



Smithsonian
National Museum of American History
Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Sam DeVincent Collection
of Illustrated American Sheet Music,
Series 5: Politics and Political Movements

NMAH.AC.0300.S05

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Sam DeVincent Collection of Illustrated American Sheet Music, Series 5: Politics and Political Movements
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0300.S05
Date:	circa 1817-1982
Extent:	19 Boxes
Creator:	DeVincent, Sam, 1918-1997
Language:	English .
Summary:	Sam DeVincent loved music and art and began collecting sheet music with lithographs at an early age. Series 5: Politics and Political Movements contains circa 1,565 pieces of sheet music and song folios documenting the political history of the United States. An overview to the entire DeVincent collection is available here: Sam DeVincent Collection of Illustrated American Sheet Music .
Digital Content:	Image(s): Politics and Political Movements

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

This collection was purchased by the Smithsonian Institution in 1988 from Sam and Nancy Lee DeVincent.

Materials in Other Organizations

[Sam DeVincent Collection of American Sheet Music](#), Lilly Library, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana

This collection contains duplicates of materials in the Smithsonian collection, as well as materials acquired by Mr. DeVincent after the donation to the Smithsonian. The phonograph records described above were transferred to the University of Missouri at Kansas City.

Materials in the Archives Center, National Museum of American History

Donald J. Stubblebine Collection of Musical Theater and Motion Picture Sheet Music and Reference Material, 1843-2010 (AC1211)

Forms Part Of

Series 5: Politics and Political Movements forms part of the [Sam DeVincent Collection of Illustrated American Sheet Music](#) .

An ongoing, updated list of DeVincent topical series is available [via the Smithsonian finding aid portal](#).

Preferred Citation

The Sam DeVincent Collection of Illustrated American Sheet Music, Archives Center, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution

Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

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Scope and Contents

The Politics and Political Movements series contains circa 1,565 pieces of sheet music and song folios documenting the political history of the United States. The two largest subseries by far are Patriotic Music (5.1) and Politicians and Political Figures (5.2). Although some political campaign songs are in 5.3, most of this material is placed in 5.2 under the name of the individual politician.

Although the several subseries devoted to specific political movements are much smaller than the first two subseries, there are some impressive sections here as well. The Ku Klux Klan material evidences that organization's popularity in the midwest and west during the 1920s and its preoccupation with the dangers of immigrants and new European political ideologies. There is also a sizable gathering of prohibition and temperance materials. The prohibition songs offer both pro and con arguments about "voting dry."

The material dates from circa 1817 to 1982. Most pre-1840 imprints are not dated. Estimates have been made for the dates of many early imprints by checking publisher and address of the publisher in the "Index of Publishers, Engravers and Printers" in volume III of Richard Wolfe's *Secular Music in America 1801-1825: A Bibliography* and in Harry Dichter and Elliott Shapiro's *Handbook of Early American Sheet Music, 1768-1889*.

The Ephemera file, arranged in the same subseries as the sheet music, is described on page 13. The Politics and Political Movements ephemera file is placed in one document box and numbered with the same series and subseries numbers as the sheet music.

The seven subseries in the Politics and Political Movements series are arranged with the two major subseries placed first and the subseries on various political movements following in alphabetical order.

Arrangement

Arranged in 8 subseries.

- 5.1: Patriotic Music
- 5.2: Politicians and Political Figures

- 5.3: Politics and Political Parties
- 5.4: Klu Klux Klan
- 5.5: Prohibition and Temperance
- 5.6: Trade Union
- 5.7: Women's Rights
- 5.8: Ephemera

