

- 31 Velde, Harold Himmel (1910-85), Collection, 1901-1965
10.5 linear shelf feet

CONTRACT

The Harold Himmel Velde collection consists of six groups of material: subject files, photographs, scrapbooks, bound volumes, audio-visual items, and memorabilia. Each group is described individually in the finding aid. The majority of the collection dates from 1943 through 1956.

The subject files (f.1-f.215), largest of the six divisions, contain material accumulated by Velde, his congressional staff, and members of his family. Subject matter is varied, but much of the collection pertains to Velde's chairmanship of the House Un-American Activities Committee, 1953-54. Other subjects include campaigns, public statements, personal and family papers, clippings, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The case files of the Velde and Prettyman law firm (f.183-f.202) dealing with the collection of delinquent accounts are restricted. The subject files are arranged alphabetically by subject.

The photograph section (f.216-f.233) consists primarily of photographs of Velde's years in Congress. The section is arranged chronologically. Undated photographs are divided into subjects.

The scrapbooks division consists of twelve volumes of clippings, apparently compiled by Velde's congressional staff, pertaining to Velde's years as a Congressman.

There are six books in the bound volume section concerning miscellaneous topics.

The audio-visual section consists of two non-professional, family films* and ~~fifteen~~ ^{seventeen} record albums. Labels indicate the following subjects: interviews with Velde, campaign spots, and miscellany.

* a professionally made film titled "A Day With Your Congressman"

The memorabilia section consists of nine items.

The fragmentary nature of the Velde collection resulted from extensive weeding prior to the time it reached The Center. According to the donor, high school students discarded all moldy and damaged documents several years before transfer to the repository.

Harold Himmel Velde: A Biographical Outline

April 1, 1910	Born on a farm near Parkland, Illinois
1927-1929	Attended Bradley University, Peoria, Illinois
1929-1931	Completed college at Northwestern University
1931	Married Olive Pfander
1931-1935	Taught school and coached athletics at Hillsdale Community High School, Hillsdale, Illinois
1937	Obtained law degree from University of Illinois College of Law
1937-1942	Associated with Pekin law firm of Velde and Prettyman
1942	August, enlisted in U.S. Army Signal Corps December, honorably discharged for "the convenience of the government."
1942-1945	Served as a special agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the Sabotage and Counter-espionage Division. Received Certificate of War Service.
1945-1946	Re-affiliated with Velde and Prettyman
1946-1949	Elected and served as Tazewell County Judge
1949-1957	Served as U.S Representative for 18th Congressional district of Illinois. Served on the House Committee on Education and Labor and the House Un-American Activities Committee. Chairman of the House Un-American Activities Committee in 83rd Congress, 1953-54
1952	Olive Pfander Velde died
1954	Married his secretary, Delores Anderson
1957-1965	Private practice of law; associated with various firms, including one in Washington, D.C.
1965-1970	Owned and operated an industrial catering service, Taste and Tell Caterers, Inc., in Chicago and suburbs
1969	Appointed Regional Counsel for Region Five in the General Service Administration. Involved handling legal work dealing with the responsibilities of the G.S.A. in its Federal management capacity and supervising a staff of attorneys.
1975	Retired

Sept. 1985

Died

- 31 Velde, Harold Himmel (1910-), Collection, 1901-65
Subject Files, 1901-65
215 folders

