Engineer. Correspondence received by Murray from friends and relatives, including his mother, Alice (1931–1938), and father, William H. “Alfalfa Bill” Murray (1932–1952). Also included is correspondence from Murray’s brothers, Massena, Billy, and Johnston, and from his sister, Jean. The correspondence refers to Murray family affairs, the term of Oklahoma governor W. H. Murray, the family’s participation in the Bolivia colony, and W. H. Murray’s views regarding Oklahoma, politicians, World War II, the future of the United States and Mexico, and family members, including Burbank Murray. The collection includes books and pamphlets from the library of Alfalfa Bill Murray and Burbank Murray, along with a dictionary (1935) and antique dictionary stand.

Box 1
Location: Minor Box M-69
Folder:
1  Correspondence of 1928:


2  Correspondence of 1929:

   To unidentified from Juan Cifon.  Re: written in Spanish.  Dec. 5.

   To Burbank from “MBM.”  Re: Written in Spanish.  Dec. 12.

3  Correspondence of 1930:
   To Burbank from Jean Murray.  Re: blank envelope--no letter enclosed.  Jan. 16.

4  Correspondence of 1931:
   To Burbank from Alice Murray.  Re: postcard of a trip to Mexico, comments that it looks just like Bolivia.  May 28.

To Burbank from Jean Murray. Re: family affairs, Jean’s refusal to board an airplane. Sept. 21.

To Burbank from Jean Murray. Re: family affairs. Oct. 5.

To Burbank from Jean Murray. Re: family affairs; Billy’s departure. Oct. 25.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: family affairs; gubernatorial affairs. Nov. 15.

5 Correspondence of 1932:
To Burbank from Jean Murray. Re: family affairs; the motion picture “Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde.” Jan. 8.

To Burbank from Jean Murray. Re: family affairs. Jan. 20

To Burbank from Jean Murray. Re: family affairs. Feb. 3

To Burbank from Jean Murray. Re: family affairs. Feb. 7

To Burbank from Jean Murray. Re: family affairs. March 8

To Burbank from Jean Murray. Re: family affairs. March 8

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: disappointment at the results of the North Dakota primary but happiness at William H. Murray’s successes there; his fight for the middle class; Johnston’s decision not to run for Congress.

To Burbank from Jean Murray. Re: family affairs. April 12.

To Burbank from Jean Murray. Re: family affairs. May 12.

To Burbank from unidentified. Re: partially written in Spanish; undetermined. May 16.

To Burbank from Jean Murray. Re: family affairs. July 1.


To Burbank from Jean Murray. Re: family affairs. July 18.

To Burbank from Jean Murray. Re: family affairs. July 29.
To Burbank from Jean Murray.  Re: family affairs and hopes that he reached Ft. Sill safely.  August.

To Burbank from Alice Murray.  Re: the long expected letter’s arrival and hopes it won’t discourage Burbank; inquiry as to whether he jumped from the plane.  Aug. 17.

6  
**Correspondence of 1932, continued:**
To Burbank from Dick Crosby.  Re: disappointment in hearing that he will not be able to room with Burbank.  Sept. 2.

To Professor F.O. Holt of the University of Wisconsin, Madison from William H. Murray.  Re: Rules for his son to follow while at the University.  Sept. 8.

To Burbank from illegible.  Re: Transcript and the amount of credits on it.  Also, two attached letters (carbon copies) regarding the transcript.  Sept. 9.

To Burbank from Jean Murray.  Re: Johnston’s surgery; family affairs.  Sept. 18.

To Burbank from Johnston.  Re: his surgery; William H. Murray’s lecture to Burbank regarding femininity.  Sept. 18.

To Burbank from William H. Murray.  Re: criticism regarding Burbank’s method of addressing him as “my dear father”; regarding fraternities; advice not to become close to one’s friends, and Johnston’s tendency to do so.  Sept. 19.

To Burbank from Alice Murray.  Re: Johnston’s surgery; civil disturbances in the oil fields, the root of the problem, and the National Guard’s response.  Sept. 20.

To Burbank from Alice Murray.  Re: Johnston’s health and visits by his girlfriend, Willie; remarks by the Daily Oklahoman about Burbank attending the University of Wisconsin rather than the University of Oklahoma; civil disturbances in the fields; William H. Murray’s speaking tutor.  Sept. 24.


To Burbank from Jean Murray.  Re: family affairs.  Oct. 4.

To Burbank from William H. Murray.  Re: criticism of Burbank regarding his lack of notice that he had received money; advice not to follow what the world wants in the way of fashion and William H. Murray’s own arguments with the media regarding his personal dress and habits.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: Jean’s birthday; the state of Johnston; William H. Murray warns a new Oklahoma farmer’s organization to maintain the peace; civil disturbances in the oil fields and National Guard responses.


To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: the Bolivian adventure; the upcoming elections and William H. Murray’s speeches; the subject of fraternities. Nov. 2.

