

THE GEORGE CLIFTON EDWARDS, SR. COLLECTION

Correspondence and Papers, 1863-1960

18 1/2 Linear Feet

1 Oversized Manuscript Box

Accession No. 238

L. C. Number MS

The papers of George Clifton Edwards were deposited in the Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs in May 1968 by Judge George Edwards, Jr., and opened for research in May of 1992.

George Clifton Edwards was born to William Mecklin Edwards and Elva Gray Edwards on

23 December 1877 in Dallas, Texas. He received his B.A. from the University of the South

of Sewanee, Tennessee in 1898. The following year he received his M.A. from Harvard University. Edwards returned to Dallas to teach school about 1900, and in 1901 was

instrumental in founding the first free night school in the city. His teaching career continued

for about eight years. In 1904 he married fellow teacher Octavia Nichols, daughter of Henry

and Lily Purnell Nichols, and a graduate of the University of Texas. In about 1908 Edwards began reading law with his father, and in 1909 they became partners in a law firm. By the

1920s he had gained a reputation as a pro-labor, pro-ACLU, pro-NAACP lawyer. Politically

he was an active Socialist, and he was anti-Ku-Klux-Klan and pro-prohibition. Throughout

his career as a lawyer, Edwards continued as a champion of the downtrodden, specializing in cases involving discrimination or usury. Outside of the law practice, he took a great personal interest in issues concerning human rights. Edwards and his wife had two daughters who died

in infancy, both named Purnell. Their two surviving children were Octavia Nichols Edwards,

Jr. (Nicky) and George Clifton Edwards, Jr. After a stroke in 1958 George Clifton went to

E. Lansing, Michigan to live near his son, then a judge in the Michigan Supreme Court. He

died in 1960.

Judge Edwards' book about his father, Pioneer-at-Law: A Legacy in the Pursuit of Justice, is a source of further biographical information.

Important subjects covered in this collection are:

Capital Punishment
Civil Rights
Detroit politics
Edwards Family

Edwards, George C, Jr.
Nichols Family
Socialism
UAW

Important correspondents include:

George Addes	Frank Murphy
Carl Brannin	Maurice Sugar
Jack Herling	Norman Thomas
Judge Sarah T. Hughes	Rev. and Mrs. Claude Williams
Maury Maverick	Frank Winn

Indices to correspondents and subjects in the collection are located on page 24.

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Contents

33 manuscript boxes; 4 clamshell boxes; 1 oversize box

Series I, Boxes 1-7: Early Family Correspondence and Papers, 1863-1920.

Papers and letters involving the families of George C. Edwards and his wife, Octavia Nichols Edwards; and papers concerning the college education of Edwards and the couple's early teaching careers.

Series II, Boxes 8-20: Correspondence and Papers, 1928-1960.

Incoming and outgoing correspondence and papers of George C. Edwards, primarily concerning labor and politics in Dallas and Detroit, and his son George C. Edwards, Jr.

Series III, Boxes 21-23: Notes, Speeches and Articles, 1923-1959.

Notes, family historical and autobiographical materials, speeches, legal research notes, articles, and letters to the editor.

Series IV, Boxes 24-25: Human Rights Concerns, 1930-1959.

Correspondence, clippings and brochures concerning various human rights issues, especially civil rights and capital punishment.

Series V, Boxes 26-30: Clippings and Publications, 1916-1959.

Clippings and publications concerning labor, politics, socialism, health, religion and civil rights in Dallas and Detroit. Clippings are mainly from Detroit papers.

Series VI, Boxes 31-33: Diaries, 1925-1960.

Desk diaries, appointment books, memo books, and address books.

Series VII, Boxes 34-37: Account Books and Journals, 1899-1958.

Account books, journals and ledgers containing financial information about Edwards' law practice and his rental properties.

Oversize Box

Newspapers, large clippings; certificate and diplomas.

Non-manuscript material

Approximately 20 photographs, most of which are family portraits and snapshots, have been placed in the Audio-Visual Collections of the Archives. Also placed there are political buttons and badges.

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Series I
Boxes 1-7

Early Family Correspondence and Papers, 1863-1920. Papers and letters involving the parents of Octavia Nichols (Box 1) and the parents of George C. Edwards (Box 2), the college education of George C. Edwards (Boxes 2-4), and the early teaching careers of both. Also information about their wedding, the birth and death of their first child, and the early childhood of Octavia Nichols Edwards, Jr. and George Clifton Edwards, Jr.

