

Inventory of the

**Chauncey W. Reed**  
West Chicago, Illinois

Collection

In the

Regional History Center

**RC 67**

## INTRODUCTION

Mrs. Chauncey W. Reed deposited the Chauncey W. Reed Collection with the Northern Illinois Regional History Center on June 13, 1979.

Property rights in the collection are held by Mrs. Reed; literary rights are dedicated to the public. There are no restrictions on access to the collection.

Linear feet of shelf space: 3  
Number of containers: 2 + 7 volumes  
Northern Illinois Regional History Center  
Collection 67

## SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Chauncey Reed collection partially documents the career of Chauncey Reed as State's Attorney for DuPage County, 1920-1935, and as a member of the United States House of Representatives from the 11th Illinois District, 1935-1956. The collection also includes a few record books (1876-1887) from the business of William Reed, Chauncey's father.

The collection does not include any of Reed's congressional papers or correspondence, but it does provide some biographical background in the form of a magazine article, military and death records, genealogical materials, and photographs. There is also information about his political career to be found in the numerous newspaper clippings in Box 1 and the oversize scrapbooks. The last 4 folders in Box 2 are the books from William Reed's business.

No other materials documenting Reed's public life are known to exist, so this collection-although small-is significant to the political history of the region, especially for DuPage County. Researchers using this collection may wish to consult the Dennis J. Collins Collection (RC 5) and the Latham B. Castle Collection (RC 73). Both Collins Castle were contemporaries of Reed and played important roles in the Republican Party and regional politics during the 1930's, 1940's and 1950's.

## HISTORICAL SKETCH

Chauncey U. Reed was born in West Chicago, Illinois on June 2, 1880. His father, William Reed, was a county supervisor for DuPage County, trustee, and last president of the Village of Turner. He was also the first president of the Village of West Chicago and kept West Chicago's first general store.

Chauncey Reed attended Northwestern University, then the Webster College of Law in Chicago where he received the L.L.B. degree in 1915. In 1920 he entered public service as

States Attorney for DuPage County, a posthe held until 1935. Reed married Ella Stegen of Elmhurst, Illinois in 1929 and they had three children: Barbara, James, and Thomas.

In 1935, Reed, running as the Republican Party candidate, won election to the United States House of Representatives for the 11th District of Illinois. In the House he was appointed to the Judiciary Committee and the Committee on Coinage, Weights, and Measures. He died during his eleventh term in office on February 9, 1956.

Reed has been active in a number of organizations including service as President of the Illinois State's Attorney's Association, Secretary of the DuPage County Bar Association, and Commander of the local American legion Post.

#### SUBJECT TRACINGS

DuPage County  
Legislators  
Politics  
Reed, Chauncey W.  
Republican Party  
U.S. Congress  
West Chicago

COLLECTION INVENTORY

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
1	1	Biographical Material
	2	Military Records, 1919
	3	Newspaper Clippings, 1943-1954
	4	Genealogical Material
	5	Memorabilia
	6	Pictorial Directories of Congress, 1944-1945, 1947
	7-8	Speeches, 1938 Campaign
	9	Jefferson Bicentennial, 1943
	10	Lincoln Speech, n.d.
	11	Death, 1956
	12	Maps
	13	C.W. Reed-Memorial Address, 1956
2	1	Photographs, Chauncey Reed biographical ca. 1904-1954 (41, 5 negs.)
	2	Postcards, Presidential Campaign and Kentucky Sights, 1952 (10)
	3	Invitations to White House Parties, 1936-1954 (11)
	4	Metal Negative Picture of Chauncey Reed (1)
	5	Estray Book, 1856-1887
	6	Ledger Book, Voll and Reed, 1876
	7	Cash Book, Voll and Reed and Stark, 1876-1879
	8	Ledger Book, Reed and Stark, 1886
Oversize	7 volumes	Scrapbooks of newspaper clippings and memorabilia, 1922-1956