To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: his view of fraternities and his lack of money for them; his views on drinking and alcohol.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: the results of the national and state elections; William H. Murray’s consent for Burbank to go home with a friend over Thanksgiving; hopes that he will come home for Christmas; William H. Murray’s birthday; the celebrations held for Oklahoma’s 25th birthday.

To Burbank from Jean Murray. Re: family affairs. Nov. 21.

To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: Burbank’s expenditures; criticism of his request to come home for Christmas and what he should do instead. Dec. 2.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: Sorrow that Burbank can’t come home for Christmas because of his father’s decree. Dec. 3.

To Burbank from Jean Murray. Re: Massena becomes colonel; family affairs; best wishes for a merry Christmas. Dec. 4.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: Burbank’s Thanksgiving vacation; winter weather in Oklahoma City and its effect on the unemployed and homeless; the necessity of keeping a diary; problems at the University of Oklahoma because of its “Deep Dark Mystery Club.”

To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: reaction to the news that Burbank is sick, and criticism of him for becoming sick. Dec. 23.

7  

**Correspondence of 1933:**

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: Christmas at the Mansion; William H. Murray’s happiness at Burbank’s request for a Bible. Jan. 2.

To Burbank from Jean Murray. Re: family affairs and Christmastime. Jan. 2.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: her birthday and entertaining 26 members of the Legislature on it; the success of the highway bill but doubts about the income tax. Jan. 25.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: the new highway commission and the troubles in the highway department; dinner with the Mexican Consul; Oklahoma’s lack of participation in the World’s Fair because of the Great Depression; William H. Murray’s reaction to the excellent news from the University of Wisconsin regarding Burbank’s success. Feb. 21.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: William H. Murray’s speech to the Oklahoma Legislature declaring a Banking Holiday during which all banks would close. March 2.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: sending cash to get Burbank through the Banking Holiday. March 10.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: family affairs. March 15.

To Burbank from Jean Murray. Re: family affairs. March 27.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: the failure of the Legislature of Oklahoma to appropriate funds for its representation at the World’s Fair; the legislature’s passage of the sales tax; the happiness of Johnston and Willie.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: Johnston and Willie’s impending marriage; work on the mansion grounds and changes in mansion personnel; a visit with former Governor Charles N. Haskell and fears that his health will never be good again.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: reflections on Burbank’s past on his birthday; opinion that he will like Willie once he knows her; Johnston’s marriage.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: a football game between Vanderbilt and Oklahoma University. Oct. 5.

To Burbank from Jean Murray. Re: family affairs. Oct. 11.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: Burbank’s pledging by a fraternity. Oct. 29.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: Her views that the newspapers get things confused. Nov. 9.

To Burbank from Jean Murray. Re: family affairs. Dec. 4.
Correspondence of 1934:

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: reflections on the upcoming inauguration of a new governor, and hopes it will be Mr. Anglin; news that William H. Murray is going to Panama; sorrow that Mr. McCool had broken ranks with William H. Murray; fears that she is getting old; hopes that Burbank will not buy a new motorcycle. Jan. 14.

To Burbank from Jean Murray. Re: family affairs. Feb. 6.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: happiness in learning that Burbank is ice skating, and news that Oklahoma City has a new ice skating rink; William H. Murray’s battles with R.M. McCool regarding who is nominated for Democratic candidate for governor and who is nominated for State Chairman of that party; the date on which William H. Murray’s gubernatorial term ends; a request that Burbank forget ideas of a motorcycle. Attached letter: to Alice Murray from Billy (in Argentina), Dec. 7, 1933. Re: oil well fires; affairs in Argentina; the arrival of talking motion picture films there; advice to Burbank to stick to roller skates and forget motorcycles. Feb. 25.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: attending a basketball game between Oklahoma City University and Tulsa Business College. March 6.


To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: a demonstration that she still knows Spanish; William H. Murray’s new speaking tour, and family hopes that Tom Anglin will be elected governor; Johnston and Willie very much in love; William H. Murray’s wish to serve Oklahoma and his involvement in Anglin’s campaign. May 10.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: story in the Oklahoma Times about Burbank’s duties at the University of Wisconsin; William H. Murray’s continuing campaign efforts for Tom Anglin. June 6.

To William H. Murray from Henry G. Bennett, President, Oklahoma A. & M. College in Stillwater. Re: costs for attending the college as an engineering student for one year. August 20.

To Burbank from Fred W. Kunesh, 1st Lieut., Dept. of Military Science at the University of Wisconsin. Re: Three items: carbon copy of letter of recommendation for Burbank and issued to Col. Thorne Strayer at Oklahoma A. & M. College. Personal note to Burbank from Kunesh expressing sadness that Burbank will transfer from UW-M to Oklahoma A. & M. Report of physical examination of 6/30/34 for Burbank. Sept. 11.
9  Correspondence of 1935:

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: home affairs; Burbank’s closing (an affair of some sort). May 11.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: family affairs. June 17.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: the move from Oklahoma City to Broken Bow. June 27.

