



*New York State Archives*

**New York State Constitutional Convention, 1938 Records of  
William S. Bennet L0256**

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## Overview of the Records

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<b>Repository:</b>	New York State Archives
<b>Summary:</b>	This series consists of William Stiles Bennet's records from the 1938 Constitutional Convention. The records include correspondence, proposed amendments and bills, miscellaneous literature, and pamphlets regarding changes to the Constitution.
<b>Creator:</b>	New York (State). Constitutional Convention, 1938
<b>Title:</b>	1938 Constitutional Convention records of William S. Bennet
<b>Quantity:</b>	1 cubic foot
<b>Inclusive Date:</b>	1938-1941
<b>Series:</b>	L0256

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## Arrangement

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Alphabetical.

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## Administrative History

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In 1900, William Bennet was elected to the New York State Assembly as a representative of Manhattan's 21st election district. As assemblyman, he was instrumental in passing the early labor legislation of the American Federation of Labor (AFL), as well as the Employer's Liability Bill, which was a forerunner to the Workmen's Compensation Act. From 1905 to 1911, and again from 1915 to 1917, Bennet served in the U.S. Congress. As a member of the immigration committee, he helped to create the United States Immigration Commission. He also served on a bipartisan Rules Committee that drafted legislation to fight the First World War. Bennet later sat as a delegate on the New York State constitutional convention of 1938, which succeeded in getting voters to approve a number of significant amendments to the state's constitution, most of which expanded state government responsibility for social welfare programs.

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## Scope and Content Note

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This series consists of William Stiles Bennet's records from the 1938 Constitutional Convention. The records include correspondence, proposed amendments and bills, and miscellaneous literature and pamphlets regarding changes to the Constitution.

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## Other Finding Aids

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### Available at Repository

Folder list is available at the repository.

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## Use of Records

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### Access Restrictions

There are no restrictions regarding access to or use of this material.

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## Administrative Information

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### Custodial History

These records were donated to Syracuse University by Augustus W. Bennet in 1962. They were later transferred to the New York State Archives and the University at Albany in June 2006.

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## Access Terms

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- New York (State)--Politics and government--1865-1950
- Correspondence
- Legislating
- New York (State)
- Pamphlets
- Bills (legislative records)
- Constitutional conventions--New York (State)
- Bennet, William S. (William Stiles), 1870-1962.