

# Manuscript Collection Inventory

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John Wesley Yantis  
Papers, 1896-1928.

*Organization*

Correspondence  
Financial Papers  
Political Material  
Political and Social Clubs  
Ephemera

**Correspondence**

1897-1908

Form letter invites Yantis to a banquet of the Wm. J. Bryan League, Chicago, Dec. 30, 1897

Form letter invites Yantis to a banquet at the Tremont Hall, Chicago, for the Jan. 8, 1898 Jackson Day celebration of the Wm. J. Bryan League, Jan. 3, 1898

A. B. Herdman (Morrisonville, Ill.) to Yantis, supports Yantis' candidacy for the state senate and details the corrupt past of J. N. C. Shumway, the Democratic state senate candidate in Christian County, Ill., Apr. 15, 1898

L. M. (Levi Monroe) Kagy (Salem, Ill., attorney) to Yantis, congratulates Yantis on his congressional nomination, Aug. 18, 1906

O. B. Dobbins and F. B. Hamill (Champaign County Democratic Central Committee) to Yantis, asks Yantis to deliver a speech in Champaign, Sept. 28, 1906

M. F. Dunlap (Jacksonville, Ill., banker) to Yantis, regards William Jennings Bryan's call for the organization of Democratic clubs throughout Illinois in preparation for the 1908 election [includes *Jacksonville Daily Illinois Courier* clipping "Democrats to Organize Club"], Dec. 12, 1907

N. P. Yantis (nephew and attorney in Woodward, Okla.) to J. W. Yantis, discusses the appointment of new district attorneys in Oklahoma during the upcoming election year; asks his uncle to write a letter to William Jennings Bryan seeking a recommendation to Gov. Charles N. Haskell [includes an extract

of a speech Bryan gave in Alva, Okla., Sept. 6, 1907, in which he spoke highly of the Yantis family], Dec. 27, 1907

J. McCan Davis (Republican candidate for Clerk of the Illinois Supreme Court) to Yantis, asks for the Democrat Yantis' support of his candidacy, Mar. 17, 1908

E. G. Herr (President of the Thiel Detective Service Co., Chicago) to Yantis, encloses the Report of the Proceedings of the Re-Convened Annual Convention of the United Mine Workers of American, at Indianapolis, Mar. 12-20, 1908, Mar. 27, 1908

Form letter from John Lillard (Secretary of Adlai E. Stevenson for Governor campaign) to Yantis, regards the Stevenson campaign, July 28, 1908

P. P. Schaefer (Champaign, Ill., attorney) to Yantis, asks Yantis to distribute Democratic campaign lithographs in Shelby County, July 28, 1908

P. P. Schaefer to Yantis, gives instructions on the dissemination of Democratic campaign lithographs in Shelby County, July 29, 1908

### 1909-13

S. T. Passiter (Treasurer, Mogg Coal Co., Chicago) to Yantis (Secretary, Century Coal Co., Tower Hill, Ill.), regards problems with coal shipments [includes copies of two letters from the Mogg Coal Co. to the Century Coal Co. detailing the shipping problems), Oct. 6, 1909

James A. Rose (Illinois Secretary of State) to Century Coal Co., Printed Notice to Corporation to Make Annual Report, Jan. 15, 1910

Frank L. Smith (Springfield, Ill., I.R.S. Collector) to Yantis, regards the income taxes of Century Coal Co., Mar. 1, 1910

Thos. M. Headen to Clark Dove (Shelbyville, Ill.), regards an undetailed legal claim of the Century Coal Co., Mar. 1, 1911

Frank L. Wean (Chicago Referee in Bankruptcy) to Century Coal Co., regards the Mogg Coal Co.'s bankruptcy filing, Mar. 16, 1911

Frank L. Smith to Century Coal Co., regards Century Coal's failure to pay its income taxes, Sept. 14, 1911

Frank L. Smith to Century Coal Co., informs Century Coal of its delinquent tax status, Oct. 17, 1911

C. O. Ostrom (Auditor) to Yantis, printed notice of premium for clients of the Illinois Coal Operators, Mutual Employers Liability Insurance Co., Nov. 3, 1911

James A. Rose to Century Coal Co., Printed Notice to Corporation to Make Annual Report, Jan. 15, 1912

Fred E. Latch (Shelby County, Ill., State's Attorney) to Yantis, regards Century Coal's failure to submit anti-trust affidavits to the Secretary of State's Office, Feb. 3, 1912

