

*South Carolina Political Collections*  
*The University of South Carolina*

**Butler Black Hare**

*(1875-1967)*

**Papers, c. 1900-1966**

- Volume:** 1 linear ft. and one oversized folder
- Processed:** 2000, by Aaron W. Marrs
- Provenance:** Donated by Mrs. Butler B. Hare, Rear Admiral and Mrs. Robert H. Hare, and Mrs. James B. Hare.
- Citation Form:** Butler Hare Papers, South Carolina Political Collections, The University of South Carolina
- Copyright:** Copyright of the Butler Hare Papers has been transferred to the University of South Carolina.

## **Biographical Note:**

Declared the “New Idol of Liberty” by the English-language *Filipino Nation*, Butler Black Hare (1875-1967) achieved international standing for his work in shepherding the Philippines to independence. Serving South Carolina’s second district in the United States House of Representatives from March 4, 1925 to March 3, 1933 and the third district from January 3, 1939 to January 3, 1947, Hare also worked on issues important to the South Carolina farmers he lived with most of his life.

One of nine children, Hare was born near Leesville, South Carolina on November 25, 1875. His father was a Confederate veteran and tenant farmer. Hare graduated from Newberry College in 1899 and held several jobs, including working as secretary for South Carolina representatives George and Theodore Croft and as a professor at Leesville College, before earning a law degree from George Washington University in 1910. He practiced law in Saluda, South Carolina, edited an agricultural journal, and worked for the United States Department of Agriculture before his election to Congress in 1924. He made an unsuccessful bid for the House of Representatives in 1906, losing to incumbent James Patterson.

Hare’s first period of congressional service culminated in the chairmanship of the House Insular Affairs Committee, 1931-1933 [?]. In this capacity, he authored the Philippine Independence Act, which began the process of granting independence to the Philippines, a United States possession since 1898. Redistricting after the 1930 census caused South Carolina’s House delegation to be reduced from seven to six and Hare chose to return to his law practice in Saluda rather than seek another term in the House.

Hare’s second period of congressional service began when he defeated incumbent John Taylor to represent the third district in 1938. Appointed to the House Appropriations Committee, Hare concentrated his efforts on securing better postal service in his district, advocating the creation of a highway system, supporting poll taxes, and opposing the Fair Employment Protection Commission. He was selected to be in a group of legislators to tour Europe and assess its post-World War II condition. Hare was defeated in 1946 by William Jennings Bryan Dorn and again returned to Saluda to practice law. He died on December 30, 1967. Hare was survived by his wife, Kate Etheredge, and son, Robert Hayne Hare. Another son, James Butler Hare, died in 1966.



*Hare at 1616 Gervais Street, Columbia, SC*

## **Scope and Content Note:**

The collection consists of 1 linear foot of material and one oversized folder, c. 1900 to 1966. The bulk of the collection consists of speeches and clippings, 1928-1932 and 1942-1947. The collection is arranged in four series: General, Speeches, Photos, and Clippings. The papers chiefly relate to his service in Congress and contain little personal correspondence or information.

General papers, 1906-1961 [bulk dates 1910 to 1932] consist chiefly of constituent letters on subjects including the cancellation of European debts and the Home Loan Bank Bill and copies of legislation introduced by Hare. Also present here is Hare's master's thesis, "Reconstruction and Its Industrial Effects," written at George Washington University. Undated items appear to be press releases or typed copies of newspaper articles.

Speeches, c.1900 to 1950 [bulk dates 1942 to 1947] include talks Hare delivered on the floor of the House of Representatives and to groups around South Carolina and the South. Some speeches include Hare's handwritten editing and some are incomplete. The speeches reflect Hare's interest in topics including military highways, labor, poll taxes, postal affairs, and states' rights. Speeches are arranged by date.



*Hare in the Philippines, 1932*

Photographs depict Hare at various stages of his career and include several pictures of Hare in the Philippines, 1932, his acceptance of an honorary degree from Newberry College, 1945, and some family photographs. Some photographs are copies of originals that were found in poor physical condition.

Clippings, 1906 to 1953 [bulk dates 1925 to 1932], consist of photocopies made from Hare's scrapbooks. General clippings include stories relating to Hare's career, campaigns and sponsored legislation. Most are from South Carolina newspapers and include information on Hare opponents James Patterson, John Taylor, and William Jennings Bryan Dorn. Hare's 1932 trip to the Philippines is well documented by articles from Filipino and American newspapers. Present are copies of editorials authored by Hare for Philippine newspapers. A Family folder contains several clippings relating to Hare's sons, James Butler and Robert Hayne Hare.

The oversized folder contains four pieces of promotional literature for Hare's campaigns of 1930, 1940, 1944 and 1946. Each is a compilation of newspaper articles and editorials documenting Hare's achievements.

**Series:**

*General*  
*Speeches*  
*Photographs*  
*Clippings*

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**Collection Inventory:****Biographical Information****Box 1 of 1****General:**

1906-1910  
1910 [Thesis, *Reconstruction and Its Industrial Effects*]  
1929-1931  
1932:  
    Jan. - Feb.  
    Mar. - Dec.  
1939  
1940-1961  
n.d.

