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## Chelf, Frank Leslie, 1907-1982 (MSS 492)

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Manuscripts & Folklife Archives  
 Department of Library Special Collections  
 Western Kentucky University  
 Bowling Green, KY 42101-1092

*Descriptive Inventory*

**MSS 492 CHELF, Frank Leslie, 1907-1982**

16 boxes. 140 folders. 2,559 items. 1897-1994.  
 Originals, photocopies, photographs, audiotapes, film.

1971.1.58

***BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE***

Frank Leslie Chelf, one of eight children of Weeden S. "Weed" Chelf and Hallie A. Wrather, was born on 22 September 1907 near Elizabethtown, Kentucky. Orphaned at the age of five, Chelf was placed in Louisville's Masonic Widows and Orphans Home of Kentucky along with two younger siblings. About two years later they were reunited with an older sister, Glovie, and a brother, Loy, who made a home for them. Chelf attended St. Mary's College in St. Mary, Kentucky, and graduated from Elizabethtown High School. He then attended Centre College in Danville, Kentucky, and in 1931 received a Bachelor of Laws degree from Cumberland University in Lebanon, Tennessee.

Chelf set up a law practice in Lebanon, Kentucky. After serving as secretary to former Congressman Ben Johnson, chairman of the Kentucky Highway Commission, Chelf decided to enter politics. In 1933, he was elected to the first of two terms as prosecuting attorney for Marion County. During his tenure, he received national attention for the investigation of a brutal 1941 slaying; the case was featured in the September 1941 issue of *Startling Detective Adventures*. Chelf also served as a delegate to the 1936 Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia.

On 1 August 1942, Chelf took a leave of absence from his second term as county prosecutor to serve in the U.S. Army. Commissioned a first lieutenant in the Air Corps, he was discharged due to a physical disability on 10 August 1944 with the rank of major. That same year, Chelf was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives as a Democrat from Kentucky's Fourth District.

Chelf served eleven terms in Congress, surviving redistrictings in 1952, 1956 and 1962, and ultimately representing approximately 50 of Kentucky's 120 counties. A *Louisville Times* article of 31 January 1962 (Box 1, Folder 3) quoted Chelf's characterization of himself as "the most conservative member of the Kentucky delegation." He was one of two Kentucky signers of the 1956 "Southern Manifesto" condemning the *Brown v. Board of Education* school desegregation decision, but voted for the 1957 Civil Rights Act. A supporter of President John F. Kennedy, he nevertheless differed with the administration on foreign aid and minimum wage legislation. His advocacy of liberal immigration laws, particularly for war-displaced persons, was

tempered by his support for ethnic restrictions. From time to time, he was fond of rousing the House chamber with a “rebel yell.”

Chelf’s legislative interests and accomplishments included the following:

- a. Support of a 1948 bill allowing several hundred thousand displaced persons to emigrate from Europe to the United States. Chelf again took up immigration issues when he attended several meetings of the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration (I.C.E.M.) in the 1950s and 1960s. (At a delegates’ dinner during the 1963 meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, Chelf found himself amid controversy when Congressman Michael Feighan, chairman of the House Immigration Subcommittee, aggressively attacked President John F. Kennedy’s civil rights bill and supposed Communist sympathies.)
- b. Passage in 1950 of an act authorizing the annual award of the Young American Medal for Bravery, a kind of civilian “medal of honor” to recognize citizens eighteen or younger who attempted acts of life-saving heroism. Chelf first introduced the bill in 1948 after reading about Tommy Gibbs, a South Carolina boy who saved a playmate from being stuck by a train.
- c. Introduction in 1951 of a bill to increase the membership of the House of Representatives from 435 to 450. The bill was a response to the pending loss of one of Kentucky’s eight House seats to redistricting after the 1950 census. Chelf introduced the bill again in 1961, when another redistricting affected Kentucky and 16 other states.
- d. Service in 1952 as chairman of a House Judiciary Committee subcommittee charged with investigating corruption in the Department of Justice and Office of the Attorney General. Chelf earned praise from members of both parties for his leadership.
- e. Introduction in 1957 of a bill regulating the censorship of song lyrics by broadcasting companies. Chelf particularly objected to the practice as applied to Stephen Foster songs such as “Swanee River” and “My Old Kentucky Home,” in which use of the word “darkies” was banned or altered.
- f. Introduction of resolutions in 1960-1963 proposing a constitutional amendment entitling former U.S. Presidents to serve as Senators at Large. Chelf had also introduced a bill in 1957 creating the office of Senate Delegate for former presidents.
- g. Introduction in 1962 and 1965 of resolutions proposing a constitutional amendment to limit the term of U.S. Supreme Court justices to fifteen years, unless renewed by the usual reappointment and confirmation process. Chelf had grown concerned with what he viewed as the Court’s legislative activism, and with its role in reapportioning congressional districts.
- h. Introduction in 1963 of a bill to make Sir Winston Churchill an honorary citizen of the United States. President John F. Kennedy subsequently bestowed the honor by proclamation.
- i. Introduction in 1965 of a resolution proposing a constitutional amendment to lengthen the term of members of the House of Representatives from two to four years. Chelf’s resolution addressed earlier objections by providing for staggered terms and barring House members from running for the Senate in off years unless they gave up their House seat. President Lyndon B. Johnson supported the measure, but Judiciary Committee Chairman Emanuel Celler was a vigorous opponent.

