The papers of the Detroit Federation of Teachers, Wayne University Chapter, (AFT Local 231) were placed in the Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs during the years 1972 to 1974 and were opened for research in August of 1984.

This Chapter of AFT Local 231 was organized at Wayne University in the early forties when the University was administered by the Detroit Board of Education. The stated purpose of the Chapter was to further democratic education by supporting academic freedom for faculty members and upholding the rights of students. They advocated faculty participation in administration and they fought for better working conditions and for teachers' salaries commensurate with their social responsibility as educators and with incomes earned in comparable professions. After Wayne became a state university, the "Wayne Chapter" voted in 1957 to become a separate AFT Local, (Local 1295).

The papers of Wayne University Chapter 231 reflect the union's effort to increase salaries, maintain academic freedom and support non-discrimination in hiring faculty.

Important subjects covered in the collection are:

- Academic Freedom
- Salaries
- Special Commission on Personnel
- Student Activities

Among the important correspondents are:

- Frances Comfort
- David D. Henry
- Donald C. Marsh
- Emilie Newcomb
- Marianne Ordon
- G. Flint Purdy

Non-manuscript Material
Numerous newspapers of various teacher's unions received with this collection are available in the Archives Library.
Series I
General Files, 1941-1957
Boxes 1-2

Correspondence, minutes, reports, and other materials reflecting the activities of Wayne University Chapter, Local 231. There is information concerning efforts to assure consideration of blacks when hiring faculty members. Other files concern academic freedom, salaries, union policy and the decision to become a separate local. Files are arranged alphabetically by subject.

Box 1

1-2. Academic Freedom, 1945-47
3-6. Budget Proposals and Salary Requests, 1948-52
7. Budget; General Information and Clippings, 1948-55
8. Constitution, Wayne University Chapter of DFT, 1946-47
9. Election Committee, 1946-54
10. The Faculty Bulletin, Wayne University, 1946-51
11. Faculty Rights and Responsibilities, 1953-54
12. Insurance Plan, Health and Life, 1951-56
13. Membership Committee, 1948-55
14. Minutes, Executive Board, 1946-47

Box 2

1-4. Minutes, Executive Board, 1948-55
5-7. Minutes, Membership Meetings, 1946-55
8. Original Commission, DFT Chapter, 1941-54
12. Paper; "Investigation by Congressional Committees," 9 Feb 54
13. Policy and Program Committee, 1946-49
14. Public Relations Committee, 1948
15. Retirement Plan, 1949-56
16. Sabbatical Leave, 1948-49
17. Sick Leave, 1953
18-19. Special Commission on Personnel, 1949-51
20. Special Commission on Student Activities, 1954
21. Special Election, Board of Education, 1951
22. Wayne Chapter "Newsletter," 1949-54