The State Federations of the American Federation of Teachers were placed in the Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs in May of 1969 by the A.F.T. and were opened for research in 1970. The material was reprocessed and a new guide was written in May of 1992.

The American Federation of Teachers was founded in 1916. The union has been concerned with the development of professional recognition, better teaching conditions, civil rights and disadvantaged children as well as obtaining monetary objectives for teachers.

The State Federations are composed of the local unions of each state. The policy of the AFT is to have a conglomeration of locals to form a state federation, not to have all teachers join one state union.

The majority of the materials in Series II are dated between 1945-1967 but some materials date back to 1922. The greatest percentage of the papers in this collection is correspondence between the state organizations and the national office. Other materials in this collection are state constitutions, lawsuits, legal decisions, state and federal legislation, speeches, pamphlets, salary information, histories, news releases, newspaper articles, union newspapers and convention programs.

Important subjects covered in the collection are: Board Teacher Relationships Salary Collective Bargaining State Legislation Right to Join a Union

An index to subjects will be found on pages 28-29.
American Federation of Teachers State Federations Collection

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These files are from the National Office. Correspondence, pamphlets, programs, lawsuits, legislation, and salary information are contained in this part of the collection. Much of the correspondence in Series I deals with various aspects of the locals and their relations to the state and national organizations. Another major topic is that of union organizing. (Organization as a topic is dealt with in the index only when it is the title of something, and the correspondence is not indexed for this topic.) This series is arranged alphabetically by state. Within each state the correspondence is arranged chronologically. The subjects are arranged alphabetically, with the materials arranged chronologically within the folder.

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