Container Listing

Subseries 5.1: Patriotic Music, circa 1818-1980

Box 1, Folder A	Patriotic Music, Early Imprints, circa 1841-1861
Box 1, Folder B	Patriotic Music, A - D, circa 1888-1980
Box 1, Folder C	Patriotic Music, F - L, circa 1888-1980
Box 1, Folder D	Patriotic Music, M - P, circa 1888-1980
Box 2, Folder R-Z	Patriotic Music, R - Z, circa 1888-1980 The folders include some songs about the armed forces. (Approximately 128 items)
Box 2, Folder F	America ["My Country 'Tis of Thee"], 1890-1941
Box 2, Folder G	America the Beautiful, circa 1937-1976
Box 2, Folder H	Columbia the Gem of the Ocean, 1843-1861
Box 2, Folder I	Hail Columbia, circa 1818-1950 Ten of the sheets are pre-Civil War editions. (14 items)
Box 2, Folder J	Maryland, My Maryland, circa 1864-1890 See also series 2, box 34, folders J and L. (2 items)
Box 2, Folder K	Star Spangled Banner, circa 1840-1968 About 12 of the sheets are early editions. Many date from the beginning of the Civil War and the early years of World War II. Both instrumental and vocal arrangements. The sheets are placed in approximate chronological order. (41 items)
Box 3, Folder L	Yankee Doodle, early imprints, circa 1825-1861 Most of the sheets are theme and variation arrangements for the piano. (24 items)
Box 3, Folder M	Yankee Doodle, circa 1905-1976 Includes one orchestration with part sheets. (11 items)
Box 3, Folder O	Folios of Patriotic Songs, large,, circa 1900-1976 <i>9 Items</i>
Box 4, Folder P	Folios of Patriotic Songs, small,, circa 1894-1942

12 Items

- Box 4, Folder Q Colonial Period, Early Imprints, circa 1820-1844
Songs about colonial America, includes many songs about pilgrims and puritans.
Illustrated lithographic covers. (8 items)
- Box 4, Folder R Colonial Period, 1885-1921
26 Items
- Box 4, Folder S Fourth of July, 1891-1980
8 Items
- Box 4, Folder T Fourth of July/Centennial Celebration,, 1876-1908
5 Items
- Box 4, Folder U Fourth of July/Bicentennial Celebration,, 1975-1976
10 Items
- Box 4, Folder V Revolution, United States, 1903-1975
14 Items
- Box 5, Folder W Uncle Sam, A - H, circa 1850-1976
- Box 5, Folder X Uncle Sam, I- N, circa 1850-1976
- Box 5, Folder Y Uncle Sam, O - T, circa 1850-1976
- Box 5, Folder Z Uncle Sam, U, circa 1850-1976
- Box 6, Folder AA Uncle Sam or cover illustrations that feature him, U - Z
Songs about Uncle Sam or cover illustrations that feature him. Many of the
songs date from World War I and World War II. (circa 170 items)
- Box 6, Folder BB Uncle Sam Covers, photocopies, circa 1915-1920
Most are World War I items; two use a baseball theme. (6 items)
- Box 6, Folder CC United States Flag, A - H, 1849-1976
- Box 6, Folder DD United States Flag, I-P
- Box 6, Folder EE United States Flag, R-Z
Only one early imprint; most date from the 1890s to the 1940s. See folders A
and K for early imprints about the flag. Songs are about the flag or have cover
illustrations featuring the flag. Betsy Ross appears in several songs. Other topics

include: the Pledge of Allegiance, anti-communism, America first, World War II.
(circa 110 items)

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Subseries 5.2: Politicians and Political Figures, circa 1817-1982

- Box 7, Folder A Adams, John Quincy, circa 1825-1862
- Box 7, Folder B Arthur, Chester Alan, 1879
- Box 7, Folder C Blaine, James Gillespie, 1884-1897
- Box 7, Folder D Bryan, William Jennings, 1896-1925
Songs from various campaigns, memorial songs, and one Democratic campaign song folio of 1900. (13 items)
- Box 7, Folder E Carter, Jimmy, 1976-1980
- Box 7, Folder F Clay, Henry, 1834-1847
See also folder G in subseries 5.3. (10 items)
- Box 7, Folder G Cleveland, Grover, 1884-1967
Only one song dates after 1895. Includes songs about his wife and children and one about vice-presidential candidate Allen G. Thurman. (18 items)
- Box 7, Folder H Coolidge, Calvin, 1923-1927
One of the campaign songs is orchestrated. (7 items)
- Box 7, Folder I Davis, John W., 1924
- Box 7, Folder J Dewey, Thomas E., 1944-1951
- Box 7, Folder K Eisenhower, Dwight D., 1945-1969
Most of the songs are from his presidential campaigns. (27 items)

