

Information Sheet

R McAuliffe, Eugene, 1866-1959.
409 Photograph album, ca. 1906-1910.
Two folders.

This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri. If you would like more information, please contact us at shsresearch@umsystem.edu.

This is a photograph album of a mining and railway engineer. The album contains views of the construction of the Panama Canal, ca. 1906-1910, and a tour of the canal by a group from the American Institute of Mining Engineers, 1910. Also included are unidentified photographs, possibly of the Tombigbee River, n.d.

Eugene McAuliffe, a native of Maidstone, England, began his career as a shop apprentice with the Northern Pacific Railway in 1886. He transferred to locomotive service as an engineer in 1908. When he left the Northern Pacific, he was foreman of air brake instruction on the line. McAuliffe went to the Frisco system in 1908 as the chief fuel agent. It was the beginning of a long association with the coal industry. From 1908 to 1917, he was also associated with the Brazil Block Coal Company, and was a founding member of the International Railway Fuel Association. McAuliffe left the railroad industry in 1917 to operate public utilities in Missouri, Michigan, and Wisconsin, and to serve as an officer of the West Kentucky Coal Company, and the Union Colliery Company. In 1918-1920, he was manager of the United States Railroad Administration Fuel Conservation Section. Following World War I, McAuliffe was president of the Union Pacific Coal Company, the Union Pacific Water Company, the Washington Coal Company, and the Southern Wyoming Utilities Company. McAuliffe was the author of *Railway Fuel* (1916), *The Romance and Tragedy of Coal* (1931), and an historical work on George A. Custer and the Battle of Little Big Horn. He was awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Engineering by the Missouri School of Mines and Metallurgy (now UM-Rolla) in 1927. McAuliffe was elected president of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers in 1941. He retired at Omaha, Nebraska, where he lived until his death in 1959.

McAuliffe's photograph album was donated by his daughter through the School of Mines and Metallurgy at UM-Rolla. The album consists of two sections. The first section contains views of construction on the Panama Canal, and a second, smaller section includes views tentatively identified as photographs of the Tombigbee River. The Panama Canal section includes a set of large, captioned photographs and smaller snapshot views. The larger photographs were probably obtained through the Panama Canal Company, while the snapshots were made by McAuliffe during a tour of the Canal Zone sponsored by the American Institute of Mining Engineers in 1910. The tour and its features were described in the *Bulletin* of the American Institute of Mining Engineers, 1910 and 1911. The photographs show scenes of Panama City and Colon, American and French equipment, construction facilities, and excavations in progress at Contractor's Hill, Culebra Cut, and Gatun. There are also views of the American Institute of Mining Engineers touring party, and of their vessel, the S.S. *Prinz August Wilhelm*.

The second section includes views of river scenes, barges and other vessels, locks and docking facilities and coal company operations at riverside. The photographs are undated. They have been tentatively identified by the donor as Tombigbee River scenes.

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15 July 1987

Mrs. Charles C. Tucker

Gift

Shelf List

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American Institute of Mining Engineers, 1910. Also included are unidentified photographs, possibly of the Tombigbee River, n.d.

Folder 1: Panama Canal, ca. 1906-1910 (169 views).

Folder 2: Tombigbee[?] River, n.d. (48 views).

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