1920 04/17/1920 04/22/1920 06/04/1920 06/05/1920 06/16/1920</p>
1	4	<p>Letters:</p> <p>To Mrs. Jones</p> <p>To Mrs. Jones</p> <p>To Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames, from The American National Bank</p> <p>To Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames, from the Democratic National Campaign Committee</p> <p>To Mr. Wroe</p> <p>To Mrs. Jackson</p> <p>To Mrs. Johnson</p> <p>To Mrs. Johnson</p> <p>To Mrs. Jackson</p> <p>Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames</p>	<p>09/21/1920 09/20/1920 09/20/1920 09/18/1920 09/18/1920 09/16/1920 09/18/1920 09/17/1920 09/17/1920 06/17/1920 09/04/1920 03/31/1920</p>

		<p>To Mr. Sweeton</p> <p>To Jessie Daniel Ames from the Democratic National Committee</p> <p>To Mrs. Pennybacker from the Democratic National Committee</p> <p>Telegrams: From Mrs. Johnson From Mrs. Johnson From Mrs. Johnson</p>	<p>09/1920 09/01/1920 09/17/1920</p>
1	5	<p>Newspaper Clippings: “Tom Love’s Political Machine Develops Several Knocks at Waco”</p> <p>“Ku Klux Question Barred Says Tom Love, Prohibition Plank to Burn Fuzz Off Booze Hounds”</p> <p>“Tom Love Defends Delegates’ Power”</p> <p>“But Who Made the Change?”</p> <p>“Many Prominent Texas Women Present at Waco Convention”</p> <p>“Love takes issue with Mrs. Ames”</p> <p>Correspondence: Between The News and Jessie Daniel Ames Letter to Mrs. Ames from Crane & Crane Between Mrs. Ames and The State Highway Department</p>	<p>06/01/1924</p> <p>1924</p> <p>06/26/1924</p> <p>06/11/1924</p> <p>No Date</p> <p>08/16/1924</p> <p>06/07/1924 05/29/1924 06/11/1924</p> <p>06/06/1924 06/03/1924 05/28/1924</p>
1	6	<p>Miscellaneous: Invite to a dinner organized by the Democratic National Convention Invite to a reception at the Metropolitan Museum of Art Invite to a reception from The New York Women’s Committee for Law Enforcement</p>	<p>06/23/1924</p> <p>06/1924</p> <p>06/1924</p>

