

NEW HAVEN COLONY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

LIBRARY

Manuscripts

No. B43

Date processed: 1984

- I. Title Palaski, Stanley Joseph, 1904-1975. Papers, 1917-1975.
- II. The papers of Stanley J. Palaski and his wife, Helen Anna Piontek deposited in the Library on Nov. 5, 1981, by Marion P. Celentano as converted the deposit to a gift.
- III. Linear feet of shelf space occupied: 1½
Approximate number of items: 680
- IV. Restrictions: none
- V. Literary rights of the unpublished writings of in these papers, and in other collections of papers in the custody of the New Haven Colony Historical Society Library, have been dedicated to the New Haven Colony Historical Society.
- VI. Press release was issued on
- VII. Biographical note: see p. 2.
- VIII. Analysis: The Palaski-Piontek papers consist of 3 boxes of papers, clippings and photographs and one oversize item containing 3 photographs. The papers, totaling 679 items, are arranged in chronological order. Materials in each box are arranged by topic or by type of materials.

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Palaski papers, 1917-1975.

Biographical note:

Stanley Joseph Palaski (Pawlowski) was born February 15th, 1904 in Poland, son of Maryan and Leonard Karlewski Pawlowski. A product of New Haven schools, where he studied at night, he later went to Connecticut College of Commerce for a degree in accounting and finance and also took some courses at Yale University. He began his career on the Times-Leader and for 21 years was reporter and later financial editor for the New Haven Register, contributing numerous articles in finance and similar topics in various magazines. S. J. Palaski was public relations director for several banking and insurance groups. In June 1944 he was appointed Public Relations Director of the War Manpower Commission for the New England area. He was also Public Relations Director of the War Manpower Commission in Connecticut, Victory Fund Committee, and War Finance Committee. S. J. Palaski worked for the U. S. Government on special manpower programs in Chicago and Denver.

On April 16, 1946 he joined the Connecticut State Liquor Control Commission as Executive Secretary, when Raymond E. Baldwin was governor and S. J. Palaski's ties were Republican. He received backing for this position from Mayor William C. Celentano, his brother-in-law. As Executive Secretary of the State Liquor Control Commission he served for 28 years. He retired from this post on May 20, 1974, having reached compulsory retirement age of 70. Throughout the years he served under eight different governors and dozens of Liquor Control Commissioners.

At the time of his retirement the General Assembly adopted a resolution, stating that S. J. Palaski "took active participation in the legislative process of many laws affecting liquor control, as well as the daily administration of its agency." Connecticut laws and regulations for alcoholic beverages are recognized as being among the best in the country.

Active throughout his life in Polish community, S. J. Palaski became one of its leaders. He started in politics at an early age (19) intent on working towards the

goal of obtaining recognition for Americans of Polish extraction in civic and political life. S. J. Palaski was instrumental in forming Polish-American Republican Clubs in New Haven, West Haven, Milford, Fairfield, and helping to form New Haven County Republican Club. S. J. Palaski aided many people of Polish extraction to obtain positions in the Court system City, State, Police, Fire Dept., etc. He worked toward the nominations and elections of New Haven and Connecticut State officials of Polish-American extraction.

S. J. Palaski was head of the New England Polish G.O.P. Association in 1938 and president of the New Haven Polish-American Club and of the Connecticut Republican Political Club in 1942 and 1943. He was a member of the National Republican Speaker's Committee in 1936 and again in 1940, campaigning for Alf Landon and Wendell Wilkie for President. S. J. Palaski campaigned actively in City, State and New England Republican politics.

For many years S. J. Palaski was active in athletics. In 1920 he organized and for many years coached St. Stanislaus School and Club in boys' basketball, baseball, and track teams. He also coached and managed the White Eagles and Williams semi-pro football teams as well as several girls' basketball teams in New Haven.

S. J. Palaski was a member of Racebrook Country Club, the Connecticut Auxiliary of the State Police and was special deputy sheriff in New Haven County. He was the first member of Polish extraction in the Governors Foot Guard and the first Pole in the Lions Club.

S. J. Palaski married Helen Anna Piontek on June 5, 1929. He died after a brief illness on June 27th, 1975 without issue. After a funeral at the Celentano Funeral Home and a mass of Christian burial celebrated at St. Stanislaus Church, he was buried in St. Lawrence Cemetery in New Haven.

Palaski papers, 1917-1975.

Content Guide

BOX I.

- Folder: Correspondence re: Piontek-Palaski papers.
- Folder A: Stanley Joseph Palaski's biographical data, obituaries and memorabilia. (22)
- Folder B: Photographs of Polish weddings of 1920's. (8)
- Folder C: Stanley J. and Helen Palaski's student days' photographs, 1921-early 1930's. (3)
- Folder D: Portrait photographs of Stanley J. and Helen Palaski, 2 pencil sketches of S. J. Palaski, 1920-1975. (19)
- Folder E: 1. Papers re: S. J. Palaski's sports coach activities, 1924-1941. (5)
2. Photographs re: S. J. Palaski's sports coach activities, 1920?-1931. (20)
- Folder F: Scrapbook of S. J. Palaski's early sporting and Polish community activities, 1917?-n.d. (Most dates and provenance of clippings are missing.) A xerox copy of the scrapbook. (2)

BOX II.

- Folder A: 1. Documents and letters re: S. J. Palaski's Polish community activities, 1928-1945. (9)
2. Paper clippings re: S. J. Palaski's Polish community activities, 1930s-1960s. (23)
- Folder B: Photographs re: S. J. Palaski's Polish community activities. (n.d.) (17)
- Folder C: 1. Letters and papers re: S. J. Palaski's GOP and PAR activities, 1929-1939. (14)
2. Clippings re: S. J. Palaski's GOP and PAR activities, 1932-1943. (58)
- Folder D: Photographs re: S. J. Palaski's GOP and PAR activities, 1930's-1940's. (11)
- Folder E: Clippings re: Celentano Family, 1945-1974. (28)
- Folder F: Group photographs incl. Mayor William C: Celentano, 1940's. (18)

Content Guide cont.

BOX II.

- Folder G: Papers and photographs re: Connecticut State Manpower Commission, 1942-1945. (8)
- Folder H: Clippings re: the War Bond drives, 1942-1944. (284)

BOX III.

- Folder A: Clippings re: S. J. Palaski's activities as Secretary of Connecticut State Liquor Commission, 1946-1974. (14)
- Folder B: Program and photographs of testimonial dinner upon S. J. Palaski's appointment as Secretary of Connecticut State Liquor Commission, January 20, 1946. (15)
- Folder C: Photographs of conferences attended as Secretary of Connecticut State Liquor Commission, 1946-1974. (20)
- Folder D: Papers and clippings re: S. J. Palaski's retirement from Connecticut State Liquor Commission 5/1/1974. (25)
- Folder E: Clippings and papers re: S. J. Palaski's various social and organizational activities, 1940's-1960's. (12)
- Folder F: Photographs and papers re: Helen Piontek-Palaski's career, 1940's-1950's. (15)
- Folder G: Photographs of S. J. Palaski's unidentified social and organizational activities, 1920's-1940's? (16)
- Folder H: Ephemera. (10)
- OVERSIZE ITEM: 3 photographs. 1. Students N.D. (3)
2. Quarter Century Club reunion Liberty Mutual Insurance Co's. Boston, 1959
3. Banquet Polish New Haven War Veterans, 1934