

ARTHUR ELDER - DETROIT FEDERATION OF TEACHERS COLLECTION
20 Manuscript boxes

Processed August 1965
BY PB

Accession Number 75

This collection was deposited with the Labor History Archives in 1964 by Mrs. Arthur Elder, Francis Comfort, Florence Sweeny and Blanche Rinehart.

Arthur Elder was a Detroitier active in the labor movement and particularly concerned with the AFL affiliate, the American Federation of Teachers. He served as vice-president of the AFT and president and secretary of the Michigan and Detroit federations. Elder was also director of the University of Michigan Workers Education Service. His dismissal from this post, in 1948, produced a controversy over the influence of General Motors in Michigan and University politics.

The collection covers the period from 1921 to 1953, with emphasis on the 1940's.

Among the correspondents are:

Albert Einstien
Frank Martel
Frank Murphy

Mark Starr
Norman Thomas
Arthur Vandenberg

Important subjects covered are:

History of the American Federation of Teachers
The AFT and the Communist issue
New York City teacher's dispute
Federal aid to education
Flint, Michigan dismissal cases
Tenure for teachers
The Workers' Education Service

Description of Series:

Boxes	Description
1	Correspondence, reports and scrapbook relating to the AFL and education. Arranged chronologically for the period, 1941-1949.
2-10	Correspondence, reports, resolutions and hearings pertaining to the AFT. Arranged by subject for the period 1934-1950.
10-12	Correspondence, studies, resolutions, clippings and hearings relating to the MFT. Arranged by subject for the years 1937-1949.
12	Correspondence, clippings and bulletins concerning the DFT. Also minutes for the Detroit Federation of Labor, arranged by subject 1921-1954.
13	Correspondence dealing with the dismissal of teachers in the Flint area for their support of the GM sit-downers, 1937-1949.

Boxes	Description
14	Correspondence with MFT groups in various Michigan cities. Pertaining mainly to organizing efforts. Arranged by cities. 1939-1953
15-18	Miscellaneous office files dealing with such subjects as retirement, taxation and salaries arranged by subject. 1937-1949
19-20	Correspondence, clippings and documents relating to the workers education service. 1936-1948.

ARTHUR ELDER - DETROIT FEDERATION OF TEACHERS COLLECTION

Box 1, Academic Freedom, Kraus Case, 1941
 Americans for Democratic Action, 1948-1949
 American Federation of Labor, 1945-1946
 1946
 January-June 1948
 July-August 1948
 September-October 1948
 November-December 1948
 January-February 1949
 March 1949
 April 1949
 May 1949
 June-July 1949
 Report of the Committee on Education, Nov. 1948
 Statement: AFL Labor Extension Bill
 American Labor Education Service, 1948-1949
 Scrapbook

Box 2, "The First Ten Years of the American Federation of Teachers" by Freeland G. Stecker, 1950
 A Statistical History of the AFT, 1916-1939
 "A Critical Evaluation of the AFT" by Aileen W. Robinson, M.A. Thesis, 1934
 AFT History (Blanche Rinehart)
 Blanche Rinehart Correspondence
 "History of the AFT" by Freeland G. Stecker
 AFT Executive Council Meeting, December 1937
 AFT Executive Council, 1937-1938
 AFT Executive Council, 1938-1939
 Clippings, 1941 Detroit Convention
 AFT Executive Council Minutes, December 31, 1940-January 2, 1941
 AFT Fight Against Communism, 1940-1941
 AFT, September 1941-March 1942
 AFT Correspondence, March-August 1942
 September-December 1942
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 March-April 1943
 May-August 1943
 September-October 1943
 November-December 1943
 AFT Proceedings of Council Meeting, December 28-30, 1943
 AFT Correspondence, January 1944
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Box 3, AFT Correspondence, May-June 1944
 July-August 1944
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 Proceedings of Executive Council, December 1946
 AFT, 1946

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AFT Correspondence, January 1947
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 March-April 1947
 May-July 1947
 August 1947
 Roster of Teachers Locals, 1947
 AFT Miscellaneous
 AFT Pre-Convention, 1948
 Publicity and Public Relations, AFT Convention, July 1948
 Reports - AFT Convention, July 1948
 AFT Post-Convention, 1948

Box 4, AFT, September-December 1948 (4 folders)
 AFT Executive Council, December 1948
 AFT, January-July 1949 (7 folders)
 AFT Pre Convention Executive Council, August 1949
 AFT Convention Correspondence, May-July 1949 (3 folders)
 AFT Convention, Milwaukee, August 1949
 AFT Convention, 1949
 AFT - Resolutions and Reports, 1949
 AFT Correspondence, 1951