	<p>Booklet- senator Royal S. Copeland Booklet- Our Next President Pamphlet- Alfred E. Smith Pamphlet- Dan Moody for Governor Flyer- honesty in government Pamphlet- Miriam A. Ferguson Candidate for Governor Cards- Moody for Governor, Response Union Labor Record of General Moody The Vindication Blues</p> <p>News clippings: "Under Which Flag?" "Moody meeting held by women" "Women political leaders hold chat with Gov. Moody" "Texas Women Demands Share in Dems Work" "Governor Will Speak Before Insurance Men" "Women favor primary system" "Democratic women favor retaining primary system" "Work for Moody" "Moody has no change at Houston- Mrs. Ames"</p> <p>Miscellaneous: To Texas Democrats A Statement by Jos. D. Sayers.</p> <p>News clippings: "Ferguson Replies to Moody Statement; Indulges in Sarcasm" "Women veil their meet with secrecy" "Here in the interest of moody" The Democratic Party's Future" "Mr. Love Quits and Bolts" "The voice of Texas"</p> <p>Nominations for President, National Democratic Convention, Madison Square Garden</p> <p>Letters: From Dwight L Lewelling From Charles R. Crane From R.M. Dudley</p>	<p>07/24/1926 04/09/1926 04/09/1926 05/26/1926 03/19/1926 03/30/1926 09/08/1926 10/1924 09/07/1926 09/07/1926 04/16/1926 02/14/1928 05/24/1926 05/26/1926 03/19/1926 07/15/1926 1924 08/30/1924 1924 06/24/1924- 07/09/1924 06/13/1924 06/06/1924 07/03/1924</p>
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		To. Hon. R.M. Dudley To Mrs. Ames July from John W. Davis To Hon John. W. Davis From McAdoo, Cotton and Franklin To Franklin D. Roosevelt	07/30/1924 07/21/1924 08/09/1924 08/16/1920 12/20/1924
1	7	Correspondence: Democratic National Committee, Mrs. Jesse D. Ames - Emily Hewell Blair Western Union Telegraph to Mrs. F. Louis Alude(?)” from “Jessie Daniel Ames To Mr. W.L. Clayton- Jessie Daniel Ames Democratic National Committee, To Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames from W.L. Clayton (Director of Finance for Texas) From Emily Newell Blair Committee of Nine- relation of sub-committees	09/22/1924 1928 09/10/1924 09/8/1924 03/14/1924 01/30/1924 12/10/1923 06/16/1924 12/04/1923
1	8	Correspondence: From Morris Sheppard, United States Senate From the Department of Commerce to Morris Sheppard	04/16/1924 03/26/1924 03/02/1926 02/25/1926 02/16/1924 12/08/1923 11/26/1923 02/26/1926
1	9	Correspondence: Between Claude D. Teer, House of Representatives, and Miss Frank King. From A. E. Wood to Miss Frank King From Chas G. Thomas, House of Representatives to Miss Frank King From Wood & Wood Lawyers to Mrs. Ames From Marble Falls Messenger to Mrs. Ames To Claude Teer, re: Child Labor Amendment	08/03/1921 08/05/1921 08/04/1921 08/04/1921 06/30/1924 07/26/1928 07/14/1924 01/31/1925

		Between Mrs. Ames and Claude Teer (House of Representatives)	03/31/1925 04/02/1925 05/29/1927 06/07/1927 Undated 07/13/1928 01/02/1929 07/18/1929 07/23/1929 08/13/1929 07/09/1928
		From the State of Texas-State Highway Department to Mrs. Ames	
1	10	News Clippings: "Suffrage Convention Bulletin- Texas Suffrage Drive gets \$30,000 support" "Equal Suffrage Assn. Meet here, 5 15, 16, 17" "Waco Daily Times-Herald" "Suffragists tell of progress made during past year" "Suffragists will spend \$30,000 on work in Texas" "Equal Suffragists in Annual Convention"	05/17/1917 05/06/1917 05/15/1917
1	11	Visuals: Photo depicting Texas League of Women Voters at El Paso, 1 st Annual Convention. Program: for the 1 st Annual Convention, Texas League of Women Voters News Clippings: "Planks proposed by League of Women Voters" "Women Voters' League Name Fort Worth for Next Year" "Texas League of Women Voters Names Officers" Delegates to League Convention Are Honored by Musical Given by Woman's Club of El Paso" "Mrs. Critchett Gives Reception Honoring Voter's League Officers" "Women are given voting lessons" "Women Voter's League Opens Meeting in El Paso Today" "Musical At Woman's Clubhouse This Evening is Feature of Week's Events", El Paso Herald.	11/1920 10/1920 10/06/1920 10/24/1920 10/23/1920 10/21/1920 10/18/1920 10/20/1920 10/18/1920 10/20/1920 10/15/1920