**Speeches:**

1900-1910:  
    Untitled speech on the effects of the Civil War, c. 1900  
    "Compulsory Education," c. 1907  
    "Compulsory Laws and Their Enforcement," c. 1907  
    Untitled speech on rule by the people, c. 1908  
    Untitled speech on education, c. 1910  
1911-1912:  
    Address delivered at Port Royal Agricultural School, Beaufort, S.C., Nov. 30, 1911  
    "Agricultural Credit," c. 1912  
    "Productive Value of Agricultural Training," c. 1912  
1930-1933:  
    Untitled speech on prohibition, c. 1930  
    Untitled speech on the Philippines, c. 1932  
    Untitled speech regarding H.R. 3835, c. 1933  
1942:  
    "Members of Congress not Entitled to Retirement Pensions," Feb. 27  
    "Extension of Remarks" regarding pensions, Feb. 27  
    "Appropriations for Rural Delivery Service on all Holidays except Sundays"  
    Untitled speech on the war effort  
    Untitled speech on the Ruml Plan  
1943:  
    "The Right of Congress to Remove an Employee from Government Pay Roll," House of Representatives, Feb. 9  
    "Department of Justice"  
    Two drafts of testimony regarding wartime shortages of farm labor  
    Untitled speech on poll taxes  
    Two untitled speeches on military preparedness  
1944:  
    Drafts of speeches regarding military highways, East Tennessee Automobile Club, Knoxville, Dec. 1, and House of Representatives, Dec. 14, and related reference material, 1943-1944

Untitled speech on the AAA soil improvement program

1945:

Statement before the House Ways and Means Committee regarding revenue stamps, Mar. 1

Memorial to Ellison Durant Smith, House of Representatives, May 23

Memorial to Hampton Pitts Fulmer, House of Representatives, May 23

“Remarks before Public Buildings and Grounds Committee,” Oct. 30

“Public Buildings”

“The Dumbarton Oaks Proposals”

“Strikes”

Untitled speech on the anti-poll tax bill

Untitled speech on the Fair Employment Practice Committee bill

Untitled speech on the organization of military forces

1946:

“Post Office Building Program,” House of Representatives, Jan. 17

Statement before the Civil Functions Committee regarding the Clark’s Hill Dam appropriation,  
Jan. 21

“Patriotic Duties of the Day,” Prosperity, S.C., May 12

“Some Observations in Europe,” and a draft dated 1945

“Brief Statement of the Functions of the Various Units of the Department of Labor”

“Decentralization”

“Training and Experience”

Untitled speech on a bill to provide work for veterans

Untitled speech on democracy

Untitled speech on governmental involvement in the economy

Untitled speech on the Philippines

Untitled speech on veterans

1947:

“What about Communism in the United States?” Erskine College, Jan. 20

“Thinking Things Through,” Saluda High School, Saluda, S.C., June 5

Untitled speech on the appropriations for the Department of Labor

Untitled notes

1948-1950:

Statement on Clark’s Hill, House of Representatives Appropriations Committee, Jan. 30, 1948

Notes for a Fourth of July speech, c. 1949

“Trend of Our Government,” c. 1950

n.d., titled:

A-F:

“The Anti-Poll Tax Bill”

“The British Loan”

“The Church Faces Some Vital Issues”

“Conciliation Service”

“Control Cotton Production”

“Decentralization of Population”

“Defense of Monroe Doctrine”

“Democracy vs. Aristocracy”

“Full Employment” (3 speeches bearing this title)

G-N:

“General Motors’ Strike”

“General Welfare Clause”

“George Washington the Citizen-Soldier-Statesman”

“Junior Order United American Mechanics”

“Labor Economics”

“A Large Armed Force, or Not”

“Memorandum”

“Moral Aspects of College Life”

“National Service Law”  
“New Industries in the South”

O-U:

“Over Excitement about Racial Prejudices”  
“Permanent Peace”  
“Relationship between Legislative and Executive Branches of the Government”  
“School Lunch Program”  
“Shall the Government Fix a Post War Wage Scale?”  
“Some Suggested Recommendations to Be Made in the Report”  
“Time and Common Sense”  
“Uniformity and Length of Staple as a Factor in Production and Marketing of Cotton”

n.d., untitled:

A:

Aid to veterans  
Air transportation  
Age and ability  
Anti-poll tax legislation (4 speeches)

C-E:

Christianity  
Church  
Church and state  
Compulsory military training program (2 speeches)  
Critics of government  
Daughters of the American Revolution  
Distribution of funds  
Education  
Employment (3 speeches)

F-G:

Farm labor (2 speeches)  
Federal education spending  
Federal powers (2 speeches)  
Federal taxes  
Fertilizer anti-trust  
Flood control  
Fourth of July (2 speeches)  
Freedmans Hospital  
General Motors strike (2 speeches)  
Graduation (2 speeches)

L-Q:

Labor (2 speeches)  
Liberty and democracy  
Manpower Commission and black labor in the South  
Memorial days  
Military roads  
Overproduction  
Patriotism  
Political philosophy  
Power to ratify treaties  
Qualifications for Foreign Service  
Qualities of leadership in Europe

R-Y:

Religious education  
Response to Truman  
Responsibility  
Road from Walhalla to Greenville  
Rural tax plan  
Separation of powers (2 speeches)

Sherman Anti-Trust Act  
Strikes (2 speeches)  
Tariffs (2 speeches)  
Transportation  
War  
War powers  
War sacrifice  
War spending  
Washington, George  
Women's Christian Union  
Y.M.C.A.

**Photographs:**

General  
Family  
Philippines, 1932  
Portraits

**Clippings:**

General:  
1906  
1924  
1925  
1926  
1927  
1928  
1929  
1930  
1931  
1932:  
    Jan. - May  
    June - Oct.  
1937-1939  
1940-1941  
1946-1953  
n.d.  
Family, 1940-1951 and n.d.