

Collection #  
P0493

**JOHN T. MCCUTCHEON  
COLLECTION, 1893–1943 (BULK 1914–1929)**

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Processed by

Kelly Gascoine  
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Manuscript and Visual Collections Department  
William Henry Smith Memorial Library  
Indiana Historical Society  
450 West Ohio Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

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**COLLECTION INFORMATION**

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	2 boxes of OVB sized graphics 1 box of OVC sized graphics
COLLECTION DATES:	1893–1943 (bulk 1914–1929)
PROVENANCE:	Shaker Historical Society, Cleveland, Ohio. Mrs. John T. McCutcheon, Lake Forest, IL. Swann Galleries, Inc., New York, NY. Robert W. Van Buskirk, Indianapolis, IN.

RESTRICTIONS:	None
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ALTERNATE FORMATS:	
RELATED HOLDINGS:	P131, World War One Poster Collection. John T. McCutcheon, <i>Congressman Pumphrey: The People's Friend</i> .
ACCESSION NUMBER:	1966.0711, 1973.0214, 1991.0153, 2007.0065
NOTES:	This is an artificial collection with additions expected.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

John Tinney McCutcheon chronicled significant events of the late nineteenth century and twentieth century as a cartoonist and foreign correspondent for Chicago newspapers. He was born near South Raub in Tippecanoe County, Indiana on 6 May 1870. His father, John Barr McCutcheon, was a Civil War veteran and a sheriff for Tippecanoe County. His mother was Clara Glick McCutcheon, and his brother George Barr McCutcheon was a noted novelist. John T. McCutcheon attended Purdue University and earned a B.S. in 1889.

Upon graduation McCutcheon joined the *Chicago Morning News*, later known as the *Chicago Record* and the *Chicago Record-Herald*. His first front page cartoon came in 1895. In 1903, he moved to the *Chicago Tribune*. McCutcheon's cartoons often appeared on the front page of the newspaper and covered political events, local, national and international news, and the daily lives of Americans. He won a Pulitzer Prize in 1932 for his cartoon "A Wise Economist Asks a Question." McCutcheon remained with the *Tribune* until his retirement in 1946. During his career, he published volumes of his cartoons as well as several books. He also illustrated stories for George Ade and his brother George Barr McCutcheon.

McCutcheon regularly traveled abroad, both for business and for pleasure, and often submitted articles to his paper as a foreign correspondent. In 1898, he witnessed the Battle of Manila Bay. He traveled to Africa to observe the Boer War in 1900 and toured Africa in 1909 on a hunting excursion, part of which he shared with Teddy Roosevelt. In 1914 he visited Belgium and was one of only a handful of reporters to witness the German Army's invasion of that country. McCutcheon was in Paris for the Peace Conference in 1918 and 1919. He would continue to travel all over the world throughout his life.

McCutcheon also owned and frequently visited his private island in the Bahamas, Salt Cay. He purchased the island in 1916 and first visited during his honeymoon. McCutcheon married Evelyn Shaw on 20 January 1917. The couple had 4 children, John Jr., Shaw, Barr, and Evelyn who died as a young child. McCutcheon died on 10 June 1949. He was well respected among colleagues and known as the "Dean of American Cartoonists."

### Sources:

The Tippecanoe Historical Association. *John T. McCutcheon: Tippecanoe County Cartoonist*. Lafayette, IN: Tippecanoe County Historical Association, 1974.

*Who Was Who in American History—Arts and Letters*. Chicago: Marquis Who's Who, 1975.

McCutcheon, John T. *Drawn from Memory: The Autobiography of John T. McCutcheon*. Indianapolis: The Bobbs-

Merrill Company, Inc., 1950.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection contains approximately 55 original drawings by John T. McCutcheon. It includes some of his editorial cartoons that appeared in the *Chicago Record*, *Chicago Record-Herald*, and *Chicago Tribune* as well as sketches from books he wrote and illustrated. The subject matter includes local Chicago politics, national politics, international affairs, and American daily life. The drawings were made between 1893 and 1943, with the bulk of the materials created between 1914 and 1929.

The drawings are graphite and/or pen and ink on illustration board. The sizes of the drawings range from 10x14 inches to 18x21 inches. The drawings are in good condition. They have been organized into chronological order according to subject matter. Series are arranged according to eras in American history: pre-World War One, World War One, the 1920s, The Great Depression, and World War Two. In addition to the cartoons, there are two folders containing materials that provide additional details on two drawings. Further information on these can be found below.

Several other libraries and archives hold portions of McCutcheon's papers and cartoons. These include the Newberry Library in Chicago, the Syracuse University Library, and Purdue University Library.