Faced with another redistricting plan and large debts from funding his re-election campaigns, Chelf announced in February 1966 that he would retire at the adjournment of the 89<sup>th</sup> Congress. On 6 November 1966, however, John J. Moloney, the Democratic candidate for Chelf’s seat, died less than two days before the election. Chelf agreed to replace him on the ballot, but lost the election to Republican Eugene “Gene” Snyder.

After leaving Congress, Chelf obtained his District of Columbia law license with the intention of remaining in Washington as a lawyer and lobbyist, but returned to Lebanon, Kentucky, where he practiced law and consulted on legislative matters. In 1968, he entered the Democratic primary for nomination to the U.S. Senate, but withdrew for health reasons. In 1972, Chelf supported Republican Richard M. Nixon's re-election to the presidency.

Frank Chelf died on 1 September 1982 and was buried in Ryder Cemetery in Lebanon, Kentucky. Chelf and his wife, Margaret Louise Rash, who he married on 12 June 1935, were the parents of three children: Caroline Jane (Mrs. John Collins Polk), Angela Bonnie (Mrs. Tommy Simpson), and Frank Chelf, Jr.

## **COLLECTION NOTE**

This collection consists of correspondence, legislation, speeches, Congressional records, photographs, audiotapes, film, mementoes and miscellaneous material relating primarily to the political career of Frank L. Chelf, U.S. Representative of Kentucky's Fourth District from 1944-1966. A collection inventory is in Box 1, Folder 1.

Box 1 includes biographical data on Chelf and his family (Folders 2-5) and miscellaneous personal keepsakes (Folder 6). Of interest (Folder 5) is the 1941 issue of *Startling Detective Adventures* chronicling Chelf's investigation of a murder in Marion County, Kentucky when he was county attorney. Also of interest (Folder 7) is Chelf's diary and loose notes documenting his participation in a 37-day Congressional trip in 1945 to inspect American postwar operations in western Europe. Chelf also visited Great Britain, Scandinavia and the Soviet Union, and kept a record of his activities and impressions. A copy of a 1994 *Filson Club History Quarterly* article based on the diary is included.

Box 2 contains correspondence, clippings, reports, speeches and draft bills relating to Chelf's sponsorship of legislation to authorize the award of the Young American Medal for Bravery. Some information about nominees and recipients is included, as well as two scripts (Folder 6) for "The Young Heroes," a proposed television series dramatizing the actions of medal winners.

Box 3 contains correspondence, clippings, reports and other Congressional records relating to legislative issues in which Chelf was involved. Chelf's work on the 1957 bill to regulate censorship of song lyrics (Folder 1) includes correspondence with broadcasters, editorials, and clippings focusing on Chelf and his argument against censorship. Research and hearings on congressional redistricting and increasing the membership of the House of Representatives (Folder 2) reflect Chelf's interest in the issue in the 1950s and 1960s. Chelf's advocacy of a tax cut in 1962 to boost the economy and facilitate the re-election of Democrats (Folder 3) is documented in a letter to President John F. Kennedy and in correspondence with others from whom he seeks support. Public discussion in the 1960s regarding automobile defects and concerns over safety prompted Chelf to correspond with Henry Ford II and others, to introduce a bill facilitating joint development by auto manufacturers of safety devices, and to offer his services to Ford as a legislative consultant after his retirement from Congress (Folder 4). The remainder of Box 3 (Folders 5-11) contains materials relating to Chelf's involvement, primarily during 1965-1966, in a proposal to amend the Constitution to provide four-year terms for members of the House of Representatives. Included are draft resolutions dating from 1957

(Folder 5), clippings and editorials (Folder 6), research, hearings, speeches and other testimony, and Chelf's letters polling members of Congress on the issue (Folders 7-11).