To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: college expenses at Oklahoma A. & M. Receipts included. August.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: Jean’s medical troubles, the causes of, and the surgery to correct them. Oct. 7.

To Burbank from Jean Murray. Re: family affairs; hospital stay. Oct. 22. Attached note to Burbank from Olive. Re: invitation to their home, and comments about caring for Jean.

To Burbank from Johnston. Re: two checks from Johnston to Burbank, issued from First National Bank of Blackwell. Nov. 9.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: Johnston’s letter describing his good fortunes; news that Billy married; the establishment of the Association for Economy and Tax Equality. Dec. 2.

To Burbank from Johnston. Re: money sent to Burbank; moving to Tonkawa. Dec. 7.

10  Correspondence of 1936.

To Burbank from Johnston. Re: Miss Ditto; William H. Murray looking better than before; inquiry as to his drawing tools. Jan. 31.


To “Dear Sir” from William H. Murray. Re: In defense of a statement made while governor that he could name 50 books which would give a college graduate a better education, were they used. Letter includes a listing of these books. March 12.
To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: Elsie; Burbank’s good grades. March 22.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: Easter, and Jean’s unhappiness; the hope that William H. Murray can journey to Stillwater to see Burbank graduate. April 12.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: an ingenious gift from Johnston for Mother’s Day; Jean visiting in the City; Burbank’s birthday. May 13.

To Whom It May Concern from William H. Murray. Re: a trip being made by Burbank (to an unspecified location). June 14.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: congratulations on getting a job so soon after school; the heat; Burbank’s nickname of “Tex”; never forget that he is a Southerner; forecasts for election results, both state and national; Jean’s health. July 20.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: Burbank’s visit home; William H. Murray’s speaking engagements regarding the Constitution and the government economy; Josh Lee beating the governor and Gore’s standings in the election. Aug. 5.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: Burbank’s place of employment; Massena’s success in the National Guard; Jean’s new piano. Sept. 13.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: Burbank’s rooming with Mr. Grant and his brother; Elsie; the current speaking tour of William H. Murray; hopes that Alfred Landon will be elected, even if he is a Republican, to halt the excesses of the New Deal; a visit to Governor Bob Williams; Jean’s illness.

To Burbank from Jean Murray. Re: thanks for the box of candy; family affairs. Oct. 19.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: the company Burbank works for; the aurora borealis; trapping an o’possum in the henhouse late at night; William H. Murray’s speeches known nationally. Dec. 6.

To Burbank from Johnston. Re: inquiry as to why Burbank moved to Wisconsin; Johnston’s inventions; election as president of the Chamber of Commerce. Dec. 22.

**Correspondence of 1937:**
To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: thanks for the Christmas turkey and spending Christmas with Frankie and Massena; a visit by Johnston and Juancito and the engine Johnston built; Johnston’s pride for Burbank. Jan. 11.
To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: Jean having to go back in Norman to the State Mental Hospital there, and the “attack” which caused the trip; Jean setting fire to all her Christmas presents; Johnston gets Billy a job. Feb. 5.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: letter from Dr. Griffin in Norman’s State Mental Hospital regarding Jean’s health; advice from William H. Murray not to become involved in the strikes at Burbank’s plant; the affairs of Governor LaFollette; Mrs. Murray twists ankle. April 18.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: Burbank’s 26th birthday; William H. Murray’s compliments of Elsie; Jean’s health. May 23.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: William H. Murray’s comments about Elsie; Johnston’s love for Burbank; Johnston’s intent to spend his vacation in Broken Bow to help with an engine. June 13.

To Burbank from Alice Murray. Re: the news that Elsie and Burbank are getting married--her reaction to it; advice about marriage, and sorrow that her and William H. Murray can’t attend, and William H. Murray’s comments about the marriage. Aug. 8. Attached letter: To Alice H. Murray from Marion. Re: Jean, and her wishes not to go back to Broken Bow. Aug. 1.

To Burbank from Johnston. Re: response to the news of Burbank’s impending marriage, and William H. Murray’s attitude toward it; invitation to spend honeymoon with Johnston and Willie; hopes that Mrs. Murray will come to visit during William H. Murray’s impending absence. Aug. 12.

To Mr. & Mrs. Thomas H. Bigger (in Edgerton, WI) from Alice Murray. Re: regrets that William H. Murray and Mrs. Murray cannot attend the marriage of Burbank and Elsie; hopes that Elsie will love her (Alice Murray). Aug. 31.

To Burbank and Elsie from Alice Murray. Re: sentiments about Elsie and Burbank marrying; Jean’s feelings toward Elsie and her health as reported by Dr. Griffin in Norman; the probability that the people of Oklahoma will reelect William H. Murray; sentiments about Elsie. Sept. 7.