James A. Rose to Yantis, acknowledges receipt of Century Coal's anti-trust affidavits [includes two receipts], Feb. 6, 1912

E. W. Parker (Statistician, Dept. of the Interior, U.S. Geological Survey) to Century Coal Co., regards oversights made on Century Coal's 1911 Report to the Dept. of the Interior [includes a copy of the report], Mar. 14, 1912

Arthur W. Charles and Charles Boeschstein (Democratic State Central Committee) to Yantis, regards campaign fundraising for the 1912 election, Oct. 19, 1912

J. K. D. to M. D. Foster (Washington, D.C.), regards the potential appointment of Yantis as U.S. Marshall, Eastern District of Illinois, May 5, 1913

William Elza Williams (U.S. Rep., Illinois-D) to George [sic] Yantis, recommends steps to take to increase his chances for the U.S. Marshall appointment, May 7, 1913

Charles M. Borchers (U.S. Rep., Illinois-D) to Yantis, recommends that Yantis speak to James Hamilton Lewis about the U.S. Marshall appointment, May 8, 1913

James Hamilton Lewis (U.S. Sen., Illinois-D) to Yantis, acknowledges that Yantis' Marshall application is on file, May 8, 1913

Yantis to William Jennings Bryan, asks for his support in the appointment process, May 9, 1913

Charles W. Bryan (Associate Editor and Publisher, *The Commoner*, Lincoln, Nebr.) to Yantis, asks Yantis to write his Senators and Congressmen in support of the Currency Bill, and encourages him to recommend *Commoner* subscriptions to his friends, Nov. 10, 1913

1914-18

A. D. Stevens (Secretary, Wilson-Bryan Democratic League of Illinois) to Yantis, asks Yantis to select representatives from Shelby County to attend the Wilson-Bryan Democratic Banquet [includes an announcement for the banquet], Jan. 24, 1914

Yantis [?] to William Jennings Bryan, regards Wilson's influence over the Democratic victory in New Jersey and also discusses his dislike of Roger C. Sullivan as a candidate in the Illinois U.S. Senate race, Mar. 2, 1914

Manton W. Wyvell (Private Secretary to William Jennings Bryan) to Yantis, states that he would pass to Bryan Yantis' letter regarding the political situation in Illinois, Mar. 9, 1914

E. R. Sayler to Yantis, regards a phonographic record of Bryan speeches, Mar. 12, 1914

L. M. Kagy to Yantis, discusses an injury to his ankle, Mar. 31, 1914

L. M. Kagy to Yantis, informs Yantis that Bryan has appointed Kagy to the Panama Joint Land Commission, at the Panama Canal, Apr. 25, 1914

Yantis to Kagy, congratulates Kagy on his appointment, Apr. 27, 1914 [1 typed copy and 1 handwritten copy]

J. Greenebaum (Cashier, Greenebaum Sons Bank and Trust Co., Chicago) to Yantis, regards Yantis' interest in an investment savings account [includes a signature card, bank book, and deposit slip], Apr. 29, 1914

Kagy to Yantis, sets up a time to meet before Kagy leaves for Panama and promises to speak to William Jennings Bryan about Yantis' interest in the U.S. Marshall appointment, Apr. 30, 1914

Charles Boeschstein (Chairman, Roger C. Sullivan for U.S. Senator) to Yantis, asks Yantis to become a member of Sullivan's campaign committee, May 29, 1914 [Yantis' undated response is handwritten on the back of the letter. He states that he will not join the Sullivan campaign, because he favors Lawrence Stringer for Senator.]

Manton W. Wyvell (Private Secretary to William Jennings Bryan) to Yantis, lets Yantis know that Bryan read his letter, June 6, 1914

Kagy (Ancon, Canal Zone, Panama) to Yantis, informs Yantis that the U.S. Marshall appointment had been made before Kagy could talk to Bryan; expresses his distaste for life in Panama and explains his reasons for submitting a letter of resignation to President Wilson (hard to work with Panamanians, does not like his colleagues), July 26, 1914

Kagy (Ancon, Canal Zone, Panama) to Yantis, reports that Bryan asked him not to resign his post; discusses the widespread poverty he has witnessed in Panama; and describes how much he misses Illinois and his friends in the Odd Fellows, July 29, 1914

Joseph P. Barricklow (Lawrence Stringer for U.S. Senator campaign) to Yantis, reports that Stringer will likely come out of the primary as the Democratic nominee, but worries that the Republican control of the State Committee will damage his chances of being elected, Sept. 8, 1914