I Like Ike [sheet music], 1952
1 Item (12" x 9").

[Image\(s\): I Like Ike \[sheet music\].](#)

Berlin, Irving, 1888-1989, Composer
English.

Words and music by Irving Berlin. Image of Dwight Eisenhower on cover; photographer unidentified. Black-and-white image, printed in blue, with decorative flourishes in red and blue.

Unrestricted research use on site by appointment. Photographs must be handled with cotton gloves unless protected by sleeves.

Ink on paper.

Local Numbers

03030046.tif (AC Scan of cover).

In Series 5, Box 7, Folder K.

Names: Eisenhower, Dwight D. (Dwight David), 1890-1969
Topic: Campaign songs
Politicians
Genre/
Form: Sheet music -- 1950-1960

Box 8, Folder L	L -- Everett, Edward, 1859-1865
Box 8, Folder M	Fillmore, Millard, circa 1850-1861
Box 8, Folder N	Ford, Gerald R., 1974
Box 8, Folder O	Fremont, John Charles, 1856
Box 8, Folder P	Fritchie, Barbara, 1874-1899 Fritchie (1766-1862) was the woman who declared to invading Southern troops "shoot if you must this old gray head, but spare your country's flag." (2 items)
Box 8, Folder Q	Garfield, James A., 1880-1965 Only one composition dates after 1885. Includes many funeral marches. (19 items)
Box 8, Folder R	Grant, Ulysses S., 1862-1936 In addition to presidential and funeral material, there are also some civil war items including one song folio of civil war songs. See also Armed Forces Series 2.2 X. (33 items)
Box 8, Folder S	Greeley, Horace, 1872
Box 8, Folder T	Harding, Warren G., 1920-1923
Box 8, Folder U	Harrison, Benjamin, 1888-1967 Only one composition dates after 1892. (6 items)
Box 9, Folder V	Harrison, William Henry, 1840-1882 Whig campaign songs, many editions of "Prize Banner Quick Step," quadrilles with dance indications. (18 items)
Box 9, Folder W	Hayes, Rutherford Birchard, 1876

Box 9, Folder X	Hoover, Herbert, 1918-1932
Box 9, Folder Y	Jackson, Andrew, 1828-1925 All, but one item, date from 1828-1835. (5 items)
Box 9, Folder Z	Johnson, Andrew, 1866
Box 9, Folder AA	Johnson, Lyndon B., 1864-1866
Box 9, Folder BB	Kennedy, John F., 1860-1869 Many of these pieces were mailed directly to DeVincent by the composers; see the correspondence in the ephemera file. There are also songs about wife Jackie Kennedy, one folio of whimsical settings of his inaugural address, one orchestration. (42 items)
Box 10, Folder CC	Landon, Alfred, 1936
Box 10, Folder DD	Lincoln, Abraham / Pre-1870 Imprints, circa 1860-1869 Includes Civil War items, one on Col. Ellsworth, Stephen Douglas, and some seemingly unrelated songs. These last songs are listed as favorites of Lincoln's in Songs Lincoln Loved (folder EE). (26 items)
Box 10, Folder EE	Lincoln, Abraham / Post-1870 Imprints, 1875-1982
Box 10, Folder FF	Lincoln Song Folios, circa 1905-1954
Box 11, Folder GG	Madison, Dolley, 1906-1911
Box 11, Folder HH	McClellan, George Brinton, 1862-1864
Box 11, Folder II	McKinley, William, 1896-1907
Box 11, Folder JJ	Monroe, James, circa 1817-1896 The 1817 sheet is "Mary's Tears" as sung to the President of the United States. (2 items)
Box 11, Folder KK	Nixon, Richard M., 1960-1976
Box 11, Folder LL	Reagan, Ronald, 1931-1981 Includes three items from his 1930s-1940s movie career. (12 items) Hello Ronnie, Good-Bye Jimmy [sheet music], 1980