To Burbank and Elsie from Alice Murray. Re: inquiry as to whether Elsie Received Burbank’s bronzed baby shoe and the hopes that if she did, it will mean as much to her as it did to Alice, and the hopes the person it belonged to (who wore it) will cause Elsie as much happiness as he did his parents; William H. Murray not feeling well; request for a joint letter from Burbank and Elsie. Oct. 4.

To Burbank and Elsie from Alice Murray. Re: how it is to be wife of a possible governor-to-be; the surprise visit to Farm on the Yashau by Elsie’s parents; Jean’s health; Billy doing well; the incredible number of new oil derricks surrounding
the Capitol and Governor’s Mansion and how much Oklahoma City has changed. Dec. 12.


**Box 2**

**Location: Minor Box M-70**

**Folder:**

1. **Correspondence of 1938:**
   - To Burbank and Elsie from Alice Murray. Re: her visit to Billy and Verona in Enid and Johnston & Willie in Tonkawa. March 7.
   - To Burbank and Elsie from Alice Murray. Re: Five candidates for the Democrat gubernatorial nomination. April 7.
   - To Burbank and Elsie from Alice Murray. Re: Appreciation to Elsie; Massena’s success in the National Guard; Johnston looking at prospects of a better job; Billy moves to Elk City; William H. Murray’s campaign success; Mrs. Murray invited to spend time on Capitol Hill; belated birthday greeting to Burbank. May 20.
   - To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: Burbank’s job of handling large sums of money—the necessary precautions and ethics to be observed. June 27.
   - To Burbank and Elsie from Johnston Murray. Re: a visit to Mrs. Murray in the hospital, and the state of her health; Burbank and Elsie’s trip to Oklahoma, and Elise’s success with the whole Murray family. Aug. 2.
   - To Burbank and Elsie from Johnston Murray. Re: the condition of Mrs. Murray and her sudden blood clot; William H. Murray taking the whole situation worse than he lets on. Aug. 9.
   - To Burbank and Elsie from Johnston Murray. Re: the condition of Mrs. Murray and Johnston’s lack of hope; Massena’s military maneuvers and hopes that he keeps his head; Johnston’s car accident and the miracle of the unbroken elbow. Aug. 13.
   - To Burbank and Elsie from Frankie. Re: the news that Mrs. Murray suffered a massive heart attack; William H. Murray taking the news badly; Mrs. Murray wanting the children to divide her personal things. Postmarked Aug. 22.
   - To Burbank from Massena Murray. Re: Telegram: Mrs. Murray’s condition improved. Aug. 25.

To Burbank from Massena Murray. Re: Telegram: Funeral arrangements made for Mrs. Murray; inquiry as to when Burbank will arrive. Aug. 28.

To Burbank and Elsie from Verona and Billy. Re: the chance they may move again. Sept. 6.

2 Correspondence of 1939:

To Burbank and Elsie from William H. Murray. Re: inquiry as to whether Burbank had received the booklet regarding his mother titled “Alice” (see Box 2, folder 25); William H. Murray getting his meals in restaurants whenever he becomes hungry enough; made trip to Mexico City to see “that Communist Country” and declares Mexico ripe for revolution. Jan. 9.

To Burbank and Elsie from William H. Murray. Re: recent speaking tour; inquiry as to whether Burbank received booklet on his mother. Feb. 12.

To Burbank and Elsie from Billie. Re: the sale of the farm in Johnston County; unanimous vote to rename Lake Elmer Thomas near Lawton after Alice Murray. Feb. 14.

To Burbank and Elsie from William H. Murray. Re: How to avoid catching the flu; Henry George’s progress and poverty plans; the affect a land tax would have on the farmers; the laws of economics and natural occurrences, and the best books on the subject written long ago. March 1.

To Burbank and Elsie from Johnston. Re: Elsie’s expected child; a visit with Billy; a visit with an Argentino who had been in Bolivia; Johnston’s defeat by a woman in an election for city treasurer, and his view that whenever he argues with a woman he always loses. April 17.

To Burbank and Elsie from Billy Murray. Re: recovery from operation; Burbank’s “coming event” getting close at hand; the typhoid fever scare in Elk City. July 19.

To Burbank and Elsie from William H. Murray. Re: Mrs. Murray’s grave plot; these not the times for debts; views that the New Deal is “on the toboggan.” Aug. 17.


To Burbank and Elsie from Johnston Murray. Re: Burbank’s new baby, William H. Murray’s thrill over her name (Alice) and how happy he was at the news of her birth; William H. Murray’s speaking tour. Nov. 16.

3 Correspondence of 1940:
To Burbank and Elsie and Mary Alice from Massena and Frankie. Re: predictions that William H. Murray will win the election; Billy and Verona going to (unreadable); increasing the infantry company’s size in terms of fighting men; William H. Murray’s health. Attached: election card of William J. Armstrong, Massena’s employer.

