

University of Oklahoma Libraries
Western History Collections

Gilbert C. Fite Collection

Fite, Gilbert C. Papers, 1912–1967. 6 feet.

Historian. Reports, correspondence, and publications (1926–1952) regarding the Mount Rushmore national monument, including correspondence (1925–1940) from its creator, Gutzon Borglum; photocopies of Borglum's diary (1925); papers (1912–1948) regarding former governor of South Dakota, Peter Norbeck; a manuscript by Fite regarding consumer cooperatives; official files (1966–1967) of the search committee appointed to recommend a candidate to become the eighth president of the University of Oklahoma; personal files regarding farm relief programs; and a typescript of George Peek's diary (1932–1933).

Restricted: Boxes 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18 are restricted. Researchers may not use materials in the boxes. They pertain to candidates for the presidency of the University of Oklahoma, circa 1966. The remainder of the Fite Collection is open for research.

Box 1

Folder:

1. *The Consumers Cooperative Association: A History*, Chapters I-VII.
2. *The Consumers Cooperative Association: A History*, Chapters VIII-XV, bibliography, appendices, indexes, and footnotes.
3. *The Consumers Cooperative Association: A History*, copy from 1963.

Box 2

Folder:

1. Duplicates of Peter Norbeck correspondence re: Mount Rushmore (1924-1936).
2. Duplicate of "Report of Accountant in Charge re: Accounting Activities of Mount Rushmore National Memorial Commission" by George W. Storck (1938-1941).
3. Duplicates of John Boland correspondence re: Mount Rushmore (1934-1938).
4. Government documents and bills concerning Mount Rushmore (1927-1940).
5. Materials on costs and appropriations for Mount Rushmore (1927-1950).
6. Brochures used in publications about Mount Rushmore (1929-1941).
7. Newspaper clippings about Mount Rushmore (1940s).
8. Publicity about Mount Rushmore; Congressional bills re: appropriations for Mount Rushmore (1927-1939).

9. Publicity about Stone Mountain (near Atlanta, Georgia), Mount Rushmore, and the proposed Crazy Horse Monument in South Dakota.

Box 3

Folder:

1. Mirror-image photostats of the *Rapid City (South Dakota) Daily Journal* (1925-1926).
2. Book reviews of *Mount Rushmore* by Gilbert C. Fite (1952). Several copies of this book are available in both the Western History Library and the Main Library (Bizzell) at the call number NB 237.B6F5.
3. Miscellaneous information about Mount Rushmore, including maps and brochures.
4. Photostatic copies of Borglum's diary (1925).
5. Bibliography of materials on Mount Rushmore.
6. Articles about Mount Rushmore (1932, 1940).
7. Miscellaneous material on state and national parks, mostly in South Dakota.
8. Duplicates from the files of the Mount Rushmore National Memorial Commission (1929-1938).

Box 4

Folder:

1. Correspondence re: Mount Rushmore (1927-1951).
2. Articles by and about Gutzon Borglum (1920-1940).
3. Duplicates of J.C. Spotts correspondence re: Mount Rushmore (1936-1938).
4. Duplicates re: Mount Rushmore from the files of Olaf T. Hagen (1925-1948).
5. Miscellaneous Mount Rushmore materials.
6. Correspondence re: Mount Rushmore (1950-1952).
7. Fite's monthly reports on the Mount Rushmore history project to the National Park Service (1950-1951).
8. Duplicates of Williams Williamson legal correspondence (1925-1930).

9. G.C. Fite correspondence with Mrs. Gutzon Borglum (1950-1952).
10. Correspondence re: *Mount Rushmore* by G.C. Fite (1949-1951).

Box 5

Folder:

1. Quotes by and about Gutzon Borglum (1912-1937).
2. Letters re: *Mount Rushmore* by Gilbert Fite (1952).
3. Booklets on Mount Rushmore National Memorial.
4. Duplicates of correspondence of Gutzon Borglum re: Mount Rushmore (1925-1940).
5. Correspondence of John A. Boland (1950-1953).

