

THE STANTON AND NANCY SMITH COLLECTION

Papers, 1938-1942
1 linear foot

Accession Number 544
L.C. Number MS

The papers of Stanton and Nancy Smith were placed in the Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs by Mr. and Mrs. Smith in November of 1972 and were opened for research in July of 1983.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith were members of the American Federation of Teachers, Local 246 Chattanooga, during the 1930s and were active nationally in the move to revoke the charters of Local 5 and 537 in New York City and Local 192 in Philadelphia which were charged with being communist dominated. Stanton E. Smith was born August 29, 1905 in Wyoming, Ohio, graduated from McCallie School, Chattanooga in 1924 and attended Denison University in Ohio where he received his B.A. in 1930. He became a classroom teacher of mathematics at Chattanooga High School and in 1932 organized Local 246, serving as president from 1932-39. He was a Trustee of the Central Labor Union from 1937-40 and in 1937 became a Vice-President of the AFT, a position he held until 1946. As Vice-President he was a member of the Executive Council and played a prominent role in the investigation and hearings of the locals in question.

Nancy Lea Smith, as a teacher and member of Local 246, served on the Nominations and Elections Committee to the 23rd Annual Convention in 1939. Subsequently she actively supported and worked for the passage of the referendum which revoked the charters of Local 5, 537, and 192.

The papers of Nancy and Stanton Smith reflect the dissension within the AFT in the late 1930s and early 1940s and the move to oust communists from the union.

Important subjects covered in the collection are:

Communism in the AFT
Investigations and hearings of Locals 5, 537 and 192

Among the important correspondents are:

John Fewkes	Mary McGough
Mary Herrick	Frederick W. Ringdahl
Irvin R. Kuenzli	

Stanton and Nancy Smith

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Series I
Charter Revocation of Locals 5, 537 and 192
Boxes 1-2

Correspondence, transcripts of records, notes, and reports relating to the revocation of the charters of Locals 5, 537, and 192. There are also voting talley cards which were used to "get out the vote" for the passage of the 1941 referendum. Files are arranged alphabetically by subject of type of material.

Box 1

- 1-3. Correspondence; Nancy Lea Smith, 1939-41
4. Correspondence; Notebook of Nancy Lea Smith, 1941
5. Correspondence; Stanton E. Smith, 1939-41
6. Executive Council Meeting, AFT, 28 Dec 1939
7. Executive Council Meeting, AFT, 27 Dec 1940 - 2 Jan 1941
8. Executive Council Meetings, AFT, 15-23 Aug 1942
9. Executive Council Meetings, AFT, Pre-Con vention, 19-25 Aug 1939
10. Executive Council Meetings, AFT, Post-Convention, 25-27 Aug 1959
11. Executive Council Meetings, AFT, Pre-Convention, 19-23 Aug 1940
12. Executive Council Meetings, AFT, Post-Convention, 24-26 Aug 1940
- 13-15. General Information; Conventions, 1938-41
16. Roster of Local Officers of AFT, 7 Dec 1940
- 17-18. Transcript of Record; Hearing of Local 5, 15-16 Feb 1941

Box 2

- 1-3. Transcript of Record; Hearing of Local 5, 15-16 Feb 1941
- 4-6. Transcript of Record; Hearing of Local 537, 16 Feb 1941
- 7-9. Transcript of Record; Investigation of Local 5, 31 Dec 1940 -
2 Jan 1941
10. Transcript of Record; Investigation Report Local 192, 15-16 Feb 1941
11. Transcript of Record; Reinstatement Hearing of Local 453, 16 Feb 1941
- 12-15. Vote Tally Cards, 1941 Referendum
16. Vote Tally Information, miscellaneous, 1941
17. Vote Tally Sheets, 31 May 1941