To Burbank from Billy. Re: expecting a baby; Congressional races in Oklahoma; William H. Murray running against Will Rodgers; expected visit to Milwaukee to see Burbank. May 5.

To Elsie from Verona. Re: expected visit to Milwaukee to see Burbank. May 5.

To Burbank and Elsie and Mary Alice from Johnston. Re: plans of Johnston and Willie to visit Minneapolis for a Kiwanis Convention and hopes for a visit to Burbank in Milwaukee; predictions that William H. Murray will be elected. May 12.

To Burbank and Elsie from Johnston. Re: postponement of the visit to Burbank in Milwaukee. June 14.

To Burbank and Elsie from William H. Murray. Re: receipt of the photograph of Burbank’s child; the shipment of Gordon Hines’ autobiography to the child; Mr. Biggar’s speech very good regarding the New Deal’s faults; most Oklahomans voting for Willkie, and the credit for that claimed by William H. Murray; description of who voted for Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Attached: copy of radio speech by Thomas Biggar of Sept. 26, 1940; attached note identifying the initials written on the first page. Nov. 7.

To Burbank and Elsie from Johnston. Re: going to Broken Bow to move William H. Murray out of his house (by request). Dec. 18.

4 Correspondence of 1941:
To Burbank and Elsie from William H. Murray. Re: Christmas with Billy; will live in Oklahoma City a few months; can’t use the gloves Burbank sent for a Christmas present as he doesn’t wear them; sold all cows and horses; if the U.S. gets into war those in debt will lose all they own due to deflation. Attached: brochure for William H. Murray’s latest book, “Uncle Sam Needs a Doctor.” Jan. 10.
To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: removing Mrs. Murray’s personal effects to Johnston’s; Billy’s baby quite active; Massena sent to Georgia with the state troops; William H. Murray’s opinion that the state troops will be sent out of the United States within six months, and advice to Burbank to stay out of the military if possible; warning to Burbank to stay out of debt to avoid ruin in the approaching economic chaos. Jan. 19.

To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: Burbank’s order to go to war; National Guard’s mobilization. Jan. 24.

To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: his new book, “The Finished Scholar”; the various Indian nations and their mixing with African-Americans, and the post-Civil War policy of the U.S. to combine African-Americans and American Indians into a single race; hopes that Burbank can stay out of the “Jew’s War” (World War Two); the defeat of England; what the U.S. must do if the Germans take the Mediterranean; still hoping for the good of the American republic, but fears the truly hard times still ahead. May 1.

To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: hopes that Burbank hasn’t had to join the Army; the finishing of his newest book, “The Finished Scholar.” July 1.


To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: glad Burbank wasn’t drafted into the Army; views that it is a “Phony War” in progress and instigated by the Jewish International bankers for their own gain; dietary advice regarding coffee, meat, etc.; the shipment of an autographed book to Burbank’s child, Mary Alice. Sept. 3.

To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: changing the deed of the farm in Broken Bow from Jean’s name to W.H. Murray’s, and a request that Burbank consent to this. Oct. 3.

To Burbank from Massena. Re: life in the military in Georgia. Nov. 16.

Correspondence of 1942:
To Burbank from Cicero J. Murray. Re: move to Lindsay from Oklahoma City for the duration of the war. Jan. 20.

To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: partial letters only. Re: the causes of World War Two and how it could have been avoided, Japanese intentions and actions. Feb. 16.


To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: where Massena may have been stationed (Ireland, Panama etc.); General Sayre’s book “Diogenes.” March 7.

To Johnston, Burbank, and Billie from William H. Murray. Re: where Massena is and what he is doing. April 4.

To Burbank and Elsie from Clive Murray, Jr. Re: life at Oklahoma A. & M.; Grandmother Murray unhurt in the Pryor tornado; thanks for the defense stamps. June 23.

To Elsie from William H. Murray. Re: a letter from Burbank as he left for the army; hopes for a visit to the Biggars and Elsie. July 18.

To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: the Murray brothers’ whereabouts; advice on how Burbank should treat the men under his command. July 18.

To Burbank from Massena Murray. Re: gas rationing; duty time on the military base. July 18.

To Burbank from Massena Murray. Re: news that William H. Murray lost the race for the Senate; Massena ordered to a military installment in Massachusetts but now in Washington, D.C., July 22.


To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: books to be read regarding the constitutional principles of government. Attached: hand-drawn diagram plus note regarding the family gravesite purchased by W.H.M., with comment that
Mrs. Murray’s gravestone should be thick and difficult to vandalize in the event that chaos overtakes the country after the war. Oct. 23.

To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: the clothes Burbank sent will keep him dressed at least until the war’s end; request for notification if Burbank increases rand so that the proper inscription can be made on the gravestone if necessary. Nov. 10.

To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: request for a photo of Burbank for a history; his Christmas plans. Dec. 24.

