



Albert Shanker Personal Collection

13 manuscript boxes. 6.5 linear feet

3 oversized boxes

1928-2003

(Bulk 1949-1968)

Accession Number 1932

Processed by Daniel Golodner, Walter P. Reuther Library, Wayne State University

Albert Shanker personal collection contains papers, notes, tests, writings and newspaper clippings that cover the life of Albert Shanker. Shanker is among the elites in education reform, teacher unionism and of the commitment towards democracy in education, education in democracy. This collection's bulk of materials are from Shanker's college years and his work as a teacher in the 1950s.

Historical Background

Albert Shanker is considered one of the most important labor leaders of the late 20th century. From a substitute math teacher, Shanker rose to national prominence as the president of the American Federation of Teachers. Shanker gained national attention first as a militant strike leader of the New York City teachers in the 1960s and later as the elder statesman on education, trade unionism and human rights. President Clinton called him "one of the greatest educators of 20th century."

Albert Shanker was born on September 14, 1928 and raised in Long Island City, Queens, New York by Russian immigrant parents. His father delivered papers and his mother worked as a sewing machine operator in the garment sweatshops.

Shanker attended Stuyvesant High School where he flourished in math and chemistry, headed the school's debating team and graduated in the top fifth of his class.

At the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Shanker majored in philosophy. He joined an interracial group that organized sit-ins and led the campus Socialists study group. He graduated with honors and enrolled in a doctorate program in philosophy at Columbia University.

Shanker completed all but his dissertation at Columbia University before running out of patience and money. He took a job as a substitute teacher at PS 179 in East Harlem. Shanker quickly became active with the Teachers' Guild and by 1959, resigned as a math teacher to become a full time organizer for the Guild, which in 1960 became the United Federation of Teachers (UFT). Shanker was pivotal for the next eight years in changing the nature of teacher unions. By 1964 Shanker became president of the UFT, which represented just over 45,000 New York City schoolteachers, a position he held till 1986.

In 1967, Shanker led a three-week strike that included basic trade union issues but also various education reforms such as class size, and discipline. Shanker entered the national spotlight during a volatile period of strikes in 1968 that divided New York City. At the center of the issue was community control of the school district called Ocean Hill – Brownsville. Shanker favored community control, however when union members were dismissed without due process, Shanker took the city's teachers out on strike three different times for a total of 55 days. Both strikes sent Shanker to jail.

The following year, the UFT won the right to represent paraprofessionals in the city. In 1972, he worked with Tom Hobart, to merge the National Education Association's New York affiliate with the AFT state affiliate, to create the New York State United Teachers. In the spring of 1975, New York City faced bankruptcy and needed \$7 billion in loans. The city laid off thousands of city employees, including 15,000 teachers. The UFT struck for five days over the issue of class size. Various unions in New York City agreed to use strike funds and retirement pensions to buy city bonds to save the city. Shanker asked the UFT's Teachers' Retirement System to invest and on October 17, 1975, the UFT bought \$150 million in city bonds.

Shanker became president of the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) in 1974. Under his leadership the membership of the AFT almost tripled and the role of organizing changed in which the union included paraprofessionals, health care workers and public employees.

Shanker initiated an experiment on December 13, 1970. On that day, his first *Where We Stand* column was published in the *New York Times*. The idea came from Arnold Beichman, a friend of Shanker's, who suggested that he place an ad in the same place every week in the Sunday *New York Times*. This would allow Shanker to have a weekly forum to convey his ideas to the public. Twenty-six years later and about 1,300 columns later, the 'Shanker column' became an institution in the Sunday *New York Times*.

In 1983 National Commission on Excellence in Education released the report "A Nation At Risk". Although he was initially skeptical, Shanker realized the report was not an attack on public education, but instead, showed that public education should be saved. In response, he led the AFT into a new era, and made himself into a statesman for education. Two years later, at the National Press Club in Washington DC, Shanker issued a "call for professionalism" in the teaching profession. He advocated higher standards for teachers through a national teacher examination. Other education reforms spearheaded by Shanker during the 1980s were a simpler system to remove unproductive teachers and a peer review evaluation program.

By the 1990s, Shanker was a respected American statesman. He spoke around the world to government officials, school superintendents, business leaders and union leaders. As a senior vice president of the AFL-CIO, Shanker called on the union movement to develop new organizing methods that would increase professional employee union membership, and attract the new workforce of the 21st century. The education agenda that Shanker laid out in his weekly columns and his constant traveling was to promote the idea that

teachers are professionals, which included a national test, peer review, charter schools with heavy school employee input, as well as standards for students. To honor his life-long devotion to education Shanker was named fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1996. To date, he is the only labor leader to sit beside Nobel laureates and Pulitzer Prize winners.

Shanker insisted on tougher standards for civil and human rights. Throughout his life, he insisted that “When men and women are imprisoned, tortured and killed because they dare to speak, write or organize, it makes no difference whether they were silenced by leftist or rightist dictators. The action must be condemned.”

Cooking was one of Shanker’s many hobbies. Other passions were stereo equipment, classical and jazz music, wines, and African folk art.

On February 22, 1997, Shanker died of cancer. He was the longest sitting president of the AFT from 1974-1997. Albert Shanker was one of the most powerful and respected American labor leaders of the late-twentieth century. Considered canny, a maverick and a tough negotiator, Shanker was also well respected and sought after for his wisdom in the development of public education, on civil rights and on trade unionism.

Brief Chronology of the Life of Albert Shanker

9/14/28 Born to immigrants from Czarist Russia, Morris, who delivered newspapers, and Mamie, a garment worker.

