



The New York Public Library
Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture,
Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division

Guide to the

Benjamin F. Seldon papers

1907-1942

Sc MG 173

Summary

Creator: Seldon, Benjamin F.

Title: Benjamin F. Seldon papers

Date: 1907-1942

Size: 0.21 linear feet (1 box)

Source: Provenance unknown, ca. 1975-1977.

Revision History: Finding aid updated by Lauren Stark.

Abstract: Benjamin F. Seldon was State Supervisor of Negro Adult Education for the New Jersey Works Progress Administration from 1938 to 1941. He served in World War I, then completed his education in Europe where he studied the economic, social, and political conditions of several countries. He also taught in France and at the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute (in 1928). The Benjamin F. Seldon papers consist of correspondence pertaining to various aspects of his career and personal life, and a scrapbook Seldon maintained containing news clippings relating primarily to African Americans in World War I. Many letters relate to Seldon's experiences as the State Supervisor of Negro Adult Education for the New Jersey Works Progress Administration in which he had 136 teachers under his supervision. Letters also pertain to the Civilian Conservation Corps. Additional correspondence is with religious, political, educational, and social organizations, and several prominent people including Adam Clayton Powell, Sr., Bertha B. Randolph (wife of A. Philip Randolph) and L. Hollingsworth Wood. There is also personal correspondence with Seldon's family and friends. A few letters are written in French and Spanish.

Preferred citation: [Item], Benjamin F. Seldon papers, Sc MG 173, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, The New York Public Library

Language of the Material: English Some letters are in French and Spanish.

Processing note: Cataloged by Janice Quinter, October 1990. Processed as part of the Schomburg NEH Automated Access to Special Collections Project.

Creator History

Benjamin F. Seldon was State Supervisor of Negro Adult Education for the New Jersey Works Progress Administration from 1938 to 1941. He served in World War I, then completed his education in Europe where he studied the economic, social, and political conditions of several countries. He also taught in France and at the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute (in 1928).

Scope and Content Note

The Benjamin F. Seldon papers consist of correspondence pertaining to various aspects of his career and personal life, and a scrapbook Seldon maintained containing news clippings relating primarily to African Americans in World War I. Many letters relate to Seldon's experiences as the State Supervisor of Negro Adult Education for the New Jersey Works Progress Administration in which he had 136 teachers under his supervision. Letters also pertain to the Civilian Conservation Corps. Additional correspondence is with religious, political, educational, and social organizations, and several prominent people including Adam Clayton Powell, Sr., Bertha B. Randolph (wife of A. Philip Randolph) and L. Hollingsworth Wood. There is also personal correspondence with Seldon's family and friends. A few letters are written in French and Spanish.

Arrangement: Arranged chronologically.

Key Terms

Subjects

Adult education and state
Adult education teachers -- Training of
African American soldiers
African Americans -- Education
African Americans -- Employment

Names

Powell, A. Clayton (Adam Clayton), 1865-1953
Seldon, Benjamin F.
Wood, L. Hollingsworth (Levi Hollingsworth), 1874-1956
Civilian Conservation Corps (U.S.)
United States. Works Progress Administration

Container List

- b. 1 f. 1 1907-1930
- b. 1 f. 2 1938-1942
- b. 1 f. 3 1940-1942
- b. 1 f. 4 Scrapbook