To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: request for a photo of Burbank’s family to use in a history. Dec. 29.

6 Correspondence of 1943:
To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: news of Burbank’s promotion from lieutenant to captain; Massena promoted to major and transferred to Colorado. March 25.

To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: the changes in Oklahoma City with the establishment of the Douglas Bombing Plant and all the soldiers, sailors with marines in the city; the cost of living increasing as much a or over 50%; comments on the new Governor- Robert S. Kerr; the methods by which W.H.M. fought corruption within state government; common views in Oklahoma regarding Jews. May 4.

To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: the sale of W.H.M.’s history likely to go well; the deal for the Murray tombstone completed. June.

To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: the sale of W.H.M.’s history likely to go well; the deal for the Murray tombstone completed. June.

To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: the family gravestone is placed. Nov. 9.

To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: response to the news Burbank has a new baby boy; Massena transferred to Shreveport, Louisiana. Dec. 3.

7 Correspondence of 1944:
To Burbank from Massena; Re: inquiry as to family. Dec. 14.

8 Correspondence of 1945:
To Burbank from Massena Murray. Re: Massena gone overseas to France, French weather and value of the franc, and conditions in France. Feb. 7.

To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: progress on his book; Denison Dam’s completion and the lake filling up; Massena in France. April 23.

To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: Burbank sent to Pacific; Massena sent to Germany; war in China between the Nationalists and Communists; the United States will experience a severe “panic” in 1947 which will last until 1953 or longer. Oct. 31.


To Thomas Biggar from William H. Murray. Re: the grandchildren; the book; Massena in Germany; Burbank in Ft. Meade, Maryland. Dec. 24.

9 Correspondence of 1946:
To Burbank from Massena. Re: demobilization home from France; promotion to rank of colonel; civilian clothing hard to obtain; many labor strikes; no cars; rationing still in effect. Feb. 9.


To Burbank and Elsie from Billie. Re: Burbank back in the States; Burbank’s trip to Oklahoma; invitation to stay. March 24.

To Burbank from Massena Murray. Re: Massena’s hospital stay; Burbank’s bad luck with his car on the trip to Oklahoma. June 21.

To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: Johnston practicing law; Massena’s attack of appendicitis; Republican might win the gubernatorial race, and W.H.M.’s neutral position throughout. Sept. 27.

To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: Burbank’s car wreck; the massive strikes in progress; “panic” will overwhelm and devastate the country; his voting habits. Nov. 3.

10 Correspondence of 1947:
To Burbank and Elsie from Daisy Bingham. Re: Christmas; Burbank’s children. Jan. 5.
To William H. Murray from Judge Thomas Holt. Re: note to W.H.M. regarding the attached news clipping about Mrs. Murray. Feb. 1.

To Burbank from Mark L. Newmaster, historian of Sigma Chapter of Sigma Tau at Oklahoma A. & M. in Stillwater. Re: notification of chapter annual dinner. March 3.

To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: attached flyer on Palestine, and its shipment to all members of Congress and United Nations delegates, the cost paid by W.H.M.’s friends; request for a picture with a certain book. March 9.

To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: Arabs have more history of early Christianity than do the Europeans; the oncoming panic which may turn into violent revolution or civil war in the United States between the years 1950-53. May 2.

To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: his attending a reunion of the descendents of Revolutionary Col. Tom Murray. Sept. 17.

11 Correspondence of 1948:
To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: reunion of the descendents of revolutionary soldier Tom Murray; Murray cousins in Congress. Nov. 25.

12 Correspondence of 1949:
To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: the past year excellent in terms of book profits; his health; his Christmas. Jan. 4.


To Henry J. Taylor, General Motors Corp. from Burbank. Re: correcting a radio talk-show personality who made false comments regarding Alfalfa Bill. Attached: reprint, booklet form, of the offensive radio address by Taylor. (see pp. 9-10). Attached: letter from the Department of Public Relations at General Motors Corp. to Burbank. Re: acknowledgement of his letter. Nov. 11.

13 Correspondence of 1950:
To Burbank from Clive E. Murray, Colonel, AGD. Re: Invitation to join all of the Murray brothers in dedicating a memorial to W.H.M. on the campus of Murray State School. Attached: tentative program for the event. March 15.


14 Correspondence of 1952:


15 Correspondence of 1956:

To Burbank from Wauwatosa Y.M.C.A. Re: condolences over William H. Murray’s death. Oct. 16.

To Burbank from J.J. Keyes of the Caterpillar Tractor Co. Re: condolences over William H. Murray’s death. Oct. 16.

To Burbank from Jerry and Virginia. Re: condolences over William H. Murray’s death and notice that he was enrolled in the Cenacle Crusade of Prayer for 30 days. Oct. 17.


To Burbank from Mrs. & Mr. R. Parker Anderson, Sr. (Dixilee’s parents).  Re: sympathy card over William H. Murray’s death.  Oct.