1946 Graduated from Stuyvesant HS, was head of the debate team. Enrolled in the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana. Graduated with honors with degree in philosophy.

1949. Enrolled in doctoral program in philosophy at Columbia University. Would complete all coursework. Married Pearl Sabbath; they would have son, Carl.

1952 To earn money to complete dissertation, took teaching job as a per diem substitute at PS 179 in East Harlem. Following year took regular sub position at JHS 126 in Queens.

1959 Left job teaching at JHS 88 in Manhattan to become full-time Teachers Guild organizer.

1960 Guild merges with High School Teachers Association to form UFT. Soon after, UFT strikes for one day to demand collective bargaining rights.

1961 NYC teachers choose UFT as collective bargaining agent. Second marriage. Edith (Eadie) Gerber; they would have three children, Adam, Jennie and Michael.

1964 Elected UFT president.

1967 Leads three-week strike for smaller classes, more money for education. Goes to jail for 15 days for violating state law prohibiting strikes by public employees.

1968 Leads long Ocean Hill-Brownsville strike over due process rights for members.

1969 Goes to jail for another 15 days for his role in 1968 strike ... Brings paraprofessionals into UFT.

12/19/70 Begins "Where We Stand" column in The New York Times.

1972 As head of the American Federation of Teachers' New York statewide organization, worked with Tom Hobart, president of the National Education Association's statewide affiliate, to form NYSUT. After serving as co-president with Hobart, Shanker became NYSUT executive VP until 1978.

1973 Elected VP and executive council member of AFL-CIO.

1974 Elected AFT president.

1975 NYC dismisses some 15,000 teachers. Teachers return to school in September to find over 50 children in a class. UFT Delegate Assembly recommends a strike... Strike lasts five days. Shanker later plays key role in saving NYC from bankruptcy by asking the Teachers' Retirement System to invest \$150 million in Municipal Assistance Corp. bonds.

1976 Elected delegate to Democratic National Convention; also 1980, 1984, 1988, 1996.

1983 Embraces Reagan administration's "A Nation at Risk" report, which condemned the state of American education and called for higher standards.

1985 First floats idea of a rigorous national teacher's exam in speech at National Press Club ... Resigns UFT presidency; succeeded by Sandra Feldman January, 1986.

1986 Visiting professor Hunter College.

1987 Visiting professor, Harvard College; also in 1988, 1989, 1990.

1993 Founding president Education International, the union formed by merger of AFT/NEA international affiliates.

1996 Announces AFT's "Lessons for Life" campaign, which calls for higher standards of student conduct and achievement ... Named fellow of American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

2/22/97 Dies of cancer.

Provenance:

Eadie Shanker donated Albert Shanker’s Personal collection to the Walter P. Reuther Library in October 1999. The shipment contained 14 oversized boxes. Over the years Eadie Shanker has sent materials to be added to the personal collection.

Restrictions:

Proper names from the student journals cannot be used.

Suggested Citation to these records: “Albert Shanker Personal Collection Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs, Wayne State University.”

AV and Library Materials:

Photographs, ephemera and other like materials have been placed in the Reuther Library’s Audio Visual Department. Books from the personal collection have been placed in the Reuther Library’s library stacks. Pages 21-22 contain list of books.

Related Collections:

AFT President’s Office: Albert Shanker Collection
AFT President’s Office: 1960-1974
AFT Inventory Collection: Parts one and two
AFT Oral History Collection

Important Subjects:

Asian Refugees - Thailand	Philosophy
Ethics	Collective Bargaining - Teachers
International Teacher Unions	Teacher Unions
Mathematics	Teaching - New York (State) – New
Metaphysics	York City

Important Names:

Edward Kennedy	Sandra Feldman
Elijah Jordan	William Clinton
John Lindsay	Vladimir Bukousky
Mario Cuomo	

SCOPE/CONTENT

SERIES I Education Box 1-7 pages 9-13

The series contains materials about the education of Shanker 1928 - late 1950s. There are items from PS 4 and Stuyvesant High School. Shanker kept most of his class notes, syllabi and other related materials to his higher education. When Shanker became more focused on his studies there are more materials from his classes including the syllabuses, notes, and tests. There are plenty of materials about his study at Columbia University (1949-1953), Hunter College, 1954 and New York University, 1955-1957. At the end of this series the files are of various dissertation notes, book reviews and his personal study of the philosopher Elijah Jordan.

Subseries A – Writings, notes, tests, research by Shanker and others

Box 5-7 has Shanker's notes and other related materials to the philosopher E. Jordon. Materials related to or writings by Shanker for school. There are notes on specific philosophical themes and philosophers, and tests that do not match up with transcripts. Articles or writing by other people. There are assumed notes for dissertation loose, in spiral notebooks and on 3 x 5 cards. There are a few tests that Shanker took that he kept as well. This series is arranged chronologically.

Subseries B – Miscellaneous Materials.

Box 7 contains the transcripts from Columbia and his correspondence and various activities at the University. Report cards from Hunter College (1954), New York University (1957) and selective service physical exam (1955).

SERIES II Teaching Box 7-8 pages 13-14

A series that contains Shanker's life during his tenure as a teacher in the New York City public school system. The series contains materials related in securing a job in New York City, certification, pay and other related official documents (1950s). Correspondence with principals and assistant principals are of special interest. Journal writings are class assignments from his students, are diaries about their everyday lives with Shanker helping with their writing skills (1956). No proper names can be used. The series is arranged chronological except for the journal writings.