Box 4 contains bills, resolutions, speeches, clippings, correspondence and other material relating to legislative matters on which Chelf worked in the 79<sup>th</sup> through 89<sup>th</sup> Congresses. Included is summary information on bills and resolutions introduced by Chelf at each session of Congress, selected congressional speeches and portions of debates, and copies of some bills. Included is Chelf's farewell speech to the House on 21 October 1966, and tributes paid to him the next day on the floor of the House (Folder 12). Of interest in Chelf's farewell speech is his recall of his narrow escape on 1 March 1954 from a shooting attack in the House chamber by Puerto Rican nationalists that left five of his colleagues wounded.

Box 5 contains Chelf's voting records in the 79<sup>th</sup> through 89<sup>th</sup> Congresses (Folders 1-4) as well as special correspondence files. His correspondence with Harry S. Truman (Folder 5) was exchanged during and after Truman's presidency and discusses political and legislative matters in which Chelf was involved. Chelf also offers affectionate personal greetings to the man he called "Boss," praises the singing career of Truman's daughter Margaret, and expresses particular support for Truman in the debate over legislation to award pensions to former presidents. Chelf's correspondence with Dwight D. Eisenhower (Folder 6) expresses his admiration for the Republican president and sympathizes with him over their shared experience of surgery for a bowel obstruction. Also included is a business card of Chelf's signed by then-General Eisenhower and used by Chelf as a pass when rushing to catch a plane out of Germany in 1945. Chelf's praise of Winston Churchill and his bill to award Churchill honorary American citizenship drew two letters from Churchill in 1953 and 1963 (Folder 7). Chelf's correspondence with John F. Kennedy (Folder 8) includes President and Mrs. Kennedy's thanks for his support during the election campaign, an inauguration invitation and program, Chelf's call for a congressional briefing following Kennedy's 1961 trip to Europe, White House invitations, and Chelf's expressions of sympathy on the Kennedys' loss of their son in 1963; a printed card of Mrs. Kennedy's acknowledges condolences after the President's assassination. Chelf's correspondence with Richard M. Nixon (Folder 9) includes Nixon's thanks for Chelf's praise of his cabinet and Supreme Court nominees. Chelf's correspondence with and regarding the actress Jane Russell centers on Russell's work through her World Adoption International Fund (W.A.I.F.) to place orphaned children in homes worldwide. Russell participated in the 1960 meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration in Naples, Italy, prompting Chelf to procure Kentucky Colonel commissions for her and her assistant Edith Lynch and to promote legislation supporting the adoption program in the United States. Chelf's correspondence with and regarding Lyndon B. Johnson (Folder 11) includes personal greetings, invitations, copies of remarks and statements, and Chelf's letter urging President Johnson to support his proposal for four-year House terms.

Box 6 contains primarily correspondence, both special and general. President Lyndon B. Johnson's speeches (Folder 1) include an autographed copy of his 1965 State of the Union address. Chelf's correspondence with Speaker of the House of Representatives John W. McCormack (Folder 2) dates mostly after Chelf's retirement from Congress and includes personal greetings and Chelf's letter of tribute to McCormack on his 75<sup>th</sup> birthday. Chelf's 1966 letters urging support for Congressman William H. Natcher in the wake of redistricting and an off-year election (Folder 3) include lists of recipients and a copy of a letter Chelf used to solicit support for his own re-election in 1946. Chelf's general correspondence from 1948-1959 (Folder 4) includes a poem he wrote for President Truman after the 1948 election, notes of

greeting and thanks from colleagues and constituents, and several letters from Adlai Stevenson regarding his 1956 presidential campaign. Chelf's general correspondence from 1961-1964 (Folder 5) includes a 1964 statement of his position on Medicare, distribution of new Kennedy half-dollars, and thanks for the gift of a gavel. Chelf's general correspondence from 1965-1966 (Folder 6) includes correspondence regarding the Chelf monument in Lebanon's Ryder Cemetery, some short notes from Vice President Hubert Humphrey, expressions of good wishes on his retirement (including one that praises his bipartisanship during the Eisenhower administration), a letter of praise from entertainer Bing Crosby, a resolution to name a former post office building in Hardin County after Chelf, and letters of admiration for his brief campaign in place of the deceased John Moloney. Chelf's general correspondence from 1967-1972 (Folder 7) includes letters of sympathy, congratulations and good wishes, many of which demonstrate Chelf's bipartisan spirit, to various colleagues and public figures, and their replies; of interest is his letter to Edward M. Kennedy, written just after the Chappaquiddick incident, urging him not to resign from the Senate. Chelf's undated correspondence (Folder 8) includes a memo regarding the debate over the Medicare bill. Also included in Box 6 are greeting cards to and from Chelf (Folders 9 and 10), and Chelf's correspondence with Western Kentucky University (Folders 11 and 12) discussing student constituents and the donation of this collection to the University.