## SERIES CONTENTS

### Series 1: Political and Editorial Cartoons, 1893–1913

#### CONTENTS

**Title:** "President pays high tribute to diplomatic triumphs of the administration"

**Size:** 14 x 15 inches

**Description:** A figure who is most likely President Cleveland stands in front of Congress reading his Message to Congress

**Date:** Ca. 1893–1895

**Title:** "Silence is Golden"

**Size:** 14 7/8 x 15 3/4 inches

**Description:** A man, most likely President Cleveland, sits on a chair surrounded by screaming figures

**Date:** Ca. 1893–1897

**Title:** [no title]

**Size:** 18 x 11 7/8 inches

**Description:** A group of men firing guns across a field at an unseen enemy. Occurred in the area around Manila in the Philippines during the Spanish-American War.

**Date:** 6 July 1898

**Title:** "From Togo"

**Size:** 13 3/4 x 15 3/4 inches

**Description:** A hand with tattoos of the Japanese flag and a navy anchor uses brush and ink to write

#### CONTAINER

OVB Graphics:  
Box 1, Folder 1

OVB Graphics:  
Box 1, Folder 2

OVB Graphics:  
Box 1, Folder 3

OVB Graphics:  
Box 1, Folder 4

“We have met the Enemy and”

**Date:** ca. 1904–1905

**Title:** “News Item-General Kouropatkin has left for Moscow via Tie Pass”

**Size:** 13 ½ x 15 ¾ inches

**Description:** Man carrying ‘On to Moscow’ flag walks along winding railroad tracks that lead to Moscow.

**Date:** ca. March 1905

OVB Graphics:  
Box 1, Folder 5

**Title:** [no title]

**Size:** 14 ¼ x 17 ½ inches

**Description:** Seven men seated around a dining room table having drinks and toasting. Two black men are serving the drinks. From the Congressman Pumphrey book.

**Date:** 19 March 1907

OVB Graphics:  
Box 1, Folder 6

**Title:** “The Way He Will Vote”

**Size:** 14 ¼ x 18 3/8 inches

**Description:** A hand labeled Progressive Citizen marks a real Specimen ballot from Chicago.

**Date:** Ca. September 1907

OVB Graphics:  
Box 1, Folder 7

**Title:** “On the National Golf Field: President Taft will have to use his niblick to get me out of this hole.”

**Size:** 14 ¼ x 17 inches

**Description:** A golf ball labeled ‘the poor consumer’ is trapped under rocks labeled ‘Aldrich Tariff Revision Upward’ and ‘Payne Tariff Revision Upward’ while a man’s feet are standing over it.

**Date:** 1909

OVB Graphics:  
Box 1, Folder 8

**Title:** “A little ballot to be marked at home before going to the polls.”

**Size:** 14 x 15 3/8 inches

**Description:** Man, wife, and child hold home ballot to mark. Ballot asks if voters want a clean government. Broderick was a state Senator and Wilson was a state Representative; both were involved in a bribery case in 1910.

**Date:** Ca. 1910.

OVB Graphics:  
Box 1, Folder 9

**Title:** “A Knight worthy of the hero medal. Driver Knight swerved his car to certain disaster rather than run over a fallen mechanic.”

**Size:** 14 x 16 inches

**Description:** Man in a race car is bearing down on a fallen mechanic while the crowd looks on in horror.

**Date:** Ca. March–April 1911

OVB Graphics:  
Box 1, Folder 10

Typed excerpts from the 1911 Indianapolis Star that

OVB Graphics

explain the above drawing.

Box 1, Folder 10

**Title:** A Temporary Suspension of Hostilities”

**Size:** 14 ½ x 17 ¼ inches

**Description:** Three animals stand outside a hospital. The cartoon references the October 1912 assassination attempt made on presidential candidate Teddy Roosevelt in Milwaukee. Roosevelt came to Chicago’s Mercy Hospital for treatment.

**Date:** Ca. October 1912

OVB Graphics:  
Box 1, Folder 11

List of society members pictured in the 1913 Indiana Society of Chicago drawings listed below.

OVC Graphics:  
Box 1, Folder 1

**Title:** “In order to get everything in, the Indiana Society had to take the longest day of the year for their picnic.”