SERIES III Union Box 8-10 Pages 14-16

The series covers Al's career from firebrand unionist to education reformer heading the American Federation of Teachers. The bulk of this series is 1960s through the mid 1970s with very few information pertaining to the 1980s and 1990s. The international information is minutes from meetings that were compiled after Shanker's death by AFT staff and Eadie Shanker.

Subseries A Ocean Hill – Brownsville Strike Boxes 8-9

Considered one of the most divisive strikes in modern labor history, Ocean Hill – Brownsville pitted the young United Federation of Teachers against the community of Ocean Hill. The strike lasted a majority of 1968 with the UFT walking out 3 times during the year. The issues were over community control, decentralization and honoring due process for teachers. The strike turned ugly when racism entered the picture. This series contains newsletter, memos, telegrams, speeches and commentaries about the strike. It is arranged chronologically. More archival information about this strike and decentralization of New York City can be found in the UFT records at New York University, Wagner Library or ask the Reuther Library's reference archivist for a copy of the finding aid.

Subseries B International Boxes 9-10

Shanker not only believed firmly in the US trade union movement but also the democratic international trade union movement. Eadie Shanker and AFT staff sent the materials after Shanker's death. They are minutes and reports from the International Federation of Free Teacher Unions. There is also some information about Shanker's trip to Thailand in 1978 concerns refugees, his trip to Warsaw in 1988 and other trips or issues about democracy worldwide.

SERIES IV Interviews and Publications Box 10-11 Pages 16-17

The series contains interviews conducted with Shanker, mostly oral histories about the formation of the UFT and Where We Stand. Speech notes are what he would use at the podium to give his long oratories. Article notes are notes and rough drafts for various articles and Where We Stand. The series also contains other publications that Shanker held onto.

SERIES V Correspondence Box 11-12 Pages 17-18

This is a unique series since it covers so much of Shanker's life in a very short series. There is a letter to his wife Eadie, correspondence from teachers from Urban-Champaign while he was in New York City trying to make ends meet. There are letters from Senators, Mayors and Presidents that are notes of thanks usually. This series runs the depth of Albert Shanker's interests and involvements. The series is arranged alphabetically, except for the first four folders.

SERIES VII Honors and Awards Box 12 Pages 18-19

Albert Shanker received numerous awards, honorary degrees and other citations for his work with education, the labor movement and his commitment to democracy everywhere in the world.

SERIES VIII**Memorial****Box 13****Pages 19-20**

The series is a mix of articles, newspaper clippings, get well and condolence letters/cards as well as the planning of the memorial service in Washington DC. There is also a folder on tributes to Al Shanker as in the like of naming conference rooms, buildings, etc.

OVERSIZE Boxes**Box 14-16****Page 20**

Oversize boxes are copies of newspaper clippings, articles and the like covering the mid 1960s to 1975. A majority of the clippings are about decentralization in New York City, Ocean-Hill Brownsville Strike and the fiscal crisis of 1975. This group of boxes also contains placards, birthday cards and other newspaper clippings or entire issues of importance to Shanker's life.

Series I - Education

The series contains reports cards, notes from college, drafts and final papers, and tests from Shanker's life in school, from elementary school to graduate school. They are arranged chronologically.

Box 1

- 1.1 Birth Certificates, 1928
- 1.2 P.S. 4 Queens report card, February 1940
- 1.3 P.S. 4 Queens 'The Prospect', June 1941
- 1.4 Stuyvesant High School report card, September 1942
- 1.5 Stuyvesant High School Scholarship Award, March 1945
- 1.6 United States Citizens Defense Corp, June 1945
- 1.7 Stuyvesant High School Commencement, January 1946
- 1.8 Stuyvesant High School 'The Indicator', June 1946
- 1.9 Stuyvesant High School awards, June 1946
- 1.10 Stuyvesant High School graduating exercises, June 1946
- 1.11 Stuyvesant High School report card, September 1942-June 1946
- 1.12 Boy Scout merit badge applications and articles, 1943-1944
- 1.13 Palestine: Is there a solution?; meeting notice, December 1946
- 1.14 Biology, February-April, 1947
- 1.15 University of Illinois; third annual key awards, May 12, 1947
- 1.16 Alpha Phi Omega Certificate, May 1947
- 1.17 Rand School Fall Term Bulletin, 1947
- 1.18 Study Guide and Reference List for History 33B, Modern Russia, 1947
- 1.19 Political Science 33, reading list, 1947
- 1.20 Notes from Sociology, Psychology, History and Political Science, 1948, 1 of 2
- 1.21 Notes from Sociology, Psychology, History and Political Science, 1948, 2 of 2
- 1.22 Principles of Mature Thinking, 1948
- 1.23 History of Modern Philosophy 306, 1948
- 1.24 Symbolism, Mathematical Exponents, and Socialism: Essay on a New Scientific Socialism, May 1948
- 1.25 University of Minnesota Library call slips, 1948
- 1.26 North Dakota State Employment Service; Teacher Placement, 1948
- 1.27 Comments on The Metaphysical Foundation of Modern Physical Science by Burt, January 1949
- 1.28 Philosophy 233, 1949
- 1.29 Philosophy 306, 1949
- 1.30 Philosophy 313, June-August 1949
- 1.31 Philosophy 480; Theory of Value, 1949
- 1.32 Philosophy 480; Empirical Values and Criteria of Value, 1949
- 1.33 Philosophy 480; Society and Individual Values, June 1949
- 1.34 Philosophy 480; Independence Mutations, April 16, 1949
- 1.35 Philosophy 480; On The Criteria of Value, April 16, 1949

