



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

Guide to the

Benjamin F. McLaurin papers

1936-1989

Sc MG 146

Processed by Em Longan in 2023.

Summary

Creator: McLaurin, Benjamin F., 1906-1989

Title: Benjamin F. McLaurin papers

Date: 1936-1989

Size: 61.08 linear feet (146 boxes, 1 tube)

Source: Donated by Benjamin F. McLaurin in 1973, 1981, and 1988. A final part was donated by Dana McLaurin and Benjamin McLaurin, Jr. in 1990.

Abstract: Benjamin F. McLaurin (1906-1989) was a Black labor leader and civic worker who held leadership positions within the Brotherhood of the Sleeping Car Porters (BSCP) during the 1920s and 1930s. He worked with A. Philip Randolph throughout the Civil Rights Movement, and later advocated for job equality and increased educational opportunities for minority communities while serving on New York City board committees. The collection, dated 1936 to 1989, showcases McLaurin's lifelong labor, civic, and political work through correspondence, project reports, meeting minutes, Senate committee statements and testimonies, convention and conference reports, and newspaper clippings.

Preferred citation: [Item], Benjamin F. McLaurin papers, Sc MG 146, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, The New York Public Library

Language of the Material: English

Processing note: Processed by Em Longan in 2023.

Separated Materials:

Photographs transferred to the Benjamin F. McLaurin photographs in Photographs and Prints Division, Schomburg Center.

Audio and moving image materials transferred to the Moving Image and Recorded Sound Division, Schomburg Center.

Creator History

Benjamin F. McLaurin was born in Jacksonville, Florida on May 26, 1906, and graduated from Edward Waters College. He moved to Chicago in 1924, found a job with the Pullman Company as a porter, and joined the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters (BSCP) in 1926. Initially serving as the chairman of the union's social committee, McLaurin was fired around 1930 for his active role in organizational activities. BSCP was founded in 1925, and was chartered into the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) in 1935, the first Black-led labor union to do so. The union helped McLaurin attend the labor school at the University of Wisconsin, and later sent him to Brookwood Labor College in Katonah, New York.

Asa Philip Randolph, the founder of BSCP, asked McLaurin to remain in New York and begin organizing there; McLaurin remained in New York for the rest of his life. He married Margaret Frye (circa 1910-1983) in August 1938. Their daughter, Dana, was born in 1944 and their son, Benjamin Jr., was born in 1946.

McLaurin worked with Randolph in a number of BSCP-related organizations and projects, including the 1941 March on Washington, the National Council for a Permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee (FEPC) from 1944 to 1950, and the Negro-American Labor Council (NALC) in 1960.

McLaurin was active in labor and civil rights organizations throughout his life. He was the New York State vice chairman of the Liberal Party and the Liberal Party nominee for City Council from Harlem in 1945; sat on the board of directors of the National Committee for Rural Schools (NCRS) beginning in 1949; served as the state treasurer of the New York chapter of the NALC; was appointed to the Board of Higher Education by Mayor Wagner in 1963; founded the Coordinating Council on Education for the Disadvantaged (CCED) in 1964, and its demonstration project, Subprofessional and Vocational Educational (SAVE) Program, in 1966; and served as president of the Professional Household Workers Association (PHWA), formed in 1971.

McLaurin was also a member of the National Religious and Labor Foundation executive board, and active in the National Trade Union Committee for Racial Justice, the Trade Union Council, Americans for Democratic Action, and the Workers Defense League. He was chairman of Mayor John V. Lindsay's Committee on Exploitation of Workers.

Benjamin F. McLaurin died of cancer on March 22, 1989, at North Central Bronx Hospital.

Scope and Content Note

The Benjamin F. McLaurin papers date from 1936 to 1989, and contain correspondence, union contracts, meeting minutes, committee reports, and clippings chronicling McLaurin's lifelong involvement in labor, political, and civic activism. The collection is arranged into five series: Unions; Labor Councils and Committees; Civil Rights Movement; Political and Civic Committees; and Personal.

The chronological arrangement showcases the evolution of McLaurin's work as past efforts informed new projects, a trajectory which first stemmed from and was continuously influenced by his active engagement with the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters (BSCP). As McLaurin took on civic-oriented work throughout the 1950s, he still relied heavily on the community, knowledge, and ideals he established as a BSCP leader. Correspondence with labor leaders appears throughout the collection.

Financial records, organizational documents, and publication materials appear in every series. These materials contain the same general formats and serve the same function relative to the organizations

held within each series. Financial Records contain tax preparation documents, auditor reports, annual budgets, quarterly reports, bank statements, and funding sources. Organizational Documents includes files of staff policies, articles of incorporation, letters of authority, project synopses, and personnel organization policies. Publications files frequently hold items such as event flyers, brochures, press releases, and sample letters.

The container list utilizes original folder titles and arrangement as much as possible. This has led to a slightly different arrangement from one subseries to the next, and is especially prominent in the various correspondence files. Rae Brandstein was founder and secretary of the National Committee for Rural Schools (NCRS); Elmer Henderson was the Executive Secretary for the National Council for a Permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee (FEPC); and Marie Duke served as the secretary for the Coordinating Council on Education for the Disadvantaged (CCED). Each wrote a bulk of the outgoing correspondence while they were working with McLaurin in their respective organizations, and each had a unique filing system for organizational materials.

The NCRS, FEPC, and CCED materials also account for a bulk of the materials in the collection. While CCED was not a national organization and had a relatively narrower geographic focus on the Bronx, it was McLaurin's passion project which served as the culmination of his combined labor, civic, and political activism.

There is also a selection of personal files related to McLaurin's family, travels, and speaking engagements.

Key Terms

Subjects

African American civic leaders -- New York (State) -- New York
African American political activists -- New York (State) -- New York
Civil rights movements
Discrimination in employment -- United States
Household employees
Labor unions, Black
Minorities -- Employment -- United States
Porters -- Labor unions
Pullman porters

Occupations

Civic leaders.
Labor leaders.

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Clippings (information artifacts)
Contracts
Correspondence
Fliers (Ephemera)
Manuscripts for publication
Minutes (records)
Notes (documents)
Programs (Publications)

Names

Brandstein, Rae
McLaurin, Benjamin F., 1906-1989
Randolph, A. Philip (Asa Philip), 1889-1979
Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters
Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. Ladies Auxiliary
City University of New York
March on Washington Movement (Organization)
Pullman Car Company
United States. Committee on Fair Employment Practice

Container List

Series I: Unions 1936-1988 (10 boxes 4.17 linear feet)

Materials related to McLaurin's labor union work are held in series I. The series is chronologically arranged into two subseries: Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters (BSCP), and Professional Household Workers Association (PHWA).

The series illustrates McLaurin's evolving responsibilities in the BSCP, from a rank-and-file member to administrative positions, first as Chairman of the Social Committee and later as the Eastern Zone Supervisor. His tenure in union leadership then applied to his active role in the establishment and organization of the PHWA. Dating from 1936 to 1988, the series holds correspondence, grievances, dues, articles of incorporation, meeting minutes, expense reports, informational flyers, wage records, union contracts, and Pullman company porter manuals.

Subseries I.A. Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters 1936-1988

Founded in 1925 by A. Philip Randolph, the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters (BSCP) was the first Black-led labor organization to receive a charter in the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO). In the first election for representation in 1935, Pullman porters overwhelmingly chose the BSCP over the company union. The first contract was struck in 1937.

McLaurin's first role in the BSCP was the chairman of the social committee. By 1938, McLaurin was serving as the union's Eastern Zone Supervisor, organizing and overseeing local chapters in that region.

Subseries I.A. holds materials related to the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters (BSCP) and various railroad companies, and is organized by subject into files of Correspondence; Union Contracts; Events; Governing Boards; and Union Ephemera.

Correspondence files include both outgoing and incoming communication with BSCP locals, other unions, and the Pullman Company. Some grievance complaints for BSCP leadership to investigate are also present.

The BSCP negotiated contracts on behalf of railroad workers at companies outside of the Pullman Company. In addition to the Pullman Company agreement, contracts brokered by the BSCP include the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Company and the Seaboard Coast Line Railroad Company are also held here. Materials related to the railroad companies include wage schedules and receipts, manuals for specific kinds of passenger train cars, and codes of conduct for porters while working.

The Events files hold materials related to national and regional BSCP conferences, AFL-CIO banquets, convention reports of proceedings, and memorials for BSCP leadership. Events hosted by the Ladies' Auxiliary, a BSCP offshoot group made up of the wives of BSCP members, and events hosted by other railroad company unions are also documented.

Governing Board materials reveal the activities of the BSCP national boards and committees via meeting minutes, general rules, and constitutions of conduct for union membership.

Financial Records detail the fiscal status of the BSCP from both an administrative and general membership perspectives via wages and dues records; statements of receipts and disbursements; bank statements; and financial reports.

Of particular note are McLaurin's membership book and completed strike ballots, which are held in the Union Ephemera files. McLaurin also collected the official newspapers of other unions, including the International Union of Electrical Workers and the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union. Clippings related to the BSCP are also present here.

Correspondence

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| b. 1 f. 1-4 | 1943-1982 |
| b. 1 f. 5 | Amalgamated Clothing Workers |
| b. 1 f. 6 | Brotherhood of Railway Clerks and Trainmen 1960 |
| b. 1 f. 7 | Local 1199 1962 |

Series I: Unions (cont.)

Subseries I.A. Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters (cont.)

Correspondence (cont.)

- b. 1 f. 8 Grievances 1966
- b. 1 f. 9 New York Legislative Service Advisory Labor Legislative Committee Meeting 1966
- b. 1 f. 10 Pullman Company 1967
Contains copies of correspondence between the Pullman Company and A. Philip Randolph.

Union Contracts

BSCP brokered contracts on behalf of workers at a variety of railroad companies.

- b. 1 f. 11 Pullman Company Agreement 1941
- b. 1 f. 12 Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Company Agreement 1948-1955
- b. 1 f. 13 Joint Council of Dining Car Employees Agreement 1967
- b. 1 f. 14 Norfolk and Western Railway Company Agreement 1967
- b. 1 f. 15 Seaboard Coast Line Railroad Company Agreement 1969

Events

- b. 1 f. 16-19 Conferences 1942-1978
- b. 2 f. 1-6 Includes the 1946 Atlanta, Georgia Regional Conference, the 1975 50th Anniversary Luncheon, the 1962 Seaboard Coast Line Unity Conference, and the 1977 Penn Parlor Attendants Conference.
- b. 2 f. 7-9 Convention Reports of Proceedings 1950-1975
- b. 3 f. 1-4
- b. 3 f. 5-10 Ladies' Auxiliary Events 1946-1968
Includes files for conventions, testimonial banquets, and a baby contest.
- b. 4 f. 1-2 Memorials 1960, 1965
Includes memorials to A. Philip Randolph and Milton P. Webster.

