

Missouri State Archives

Finding Aid 3.36

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SAMUEL AARON BAKER, 1925-1929

Abstract: Records (1925) of Governor Samuel Aaron Baker (1874-1933) include a single concurrent resolution and supporting certifications.

Extent: 1 folder

Physical Description: Paper

Location: MSA stacks

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Access Restrictions: No special restrictions.

Publication Restrictions: Copyright is in the public domain.

Required Citation: [Item description], [date]; Samuel Aaron Baker, 1925-1929, Record Group 3.36; Missouri State Archives, Jefferson City.

Processing Information: Processing completed by Sharon E. Brock on August 14, 2014.

HISTORICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Samuel Aaron Baker was born on November 7, 1874 in Patterson, Wayne County to Mary Amanda McGhee Baker. His father, Samuel Aaron Baker was a physician who died before Baker's birth. Baker contributed to the family coffers on a full time basis and attended Mill Spring school periodically. He worked his way through Southeast Missouri State Teachers College in Cape Girardeau and in 1887 earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Pedagogy (Education). He later earned another Bachelors degree from Missouri Wesleyan College in Cameron, Clinton County. On June 1, 1904, Baker married Nelle Rose Tuckley in Jefferson City, Cole County. The couple had one daughter.

Baker's career in educational administration began in 1897 when he was appointed superintendent of public schools in Piedmont, Wayne County. He also served as principal at Jefferson City High School (1899-1905) and Joplin High School (1905-1910) and was superintendent of Richmond, Cay County public schools from 1910 to 1913. Baker returned to Jefferson City in 1913 as superintendent of schools. He served as Missouri Superintendent of Schools from 1918 to 1922.

Baker gained the Republican nomination for governor in 1924 and defeated Arthur W. Nelson. He was sworn in as Missouri's 36th governor on January 12, 1925. During the first year of his administration, the State Board of Agriculture was given control over the department of forestry and the state park system was expanded. In 1926, Missouri voters approved the workmen's compensation referendum. The departments of labor and industrial inspection were combined in 1927, the crippled children service began at the University of Missouri hospital in Columbia, the state board of chiropractic examiners was established, and the native bluebird was adopted as the state bird.

On January 14, 1929, Baker returned to private life in Jefferson City. He served as president of the Missouri State Teachers Association and vice president of the National Education Association. Baker suffered a series of paralytic strokes from which he died on September 16, 1933 in Jefferson City. He is interred in Riverview Cemetery, Jefferson City, Missouri.

ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION

Bibliography

Carnahan, Jean. *If Walls Could Talk: the Story of Missouri's First Families* (Jefferson City, Mo.: Missouri Mansion Preservation, Incorporated, 1995), pp. 190-197.

Christensen, Lawrence O., et al. *Dictionary of Missouri Biography* (Columbia, Mo.: University of Missouri Press, 1999), pp. 25-26.

National Governor's Association, Governor's Information—Samuel Aaron Baker (online) <http://www.nga.org>

Shoemaker, Floyd Calvin. *Missouri and Missourians: Land of Contrasts and People of Achievements* (Chicago, Ill.: Lewis Publishing Company, 1943), volume II, pp. 318-332.

RECORDS, 1925

Extent: One folder

Arrangement: Chronological

Scope and Content

The collections includes a single resolution requesting the state of Illinois pay their share of maintenance of the Municipal Bridge across the Mississippi River linking St. Louis and East St. Louis and supporting certifications.

Container List

Location	Box	Folder	Date	Contents
1B/1/5	1	7	January 26, 1925	R. E. L. Marrs, Jefferson City, Cole County; certification that document is a true copy
1B/1/5	1	7	January 27, 1925	Samuel Aaron Baker, Jefferson City, Cole County; certification that document is a true copy
1B/1/5	1	7	January 27, 1925	Concurrent resolution from the Missouri General Assembly to the Illinois General Assembly, Springfield, Illinois