		<p>“League of Women Voters Completes Preparations for Convention; Many Committees Appointed”</p> <p>“Mr. and Mrs. R.E. Thomason Entertain with Reception for Delegates of League Voters”, El Paso Times.</p> <p>“National League of Women Voters Presents Planks to Platform Committees of Parties”, El Paso Times.</p> <p>“Today’s Program of League Convention”</p> <p>“Modal Election to Be Feature of Today’s Program; R.E. Thomason Speaks at Voters’ Convention”</p> <p>“Federation of Women’s Clubs to Give Reception This Evening for Delegates to League Convention”</p> <p>“Mr. and Mrs. R.E. Thomason Receive League of Women Voters Delegates”</p> <p>“Women’s League Elects Officers”</p> <p>“Women Voter’s League Elects and Adjourns”, San Antonio Express.</p> <p>“Women in the Public Service”, Houston Post.</p>	<p>10/20/1920</p> <p>10/21/1920</p> <p>10/20/1920</p> <p>10/20/1920</p> <p>10/21/1920</p> <p>10/20/1920</p> <p>10/22/1920</p> <p>10/23/1920</p> <p>12/23/1920</p>
1	12	<p>Visuals:</p> <p>Photo depicting the American Delegates at the Pan-American Conference of Women</p> <p>Correspondence re: Pan-American Conference:</p> <p>Letters from Leslie Woman Suffrage Commission Inc to Mrs. Ames</p> <p>Letter to Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt.</p>	<p>1923</p> <p>09/29/1923</p> <p>10/16/1923</p> <p>10/08/1923</p>
1	13	<p>Correspondence, re Texas Governor Race</p> <p>Letters between Mrs. Metcalfe (Glenmore Farm Charles B. Metcalfe & Son) and Mrs. Ames</p> <p>Letter from Felix D. Robertson to Mrs. Ames</p> <p>Letters from The Dallas News to Mrs. Ames</p> <p>Letter to Hon. Thos. D. Barton from Dr. J. Lovic Bullard.</p> <p>Letter to the Editor of the News, Dallas.</p> <p>Letter to Judge R.R. Owens</p> <p>Letter to Mrs. Ames from Ocie Speer, Attorney.</p> <p>Letter to Mrs. Ferguson</p> <p>Letter to Mrs. Ames from T.B. Davis Lawyer</p> <p>Letters between Mrs. Ames and Hopkins & Milliken, Attorneys at Law.</p>	<p>04/22/1924</p> <p>04/25/1924</p> <p>03/04/1924</p> <p>03/28/1925</p> <p>10/13/1924</p> <p>05/14/1924</p> <p>08/12/1924</p> <p>08/14/1924</p> <p>10/15/1924</p> <p>08/13/1924</p> <p>08/14/1924</p> <p>08/16/1924</p> <p>08/19/1924</p>

		Letter to Mrs. Ames from Tom Finty, Jr. Letters between Northwestern University College of Liberal Arts (Mr. Ray)	08/23/1924 08/20/1924 08/30/1924 09/07/1924 09/17/1924
1	14	Correspondence: Telegram to Mrs. Ames Letter from Earle B. 5field (US Senate Candidate) News Clippings: "Democratic Platform Demands Woman Suffrage and Full Citizenship for Voters", The Texas Democrat	07/23/1922 08/17/1922 05/1919
1	15	Correspondence: Letters between Governor James M. Cox office and Mrs. Ames Letter from The Cox and Roosevelt Democratic League of Texas Letter to Mrs. Nonie Boren Mahoney Letters between Pat M. Neff, Governor's office and Mrs. Ames Letter from Mrs. Frank J. Shuler Letter to Mr. Clyde A. Sweeton Letter from the Texas League of Women Voters Hon. Morris Sheppard Discusses Bailey's Record News clipping: "Mrs. Catt Rules Indorsement of Candidates Void"	08/20/1920 08/16/1920 08/16/1920 08/14/1920 09/12/1921 09/10/1921 09/06/1921 08/11/1920 07/29/1920 03/17/1924 04/14/1920 06/29/1920
1	16	Documents re Governor Dan Moody: Essay written by Mrs. Ames Beaumont Convention -Moody Correspondence between Dan Moody and Mrs. Ames Envelope "Texas Women Citizens' Committee Dan Moody for Governor" Correspondence between Spell Naman & Penland and Mrs. Ames	1928 04/03/1926 Undated 10/05/1927 10/02/1927 10/02/1927 10/09/1927 07/31/1923 12/07/1926 01/04/1927