Governing Boards

- b. 4 f. 3 Ladies Auxiliary Constitution and General Rules 1942
- b. 4 f. 4 Investigations and Hearings 1944-1970
- b. 4 f. 5 Executive Board 1945-1948
- b. 4 f. 6 Brotherhood Railway Carmen of America Constitution 1950
- b. 4 f. 7 Railway Employees Department, AFL-CIO 1950-1960
- b. 4 f. 8 Executive Board Meeting Minutes 1953
- b. 4 f. 9 National Legislative Council 1963-1966
- b. 4 f. 10 Constitution of the Industrial Department 1965
- b. 4 f. 11 Senior Citizens Chapter Meeting Agendas 1978
- b. 4 f. 12 Financial Records 1948-1970
- b. 5 f. 1-8

Union Ephemera

- b. 5 f. 9 Wallet Cards
- b. 5 f. 10 Membership Book 1936-1941
- b. 5 f. 11 Train Car Features 1940
- b. 5 f. 12 Membership Standing Wallet Cards 1942
- b. 5 f. 13 Sample Ballots 1960
- b. 5 f. 14 Payment Records 1965
- b. 5 f. 15 Strike Ballot 1967
- b. 5 f. 16-19 Clippings 1954-1987
Includes newspaper clippings about A. Philip Randolph and Dr. E.D. Nixon.

Series I: Unions (cont.)

Subseries I.A. Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters (cont.)

Union Ephemera (cont.)

b. 5 f. 20 Convention Ribbons 1954-1968

b. 143 Union Publications 1957-1988

Includes ten issues of the Brotherhood's official newspaper, *The Black Worker*.

Subseries I.B. Professional Household Workers Association 1965-1980

The New York Division of BSCP chartered the Professional Household Workers Association, Local 1, on April 8, 1971. By 1974, the union had 700 members and included maids, butlers, nannies, personal chefs, chauffeurs, and gardeners. McLaurin organized and led this unionization effort.

The Professional Household Workers Association (PHWA) files date from 1965 to 1980, and holds materials related to the grassroots efforts of establishing and chartering a new union. Files are arranged by subject into Correspondence, Events, Training Programs, Governing Boards, Organization Documents, Publicity Materials, and Financial Records.

Correspondence includes materials from non-union workers who were curious about the organization and open to becoming members. PHWA faced unique challenges reaching their target membership of domestic workers, many of whom were independently employed. Many of the materials in this subseries are focused on outreach and raising general awareness of the union, its benefits, and legal rights of domestic workers. The union urged its members to encourage non-union affiliated domestic workers to join.

Events materials include annual luncheon schedules, venue arrangements, license applications from the New York State Gaming Commission for Bingo Nights, ticket raffles, and various training program regulations. As an additional part of its outreach, PHWA also hosted annual receptions, training programs, and regular Bingo Night fundraiser events. The training programs ranged from union leadership classes to courses on becoming caregivers for elderly people.

Publicity Materials include event flyers, sample letters, and clippings.

b. 6 f. 1-8 Correspondence 1974-1980

Events

b. 6 f. 9-12 Annual Receptions 1973-1977

b. 7 f. 1

b. 7 f. 2-6 Training Programs 1975-1977

b. 7 f. 7-12 Bingo Night Fundraisers 1972, 1976-1977

b. 7 f. 13-16 Governing Boards 1969-1977

b. 8 f. 1

b. 8 f. 2-10 Organization Documents 1969-1979

Contains a program introduction, union contracts, planning documents, articles of incorporation, and administrative documents.

b. 8 f. 11-15 Publicity Materials 1977-1979

b. 9 f. 9-11

b. 9 f. 1-8 Financial Records 1973-1977

Series II: Labor Councils and Committees 1945-1981 (24 boxes 9.83 linear feet)

This series, dated from 1945 to 1981, chronicles McLaurin's tenures on governing boards as the BSCP representative for inter-union initiatives. Series II primarily holds correspondence, annual reports, planning documents related to fundraising events, project proposals, clippings, and financial records. It is arranged into three subseries: National Committee for Rural Schools (NCRS); National Religious and Labor Foundation (NRLF); and Negro-American Labor Council (NALC).

Series II: Labor Councils and Committees (cont.)

Subseries II.A. National Committee for Rural Schools 1945-1981

Founded in the late 1940s by Rae Brandstein of the International Ladies' Garment Workers and sponsored by several additional large trade unions, including BSCP, NCRS was dedicated to the promotion of adequate unsegregated public school facilities, extending from kindergarten through high school. The committee also distributed toys and clothing for school children in underprivileged areas. McLaurin was Chairman of the executive board in 1952.

The National Committee for Rural Schools (NCRS) subseries dates from 1945 to 1981, and contains files created through McLaurin's work on the Committee's executive board via donation requests, pamphlets, annual reports, souvenir journals, correspondence, executive board meeting minutes, clippings, and financial materials. Files are grouped together by general subject: Correspondence, Events, Financial Records, Organization Documents, Publications, and Clippings.

Correspondence includes letters sent by Rae Brandstein, founder and secretary of NCRS, soliciting donations from private individuals, public figures, unions, and national organizations. George Meany, president of AFL-CIO; Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.; and A. Philip Randolph were some of the labor and civic leaders she wrote to ask for support. The NCRS also corresponded with integration advocates sent to places including Clarendon County, South Carolina and Normal, Alabama. After the Voting Rights Act of 1965 was signed into law, the NCRS expanded its fundraising scope to support southern Black communities by funding multiple co-ops, grocery stores, and schools, in addition to regular monetary and clothing donations.

Events files hold invitations, venue arrangement documents, seating lists, flyers, and speaker schedules from NCRS fundraising dances, tea parties, testimonial luncheons, and annual meetings. Ad space from yearly souvenir journals and ticket sales generated funds for donations and organizational costs. Judge Waties Waring was honored with a testimonial luncheon in 1954, and Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., spoke at the annual meeting in December 1956.

There are a number of Organizational Documents in this subseries, which include articles of incorporation, Committee resolutions, board meeting minutes, membership lists, and specific donation requests for food or clothing from NCRS partners in the South.

Publications files includes press releases, sample letters, souvenir journals and yearly reports published for the annual luncheons, and clippings.

Correspondence

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| b. 9 f. 12-19 | 1946-1967 |
| b. 10-13 | |
| b. 14 f. 1 | Amalgamated Clothing Workers Local 169 1955-1956 |
| b. 14 f. 2 | Americans for Democratic Action 1951 |
| b. 14 f. 3 | Atlanta, Georgia 1949-1954 |
| b. 14 f. 4 | Bowman, Leroy 1948-1949 |
| b. 14 f. 5 | Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters 1948-1967
Includes correspondence between Rae Brandstein and McLaurin concerning the start of the NCRS project, as well as their reaching out to other labor leaders to garner support for the fledging project. |
| b. 14 f. 6 | Congress of Industrial Organizations 1949-1955 |
| b. 14 f. 7 | Clarendon County Improvement Association 1955-1960 |
| b. 14 f. 8 | Clarendon County Project 1956-1957 |
| b. 14 f. 9 | Clark, Kenneth B 1956
Contains correspondence between Clark and Brandstein, NCRS executive secretary, about coordinating donations to Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Coretta King "for help in the care of the baby" after the Kings' Montgomery home was bombed in late January. |
| b. 14 f. 10 | Delicatessen & Restaurant Counterman Union 1960 |

Series II: Labor Councils and Committees (cont.)
Subseries II.A. National Committee for Rural Schools (cont.)
Correspondence (cont.)

- b. 14 f. 11 Elder, Arthur 1954-1955
Correspondence with the Director of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union Training Institute.
- b. 14 f. 12 Epsteins 1952-1956
- b. 14 f. 13-15 Fayette, Tennessee 1960-1961
- b. 14 f. 16 Fleming, Billy 1956-1957
- b. 14 f. 17 Ford Foundation 1952
- b. 14 f. 18 Freedom House 1950
- b. 14 f. 19 Gans, Roma 1950-1954
- b. 14 f. 20 Georgia - CIO 1950-1952
- b. 14 f. 21 Georgia - General 1950-1954
- b. 15 f. 1 Georgia Workers Education 1948
- b. 15 f. 2 Gerber, Martin 1957
- b. 15 f. 3 Hephzibah, Georgia 1948-1950
- b. 15 f. 4 Hinesville, Georgia - Eyeglass Project 1951-1954
- b. 15 f. 5-7 International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union 1949-1956
- b. 15 f. 8-9 Joint Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union 1950-1955
- b. 15 f. 10 Lewis, Alfred Baker 1954-1955
- b. 15 f. 11 Liberal Party 1951-1952
- b. 15 f. 12 Manson, Julius 1949-1964
Articles, correspondence, and other materials used as references for the NCRS main office.
- b. 15 f. 13 Massachusetts Institute of Technology 1981
Contains correspondence between McLaurin and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Library concerning the recordings McLaurin took of King's speech as the featured guest at the NCRS Anniversary Luncheon in 1956.
- b. 15 f. 14 Mayo, T.R. 1948-1949
Contains correspondence between Rae Brandstein, executive secretary and founder of NCRS, and the Mayos of Spalding County, Georgia. This visit spurred her to create NCRS.
- b. 15 f. 15 McCrary, Irene - Griffin, Georgia 1949-1953
- b. 15 f. 16 McLaurin, B.F. 1948-1955
Contains a manuscript of a speech McLaurin delivered at the 26th National Convention of the Socialist Party of America.
- b. 15 f. 17-18 National AFL-CIO 1949-1956
- b. 15 f. 19 National Maritime Union 1954-1955
- b. 15 f. 20 Neckwear Workers 1948-1953
- b. 15 f. 21 Negro Press 1956
- b. 15 f. 22 New York AFL-CIO 1953-1964
- b. 15 f. 23 New York State CIO Council 1949-1954
- b. 15 f. 24 Normal, AL 1951-1955
- b. 15 f. 25 Parsons, Emma 1957
- b. 15 f. 26 Perlis, Leo 1949
- b. 15 f. 27 Playthings, Jewelry, and Novelty Workers Union 1946-1954
- b. 15 f. 28 Redd, A.C. 1956
- b. 15 f. 29 Roosevelt, Eleanor 1954
- b. 15 f. 30 Rubber Workers 1950

Series II: Labor Councils and Committees (cont.)
Subseries II.A. National Committee for Rural Schools (cont.)
Correspondence (cont.)