16  **Correspondence of 1962:**

17  **Correspondence of 1970:**
To Burbank and Elsie from Johnston Murray.  Re: congratulations on the new grandson; writing to Helen while she travels through the West; attempt to run for associate judge, and his salary as compared to his gubernatorial salary if elected; Johnston Jr.’s family.  June 17.

18  **Correspondence of 1972:**

To Burbank from Ing. Guillermo P. Salas, Mexico City, Mexico.  Re: invitation to visit in Mexico and talk of the “old times” at Murray state school.  Feb. 28.

19  **Correspondence of 1974:**
To Burbank from Gladys Warren, Chairman-Director, Bicentennial Commission of Oklahoma.  Re: the contribution in memory of Governor Johnston Murray by his secretary, Clarabelle Smith.  April 29.

20  **Correspondence of 1975:**
To Burbank from Lloyd E. Rader, Director of Social and Rehabilitative Services of the State of Oklahoma.

Re: enclosed copy of speech about Governor Johnston Murray.  (See speech, attached.) March 7.

To Burbank from Chairman of the Board of Caterpillar Tractor Co.  Re: best wishes for Burbank’s retirement.  March 14.

21 Correspondence of 1976:


To Alva C. Smith from Carl Albert, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives. Re: the defense Manpower Commission and its recommendations regarding the new all-volunteer army concept, the Selective Service system and other military discussions. April 29.


22 Correspondence of 1983:
To Burbank from Guillermo (Bill) Salas, Mexico City, Mexico. Re: the history of Guillermo since school days at Murray State School with Burbank; comments on the help extended him by the Murrays. Feb. 2.

To Burbank from Priscilla Ester. Re: a genealogical listing of the descendents of Uriah Dow Thomas Murray including Burbank and children, and a typed manuscript of Murrah family history. Feb. 9.

To Burbank from Jack H. Smith. Re: suggestion that Burbank and Bill Salas contact one another and meet at Murray State College at a meeting of its Foundation. March 4.

To Burbank from Priscilla Ester. Re: memories of Burbank’s parents; sorrow at the news of Burbank’s sickness; memories of Grandpa Murray and his stories about participating in the Civil War. April 22.
Typescript by Mary Alice Murray Winn (daughter of Burbank Murray). Re: the full name of Burbank and his accidental discovery of it; the reasons why Governor W.H. Murray changed it. May 24, 1984.

Correspondence: undated:
To Burbank from Johnston. Re: written in Spanish.

To Mary Alice Murray from Juanita Johnston Smith. Re: congratulations on Mary Alice’s birth; reflections on her name; reminisces on the original Mary Alice (Hearrell). Approx. late 1930’s.

To Burbank from Scabbard and Blade National society at Oklahoma A. & M. Re: joining the fraternity.


From William H. Murray. Re: affidavit of descendancy. (Fragment only.) 1950’s.


To Elsie from William H. Murray. Re: God does what “the people” are too stupid to do for themselves.

To Burbank from William H. Murray. Re: handwritten notes on the time of birth of each of William H. and Mary Alice Hearrell Murray’s children. Post-1938.

To Burbank from Jean Murray. Re: invitation to come to a dance honoring Douglas J. Smith and Jean, hosted by Mrs. Murray and Juanita J. Smith. Early 1930’s.

A carbon copy of Murray family genealogy obtained at a Murray family reunion in Tennessee at which Gov. Johnston Murray spoke. Traces family history back to Tom Murray, who served in the Revolutionary War.

To “Folks” from Helen and Johnston. Re: Haljean Blocker Harris; Tobey and his fraternity; politics. Sept. 23, ?


To Burbank from William H. Murray. Illegible.

Booklet: “To the Memory of Mary Alice Hearrell Murray.”
Announcement by Thomas Samuel Biggar of the impending marriage of his daughter to Mr. Burbank Murray on September 4, 1937.

Re: dedication of William H. Murray Memorial in Tishomingo on May 13, 1950. Includes invitation to attend and a program of events.

News clippings re: death of Bill Murray, Jr.

Box 3
Location: Minor Box M-71:
Folder:
1. Sound recording: cassette tape of the funeral of Johnston Murray. A note describing the tape is in folder (probably written by Burbank). The cassette tape has been removed to the Sound Recordings Collection.
10. News clippings: Mary Alice Hearrell Murray.
12. Resolutions passed by the Senate of Oklahoma and the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority upon the death of former Governor Johnston Murray.
14. Programs: Inauguration of Governor Johnston Murray. Also included: correspondence to Massena Murray regarding what to do and where to sit.
15 Biographical sketch (one page) regarding Johnston Murray.

16 Funeral service programs from Johnston Murray’s funeral.

To Helen Murray from M.B. Shook, M.D. (attending physician at the death of Johnston Murray. Re: photocopy of correspondence of the attending physician at Johnston’s death explaining the causes of death. April 23.