Box 2

- 2.1 Math 123; Summer 1949
- 2.2 Math 123; notes, Summer 1949
- 2.3 Math 123; tests, Summer, 1949
- 2.4 Book Reviews about Civil War in Spain, 1949
- 2.5 The Spanish Civil War 1936-1939, 1949
- 2.6 Theory of Knowledge, 1949
- 2.7 Sociologies of Knowledge as Ethical Theories, 1950
- 2.8 Philosophy, June-August 1950
- 2.9 Philosophy notes on Hume, Darwin, Marx, Freud, June-August 1950
- 2.10 Great Books, July 11, 1950
- 2.11 Curriculum Development outline, n.d.
- 2.12 Socialist Club Gets Ok... clipping, n.d.
- 2.13 University of Illinois transcripts, August 14, 1949
- 2.14 University of Illinois commencement program, August 1949
- 2.15 University of Illinois Degree, August 1949
- 2.16 University of Illinois to Shanker concerning GPA, October 15, 1949
- 2.17 Metaphysics 127; Fall 1949, 1 of 2
- 2.18 Metaphysics 127; Fall 1949, 2 of 2
- 2.19 Philosophy 131; notes, 1949
- 2.20 Ethics, 1949
- 2.21 Logic, 1949
- 2.22 Philosophy of Art, 1949-1950
- 2.23 Philosophy 161; History of Philosophy, October 1949-January 1950

Box 3

- 3.1 Philosophy 161, January 1950
- 3.2 Philosophy 143, 1950
- 3.3 Religion 101, 1950
- 3.4 Philosophy 162; general philosophy, 1950
- 3.5 History of Philosophy, 1950
- 3.6 Theory of History, 1950
- 3.7 History of Medieval Philosophy, 1950
- 3.8 Ethics, October-December 1950
- 3.9 Realistic Philosophy, Winter 1950
- 3.10 Philosophy 255, September-January 1951
- 3.11 Problems of Contemporary Philosophy, Summer 1951
- 3.12 Philosophy of Education, 1951
- 3.13 Hegel Seminar paper, drafts, 1951

Box 4

- 4.1 Hegel Seminar; Columbia University notes, 1951, 1 of 2
- 4.2 Hegel Seminar; Columbia University notes, 1951, 2 of 2

- 4.3 Child Psychology; Principals of Education, 1954
- 4.4 Mathematical Statistics, Spring 1957
- 4.5 Math 33; Professor Hirsch mid-term, Intro to Probability Theory, fall 1956
- 4.6 Math 33; Professor Hirsch class notes, 1956
- 4.7 Calculus I, 1955-1956
- 4.8 Calculus II, 1956
- 4.9 Math 34, 1956-1957
- 4.10 Math 104, 1957
- 4.11 Math 62, 1957
- 4.12 Math 102S, 1957
- 4.13 Math Tests, n.d.

Box 5

Subseries A – Writings, tests notes, research by Shanker and others

- 5.1 E. Jordan Bibliography
- 5.2 E. Jordan ‘The Life of Mind’, notes, n.d.
- 5.3 E. Jordan; Realism and Objectivity, July 1950
- 5.4 Notes and comments; E. Jordan ‘The Good Life’, n.d.
- 5.5 Journal of Philosophy June 1950; review of Jordan ‘The Good Life’, 1950
- 5.6 Notes; E. Jordan ‘The Forms of Individuality’, n.d.
- 5.7 Ethics of Elijah Jordan, March 15, 1951

Writings by Shanker

- 5.8 A New Ethics, n.d.
- 5.9 Absolute vs. Relative; Universal vs. Socially Immanent Ethics, n.d.
- 5.10 Book Review; ‘The Retarded Reader in Junior High School, n.d.
- 5.11 Concerning Happiness, n.d.
- 5.12 Dilemma of Socialism, n.d.
- 5.13 Epitaph, n.d.
- 5.14 Given twelve coins of equal appearance... n.d.
- 5.15 Ideal of Craftsmanship and a Teaching Ethic, n.d.
- 5.16 Man and his role in nature, n.d.
- 5.17 Nature and Culture, n.d.
- 5.18 Objectivity, n.d.
- 5.19 On Language, n.d.
- 5.20 Randolph Bourne; Pragmatism and the War Questions, n.d.
- 5.21 Sociologies of Knowledge as Ethical Theories, n.d.
- 5.22 Some Modern Themes and Mannheim’s Ideology and Utopia, n.d.
- 5.23 Untitled manuscript; ‘The response to the demands of food, sex, shelter, etc. is organic and blind...’, n.d.
- 5.24 Resolve that this Body Approve the Benson Plan for Farm Subsidies, 1956
- 5.25 Resolve that this Body Approve the Secondary boycott used by Labor Unions, 1956

Box 6

Tests

- 6.1 Dewey
- 6.2 Life of Reason by Santayana
- 6.3 Pre-Socratics answer, not complete, n.d.
- 6.4 Sociologies of Knowledge as Ethical Theories, n.d.
- 6.5 Topics; nature and culture, n.d.
- 6.6 Will to Believe by James