- b. 16 f. 1 Savannah, Georgia 1952
- b. 16 f. 2 Smith, Hilda 1948-1951
- b. 16 f. 3 Social Democratic Federation 1951-1954
- b. 16 f. 4 Spikes, Ernest - Griffin, Georgia 1949-1953
- b. 16 f. 5 Teachers' Guild 1954-1955
- b. 16 f. 6 Textile Workers 1949
- b. 16 f. 7 Transport Workers 1953
- b. 16 f. 8 Union Letters of Support 1960
- b. 16 f. 9-11 United Automobile Workers 1951-1957
- b. 16 f. 12 United States Post Office 1958-1959
- b. 16 f. 13 Utility Workers' Union 1961
- b. 16 f. 14 Waring, Waties 1954-1956
- b. 16 f. 15 Woll, Matthew 1955
- b. 16 f. 16 Yancyville, No. Carolina 1952
- b. 17 f. 1-24 A-Z 1947-1964

Events

- b. 18 f. 1-12 **Banquets 1953-1959**
Includes promotional flyers, seating charts, speaker lists, and reservations for NCRS tea parties and luncheons.
- b. 18 f. 13-19 **Fundraising Dances 1950-1958**
Includes promotional flyers, invitations, and coordination with dance venues for cabaret parties and cocktail dances. Venues include the Savoy Plaza Hotel and Hotel McAlpin.
- b. 19 **Anniversary Luncheons 1951-1981**
- b. 20 f. 1-3 Includes invitations, souvenir journals, programs, and planning materials related to various annual luncheons.
- b. 20 f. 4 **Waties Waring Testimonial Luncheon 1954**
Includes a program of events and the seating list.
- b. 20 f. 5-8 **Conferences 1947-1955**
- b. 145 f. 2 **Recognition Citations**

Financial Records

- b. 20 f. 9-15 **Annual Reports 1949-1960**
- b. 21 f. 1-5 **Journal Contributions 1951-1956**
- b. 21 f. 6-14 **Donations 1946-1965**
Includes correspondence related to donations to NCRS, and summaries of donations sent to Southern cities and towns from NCRS.
- b. 21 f. 15-18 **Statements 1950-1968**
- b. 22 f. 1-6
- b. 145 f. 1
- b. 22 f. 7-20 **Organizational Documents 1951-1966**
- b. 23
- b. 24 **Publications 1947-1958**
- b. 25 f. 1-10
- b. 144 f. 1

Series II: Labor Councils and Committees (cont.)

Subseries II.B. Negro-American Labor Council 1952-1972

The Negro-American Labor Council was founded May 27, 1960 by a gathering of one thousand Black union delegates in Detroit, citing frustration with the pace of integration in the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO), which still supported segregated locals. Over the course of a three-day convention, delegates discussed the abolition of Jim Crow practices in labor and to fuller representation for the 1,250,000 Black unionists on union staffs and policy-making bodies. NALC membership had declined sharply by 1962, but in 1963 it organized the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom.

A. Philip Randolph served as NALC's first President. McLaurin served as Treasurer of the New York Chapter and stepped down from the position in 1969. NALC dissolved in 1972.

Subseries II.B., dating from 1952 to 1972, details McLaurin's tenure as the Treasurer of the New York Chapter of the Negro-American Labor Council (NALC) through Correspondence, National Committees, Membership documents, Programs, Events, Publications, and Financial Records.

The Correspondence files are arranged alphabetically, and the rest of the subseries is arranged chronologically. The materials document grievance investigations into claims of discrimination and harassment towards Black unionists in their locals. Additionally, NALC frequently offered financial and legal support, connecting unionists with organizations including the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). Correspondence with Fred Smalls, one of the high school students who took part in the initial S.H. Kress store sit-in in Charleston, South Carolina, is included.

Many National Committee meeting minutes are held in this subseries, including the Planning, Cultural, Newsletter, and Social committees. The topics addressed in the National Committees files are expanded upon in the Membership, Programs, Events, and Publications minutes. The concepts and goals initially explored in the committees' meeting minutes are expanded via program roadmaps, convention proceedings, newsletters, and press releases.

Publications files include newsletters addressing integration, flyers promoting fundraising dances, and brochures promoting organized apprenticeship training programs. Materials from the founding convention are present in the subseries, including summary proceeding reports, nascent Executive Committee meeting minutes, and clippings.

Though McLaurin served as the Treasurer of NALC, the financial records are not comprehensive and contain bank statements, receipts, and a financial audit conducted in 1969, prior to McLaurin vacating his post.

Correspondence

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| b. 25 f. 11-14 | 1961-1967 |
| b. 25 f. 15 | Blackston, Elmer 1961-1962 |
| b. 26 f. 1 | Elverson, Robert 1962 |
| b. 26 f. 2 | International Union of Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers 1961 |
| b. 26 f. 3 | NAACP 1961-1962 |
| b. 26 f. 4-5 | Smalls, Fred 1961-1962 |
| b. 26 f. 6 | Southern Christian Leadership Conference 1956
Contains two copies of flyers announcing Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s speech at Mt. Olivet Baptist Church. |
| b. 26 f. 7 | Transport Workers Union 1961 |
| b. 26 f. 8 | Urban League of Greater New York 1961 |
| b. 26 f. 9 | Walter, Noah C.A 1952-1955 |
| b. 26 f. 10 | Workers of Flower Fifth Ave. Hospital (Local 1199) 1962 |
| | National Committees |
| b. 26 f. 9 | Planning Committee |

Series II: Labor Councils and Committees (cont.)
Subseries II.B. Negro-American Labor Council (cont.)
National Committees (cont.)

- b. 26 f. 10 Cultural Committee
- b. 26 f. 11-14 Executive Board 1960-1966
 - b. 27 f. 1
 - b. 27 f. 2 Education Committee 1961
 - b. 27 f. 3 Executive Committee 1961
 - b. 27 f. 4 Grievances Committee 1960-1961
 - b. 27 f. 5 Newsletter Committee 1962
 - b. 27 f. 6-7 Social Committee 1960-1968
- b. 27 f. 8-10 Membership 1961-1970
- b. 28 f. 1-4 Includes resolutions, calls to action, meeting minutes, and membership lists.
Programs
 - b. 28 f. 5 Apprenticeship Training Programs 1961
 - b. 28 f. 6 Operation Unemployment 1961
 - b. 28 f. 7 Operation Roadmap 1962
Includes materials related to the development of Operation Unemployment, which aimed to increase employment and apprenticeship opportunities for young African Americans; picketing the Ebinger's Bakeries company for discriminatory employment practices; and proposals for NALC's Executive Board.
- Events
 - b. 28 f. 8 Congress of Racial Equality
 - b. 28 f. 9 Founding Convention Summary Proceedings 1960
 - b. 28 f. 10 District 65 Dance Benefit 1961
 - b. 28 f. 11-12 Apollo Benefit Ticket Sales 1962
 - b. 28 f. 13-14 Annual Convention Books 1964-1972
 - b. 28 f. 15 AFL-CIO Community Services and Rehabilitation Institute 1966
 - b. 28 f. 16 Fourth Anniversary Dinner Dance 1966
- b. 29 f. 1-9, 15 Publications 1962-1966
- b. 29 f. 10-14 Financial Records 1961-1969

Series II: Labor Councils and Committees (cont.)

Subseries II.C. National Trade Union Committee for Racial Justice 1953-1956

The Trade Union Committee for Racial Justice was established at the Annual Conference on the Problems of the Negro Worker and the Community in Philadelphia on October 24, 1953 in an attempt to revitalize a former Negro Labor Committee. McLaurin served as the Chairman of the National Board. The Committee sought to establish joint activity of local trade unions who all held the common goal of encouraging Black workers to become active in the trade union movement. It also sought to foster community between Black and white union workers for their mutual benefit. The Trade Union Committee also sought to combat the influences of the American Communist Party within the labor movement.

Subseries II.C. chronicles the establishment of the National Trade Union Committee for Racial Justice and is dated from 1953 to 1956. This subseries is organized by subject into Correspondence; Administrative Committee files; Financial Records; Events files; and Publication Statements.

Though McLaurin served as Chairman of the National Board, this subseries does not fully encompass the scope of the Committee. Records such as correspondence with the St. Louis branch, organization documents concerning a second annual conference, and the establishment of a scholarship fund point to a more widespread organization than what is reflected in these materials.

Correspondence include communications between local branches and the national committee and scholarship applications from Black laborers wanting to gain experience in specialty trades.

Events materials contain records relevant to the planning and execution of annual conferences and receptions. This includes materials related to the Trade Union Committee conference.

Correspondence

- b. 30 f. 1 St. Louis Branch 1954
- b. 30 f. 2 Scholarship Applications 1955
- b. 30 f. 3-4 Telegrams 1955-1956
- b. 30 f. 5 Administrative Committee 1954-1956
- b. 30 f. 6-7 Financial Records 1954-1956
Contains bank statements, audits, quarterly reports, and disbursements.
- b. 30 f. 8-11 Events 1953-1954
- b. 30 f. 12 Publication Statements
Includes press materials and promotional flyers.

Series III: Civil Rights Movement 1940-1985 (53 boxes 21.92 linear feet)

Series III is dated from 1940 to 1985, and holds materials related to McLaurin's work in the Civil Rights Movement. The series is arranged into three subseries: Marches on Washington; National Council for a Permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee (FEPC); and Madison Square Garden Civil Rights Rally Committee. McLaurin served as the national secretary for the 1941 March on Washington, and later on the executive board of the National Council for a Permanent FEPC after President Roosevelt signed Executive Order 8802, which prohibits racial or ethnic discrimination in the federal defense industry. The series holds correspondence, newsletters, reports, flyers, speeches, clippings, and transcripts of FEPC committee hearings and Senate committee testimony.

Series III: Civil Rights Movement (cont.)

Subseries III.A. Marches on Washington 1942-1985

This subseries chronologically details McLaurin's involvement in two separate Marches on Washington, both as an organizer and as a participant. Materials in this subseries are arranged by subject into Publications and Organizing Documents.

A. Philip Randolph called for a March on Washington in January 1941 to protest racial discrimination in the National Defense industry and color bars in labor unions. The March was called off when President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 8802 (Prohibition of Discrimination in the Defense Industry) on June 25, 1941. McLaurin served as the 1941 March's national secretary.

As in Subseries II.C., McLaurin's title brings the dearth of 1941 March materials into sharp focus, especially in contrast with materials from the 1963 March, in which McLaurin was a participant and not a national organizer.

Publication materials include newsletters, sample letters, bus signs, and journals promoting the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, called by Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. The newsletters and journals contain travel instructions for potential participants and a requested moratorium on speaking of the logistics of the March to news organizations. McLaurin and his wife, Margaret, traveled to participate as supporters. Both the 1941 and the 1963 Marches are described in clippings.

Organization Documents include Special Committee meeting minutes for the 1941 March, and organizing manuals and planning reports for the 1963 March.

Publications

- b. 30 f. 13 **Newsletter 1963**
- b. 30 f. 14 **Signs for Buses 1963**
- b. 30 f. 15 **Sample Letters 1963**
Includes the Lincoln Memorial program.
- b. 31 f. 1-4 **Clippings 1963-1985**
- b. 144 f. 4-6 **Journals 1963-1968**
b. 145 f. 6

Organizing Documents

- b. 30 f. 16 **Special Committee 1942-1946**
- b. 30 f. 17 **Organizing Manual #2 1963**
- b. 30 f. 18 **Planning and Suggestions Document 1956**

Series III: Civil Rights Movement (cont.)