Box 5, William Card Case, 1938 (2 folders)
 Colorado Federation of Teachers and Federation of Labor, 1946-1948 (3 folders)
 Los Angeles Local 430, 1949
 Los Angeles Local 430 and San Francisco Local 615
 New York College Teachers, 1938-1941
 Hearing - New York College Teachers Local 537, February 1941
 Hearing of Local 453, 1941
 Local 192 - The Philadelphia Teachers Union, 1941
 Philadelphia Teachers, 1938-1941
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Box 6, New York Teachers, 1939
 Clippings, New York Teachers, 1940
 New York Teachers, 1940 (2 folders)
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 New York Teachers, January-July 1941 (6 folders)
 Hearing of Local 5, New York Teachers, February 1941

Box 7, AFT - Axtelle, 1940-1941
 Axtello, George, 1941-1942
 Block, Henry
 Borchardt, Selma, 1947-1948
 Counts, George S, 1940-1941 (3 folders)
 AFT - Jerome Davis, 1938-1939
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 Eby, Kermit, 1944
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 Elder - CIO Correspondence, 1944
 Expenses, 1944-1945
 Elder Financial, 1948-1949 (2 folders)
 Kerrison, Irving, 1949
 Convention - Kuenzli, 1941

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AFT - Mark Starr, 1940-46 (3 folders)
 Raphael, Mary, 1944
 Abrams Case, 1938-1939
 Buffalo, 1946-1947
 University of Chicago "Daily Maroon" November 1940
 Chicago Teachers Union - Eby 1942-1943
 Dumas, Louis, 1947

Box 8, Expenses - Petition Campaign
 Expense Accounts, 1938-1941 (2 folders)
 Expenses, 1941 Convention
 Expenses, 1945-1946
 Expenses, National, 1937-1944 (5 folders)
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 Miscellaneous - Arthur Elder

Box 9, Better Schools Association, 1947-1949
 Board of Education - Wire Recordings, 1948
 Citizens School Committee, 1937-38, 1942, 1948 (3 folders)
 Citizens Committee - Reports and Miscellaneous
 CIO, 1945-46, 1948-1949 (3 folders)
 National Committee for Extension of Labor Education, 1946-1949 (2 folders)
 Committee on Extension of Labor Extension
 Committee on Labor Unity, 1942
 Conference on Problems of City Finance, June 7, 1941
 Community Institute and Junior College, 1945-1946
 Co-ordinating Council on Human Relations, 1947-1949
 Department of Labor clippings
 Dues "Investigation" 1938-1939
 Educational Research Service, 1940
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 Federal Aid to Education by William Green
 Federal Aid, 1944, 1949 (2 folders)
 Films - Correspondence
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Box 10, Galarza, Ernesto, 1944-1948
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 Dr. W. S. Kimball, East Lansing, 1938-1939
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 W.H. Maurer - Public Medicine Clippings
 Michigan Advisory Committee on Education, 1937-1944
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Box 11, Michigan Council for Representative Government, 1941-1943 (5 folders)
 Michigan Education Association, 1944-1948
 Correspondence, Teachers - Frank Martel, Musicians, and Misc., 1944-1945

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Legislation - National, 1944-1945
 Michigan Federation of Labor, 1946-1948
 MFT - Past Accounts, 1941-43
 Michigan Federationist, 1943
 MFT Legislative Program, 1945-1946
 MFT - Committee on Economic Study, 1942-1943
 MFT - Minutes and Reports, 1935-1936
 MFT - Minutes 1943-1948 (5 folders)
 Miscellaneous, 1945-1946, 1949-1950 (2 folders)
 Michigan Federation of Teachers Convention, 1947-1948 (2 folders)

Box 12, Raffle, MFT, 1948

Resolution Supporting Public Education
 Resolutions, MFT Convention, 1949
 MFT Convention Resolutions
 Michigan Teacher Correspondence, Copy, 1941-1947
 Detroit Federation of Labor Minutes, February 16, 1921
 DFT Constitution
 Community Conference, 1940's
 Community Conference, 1947
 Conference Programs, 1940-1942
 DFT, 1944-1945
 Clippings on Education, 1938-1939
 DFT, 1946-1947
 DFT - Miscellaneous to 1947 - Florence Sweeney
 DFT, 1948-1951 - Florence Sweeney
 1949 Article and Correspondence, 1957 - Florence Sweeney
 American Teacher Index, 1946-1948
 DFT - Correspondence regarding American Teacher, September 1945-December 1947
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 DFT - Miscellaneous
 Outstate Michigan Locals of the DFT
 DFT Program Committee
 DFT Publicity, 1944-1945
 DFT Bulletin on Salary Increases
 Detroit Federation of Teachers Yearbook