<u>Folder No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
1-12	Campaigns (1946-54). News clippings, brochures, flyers, lists of volunteers and precinct captains, correspondence regarding newspaper and other advertising, receipts for campaign expenses, certificates of election, letters of congratulation and replies to them, petitions for candidacy. Velde campaigned in 1946 for a Tazewell County judgeship; his 1948, 1950, 1952, and 1954 campaigns were for the U.S. House of Representatives.
13	Campaigns. Contributions (1948-54). Lists of contributors and contributions to Velde's congressional campaigns. Arranged by date of gift within each year.
14	Campaigns. Expenditures (1950-54). List of campaign expenses, many undated.
15	Campaigns. Returns (1948-54). Lists of primary and general election returns between 1948-54, comparing Velde's votes with those of his opponents at the precinct level. Arranged by county and township.
16	Certificates (1940-56). Certificates presented to Velde: undated, from the Albanian American Orthodox Episcopacy; July 19, 1940, bestowing position of Notary Public (oversize); ca. 1945, Certificate of Honorable War Service from the F.B.I.; June 6, 1946, from the Illinois State Bar Association for war service; January 9, 1947, from the Britannica Library Research Service; June 3, 1949, Congressional Varsity Award for participation in the Annual Baseball Game Between the Republicans and Democrats (oversize); May 15, 1950, same (oversize); June 1, 1951, membership in the Trans World Airlines Ambassadors Club; July 21, 1954, from the Government Employees Council of the American Federation of Labor (oversize); September 1, 1954, from the Fight Communism Committee (oversize); September 30, 1954, from the National Association of Retired Civil Employees; March 7, 1956, admission as an Attorney and Counsellor of the Supreme Court of the United States (oversize).
17-45	Clippings. (1927-57). Newspaper clippings concerning Harold Velde or topics of interest to him. The clippings were probably collected by his mother, Laura Velde. Most are undated. They have been sorted into years but are in no order within the year. Duplicates of many of the clippings may be found in Velde's scrapbooks.

<u>Folder No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
46-47	"Congressional Scrapbook" (1949-52). Selections from Velde's newspaper column, "Congressional Scrapbook." The column appeared in papers in Velde's congressional district. The scrapbooks also contain many of these columns.
48-53	Education and Labor Committee (1955-56). A notebook titled "Summaries of Bills and Resolutions Referred to the Committee on Education and Labor" for the 84th Congress.
54-58	Federal Bureau of Investigation (ca. 1942). Very detailed handwritten notes, apparently written during Velde's F.B.I. academy training. A table of contents lists the topics discussed.
59-60	Financial Accounts (1940-55). Income tax returns, receipts from personal property and real estate taxes, insurance information, rental information, various receipts, bills, and credit accounts.
61-73	Financial Accounts. Checks (1939-52). Cancelled checks, check stubs, and bank statements. The bulk of these date from 1939 through 1947.
74	First Methodist Church (n.d.). Proposals to finance the building of a new First Methodist Church in Pekin, probably in the late 1940's.
75	Ford Motor Company (1949-54). Material concerning Velde's personal automobiles.
76	Guestbook (1949-55). Guestbook for visitors to Velde's office.
77	House Un-American Activities Committee. Colleges and Universities (1951). Staff memoranda concerning alleged subversive activities at the University of Chicago, Roosevelt College, Northwestern University, and the University of Illinois.
78-80	House Un-American Activities Committee. Committee Publications (1953). Committee publications: <u>Investigation of Communist Activities in the Los Angeles Area-Part I</u> ; <u>Communist Methods of Infiltration (Government-Labor, Part 2)</u> ; <u>Organized Communism in the United States</u> .
81-108	House Un-American Activities Committee. Correspondence (1952-56). Correspondence from a variety of sources concerning the House Un-American Activities Committee, primarily in 1953. There are also memoranda on certain topics and individuals and some pamphlets. Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent.

<u>Folder No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
109-111	House Un-American Activities Committee. General (1948-56). Testimony of Harold J. Zindle before a Senate committee (1948); membership card in the House Un-American Activities Committee (1953-54); <u>Congressional Record</u> excerpt by Francis Walter concerning immigration (1953); a Princeton college course paper describing the House Un-American Activities Committee (1954); legislative recommendations (1954, 1956); reports by the Select Committee to study censure charges against Senator Joe McCarthy (1954); a bill to adjust some federal salaries (1955).
112	House Un-American Activities Committee. Lewis, Fulton, Jr. (1953-56). Transcript of a Fulton Lewis, Jr., broadcast dealing with a foreign policy resolution; memorandum concerning a book by Lewis.
113	House Un-American Activities Committee. Library of Congress (n.d.). Information compiled about the history of the House Un-American Activities Committee by the Legislative Reference Service of the Library of Congress: "Membership of Special Committee to Investigate Communist Propaganda in the United States"; "Remarks in Congressional Record Concerning Number of Committees Appointed by the House of Representatives to Investigate Communistic Propaganda"; "Legislative History of the House Special Committee to Investigate Un-American Activities"; "Comparison of Communist and Socialist Platforms With 'New Deal' Legislation"; "Origin, Duration, and Chairmen of the House Committees on Un-American Activities"; "References to Articles and Remarks Relative to the Dies Committee"; "Citations in Congressional Record to Debates on the Dies Committee"; "Selected References of Communist Strategy in the United States".
114-116	House Un-American Activities Committee. Long, Hamilton (1949-54). Correspondence with and writings by Major Hamilton Long concerning Long's participation in a proposed investigation of communist influence in the Armed Forces during World War II.
117	House Un-American Activities Committee. Marshall, Thurgood (1952). A brief concerning an attempt to have Thurgood Marshall removed as legal counsel in a suit against the City of Kansas City, Missouri, over the segregation of a public swimming pool. The attempted dismissal was brought about by the plaintiffs because of Marshall's alleged membership in Communist-front organizations.

