



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
MUNICIPAL ARCHIVES & RECORDS

CREATOR:

City of San Antonio, Office of the Mayor.
White, A.C., 1891 – 1961.

TITLE:

Office of the Mayor, A.C. "Jack" White Records, 1940-1951

DATES:

1940-1951

QUANTITY:

2 ft. 2 in.

LANGUAGES:

English

REPOSITORY:

[City of San Antonio, Office of the City Clerk, Municipal Archives & Records](#)

ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY:

A.C. "Jack" White (1891-1961) served as Mayor as well as Councilman on the City of San Antonio City Council. White was elected to a two-year term (1949-1951) as Mayor at the May 10, 1949 election, and designated as such by Ordinance 9528 (May 11, 1949, in City Council [Ordinance Book S, Book 1 of 2](#), page 180).

White was re-elected to a second term as Mayor at the May 8, 1951 election, and designated as such by Ordinance 14799 (May 9, 1951, in City Council [Ordinance Book W, Book 1 of 3](#), page 17). One of White's most significant actions during his second mayoral term was to transition the city from a commissioner to a city council-city manager form of government. The revised City Charter marking this

transition was approved by a majority vote at an October 2, 1951 election, and adopted by Resolution at the [Meeting of the Commissioners of the City of San Antonio, October 3, 1951](#) (page 565).

In order to accommodate the transition, and for the new government to take effect in January 1952, a special election was designated for November 13, 1951 by Ordinance 16173 (passed October 9, 1951, in City Council [Ordinance Book W, Book 1 of 2](#), page 597), in order to elect “Nine (9) members of the Council of the City of San Antonio, Texas, being one each for Places numbered, respectively, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9, each for a term of office which shall begin on January 1, 1952, and shall expire on April 30, 1953.” The Councilmen were designated as elected by Ordinance 16507 (November 14, 1951, in City Council [Ordinance Book X, Book 2](#), page 90).

As a result of this election, White won the seat as Councilman for Place 1. At the first City Council meeting of 1952, White was appointed Mayor for the current term by Resolution of the Council (in [Meeting of the Commissioners of the City of San Antonio, January 1, 1952](#), page 83). The major changes that came with the Charter revisions, the new council-manager government, and annexation efforts, proved to be controversial at the time as well as to contribute to a degree of instability in city government. White resigned as Mayor effective March 1, 1952 ([City Council Meeting Minutes, February 28, 1952](#), page 1), but he chose to remain as Councilman for Place 1 until the end of the term.

At the April 7, 1953 election, White was elected as Councilman for Place 4, as designated by Ordinance 18931 (April 8, 1953, in City Council [Ordinance Book Y](#), page 514). Then, the [City Council Meeting Minutes, May 1, 1953](#) (page 96) indicate that Council unanimously adopted a Resolution to appoint White to preside once again as Mayor. Toward the middle of the term, White offered his letter of resignation as Mayor, which was read at the August 19, 1954 City Council meeting ([City Council Meeting Minutes](#), page 103), stating reasons of poor health. He continued as Councilman until September 9, 1954, when his resignation was accepted at the meeting on that date ([City Council Meeting Minutes](#), page 133).

Prior to his entrance into politics, White worked as a hotel manager for some of the most prominent hotels in Texas. These include the White-Plaza, Robert E. Lee, and Gunter hotels in San Antonio; the Crazy Hotel in Mineral Wells, Texas; the New Hilton Hotel in Dallas; and the Westbrook and Worth hotels in Fort Worth. White was also active in soliciting Federal WPA Grants during the 1930s

to fund the beautification of the San Antonio River, the project responsible for constructing most of San Antonio's Riverwalk.

SCOPE AND CONTENT:

The records of A.C. "Jack" White span the activity of activity from 1949-1951, his first two-year term as Mayor. The bulk of the collection includes subject correspondence, assorted reports, campaign materials and newspaper clippings. Notable materials include documents relating to the expansion of the City limits via annexation; letters pertaining to the Duke and Duchess of Windsor's visit to San Antonio in 1950; documentation related to revisions to the City Charter in 1951; and the City of San Antonio Health Department's quarterly tuberculosis reports for 1949 and 1950. The collection materials were originally part of a larger collection of records created by the City of San Antonio and housed at Texas State Library and Archives, before they were transferred back to the Municipal Archives & Records.

RESTRICTIONS:

Unrestricted access.

PREFERRED CITATION:

[Box #, item identification], Office of the Mayor, A.C. White Records, 1940-1951, City of San Antonio, Office of the City Clerk, Municipal Archives & Records.

PROCESSING INFORMATION:

This collection was processed with financial assistance from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC).

INDEX TERMS

Persons:

White, A.C., 1891-1961.

Organizations:

Office of the Mayor—Texas—San Antonio.

San Antonio, (Tex.). Mayor.

San Antonio Zoological Society.

City Public Service Board of San Antonio, Texas.

Subjects:

Public health--Texas--San Antonio.

Public utilities – Texas – San Antonio – Statistics.

Stinson Airport (San Antonio, Tex.)—History.

Texas Municipal League.