Subseries III.B. National Council for a Permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee 1940-1955

The Fair Employment Practice Committee was established by President Roosevelt when he signed Executive Order 8802, and was intended to combat discrimination in Federal agencies. Randolph and McLaurin campaigned for Congress to approve a permanent FEPC, but the legislation failed to pass in 1948 and again in 1950.

Subseries III.B., dated 1940 to 1955, extensively chronicles the work of the National Council for a Permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee (FEPC). The subseries holds FEPC committee hearing files, reports, and testimonies; correspondence seeking and garnering support; speeches and drafts; rally flyers; and clippings. Materials are ordered by subject into Correspondence, Delegation Lists; Events; Field Work Materials; National Committees; Publications; Federal Campaigns; Financial Records; and Clippings.

Correspondence makes up the bulk of the subseries and is organized topically into General Correspondence, Local Councils, National Organizations, and Government. Files are arranged alphabetically within each topic. General correspondence includes sample letters and mass mailers seeking financial or signatory support for proposals. Correspondence with local councils includes legislation updates, letter-writing campaign organization, and dues collection. Letters to national organizations sought statements of support and partnerships in campaigns for awareness. Correspondence with elected officials include thank-you letters to bill sponsors and hearing witnesses, and letter-writing campaigns to undeclared elected officials seeking their support for bills establishing a permanent FEPC.

Delegation Lists comprise contact information and membership details of local councils throughout the United States. The National Council would send information, directives, and calls to action to their locals. The National Council would also field questions and requests from their grassroots members, strategizing on how to see the goal brought to completion.

Conference registration, programs, tour organization, and fundraising drives are present in the Events files, which are arranged chronologically. Some of the events chronicled include National Conferences, an Emergency Leaders' Conference, a fundraising drive at the Willard Hotel in Washington DC, and a multi-state tour by A. Philip Randolph.

Field Work materials were created by National Council staff sent to drum up support for the FEPC in small communities around the country. These materials includes reports, recommendations, polls, personnel information, staff memorandums, and newspaper contacts for National Council staff

Publications, which are arranged chronologically, were created to provided updates on field work, national committees, and federal campaign progress for local councils via newsletters, posters, and press releases. National Council staff sent out frequent reports on the progress of Capitol Hill bills to the membership.

Federal Campaign materials track the voting record of government officials with regard to the FEPC; Senate and House votes and hearings; drafts of legislation; and relevant bills introduced in each chamber.

Hearings and Legislation files include the National Council's diligent tracking of bill developments in each chamber of the Capitol. The Council kept a copy of each new piece of legislation as it was introduced; compared and contrasted new iterations in each chamber; and kept track of voting records and potential candidates to endorse in elections.

The Council hired a newspaper clipping service to meticulously track FEPC trials, hearings, and developments from around the country. Each day's clippings were originally housed in a small envelope with newspaper names and article titles written on the back. These envelopes have been filed with the clippings and are arranged in chronological order.

Correspondence

General Correspondence

1945-1950

Includes correspondence with Mary Bethune of the National Council of Negro Women, Senator James E Murray, and President of B'nai B'rith Frank Goldman.

b. 31 f. 5-10
b. 32 f. 1-9

Series III: Civil Rights Movement (cont.)

Subseries III.B. National Council for a Permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee (cont.)

Correspondence (cont.)

General Correspondence (cont.)

- b. 33 f. 1-19 **A-C 1944-1948**
b. 34 f. 1-8 Includes correspondence with Dr. Charles Burton of the March on Washington Movement and Robert R. Church of the Republican American Committee.
- b. 34 f. 9-17 **D-F 1944-1950**
b. 35 f. 1-5 Includes correspondence with Professor Lawrence Demont of Louisiana State University, Jack Danciger, and Representative James G. Fulton.
- b. 35 f. 6-14 **G-I 1944-1955**
b. 36 f. 1-10 Includes correspondence with George K. Hunton of the Catholic Interracial Council and Hugh Holohan of the Governor Clinton Hotel.
- b. 36 f. 11-17 **J-L 1944-1953**
b. 37 f. 1-10 Includes correspondence with Congressman Walter H. Judd and Senator Herbert H. Lehman.
- b. 37 f. 11-20 **M-O 1944-1948**
b. 38 f. 1-13 Includes correspondence with Dr. Rose Mukerji and Carolyn A. Minkins of the American Council on Race Relations.
b. 39 f. 1-10
- b. 39 f. 11-19 **P-R 1944-1950**
b. 40 f. 1-11 Includes correspondence to Eleanor Roosevelt.
- b. 40 f. 12-15 **S-U 1944-1948**
b. 41 f. 1-15 Includes correspondence with Mildred Thompson and Channing H. Tobias.
b. 42 f. 1-11
- b. 42 f. 12-17 **V-Z 1944-1950**
b. 43 f. 8-15 Includes correspondence with Roy Wilkins and Nathan Zatkun.

Local Councils

- b. 43 f. 16-18 **1945-1948**
b. 44 f. 1-2 Includes correspondence from National offices to locals and address lists with names of chairmen.
- b. 44 f. 3-4 **Alabama 1944-1948**
- b. 44 f. 5 **Arizona 1948**
- b. 44 f. 6 **Arkansas 1946-1947**
- b. 44 f. 7-8 **Baltimore 1946**
- b. 44 f. 9 **Brooklyn 1944**
- b. 44 f. 10-11 **California 1944-1948**
- b. 44 f. 12 **Canada 1946-1947**
- b. 44 f. 13 **Chicago 1947-1948**
- b. 44 f. 14-16 **Colorado 1944-1948**
- b. 44 f. 17-19 **Connecticut 1944-1947**
- b. 44 f. 20-21 **Delaware 1944-1946**
- b. 45 f. 1-3 **Florida 1945-1948**
- b. 45 f. 4-5 **Georgia 1945-1948**
- b. 45 f. 6 **Huntington, West Virginia 1946**
- b. 45 f. 7-11 **Illinois 1944-1948**
- b. 45 f. 12-14 **Indiana 1944-1948**
- b. 45 f. 15 **Iowa 1944**
- b. 45 f. 16 **Kansas 1946**
- b. 45 f. 17-19 **Louisiana 1944-1948**
- b. 45 f. 20-22 **Maryland 1944-1948**
- b. 46 f. 1-3 **Michigan 1944-1945**

Series III: Civil Rights Movement (cont.)

Subseries III.B. National Council for a Permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee (cont.)

Correspondence (cont.)

Local Councils (cont.)

- b. 46 f. 4-5 Minnesota 1945-1948
- b. 46 f. 6 Missouri 1946-1947
- b. 46 f. 7-8 Nebraska 1946-1948
- b. 46 f. 9 New Hampshire 1946
- b. 46 f. 10-11 New Jersey 1941-1946
- b. 46 f. 12-13 New York 1944-1947
- b. 46 f. 14-17 Ohio 1944-1948
- b. 47 f. 1-2 Oklahoma 1945-1948
- b. 47 f. 3-5 Oregon 1944-1949
- b. 47 f. 6-8 Pennsylvania 1944-1949
- b. 47 f. 18 Richmond, Virginia 1946-1947
- b. 47 f. 9 Rhode Island 1946-1948
- b. 47 f. 10 Tennessee 1945, 1947-1948
- b. 47 f. 19
- b. 47 f. 11 Seattle Council 1947-1949
- b. 47 f. 12 Vermont 1946
- b. 47 f. 13 Washington 1945-1947
- b. 47 f. 14 Wisconsin 1946-1948
- b. 47 f. 15-17 Washington, D.C 1944-1947
- b. 47 f. 20 Virginia 1945
- National Organizations
- b. 48 f. 1 Afro-American 1945-1947
- b. 48 f. 2 Alpha Kappa Alpha 1947
- b. 48 f. 3 Amalgamated Clothing Workers' Union 1945-1946
- b. 48 f. 4 Americans for Democratic Action 1946-1947
- b. 48 f. 5 American Civil Liberties Union 1945-1949
- b. 48 f. 6 American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born 1947
- b. 48 f. 6-8 American Council on Race Relations 1946-1949
- b. 48 f. 9-10 American Federation of Labor 1944-1949
- b. 48 f. 11 American Friends Service Committee 1946
- b. 48 f. 12 American Heritage Foundation 1947
- b. 48 f. 13-14 American Jewish Committee 1945-1948
- b. 48 f. 15 American Jewish Congress 1946-1947
- b. 48 f. 16 American Unitarian Youth 1948
- b. 48 f. 17 American Veterans Committee 1946
- b. 48 f. 18 Americans for Democratic Action 1947
- b. 48 f. 19 Anti-Defamation League 1946-1948
- b. 48 f. 20 Board of Missions 1946
- b. 48 f. 21-22 Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters 1944-1950
- b. 49 f. 1 Catholic Congress on Industrial Problems 1947
- b. 49 f. 2 Catholic Interracial Review 1946-1947
- b. 49 f. 3 Chicago Anti-Defamation League 1946-1948

Series III: Civil Rights Movement (cont.)

Subseries III.B. National Council for a Permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee (cont.)

Correspondence (cont.)

National Organizations (cont.)

- b. 49 f. 4-6 Chicago Council Against Race and Religious Discrimination 1946-1947
- b. 49 f. 7 Child Study Association 1945-1946
- b. 49 f. 8 Citizens' Coordinating Committee 1944-1945
- b. 49 f. 9 City Wide Citizens Committee on Harlem 1946
- b. 49 f. 10 Claremont House 1946
- b. 49 f. 11 Committee for Racial Democracy in the Nation's Capital 1947
- b. 49 f. 12 Committee on Racial Equality 1947
- b. 49 f. 13 Common Ground 1946
- b. 49 f. 14-15 Congress of Industrial Organizations 1945-1949
- b. 49 f. 16 Council Against Intolerance 1945-1946
- b. 49 f. 17 Council of Industrial Organizations PAC 1946
- b. 49 f. 18 Elks 1947
- b. 49 f. 19 Federal Council of Churches 1945-1947
- b. 49 f. 20 Girl Friends 1947-1948
- b. 49 f. 21 Hotel and Restaurant Employees 1945
- b. 49 f. 22 Illinois Interracial Commission 1948
- b. 49 f. 23 Interracial Action Council 1945
- b. 49 f. 24 International Ladies' Garment Workers 1946-1948
- b. 49 f. 25 Jewish Labor Committee 1946-1950
- b. 49 f. 26 Jewish War Veterans of the United States 1947
- b. 49 f. 27 Julius Rosenwald Fund 1945
- b. 49 f. 28 League for Industrial Democracy 1946
- b. 49 f. 29 League of Fair Play 1946
- b. 49 f. 30 Letters Pro and Con Raising Funds 1945
Includes copies of responses to the Council from organizations including the Workers Defense League, the National Council of Jewish Women, the Union for Democratic Action, and the Industrial Board of the New York State Department of Labor regarding a proposal to raise funds to support the President's Committee to establish a permanent FEPC.
- b. 49 f. 31 Letters to Editors 1948
- b. 49 f. 32 Letters to Organizations Requesting Contributions 1947
- b. 49 f. 33 Mass Movement League 1944-1945
- b. 49 f. 34-35 National Alliance of Postal Employees 1947-1948
- b. 50 f. 1-3 National Association for the Advancement of Colored People 1945-1948
- b. 50 f. 4 National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses 1946
- b. 50 f. 5 National Bar Association 1946
- b. 50 f. 6 National Catholic Welfare 1944-1945
- b. 50 f. 7 National Community Relations 1946-1948
- b. 50 f. 8 National Council of Jewish Women 1946-1950
- b. 50 f. 9 National Council of Negro Women 1945-1946
- b. 50 f. 10 National Labor Service 1947
- b. 50 f. 11 New York Commission Against Discrimination 1946-1950
- b. 50 f. 12 Newspaper Correspondence 1947
- b. 50 f. 13 PM Daily 1946

Series III: Civil Rights Movement (cont.)