Kagy (Ancon, Canal Zone, Panama) to Yantis, regards charges of mismanagement at the Odd Fellows Home in Mattoon [Yantis was the secretary of the Board for the Home.]; and complains about his Republican colleagues in Panama, Sept. 25, 1914

Fred Kleystenber (Boulder, Ill., farmer) to Yantis, regards hay prices [includes elevator receipts], Nov. 17, 1914

Kagy to Yantis (Ancon, Canal Zone, Panama), informs Yantis that Kagy is trying to secure for him an appointment in Panama; discusses conflicts between Democrats and Republicans in the Canal Zone; and complains about the tyrannical George Washington Goethals, Governor of the Canal Zone [includes lists comparing Republicans' inflated salaries in the Canal Zone to their former salaries as general military personnel], Feb. 23, 1915

Form letter from E. A. Johnston (Chairman, Wilson Club) to Yantis, to express the importance of voting a straight Democratic ticket, Nov. 2, 1916

Printed Circular Letter to Officers, Representatives and Members of the Grand Lodge Ancient Order of United Workmen (A.O.U.W.) of the State of Illinois, to change the dates of its biannual meetings, Dec. 6, 1916

C. P. Hitch (Grand Recorder, A.O.U.W) to Yantis, to postpone a meeting, Dec. 14, 1916

William N. Farmer (Illinois Supreme Court Justice) to Yantis, regards the vacant Federal Eastern District judgeship; Yantis endorsed L. M. Kagy; if Yantis were interested, Farmer would support him for District Clerk, July 19, 1917

J. G. Burnside (Vandalia, Ill., attorney) to Yantis, asks for an endorsement for the vacant judgeship, July 23, 1917

Yantis to Burnside (handwritten copy), regards the interests of several parties in the vacant judgeship; states his preference for Kagy or Burnside, July 26, 1917

Farmer to Yantis, informs Yantis that Judge Whitfield, of Decatur, may be appointed to the Eastern District bench, upsetting many people because Whitfield lives out of the district, Jan. 31, 1918

Harold L. Ickes (Chairman, State Council of Defense Neighborhood Committee, Chicago) to Yantis, informs Yantis that he will resign his post to work for the YMCA in France and England; Ickes thanks Yantis for his efforts in spreading anti-German propaganda, Apr. 20, 1918

### **Financial Papers**

Century Coal Company (Tower Hill, Ill.) Financial Statement, 1909

### **Political Material**

William Jennings Bryan

Speeches, Pamphlets, Newspaper Clippings, Wilson-Bryan League Materials, 1904-ca. 1912

1908 Election

Pamphlets, Fliers, Newspaper Clippings, regarding the following candidates:

H. C. Bell (U.S. Congress, Marshall, Ill.-D)  
 J. McCan Davis (Clerk, Illinois Supreme Court, Springfield-R)  
 Fred B. Hamill (U.S. Congress, Champaign, Ill.-D)  
 Judson Harmon (Governor, Ohio-D)  
 Gov. [Minnesota] John A. Johnson (President-D)  
 John P. McGoorty (Governor, Illinois-D)  
 William B. McKinley (U.S. Congress, Champaign, Ill.-D)  
 Charles J. Mullikin (State Central Committee, Champaign, Ill.-D)  
 John J. Pickering (Clerk, Illinois Supreme Court, Springfield-D)  
 F. Jeff Tossey (State Senator, Toledo, Ill.-D)

Other pamphlets from the 1908 election are housed in the unit's Broadside Collection.

Legislation, Election Results, Speeches

Pamphlets, Newspaper Clippings, regarding Illinois waterways; excise taxes on corporations; Shelby County Democratic primary results, 1910, 1912; the Congressional voting record during the Wilson Administration; Roger C. Sullivan candidacy for U.S. Senate (Illinois-D); and the effects of legislation on business, 1907-28

**Political and Social Clubs**

International Order of Odd Fellows, celebration program, commemorative pin, Cincinnati Regalia Co. Rebekah Booklet, 1896, 1907

Jefferson Club of Chicago, "Officers, Directors, and Standing Committees" pamphlet, 1908

Modern Woodmen of America, *Camp Fire* newsletter, Jan. 1914



**Ephemera**

*The Chateau de Ramezay: An Historical Sketch of One of Montreal's Most Interesting Buildings.* Montreal: Henry Birks & Sons, 1900

Lithia Springs Chautauqua (Lithia, Ill.) program, 1912

Western Funeral Benefit Association, St. Louis, "Something of Interest for Lodges and Societies" pamphlet, ca. 1926