



# The New York Public Library New York Public Library Archives

Guide to the

## **Staff Association records**

1917-1953 [bulk 1920-1942]

MssArc RG9 5924

### **Summary**

**Creator:** New York Public Library. Staff Association

**Title:** Staff Association records

**Date:** 1917-1953 [bulk 1920-1942]

**Size:** 12.3 cubic feet

**Abstract:** The New York Public Library Staff Association was formed in 1917. The Association's original purpose was to foster the social and physical well-being of the staff and bring together staff from the Reference Dept. and the Circulation Dept. By 1925, issues such as benefits, pensions and library budgets became a primary concern. In 1942 the Staff Association merged with the associations of the Brooklyn Public Library and the Queens Borough Public Library to form the United Staff Association of the Public Libraries of the City of New York. Staff committees for the Circulation Dept. staff and Reference Dept. staff were created in 1947 and 1949. The Staff Committee continued until 1968 when the NYPL staff unionized under Local 1930, AFSCME. Records consist of Staff Association documents, minutes of the Executive Board, records of officers, and office files. Documents include original constitution and by-laws, 1917-1942, and additional constitutions with modifications. Minutes of Executive Board, 1917-1939, document official beginnings of the Staff Association and activities of the Association from 1917 to 1930. Officers group includes presidential records of Gerritt E. Fielstra and Shirley Dakin and records of the treasurer. Topical group contains subject/name index, subject files, Association publications, publicity materials, and records of the United Staff Association.

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**Preferred citation:** Staff Association records, New York Public Library Archives, The New York Public Library

### **Creator History**

The New York Public Library Staff Association was formed in 1917. The Association's original purpose was to foster the social and physical well-being of the staff and bring together staff from the Reference Dept. and the Circulation Dept. By 1925, issues such as benefits, pensions and library budgets became a primary concern. In 1942 the Staff Association merged with the associations of the Brooklyn Public

Library and the Queens Borough Public Library to form the United Staff Association of the Public Libraries of the City of New York. Staff committees for the Circulation Dept. staff and Reference Dept. staff were created in 1947 and 1949. The Staff Committee continued until 1968 when the NYPL staff unionized under Local 1930, AFSCME.

## **Scope and Content Note**

Records consist of Staff Association documents, minutes of the Executive Board, records of officers, and office files. Documents include original constitution and by-laws, 1917-1942, and additional constitutions with modifications. Minutes of Executive Board, 1917-1939, document official beginnings of the Staff Association and activities of the Association from 1917 to 1930. Officers group includes presidential records of Gerritt E. Fielstra and Shirley Dakin and records of the treasurer. Topical group contains subject/name index, subject files, Association publications, publicity materials, and records of the United Staff Association.

**Arrangement:** Four groups: I. Constitution, 1917-1942; II. Executive Board, 1917-1939; III. Officers, 1925-1953; IV. Topical, 1917-1942

## **Key Terms**

### **Subjects**

Libraries -- New York (State) -- New York  
Library employees -- New York (State) -- New York  
Public libraries -- Staff -- New York (State) -- New York

### **Genre/Physical Characteristic**

Minutes

### **Names**

New York Public Library. Staff Association  
Dakin, Shirley  
Fielstra, Gerritt E  
New York Public Library Staff Association  
United Staff Association of the Public Libraries of the City of New York.