Subseries III.B. National Council for a Permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee (cont.)

Correspondence (cont.)

National Organizations (cont.)

- b. 50 f. 14 Post-War World Council 1946
- b. 50 f. 15 Postal Alliance 1944-1946
- b. 50 f. 16 Protestant Council of City of New York 1947
- b. 50 f. 17 Public Education Association Duryee 1946
- b. 50 f. 18 Religious Society of Friends 1946
- b. 50 f. 19-20 Robert Marshall Civil Liberties 1944-1948
- b. 50 f. 21 Society for Ethical Culture 1946
- b. 50 f. 22 Southern Conference 1945
- b. 50 f. 23 Southern Conference for Human Welfare 1946
- b. 50 f. 24 Students for Democratic Action 1947
- b. 50 f. 25-26 Union for Democratic Action 1945-1946
- b. 50 f. 27-28 United Automobile Workers 1945-1948
- b. 50 f. 29 United Council of Church Women 1945-1947
- b. 50 f. 30 United Hatters 1946-1947
- b. 50 f. 31 United States Student Assembly 1945-1946
- b. 50 f. 32-35 Urban League 1944-1946
 - b. 51 f. 1 Veterans of Foreign Wars 1946
- b. 51 f. 2-3 Women's International League 1944-1945
 - b. 51 f. 4 Workers Defense League 1946
- b. 51 f. 5-6 Young Women's Christian Association 1948
 - b. 51 f. 7 Youth Builders, Inc 1946
- Government
 - b. 51 f. 8-11 1944-1948
 - b. 51 f. 12 Ball, Joseph H 1948
 - b. 51 f. 13 Donnell, Forrest C 1947
 - b. 51 f. 14 Ives, Irving M 1947
 - b. 51 f. 15 Joint Letter to Senator Vanderberg and Representative Martin 1948
 - b. 51 f. 16 President's Committee on FEPC 1944-1945
 - b. 52 f. 1 Letters to S984 Hearing Witnesses 1947
 - b. 52 f. 2 Letters to HR4453 Hearing Witnesses 1949
 - b. 52 f. 3 Secretary of Labor 1946
 - b. 52 f. 4 Senate Mailers 1948-1949
 - b. 52 f. 5 Sponsor Letters 1947-1948
 - b. 52 f. 6 Thank-You Letters 1949
 - b. 52 f. 7 Unemployment Compensation Board 1949
 - b. 52 f. 8 Vandenberg, Arthur H 1947
 - b. 52 f. 9-10 White House 1944-1947
 - b. 52 f. 11-16 Delegation Lists 1944-1948
 - b. 53 Lists of organizations and individuals, organized by state, who supported the establishment of a permanent FEPC. The National Council relied on these lists to garner support, participate in letterwriting campaigns, and fundraise their efforts.
 - b. 54 f. 1-9

Events

Series III: Civil Rights Movement (cont.)

Subseries III.B. National Council for a Permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee (cont.)

Events (cont.)

- b. 54 f. 10-12 Conference Registration 1945
- b. 54 f. 13 Programs 1945
- b. 54 f. 14 Conference 1945
- b. 54 f. 15 National Conference for a Permanent FEPC Speeches 1946
- b. 54 f. 16 Emergency Leaders' Conference 1946
- b. 55 f. 1-2 Washington DC Drive 1947
- b. 55 f. 3 Willard Hotel Dinner 1947
- b. 55 f. 4 Randolph Tour 1947-1951
- b. 55 f. 5 Inter-State Conference Against Discrimination 1949

Field Work

- b. 55 f. 6 Information for Field Representatives
- b. 55 f. 7 Newspaper Contacts
- b. 55 f. 8 Department of Labor 1944
- b. 55 f. 9 Polls 1944
- b. 55 f. 10 Recommendations 1944-1945
Includes letters of recommendations for former Council workers.
- b. 55 f. 11 Reports 1944-1946
- b. 55 f. 12 Applications 1945
Includes correspondence with people interested in working with the National Council, responses from associate and executive secretaries, and application forms. One of the letters includes a handwritten note in Greggs shorthand.
- b. 55 f. 13 Biographies 1945
- b. 55 f. 14 Publication Subscriptions 1945
- b. 55 f. 15 Memorandum 1945-1946
- b. 55 f. 16 Printings 1945-1946
- b. 55 f. 17 Speech Material 1945-1946
- b. 55 f. 18 Field Work - General 1946
- b. 56 f. 1 Personnel 1946
- b. 56 f. 2 United Automobile Workers PAC Finder 1946
- b. 56 f. 3 Field Activity Reports 1947
- b. 56 f. 4 Pittsburgh Courier 1947
- b. 56 f. 5 Reports on Bills 1947
- b. 56 f. 6 Richmond, VA Fieldwork 1947
- b. 56 f. 7 Speech Materials 1947
- b. 56 f. 8 Staff 1947
- b. 56 f. 9 Subscriptions 1947
- b. 56 f. 10-11 Civil Liberties Clearing House 1949
- b. 56 f. 12 Staff Memos 1951
- b. 145 f. 3 Resolution 1947

Citation for Distinguished Service to the Cause of Fair Employment to James B. Carey.

National Committees

- b. 56 f. 13-16 Administration Committee 1945-1947

Series III: Civil Rights Movement (cont.)

Subseries III.B. National Council for a Permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee (cont.)

National Committees (cont.)

- | | |
|---|--|
| b. 56 f. 17-20
b. 57 f. 1-2 | Board of Directors 1946-1949 |
| b. 57 f. 3 | Campaign Committee 1946 |
| b. 57 f. 4-5 | Executive Committee 1947-1949 |
| b. 57 f. 6-7 | Finance Committee 1947 |
| b. 57 f. 8 | Fundraising Committee |
| b. 57 f. 9-11 | Policy Committee 1946-1948 |
| b. 57 f. 12 | Sponsoring Committee 1946-1947 |
| b. 57 f. 13-15 | Strategy Committee 1945-1949 |
| b. 57 f. 16-26
b. 58-60
b. 61 f. 1-7
b. 144 f. 2-3 | Publications 1944-1950
Includes federal bill updates, sample letters, newsletters, press releases, and flyers. |
| Federal Campaigns | |
| b. 61 f. 8-15
b. 62 f. 1-6 | Government Officials 1945-1950
Includes congressional voting records, statements on various FEPC legislation, and candidate stances. |
| Hearings | |
| b. 62 f. 7-9
b. 63 f. 1-2 | Senate Hearings 1944-1947 |
| b. 63 f. 3-5
b. 64 f. 1-2 | House Hearings 1944-1949 |
| Legislation | |
| b. 64 f. 3-7
b. 65 | Draft Proposals 1945-1951
Includes news releases from the National Council, Senate remarks, Congressional records, and copies of newspaper articles in favor of establishing a permanent FEPC. |
| b. 66 f. 1-6
b. 67 f. 1 | Senate Bills 1945-1947 |
| b. 66 f. 7-9
b. 67 f. 2 | House Bills 1949 |
| b. 66 f. 10-12
b. 67 f. 3-5
b. 68 f. 1-2 | National Council Reports 1940-1947 |
| b. 68 f. 3-13
b. 69-71
b. 72 f. 1-8 | Financial Records 1944-1950 |
| b. 72 f. 9-34
b. 73-78 | Clippings 1946-1949 |

Series III: Civil Rights Movement (cont.)

Subseries III.C. Madison Square Garden Civil Rights Rally Committee 1956-1957

Sponsored by a coalition of religious, labor, civic, and fraternal groups, the rally raised funds and support for activists in the Deep South working to desegregate communities after the 1954 *Supreme Court Brown v. Board of Education* decision.

Subseries III.C., dated from 1956 to 1957, chronicles the organizational efforts of holding a civil rights rally at Madison Square Garden. Materials are arranged by topic into Correspondence; Financial Records; Civil Rights Rallies; Internal Materials; and Publications.

The Correspondence is from McLaurin's time as coordinator and includes applications for the Solicitations Board. There is also correspondence with invited speakers including Eleanor Roosevelt, A. Philip Randolph, and Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Civil Rights Rallies files hold flyers, venue booking forms, and speaker engagement agreements for two rallies organized under the Madison Square Garden Committee: the New Jersey Civil Rights Rally, and the Madison Square Garden Civil Rights Rally.

- b. 79 f. 1-2 Correspondence 1956
- b. 79 f. 3-4 Financial Records 1956
- Civil Rights Rallies
 - b. 79 f. 5 New Jersey Civil Rights Rally 1956-1957
 - b. 79 f. 6-8 Madison Square Garden Civil Rights Rally 1956
 - b. 79 f. 9 NAACP Dinner Seating List 1956
- b. 79 f. 10-11 Internal Materials 1956
 - b. 80 f. 1 Contains member lists and office copies.
- b. 80 f. 2-5 Publications 1956
 - Includes press releases and sample letters.

Series IV: Political and Civic Committees 1949-1989 (53 boxes, 1 tube 22.33 linear feet)

Series IV, dating from 1949 to 1989, showcases McLaurin's political and civic-focused projects that did not originate through his union work, though it continued to influence his civic goals and priorities. This series is arranged into five subseries: Liberal Party; City University of New York Board of Higher Education; Coordinating Council on Education for the Disadvantaged; Mayor's Committee on Exploitation of Workers; and Minor Civic Committees. These materials include correspondence, meeting minutes, committee reports, budget plans, promotional campaign flyers, project proposals, board calendars, bulletins, staff policies, and clippings.

Subseries IV.A. Liberal Party 1965-1986

The Liberal Party was officially formed May 19, 1944, represented by the groups that composed the right wing of the American Labor party who had recently lost control to a coalition of left-wing groups and unions affiliated with the CIO. McLaurin spoke at the formal gathering that announced the new party, and was the Liberal party and Republican candidate for City Council from Harlem in July 1945.

The Liberal Party subseries is dated from 1965 to 1986, and is arranged topically into Correspondence; State Committee; and Events.