**Size:** 14 x 19 ½ inches

**Description:** Indiana Society of Chicago picnic at Cedar Lake.

**Date:** 1913

OVC Graphics:  
Box 1, Folder 2

**Title:** [no title]

**Size:** 18 x 21 inches

**Description:** Picnic of the Indiana Society of Chicago at Hazelden. Many different events happening.

**Date:** 1913

OVC Graphics:  
Box 1, Folder 3

## Series 2: World War One Era Cartoons, 1914–1919

### CONTENTS

### CONTAINER

**Title:** “The End of the Rainbow”

**Size:** 11 ¾ x 15 ½ inches

**Description:** U.S. World War One Vet looks at the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. The pot is filled with an insurance policy.

**Date:** ca. 1914–1919

OVB Graphics:  
Box 1, Folder 12

**Title:** “The Headlines in Black and White”

**Size:** 14 ¼ x 18 1/8 inches

**Description:** 16 panels each with a man reading a newspaper with the headlines.

**Date:** Ca. 1914–1919

OVB Graphics:  
Box 1, Folder 13

**Title:** “Sleeping at Beaumont”

**Size:** 14 ¼ x 11 ¾ inches

**Description:** A group sleeping on the floor watched over by German soldiers.

**Date:** 1914

OVB Graphics:  
Box 1, Folder 14

**Title:** “Reconstructing our Disabled Soldiers”

**Size:** 14 ¼ x 19 ½ inches

OVB Graphics:  
Box 1, Folder 15

**Description:** Upper panel depicts Uncle Sam giving Civil War veterans a pension and nothing else. Lower panel depicts Uncle Sam promising World War One soldiers medical care and job training.  
**Date:** Ca. 1917

**Title:** “Post War Suggestion”

**Size:** 14 ¼ x 18 inches

**Description:** A family stands in a corn field as planes fly by overhead bringing much needed rain.

**Date:** 10 September 1917

OVB Graphics:  
Box 1, Folder 16

**Title:** “How will ‘Fraternizing’ affect the German troops?”

**Size:** 14 ¼ x 16 ½ inches

**Description:** A group of German soldiers listens to a group of Russian soldiers talk about the benefits of communism.

**Date:** Ca. 1917–1918

OVB Graphics:  
Box 1, Folder 17

**Title:** “Another Invitation from Berlin”

**Size:** 14 ¼ x 16 ¾ inches

**Description:** Von Kuehlmann stands over a defeated Russia and Romania offering his brand of peace to France, Britain, Italy, and America.

**Date:** Ca. 1917–1918

OVB Graphics:  
Box 1, Folder 18

**Title:** “The new taxes will make the Kaiser more unpopular than ever.”

**Size:** 14 ¼ x 15 inches

**Description:** Group of angry men shaking their fists at a picture of the Kaiser in front of Uncle Sam. A sign listing the new war taxes hangs next to Uncle Sam.

**Date:** Ca. 1917–1918

OVB Graphics:  
Box 1, Folder 19

**Title:** “The Advance Guard of Peace”

**Size:** 14 ¼ x 16 ¾ inches

**Description:** A soldier labeled ‘Gen. Demobilization’ holds weapons labeled ‘German Arms.’ Fallen soldiers lay behind him.

**Date:** Ca. 1918

OVB Graphics:  
Box 1, Folder 20

**Title:** “He’ll be present whether invited or not”

**Size:** 13 ½ x 15 ½ inches

**Description:** A man labeled ‘Cancellation of debts’ sits at a table with empty chairs labeled America, Britain, Italy, France, and Belgium.

**Date:** Ca. 1918–1919

OVB Graphics:  
Box 1, Folder 21

**Title:** “After Lent, the loan. April 21<sup>st</sup>.”

**Size:** 14 ½ x 18 ¾ inches

**Description:** Uncle Sam with long arms. Images about the Victory bonds and loan.

OVB Graphics:  
Box 1, Folder 22

**Date:** Ca. 1919

**Title:** “The Acid Test of Americanism”

**Size:** 14 ¾ x 15 inches

**Description:** A man speaks to the U.S. Senate while Uncle Sam and Britain look on.

**Date:** Ca. 1919

OVB Graphics:

Box 1, Folder 23

**Title:** [no title]

**Size:** 14 5/8 x 17 ½ inches

**Description:** 6 panels of a man reading the newspaper. He starts out happy and is upset by the end.

**Date:** Ca. 1919

OVB Graphics:

Box 1, Folder 24

### Series 3: The Roaring Twenties Era Cartoons, 1919–1929

#### CONTENTS

**Title:** “Harder to climb than Mt. Everest”

**Size:** 14 ½ x 16 ¾ inches

**Description:** Three men labeled the pound, franc, and mark are roped together and struggle to climb a mountain labeled ‘Mt. Normalcy.’ The American dollar, wages, and prices climb a nearby mountain.