		Letter from Letitia Aysro to Mrs. Ames	10/03/1927
1	17	Memos: Texas League of Women Voters, 10 October 1919- 6 December 1923 State Convention Texas League of Women Voters	1923 04/08/1928
1	18	Correspondence: Letters between Mrs. T. A. Kindred, D. W. Wilcox, and Mrs. Ames Letters to Mrs. Moore Letter from Jane Spell, Lily Joseph, and Sue Smith Between J.K. Beretta and Mrs. Ames Letter to Miss Florence Sterling Letter to Mrs. Griffith Letter to Mrs. Nonie Boren Mahoney Between Frank C. Davis and Mrs. Ames Between Mr. Geo. D. Armistead and Mrs. Ames Letter from N. D. McSherry, National League of Women Voters, to Mrs. Ames, enclosing "The Twelve Greatest Women" From C. S. Lattimore to Mrs. Ames From Governor Dan Moody to Mrs. Ames From Morris Sheppard to Mrs. Ames, enclosing "Statement on Woman Suffrage in Texas" From the Dallas Morning News (G. B. Dealey) to Mrs. Ames From Marshall Hicks to Mrs. Ames From Edith Carl to Mrs. Ames From R.E. Thomason (Lea, McGrady, Thomason & Edwards Lawyers) to Mrs. Ames	02/21/1928 02/13/1928 02/10/1928 06/18/1928 06/18/1928 04/11/1928 01/30/1924 01/12/1924 12/10/1923 11/12/1923 12/10/1923 07/19/1926 12/10/1923 12/13/1923 12/10/1923 12/11/1923 12/11/1923 12/11/1923 12/08/1923 03/01/1927 03/02/1927 03/02/1927 03/03/1927 03/09/1927 03/15/1927 03/15/1927 03/19/1927 03/19/1927
1	19	Official List of Delegates, Congress North American Division of the Pan-American League of Women, Mexico D.F.	5/20-30/1923

		Report of First Congress of the North American Section of the Pan-American League of Women	
1	20	<p>Correspondence re Dan Moody: Letters to Mrs. Metcalf and Mrs. Breck, re: private meeting in Austin 03/14/1926 Letter to Dan Moody showing support and empty envelope. 03/05/1926 Telegram from Marshall Hicks 03/15/1926 Telegram to Mr. Clyde A. Sweeton 07/08/1926 Letter to Mr. Clyde A. Sweeton 07/17/1926 Between Mrs. Ames and Mr. Lynch Davidson. 03/23/1926 02/11/1925 01/17/1925 Between Dan Moody for Governor North Texas Headquarters (Mr. Robertson) and Mrs. Ames. 07/12/1926 07/10/1926 07/20/1926 Letter from Wood & Wood Lawyers, re Dan Moody 03/30/1926 Between Judge A.B. Wilson and Mrs. Ames 07/14/1926 07/17/1926 Letter to General M. M. Crane from Mrs. Ames re Dan Moody campaign. 06/04/1926 Letter to Mr. Robertson 07/18/1926 Letter from The City National Bank, Taylor, TX. 05/06/1926 Between Dan Moody Headquarters, Austin, TX, and Mrs. Ames. 08/17/1926 07/03/1926 07/02/1926 07/03/1924 08/04/1927 Letter to Mrs. W. R. Charman 04/03/1926 Telegram from Mr. Dan Moody 03/17/1926 Between Mrs. Schalaben and Mrs. Ames 07/15/1926 Letter to Mr. Wilcox 07/12/1926 Letter to Mr. Ralph Buell 07/15/1926 Between Mrs. Clara Donald and Mrs. Ames 07/16/1926 03/14/1926 03/16/1926 03/24/1926 Letter from Mrs. Adele Palm Bergstrom 04/03/1926 Letter from Mrs. Elvira A. Merrit 06/30/? Letter from Mrs. Miller 07/13/?</p> <p>Correspondence re Political matters: 03/29/1926</p>	