Correspondence is generally between McLaurin and other members of the State Committee concerning the setting of general party goals. State Committee files contain meeting minutes, inter-party grievances and resolutions, official party position papers, and office memos. Events files hold speech drafts and organizing materials related to a 1967 National Conference, the 1969 25th Annual Dinner, and the 1977 First Judicial District Convention.

Correspondence

- b. 80 f. 6-7 1974-1986
- b. 80 f. 8 Humphrey, Hubert 1967

Series IV: Political and Civic Committees (cont.)

Subseries IV.A. Liberal Party (cont.)

Correspondence (cont.)

- b. 80 f. 9-10 Meeting Announcements 1979
- State Committee
- b. 80 f. 11 Free Tuition Proposal
- b. 80 f. 12 State Legislative Program 1965
- b. 80 f. 13 Memorandums 1966-1967
- b. 80 f. 14 Position Papers 1976-1977
- b. 80 f. 15 Meetings 1978
- b. 80 f. 16 Grillo v Harrington Summons and Complaint 1985
- b. 81 f. 1-4 Events 1967-1977

Subseries IV.B. Board of Higher Education of the City of New York 1960-1970

Subseries IV.B., dating from 1960 to 1970, details McLaurin's time on the Board of Higher Education and holds correspondence, committee files, reports, event files, and calendars.

Correspondence includes both outgoing and incoming letters to fellow Board members, college presidents, CUNY Chancellors John Rutherford Everett and Albert Hosmer Bowker, and members of the public voicing their opinions on various Board decisions.

The Committees files address the many committees and subcommittees McLaurin sat on during his tenure on the Board, including the City University Construction Fund, the Harlem Advisory Committee, and the Queens Community College committee. These materials include meeting minutes, project proposals, annual budgets, and job candidate deliberations.

Reports are from other Board committees that McLaurin was not a part of, but were presented at Executive Committee meetings that he attended. Many of the reports have handwritten notes taken by McLaurin.

The Events files hold invitations and other materials related to college president inaugurations, commencement activities, and annual receptions.

- b. 81 f. 5-14 Correspondence 1965-1970
- b. 82
- b. 83 f. 1-6

Committees

- b. 83 f. 6-8 Bernard Baruch School 1967-1969
- b. 84 f. 1-3
- b. 84 f. 4-9 Borough of Manhattan Community College 1964-1968
- b. 84 f. 10-15 Bronx Community College 1964-1969
- b. 85
- b. 86 f. 1-3
- b. 86 f. 4-5 Brooklyn College 1963-1968
- b. 86 f. 6-8 Building Committee 1964-1967
- b. 87 f. 1-3
- b. 87 f. 4-6 Campus Planning and Development Committee 1965-1968
- b. 87 f. 7-12 City University Construction Fund 1966-1969
- b. 88 f. 1-4
- b. 88 f. 5-6 Committee Assignments 1965-1967
- b. 88 f. 7-9 Committee Studying Functions and Relationships of Offices 1965-1967
- b. 89 f. 1
- b. 89 f. 2-7 Committee to Seek a President for Community College Number Eight 1967-1968
- b. 89 f. 8 Community School for Comprehensive Education 1969
- b. 89 f. 9-14 Executive Committee 1964-1969
- b. 90-91
- b. 92 f. 1 Harlem Advisory Committee 1968

Series IV: Political and Civic Committees (cont.)

Subseries IV.B. Board of Higher Education of the City of New York (cont.)
Committees (cont.)

- b. 92 f. 2-11 **Hunter College 1964-1967**
- b. 92 f. 12-13 **Joint Community College Committee 1965-1967**
- b. 92 f. 14 **Kingsborough Community College 1968**
- b. 93 f. 1-3 **Lehman College Committee 1968-1969**
- b. 93 f. 4-7 **Manpower Task Force 1963-1969**
- b. 93 f. 8-10 **Promotion Committee 1964**
- b. 94 f. 1-5 **Queens Community College 1963-1968**
- b. 94 f. 6 **Reaccreditation Committee 1964-1967**
- b. 94 f. 7-10 **Reports 1960-1969**
 - b. 95-97 Includes reports made to the Executive Board from committees McLaurin was not a part of, as well as third party reports and assessments on the University system and organization.
- b. 97 f. 6-11 **Events 1965-1966**

Includes materials related to the swearing-in ceremony and reception celebrating McLaurin's appointment to the Board and various invitations to college functions and commencement ceremonies he received as a part of that role.
- b. 98-100 **Calendars 1966-1970**
- b. 101 f. 1

Series IV: Political and Civic Committees (cont.)

Subseries IV.C. Coordinating Council on Education for the Disadvantaged
1963-1970

In 1964, McLaurin founded the Coordinating Council on Education for the Disadvantaged (CCED), a non-profit organization based in Harlem that provided additional tutelage for public school students who were either at risk of dropping out of school, or who had already dropped out.

Once again utilizing McLaurin's connections to the labor community, the CCED operated remedial reading, math, typing, and shorthand classes out of local union centers, such as the International Ladies' Garment Workers (ILGW).

Though it secured initial funding through a grant from the federal Department of Labor, CCED struggled with fundraising nearly from the start. Internal tensions and disagreements between CCED personnel contributed to the dysfunction. An internal dispute eventually had to be resolved by the Department of Labor, and the CCED was dissolved by 1970.

The Coordinating Council on Education for the Disadvantaged (CCED) subseries dates from 1963 to 1970, and extensively documents the establishment of the Council and the organization of its two largest programs, the Subprofessional and Vocational Education Program (SAVE) and the Teacher-Intern Program (TIE). The subseries contains correspondence, files from the SAVE and TIE programs, press releases, event materials, reports, organization documents, clippings, and financial records. Correspondence is arranged alphabetically; all other files are arranged chronologically.

Correspondence files illustrate McLaurin's efforts to gain financial support and letters of endorsement from public figures, union and national organization leaders, university presidents, and the heads of local and state government agencies. McLaurin and Marie Duke, the secretary of CCED, applied for and received grants from the United States Department of Labor. CCED personnel also contacted local youth organizations and clubs to assist with publicity and outreach efforts. Correspondence with the Board of Higher Education is also included; the connection, if any, between the Board and CCED is unclear.

The subseries also holds files that illustrate the work of both the SAVE and TIE programs to recruit instructors from local unions and general curriculum graduates. The SAVE files are more robust, and hold correspondence, organizational documents, personnel files, committee files, reports, financial records, and events files. The alphabetically arranged correspondence chronicles the organization's collaboration with local unions, political bodies, and other civic organizations.

Organizational Documents include the SAVE project synopsis, organization policies, articles of incorporation, letters of authority, contracts, and monthly reports to the United States Department of Labor. Personnel files contain staff time logs, policies, meeting minutes, requisition forms for office equipment, and New York City educational and employment resources for SAVE students. Administrative and Trade Union Advisory Committee meeting minutes are held in the Committees files. Report files include curriculum, union center, and first phase program reports. Invitations to the SAVE program's opening ceremony and certificates presented at a graduation ceremony are present in the Events files.

The TIE files also contain program-specific correspondence. Program Proposals make up the bulk of these files and illustrate the refinement of the program's structure and goals through multiple iterations. Press Releases advertising teaching positions and open courses are also present. McLaurin hoped to provide students and their tutors with the skills to gain employment with both programs.

CCED Events files are related to conference organization and fundraising luncheons. Materials include venue and catering booking, invitations, guest lists, and reports on the amount of funds raised at these events for CCED and its related programs.

The Reports held in this subseries are related to smaller programs, including Project Second Start, and include proposals and working files.

Clippings about the opening and staffing of Intermediate School 201 in Harlem, and the subsequent fight over community control are also included in this subseries.

Correspondence

Series IV: Political and Civic Committees (cont.)
Subseries IV.C. Coordinating Council on Education for the Disadvantaged (cont.)
Correspondence (cont.)

b. 101 f. 2-11	1964-1970
b. 102 f. 1-3	
b. 102 f. 4	Allen, James E 1964-1966
b. 102 f. 5-6	Altomare, George 1965-1966
b. 102 f. 7	American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education 1966
b. 102 f. 8	American Federation of Labor 1965-1966
b. 102 f. 9	American Federation of Teachers 1965-1966
b. 102 f. 10	American Jewish Committee 1965
b. 102 f. 11	Amsterdam News 1965-1966
b. 102 f. 12	Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith 1965
b. 102 f. 13	Anti-Poverty Operation Board 1964-1966
b. 102 f. 14	Archdiocese of New York 1966
b. 102 f. 15	Arsdale, Harry Van 1966
b. 102 f. 16	ASPIRA 1965
b. 102 f. 17	Bank Street College of Education 1965-1966
b. 102 f. 18	Baruch School of Business Administration 1965
b. 102 f. 19-20	Bass, Jay 1965-1966
b. 102 f. 21	Bassin, Milton G 1967
b. 102 f. 22	Becker, Abram 1966
b. 102 f. 23	Behavioral Research Laboratories 1965
b. 102 f. 24-27	Board of Education 1965-1966
b. 102 f. 28-29	Board of Sponsors 1965-1969
b. 102 f. 30-31	Borough of Manhattan Community College 1965-1966
b. 103 f. 1	Bowker, Albert H 1964-1965
b. 103 f. 2	Bronx Community College 1965-1966
b. 103 f. 3	Brooklyn College 1965-1966
b. 103 f. 4	Building Service International Union 1965
b. 103 f. 5	Bureau of Community Education 1966
b. 103 f. 6	Catholic University of America 1965
b. 103 f. 7	Citizens' Committee for Public Higher Education 1965
b. 103 f. 8-9	City College of New York 1964-1966
b. 103 f. 10-11	City Hall 1964-1965
b. 103 f. 12	City University of New York 1966
b. 103 f. 13	Collective Bargaining 1964-1967
b. 103 f. 14	Columbia University 1965
b. 103 f. 15	Commerce, Department of, United States 1965-1966
b. 103 f. 16	Community Colleges Letters of Recommendation 1966-1967
b. 103 f. 17	Community Council of Greater New York 1964
b. 103 f. 18	Comptroller's Office 1966
b. 103 f. 19	Conant, James B 1964-1966
b. 103 f. 20	Conservation of Human Resources 1965
b. 103 f. 21	Cooper Union for the Advancement of Arts and Science 1965

Series IV: Political and Civic Committees (cont.)
Subseries IV.C. Coordinating Council on Education for the Disadvantaged (cont.)
Correspondence (cont.)