Box 6

Folder:

1. Notes on Governor Peter Norbeck of South Dakota. Norbeck serves as governor from 1917-1921.
2. Notes on state hail insurance, business, and the state Cement Commission of South Dakota (1919-1930).
3. Notes on Norbeck's early career as an artesian well driller.
4. Personal correspondence of Charles M.C. Woodland (1912-1916).
5. Publicity, clippings, etc. on Senator Peter Norbeck, R-SD (1930-1936).
6. Notes for Chapter I of Peter Norbeck study, Langbah Report.
7. Interviews about Peter Norbeck (1944-1945).
8. Material on South Dakota's Rural Credit Board.

Box 7

Folder:

1. Letters regarding Peter Norbeck (1944-1947).
2. Letters from relatively prominent people regarding the career of Peter Norbeck, especially while in the Senate; also, copies of Fite's letters requesting information about Norbeck (1944-1945).
3. Notes on Peter Norbeck, covering the period between 1900 through 1920.

4. Miscellaneous Newspaper clippings (1944-1950).
5. Texts of the Inaugural Addresses of Governors Tom Berry, Warren Green and George T. Mickelson to the South Dakota State Legislature (1933, 1947); newspaper clippings about governor W.J. Bulow, especially concerning Rural Credits (1929).
6. Newspaper clippings (1917).
7. Miscellaneous duplicate materials (1930s).
8. Material on the Progressive movement in South Dakota (1908-1912). Includes correspondence with the LaFollette Campaign Committee and a letter from Robert M. LaFollette.

Box 8

Folder:

1. Carbon copy of George Peek's diary.
2. *Country Gentlemen*, November 1948: "The Perils of Prosperity" by Earl L. Butz, about the possible danger of the post-war economic boom.
3. Material about the Nonpartisan League (1918-1919).
4. Notes on Peter Norbeck's life after 1925.
5. Peter Norbeck material (1922-1936). includes Norbeck's correspondence and several newspaper clippings about him.
6. Miscellaneous Norbeck materials (1922-1936).
7. Newspaper interviews of Peter Norbeck; also, some newspaper clippings containing those interviews (1926-1936).
8. Clippings and correspondence re: the Stock Market Investigations of 1932 (1929-1932), including a signed letter from Harold L. Ickes (December 21, 1932).
9. Miscellaneous research notes.
10. Material on parks and conservation, much of it legislation sponsored by Peter Norbeck while serving in the U.S. Senate (1927-1934).

Box 9

Folder:

1. Miscellaneous material on George Peek and farms (1919-1950).

2. Letters about George Peek (1947-1954).
3. Material on George Peek (1946-1953).
4. Research correspondence about George Peek (1949-1952). Items of interest in this folder include a letter signed by George Meaney of the AFL discussing their relations with the National farmers Union (September 28, 1949), and a transcript of a radio show discussing the evils McCarthyism. George Peek is mentioned (September 16, 1951).
5. Photostatic copy of a map showing the distribution of 2,381 firms holding about 50,000 important war contracts. Compiled by the Division of Statistics of the Council of National Defense (January 17, 1918).
6. Statement of George N. Peek before the Committee on Finance, US Senate entitled, "Agriculture: Its Relation to Causes of Present Depression and Possible Legislative Remedies (February 14, 1933)".
7. Copies of press releases made by George Peek while serving as Special Advisor to the President on Foreign Trade (1934). Also includes the Executive Orders which created the office of Special Advisor on Foreign Trade, and Peek's acceptance of his appointment to that office.
8. Copies of press releases made by George Peek while serving as Special Advisor to the President of Foreign Trade (1935-1936). Also includes journal articles by Peek on the subject of foreign trade.

