



## THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MISSOURI RESEARCH CENTER-KANSAS CITY

K0072

Albert Isaac Beach (1883-1939) Papers  
1924-1931  
8 cubic feet (300 folders)

*Papers of Kansas City mayor Albert I. Beach who served three terms in office cover the period 1924-1931.*

### BIOGRAPHY:

Albert Isaac Beach was born in Olathe, Kansas, on July 3, 1883. He received his A.B. degree in 1905 from the University of Kansas and his law degree from Washington University in 1907. On December 21, 1907, Beach married Marjorie Marshall.

Beach was elected mayor of Kansas City, Missouri on a reform platform in 1924. He was reelected in 1926 and in 1928. Beach was the first Republican to be elected to the post of mayor in 21 years. His election was, in part, the result of a breach between Tom Prendergast and Joe Shannon. Beach is given partial credit for disrupting the operation of the Prendergast Machine in Kansas City, Missouri.

During the three terms in which Beach was mayor, a city manager form of government was instituted under a new 1925 Charter that eliminated the two-house council. Other occurrences during his tenure included improved budgeting of taxes, the establishment of a City Plan Commission and a Zoning Board, the building of a Municipal Airport, the dedication of the Liberty Memorial, and the nomination of Herbert Hoover for President at the 1928 Republican National Convention held in Kansas City.

Albert I. Beach died on January 21, 1939 at age 55.

### PROVENANCE:

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Specific item; folder number; *Albert Isaac Beach (1883-1939) Papers* (K0072); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-KC].

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#### DESCRIPTION OF THE PAPERS:

This collection contains the mayoral papers of Albert I. Beach. His three terms in office cover the period 1924-1931. While the papers appear to have been organized into two sets of alphabetical files, the sequence has been sufficiently disrupted to merit combining all files into a single alphabetical set. The folder titles were assigned by the city office.

The papers contain information on all areas of city government, including boards, commissions and finance. Departmental and personal correspondence are the bulk of these papers.

#### INVENTORY:

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- Folder 18. Beach--Confidential Correspondence  
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"In the Supreme Court of Missouri, Motion of Appellant Michael  
Pendergast, City Clerk of Kansas City, Missouri, to Advance the  
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"Elimination of Odors from Garbage Disposal Work," by  
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"Preliminary Outline of Procedures of Taking Bids for Garbage  
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"Requirements for Bidders and Instructions to Bidders," no date  
"Report on the Collection and Disposal of Refuse in Kansas City,  
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"27 Annual Report Department Gas and Electricity, City of Chicago," 1923  
"33rd Annual Report of the Department of Finance City of Indianapolis," 1923  
"Budget Facts and Financial Statistics of the City of Minneapolis," 1924  
"Public Lighting Contract...City of Indianapolis," April 1, 1915-April 1925  
"Report on Street Lighting Costs in the Larger Cities of the United States," 1925
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“Nassau Busline, Inc.,” May 2, 1924  
“A Yardstick for Measuring Intercity Buslines,” September 1924  
“Report of the Committee on Unification and Co-ordination of all  
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“Report of the Committee on Trackless Vehicle Operation,”  
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"The Model Dry Cleaning Law," August 13, 1924
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