- b. 103 f. 22 CUNY Board of Higher Education 1965-1966
- b. 103 f. 23 Department of Labor 1965
- b. 103 f. 24 Department of Welfare 1965
- b. 103 f. 25 Donovan, Bernard 1965-1966
- b. 103 f. 26 Duke, Marie 1964-1965
- b. 103 f. 27 East Ohio Gas Company 1965
- b. 103 f. 28 Economic Opportunity, Office of 1965
- b. 103 f. 29 Education, Board of - Letters 1965-1966
- b. 104 f. 1 Educational Park, The 1965
- b. 104 f. 2 Feitelberg, Ed 1966
- b. 104 f. 3-4 Ford Foundation 1965-1966
- b. 104 f. 5 Fordham University 1965-1966
- b. 104 f. 6 Foundations 1965
- b. 104 f. 7 Freedom House 1966
- b. 104 f. 8 General Inquiries 1966
- b. 104 f. 9 Goodman, George 1966
- b. 104 f. 10 Gould, Anne 1965
- b. 104 f. 11 Governor's Office 1966
- b. 104 f. 12 Grass Roots Journal 1966
- b. 104 f. 13 Hall, Paul 1966
- b. 104 f. 14 Harvard University 1965
- b. 104 f. 15 Hofstra University 1965
- b. 104 f. 16 House of Representatives 1965-1966
- b. 104 f. 17 Howard University 1965
- b. 104 f. 18 Human Resources, Study On 1966
- b. 104 f. 19 Hunter College 1965-1966
- b. 104 f. 20 Industrial Democracy, League For 1965
- b. 104 f. 21 International Business Machines 1965
- b. 104 f. 22 International Association of Machinists 1965
- b. 104 f. 23 International Brotherhood of Teamsters 1965-1966
- b. 104 f. 24 International Jewelry Workers' Union 1966
- b. 104 f. 25 International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union 1965-1966
- b. 104 f. 26 International Longshoremen's Association 1965
- b. 104 f. 27 Jarrett Press 1965-1966
- b. 104 f. 28 Javits, Jacob K 1965-1966
- b. 104 f. 29 Jersey City State College 1965
- b. 104 f. 30 Kavadlo, Abe 1966
- b. 104 f. 31 Kennedy, Robert F 1965-1966
- b. 104 f. 32 Kingsborough Community College 1965-1966
- b. 104 f. 33 Kurland, Norman D 1965
- b. 104 f. 34 Labor, United States Department of 1964-1965

Series IV: Political and Civic Committees (cont.)

Subseries IV.C. Coordinating Council on Education for the Disadvantaged (cont.)

Correspondence (cont.)

- b. 105 f. 1 Learning Institute of North Carolina 1965-1966
- b. 105 f. 2 Legal Matters 1967
- b. 105 f. 3 Letters of Introduction 1967
- b. 105 f. 4 Letters Requesting Research + Information Program 1965-1966
- b. 105 f. 5 Liberal Party of New York 1965
- b. 105 f. 6 Lierheimer, Alvin P 1965
- b. 105 f. 7 Long Island University 1965-1966
- b. 105 f. 8 Manufacturers Hanover Trust Co 1966-1967
- b. 105 f. 9 McLaurin, Benjamin F 1965-1966
Includes less formal correspondence between McLaurin and labor leaders.
- b. 105 f. 10 Meagher, Norine A 1965
- b. 105 f. 11 Meany, George 1965-1966
- b. 105 f. 12 Michigan State University 1965
- b. 105 f. 13 Middlesex County Economic Opportunities Corporation 1966
- b. 105 f. 14 Miscellaneous Colleges 1965
- b. 105 f. 15 Miscellaneous Unions 1964-1966
- b. 105 f. 16 Mobilization for Youth, Inc 1964-1965
- b. 105 f. 17 Murray, Dr. Pauli 1966
- b. 105 f. 18 National Association for the Advancement of Colored People 1965
- b. 105 f. 19 National Association of Negro Musicians 1965
- b. 105 f. 20-21 National Board of Sponsors 1964-1966
- b. 105 f. 22 National Maritime Union of America 1965
- b. 105 f. 23-24 Neighborhood Youth Corps 1966
- b. 106 f. 1 New Jersey State Departments 1966
- b. 106 f. 2 New World Foundation 1965
- b. 106 f. 3 New York Central Labor Council 1965
- b. 106 f. 4 New York City Community College 1965
- b. 106 f. 5 New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc 1965
- b. 106 f. 6 New York Times 1965
- b. 106 f. 7 New York University 1966
- b. 106 f. 8 Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) 1965
- b. 106 f. 9 P.S. 125 1966
- b. 106 f. 10 Pollack, William 1966
- b. 106 f. 11 Post Office, U.S 1965
- b. 106 f. 12 President of the Borough of Manhattan 1965-1966
- b. 106 f. 13 President of the City Council of New York 1965
- b. 106 f. 14 Public Schools 1965
- b. 106 f. 15 Purcell, Pat 1965
- b. 106 f. 16 Raubinger 1966
- b. 106 f. 17 Requests for Money, Unions 1966
- b. 106 f. 18 Retail, Wholesale, and Chain Store Food Employees Union 1966

Series IV: Political and Civic Committees (cont.)

Subseries IV.C. Coordinating Council on Education for the Disadvantaged (cont.)

Correspondence (cont.)

- b. 106 f. 19 Reuther, Walter 1965
- b. 106 f. 20 Richards, Neal 1966
- b. 106 f. 21 Rivlin, Harry 1965
- b. 106 f. 22 Roberts, Anne 1965-1966
- b. 106 f. 23 Rockefeller, Nelson A 1964-1966
Also contains correspondence with Norman D. Kurland and Commissioner of Education James E. Allen. McLaurin and Marie Duke, the executive secretary of CCED, tried to arrange a meeting with Governor Rockefeller and Commissioner Allen multiple times.
- b. 106 f. 24 Rogin, Lawrence 1965
- b. 106 f. 25 Rosenberg, Gustave 1964-1966
- b. 106 f. 26 Ryan, Orletta 1966
- b. 106 f. 27 Scott, Sara 1966
- b. 106 f. 28 Screvane, Paul 1965-1966
- b. 106 f. 29-30 Seafarers' International Union 1965-1966
- b. 106 f. 31 Senior, Clarence 1965
- b. 106 f. 32 Sessions, Jack 1964-1965
- b. 106 f. 33 Shanker, Albert 1965-1966
- b. 106 f. 34 Shriver, Sargent 1964-1965
- b. 106 f. 35 Social Action Committee Community Church of NY 1966
- b. 106 f. 36 Social Security 1965
- b. 106 f. 37 Stanley, Miles 1965
- b. 106 f. 38 State Department of Education 1965-1966
- b. 106 f. 39 Swarthmore College 1966
- b. 106 f. 40 Tax Exemptions 1964-1966
- b. 106 f. 41 The Library of Congress 1966
- b. 106 f. 42 Union Theological Seminary 1965-1966
- b. 106 f. 43 Unions 1966-1967
- b. 106 f. 44 United Automobile Workers' Union 1965
- b. 106 f. 45-47 United Federation of Teachers 1965-1966
- b. 106 f. 48 United Hatters, Cap & Millinery Workers' International Union 1965
- b. 106 f. 49 United Hospital Fund 1965
- b. 106 f. 50 United Steelworkers of America 1966
- b. 106 f. 51 University of Pennsylvania 1965-1966
- b. 106 f. 52 Upholsterers' International Union 1965
- b. 106 f. 53 Urban League, New York 1965-1966
- b. 106 f. 54 Van Arsdale, Harry 1965-1966
- b. 107 f. 1 Vice President, Office of 1965
- b. 107 f. 2 Vocational Training Inquiries 1966
- b. 107 f. 3 Volunteers 1965
- b. 107 f. 4 Volunteers In Service To America (VISTA) 1966
- b. 107 f. 5 Wurf, Jerry 1965-1966
- b. 107 f. 6 Wisconsin, University of - The Journal of Human Resources 1965

Series IV: Political and Civic Committees (cont.)

Subseries IV.C. Coordinating Council on Education for the Disadvantaged (cont.)

Correspondence (cont.)

- b. 107 f. 7 WLIB 1966
- b. 107 f. 8 WMCA 1964-1966
- b. 107 f. 9 Yeshiva University 1964-1965
- b. 107 f. 10 Youth Board 1966
- b. 107 f. 11 Youth Opportunity Centers 1966
- Subprofessional and Vocational Education (SAVE) Program
- Correspondence
- b. 107 f. 12-16 1963-1968
- b. 107 f. 17 Borough of Manhattan Community College 1965-1966
- b. 107 f. 18 Bronx Community College 1965-1966
- b. 107 f. 19 Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters 1966
- b. 107 f. 20 Bulletins 1967
- b. 107 f. 21 Churches 1966
- b. 107 f. 22 College Communities 1967
- b. 107 f. 23 Columbia University School of Social Work 1966
- b. 107 f. 24 Community Centers 1966
- b. 107 f. 25 Community Church of New York 1966
- b. 107 f. 26 Community Colleges 1965-1966
- b. 107 f. 27 Duke, Marie 1966-1967
- b. 108 f. 1 Economic Opportunities Commission 1965
- b. 108 f. 2 Feitelberg, Edward 1966
- b. 108 f. 3 Goodman, George W 1966
- b. 108 f. 4 Hanson, Charles 1966
- b. 108 f. 5 Incoming Mail 1966
- b. 108 f. 6 International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers 1966
- b. 108 f. 7 International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union 1966
- b. 108 f. 8 International Longshoremen's Association 1966
- b. 108 f. 9 International Union of Electrical Workers 1965-1966
- b. 108 f. 10 Invitation to Opening 1966
- b. 108 f. 11 Invitations and RSVPs 1966
- b. 108 f. 12 Javits, Jacob K 1966
- b. 108 f. 13 Kavadlo, Abraham 1966
- b. 108 f. 14 Kennedy, Robert F 1966
- Single piece of correspondence addressed to Senator Kennedy.
- b. 108 f. 15 Kingsborough Community College 1966
- b. 108 f. 16 Kruh, Irving 1966
- b. 108 f. 17 McMurray, Joseph P 1967
- b. 108 f. 18 Neighborhood Youth Corps Accounting Department 1966
- b. 108 f. 19 Nemerofsky, Louis 1966
- b. 108 f. 20 New York City Council 1966
- b. 108 f. 21 New York School of Social Work 1966

Series IV: Political and Civic Committees (cont.)
Subseries IV.C. Coordinating Council on Education for the Disadvantaged (cont.)
Subprofessional and Vocational Education (SAVE) Program (cont.)
Correspondence (cont.)