Bibliographies and Notes

- 6.7 Bibliography, Kierkegaard
- 6.8 Bibliography, L. Thomas Hopkins, summer 1952
- 6.9 Bibliography for problems of a sociology of knowledge and language, n.d.
- 6.10 Notes; Aristotle, n.d.
- 6.11 Notes; Animal Farm Chapter III, n.d.
- 6.12 Chronological settings of classics in educational theory
- 6.13 Notes; Contemporary, July 18, 1950
- 6.14 Notes; Dewey 'Quest for Certainty' Chapter 10, Construction of God
- 6.15 Notes; Engels, Lowell, Vico, Wolff, Bergson
- 6.16 Notes; G.E. Moore, Ethics
- 6.17 Notes; G. De Gre, Society and Ideology
- 6.18 Notes; Greek Philosophies
- 6.19 Notes; Kierkegaard
- 6.20 Notes; Krikovian 'Naturalism and the Human Spirit'
- 6.21 Notes; Merleau-Ponty's Existentialism
- 6.22 Notes; Philosophy
- 6.23 Notes; Principals of Mature Thinking
- 6.24 Notes; Psychoanalysis and Religion
- 6.25 Notes; Rousseau, Social Contract
- 6.26 Notes; Sacrificial Ideals
- 6.27 Notes; Story of Philosophy by Will Durant
- 6.28 Notes; Toward the formation of a pluralistic theory of history
- 6.29 Notes; Theory of Communication
- 6.30 Notes; The Three Theories of Science in the 17th Century
- 6.31 Notes; Validity
- 6.32 Notes on 3x5 cards; St. Anselm-Proslodium, 18th Century theory ok....
- 6.33 Notes on 3x5 cards; Acceptance of the businessman as morally honorable, Greeks, note to Professor Fisch
- 6.34 Notes on 3x5 cards; Lucretives of the nature of things
- 6.35 Notes on 3x5 cards; Dissertation notes
- 6.36 Notes on 3x5 cards; Dissertation notes
- 6.37 Notes on 3x5 cards; Bibliography for dissertation

Box 7

- 7.1 Notes on 3x5 cards; Aristotle, History of American Education, 1949
- 7.2 Notes on 3x5 cards; William James Sentiment of Rationality
- 7.3 Notes on 3x5 cards; Mills; Utilitarianism, De Gre; Sociology of Knowledge and Problem of Truth, Laske; review of Ideology and Utopia, Scheler; Sociology of Knowledge.
- 7.4 Notes on 3x5 cards; Lovejoy; reflections on the history of ideas, Sabine; logic and social studies, Von Schelting, Teggart; a problem in the history of ideas, Mills; Methodological consequence of the S and K
- 7.5 Notes on 3x5 cards; Santayana
- 7.6 Notes on 3x5 cards; Greek Philosophy

Other Writings

- 7.7 Patton's Farewell Address to his troops, August 1945
- 7.8 William Stanley papers, n.d.
- 7.9 John Amos Comenius; his education theory by George Vance Guy
- 7.10 Structuring of Society by Paul Kurtz
- 7.11 Base of all Metaphysics by Walt Whitman
- 7.12 Karl Mannheim and the S of K by R. K. Merton

Subseries B - Miscellaneous Materials to Shanker's Education

- 7.13 Committee for Refugee Education to Shanker, January 22, 1951
- 7.14 Columbia University correspondence, 1951
- 7.15 Columbia University Transcripts
- 7.16 Hunter College report cards, 1954
- 7.17 New York University report cards, 1957
- 7.18 Columbia University; Graduate Philosophy Society
- 7.19 Columbia University; Constitution and By-laws for ARCHAI
- 7.20 Columbia University; placement bureau forms and personal record, October 1957
- 7.21 Selective Service physical exam, 1955
- 7.22 Fingerprints, n.d.
- 7.23 American Folk Songs and Ballads

Series II Teaching

This series is arranged chronologically except for the journal writings do to their uniqueness.

- 7.24 Board of Education; written test-short answer, April 11, 1952
- 7.25 Substitute License, 1953
- 7.26 Correspondence; assistant principal Greenberg to Shanker, 1953 - 1957
- 7.27 Correspondence principal Birnbaum to Shanker, 1953-1958
- 7.28 Teaching observation and individual rating report, 1954-1962
- 7.29 Common Branch Subjects license, May 18, 1956

- 7.30 Probationary Appointment Report, September 1956
- 7.31 Permanent Appointment, JAREMA credit, December 1956
- 7.32 Air Force Overseas Dependent School Program, 1956
- 7.33 Correspondence assistant principal Mannes to Shanker, May 1, 1956
- 7.34 Pay Information, 1956-1963
- 7.35 Correspondence about Teaching License, 1956-1964
- 7.36 Report on Teaching Service, 1957-1962
- 7.37 Application for Regular License, March 1958
- 7.38 Teachers Retirement System of the City of New York, 1959-1974
- 7.39 Leave of Absence, 1959-1984
- 7.40 Teacher of Mathematics License, June 26, 1959
- 7.41 Astoria J.H.S. 126Q 'The Echo', June 1959
- 7.42 Camp Schedule, n.d.
- 7.43 Seating plan, n.d.
- 7.44 Report on Journal Writings, class 9, SP2
- 7.45 Journal Writings, 1956
- 7.46 Journal Writings, 1956

Box 8

- 8.1 Journal Writings, 1956
- 8.2 Journal Writings, 1956
- 8.3 Creative Writing Assignments, 1956

Series III Union

Series contains minutes, notes, contract, newsletters, correspondence, reports and other materials related to Albert Shanker's union career. Chronologically arranged.