Box 10

Folder:

1. Duplicates of materials re: George Peek (1918-1952).
2. Newspaper clippings and correspondence re: the National Farmers' Union and state and local farmers unions (1929-1930).
3. Official correspondence of the National Farmers' Union and of state and local farmers' unions (1931). Also, newspaper clippings about farmers' unions from 1931.
4. Official correspondence of the National Farmers' Union and of state and local farmers' unions. Also, includes newspaper clippings about farmers' unions from 1932.
5. National Farmers' Union correspondence and newspaper clippings about farmers' unions (1933).
6. Press releases and newspaper clippings re: the Federal Farm Board (1930-1933).

7. "Decision of Governors' Conference on Agricultural Relief" held at Sioux City, Iowa (September 9-10, 1932).
8. Newspaper clippings re: the death of John A. Simpson, president of the National Farmers' Union (March 1934). Also, an article from *Harlow's Weekly*, discussing the possibility of Simpson being appointed as Secretary of Agriculture (December 31, 1932). Simpson was from Oklahoma City.
9. Reviews of and letters re: *George N. Peek and the Fight for Farm Parity* by Gilbert C. Fite (1954-1955). Also, mailing lists of individuals and libraries who were to receive copies of this book. Copies of this book may be found in the Main Library (Bizzell), the Law Library and the Western History Library under the call number HD 1761.F56, and in the Main Library and Western History Library under the Dewey call number 338.1F557g.
10. Duplicates of George N. Peek correspondence re: foreign trade (1934-1940).
11. Miscellaneous speech notes, book reviews, etc. apparently of Gilbert Fite's (c. 1940s).
12. Typescript of George N. Peek's diary (1932-1933).

Box 11

Folder:

1. Research notes and correspondence and newspaper clippings re: Frederick E. Murphy (1955).
2. Duplicates of George N. Peek materials re: foreign trade (1934-1935).
3. Duplicates of George N. Peek materials re: foreign trade (1936).
4. Duplicates of George N. Peek materials re: foreign trade (1933-1940).
5. Campaign material, newspaper clippings and correspondence relating to the 1940 Presidential campaign. Much of the material is concerned with the platforms of both parties regarding agriculture and foreign trade.
6. Duplicates of George N. Peek materials re: trade, politics, etc. (1943-1944).

Box 12

Folder:

1. Cartoons about farm relief from the 1920s and 1930s.
2. Resolutions of the Dairymen's League Cooperative Association Annual Meeting (1922-1948).

3. Resolutions passed by the American bankers Association and its Executive Council re: agriculture and agricultural credits (1920-1929).
4. Resolutions and referenda of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce re: agriculture (1920-1933).
5. George N. Peek material re: agriculture (1928-1940).
6. Newspaper clippings re: post- World War II agriculture; "A Permanent Farm Program", typescript of W.R. Ronald's statement before the U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture (October 23, 1947).
7. Newspaper clippings on several subjects from various newspapers (c. 1950s).
8. Research notes and newspaper clippings re: Rural Credit (1921-1926).
9. Clippings and pamphlets on agriculture and farm relief (1919-1933).
10. Peter Norbeck correspondence re: agriculture and the political situation (1921-1935).
11. Farm organization positions in 1954.
12. Report and statement of disbursements of the Smith Independent Organizations Committee for 1928.
13. "References on the Significance of the Frontier in American History" by Everett E. Edwards of the Department of Agriculture (April 1939); "History of Political Thought", a bibliography compiled by time period in history (no date).
14. National Farmers' Union pamphlets, discussing a wide variety of subjects; minutes of one meeting of the Union's Board of directors; the Union's constitution and by-laws; one issue of the *National Union Farmer* (1931/1952).
15. Research notes and correspondence for an article entitled, "The Farm Bloc in the Early Twenties, plus two copies of that article (1943-1944); one copy of an article entitled "The Farm Bloc Today" (no date).
16. Newspaper clippings re: agriculture (1942-1953).

