



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

Guide to the

Milton P. Webster collection

1956-1969

Sc MG 570

Summary

Creator: Webster, Milton P., 1887-1965

Title: Milton P. Webster collection

Date: 1956-1969

Size: 0.21 linear feet (1 box)

Source: Gift of Rebecca Webster Kingslow, December 1989.

Revision History: Finding aid updated by Lauren Stark.

Abstract: Milton Price Webster joined the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters (BSCP) in 1925, and soon became A. Philip Randolph's major ally. He was the first vice-president of the BSCP and chief negotiator of contracts. Together with Randolph, Webster led the BSCP to victory in 1935, following a protracted campaign to make the union the bargaining representative for Black porters and maids. The BSCP was the first African American union to win a national contract as well as the first to have a bargaining agreement with the Pullman Company. Among the main issues Webster addressed as the chief negotiator was the Pullman Company's long-standing practice of low pay, long working hours, and harsh treatment of its porters, most of whom were African American. The Milton P. Webster collection includes a variety of material related to labor negotiations between the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and several national railroad companies. Items concern pay rates and increases, health and welfare benefits, and other labor issues involving porter-brakemen and chair car attendants. Materials include correspondence, memoranda of agreement, rosters of attendants and porters, bulletins, and membership lists.

Preferred citation: [Item], Milton P. Webster collection, Sc MG 570, 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: Accessioned by Cheryl P. McDaniels, May 1995.

Creator History

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Scope and Content Note

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Key Terms

Subjects

African American labor leaders
African Americans -- Employment
Labor unions, Black
Porters -- Labor unions
Pullman porters
Railroads -- Employees -- Labor unions

Geographic Names

United States -- Race relations

Names

Webster, Milton P., 1887-1965
Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters

Container List

- b. 1 f. 1 Correspondence 1956-1963
- b. 1 f. 2 Memoranda of agreement 1956-1962
Agreement between the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Company and the Gulf,
Colorado and Santa Fe Railway Company.
- b. 1 f. 3 Rosters of chair car attendants and parlor car porters 1957-1969
- b. 1 f. 4 Check of records of Santa Fe System Local 1963