- 8.4 Teachers Guild meeting with Superintendent for Junior High Schools, November 1957
- 8.5 New Organizer clipping, 1959
- 8.6 'Off the Cuff' draft article, n.d.
- 8.7 United Federation of Teachers organizing network, 1962
- 8.8 United Federation of Teachers contracts, 1962-1969
- 8.9 United Federation of Teachers contract; in Japanese, 1963-1965
- 8.10 'Staff', January 13, 1965

Subseries A - Strikes of 1967 and 1968

- 8.11 African American Teachers Forum, November-December 1967
- 8.12 Correspondence, 1967-1968
- 8.13 Rally Sign; Demand Al's Release, 1967
- 8.14 Telegrams, 1967-1968
- 8.15. UFT Reports on Decentralization, 1967-1968
- 8.16 United Action, 1967-1968

- 8.17 A Critique of the New York Civil Liberties Union Report on Ocean Hill, n.d.
- 8.18 Advertisements, 1968
- 8.19 Anti-Semitism: To Albert Shanker, n.d.
- 8.20 Appeal to the Community from Black Trace Unionists, September 1968
- 8.21 Articles about Ocean Hill – Brownsville, 1968
- 8.22 Board of Education, City of New York; statements, September 1968
- 8.23 Burden of Blame-Placing, Sandra Feldman, 1968
- 8.24 Freedom To Teach, Committee to Defend the Right to Teach, September 1968
- 8.25 Jewish Teachers Association Bulletin, September 1968
- 8.26 The Jew: The Man in the Middle, Rabbi Ronald Millstein, September 23, 1968
- 8.27 Lessons of the Teachers' Strike, Deutsch and Hornstein, n.d.
- 8.28 Mayor J. Lindsay statement, September 25, 1968
- 8.29 New York City School Decentralization Crisis Forum, November-December 1968
- 8.30 New York School Crisis, Maurice Goldbloom, January 1969
- 8.31 New York SDS Labor Committee, 'Community Control is a Fraud...' n.d.
- 8.32 Ocean Hill – Brownsville Governing Board, n.d.
- 8.33 Ocean Hill – Brownsville; mailings, flyers, notices, n.d.
- 8.34 Organization of Afro-American Unity and Black Youth Internationale Bulletin, n.d.

Box 9

- 9.1 United Bronx Parents, November 3, 1968
- 9.2 UFT Ocean Hill – Brownsville materials, 1968
- 9.3 Weekly Reader, November 23, 1968
- 9.4 Labor Today, Richard Parrish article on Ocean Hill-Brownsville, May 1969

- 9.5 AFT Million Dollar Militancy Fund Dinner, May 29, 1968
- 9.6 Albert Shanker Testimonial Dinner program, 1969
- 9.7 United Action, May 1970 and 1985
- 9.8 Shanker's Message about UFT elections, 1971
- 9.9 New York State Federation; Teacher News, June 1971
- 9.10 United Teachers of New York State, 1971
- 9.11 'The Challenger' interview with Tom Hobart, March 1972
- 9.12 Police Coverage for Shanker, June 21, 1973
- 9.13 Report on AFT by NEA, August 1974
- 9.14 Thomas Pisa correspondence to Buffalo Teachers Federation, December 1975
- 9.15 NYSUT officers report, 1975
- 9.16 New York City Education in Fiscal Crisis, 1975
- 9.17 New York City Strike, 1975
- 9.18 Labor Human Rights Award Dinner, December 9, 1975
- 9.19 UFT Teacher Union Award Luncheon, 1977
- 9.20 Social Democrats, USA, 1979-1990
- 9.21 UFT 25th Anniversary Dinner, 1985
- 9.22 UFT Labor Heritage Week Program, 1995
- 9.23 Lessons for Life, 1996

- 9.24 Towards Dignity: A Brief History of the UFT
- 9.25 UFT – Those that led
- 9.26 UFT publications, misc.
- 9.27 Various Flyers and Brochure, misc., n.d.

Subseries B - International

- 9.28 International Rescue Committee; Thailand Trip, 1978
- 9.29 International Federation of Free Teacher Unions; reports and minutes, 1983-1986
- 9.30 International Federation of Free Teacher Unions; reports and minutes, 1987-1988

Box 10

- 10.1 International Federation of Free Teacher Unions; reports and minutes, 1989-1991
- 10.2 International Federation of Free Teacher Unions; publications, 1988-1989
- 10.3 Warsaw, Poland Trip, April 1988
- 10.4 International Rescue Committee Freedom Award Dinner, 1989
- 10.5 Foundation for Education for Democracy; Activity Report, 1996
- 10.6 Vladimir Bukovsky, 1981

Series IV Interviews and Publications

The series contains notes, transcripts, and publications by or about Albert Shanker. There are also articles that Shanker kept. Arranged chronologically.

Interviews with Shanker

- 10.7 Albert Shanker's Bio, 1996-1996
- 10.8 Shanker's Timeline, Tributes, Membership and Degrees created by E. Shanker, April 2004
- 10.9 Urban School Crisis Interview, 1968
- 10.10 Albert Shanker on the Public Schools: An Interview, August 1971
- 10.11 Oral History for UFT's 25th Anniversary Booklet, 1985
- 10.12 Oral History New York Jews in Politics, 1988
- 10.13 Oral History with Marcia Reecer, n.d.
- 10.14 Oral History on formation of UFT, 1990
- 10.15 Forty Years in the Profession interview, 1991

Writings and Speeches

- 10.16 Where We Stand Booklets, 1973
- 10.17 Shanker Transcript Series, 1974
- 10.18 A Call For Professionalism, 1985
- 10.19 The Making of a Profession, 1985
- 10.20 A Voucher Reader, 1993
- 10.21 Where We Stand on the Rush to Inclusion, 1994
- 10.22 Education Reform: What's Not Being Said, Fall 1995
- 10.23 Education and Democratic Citizenship: Where We Stand, 1995

- 10.24 Letter to the Editor, Labor Wakes Up, November 1, 1995
- 10.25 International Education, first draft in long hand, n.d.
- 10.26 L.P. Benezet and Black Students, first draft in long hand, n.d.
- 10.27 Column and Article ideas, n.d.