Box 7 primarily contains materials relating to Chelf's election campaigns, and to his retirement from Congress. Election materials include clippings summarizing his election results (Folder 1); clippings regarding redistrictings (Folder 2); and clippings, campaign materials and vote counts relating to Chelf's election and re-elections (Folders 3-6). Chelf's correspondence regarding his retirement from Congress (Folders 7-9) includes his announcement letter sent to Governor Ned Breathitt (Folder 7) as well as expressions of regard from House and Senate colleagues and his replies, many of which continue the discussion of a proposed four-year term for House members (Folders 7-9). Chelf's correspondence regarding his last-minute decision to stand in place of the deceased John Moloney on the 1966 ballot (Folder 10) includes expressions of support from constituents and colleagues, messages from and replies to well-wishers, and Chelf's congratulatory telegram to his opponent, Gene Snyder. Documentation relating to Chelf's admission to the District of Columbia Bar (Folder 11) includes correspondence, his application and certificate of admission. Chelf's correspondence relating to a testimonial dinner held in his honor in Elizabethtown, Kentucky on 14 November 1966 (Folder 12) includes replies to invitations from the dinner's organizers, clippings, telegrams from well-wishers, a resolution of appreciation from citizens of Hancock County, Kentucky, and Chelf's letters of thanks. After he retired, Chelf became involved in the organization and incorporation of Former Members of Congress, Inc. and his file (Folder 13) includes minutes, bylaws, correspondence and membership lists.

Box 8 contains miscellaneous material related to Chelf's career. Included are lists of appointees from his congressional district to military academies (Folder 1); pictorial Congressional directories (Folder 2); passport and travel documents (Folder 3); speeches and remarks, including an address to the 1957 session of the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration (Folder 4); and various keepsakes, such as a deed from the Abraham Lincoln Birthplace Lands Corporation (Folder 5), guestbooks from his Washington, D. C. office (Folders 8, 9), commemorative stamps and covers (Folders 10, 11), and autographed foreign currency (Folder 12). Correspondence in this box consists of letters exchanged with St. Mary's College and Elizabethtown High School reflecting Chelf's support of his former schools (Folders

6, 7). Also included is miscellaneous printed matter (Folder 13). Oversized items (Folder 14, shelved separately), include Chelf's law diploma and senior law class photograph, a photograph of his U.S. Army Air Force officer graduating class, House Judiciary Committee photographs, and a print of Yousuf Karsh's photograph of President and Mrs. John F. Kennedy.

Box 9 contains photographs of Chelf, his congressional colleagues and other public figures. Many of the photographs of public figures are inscribed to Chelf. Also included are photographs documenting numerous events in Chelf's political career, and the opening of an exhibit at WKU's Kentucky Museum in 1971 showcasing Chelf's donation of this collection to the University.

Boxes 10 and 11 contain audiotape reels of speeches and interviews given by Chelf. Although some are not well identified, they relate to political and legislative matters as well as his election campaigns.

Box 12 contains Dictaphone tapes and film reels relating to Chelf's political career. The dictaphone tapes are technologically obsolete but they include letters and speeches. The film reels include an interview with Chelf by David Brinkley regarding his proposal to allow ex-Presidents to serve as Senators (Folder 12).

Box 13 contains miscellaneous oversized paper items, objects and audiodiscs of Chelf's speeches. The objects consist of gifts and keepsakes: a crucifix from the Abbey of Gethsemani, newly minted coins, the signing pen for Sir Winston Churchill's honorary American citizenship bill, and a cigarette package, the contents of which were shared with Queen Juliana of the Netherlands during a 1951 congressional trip to investigate the European refugee problem. Original political cartoons and sketches of Chelf (Folder 7) include a "Dennis the Menace" cartoon by Hank Ketcham relating to Chelf. Oversized photographs include photos of Congress and of public figures with inscriptions to Chelf (Folder 8); also included (Folder 10) are certificates relating to Chelf's admission to law practice.

Boxes 14-16 contain seven scrapbooks. They consist entirely of clippings dating from 1944-1966 from newspapers in Kentucky, Washington, D.C. and elsewhere containing reports on Chelf's political activity, election campaigns, and retirement. Also included in Box 16 is a folder of loose clippings removed from the scrapbooks.