INVENTORY:

Location Contents

I. Correspondence

BOX 1 Airport, 1949-1950
 "San Antonio's Municipal Airports: Operating Revenues,
 Expenses and Other Operational Data, 1949-1950," Walter
 C. Gunstream, Airport Director
Annexation, 1949
Arsenal, 1949
Auditor, 1948-1950
Charter revisions, 1951
 Citizen responses
 Newspaper, radio and television coverage
 "Answers to Your Questions about the Council-Manager Plan
 for San Antonio," promotional booklet, 8 pages
City Attorney, 1949-1950
 Austin F. Anderson
 Re-organization of the City Attorney office
 O.P. Schnabel
City Public Service Board, 1949-1951
City Water Board, 1949-1950
 Meeting minutes, agendas, resolutions
 Audit and operating Reports
 Rate survey, 1950
Clubs and organizations, 1950
 Announcements and invitations
Edward, Duke, and Duchess of Windsor visit, February 20, 1950
 Letter of thanks from Edward, Duke of Windsor,
 February 27, 1950
Election, 1951
 Jack White ticket re-election campaign and platform materials
 Communications with local groups and citizens
Garbage, 1949-1951
General Douglas MacArthur visit, 1951

- Incinerator, 1949-1951
 - Bids, research and costs
 - Health conditions
- La Villita, 1950
 - Board members list
 - Bond project
 - "San Antonio's La Villita: The Quaint, Old Spanish Village in the Heart of a Romantic City," brochure
 - Report of the revenue derived from La Villita since its beginning, and improvements made during the calendar year, 1950 (2 copies)
- League of Texas Municipalities, 1949-1951
 - Convention planning for meeting, Gunter Hotel, San Antonio, October 22-25, 1950
 - Legislation
- San Antonio Zoological Society, 1949-1951
- Traffic, 1949-1951
 - Taxicabs
 - Parking and garage facilities
 - Safety
 - Police Department statistics, August 1949
- Truman Day, 1949
 - "Truman Day," Saint Paul, Minnesota, November 3, 1949, souvenir program booklet
- Tuberculosis control, 1949-1950
- United Nations Week, 1949
- U.S.O. building, 1950
- Witte Museum, 1949-1950
- Willow Springs Golf Course, 1949
 - Segregation of races
 - Expenses

II. Assorted materials

- OS 2.7.5 Airport
 - Blueprints for apron extension to municipal airport, 1948

- BOX 1** Analysis of National Traffic Safety Contest Report for San Antonio,
Texas, 1947
Carter sludge pump installation, 1950-1951
- City-County Tuberculosis Control Board
Bexar County Tuberculosis Association Annual Report
1949-1950
1950-1951
- Quarterly reports
July – September, 1949
October – December, 1949
January – March, 1950
April – June, 1950
July – September, 1950
October – December, 1950
- Bexar Facts*, News Bulletin of the Bexar County
Tuberculosis Association
August, 1950
October, 1950
May, 1951
June, 1951
- BF 3.3.2** City Public Service Board
Complete operating and financial report, 1949
- BF 3.3.3** Report and balance sheet, CPS Service Board
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- BF 3.3.4** Report and balance sheet, CPS Service Board (cont.)
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- BF 3.3.1** Report and balance sheet, CPS Service Board (cont.)
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- BF 3.4.3** October, 1951
- BOX 1** General Manager's report, CPS Service Board
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- BOX 1** Construction budget for fiscal year August 2, 1950 thru August
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 Construction budget for fiscal year August 2, 1949 thru August
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- BOX 2** Audit report, City of San Antonio Electric and Gas Systems
 1947 (2 copies)
 1949
 1950 (2 copies)

Summary report of insurance program for operations, 1950
List of holders of City of San Antonio electric and gas revenue
bonds, 1950
Service request cards, 1946-1950

City of San Antonio audit report, 1948
Includes revenues, expenditures and budgets for all city
departments, into 1950
Frontier Times, Volume 18, No. 3, December, 1940
"Saluting San Antonio and La Villita," special issue
League of Texas Municipalities
Legislative newsletters, 1951
Convention material, 1950
"Sewerage Service Charges and Related Information of Texas
Cities and Towns," 1950
Report of examination
1950
1951
Texas Municipalities, magazine, June-July, 1950
"Policy of Texas Cities in Extending Utilities Inside and Outside
City Limits," 1950
"Monthly Telephone Rates and Related Information of Texas
Cities and Towns," 1951
Tax adjustments, petitions from citizens to City of San Antonio, 1951
"Proposed Civil Service Charter Amendment, City of San Antonio,"
1950
Statement of Leroy Arnold, employee at the sewage treatment plant
to Mayor White and Mr. Smith on April 23, 1951
"Report on San Antonio Sewage Plant: Its Present Status and Future
Development," May 1951 [includes 7 b&w, 8"X10" photographs]
*City Problems of 1942: The Annual Proceedings of the United States
Conference of Mayors*, Washington, D.C., January 12-14, 1942
[book, 175 pages]

BF 3.3.1 Newspaper clippings, 1950