Box 11

- 11.1 Speech notes; Quest 1991
- 11.2 Speech notes, n.d.
- 11.3 Speech notes, n.d.
- 11.4 Articles about Shanker, 1964-1996
- 11.5 Articles about Shanker 1997-2000

Other Publications and Articles

- 11.6 A Study of the Rating and Supervision of Teachers, by Lefkowitz, 1925
- 11.7 Democracy Bulletin, 1993
- 11.8 Feldman, Articles about, 1983-1988
- 11.9 First Love and Early Sorrows by Daniel Bell
- 11.10 Freedom Appeals; Freedom House, November-December 1980
- 11.11 Linking Restructuring to Authentic Student Achievement by Fred Newmann, 1990
- 11.12 Living Record of Two Leaders of Labor: Henryk Erlich and Victor Alter, 1943
- 11.13 Morality and Ethics in Politics by Garret Fitzgerald, 1990
- 11.14 Parliamentary Democracy in the Land of Lenin by Seymour Lipset, 1990
- 11.15 The Public School Teacher in Democracy by Henry Linville, 1908
- 11.16 What Freedom in New York School? 1934

Series V Correspondence

Series has letters to and from Shanker. Majority is to Shanker. Arranged alphabetically except for the first 4 folders

- 11.17 From Shanker to Dwight _____ re: culture and intellectuals, 1950
- 11.18 From Shanker to Eadie Shanker, August 1971
- 11.19 From Shanker to Connie _____ re: relationship, n.d.
- 11.20 Correspondence To Shanker, 1967-1994
- 11.21 Lamar Alexander to Shanker, 1984
- 11.22 Jimmy Carter to Shanker re: award from anti-defamation league, December 15, 1978
- 11.23 Bill Clinton to Shanker, 1992-1997
- 11.24 Mario Cuomo to Shanker, 1985-1986
- 11.25 Department of Defense to Shanker re: AFL-CIO subcommittee on Defense, April 14, 1982
- 11.26 Michael Dukakis to Shanker, 1987-1988
- 11.27 Geraldine Ferraro to Shanker, July 12, 1985
- 11.28 Max Fisch to Shanker, 1950

- 11.29 Richard Gephardt to Shanker, 1986-1989
- 11.30 Walter Gotshalk to Shanker, 1951
- 11.31 Al Gore to Shanker, 1996
- 11.32 Alexis Herman to Shanker, January 1997
- 11.33 Ernest Hollings to Shanker, June 11, 1984
- 11.34 Dianne Jones to Shanker re: Jim Crow at University of Illinois-Urbana, February 1996
- 11.35 Elijah Jordan to Shanker, 1945-1951
- 11.36 Jack Kemp to Shanker, 1984
- 11.37 Edward Kennedy to Shanker, 1991-1996
- 11.38 Lubin to Shanker re: Community School Board Governance Bill, December 20, 1996
- 11.39 McCaughey Ross to Shanker, 1996
- 11.40 Moynihan to Midge Dector re: Hindu God Shanker, 1974-1975

Box 12

- 12.1 Ellaine Mitchell to Shanker re: poem about jail, 1967
- 12.2 Lillian to Eadie and Al Shanker, April 1990
- 12.3 Glenn Negley to Shanker, 1951
- 12.4 Ronald Reagan to Shanker, December 23, 1988
- 12.5 Charles Robb to Shanker, August 8, 1984
- 12.6 Romaszewski to Shanker, December 1981
- 12.7 Alfred Shutz to Shanker, 1950
- 12.8 To Shanker Family re: Jailing, 1967
- 12.9 Shanker Family to Al Shanker in Jail, 1967
- 12.10 Forrest Wiggins to Shanker 1951

Series VI Honors and Awards

- 12.11 Anti-Defamation League; Heritage of Liberty Award, 1978
- 12.12 Central Labor Rehabilitation Council, certificate, September 27, 1973
- 12.13 Correspondence to Eadie Shanker re: Presidential Medal of Freedom, 1998
- 12.14 Correspondence; Pelikan to Eadie Shanker re: American Academy of Arts and Sciences, 1997
- 12.15 Democratic National Committee, November 1982
- 12.16 Educational Press Association Achievement Award, 1991
- 12.17 Ellis Island Medals of Honor Program, 1995
- 12.18 Honorary Degree, Adelphi University, 1985
- 12.19 Honorary Degree, City University of New York, 1983
- 12.20 Honorary Degree, Claremont Graduate School, 1989
- 12.21 Honorary Degree, Eastern Michigan University, 1988
- 12.22 Honorary Degree, Rhode Island College, 1988
- 12.23 Honorary Degree, Rochester University, 1985
- 12.24 Honorary Degree, State University of New York at Albany, 1984
- 12.25 Honorary Degree, State University of New York at Farmington, 1987

- 12.26 National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, n.d.
- 12.27 National Father's Day Committee, 1977
- 12.28 National Press Club Certificate of Appreciation, 1983
- 12.29 New Haven Public Education fund, inc., 1992
- 12.30 New York University Awards Dinner, 1978
- 12.31 New York University School of Education Graduate Student Organization Certificate, 1968
- 12.32 Philadelphia Liberty Medal, 1994
- 12.33 Teachers College commencement, Medal for Distinguished Service, 1985
- 12.34 State of New York Legislative Resolution, 1986
- 12.35 University of the State of New York citation, 1986

Series VII Miscellaneous

Series is arranged in alphabetical order containing various materials from birthday cards to poetry.