### ***SHELF LIST***

<b>BOX 1</b>	<b>Chelf, Frank Leslie – Biographical</b>	<b>1897-1994</b>	<b>107 items</b>
Folder 1	Inventory and associated information		3 items
Folder 2	Weeden S. Chelf – Letter and speech; letter with biographical data	1897-1899, 1966	3 items
Folder 3	Frank L. Chelf – Biographical data, clippings	1920-1982	67 items
Folder 4	Frank L. Chelf – Military service certificates	1944-1947	3 items
Folder 5	Frank L. Chelf – Printed matter containing biographical data; student paper on Chelf	1941-1955	3 items

Folder 6	Frank L. Chelf – Miscellaneous personal items and keepsakes	1927-1962, n.d.	14 items
Folder 7	Frank L. Chelf – Diary, notes of Congressional trip to Europe; Language guides; <i>Filson Club Quarterly</i> article on trip by Nancy Disher Baird	1945, 1994	14 items
<b>BOX 2</b>	<b>Chelf, Frank Leslie – Young American Medal for Bravery</b>	<b>1948-1976</b>	<b>250 items</b>
Folder 1	Young American Medal for Bravery – Bills, reports, regulations	1948-1950	11 items
Folder 2	Young American Medal for Bravery – Speeches, clippings, legislative history	1948-1965	29 items
Folder 3	Young American Medal for Bravery (H.R. 4915, 5434) – Correspondence	1948	100 items
Folder 4	Young American Medal for Bravery (H.R. 5434) – Correspondence	1949	66 items
Folder 5	Young American Medal for Bravery (H.R. 5434, 157) – Correspondence	1950-1976	42 items
Folder 6	Scripts for “The Young Heroes,” dramatizing medal winners John Herrington and Gerald Bergeman	1960	2 items
<b>BOX 3</b>	<b>Chelf, Frank Leslie – Miscellaneous legislation; Constitutional amendment to establish four-year House terms</b>	<b>1952-1966</b>	<b>310 items</b>
Folder 1	H.R. 9115 – Clippings, correspondence regarding censorship of Stephen Foster and other song lyrics	1957-1958	39 items
Folder 2	Research, hearings regarding increasing House membership and redistricting	1952-1961	6 items
Folder 3	Tax cut proposal – Correspondence	1962	40 items
Folder 4	H.R. 15404 – Correspondence, clippings regarding manufacture of auto safety devices	1966-1969	34 items



Folder 5	House and Senate resolutions regarding 4-year House terms	1957-1966	8 items
Folder 6	Clippings, opinion pieces regarding 4-year House terms	1965-1966	57 items
Folder 7	Library of Congress research on 4-year House terms	1956-1965	2 items
Folder 8	Correspondence, polling regarding 4-year House terms	Mar.-June 1965	35 items
Folder 9	Correspondence, hearings, etc., regarding 4-year House terms	July-Nov. 1965	34 items
Folder 10	Correspondence, hearings, etc., regarding 4-year House terms	Jan.-Mar. 1966	31 items
Folder 11	Correspondence, polling regarding 4-year House terms	Apr.-Aug. 1966	24 items
<b>BOX 4</b>	<b>Frank L. Chelf – U.S. Congress – Bills, Resolutions, Speeches</b>	<b>1945-1967</b>	<b>179 items</b>
Folder 1	79 <sup>th</sup> -81 <sup>st</sup> Congress – Bills, resolutions, speeches	1945-1951	19 items
Folder 2	82 <sup>nd</sup> -84 <sup>th</sup> Congress – Bills, resolutions, speeches	1951-1956	13 items
Folder 3	85 <sup>th</sup> Congress – Bills, resolutions, speeches	1957-1959	3 items
Folder 4	86 <sup>th</sup> Congress – Bills, resolutions, speeches	1959-1961	25 items
Folder 5	86 <sup>th</sup> Congress – Bill (H.R. 1860), correspondence regarding Jovenal Gornes Verano	1960-1961	10 items
Folder 6	87 <sup>th</sup> Congress – Bills, resolutions, speeches	1961-1962	16 items
Folder 7	87 <sup>th</sup> Congress – Bill (H.R. 1998) correspondence, clippings regarding increasing seats in House	1961-1962	5 items
Folder 8	87 <sup>th</sup> Congress – Bill (H.R. 9504), correspondence regarding Trade Agreements Act	1961	6 items
Folder 9	87 <sup>th</sup> -88 <sup>th</sup> Congress – Resolution (H.R. 1163), correspondence regarding term limitations on Supreme Court Justices	1962-1964	7 items