1 Item (Ink on paper.; 11" x 8.5".)

Image(s): [Hello Ronnie, Good-Bye Jimmy \[sheet music\]](#).

Tanassy, Cornel, Composer

Silvers, Herman "Doc", Composer

English.

Words & Music by Herman "Doc" Silvers & Cornel Tanassy. Sheet music cover (reproduction of photograph) of Ronald Reagan; photographer unidentified.

Local Numbers

04030025.tif (AC Scan of sheet music cover illustration)

In Series 5, Box 11, Folder LL.

Names: Carter, Jimmy, 1924-
Reagan, Ronald

Topic: Presidential campaigns

Genre/ Photographs -- Reproductions

Form: Sheet music -- 1980-1990

Box 11, Folder MM	Roosevelt, Franklin D., A - H, circa 1932-1965
Box 11, Folder NN	Roosevelt, Franklin D., I-Z, circa 1932-1965 Almost all of the items date from the 1930s to 1940s. (circa 90 items)
Box 12, Folder OO	Roosevelt, Theodore, A-P, 1898-1957
Box 12, Folder PP	Roosevelt, Theodore, R - Z, 1898-1957 Very few items are dated later than 1919. (circa 75 items)
Box 12, Folder QQ	Seymour, Horatio, 1868
Box 13, Folder RR	Smith, Alfred Emanuel, 1928 Includes many editions of Sidewalks of New York. (12 items)
Box 13, Folder SS	Taft, William H., 1906-1912
Box 13, Folder TT	Taylor, Zachary, 1846-1858 Most of the pieces are about General Taylor in the Mexican War. See also series 2. (13 items)
Box 13, Folder UU	Truman, Harry S., 1921-1975
Box 13, Folder W	Tyler, John, 1896
Box 13, Folder WW	Washington, George / Early Imprints, circa 1830-1863

Includes one Confederate imprint. A later edition of Washington's March is in folder XX. (16 items)

- Box 13, Folder XX Washington, George/Post-Civil War Imprints, A-F, 1876-1982
- Box 14, Folder YY Washington, George/Post Civil War Imprints, G-Z, 1876-1982
- Box 14, Folder ZZ Webster, Daniel, circa 1835-1917
Several editions of Webster's Quick Step, two 1840s collections of quick steps. (14 items)
- Box 14, Folder AAA Willkie, Wendell L., 1940
- Box 14, Folder BBB Wilson, Woodrow, A-T, 1912-1926
- Box 14, Folder CCC Wilson, Woodrow, W-Z, 1912-1926
- Box 15, Folder DDD Presidents, 1917-1968
Songs about the presidency or about many presidents. Fictional campaign songs (for example: Santa Claus for President). Songs about the White House. (22 items)
- Box 15, Folder EEE B.M.I. 1960 Presidential Package, 1960
Packet of material for use in radio or television broadcasting. Contains reprints of presidential sheet music from the past, photo prints, and scripts. (1 item)
- Box 15, Folder FFF Hail to the Chief, circa 1817-1835
The march and chorus from "Lady of the Lake," a show from 1812 by Sanderson. (3 items)
- Box 15, Folder GGG Politicians (no Presidents), A-G, circa 1825-1970
- Box 15, Folder HHH Politicians (no Presidents), H - Z, circa 1825-1970
Campaign songs and marches, pieces dedicated to or about various senators, congressmen, governors, mayors, and other officials. (62 items)