**Date:** Ca. 1920s

#### CONTAINER

OVB Graphics:

Box 1, Folder 25

**Title:** “Our Hostages on the Rhine”

**Size:** 14 x 13 ¾ inches

**Description:** A group of American soldiers sits near the Rhine, representing ‘Foreign Entanglements.’ Europeans on either side of the Rhine look on.

**Date:** Ca. 1920s

OVB Graphics:

Box 1, Folder 26

**Title:** “Prince Carol is still spending the holidays in a Milan hotel”

**Size:** 14 ½ x 17 7/8 inches

**Description:** Reporters gather around the door to Prince Carol’s hotel room.

**Date:** Ca. 1920s

OVB Graphics:

Box 1, Folder 27

**Title:** “Straws that show the way the wind blows”

**Size:** 14 ½ x 17 inches

**Description:** An American flag stands in a field with straw votes wrapped around showing support for constitutional nationalism not monocratic internationalism. The two men may represent James M. Cox (left) and Warren G. Harding (right) during the 1920 Presidential campaign.

**Date:** Ca. 1920

OVB Graphics:

Box 2, Folder 1

**Title:** “America sits in again as an Observer”

**Size:** 14 5/8 x 17 ½ inches

**Description:** Lloyd George, Briand, Italy, and Japan

OVB Graphics:

Box 2, Folder 2

sit with the American Col. Harvey playing cards.  
The meeting is labeled the 'Supreme Council  
Diplomatic Game.'

**Date:** Ca. 1920–1921

**Title:** "The Queen's Homecoming"

**Size:** 14 ½ x 18 ¾ inches

**Description:** Queen Marie sails home to a Romania where rumors are flying about the king's death and the succession.

**Date:** 1926

OVB Graphics:

Box 2, Folder 3

**Title:** "They've got to blame somebody for their blunders"

**Size:** 14 x 18 1/8 inches

**Description:** A broken down car full of people labeled 'French Finance' and a British politician point to Uncle Sam and blame him for their problems.

**Date:** 1926

OVB Graphics:

Box 2, Folder 4

**Title:** "The Victor and the Vanquished"

**Size:** 14 ½ x 18 ¾ inches

**Description:** France, the Victor, is sick in bed and tended by a doctor.

**Date:** 1926

OVB Graphics:

Box 2, Folder 5

**Title:** "He's likely to spoil a perfectly good party"

**Size:** 14 ½ x 18 ½ inches

**Description:** A man representing the Federal Reserve Board puts a pot of power on the dinner table in front of a group of men while Congress looks on.

**Date:** 1927

OVB Graphics:

Box 2, Folder 6

**Title:** "Making the War Zone Safe for Democracy"

**Size:** 14 ½ x 18 ¼ inches

**Description:** Britain, France, Japan, America, and Italy stand in China watching the fighting in the North and South.

**Date:** 1927

OVB Graphics:

Box 2, Folder 7

**Title:** "The only nation China likes and trusts, rushes to the front"

**Size:** 15 x 18 inches

**Description:** American warships sail towards Hankow where anti-British riots are taking place.

**Date:** 1927

OVB Graphics:

Box 2, Folder 8

**Title:** "Will he be allowed to block the Navy Bill?"

**Size:** 14 ½ x 18 inches

**Description:** A man labeled 'Boulder Dam Bill' talks to the US Senate and Treasury as he points to Uncle Sam holding the hand of a young boy labeled

OVB Graphics:

Box 2, Folder 9



'Naval bill'

**Date:** Ca. 1927–1928

**Title:** "If other office holders who took Public Utility campaign contributions were also unseated."

**Size:** 12 x 18 inches

**Description:** Men being thrown out the windows of the Public Office building.

**Date:** 1928

OVB Graphics:  
Box 2, Folder 10

**Title:** "Politics and Polar Exploits"

**Size:** 14 3/8 x 18 7/8 inches

**Description:** Upper panel shows men marching for clean government against entrenched corruption.

Lower panel depicts Byrd's flight.

**Date:** 1929

OVB Graphics:  
Box 2, Folder 11

#### **Series 4: The Great Depression, 1929–1938**

##### CONTENTS

**Title:** One angle of the Bowler's flight"

**Size:** 14 1/2 x 17 inches

**Description:** Uncle Sam and Canada stand at the border and watch the 'Untin' Bowler

**Date:** Ca. 1929

##### CONTAINER

OVB Graphics:  
Box 2, Folder 12

**Title:** "The great joy ride is about over"

**Size:** 14 1/4 x 16 1/4 inches

**Description:** A car labeled 'National Prosperity' full of people labeled 'banks,' 'speculators,' and 'extravagance' drives down a road oblivious to the danger signs.