Folder 10	88 <sup>th</sup> Congress – Bills, resolutions, speeches	1963-1964	30 items
Folder 11	88 <sup>th</sup> Congress – Private relief bills	1963	16 items
Folder 12	89 <sup>th</sup> Congress – Bills, resolutions, speeches	1965-1967	29 items
<b>BOX 5</b>	<b>Frank L. Chelf – Voting records; Congressional Correspondence</b>	<b>1945-1971</b>	<b>261 items</b>
Folder 1	Voting records – 79 <sup>th</sup> -81 <sup>st</sup> Congress	1945-1950	8 items
Folder 2	Voting records – 82 <sup>nd</sup> -84 <sup>th</sup> Congress	1951-1956	6 items
Folder 3	Voting records – 85 <sup>th</sup> -87 <sup>th</sup> Congress	1957-1962	6 items
Folder 4	Voting records – 88 <sup>th</sup> -89 <sup>th</sup> Congress	1963-1966	4 items
Folder 5	Correspondence, clippings – Harry S. Truman and family	1949-1971	108 items
Folder 6	Correspondence – Dwight D. Eisenhower	1945-1959	17 items
Folder 7	Letters, speeches, relating to honorary U. S. citizenship for Winston S. Churchill	1953-1955	8 items
Folder 8	Correspondence – John F. Kennedy and Jacqueline Kennedy	1960-1963	23 items
Folder 9	Correspondence – Richard M. Nixon	1957-1971	9 items
Folder 10	Correspondence – Jane Russell	1960-1964	22 items
Folder 11	Correspondence – Lyndon B. Johnson	1949-1968	50 items
<b>BOX 6</b>	<b>Frank L. Chelf – Correspondence</b>	<b>1944-1972</b>	<b>322 items</b>
Folder 1	Lyndon B. Johnson – Speeches	1964-1965	4 items
Folder 2	Correspondence – John W. McCormack	1962-1970	24 items
Folder 3	Letters in support of William H. Natcher	1966	14 items
Folder 4	General correspondence	1948-1959	45 items

Folder 5	General correspondence	1961-1964	97 items
Folder 6	General correspondence	1965-1966	32 items
Folder 7	General correspondence	1967-1972	53 items
Folder 8	General correspondence	n.d.	4 items
Folder 9	Christmas cards from Chelf	1963-1971	2 items
Folder 10	Birthday cards to Chelf	1964	21 items
Folder 11	General correspondence – Western Kentucky University	1964-1969	6 items
Folder 12	Correspondence, lists, publicity, etc. regarding donation of papers to Western Kentucky University	1971-1972	20 items
<b>BOX 7</b>	<b>Frank L. Chelf – Elections, retirement</b>	<b>1933-1971</b>	<b>549 items</b>
Folder 1	Election and re-election results; list of 4 <sup>th</sup> District (Ky.) representatives	1944-1964	12 items
Folder 2	Redistricting maps of Kentucky	1952-1962	6 items
Folder 3	Election and re-election – Campaign materials, clippings	1933-1963	9 items
Folder 4	Re-election campaign materials, clippings	1946	10 items
Folder 5	Re-election campaign materials, clippings	1948	17 items
Folder 6	Re-election campaign materials, clippings	1964	32 items
Folder 7	Outgoing letters regarding retirement from Congress	1966	36 items
Folder 8	Incoming letters regarding retirement from Congress	Mar.-Oct. 1966	89 items
Folder 9	Incoming letters regarding retirement from Congress	Oct. 1966-Jan. 1967	70 items

Folder 10	Correspondence regarding nomination and campaign for Congress in place of deceased candidate John Moloney	1966	115 items
Folder 11	District of Columbia law license and related correspondence	1966	8 items
Folder 12	Correspondence, thank-you letters – Testimonial dinner, Elizabethtown, Kentucky, 14 November	1966	114 items
Folder 13	Former Members of Congress, Inc. – Minutes, correspondence, etc.	1970-1971	31 items
<b>BOX 8</b>	<b>Frank L. Chelf – Miscellaneous</b>	<b>1944-1971</b>	<b>93 items</b>
Folder 1	Lists of 4 <sup>th</sup> District (Ky.) appointees to military service academies	1944-1966	3 items
Folder 2	Congressional directories (pictorial)	1945, 1965	2 items
Folder 3	Passports, applications, travel documents	1955-1966	18 items
Folder 4	Miscellaneous speeches of Chelf	1956-1971	4 items
Folder 5	Deed to Chelf from Abraham Lincoln Birthplace Lands Corporation	1959	1 item
Folder 6	Correspondence – St. Mary's College, St. Mary, Kentucky	1961-1969	11 items
Folder 7	Correspondence – Trust fund for Elizabethtown High School honor student	1961	3 items
Folder 8	Guest book – Washington, D. C. office	1959-1966	1 item
Folder 9	Guest book – Washington, D. C. office	1966	1 item
Folder 10	Commemorative stamps and covers; first day issues	1959-1966	12 items
Folder 11	Lincoln Sesquicentennial commemorative stamps	1959	2 items
Folder 12	Autographed currency	n.d.	20 items
Folder 13	Miscellaneous printed matter	1948-1966	7 items