<u>Folder No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
118	House Un-American Activities Committee. Mathews, J.B. (1953-54). Letters and telegrams urging that J.B. Mathews appear before the House Un-American Activities Committee to substantiate his charges that over 7000 Protestant ministers had been communist sympathizers.
119-120	House Un-American Activities Committee. Meyer, Agnes E. (1953). Press releases and correspondence concerning an exchange of insulting remarks between Meyer and Velde.
121-123	House Un-American Activities Committee. National Students Association (1950-52). Correspondence concerning Velde's charges that Communist groups at the University of Chicago and Roosevelt University dictated student policies through the Illinois Chapter of the National Students Association.
124-129	House Un-American Activities Committee. Oxnam, Bishop G. Bromley (1953-54). Hearing preparations (briefs, lists of questions, Oxnam's statement) and correspondence dealing with Bishop Oxnam's appearance before the House Un-American Activities Committee to answer charges of his alleged sympathy for communism.
130	House Un-American Activities Committee. Religious Hearings (1953-54). Clippings and correspondence with the National Council of Churches of Christ and the Synagogue Council of America concerning the House Un-American Activities Committee's investigations of the clergy.
131	House Un-American Activities Committee. White, Harry Dexter (1953-54). Statements by Herbert Brownell and J. Edgar Hoover, transcripts of Walter Trohan's radio broadcasts, and <u>Time</u> magazine cover story concerning Brownell's charge that President Truman knew that Harry Dexter White was a communist.
132-134	House Un-American Activities Committee. <u>Wilson, Michael, et. al. Versus Loew's Incorporated, et. al.</u> (1953-56). Affidavits and correspondence dealing with a Los Angeles civil suit against, among others, members of the House Un-American Activities Committee and their staff.
135	House Un-American Activities Committee. <u>Youth Wants to Know</u> (1954-55). Transcripts of 8 <u>Youth Wants to Know</u> radio programs, including Velde's appearance, and correspondence concerning Velde's appearance on the show.
136-139	Ketelson, Joan Velde (1949-56). Correspondence between Velde and his daughter Joan Ketelson dealing with family matters.

<u>Folder No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
140-147	Legislation (1949-56). Bills proposed in Congress, most of them introduced by Velde. A few bills, most notably H.R. 7487 of the 83.2 Congress, are accompanied by material other than the bill itself. Subjects include labor, subversive activities, civil service, and private bills. Arranged by the number of the Congress and the bill number.
148	Miscellaneous (1944-60). Includes portion of an undated speech; humorous narrative about World War I; autographed sketch of J. Edgar Hoover (1944); speech for Alcoholic's Anonymous (1946); "Delegate" ribbon to an Illinois Republican State Convention (1960).
149-150	Music (1901-11). Three books of sheet music.
151-152	<u>Opinion</u> (1923-25). Four issues of <u>Opinion</u> , a publication of Peoria High School.
153-155	Pamphlets (1949-52). The following pamphlets: <u>Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society</u> (March, 1949); <u>How H.R. 4290 The Wood Bill Proposes to Change the Labor Management Relations Law of 1947</u> (April 1949); <u>Lists of delegates, order of business, and Official Republican Platform for the 1952 Republican National Convention</u> .
156-158	Pfander, Winona (1958-65). Letters to Winona Pfander, Velde's mother-in-law, from her grandchildren.
159-176	Public Statements (1947-55). Press releases, <u>Congressional Record</u> statements and inserts, speeches, and radio scripts. An undated section contains a script of the film "A Day With Your Congressman." From 1949-51, there are many scripts for Velde's weekly radio broadcasts to his constituents. Topics include communism, economics, and farm policy. In 1953-54 there are many House Un-American Activities Committee press releases but few radio scripts. There is only 1 speech for 1955. The undated section contains some reference material. Arranged chronologically.
177	Puerto Rico Trip (1954-55). Material concerning Velde's trip to Puerto Rico for hearings of the House Committee on Education and Labor.
178-180	Rivers and Harbors (1956). Charts, navigational material, and other boating information that Velde obtained for his use on a pleasure cruise down the Mississippi River.

