Morehead State University Special Collections & Archives Archives Accession Form

Department or Office: Office of the President

Collection Title: Button Family Collection

Record Group Number: RG019-15-13

Date transferred: No date of transfer listed.

Processed by: Dieter C. Ullrich

Cataloged by: Dieter C. Ullrich

Date Listed: April 17, 2015

Date Span: ca. 1920s.

Size of Collection: 0.5 linear feet.

Number of Boxes: 1 letter size document case.

Type of Material: Correspondence, notebooks, newspaper clippings and photographs.

Condition of Material: Fair with fading and foxing caused for aging and improper storage.

Arrangement: Organized alphabetically by material format; Chronological arrangement.

Historical Information: Frank Christopher Button was born November 19, 1863, at Oquawka, Illinois. He first came to Morehead, Kentucky in 1887 to help his mother establish the Morehead Normal School. He was educated in Illinois public schools and Transylvania University. He received a theological degree from the College of the Bible in 1887 and an A.M. degree from Bethany College in 1908. From 1911 to 1923, Button served as state supervisor of rural schools under the sponsorship of the Rockefeller Foundation. He returned to Morehead as the first president of the Morehead State Normal School in 1923 and continued in that capacity until his retirement on September 1, 1929. Button also served as mayor of Morehead, as a newspaper editor and as pastor of the Christian Church. Button Auditorium on campus was named in his honor. He died in April 1933.

Scope and Content: Collection consists of correspondence, notebooks and pieces of a scrapbook related to Frank Button, the first president of Morehead State Normal School (presently Morehead State University). Collection contains a typescript of the Morehead Normal School song, photocopies of newspaper clippings about Frank Button and the Normal School,

notebooks of biblical writings, pages from a scrapbook created by the Button family and a 1927 annual owned and signed by Frank Button.

Subject Headings / Descriptors:

Button, Frank Christopher, 1863-1933. Button family. Morehead (Ky.) – History. Morehead Normal School – History. Morehead State Normal School – History.

Notes: Collection was located in a few different boxes and organized into an archival collection. His books and memorabilia were separated and placed in the artifacts collection in the spring of 2015.