- b. 108 f. 22 New York State Employment Service 1966
- b. 108 f. 23 Nies, Dorothy 1966
- b. 108 f. 24 Percell, Henrietta B 1965
- b. 108 f. 25 Post Office 1966
- b. 108 f. 26 Queensborough Community College 1965-1966
- b. 108 f. 27 Stader, Martin A 1966-1967
- b. 108 f. 28 Support and Cooperation 1965
- b. 108 f. 29 Telegrams Sent 1964
- b. 108 f. 30 Thank You Letters 1966
- b. 108 f. 31 Trinsey, Ann 1967
- b. 108 f. 32 Union Theological Seminary 1966
- b. 108 f. 33 Urban Center 1966
- b. 108 f. 34 Urban League 1967
- b. 108 f. 35 Williamson, William E 1966
- b. 108 f. 36 Zack, Gene 1965
- b. 108 f. 37-40 Organization Documents 1966-1967
- b. 109 f. 1-8
- b. 109 f. 9-18 Personnel 1964-1967
- b. 110
- b. 111 f. 1-16
- b. 111 f. 17-21 Committees 1966-1967
- b. 112 f. 1-7 Reports 1964-1967
- b. 112 f. 8-29 Financial Records 1966-1968
- b. 113
- b. 114 f. 1-5
- b. 114 f. 6-8 Events 1966-1967
- b. 114 f. 9-18 Program Bulletins 1966
- b. 114 f. 19-21 Teacher-Intern Education (TIE) Program 1965-1968
- b. 115 Contains correspondence, press releases, and program proposals.
- b. 116 f. 1-3
- b. 116 f. 4-20 Press Releases 1965-1967
- b. 116 f. 21-23 Events 1965-1966
- b. 145 f. 4 Includes materials related to CCED conferences and demonstration programs.
- b. 117 f. 1-3 Reports 1964-1966
- b. 117 f. 4-12 Organizational Documents 1963-1968
- b. 118-119
- b. 120 f. 1-36
- b. 120 f. 37 Clippings 1966
- Includes coverage of the dispute between parents and the Board of Education regarding the opening and staffing of Intermediate School (IS) 201 in Harlem.
- b. 121 Financial Records 1964-1967

Series IV: Political and Civic Committees (cont.)

Subseries IV.D. Mayor's Committee on Exploitation of Workers 1961-1983

Subseries IV.D. holds files related to McLaurin's tenure on the Mayor's Committee on Exploitation of Workers, and is dated from 1961 to 1983. Materials in this subseries are arranged by topic into correspondence; investigations; meeting minutes; and publications.

Correspondence files include incoming letters from workers around the city detailing grievances against union racketeers and exploitative employers. The Committee would offer advice and would sometimes open investigations.

The Investigation files showcase the work McLaurin did as Committee chairman to coordinate investigations into allegations of abuse. The Committee also investigated alleged sweetheart contracts.

Publications files pertain to outreach efforts by the Committee to increase awareness of their services. The files hold pamphlets, flyers, and newspaper articles.

- b. 122 f. 1-5 Correspondence 1971-1972
- Investigations
 - b. 122 f. 6 Logan Jr., Reginald 1971
 - b. 122 f. 7 Lesesne, Mary 1971-1972
 - b. 122 f. 8 Santiago, Ilia 1983
 - b. 122 f. 9 Sweetheart Contract Investigations 1971
- b. 122 f. 10-11 Meeting Minutes 1961, 1972
- b. 122 f. 12-14 t. 1 Publications 1967-1970

Subseries IV.E. Minor Civic Committees 1949-1989

Dated from 1949 to 1989, Subseries IV.E. extensively documents McLaurin's active participation in many civic committees throughout his life. The organizations in this subseries are minor in terms of his active role and participation in them, not the scope of the organization itself. These thirty-one committees, councils, and civic leagues are arranged alphabetically.

McLaurin served on the boards of Panel of Americans, World Without War, The A. Philip Randolph Institute, and League for Industrial Democracy, among others, for over a decade. The subseries holds meeting minutes, agendas, correspondence, press releases, and reports.

The Negro Labor Committee in this subseries is a different organization from the committee mentioned in Series II, sharing a name only.

- b. 123 f. 1-4 1963-1979
- b. 123 f. 5-7 A. Philip Randolph Institute 1960-1989
 - b. 123 f. 8 American Trade Union Council 1979
 - b. 123 f. 9 Americans for Democratic Action 1949
- b. 123 f. 10-11 Association for Union Democracy 1976-1983
- b. 124 f. 1-3
 - b. 124 f. 4 Catholic Interracial Council 1953-1969
 - b. 124 f. 5 Chief City Labor Mediator 1972
 - b. 124 f. 6 Citizens' Committee for New York City 1975
 - b. 124 f. 7 Citizens' Committee for Public Accountability at CUNY 1977
 - b. 124 f. 8 Conference on Aid to Race Terror Victims 1956
- b. 124 f. 9-13 Friends of A. Philip Randolph High School 1983-1988
- b. 125 f. 1-4
 - b. 125 f. 5-7 Friends of Bronx Community College 1977
 - b. 125 f. 8 Friends of CUNY 1977
 - b. 125 f. 9-11 Friends of Norman Thomas High School 1978-1979

Series IV: Political and Civic Committees (cont.)

Subseries IV.E. Minor Civic Committees (cont.)

- b. 126 f. 1-4 Harlem Community Service Project 1963-1967
- b. 126 f. 5 International League for Human Rights 1977
- b. 126 f. 6-10 International Rescue Committee 1970-1980
- b. 126 f. 11-12 Interracial Colloquy's Task Force 1969-1970
- b. 127 f. 1 Jewish Labor Committee 1951-1959
- b. 127 f. 2-3 League for Industrial Democracy 1952-1978
- b. 127 f. 4 League for Mutual Aid 1958
- b. 127 f. 5-8 National Conference of Christians and Jews 1976-1980
- b. 127 f. 9-12 Negro Labor Committee 1970-1988
- b. 128 f. 1-4
- b. 128 f. 5 New York Urban League 1966
- b. 128 f. 6 New York City Central Labor Council 1962-1967
- b. 128 f. 7 New York City Urban Coalition 1969-1970
- b. 128 f. 8-10 Panel of Americans 1976-1988
- b. 128 f. 11 Reunion of Old Timers, Inc 1988
- b. 128 f. 12 Trade Union Council 1963
- b. 129-130 United States Commission on Civil Rights 1978-1988
- b. 131 f. 1-4 Workers' Defense League 1976-1980
- b. 131 f. 5-10 World Without War Council, Inc 1967-1979

Series V: Personal 1938-1988 (13 boxes 5.25 linear feet)

Dating from 1938 to 1988, this series contains materials related to McLaurin's personal life, which is arranged by topic into Correspondence; Friends and Family; Edward Waters College; Events; and Clippings.

Correspondence is dated from 1952 to 1988, and contains social and personal letters unrelated to McLaurin's professional work. The series holds correspondence with his family members, holiday greeting cards, condolences after Margaret McLaurin's death in 1983, letters of recommendations for friends, and correspondence concerning property.

Friends and Family files are dated from 1938 to 1986, and hold many items McLaurin kept after his wife, Margaret McLaurin, died in 1983. Materials include her wedding book, clippings she collected, notes about her position at the Victory Day Care Center, and a carefully curated list of correspondents that varied year to year. Also of note is a partially filled baby milestone book for Benjamin, Jr. Recollections, poetry, and other writings done by his friends are present. The personal journals and stories by Rae Brandstein, founder of the National Committee for Rural Schools and entirely unrelated to that work, are also included here.

The Edward Waters College files, which date from 1955 to 1980, document McLaurin's active participation in the college's alumni associations and the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity. These files include event planning materials, meeting minutes, flyers, and clippings related to the college.

Events files, dated from 1947 to 1988, contain conferences proceedings and notes, invitations, speech drafts, and extensive vacation planning documentation. Of particular note among the speaking invitations is one from Morehouse College, where McLaurin's son, Benjamin Jr., attended. Materials related to the organization of a 1975 testimonial luncheon hosted by the Reunion of Old Timers in honor of McLaurin's lifetime community service work, including guest lists, invitations, venue arrangement, and publicity materials, are also held here.

McLaurin was a keen follower of the news, and collected clippings relevant to his interests. The clippings are tangentially related to his service commitments. McLaurin kept news clippings about outstanding achievements by Black students, tracked news about voter intimidation in the South in the years directly following *Brown v. Board of Education*, local strikes and union contracts, and clippings about himself.

Correspondence 1952-1988

Series V: Personal (cont.)

Correspondence (cont.)

- b. 132-137 1955-1988
- b. 138 f. 1-5
- b. 138 f. 6 Alpha Phi Alpha 1966
- b. 138 f. 7 Deeds and Property Ownership 1959-1960
- b. 138 f. 8 Halley, Rudolph 1952-1953
- b. 139 f. 1 Letters of Recommendation 1953-1956
Letters of recommendation written by McLaurin.
- b. 138 f. 2 Roman, Luis 1976
- b. 138 f. 3 Spencer, Frank 1952-1954
- Friends and Family 1938-1986
- b. 138 f. 4 Business Cards
Contains business cards for union and civil rights organizations, as well as McLaurin's personal business cards for his positions in the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, the Mayor's Committee on Exploitation of Workers, and the Negro-American Labor Committee.
- b. 139 f. 5 Baby Book 1947
- b. 139 f. 6-11 McLaurin, Margaret 1938-1970s
- b. 140 f. 1-2 Contains a wedding planning book, correspondence, clippings, and letters from A. Philip Randolph, who was the McLaurin children's godfather.
- b. 140 f. 3 *Prestwidge, K.J. Bits and Pieces* 1976
- b. 140 f. 4 Tucker, Rosina C. 105th Birthday Celebration 1986
- b. 145 f. 5 Scrapbook 1963-1970
- b. 146 f. 1 Brandstein, Rae Personal Writing
- b. 146 f. 2-5 Yearbooks 1966-1985
Includes a yearbook for the Borough of Manhattan Community College's first year of operations.
- Edward Waters College 1955-1980
- b. 140 f. 5 1970-1980
- b. 140 f. 6 Alumni Association Meetings 1978-1979
- b. 140 f. 7-8 Alumni Committee 25th Anniversary Dinner 1955
- b. 140 f. 9-10 Alumni Testimonial Dinner 1968
- b. 141 f. 1
- b. 141 f. 2 Black Faculty and Administrators Conference 1970
McLaurin was the keynote speaker.
- b. 141 f. 3 Edward Waters College Profile 1979
- b. 141 f. 4 Friends of Edward Waters College 1971-1975
- b. 141 f. 5-10 Phi Beta Sigma 1967-1979
- b. 141 f. 11 Publications 1969
- Events 1947-1988
- b. 141 f. 12 1947-1988
- b. 141 f. 13-15 Conferences 1949-1976
- b. 141 f. 16-18 Vacations 1963-1971
- b. 141 f. 19 Testimonial Luncheon Honoring B.F. McLaurin 1975
Sponsored by the Reunion of Old Timers, Inc.
- b. 141 f. 20 Church of the Master Annual Meeting 1988

Series V: Personal (cont.)

Events (cont.)

- b. 142 f. 1-2 **Guest Speaking Engagements 1970-1987**
Includes invitations to speak and speech drafts. Among other engagements, McLaurin was invited to speak at the opening of Rutgers University Afro-American Labor Archives.
- b. 142 f. 3-4 **Morehouse College 1985-1987**
- b. 142 f. 5-6 **Invitations 1968-1979**
- b. 142 f. 7-13 **Clippings 1949-1988**