<u>Folder No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
181	Truman, Harry S (1949-54). Tickets and programs for the 1949 Presidential inauguration ceremonies, 1953 letter from Truman concerning a subpoena directing his appearance before the House Un-American Activities Committee, 1954 clipping concerning the subpoena.
182	Velde and Prettyman (1939-50). Invitation to be included in the International Lawyer's Law List (1939); letters to Velde during his service in World War II from Franklin Velde and William Prettyman (1943-45); University of Illinois alumni program (1950).
183-202	* Velde and Prettyman. Case Files (1937-47). Files of the Velde and Prettyman law firm, most dealing with the collection of delinquent accounts. Arranged alphabetically, in most cases by the name of the defendant/debtor.
203-207	Velde, Harold Himmel. Personal Papers (1926-56). Includes school themes (n.d.); family tree of Joann Michael Heyl (n.d.); college graduation (1931); material from Hillsdale High School (1932-34); material about the F.B.I. and Velde's war service (1942-45); information about the buying and selling of a Pekin home (1946, 1951-53).
208-210	Velde, Henry Jacob (1917-1946). Papers relating to Harold Velde's father. Most deal with Henry Velde's estate (1942-46).
211-213	Velde, Laura (1939-55). Material relating to Laura Velde, Harold's mother. She was Henry Velde's wife; upon his death she married Teis Velde, Henry's brother. Includes material dealing with a loan to Teis Velde (1939); correspondence (1947-55); tourist pamphlets from vacations (1949, 1952); transcripts of Fulton Lewis, Jr., broadcasts dealing with communism (1953); menu from the Water Gate Inn (1955).
214	Velde, Richard Whittington (1949-56). Material relating to Harold Velde's son Richard, nicknamed Pete. Includes family correspondence (1949-56); automobile insurance policies (1955).
215	Velde, Robert L. (1942-47). Correspondence between Harold Velde and his brother Robert.

* Restricted material

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Photographs, 1943-58
18 folders

<u>Folder No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
216	Photographs. Correspondence (1949). Cover letters sent with photographs, requests for photographs.
217-218	Photographs. Undated. Congressional Hearings.
219-220	Photographs. Undated. Miscellaneous. Awards/gifts, with visitors, social functions.
221-222	Photographs. Undated. Politicians.
223-224	Photographs. Undated. Portraits. Autographs. Posed portraits signed by politicians.
225	Photographs. Undated. Portraits. Velde, Harold.
226	Photographs. Undated. Public Appearances. Speeches, radio interviews.
227	Photographs. Undated. Velde, Harold. Personal.
228-233	Photographs (1943-58). These photographs deal with the same basic subjects as the undated photographs.

- 31 Velde, Harold Himmel (1910-), Collection, 1910-65
Scrapbooks, 1946-56
12 volumes

Scrapbooks. (1946-56).

Scrapbooks containing material relating to Harold Velde, apparently compiled by his staff. The vast majority of the material is clippings, but there are also some certificates and photographs as well. Volumes 1-6 are in very fragile condition and are not available for research use. Volume numbers and corresponding dates:

<u>Volume No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	1946--January 6, 1949
2	November 3, 1948--July 29, 1949
3	August 4, 1949--May 25, 1950
4	June 1, 1950--November 29, 1950
5	December 1, 1950--August 3, 1951
6	August 12, 1951--September 11, 1952
7	January 1, 1953--November 12, 1953
8	January 15, 1954--November 30, 1954
9	January 4, 1955--December 31, 1955
10	January 12, 1956--December 8, 1956
11	House Un-American Activities Committee's investigations into subversives in religion, 1953.
12	Photographs of a trip to Puerto Rico; appears to have been professionally compiled.