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Subseries 5.3: Politics and Political Parties, circa 1825-1970

- Box 16, Folder A Politics, circa 1825-1970
General songs about elections, voting, the Constitution, the United Nations, and one piece in honor of independent Haiti. (20 items)
- Box 16, Folder B Democratic Party, 1825-1964
- Box 16, Folder C Native American Party (Know-Nothings), circa 1856

- Box 16, Folder D People's Party (Populist), 1891
- Box 16, Folder E Progressive Party (Bull Moose), 1912
- Box 16, Folder F Republican Party, 1880-1952
- Box 16, Folder G Whig Party, circa 1840-1841

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Subseries 5.4: Klu Klux Klan, 1913-1928

- Box 16, Folder A Ku Klux Klan, 1913-1928
These sheets are from small publishing firms mostly in the Midwest and the west. Most date from 1923-1924. (20 items)
- Box 16, Folder B Ku Klux Klan (photocopies only), 1922-1924

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Subseries 5.5: Prohibition and Temperance, 1840-1934

- Box 17, Folder A Temperance Songs from the 19th Century, A-F, circa 1840-1896
- Box 17, Folder B Temperance Songs from the 19th Century, G-Z, circa 1840-1896
Most of the songs date between 1860-1880. There are two songs by Mrs. E.A. (Susan) Parkhurst and several editions of Henry Clay Work's "Come Home Father." Many of the songs are about "father" and are related to the story of the temperance drama "Ten Nights in a Barroom." (32 items)
- Box 17, Folder C Prohibition and Temperance, 20th Century, A-O, circa 1900-1934
- Box 17, Folder D Prohibition and Temperance, 20th Century, P-Z, circa 1900-1934
Most of the songs are about Prohibition, both pro and con. "Dry campaigns," bootlegging, repeal of prohibition, closing of barrooms, etc. are all topics. General songs about alcohol have not been included here but can be found elsewhere in the DeVincent Collection. (80 items)
- Box 18, Folder E Prohibition and Temperance Folio, circa 1866-1933
Small booklets of Temperance songs except one 1933 booklet of drinking, college, and general get-together songs published upon the occasion of the repeal of Prohibition. (7 items)
- Box 18, Folder F Sunday Blue Laws, 1921

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Subseries 5.6: Trade Union, 1877-1977

Box 18, Folder A Trade Unions, 1877-1977
Most of the items date between 1890-1920. General songs about working and about occupations have not been placed in Series 5 but can be found elsewhere in the collection. (19 items)

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Subseries 5.7: Women's Rights, 1851-1970

Box 18, Folder A Women's Rights, 1909-1970
Most of the items are about voting rights and date from the early 20th century. The collection also has many songs about women and music written by women; these items are not in Series 5. (6 items)

Box 18, Folder B Women's Rights (photocopies only), 1853-1916

Box 18, Folder C Bloomer Costume, 1851-1944
Most of the sheets date from 1851 and have lithographed covers showing women in bloomer costumes. See also the bicycle material in series 1:1.3 A-D. (9 items)

Box 18, Folder D Hairstyles--Bobbed Hair, 1921-1925

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Subseries 5.8: Ephemera, 1866-1987

Box E15, Folder 1 Patriotic Music, Notes written by Sam DeVincent.
21 Items

Box E15, Folder 2 Patriotic Music, Music-related ephemera, correspondence from a collector, recording company, notes on song history, sheet music list, news clippings, one poster., circa 1935-1980
13 Items

Box E15, Folder 3 Patriotic Music, non-music patriotic ephemera, booklets on the U.S. flag, place mat, news clippings, color print of the signing of the declaration of independence. (11 items), circa 1935-1975

Box E15, Folder 4 Patriotic Music, Bicentennial, county fair 4-H ribbon, bicentennial news release, church worship bulletin, a certificate of appreciation (to DeVincent from local Bicentennial Commission)., circa 1976
5 Items

Box E15, Folder 5 Patriotic Music, Uncle Sam, an Uncle Sam practice poster, see also references, correspondence, 1888 issue of Texas Siftings., 1888-1976
5 Items

Box E15, Folder 6 Politics and Political Figures, other references are in folders by name.

