

## Finding Aid to the Treadwell and Luther Twichell Papers

### **Twichell, Treadwell, 1864-1937 and Luther L, Twichell, 1872-1944**

Treadwell and Luther Twichell Papers, 1884-1945

.8 linear ft.

Collection number: Mss 40

Mss 1596.11

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[Biography](#)

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### **OVERVIEW**

**Access:** The collection is open under the rules and regulations of the Institute.

**Provenance:** Donated by Mrs. Mary Twichell Bignall, 1952 and 1960 (Acc. 40 & 1117).

**Property rights:** The Institute for Regional Studies owns the property rights to this collection.

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**Citation:** [Identification of item]. Treadwell and Luther Twichell Papers, MS 40, Institute for Regional Studies, North Dakota State University, Fargo.

### **BIOGRAPHY**

Treadwell Twichell was born November 19, 1864, at Hastings, Minnesota, the son of Luther L. and Sally (Dance) Twichell. Following his father's death in 1880, Treadwell, at the age of 17, left high school and went to North Dakota to manage his late father's land holdings near Mapleton, North Dakota. Treadwell remained the rest of his life in the farming business. On November 26, 1890, Treadwell married Grace B. Dill of Prescott, Wisconsin, and they had four children.

In 1895 and 1897 Mr. Twichell served in the North Dakota House of Representatives and in 1899, the North Dakota Senate. From 1901 to 1905, Treadwell served as Cass County Sheriff. In 1907, he was again elected to the House of Representatives where he became Speaker. In 1908, Mr. Twichell was nominated for governor at the Progressive Republican Convention but was defeated in the primary election. Mr. Twichell was again elected to the House of Representatives in 1913 and the Senate in 1915. He was known as an advocate of reform legislation and battled aggressively against boss rule in state politics. He was a delegate to the 1912 national Republican convention and a longtime township official. Mr. Twichell is also credited with building the first gravel highway in the state and organizing the first truly cooperative elevator enterprise in the state. Mr. Twichell died on December 24, 1937, at Mapleton, North Dakota, where he is also buried.

Luther Lathrop Twichell was born at Hastings, Minnesota, on September 13, 1872, the son of Luther L. and Sally (Dance) Twichell. The family moved to Minneapolis where Mr. Twichell graduated from high school and the University of Minnesota School of Law. Prior to coming to North Dakota in 1897, Luther had worked part and full time for several Minneapolis newspapers. During his first three years in North Dakota, Mr. Twichell managed the Cass Farm. In 1900, he went to Fargo and began to practice law. In 1912, Mr. Twichell was elected to the North Dakota House of Representatives where he served, except for the 1917 session, continuously until his retirement in 1944. He also served as Speaker in 1921. Mr. Twichell died at his home at Fargo on March 31, 1944, and was buried at Riverside Cemetery at Fargo, North Dakota.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT

The **Treadwell and Luther Twichell Papers** consists of the papers of the brothers, Treadwell and Luther, dealing mainly with their political careers.

The [Treadwell Twichell Papers](#) are composed mainly of newspapers dealing with his political career and have been divided by subject. The **Correspondence Files** contains none of his personal correspondence, but letters of other family members. The political pamphlets file contains campaign tickets and a take-off of Psalm 23, entitled "The Progressive Psalm", among other items. Removed to Mss 1596.11 is a resolution of congratulations to Mr. Twichell for her service as North Dakota House of Representatives Speaker of the House, 1907.

The [Luther Twichell Papers](#) include some correspondence and subject files. The Correspondence Series is two typescript letterpress books concerned mainly with Luther's career as a lawyer, along with some personal family correspondence. The **Subject Files Series** contain newspaper clippings on Mr. Twichell's political career, funeral memorial book, the invitation and speeches at the dedication of the bust of Mr. Twichell by the North Dakota Legislature, and miscellaneous legal documents.

## SEPARATIONS RECORD

The following non-manuscript items were removed from the Treadwell and Luther L. Twichell Papers and have been sent to the section indicated.

### Photographs (Institute Photograph 101)

- 30 Pictures of Luther L. and Treadwell Twichell from youth to adulthood, homes, and Col. Daniel J. Dill in Union Army uniform. (101.4)

### Artifacts (Artifact collection)

- Convention medal for the 1912 Republican National Convention with metal figure the shape of the state of Maine hanging from bottom (from Luther L. Twichell Papers).
- Envelope scrapbook with flowers and "Newspaper Clippings" embroidered on the cover (from Luther L. Twichell Papers).

## BOX AND FOLDER LIST

### Box/Folder      Contents

1/1                  Biographical material, and Finding aid

### Treadwell Twichell Papers

#### Correspondence Series

1/2                  Correspondence, 1885, 1908, 1934, 1941, 1944-45  
 1/3                  Newspaper clippings - Biographical  
 1/4                  Newspaper clippings - Cass County sheriff campaign, 1900  
 1/5                  Newspaper clippings - General (Political)  
 1/6                  Newspaper clippings - Governor candidacy, 1908  
 1/7                  Newspaper clippings - Letters to the editor  
 1/8                  Newspaper clippings - North Dakota House of Representatives  
 1/9                  Newspaper clippings - North Dakota Senate  
 1/10                Political pamphlets  
 1/11                Sheriff's Certificates of Tax Sales and Quit-claim Deeds, 1903-1906  
 Mss 1596.11      Resolution of congratulations from North Dakota House of Representatives, 1907

### Luther L. Twichell Papers

#### Correspondence Series

1/12                General, 1902, 1909  
 1/13                Letterpress book, March 26, 1904 - March 25, 1907  
 2/1                Letterpress book, December 12, 1910 -May24, 1912

### **Subject Files**

- 2/2 Bust dedication, January 17, 1945
- 2/3 Cass County tax statements, 1897-1914
- 2/4 Funeral memorial book and North Dakota House of  
Representatives Joint Memorial Resolution
- 2/5 Newspaper clippings
- 2/6 Quit-claim deeds, warranty deeds, and
- 2/7 Abstracts of Title, 1884-1922