Folder 14	Oversized material (shelved in C1-D6,#10)	1931-1966	8 items
<b>BOX 9</b>	<b>Frank L. Chelf – Photographs</b>	<b>1920-1976</b>	<b>239 items</b>
Folder 1	Photographs – Youth	1920-1928	2 items
Folder 2	Photographs – Allen murder case	1941	7 items
Folder 3	Photographs – Family, home, cemetery markers	1944-1965	6 items
Folder 4	Photographs – Overseas travel	July-Aug. 1945	34 items
Folder 5	Photographs – Campaign billboards	1946-1964	4 items
Folder 6	Photographs – Chelf playing harmonica	1957-1961	3 items
Folder 7	Photographs – Chelf with Jane Russell	1960-1965	10 items
Folder 8	Photographs – Chelf in his office	1966	3 items
Folder 9	Photographs – Miscellaneous	1945-1949	13 items
Folder 10	Photographs – Miscellaneous	1950-1962	32 items
Folder 11	Photographs – Miscellaneous	1963-1971	23 items
Folder 12	Photographs – Miscellaneous	n.d.	7 items
Folder 13	Photograph (engraving) and negative – Chelf and Harry S. Truman	1948, n.d.	2 items
Folder 14	Photographs – Politicians and public figures (some autographed)	1947-1976	49 items
Folder 15	Photographs – Opening of Frank L. Chelf Collection, Kentucky Building, WKU	1971	44 items
<b>BOX 10</b>	<b>Frank L. Chelf – Audiotape reels</b>	<b>1956-1964</b>	<b>22 items</b>
	Personalities in Government: Chelf (Mar. 1)	1956	1 item
	Tax speech, Part 1 (Mar. 4)	1956	1 item
	Hardinsburg Rally (Nov. 2)	1956	1 item
	Alben Barkley Memorial, Reel 1	[1956]	1 item

	Alben Barkley Memorial, Reel 2	[1956]	1 item
	May campaign, Tape 1 (May 19; 8 min.)	1958	1 item
	May campaign, Tape 2 (May 19; 5 min.)	1958	1 item
	May campaign (May 19; 5 min.)	1958	1 item
	May primary (May 27; 8 min.)	1958	1 item
	WBRT radio speech (Oct. 2; 5 min.)	1958	1 item
	Speech at United States Information Service, The Hague Auditorium, Part 1 (Feb. 12)	1959	1 item
	Speech at United States Information Service, The Hague Auditorium, Part 2 (Feb. 12)	1959	1 item
	Special Frank Chelf tape (Mar. 4)	1960	1 item
	Interview on United Press International re: increase in House of Representatives (Feb. 3)	1961	1 item
	Wage and hour discussion with J. T. Whitlock (Mar. 1)	1961	1 item
	Northern Kentucky speech, Reel 1 (May 15; 6 min.)	1962	1 item
	Northern Kentucky speech, Reel 2 (May 16; 5 min.)	1962	1 item
	Central Kentucky radio speech, Reel 1 (May 17; 5 min.)	1962	1 item
	Central Kentucky radio speech, Reel 2 (May 18; 6 min.)	1962	1 item
	Central Kentucky spot on WHAS, WAVE (May 20; 1 min.)	1962	1 item
	May primary (May 26)	1964	1 item
	Chelf talk: "No political ident." (Aug. 31; 5 min.)	1964	1 item
<b>BOX 11</b>	<b>Frank L. Chelf – Audiotape reels</b>	<b>1965-1971</b>	<b>17 items</b>
	Winston Churchill speech (Jan. 25; 8 min.)	1965	1 item
	Mutual Broadcasting Company, Jim Hall, on four-year House terms (Feb. 15)	1966	1 item
	"Swan song" speech, Elizabethtown (Nov. 14)	1966	1 item
	Comments on Bert Combs candidacy for governor (May)	1971	1 item
	Winston Churchill speech; Jim Hall on four-year House terms; Personalities in Government (Sept.)	1971	1 item
	Political program (June 30; 2 X 5 min.)	n.y.	1 item
	WBRT Bardstown (Sept. 15; 2 X 5 min.)	n.y.	1 item
	WLBN, Springfield Courthouse (Nov. 5)	n.y.	1 item
	Clyde Middleton – Senator Morton endorsement (1 min.)	n.d.	1 item
	WBRT Bardstown spots (3 X 1 min.)	n.d.	1 item
	Representatives McClory and Chelf (15 min.)	n.d.	1 item
	WLBN program, "more by J. T. W[hitlock]" (5 min.)	n.d.	1 item