Box 13, Flint - History of Cases

Caroline Stearns
 National Defense Committee, 1937-1938
 Flint Dismissals, January 1937-December 1939 (7 folders)
 Flint Fund Receipts, 1937-1940
 Flint Fund - Miscellaneous
 Flint, 1940-1947 (3 folders)

Box 14, Benton Harbor-St. Joseph, 1941

Clawson-Rochester, 1941-1942
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 Dearborn, 1945-1946
 Democratic Campaign, 1941 (2 folders)
 Detroit and Wayne County Federation of Labor, 1953
 Detroit School Board Election, 1941
 Detroit Teacher Association
 East Detroit Federation of Teachers, 1945-1948
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 Hamtramck, 1944-1947 (3 folders)
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 Royal Oak, 1947-1948
 Rural Teachers - St. Clair
 St. Clair Shores (South Lake), 1947
 Upper Peninsula
 Utica-Macomb County (Financial Report), 1939-1942
 Wayne County Teachers - Rural, 1943
 Wayne Federation of Teachers, 1941-1947
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Box 15, Governor's Conference on Industrial Safety, 1949

Michigan Labor's League Political Education
 Minneapolis
 Frank Murphy Correspondence, 1938-1939
 National Budget
 National Union of Teachers of England
 Politics, 1948
 Progressive Voters, 1938
 Michigan Public Education Study Commission, 1940's - Correspondence
 - Minutes and Reports
 - Committee Reports
 Michigan Public School Expenditures, 1938-1942
 Ready for Board's Approval, 1943
 Rapportionment

Box 16, Michigan Retirement Fund, 1941

Retirement - Questions and Answers
 Retirement - State Laws
 Retirement Fund - Miscellaneous
 Roosevelt College
 Ruskin College Labor Scholarships
 Teacher Salaries
 Salary Schedules, 1945-1946 (2 folders)
 State Legislation, 1945-1946
 Shortage of Elementary Teachers, 1948
 A Primer on State Aid for Schools
 Letter - Joint Council Teachers Organization
 State Aid Laws
 State Aid Statistics, 1939-1940
 State Aid, 1940-1942
 State Aid - 1943 Legislature (Michigan)
 Committee on School Appropriations, 1947
 Steelworkers of America, 1947-1949
 Summer School for Office Workers, 1949

Box 17, Tax Study Commission (Gov. Murphy's), 1937-1938

Sales Tax in Michigan
 Sales Tax in the Nation

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Property Levy Charts
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 Michigan Public Expenditure Survey, 1944
 Michigan Survey, 1948
 CIO Tax Conference
 Proceedings of the Tax Conference, 1940
 Taxation
 Tax Amendment Correspondence, 1944
 Taxation, 1946
 Sales Tax Diversion, 1946
 "Some Problems in Michigan Taxation", M.A. Thesis, 1949
 Tax Dodgers, 1945-1946
 Taxation Treasury, 1942-1943
 AFL - Taxation and School Finance, 1943
 AFL - Taxation, 1945
 Taxation - Kentucky, etc.
 Undistributed Profits Tax by L.H. Seltzer
 Taxation Notes
 Committee for Economic Development, 1949

Box 18, Woll Tax Plan, 1947

Publicity - Mathew Woll, 1947
 Tenure, 1937-1941 (6 folders)
 Union Songs
 Union Theater Productions, 1947
 Union School Finance Committee
 United Nations
 UNESCO, 1948-1949
 Victory Food Committee, 1943-1944 (2 folders)
 Morton Zimmerman Correspondence

Box 19, Institute - United Steelworkers with U.ofM. Workers Educational Service, Aug. 1948

Miscellaneous
 WPA Michigan Workers Education Teachers Conference, 1936
 History of Workers Education Service, 1940's
 University of Michigan - Workers Educational Service - Correspondence,
 October 1944-September 1948 (39 folders)

Box 20, U of M - Workers Education Service - Correspondence, 1948 (3 folders)

U of M - Workers Education Service - Miscellaneous (2 folders)
 U of M - Workers Education Service - Clippings, 1948
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 Workers Education Service - Publications, 1944-1947
 Workers Education Service - Press Releases, 1948
 DFT - Workers Education Minutes
 Georgia Workers Education Service
 Student Testimony Regarding Samuel Jacobs Course in Labor Economics
 Samuel Jacobs - Class Material
 Workers Education Service Campaign, 1949 (Rosa Falk)
 Labor Education Advisory Committee
 University of Illinois - Workers Education Material