Archives West is the website providing access to guides to archival collections held by the University of Montana’s Archives and Special Collections – and collections in dozens of other archives in the region.
Archives West search tips:

- Enter a keyword in the home page Search box.
- Use quotes if you want to search an exact phrase. For example, “Republican National Committee.”
From the search results page, you can refine your search. For example, to see results only from the University of Montana’s Archives and Special Collections select UM from the Repository list. (Sometimes you will have to click on the word ‘more’ at the bottom of the Repository list to see UM.)
From the results list, select the collection you wish to review by clicking on the collection title.
Use the Ctrl-F keys or the F3 key to find your keyword in the collection guide. If you use Ctrl-F, don’t use quotes in the new search box (the database doesn’t like this.) You may want to use just one word of your search - for example, republican rather than republican national committee - to pick up other potentially relevant content in the guide.
This image shows a folder in the Joseph M. Dixon collection titled Republican Convention. (This result would not have appeared if you had searched the exact phrase Republican National Convention.)

To view this folder at Archives and Special Collections you’d request box 90 and then look at folder 1 in that box.