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Bound Volumes, 1943-55
6 volumes

<u>Volume No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
13	<u>Memorial Addresses Delivered in Congress</u> , for Robert A. Taft, 1954
14	<u>Government by Investigation</u> , by Alan Barth, 1955
15	<u>Inside the F.B.I.</u> , by John J. Floherty, signed by Floherty, 1943
16	<u>The F.B.I. in Peace and War</u> , by Frederick L. Collins, 1943
17 & 18	<u>Hearings Before a Select Committee to Study Censure Charges</u> , against Senator McCarthy, 1954

- 31 Velde, Harold Himmel (1910-), Collection, 1901-65
 Audio-Visual, 1940-53
 17 items

Films:

<u>Control No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
VF64-00/0/0-1	undated; black and white; 8mm "Navy Band Pekin; Harold's Canada Trip; Robert in Fort Benning throwing grenades; + golf pictures Harold"
VF64-40/00/0-1	1940; color; 8mm "Golf film 1940"
VF25-50/00/0-1	1950; black and white; 16mm "A Day With Your Congressman"

Record Albums:

AR64-00/0/0-1	12" unmarked album in a Columbia Records envelope
AR64-00/0/0-2	12" unmarked album in a Columbia Records envelope
AR64-00/0/0-3	12" unmarked album in a Columbia Records envelope
AR64-00/10/31-1	October, 1931; 12" Audio disc; 33 1/3 r.p.m. "Velde 5 min; Velde New Cuts #1, #2"
AR64-50/0/0-1	1950; 16" RCA album; 33 1/3 r.p.m. "Campaign Radio Spots" produced by the Republican Congressional Committee.
AR64-51/6/30-1	June 30, 1951; 12" Audio disc; 78 r.p.m. NBC Reference Recording, "Coffee in Washington" Parts 1 and 4
AR64-51/6/30-2	June 30, 1951; 12" Audio disc; 78 r.p.m. NBC Reference Recording, "Coffee in Washington" Parts 2 and 5
AR64-51/6/30-3	June 30, 1951; 12" Audio disc; 78 r.p.m. NBC Reference Recording, "Coffee in Washington" Parts 3 and 6
AR64-51/9/5-1	September 5, 1951; 12" Audio disc; 33 1/3 r.p.m. "WSIV, Press Conference Held at WGN-TV" Parts 1 and 2
AR64-51/9/5-2	September 5, 1951; 12" Audio disc; 33 1/3 r.p.m. "WSIV, Press Conference Held at WGN-TV" End Side two: "WSIV, Meet Your Congress" End.
AR25-51/9/5-3	September 5, 1951; 16" Audio disc; 33 1/3 r.p.m. "TV Press Conference" Held at WGN; Part 1 Side two: "TV Press Conference, Sen. Dirksen, July 3, 1951" Part 2

AR125-51/915-4

September 5, 1951; 16" Audio disc; 33 1/3 r.p.m.
 "TV Press Conference" Held at WGN; Part 2
 Side two: "TV Press Conference, Sen Dirksen, July 3, 1951" Part 1

Control No.Description

AR64-51/9/15-1	September 15, 1951; 12" Audio disc; 33 1/3 r.p.m. "WSIV, Meet Your Congress" Start and Part 2
AR64-53/0/0-1	1953; 12" RCA album; 33 1/3 r.p.m. "Mr. President from F.D.R. to Eisenhower"
AR64-53/2/21-1	February 21, 1953; 12" Audio disc; 78 r.p.m. NBC Reference Recording, "Coffee in Washington with Velde" Parts 1 and 4
AR64-53/2/21-2	February 21, 1953; 12" Audio disc; 78 r.p.m. NBC Reference Recording, "Coffee in Washington with Velde" Parts 2 and 5
AR64-53/2/21-3	February 21, 1953; 12" Audio disc; 78 r.p.m. NBC Reference Recording, "Coffee in Washington with Velde" Parts 3 and 6

- 31 Velde, Harold Himmel(1910-), Collection, 1901-65
Memorabilia (1953-56).
9 items

Nine memorabilia items, only two of which are dated.
See memorabilia card file for individual descriptions.