BOX 1 Lillie and Henry J. Nichols papers

1. Correspondence (Lillie Purnell), 1863-1865
2. Military discharge papers (Lt. Henry J. Nichols), 1865
3. Correspondence (Lillie Purnell and Henry Nichols), 1866
4. Correspondence (Lillie Purnell), 1867
5. Military service papers (Henry J. Nichols), 1867-1870
6. Correspondence (Lillie P. Nichols), 1872-1879
7. Settlement of accounts (H.J. Nichols and T.A. Elgin), 1877-1879
8. Bills and receipts (H.J. Nichols), 1877-1879
9. Correspondence (Lillie P. Nichols), 1882-1885

10. Manuscript fragments (Lillie P. Nichols), 1884
11. Manuscript fragments, Lillie P. Nichols correspondence (Thomas F. Purnell), 1890
12. Correspondence (Lillie P. and Henry Nichols), undated
13. Early family correspondence, undated
14. Settlement of estate of Carrie Purnell Houston, 1890-1897
15. Summons (M. Agnes Nichols), 1897
- 16-18. Octavia Nichols at University of Texas, 1900-1903
19. Baptismal certificate (Octavia Nichols), 1901
20. Henry J. Nichols' military service in Cuba, 1902
21. Octavia Nichols' graduation, University of Texas, 1903
22. Henry J. Nichols, pension and death records, 1900-1910
23. Miscellaneous cards and clippings, 1865-1900

BOX 2 GCE correspondence and school papers

1. Correspondence, Elva Gray Edwards, 1877-1904 & undated
2. Diary, 1883-1884
3. Diary of Jessie Gray, 1884-1886
4. School records, 1887-1891
5. Correspondence (GCE), 1895

BOX 2, continued

6. Correspondence (GCE to Mary Henderson), Aug 1894-Sept 1899
7. Correspondence (GCE to Mary Henderson), Oct 1899-Sept 1900
8. GCE at Sewanee, 1896-1897
9. Correspondence, 1897
10. Memo book, 1897
11. History notes, cards, ca. 1897-1898

BOX 3

1. Correspondence, March 1898
2. Correspondence, April 1898
3. Correspondence, May 1898
4. Correspondence, June 1898
5. Correspondence, July 1898
6. Correspondence, re: Admission to Harvard, July-Aug 1898
7. Correspondence, Aug-Sept 1898
8. Harvard Handbook, 1898
9. Correspondence, October 1898
10. Correspondence, November 1898
11. Correspondence, December 1898
12. Correspondence (undated), 1898
13. Correspondence (GCE to his mother), 1898-1899
14. Harvard school materials, 1898-1899

BOX 4

1. Correspondence, January 1899
2. Correspondence, February 1899
3. Correspondence, March 1899
4. Correspondence, April 1899
5. Correspondence, May 1899
6. Correspondence, June-Oct 1899
7. Notes (Sewanee Grammar School), Aug 1899
8. Sewanee Literary Magazine, Sept 1899
9. Teaching Notes (Sewanee), Aug 1899
10. Journal Notebooks (Sewanee), Aug 1899-March 1900
- 11-18. Class Notes (Harvard), 1899
19. Ms. fragment (Harvard), 1899

BOX 5

1. Correspondence (GCE), Jan-March 1900
2. Correspondence (GCE), April 1900
3. Correspondence (GCE), May 1900
4. Correspondence (GCE), June 1900
5. The Sewanee Mountaineer, June, July, Oct, Nov 1900
6. The Sewanee Mountaineer, July-Sept 1900
7. Correspondence, October 1900
8. Correspondence, November 1900
9. Correspondence, December 1900
10. Correspondence, January 1901
11. Correspondence, February 1901
12. Correspondence, March 1901
13. Correspondence, April 1901
14. Correspondence, May 1901
15. Correspondence, June 1901
16. Correspondence, July 1901
17. Correspondence, Aug-Oct 1901
18. Correspondence, Nov-Dec 1901

