Guide to the Papers of

1927 Flood Information

Prepared by Dana Chandler and Cheryl Ferguson, 2010

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**Tuskegee University National Center of**

**Archives and Museums**

**Tuskegee, AL 36088**

Tuskegee University Archives

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**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Collection Summary

Administrative Information

Index Terms

Biography

Scope and Content

Arrangement

Restrictions

Inventory

**Collection Summary**

**Creator:** Moton, Robert Russa (1867-1940)

**Title:** Papers of 1927 Flood Information

**Dates:** 1927

**Quantity:** .333 cubic feet

**Identification:**

**Abstract:** The Great Mississippi Flood of 1927 was the most destructive river flood in the history of the United States. The flood affected Arkansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Tennessee, Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas. Arkansas was hardest hit, with 14% of its territory covered by floodwaters. By May 1927, the Mississippi River below Memphis, Tennessee, reached a width of 60 miles.

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**Administrative Information**

**Preferred Citation**

Papers of 1927 Flood Information

**Acquisition Information**

No information available

**Processing Information**

The papers were received for processing in archival storage containers, with the documents in what was assumed to be their original folders. From their arrangement in the storage containers, it was assumed that the folders were as they were placed in a file drawer.

In processing the collection, original folders were replaced with acid-free folders. Folders were labeled, either following the original labeling, or in the case of missing or incorrect labels were assigned folder titles. Folder titles assigned by the processors are indicated in the inventory enclosed in square brackets. All metal fasteners were removed.

**Index Terms**

The papers are indexed under the following headings in the Tuskegee University Library’s online catalog. Researchers seeking materials about related subjects, persons, organizations or places should search the catalog using these headings.

**Subjects:**

Bridges—Louisiana.

Bridges—Mississippi

Bridges—Maintenance and repair.

Buildings—Flood damage.

Church buildings—Flood damage.

Disaster relief.

Docks—Louisiana—Baton Rouge.

Dredges.

Flood damage—Louisiana.

Flood damage—Mississippi

Floods—Louisiana—History—20th century.

Floods—Mississippi—History—20th century.

Johnboats—Louisiana.

Levees—Louisiana.

Levees—Mississippi

Lone Star Highway (La.)

Louisiana Purchase Highway (La.)

Mississippi River—Floods.

Parks (La.)

Parks (Ms)

Railroad stations—Flood damage.

Railroads—Louisiana.

Railroads—Mississippi.

Railroads—Louisiana—Flood damage.

Railroads—Mississippi—Flood damage.

Railroads—Louisiana—Maintenance and repair.

Railroads—Mississippi—Maintenance and repair.

Red Cross (La.)

Red Cross (Ms.)

Refugee camps.

Roads—Flood damage.

Roads—Louisiana.

Roads—Mississippi.

Roads—Maintenance and repair.

**Persons:**

Allen, Oscar Kelly, 1882-1936.

Ewing, Jasper G.

# Moton, Robert R. 1867-1940.

Hoover, Hertbert C. 1874-1964.

**History**

The Mississippi River Flood of 1927 is one of the worst natural disasters to occur in the U. S., this flood took the lives of thousands, made refugees of hundreds of thousands, and caused vast destruction. Several reports on the terrible situation in the refugee camps, including one by the Colored Advisory Commission by Robert Russa Moton, were kept out of the media at the request of Herbert Hoover, with the promise of further reforms for blacks after the presidential election. When he failed to keep the promise, Moton and other influential African-Americans helped to shift the allegiance of Black Americans from the Republican party to Franklin Delano Roosevelt and the Democrats.

**Scope and Contents**

The Papers of 1927 Flood Information consists of documents spanning a single year,

1927, and include correspondence between Robert R. Moton, Warren Logan and Herbert Hoover, regarding events surrounding the 1927 Mississippi Flood.

**Arrangement**

The papers are arranged into one series:

Series I: Papers of the 1927 flood.

**Restrictions**

**Restrictions on Access**

There are no restrictions on access to these papers.

**Restrictions on Use**

Researchers are responsible for addressing copyright issues on materials not in the public domain.

**Inventory**

**Series I: Series contains legal papers, information and personal correspondence.**

**Box Folder**

1 1 Correspondences to Dr. Moton… Mississippi Flood 1927

1 2 Correspondences 1927 Flood and the Negro Farmer

1 3 Inspection of the Negro Refugee Camp

1 4 Correspondences from Holsey

1 5 Correspondences to and from Dr. Moton

1 6a Correspondences to and from Warren Logan

1 6b Correspondences to and from Warren Logan

1 7 National Urban League

1 8 Herbert Hoover