- 12.36 Art Students Lament by Beverly Gobbin, n.d.
- 12.37 Birthday Card from Carl Sabeth, 1989
- 12.38 Birthday Cards
- 12.39 Harvard University Graduate School of Education; Faculty and Staff, 1988-1989
- 12.40 Labor History Month Proclamation, 1995
- 12.41 Membership Cards
- 12.42 Memorials for: Porter, Megel, Meany and Boyer
- 12.43 Poem to Eadie Shanker
- 12.44 Security Investigation Data, 1953
- 12.45 Shanker, Jen to Shanker, Al, no date
- 12.46 Shanker at 60 poem
- 12.47 Poems about Shanker
- 12.48 Shanker Cartoons, 1968-1975
- 12.49 Stamps
- 12.50 Stuyvesant Debate Team, message, 1946
- 12.51 Wedding Gift list

Series VIII Memorial

Series contains correspondence, memorial planning and publications. Series is arranged alphabetically.

Box 13

- 13.1 American Educator; The Power of Ideas: Al in his own words, Spring/Summer 1997
- 13.2 Clinton Condolences, 1997
- 13.3 Condolences, 1997, 1 of 3
- 13.4 Condolences, 1997, 2 of 3

- 13.5 Condolences, 1997, 3 of 3
- 13.6 How We Knew Him, stories from AFT staff, 1997
- 13.7 Get Well Wishes, 1996-1997
- 13.8 Guest Book
- 13.9 Memorial invitations, 1997
- 13.10 Memorial Fugenzo Tree
- 13.11 Memorial Pamphlet; by Adrian Shanker
- 13.12 Memorial Writings and remembrances, 1997-1998
- 13.13 Obituaries
- 13.14 Tributes, memorial awards, official naming for Shanker, 1998-2003
- 13.15 Where We Stand: In Memory of, March 9, 1997

Oversized Boxes

Box 14

Posters, placards, strike signs, 1960s-1990s

Box 15

Clippings 1964-1965
 Clippings 1967, 2 folders
 May-August 1968
 Clippings, September 1968, 2 folders
 Clippings, October 1968
 Clippings, November-December 1968
 Revolutionary Papers, 1968
 Clippings 1969-1971

Box 16

Clippings 1974
 Clippings 1975
 Thailand refugee camp visit, October 1978
 New America, 1974 and 1983
 Jewish Weekly, May 1, 1986
 Daily News Magazine, 1990
 Histories of the UFT and PSC anniversary
 Memorial awards, tributes and naming ceremonies, 1997-2002
 Memorial writings, 1997
 Birthday book, 1993

Albert Shanker Books

Some books that have been signed by the author have been placed in the Reuther Library's vault:

All The Best: Letters from a Feisty Mayor. By Edward I. Koch
Between Hope and History: Meeting America's Challenges for the 21st Century.
By President Bill Clinton
On Caring. By Milton Mayeroff
We Must Take Charge: Our Schools and Our Future. By Chester Finn
Tell The West. By Glikzman, Jerzy
Skylight on the World. By Edward P. Gottlieb
Images of Labor. By Moe Foner. (signed by Shanker as a gift)

The following are available for browsing

Images of Labor. By Moe Foner
The Teaching Gap: Best ideas from the World's Teachers for Improving Education in the Classroom. By Stigler, James W. and Hiebert, James
My Life. By Meir, Golda
The Point Man: Irving Brown and the Deadly Post – 1945. by Rathbun, Ben
We Can Rescue Our Children: The Cure for Chicago's Public School Crisis. By Walbert, Herbert; Bakalis, Michael;
Making Standards Matter 1996: An Annual Fifty-State Report on Efforts to Raise Academic Standards. By the American Federation of Teachers
Ellis Island Medals of Honor Awards Gala: Commemorative Journal, May 4, 1997
Kaleidoscope: Readings in Education. Ed. Ryan and Cooper. Eighth Edition
Bread Winners Too: The Second Rising. By Mel London.
Highlighting the NEA's radical political agenda: Who is Running our schools? By Save our Schools Research and Education Foundation.
American Education: Still Separate. Daedalus Fall 1995
Albert Shanker: The Politics of Clout. New York Affairs. Volume 5 Number 1 1978
New Politics. Vol. VIII, no. 3. summer 1969
The Public Interest. Number 116, Summer 1994.
School and College: Partnerships in Education. Gene Maeroff. The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. 1983
National Issues in Education: Elementary and Secondary Act. John F. Jennings, editor. 1995
Debating the Future of American Education: Do We Need National Standards and Assessments? Diane Ravitch editor. 1995
Teacher Education in the Aftermath of Holmes and Carnegie. Teacher Education Quarterly. Winter 1987, Volume 14, No. 1.
Harvard Graduate School of Education 1988-1989 Catalogue
Organizing the Teaching Profession: The Story of the American Federation of Teachers. By the commission on education reconstruction. 1955

Teacher Unions in Schools. By Johnson, Susan Moore. Temple University Press. 1984
The Teachers Strike New York, 1968. by Mayer, Martin. Perennial Library. 1969
American Higher Education: A Documentary History Volume II. Ed. Hofstadter,
Richard and Smith, Wilson. University of Chicago Press. 1961.
The People's Song Book. Boni and Gaer, New York. 1948
The Cubmaster's Packbook. Boy Scouts of America. 1943
Handbook for Scoutmasters: A Manual of Leadership. Boy Scouts of America. 1942
Handbook for Patrol Leaders. Boy Scouts of America. 1944
Handbook for Boys. Boy Scouts of America. 1937
Scout Field Book. By West, James E. and Hillcourt, William. 1951