BOX 6

- 1-3. Teaching Notes (Groton School), 1901
4. Ms. fragments (Groton), 1901
5. Manuscripts and Speeches, 1901
6. Correspondence, 1902
7. Correspondence, 1903
8. Correspondence, Jan-Feb 1904
9. Correspondence, March 1904
10. Correspondence, April-July 1904
11. Correspondence, Aug-Nov 1904
12. Correspondence (Henry Nichols to daughter Octavia), Aug 1904
13. Correspondence and Invitation (Wedding of GCE and ON), 12-12-1904

BOX 7

1. Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1905-1919
2. Baby Books (Purnell Edwards), 1906-1907
3. Birth and Death of Purnell Edwards, 1906-1907
4. GCE's Teachers' Class Book, 1908

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BOX 7, continued

5. Correspondence (Wm. Mecklin Edwards Obituaries), 1912
6. Land Purchase (GCE and A. Horn), 1913
7. GCE Jr. (Baptismal Certificate), 1914
8. Miscellaneous Publications, 1916
9. Correspondence (GCE to Dr. S.E. Thompson), Aug 1917
- 10-13. Correspondence (Octavia Edwards to GCE), Fall 1917-Spring 1918
14. Checkbook (GCE), 1917
15. Checkbook (GCE), 1919
16. Legal Case Notes, 1919
17. School Records (GCE), 1920-1930
18. Membership Cards (Socialist Party, IOOF, AFL-CIO and others), 1905-1950

Series II
Boxes 8-20

Correspondence and Papers, 1928-1960. Incoming correspondence, carbons of outgoing correspondence ("Copies of Correspondence"), and various other papers, much of which involves George C. Edwards, Jr. and his activities in labor and politics in Detroit. The series is arranged chronologically. Edwards kept carbons of most of his letters together (many in binders), and these have been filed at the end of each year's incoming correspondence.

BOX 8 Correspondence

1. Correspondence, 1928-1930
2. Dallas Political Material, 1930-1943
3. Correspondence, "My Blighted Hopes of Harvard", March-Sept 1930
4. Correspondence, "My Blighted Hopes of Harvard", Sept-Dec 1930
5. Correspondence, Feb-May 1931
6. Correspondence, May-Dec 1931
7. Correspondence ("City Election"), 1931
8. Correspondence (GCE Jr. at SMU), Oct-Dec 1931
9. Kappa Sigma Mothers Club, 1931-1932
10. Correspondence, 1932
11. Copies of Correspondence, 1932
12. Correspondence (GCE Jr. at SMU), Jan 1932-April 1933
13. SMU Anti-War Resolution (GCE Jr.), 1932
14. Correspondence (GCE Jr. at Harvard), Oct-Dec 1932
15. Correspondence (GCE Jr. at Harvard), Jan-May 1933

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BOX 8, continued

16. Correspondence (GCE Jr. at Harvard), June-Sept 1933
17. Correspondence, Sept-Oct 1933
- 18-19. Copies of Correspondence and Notes, 1931
20. Copies of Correspondence and Notes, 1932
21. Copies of Correspondence and Notes, 1932-1933
22. Copies of Correspondence and Notes, 1933

BOX 9

1. Correspondence, Jan 1934
2. Warranty Deed to Richard Potts, Jan 1934
3. Correspondence, Sept-Nov 1934
4. Correspondence, Nov-Dec 1934
5. Correspondence, Dec 1934
6. "Texas Communist" (Short story ms. by GCE Jr.), 1934
7. Correspondence, Jan 1935
8. Correspondence, Feb 1935
9. Correspondence (Fort Smith Arrest and Trial), Feb 13-22, 1935
10. Correspondence (Fort Smith Arrest and Trial), Feb 22-27, 1935
11. Correspondence, March 1935
12. Correspondence, April 1935
13. Correspondence, May 1935
14. Correspondence, June 1935
15. Correspondence, July 1935
16. Correspondence, August 1935
17. Correspondence, Sept 1935
18. Correspondence, Oct 1935
19. Correspondence, Nov 1935
20. Correspondence, December and undated, 1935
21. Copies of Correspondence, Sept 1934-June 1935
22. Copies of Correspondence, July 1935-April 1936

BOX 10

1. Correspondence, Jan 1936
2. Correspondence, Feb 1936
3. Correspondence, March 1936
4. Correspondence, April 1936
5. Correspondence, May 1936

