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JAMES ADLAI COBB PAPERS
Collection 18-1 to 18-3

Prepared & Revised by:
Karen L. Jefferson
January 1981

Scope Note

The James Adlai Cobb Collection was donated to Howard University by Dean Charles H. Thompson in 1959. The collection totals three linear feet spanning the period 1897 to 1958- The collection consists primarily Of personal materials, including news articles, identification cards, awards, certificates, Photographs, scrapbooks, and correspondence.

James A. Cobb, a prominent Washington, D.C. lawyer was appointed Judge of the municipal court for the District of Columbia in 1926. The correspondence in this collection focuses mainly upon endorsements to encourage Cobb's reappointment in 1934. Cobb was not reappointed, and in 1935 he resumed his private law practice as senior partner in the law firm Cobb, (Perry) Howard, and (George E.C.) Hayes. The collection includes photographs of the members of the law firm, as well as group and individual photographs of Cobb.

Biographical Data

1876, January 29 Born in Arcadia, La.
Received education at the Straight
University, New Orleans, La.; and the Fisk
University, Tennessee.

1899 Received Bachelor of Laws degree from the
Howard University.

1900 Received Master of Laws degree from the
Howard University. Began law practice in
Washington, D.C.

1907 Appointed special assistant to the Department
of Justice

1915 Returned to private practice.

1916 Joined the Howard University Law School
faculty

1917 Appointed to the Supreme Court of the U.S. on
a motion by Robert H. Terrell

1923-29 Served as Vice Dean of the Howard University
Law School

1926 Appointed Judge of the Municipal Court for
the District of Columbia by President
Coolidge

1935 Term as Municipal Court Judge expired and he
was not reappointed, despite public effort.
Returned to private practice.

1938 Resigned from the Howard University faculty

1955 Received the Howard University Alumni
Achievement Award for distinguished post-
graduate Service in the field of law.

1958 October 14, died in Washington, D.C.

Series Description

Series A Correspondence

Box 18-1 Primarily letters of endorsement to encourage
the reappointment of James A. Cobb as judge
of the Municipal Court of the District of
Columbia.

Series B Personal Papers

Box 18-2 News articles, programs, invitations, identi-
fication cards, awards, certificates, photo-
graphs and memorabilia about James A. Cobb;

Series C Oversize Items

Box 18-3 Certificates, diplomas, photographs and 2
scrapbooks spanning the period 1909-1937 of
news articles and correspondence.

Container List

A Correspondence

Box 18-1	Folder
	1 A
	2 B
	3 C
	4 D
	5 E
	6 F
	7 G
	8 H
	9 I-J
	10 K
	11 L
	12 M
	13 N
	14 O-Q
	15 Pond, Eleanor J.
	16 R
	17 S
	18 T-V
	19 W
	20 Illegible/partial names
	21 From Emmett J. Scott Collection
	Morgan State University (Xerox
	22 Originals - Fragile (Use Xerox Copies

B Personal Papers

Box 18-2	23 In memoriam
	24 News articles about J.A. Cobb
	25 New articles about J.A. Cobb - originals - fragile use xerox copy
	26 Programs on which his name appears
	27 Invitations, programs
	28 Identification cards
	29 Memoranda book - 1954; and receipts
	30 Howard University Law School Examinations
	31 Committee materials
	32 Memorabilia
	33 Clippings, and press releases-general
	34 Medals, badges, buttons
	35 Awards and certificates
	36 Photographs
	37 Photographs

C Oversize Items

Box 18-3

Photographs

Engraving cut of James A. Cobb

Diploma Howard University
Bachelor of Laws 1899

Diploma Howard University
Masters of Law 1900

Diploma Howard University
Bachelor of Pedagogy 1902

Certificate admitted as
Attorney and Counsellor to Supreme Court
of the U.S. on motion of Robert H. Terrell
March 19, 1917

Certificate appointed Judge of Municipal
Court of D.C. by President Calvin Coolidge
March 17, 1926

Certificate appointed Judge of Municipal
Court of D.C. by President Herbert Hoover
March 18, 1930

Certificate Awarded "Equitable-Affiliate
in the Pigskin Club" Pigskin Club of D.C.
October 20, 1941

Scrapbook #1 - correspondence 1907-37

Scrapbook #2 - Newsclippings,
correspondence, invitations, 1915, 1920-35