	Clyde Middleton	n.d.	1 item
	Southern Kentucky spots (1 min.)	n.d.	1 item
	WCKY Cincinnati spots (3 min.)	n.d.	1 item
	Representative Chelf (8 min.)	n.d.	1 item
	First direct distance dialing call in Shelbyville, Kentucky to Chelf in Washington, D.C.	n.d.	1 item
<b>BOX 12</b>	<b>Frank L. Chelf – Dictaphone tapes, film reels</b>	<b>1952-1965</b>	<b>47 items</b>
Folder 1	Dictaphone tapes	1955	5 items
Folder 2	Dictaphone tapes	1955	1 item
Folder 3	Dictaphone tapes	1956	4 items
Folder 4	Dictaphone tapes	1957	5 items
Folder 5	Dictaphone tapes	1958-1959	2 items
Folder 6	Dictaphone tapes	1963	6 items
Folder 7	Dictaphone tapes	1963	2 items
Folder 8	Dictaphone tapes	1964	4 items
Folder 9	Dictaphone tapes	1965	9 items
Folder 10	16 mm. film reel of statement for NBC, 22 February 1952	1952	1 item
Folder 11	16 mm. film reel, Chelf and Congressman Brown, WLW-TV	1954	1 item
Folder 12	16 mm. film reel of Chelf interview with David Brinkley (NBC <i>Camel Caravan</i> ), 23 June 1955, regarding ex-Presidents as Senators	1955	1 item
Folder 13	16 mm. film reel regarding bill for ex-Presidents as Senators, June 1955	1955	1 item
Folder 14	16 mm. film reel, Citizens for Chelf	1960	1 item
Folder 15	16 mm. film reel, WHAS spot, 17 May 1962	1962	1 item
Folder 16	16 mm. film reels, Louisville	n.d.	2 items

Folder 17	16 mm. film reel, unidentified	n.d.	1 item
<b>BOX 13</b>	<b>Frank L. Chelf – Miscellaneous; oversized</b>	<b>1931-1971</b>	<b>61 items</b>
Folder 1	Cigarette package with notation regarding Queen Juliana of the Netherlands	1951	1 item
Folder 2	Wooden crucifix and Christmas note from Abbey of Gethsemani	1954	2 items
Folder 3	Signing pen for bill granting honorary U.S. citizenship to Winston Churchill	1963	1 item
Folder 4	Kennedy half-dollar and 1965 quarter, with letters from Lyndon B. Johnson	1964, 1965	4 items
Folder 5	Nomination and election certificates	1944-1964	14 items
Folder 6	Kentucky Colonel certificates	1951, 1963	2 items
Folder 7	Sketches of Chelf; political cartoons	1952-1960, n.d.	7 items
Folder 8	Photographs	1945-1956, n.d.	8 items
Folder 9	Miscellaneous certificates, posters	1962-1971, n.d.	5 items
Folder 10	Cumberland University debating society diploma; Kentucky bar admission certificates; U.S. District Court (D.C) certificate of qualification	1931-1966	4 items
Folder 11	Campaign speeches (78 r.p.m. audiodisc)	1944	1 item
Folder 12	Taylor County Fair speech (78 r.p.m. audiodisc)	1952	4 items
Folder 13	October 25, 1952 political speech (78 r.p.m. audiodisc)	1952	4 items
Folder 14	Unidentified speeches (78 r.p.m. audiodisc)	n.d.	4 items



<b>BOX 14</b>	<b>Frank L. Chelf – Scrapbooks</b>	<b>1944-1953</b>	<b>2 items</b>
Folder 1	Scrapbook	1944-1953	1 item
Folder 2	Scrapbook	1952	1 item
<b>BOX 15</b>	<b>Frank L. Chelf – Scrapbooks</b>	<b>1952-1959</b>	<b>3 items</b>
Folder 1	Scrapbook	1952	1 item
Folder 2	Scrapbook	1952-1954	1 item
Folder 3	Scrapbook	1953-1959	1 item
<b>BOX 16</b>	<b>Frank L. Chelf – Scrapbooks</b>	<b>1951-1966</b>	<b>97 items</b>
Folder 1	Scrapbook	1959-1963	1 item
Folder 2	Scrapbook	1966	1 item
Folder 3	Loose clippings from scrapbooks	1951-1966	95 items

### ***BIBLIOGRAPHIC RECORD***

MSS CHELF, Frank Leslie, 1897-1994  
492 1907-1982

Correspondence, photographs, scrapbooks, audiotapes, film and miscellaneous material relating primarily to the political career of Democrat Frank L. Chelf, who represented Kentucky's Fourth District in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1944-1966. Includes Chelf's voting record and bills, research and speeches related to his legislative interests.

16 boxes. 140 folders. 2,559 items. Originals, photocopies, photographs, audiotapes, film.  
1971.1.58

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**SEE or SEE ALSO**

Chelf, Louise (Rash), 1912-1984

See:

Chelf, Margaret Louise (Rash)

Libraries, Public

See:

Public libraries

Russell, Jane, 1921-2011

See:

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