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Guide to the

Lyonel C. Florant papers

1930-ca. 1945

Sc MG 684

Processed by P. Williams, 2001, and Janice Quinter, 2010.

Summary

Creator: Florant, Lyonel C. (Lyonel Charles), -1945

Title: Lyonel C. Florant papers

Date: 1930-ca. 1945

Size: 0.63 linear feet (2 boxes)

Source: Gift of Lester Florant, 1999.

Abstract: Lyonel C. Florant, an African American economist, was employed by the Carnegie Corporation's "Study of the Negro in America" project. Florant authored several documents for the project, and he, along with others, completed the report, "Negro Population Movements, 1860 to 1940: In Relation to Social and Economic Factors". The Lyonel C. Florant papers consist of reports and some research files Florant prepared and gathered primarily regarding African American migration and population studies across the country, mostly for the Negro in America study.

Preferred citation: [Item], Lyonel C. Florant papers, Sc MG 684, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, The New York Public Library

Language of the Material: English

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Related Materials:

Carnegie-Myrdal Study of the Negro in America research memoranda collection, Sc MG 25, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture

Ralph Bunche papers, Sc MG 290, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture

Creator History

Lyonel C. Florant, an African American economist, earned his Master's degree from Columbia University and was employed by the Carnegie Corporation's "Study of the Negro in America" project. The project, led by social scientist Gunnar Myrdal, was commissioned by the Carnegie Corporation to prepare an evaluation on the social, economic, and political aspects of life in the African American community. Florant authored several documents for the project, and he, Samuel A. Stouffer, and others completed the report, "Negro Population Movements, 1860 to 1940: In Relation to Social and Economic Factors".

Scope and Content Note

The Lyonel C. Florant Papers consist of reports and some research files that Florant prepared and gathered primarily regarding African American migration and population studies across the country, mostly for the Negro in America study. Other investigators represented in this collection include Samuel A. Stouffer, V. B. Stanbery, Aubrey Clyde Robinson, Glenore Fisk Horne, and Frank Lorimer. The collection contains carbon copies of reports and fragments of the typescript of "Negro Migration 1860-1940", as well as state planning board studies. Among the manuscripts are studies of migrant workers in general and in Florida, and census data on migration. There are also reports about student housing in Newport News, Virginia (1941).

Of interest are Gunnar Myrdal's reports of interviews he conducted with sociologist Horace Cayton; they interviewed union organizer J. Levirt Kelly and Senator Theodore G. Bilbo of Mississippi (1940). Senator Bilbo, an ultraconservative southern Democrat, was known for his racism and sponsorship of a bill in Congress for the Voluntary Repatriation of American Negroes to Africa.

Arrangement: Mainly arranged into three series: (1) Migration; (2) Population studies; and (3) Virginia.

Key Terms

Subjects

African Americans -- Economic conditions
African Americans -- Employment -- Virginia
African Americans -- Housing -- Virginia
African Americans -- Population
African Americans -- Segregation
African Americans -- Social conditions
African Americans -- Statistics, Vital
Black author
Demographic transition -- United States
Migration, Internal -- United States -- History -- 20th century
Sociology -- United States

Geographic Names

United States -- Migration
United States -- Race relations -- Research
United States -- Social conditions

Names

Bilbo, Theodore Gilmore, 1877-1947

Cayton, Horace R. (Horace Roscoe), 1903-1970
Florant, Lyonel C. (Lyonel Charles), -1945. Negro population movements, 1860 to 1940, in relation to social and economic factors. Negro population movements, 1860 to 1940, in relation to social and economic factors.
Florant, Lyonel C. (Lyonel Charles), -1945
Kelly, J. Levitt, 1883-
Myrdal, Gunnar, 1898-1987
Stouffer, Samuel A., 1900-1960
Carnegie Corporation of New York
Study of the Negro in America (Project)

Container List

Migration 1930-1941

- b. 1 f. 1 Farm operators in southern states, chart 1930-1935
- b. 1 f. 2 Observations at a Harlem Junior High School 1938-1939
- b. 1 f. 3 "The Straw that Broke the Camel's Back" (southern cotton economy)
- b. 1 f. 4 "Sociological Aspect of Migration" 1941
- b. 1 f. 5 "A Theory of Migration"
- b. 1 f. 6 Study of migration in the United States 1939-1940
- b. 1 f. 7 Stouffer, Samuel, Dudley Kirk, Harold F. Dorn, and Florant. "Studies in Negro Population: In Relation to Social and Economic Factors" 1941
- b. 1 f. 8 Criticism of Negro population manuscript by Stouffer and Florant 1941
- b. 1 f. 9 Robinson, Aubrey Clyde and Glenmore Fisk Horne. "Florida Migratory Workers" 1937
- b. 1 f. 10 Stanbery, V. B. "Determination of Inter-State Migration from U. S. Census Data" 1939
- b. 1 f. 11 Oregon State Planning Board on migration 1937
- b. 1 f. 12 Request for fellowship grant re: Negro migration

Population studies 1938-1940

- b. 1 f. 13 "Negro Population, Part One: Negro Population Movements, 1860-1940, in Relation to Social and Economic Factors" with Samuel A. Stouffer
- b. 1 f. 14 "Population Studies in Five States" 1940
- b. 1 f. 15 "Suggested Procedure for Population Studies by State Planning Boards" 1938
- b. 1 f. 16 Population data on San Francisco 1940
- b. 1 f. 17 "An Analysis of the State of Birth Data for Texas, 1870-1930"
- b. 1 f. 18 "Farm Population Estimates" 1940
- b. 1 f. 19 "An Approach to the Problem of Vertical Mobility" 1941

Interviews by Gunnar Myrdal

- b. 1 f. 20 Horace Cayton and J. Levirt Kelly 1940
- b. 1 f. 21 Senator Theodore G. Bilbo 1940
Includes "Voluntary Repatriation of American Negroes in Africa" by Bilbo.
- b. 1 f. 22 "Colored Appointments of Distinction"

Virginia 1942

- b. 1 f. 23 Student survey on housing in Newport News, Virginia
- b. 2 f. 1-2 Housing and employment in Virginia 1942
 - b. 2 f. 3 Proposed study on employment, housing, and population in Virginia 1942
Includes news clippings.
 - b. 2 f. 4 War Department survey of enlisted men
 - b. 2 f. 5 "Leadership of Negro Troops"
 - b. 2 f. 6 "The Real Property Inventory of Metropolitan Cleveland"
 - b. 2 f. 7 "An Evaluation of Warner-Class Concept" 1940
 - b. 2 f. 8 Responses to Florant's editorial on Negro teachers' salaries and "A New Migration" 1941-1942

- b. 2 f. 9 Fisk University controversy 1934
- b. 2 f. 10 Youth Opportunity Club 1938
- b. 2 f. 11 Course outline for sociology class