		<p>Between Mrs. Ames and Hon. Lon A. Smith, re race/slavery Between Mrs. Ames and Hon. Claude Pollard, re home for delinquent "negro girls" Dan Moody's Answers to W.C.T.U. Questionnaire, re Volstead Law Between Mrs. Ames and Mrs. J. H. Barber, re Prison situation at Matagorda County</p> <p>Correspondence and articles- The Texas League of Women Voters-Monthly Newspaper "The New Citizen"- Editor Mrs. John C. Granberry.</p>	<p>11/29/1926 12/13/1926 12/18/1926 12/21/1926 Undated 07/22/1926 07/20/1926 10/13/1923 08/06/1923 1924</p>
1	21	<p>Correspondence: Letter from Dan Moody Between Mrs. Ames and Mrs. Jane Y. McCallum (Texas Women Citizen's Committee Dan Moody for Governor)</p> <p>Letters to Mrs. Merritt</p> <p>Letter from Mrs. Stewart Letters to Mrs. Culver, Mrs. Stewart, Mrs. Buckley, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Wills, Mrs. Adams</p> <p>Letter from Margaret M. G. Griffith Letter to Mrs. Florence E. Floore Letter from Mrs. J.W. Mills (President, Woman's Missionary Society, Texas Conference) Letter from Leonora Herring Letter to Mrs. McCallum from Reig, including account records.</p>	<p>08/08/1927 07/12/1926 05/29/1926 07/15/1926 06/30/1926 04/03/1926 04/20/1926 04/20/1926 03/26/1926 04/01/1926 05/27/1926 05/19/1926 05/27/1926 07/10/1926 07/09/1926 07/16/1928 07/18/1928 07/12/? 07/10/1928 07/09/1928 07/18/1928 07/16/1926 03/26/1926 07/22/1928 07/13/1928 Undated</p>

		<p>Miscellaneous: Memo of the meeting at the Marie Antoniette Room of the Stephen F. Austin Hotel. List of members of the Senatorial District- A.E. Wood, Granger, Four Year Term Report of trip through 20th Senatorial District made by Mrs. Ames and Frank King, in interest of Dan Moody for Governor, including related correspondence.</p>	<p>03/18/1926 Undated 07/18/1926 07/16/1926 07/06/1926 07/17/1926 04/03/1926</p>
1	22	<p>Correspondence: Between Dan Moody and Mrs. Ames Letter to Mrs. Alex Spence Letters to Bertha and Mrs. Barr Letter to Dr. Harry Lee Virden</p> <p>Miscellaneous: Memo – Outline of Texas Council of Methodist Missionary Societies Blank letterhead paper from Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching (Jessie Daniel Ames, Executive Director) Blank letterhead paper from Western North Carolina Conference –Women's Society of Christian Service-The Methodist Church</p>	<p>12/03/1925 02/25/1925 02/15/1925 03/20/1927 04/03/1926 07/07/1928 10/15/1938 01/02/1926</p> <p>1938-1939 Undated 1947</p>
1	23	<p>Correspondence: Letter to Hon. Dan Moody- re State Training School for negro girls. Letter from Miss Belle Sherwin, National League of Women Voters. Letters to Mrs. Brock, Mrs. Merrit and Mrs. Rollins Letter to Mrs. McCallum</p>	<p>03/21/1927 11/14/1923 07/10/1928 03/27/1926</p>
1	24	<p>News Clippings: “Defeat Stranger is Steere’s Plea to Women Voters”</p>	<p>04/24/1920</p>
1	25	<p>Scrapbook, containing: MA Ferguson- Felix Robertson Campaign for Governor, news clippings and correspondence Beaumont –Houston Conventions, Presidential Politics in Texas, news clippings.</p>	<p>1924 06/28/1928</p>

		<p>Political Activities- Organizations for State Convention Preliminary to National Convention, San Francisco, news clippings.</p> <p>Women in Politics:</p> <p>Democratic Women A Power in Democratic State Convention- May 25, 1920</p> <p>Democratic Women Caucus with Great Turbulence, May 25, 1920</p> <p>Women as Delegates for the First Time at National Democratic Convention, June 28- July 7, 1920- News Clippings</p>	<p>06/28/1920-07/06/1920</p> <p>1920</p>
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