16 Items

- Box E15, Folder 7 Politics and Political Figures, Sheet music lists
4 Items
- Box E15, Folder 8 Politics and Political Figures, correspondence, circa 1939-1981
- Box E15, Folder 9 Politics and Political Figures, Carter, Jimmy, correspondence and promotional material from musicians, publishers and recording companies, wire service printouts, news clippings, press release, one "see also" reference., circa 1977-1978
16 Items
- Box E15, Folder 10 Politics and Political Figures, Kennedy, John F., correspondence from composers and publishers, a Western Union telegram portrait of Kennedy, sheet music list, a "see also" reference, radio play cards, programs, lyrics, one photograph (of a JFK song composer)., circa 1961-1969
17 Items
- Box E15, Folder 11 Politics and Political Figures, Lincoln, Abraham, correspondence, sheet music lists, articles on Lincoln music, "see also" references, photographs of sheet music covers, advertising matter, one poster, souvenir facsimile of the Gettysburg Address, program from 1957 Lincoln Day Seminar (guest speaker-- Joseph R. McCarthy), many booklets on life of Lincoln, color portrait., circa 1934-1986
21 Items
- Box E15, Folder 12 Politics and Political Figures, Nixon, Richard and Watergate, "see also" references, promotional material from recording companies, a play dollar, photocopies of 45 rpm recordings of Watergate songs, advertising matter, news clippings, a vinyl Watergate confidential file holder., circa 1969-1974
21 Items
- Box E15, Folder 13 Politics and Political Figures, Roosevelt, Theodore, color portrait of Roosevelt, one 'see also' reference., circa 1904
2 Items
- Box E15, Folder 14 Politics and Political Figures, Washington, George, correspondence, magazine clippings, list of Washington recordings, 'see also' reference, booklet, map., circa 1931-1980
6 Items
- Box E15, Folder 15 Politics and Political Figures, Reagan, Ronald, circa 1966-1981
12 Items
"see also" references, National Sheet Music Society Newsletter on Reagan sheet music, news clippings, correspondence from Apex Music, wire service printout, bumper sticker, promotional material, Re-Run with Ronnie (1966).
- Box E15, Folder 16 Politics and Political Figures, Presidents and other politicians, circa 1923-1981

22 Items

news and magazine clippings, 'see also' references, two National Sheet Music Society newsletters, a program/booklet on show How to Steal an Election (1968), promotional and advertising matter, color portrait of Eisenhower, memorial program for Harding, place mats depicting the presidents, advertisement with endorsement from Mayor Jimmy Walker of NYC, Hoover campaign card.

Box E15, Folder 17

Politics and Political Parties, circa 1965-1968

7 Items

"see also" reference, promotional material from publishers and record companies, photocopy of a sheet music cover, booklet--Banners, Buttons and Songs: A Pictorial Review and Capsule Almanac of America's Presidential Campaigns (1968).

Box E15, Folder 18

Klu Klux Klan, circa 1942-1987

8 Items

"see also" reference, sheet music lists, news and magazine clippings, The Cross and the Flag--Nov. 1961 issue.

Box E15, Folder 19

Prohibition and Temperance, a Family Temperance Pledge, signed by four people., circa 1866

1 Item

Box E15, Folder 20

Trade Unions, 1961-1984

6 Items

one "see also reference. Material on American Federation of Musicians: booklet, news clippings from the union paper.

Box E15, Folder 21

Women's Rights, circa 1929-1980

4 Items

"See also" reference, program for the Women's Benefit Association (1929), booklet on women by Pope Pius XII (1945), news clipping.

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