Box 13

An Oversize clippings file containing clipping clippings of Mount Rushmore Memorial publicity:

- January 1-February 1, 1930
- February 1-March 1, 1930 (2 volumes)

- March 1-April 1, 1930
- April 1-May 1, 1930 (2 volumes)
- May 1-June 1, 1930
- June 1-July 1, 1930
- July 1-August 1, 1930 (2 volumes)

Box 14

Presidential Search Files, **Restricted** until further notice

Folder:

1. Miscellaneous Board of Regents material.
2. Material re: Dr. Fite's trip to Illinois and Indiana (1966).
3. Fite's correspondence as Chairman of the Campus Nominating Committee (1966).
4. Travel material in connection with Presidential search (1966).
5. President's Committee files (1966).
6. Hand out sheets of the Campus Nominating Committee (1966).
7. Material re: the leading prospects in the presidential search (1966-1967).
8. Material re: local candidates for University president (1966).
9. Letters written by Fite inviting people to submit names for consideration for University president (1966).
10. Budget and expenses of the Campus Nominating Committee (1966).
11. Miscellaneous correspondence (1966).
12. Letters and materials distributed to committee members and replies from members (1966).
13. Extra copies of bulletins, articles, etc. (1966).
14. Carbon copy of a supplemental list of nominees for the Presidency of the University of Oklahoma (September 23, 1966).
15. Background information on some of the candidates for President of the University of Oklahoma (1966).
16. Files of pat Spears, Secretary to the Campus Nominating Committee (1966).

Box 15

Presidential Search files, **Restricted** until further notice
Folder:

1. Miscellaneous search materials (1966).
2. Cullen, Matthew (material is missing from the folder).
3. Dittmer, Karl material (1966).
4. DuVal, Merlin K., Jr. material (1966).
5. Emmons, Howard W. material (1966).
6. Fischer, John Henry material (1966).
7. French, Robert Warren material (1966).
8. Galbraith, John S. material (1966).
9. Goddwin, Winfred material (1966).
10. Heyns, Roger material (1966).
11. Hiatt, Robert material (1966).
12. Hobson, Mark material (1966).
13. Humphreys, Cecil Clarence material (1966).
14. Jarrett, James L. material (1966).
15. Johnson, Charles E. material (1966).
16. Kerr, Clark material (1966).
17. Kuchel, E. Russell material (1966).
18. Leopold, Aldo Starker material (1966).
19. MacVicar, Robert material (1966).
20. Macy, John material (1966).
21. Magoun, Horace material (1966).
22. Mautz, Robert B. material (1966).

23. May, Georges C. material (1966).
24. McCorkle, Chester O., Jr. material (1966).
25. McCracklin, James material (1966).
26. McCulloch, Samuel Clyde material (1966).
27. Millet, John David material (1966).
28. Naftalin, Arthur material (1966).
29. Newburn, Harry K. material (1966).
30. Page, Howard E. material (1966).
31. Perry, Louis material (1966).
32. Porter, J. Roger material (1966).
33. Pruitt, Raymond Donald material (1966).
34. Robertson, Randal M. (material is missing).
35. Scales, James Ralph material (1966).
36. Singletary, Otis material (1966).
37. Smith, Donald K. material (1966).
38. Spivey, Herman Everette material (1966).
39. Spurr, Stephen H. material (1966).
40. Stahr, Elvis J. material (1966).
41. Steere, William Campbell material (c. 1966).
42. Strehler, Allen F. material (1966).
43. Taylor, Peter material (1966).
44. Terrell, Glenn material (1966).
45. Thieme, Frederick P. material (1966).

46. Thompson, LaRoy material (1966).
47. Tippo, Oswald material (1966).
48. Upthegrove, William material (1966).
49. Varner, Durward B. (material is missing).
50. Weaver, Fred material (1966).
51. Webb, James E. material (1966).
52. Weiler, Emanuel Thornton material (1966).
53. Wescoe, W. Clarke material (c. 1966).
54. Whaley, Storm material (1966).
55. Wiles, Kimball material (1966).
56. Willard, John E. (material is missing).
57. Williams, George Howard material (1960-1966).
58. Woodin, Martin D. material (1966).
59. Material on other candidates for University of Oklahoma president, including Raymond L. Bisplinghoff, Louis Benezet, and J. Herbert Holloman (1967).
60. Memorandum from the Campus Nominating Committee to the Board of Regents listing the qualifications they feel are necessary for the presidency of the University of Oklahoma (December 16, 1966).
61. Miscellaneous Campus Nominating Committee materials (1966).
62. Miscellaneous search materials (1966).
63. From letter used in requesting nominations for president of the University (1966).
64. University of Oklahoma Financial Report for Fiscal Year 1965 (July 1, 1964-June 30, 1965).
65. Newspaper clippings re: the presidential search (1966-1967). Most of the clippings are from Norman and Oklahoma City newspapers.

Boxes 16, 17, and 18 are Presidential search files. They are **restricted** until further notice. They have not been processed.

Box 19

Agricultural Farm Relief

Folder:

1. Agricultural Farm Relief (1921-1923).
2. Agricultural Farm Relief (1924).
3. Agricultural Adjustment Administration (1932-1934).
4. Farm organizations, resolutions, etc. (1924-1935).
5. Financial farm relief campaign (1926-1927).
6. Agricultural Farm Relief (1925).
7. Agricultural Farm Relief (1926).
8. Agricultural Farm Relief (1927).
9. Agricultural Farm Relief, political and economic aspects (1928).

Box 20

Reprints

"Oklahoma's Reconstruction League: An Experiment in Farmer-Labor Politics" by G. Fite, Nov., 1947.

"The United States Department of Agriculture as an Instrument of Public Policy" by J.P. Cavin, G. Fite, et al, Dec., 1960.

"Republican Strategy and the Farm Vote in the Presidential Campaign of 1896" by G. Fite, July, 1960.

"Some Farmers' Accounts of Hardship on the Frontier" edited by G. Fite, March, 1961.

"Peter Norbeck and the Defeat of the Non-Partisan League in South Dakota" by G. Fite, Jan., 1950.

"Recent Progress in the Mechanization of Cotton Production in the U.S." by G. Fite, Jan., 1950.

"South Dakota Rural Credit System: A Venture in State Socialism, 1917-1946" by G. Fite, Oct., 1947.

"Voluntary Attempts to Reduce Cotton Acreage in the South, 1914-1933" by G. Fite, Nov., 1948.

"William Jennings Bryan and the Campaign of 1896: Some Views and Problems" by G. Fite, Sept., 1966.

"American Agriculture and Farm Policy Since 1900" by G. Fite, 1964.

"The Agrarian Tradition and Its Meaning for Today" by G. Fite, Summer, 1967.

"The Agricultural Issue in the Presidential Campaign of 1928" by G. Fite, March, 1951.

"Development of the Cotton Industry by Five Civilized Tribes in Indian Territory" by G. Fite, Aug., 1949.

"Farmer Opinion and the Agricultural Adjusted Act" by G. Fite, March, 1962.

"The Farmers' Dilemma, 1919-1929" by G. Fite, 1968.

"John A. Simpson-Franklin D. Roosevelt Letters on the Agricultural Situation, 1932-33" annotated by G. Fite, Autumn, 1948.

"John A. Simpson: The Southwest's Militant Farm Leader" by G. Fite, March, 1949.

"The Nonpartisan League in Oklahoma" by G. Fite, Summer, 1946.

"The McNary-Haugen Episode and the Triple-A" by G. Fite, Dec., 1960.

"Some Farmers' Accounts of Hardship on the Frontier" by G. Fite, March, 1961.