“In Memoriam--Johnston Murray.”

17 Letterhead, blank: Willie Murray for Governor.

18 Poster: “Murray Enters Race for Congressman-At-Large.”

Poster: “Murray’s Platform for Governor.”


Photocopy of a map of a section of Japan. (Original has been removed from collection as it is an outsize item).


25 Governor’s name card for Johnston Murray.

Card identifying Johnston Murray as holding the commission of colonel on the staff of the Governor of Kentucky.

Membership card for the Oklahoma Bar Association for Johnston Murray.
Membership card of the McAlester Consistory for Johnston Murray.

Participant card of the National Welfare Fraud Association, Region VI for Johnston Murray.

Classification Notice Card of the Armed Forces, circa World War Two, for Johnston Murray.

26 Miscellaneous content:
Roster of state of county officers elected Nov. 7, 1950.

Postcard of State Capitol of Oklahoma, circa 1940’s.

Program, American Legion (Department of Wisconsin) meeting in Milwaukee featuring General Jonathan M. Wainwright. July 11, 1946.


**Box 4: Books and Pamphlets from the libraries of Governor W. H. Murray and son, Burbank Murray**

*THE CONSTITUTION OF OKLAHOMA* by Henry G. Snyder, B.S., L.L.B., of the Oklahoma City Bar, Published by Pipes Reed Book Company, Kansas City, Missouri, 1908. Hardcover, 521 pages. With copious notes, etc. 2 copies.

A Comprehensive and Popular *HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES*. A full account of the discovery and settlement of the country; the history of each of the colonies until their union as states by Alexander H. Stephens. Gately & Haskell, Baltimore, MD, 1882. Hardcover, 1048 pages.


inside, “To Hon. Wm. H. Murray with considerable regards of the author, Edward Everett Dale, April 2, 1936.”


GRAMATICA CASTELLANA, Pub. 1922.


Box 5: Books and Pamphlets from the libraries of Governor W. H. Murray and son, Burbank Murray

THE RAVEN, a Biography of Sam Houston by Marquis James, illustrated. Pub. The Bobbs-Merrill Company, Indianapolis, 1929. Inscription on the inside of the front cover reads: “To William H. Murray, Governor of Oklahoma. This book - the greatest biography of the decade – is written by an Oklahoma boy and I present a copy to the living counterpart of the central figure. Walter Ferguson, Tulsa, Okla Feb 14-1931.”


POCAHONTAS by Elizabeth Eggleston Seelye, M. A. Donohue & Co, Chicago, copyright 1879 by Dodd, Mead & Company. Hardcover, 310 pages.

THE CHRONICLES OF OKLAHOMA. Published Quarterly by the Oklahoma Historical Society, Vol XX, #1, March, 1942. Vol. XIX, #4, December 1941. Vol. XIX, #4, December, 1941; Vol. XIX, #3, September, 1941; Vol. XV, #1, Section 1, March, 1937; Vol. XVII, #2, June, 1939; Vol. XV, #3, September, 1937


McCURTAIN COUNTY AND SOUTHEAST OKLAHOMA, By W. A. Carter, Idabel, OK 1925. Hardcover, 381 pages.


THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA.

OLD CENTRAL, Oklahoma State University. In the Crisis of 1955. By Berlin Basil Chapman, Ph.D. Inscribed to Gov. Johnston Murray from the author and then from Gov. Murray to his brother, Burbank Murray and inscribed in Spanish.

Pamphlets:
- Alfalfa Bill by William Krohn
- Outlaw Days by Zoe A. Tilghman
- Essay on Forms of Government by W. H. Murray
- East Texas Historical Journal
- In the Supreme Court of the State of Oklahoma, #30465
- Board of County Commissioners of Tulsa County, OK vs Henry S. Johnston & Phil W. Davis, Jr.
- Same, #24,799 The State of Oklahoma, Wm. H. Murray, et. al. vs. Pure Oil Co.
- Speech of Former Governor Henry S. Johnston of Perry, OK before Chicago Democratic National Convention nominating Wm. H. Murray for President of the U.S.
- Same, First Message, 14th Session, 1/3/1933
- Same as above
- Second Message, subject “crime” 14th session, 3/2/1933
- Same as above
- Modest Oklahoma, 1957
- Meador Publications and catalog
- The New York Stock Exchange, history, organization, etc.
- The Divining Rod, History of Water Witching
• General Sessions-New York, August Term, 1808, The Commissioners of the Almshouse vs. Alexander Whistelo (a black man). Bastardy.
• The Hermitage. Home of General Andrew Jackson
• Palestine by W.H. Murray
• Wm. H. Murray Educational Foundation (includes letters regarding what happened to the funds)
• George Washington, A Brief Biography
• Reorganization of the Federal Judiciary, July, 1937
• Along the Washington Irving Trail in Oklahoma, Vol. XXV, #1


On display in the Western History Collections Library: