

THE JOSEPH J. KOWALSKI COLLECTION

27 Manuscript Boxes

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Accession Number 250

By: DM

The papers of Joseph J. Kowalski were deposited with the Labor History Archives in October, 1967, by Mrs. Joseph J. Kowalski.

Joseph J. Kowalski, Speaker of the Michigan House of Representatives in 1965 and 1966, was responsible for the introduction of many important liberal reforms in the state. Born February 19, 1911, in East Chicago, Indiana, he was the son of a Gary steel worker.

He graduated from Valparaiso University, with an LL.B. degree. He entered labor in 1936 as an organizer in Indiana, Ohio and Michigan for the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees. In 1941 he was hired by August Scholle, state CIO president, to establish a workers' education program. He worked as a staff representative for the UAW, serving as director of the Workers Service Program of Michigan. He was educational consultant for the Michigan CIO Council, 1942-46; and served on the advisory committee on workers' education to the U. S. Secretary of Labor, on the advisory committee of the American Labor Education Service, and as international representative of UAW-CIO.

Kowalski was elected to the House of Representatives in 1948, and was returned each election after. His was the 19th district, of Wayne County. He was Democratic Floor Leader for six years. After the 1964 election the Democrats controlled the House for the first time since 1938. They elected Kowalski Speaker on December 4, 1964. For the two years he was Speaker, there were many changes in the Michigan political situation, as the new Constitution was implemented and reapportionment worked out. He lost the speakership when the 1967 session opened, and then became Democratic Leader of the House. He died at the age of 56, on March 18, 1967.

The Kowalski Collection covers the years 1958 to 1967, but the greatest bulk and interest lie in the years 1965 and 1966.

Important subjects touched upon in the collection are:

- Caucus and committee meetings, minutes and proposals on legislation
- Committee Hearings
- Agriculture
- Amish Education
- Banking
- Michigan Budgets
- Civil Rights
- Civil Service
- Conservation and Recreation
- Constitutional Implementation
- Constitutional Amendments and Revision
- Court Reorganization
- Democratic Party
- Economic Development

The Joseph J. Kowalski Collection

Subjects (continued)

Education	Organization of the House
Health	Pollution
Homestead Exemptions	Prisons
Hospitals	Public Employees
Income Tax	Reapportionment
Insurance	Romney
Labor Unions	Salary Increases for Legislators
Legislative Proposals	Senior Citizens
Liquor Control	Taxation and Tax exemptions
Mental Health	Traffic Safety
M.E.S.C.	Veterans
Michigan Universities	Workmen's Compensation
Minimum Wage Bills	Youth Problems

Among the Correspondents are:

Richard Austin	Frank Kelley
Vince Brannigan	Robert B. Knox
John D. Dingell	T. John Lesinski
Gerald R. Ford	James H. Lincoln
Zoltan Ferency	Bill Moyers
Martha Griffith	Mrs. Esther Peterson
Robert C. Grosvenor	Walter Reuther
James Hare	George Romney
Philip A. Hart	Dorothy Roosevelt
W. A. Harriman	Theodore Sachs
Albert E. Heustis	August Scholle
Clarence Hilberry	Neil Staebler
Ira Kaufman	Robert E. Waldron
William R. Keast	G. Mennen Williams

Also, innumerable letters to their congressman, from Michigan citizens.

Special Note: Some papers and correspondence of 44 other representatives and former representatives are included in the Kowalski Collection. They are mainly committee papers and notes, and correspondence between them and their constituents. Those whose papers are included are: Representatives and former Representatives Francis Beedon, William A. Boos, James Bradley, Arthur Cartwright, James Constantini, William Copeland, James Del Rio, George H. Edwards, Daisy Elliott, Einar Erlandsen, E. A. Fitzpatrick, John J. Fitzpatrick, Joseph A. Gillis, Richard Guzowski, Russell Hellman, David S. Holmes, Albert E. Horrigan, Bill Huffman, Josephine Hunsinger, Walter Hyso, D. J. Jacobetti, James Karoub, Arthur Law, Lucille McCollough, Joseph S. Mack, Frank Mahoney, Robert Mahoney, Louis Mezzano, Edward Michalski, George F. Montgomery, E. D. O'Brien, Michael J. O'Brien, John Penczak, Alexander Petri, William Romano, Joseph Snyder, Adam Sumeracki, William Thorne, Roger Townsend, Gilbert Wales, Leonard Walton, Daniel West, Chester Wosniak, and Maxcine young. Papers of Douglas Cook, administrative assistant, are also included. Most of these papers are from the year 1963.

The Joseph J. Kowalski Collection

Description of Series

Note on Arrangement:

Because of the heterogeneous nature of this collection, with its inclusion of some extraneous papers and because of the scope of subject matter, the original alphabetical filing system was retained, with letters from constituents scattered throughout, filed as most of them were, along with the subjects about which they were concerned. This puts an emphasis on the power of constituent opinion, which may not be misplaced. The concern which Joseph Kowalski felt for the ideas and opinions of the people, is evident in the collection. Some knowledge of the committee system and the departments in state government would be useful in any research.

- Box 1. A to Appointments and Meetings, April, 1965.
- Box 2. Appointments and Meetings, 1965 to Attorney General, Opinions, 1965-1966.
- Box 3. Attorney General, Opinions, 1966 to C
- Box 4. Capitol Development to Committees, 1966-1967.
- Box 5. Committee Reports to Cook, Douglas, 1964.
- Box 6. Copeland, William, Rep. to Dental Survey
- Box 7. Detroit to Education - Project II, 1967.
- Box 8. Education, Public, 1964-1966 to Extra Session, 1965
- Box 9. F to Hellman, Russell, Rep.
- Box 10. Highway Department, 1958; 1963-1965 to Horrigan, Albert, Rep., May-Dec, 1963
- Box 11. Hospitals to Interim Committees, Studies, Reports, 1965
- Box 12. Interim Committees, Reports, resolutions, 1965 to Kowalski, Misc., 1964
- Box 13. Kowalski, Misc., 1965 to Labor, Minimum Wage, 1963-1964
- Box 14. Labor, Misc. to Legislature, Members, Lists, 1964-1966
- Box 15. Legislature, 1967 to Meat Inspection
- Box 16. Memoranda, Speaker, 1965 to Michalski, Edward, Rep.
- Box 17. Michigan State Police to News Releases, Senate Democratic
- Box 18. News Releases, Speaker, Jan.-June, 1965 to Optometry
- Box 19. Organization of House, 1964 to Penczak, John J., Rep.

The Joseph J. Kowalski Collection

Description of Series (Cond't.)

- Box 20. Peterson, Mrs. Esther to Politics, Republicans, 1965-1966
- Box 21. Pollution to Proposed Legislation, 1966
- Box 22. Proposed Legislation, 1967 to Resolutions
- Box 23. Retirement, State Employees to Salary Increase Protests, 1966
- Box 24. Secretary of State to Students, State Scholarships
- Box 25. Sumeracki, Adam to Telegrams, Misc.
- Box 26. Thorne, William, Rep. to Veterans, February 1966-June 1966
- Box 27. W to Z and Misc. Unsorted Invitations and Misc. Unsorted Legislators' Notes

JOSEPH J. KOWALSKI

Box Inventory

- Box 1 A - Correspondence, Miscellaneous
Administration (Department) 1965-1966
Administrative Board
Agenda, 1965
Agrawal, S. N. (Indian visitor)
Agriculture Department - 1964-1966 Correspondence
Agriculture Department - Bills, notices, laws
Amendments
Amendments (Democratic Caucus proposals) 1965
Amish Education
Appointments, meetings, 1964
Appointments, meetings, January, 1965
Appointments, meetings, February, 1965
Appointments, meetings, February, 1965
Appointments, meetings, March, 1965
Appointments, meetings, April, 1965
- Box 2 Appointments, meetings, May, 1965
Appointments, meetings, June-July, 1965
Appointments, meetings, August-September, 1965
Appointments, meetings, October, November, December, 1965
Appointments, meetings, January, 1966
Appointments, meetings, February, 1966
Appointments, meetings, March, 1966
Appointments, meetings, April, 1966
Appointments, meetings, May, 1966
Appointments, meetings, June-July, 1966
Appointments, meetings, August-December, 1966
Apportionment, 1961-1964
Apportionment, 1965-1966
Attorney General - Correspondence, memoranda, 1965-1966
Attorney General - Requests for Opinions, 1965
Attorney General - Requests for Opinions, 1966
Attorney General - Opinions, 1965-1966
- Box 3 Attorney General - Opinions, 1966
Audit Commission (Legislative Audit) 1965 Auditor
(Legislative) 1964-1965 Auditor General
- B - Correspondence
Banking
Barbers
Beedon, Francis, Rep. (letter to new representatives)
Bills - Analyses, miscellaneous
Boos, William A., Rep. - Miscellaneous and Bus bill letters, 1963
Boundary (Michigan-Ohio)
Bradley, James, Rep.
Budget
Building Commission

C

JOSEPH J. KOWALSKI

- Box 4 Capitol Development
 Cartwright, Arthur, Rep.
 Caucus - Democratic - 1964-1965
 Caucus - Democratic - 1967
 Chiropractic Association
 Citizen's Conference on State Legislatures
 Citizen's Research Council
 Civil Rights Commission and Committee
 Civil Service Commission
 Coldwater State House
 Colleges and Universities Committee
 Committees, Legislative - 1962-1963
 Committees, Legislative - 1964
 Committees, Legislative - 1965 (Jan.-May)
 Committees, Legislative - 1965 (June-Dec.)
 Committees, Legislative - 1966-1967
- Box 5 Committee Reports - 4 Folders Compulsory Arbitration
 Congratulatory Letters (to JJK) Congratulatory Letters (re
 73rd Session) Conservation and Recreation 1964; Jan.-June
 1965 Conservation and Recreation July 1965-Aug. 1966
 Constantini, James, Rep. (1965-1966) Constitution -
 Implementation 1965-1966 Constitution - Revision and
 amendment Consumer Protection
 Cook, Douglas (Administrative Assistant) 1963; Jan.-Sept., 1964 Cook, Douglas
 (Administrative Assistant) Oct.-Dec, 1964
- Box 6 Copeland, William R., Rep.
 Cosmetology
 Council of Churches (1965) County Home Rule - 1965-1966 (proposed bill)
 Court Reorganization (Joint Report on Minor Courts) Courts - 1964-1966 (Statist
 study of need for additional judges) Crime and Delinquency Crippled Children
 Commission
- D - Correspondence
 Deer
 Del Rio, James, Rep. - 1965-1966
 Democratic Candidates 1964
 Democratic Policy
 Democratic State Convention - (party platform and complete convention "kit")
 Democratic - Lists, (losers, winners)
 Dental Survey
- Box 7 Detroit - 1964-1966 (Letters, miscellaneous) Dog Racing

JOSEPH J. KOWALSKI

Box 7 (Cond't.)

E - Correspondence
 Economic Development Committee 1965-1966.
 Economic Expansion, Michigan Dept. 1965 (proposed research)
 Economic Opportunity, Office (analysis of 1964 act, Neighbor Youth Corps,
 Adult Basic Education, War on Poverty, Vista Rural Form Loans, etc.) Education,
 Dept. of - 1966 (letters, reports) - 3 Folders
 Education, Federal Aid - 1965
 Education, Higher - 1965-1966
 Education, Higher - 1964-1966 (Grants, Leonard Woodcock appeal) Education,
 Higher - 1966 (Assistance Bill)
 Education, Higher - Reports
 Education, Parochial Schools 1964-1965
 Education, Project II - 1967 - (letters)

Box 8 Education - Public 1964-1966

Education - Special Education (committee report)
 Education - State Aid - 1964-1967
 Education - State Board of (Reports, higher education, WMU, U of M requests)
 Education - State Board of - 1966 - Reports
 Education - Teacher's Retirement - 1964-1967
 Edwards, George H., Rep. (1963)
 Eighteen-year-old Vote - 1964-1966
 Elections - 1964-1965
 Elections - Committee on 1965-1966
 Elliott, Mrs. Daisy, Rep. (miscellaneous)
 Employees - Legislative
 Erlandsen, Einar, Rep. Jan.-April, 1963
 Erlandsen, Einar, Rep. - May-Dec, 1963
 Extra Session, 1965

Box 9 F - Correspondence

Family Planning (letters)
 Faxon Art Display - 1965
 Federal Relations - 1965 - (committee)
 Fellowship Program (House)
 Film - on Michigan Legislature
 Fiscal Reform - 1965-1967 (speeches, reports, letters)
 Fitzpatrick, E. A., Rep.
 Fitzpatrick, John J., Rep. (poems)
 Flower fund - 1962-1964
 Fluoridation
 Food Industry
 Forestry

G - Correspondence

Gillis, Joseph A., Rep.
 Governor's Office
 Grocers' Dairy Company - 1963 (trial, memoranda)
 Gun Laws - 1966
 Guzowski, Richard (Speech about WSU)

JOSEPH J. KOWALSKI

Box 9 (Cond't.)

H - Correspondence
 Half-way Houses
 Health
 Hellman, Russell, Rep. (Speech on women)

Box 10 Highway Department - 1958; 1963-1965
 Highway Department - 1966 Historical
 (clippings, misc.) Holmes, David S., Rep.
 Home Sales
 Homestead Exemption - 1965 Homestead Exemption -
 1966 Horology - Board - 1965 -(Report) Horrigan,
 Albert R., Rep. - Jan.-Feb., 1963 Horrigan, Albert R.,
 Rep. - March, 1963 Horrigan, Albert R., Rep. - April,
 1963
 Horrigan, Albert R., Rep. - May-Dec., 1963 (Bus Bill, Homestead Exemption, Tax Reform
 letters)

Box 11 Hospitals - 1965-1966 (Foreign Exchange Nurse Program) House
 Policy Committee Housing, 1965-1966 Huffman, Bill S., Rep.
 Hunsinger, Mrs. Josephine, Rep. (caucus minutes, fluoridation) Hunting Hyso,
 Walter J., Rep.

Income Tax - State
 Indian Affairs - 1965-1966
 Industrial Development - 1965-66
 Insurance - 1964-1965
 Insurance - 1966-1967
 Interim and Special Committees 1963
 Interim and Standing Committees 1963
 Interim Committees - 1964
 Interim Committees - 1965 - (studies, reports)

Box 12 Interim Committees - reports and resolutions - 1965 Interim
 Committees - reports, 1965-1966 Interim Committees - reports,
 papers - 1966 Interstate Cooperation Commission

J - Correspondence
 Jacobetti, D. J., Rep.
 Judiciary Committee

K - Correspondence
 Karoub, James, Rep.
 Kowalski - Letters, notes - 1964-1965
 Kowalski - Letters, notes - 1965-1966
 Kowalski - Miscellaneous - 1958-1959
 Kowalski - Miscellaneous - 1964

JOSEPH J. KOWALSKI

- Box 13 Kowalski - Miscellaneous, 1965 Kowalski -
Miscellaneous, 1966 Kowalski -
Miscellaneous, Posthumous
- L - Correspondence
Labor Committee - 1965
Labor Committee - 1966
Labor Committee - (Report)
Labor, Department - 1966
Labor, Government Employees - 1965
Labor - MESC 1965 - 2 Folders
Labor Migrant - 1965
Labor Minimum Wage - 1963-1964
- Box 14 Labor, miscellaneous
Labor Unions - AFL-CIO 1964-1966
Labor Unions - UAW-CIO 1964-1966
Landscaping
Law, Arthur J., Rep.
Legislative Committee Reports
Legislative Compensation Commission - 1965-1966
Legislative Council
Legislative Programs - Federal Aid
Legislative Programs - Summaries - 1963 (Democrat - Republican)
Legislative Report - 1965
Legislative Retirement
Legislative Service Bureau - 1965-1966
Legislative Summaries - 1966
Legislature - Members, candidates, 1962-1963
Legislature - Members, candidates, 1964-1965
Legislature - Members, lists 1964-1966
- Box 15 Legislature - 1967
Libraries Licensing
Liquor Control Commission, 1964 Liquor Control
Committee Reports, 1964 Liquor Control - 1965-
(miscellaneous) Liquor Control - 1966-67
(miscellaneous) Lobbyists - 1965
- M - Correspondence
McCollough, Lucile H., Rep.
Mack, Joseph S., Rep.
Mackinac Bridge Authority
Mac Namara, Senator Patrick V.
Mahoney, Frank, Rep.
Mahoney, Robert D., Rep.
Mailing List, J.J.K.
Marine Affairs, Committee
Maritime Union (Handbook for Saboteurs)
Meat Inspection

JOSEPH J. KOWALSKI

- Box 16 Memoranda - Speaker - 1965 Memoranda - Speaker -
 1966 Memos to all Democratic Members - 1965
 Mental Health Committee - 1963-1964 Mental
 Health - 1965 Mental Health - 1966
 Mental Health - Reports, Materials - 1964-1966 Mezzano, Louis, Rep.
 (min. leader), Nov.-Dec, 1958; 1964 Michalski, Edward K., Rep.
- Box 17 Michigan State Police
 Michigan State University
 Military Affairs (confidential report on Michigan National Guard)
 Milk
 Mines
 Minor Courts
 Montgomery, George F., Rep.
 Mortgages
 Motor Carriers
 Moving and Storage Bill
 Municipal Finance Commission
- N - Correspondence
 National Societies and Councils
 News Clippings
 News Media - 1964; Jan.-June, 1965
 News Media - July-Dec, 1965
 News Media - 1966
 News Releases, (miscellaneous)
 News Releases (Senate Democratic)
- Box 18 News Releases - Speaker - Jan.-June, 1965 News
 Releases - Speaker - July-Dec., 1965 News Releases -
 Speaker - Jan.-June, 1966 News Releases - Speaker -
 July-Dec., 1966 Nursing Nut File (odd letters)
- O - Correspondence
 O'Brien, E. D., Rep.
 O'Brien, Michael J.
 Office Correspondence (Kinney and Cook, assistants to Speaker)
 Office Procedure - personnel
 Optometry
- Box 19 Organization of House - 1964 (miscellaneous) - 2 Folders
 Organization of House - 1964-1965 (Democratic)
 Organization of House - 1965-1966
 Organization of House - 1967 - 2 Folders
 Osteopaths
- P - Correspondence
 Peche Island, 1964
 Peoples Community Hospital Authority
 Penczak, John J., Rep.

JOSEPH J. KOWALSKI

- Box 20 Peterson, Mrs. Esther Petri,
Alexander, Rep. Physical
Therapists Podiatrists
Politics - Democratic - Feb.-Aug., 1964 (Staebler Releases) Politics -
Democratic - Sept.-Nov., 1964 (Staebler Releases) Politics - 1964 Campaign -
(miscellaneous)
Politics - Democratic Party (miscellaneous)
Politics - Democratic State Central Committee, 1964
Politics - Democratic State Central Committee, 1965
Politics - Democratic State Central Committee, 1966
Politics - Republican, 1965-1966
- Box 21 Pollution Prisons
Prisons - Reports
Procedure (in house)
Programs - Democratic - 1965-1967
Proposed Legislation - 1963-1964
Proposed Legislation - 1964 - 3 Folders Proposed
Legislation - 1965
Proposed Legislation - 1966 - 2 Folders
- Box 22 Proposed Legislation - 1967
Proposed Legislation - 1967 (agriculture, conservation)
Proposed Legislation - 1967 (miscellaneous - crime, motorcycles, aeronautics, securities, economic
expansion, financial institutions, insurance, liquor, implied consent, civil rights)
Proposed Legislation, 1967 (Health, labor)
Proposed Legislation, 1967 (civil service, consumers)
Protests - 1965
Public Employees (Commission Investigation on Employee Rights) Public
Safety
Public Utilities
- Questionnaires
- R - Correspondence
Racing - Letters
Racing - (Michigan Racing Commission Reports)
Reform - Legislative Reform Task Force
Reorganization - Governmental
Republicans
Resolutions
- Box 23 Retirement - (State Employees, Judges, Legislators) Revenue -
Department Roads and Bridges Romano, William, Rep.
Romney, 1964-1967
- S - Correspondence
Salary Increases - Legislators
Salary Increases - Letters - 1965
Salary Increases - 1966 (Protests) - 2 Folders

JOSEPH J. KOWALSKI

- Box 24 Secretary of State Senior Citizens Snyder Joseph
M., Rep. Social Services Department
Speeches and Speech Information - J.J.K. Staff
Positions - House State Fair Authority Stationery
Orders Steering Committee - 1963-
1964 Students - Legislative Interns Students
- State Scholarships
- Box 25 Sumeracki, Adam, Rep. Supervisors -
Boards Supervisors - Inter-County
Committee Supplies and Expenditures
(committee)
Supreme Court (recommendations re circuit ct. judges - 1966) Supreme
Court - 1966 (Apportionment Appeal Case)
- T - Correspondence
Taxation - 1963-1964; Jan.-March, 1965
Taxation - April-July, 1965
Taxation - Aug.-Dec., 1965
Taxation - 1966-1967
Tax Commission
Telegrams (misc.)
- Box 26 Thome, William, Rep. Time
(EST or CST)
Tourist Industry Relations (Committee) Towns
and Counties (committee) Townsend, Roger,
Rep.
Traffic Safety - 1964 (governor's report) Traffic Safety -
1965 Traffic Safety - Jan.-April, 1966
Traffic Safety - May, 1966-March, 1967 Transportation
Travel Requests, 1965 Treasurer
- U - Correspondence
U. S. Federal Issues
University of Michigan
Upper Peninsula
Urban Renewal and Affairs
- V - Correspondence
Veterans - 1964-1965
Veterans - Jan., 1966
Veterans - Feb., 1966-June, 1966

JOSEPH J. KOWALSKI

Box 27 W - Correspondence
Wales, Gilbert, Rep. Walton,
Leonard, Rep.
Water Resources Commission
Wayne County
Wayne State University Ways
and Means (committee) Welfare,
1964
Welfare, 1965
West, Daniel, 1965
White House Conference for Legislative Leaders - June 15-16, 1966 Workmens
Compensation - Department - 1964
Workmens Compensation - 1965-1966
Workmens Compensation - Reports
Wozniak, Chester, Rep.

Y - Correspondence
Young, Maxcine, Rep. - 1963
Youth

z - Correspondence

Miscellaneous Unsorted Invitations Miscellaneous
Unsorted Legislators Notes