Francis Griffith Newlands Scrapbooks, 1887-1918



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Introduction

The Francis Griffith Newlands Scrapbook Collection is comprised of more than fifty scrapbooks of mounted clippings from 1887 to 1918 that document the political career of Francis G. Newlands, U.S. representative and senator from Nevada. Known primarily for his commitment to land reclamation, Newlands sponsored the Reclamation Act of 1902, which provided federal funding for irrigation projects in the West that enabled cultivation and settlement of arid lands. Newlands also wrote the Newlands Act of 1913, which dealt with mediation and conciliation of labor controversies. He also worked to establish the Federal Trade Commission and was instrumental in the passage of the Transportation Act of 1920.

The scrapbooks, which contain the most complete and extensive record of Newland's election campaigns and legislative programs, are arranged by topic and concern, including Nevada politics, the Newlands Reclamation Act of 1902, railway legislation, irrigation, inland waterways, flood control, the Interstate Trade Commission, foreign affairs, the tariff, race problems, labor legislation, and the death of Senator Newlands.

This collection provides insight into the history of the American West, environmental history, and the political history of the Progressive Era in the United States.

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