**Date:** Ca. 1929–1930

OVB Graphics:  
Box 2, Folder 13

**Title:** "Another Glider Experiment the Country will watch with interest."

**Size:** 14 1/2 x 18 inches

**Description:** A plane labeled 'Machine Politics' tows a second plane full of 'unfit candidates' during the Chicago primary.

**Date:** 1930

OVB Graphics:  
Box 2, Folder 14

**Title:** "As Seen by the Man in the Street"

**Size:** 14 1/2 x 15 1/2 inches

**Description:** A group of desperate-looking men sleeping on cots. One is reading the newspaper.

**Date:** 1930

OVB Graphics:  
Box 2, Folder 15

**Title:** "Life Saving in Europe is not such as easy matter"

**Size:** 14 1/2 x 18 5/8 inches

**Description:** A man rushes off with a Hoover plan life preserver to help Germany while a man labeled

OVB Graphics:  
Box 2, Folder 16

France tries to stop him.

**Date:** 1931

## **Series 5: World War Two Era Cartoons, 1939–1943**

### CONTENTS

**Title:** “Which way is war less likely to come?”

**Size:** 14 x 19 inches

**Description:** Upper panel depicts Europe exploding into war. Lower panel depicts many people rushing around with different opinions about current affairs.

**Date:** 1939

**Title:** “Congress comes back to a super session to fight again for the nation’s independence.”

**Size:** 14 x 15 7/8 inches

**Description:** Pictures of Washington and Jefferson shout for help as man depicting Congress comes back to an anxious crowd representing unions, foreign entanglements, inflation, and tax payers.

**Date:** 1943

**Title:** “If the Nazis acquire the habit of retreating, a second front should find advancing easy.”

**Size:** 13 ½ x 16 ¾ inches

**Description:** Two men labeled USA and Britain watch the Russians rout the Germans.

**Date:** 28 November 1943

### CONTAINER

OVB Graphics:  
Box 2, Folder 17

OVB Graphics:  
Box 2, Folder 18

OVB Graphics:  
Box 2, Folder 19

## **Series 6: Undated Cartoons**

### CONTENTS

**Title:** “Indiana”

**Size:** 14 x 10 inches

**Description:** The state of Indiana is impaled on a large tack while a Democratic donkey and Republican elephant look on.

**Date:** n.d.

**Title:** “The Long Quarantine is about over”

**Size:** 14 ½ x 18 ½ inches

**Description:** A man representing Congress carries a bottle labeled Tariff Bill Tonic to a worried businessman.

**Date:** n.d., probably prior to the 1930s

**Title:** [no title]

**Size:** 14 ¼ x 15 inches

**Description:** Left panel shows a man pointing to an angel. Right panel shows him cowering from a devil.

### CONTAINER

OVB Graphics:  
Box 2, Folder 20

OVB Graphics:  
Box 2, Folder 21

OVB Graphics:  
Box 2, Folder 22

**Date:** n.d.

**Title:** [no title]

**Size:** 14 ¼ x 17 inches

**Description:** Upper panel shows heavy foot traffic on one side of the road and heavy car traffic. Lower panel shows heavy car traffic and heavy foot traffic on the opposite side of the road.

**Date:** n.d.

OVB Graphics:

Box 2, Folder 23

**Title:** [no title]

**Size:** 9x10 un-matted; 16x20 matted

**Description:** A church with a few people entering

**Date:** n.d.

OVC Graphics:

Box 1, Folder 4

**Title:** [no title]

**Size:** 11 1/8 x 14 ¼ inches

**Description:** An elderly man with a GAR hat and medal boards a train recalling events of the Civil War.

**Date:** n.d.

OVB Graphics:

Box 2, Folder 24

**Title:** [no title]

**Size:** 14 x 17 7/8 inches

**Description:** 6 panels show a man at work, reading the Sports page of the newspaper, and entering a Pool Room.

**Date:** n.d.

OVB Graphics:

Box 2, Folder 25

**Title:** [no title]

**Size:** 13 3/8 x 17 inches

**Description:** seven scenes depicting man's daily life

**Date:** n.d.

OVB Graphics:

Box 2, Folder 26

**Title:** [no title]

**Size:** 14 5/8 x 17 ½ inches

**Description:** 8 scenes showing thanksgiving celebrations at various points in American history

**Date:** n.d.

OVB Graphics:

Box 2, Folder 27

## CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog: <http://opac.indianahistory.org/>
2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.
3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.
4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, P0493).

5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.