BOX 10, continued

6. Correspondence (Socialist Convention), May 1936
7. Convention Materials (Socialist Convention, Cleveland), May 1936
8. Report (Socialist Convention, Cleveland), May 1936
9. Flyers (Socialist Convention, Cleveland), May 1936
10. Clippings (Socialist Convention, Cleveland), May 1936
11. Correspondence, June 1936
12. Correspondence, July 1936
13. Correspondence, Aug-Sept 1936
14. Correspondence, Oct 1936
15. Correspondence, Nov 1936
16. Texas Socialist Party Ticket and Election Platform (Haldeman Julius book), Nov 1936
17. Correspondence, Dec 1936
18. Copies of Correspondence, 1936
19. Correspondence and Socialist papers (ONE Sr.), 1936
20. Correspondence re: "The Common Herd" and Richard Potts, 1936-1943

BOX 11

1. Correspondence, Jan 1937
2. Correspondence, Feb 1937
3. Correspondence, March 1937
4. Correspondence, April 1937
5. Correspondence, May 1937
6. Correspondence, June-July 1937
7. Correspondence, Aug-Sept 1937
8. Correspondence, Oct-Nov 1937
9. Correspondence, Dec 1937
10. Correspondence ("Yale and Towne Affair"), Jan-Apr 1937
11. Correspondence ("Yale and Towne Affair"), May 1937
12. Clippings ("Yale and Towne Affair"), 1937
13. Copies of Correspondence, 1937
14. Correspondence, Jan-March 1938
15. Correspondence, April-June 1938
16. Correspondence, July-Dec 1938
17. Correspondence (Delmont Garst), Dec 1938
18. Copies of Correspondence, 1938
19. Report (UAW-WPA Welfare Department), 1938

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BOX 12

1. Correspondence (Socialist Convention, Kenosha), 1938
2. Minutes and Reports (Socialist Convention, Kenosha), 1938
3. Resolutions (Socialist Convention, Kenosha), 1938
4. Flyers and Bulletins (Socialist Convention, Kenosha), 1938
5. Correspondence, Jan-May 1939
6. Correspondence, June-Sept 1939
7. Correspondence, Oct-Dec 1939
8. Personal Correspondence (GCE Sr. and ONE Sr. to GCE Jr. and M. McConnell), Jan-April 1939
9. Personal Correspondence (GCE Sr. and ONE Sr. to GCE Jr. and M. McConnell), April-Sept 1939
10. Copies of Correspondence (to GCE Jr.), 1939
11. Political Correspondence, 1939-1941
12. Political Correspondence with Maury Maverick, 1939-1943
13. Correspondence, Jan-March 1940
14. Correspondence, April-June 1940
15. Correspondence, July-Sept 1940
16. Correspondence, Oct-Dec 1940
17. Copies of Correspondence (to GCE Jr.), 1940

BOX 13

1. Correspondence, Jan-March 1941
2. Correspondence, April-June 1941
3. Correspondence, July-Sept 1941
4. Correspondence, Oct-Dec 1941
5. Copies of Correspondence, 1941
6. Correspondence, Jan-March 1942
7. Correspondence, April-June 1942
8. Correspondence, July-Sept 1942
9. Correspondence, Oct-Dec 1942
10. Copies of Correspondence, 1942
11. Political Correspondence, 1942
12. Correspondence, Jan-March 1943
13. Correspondence, April-June 1943
14. Correspondence, July-Sept 1943
15. Correspondence, Oct-Dec 1943
16. Political Correspondence, 1943-1944
17. Correspondence, Jan-March 1944

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18. Correspondence, April-June 1944
19. Correspondence, July-Sept 1944
20. Correspondence, Oct-Dec 1944

BOX 14

1. George Edwards, Jr. (Army Notes, Ft. Benning, 3 tablets), 1944
- 2-6. GCE Jr. (Army Educational Materials, Ft. Benning), 1944
7. GCE Jr. (Army Educational Materials, Ft. Benning), 1944-1945
8. GCE Jr. (Army Educational Materials, Ft. Benning), 1945
9. Correspondence, Jan-March 1945
10. Correspondence, April-June 1945
11. Correspondence, July-Sept 1945
- 12-14. Official results (City of Detroit Primary Election), 7 August 1945
15. Clippings re: GCE Jr. and Detroit Politics, 1944-1945
16. Correspondence, Oct-Dec 1945

BOX 15

1. Correspondence, 1946
2. Copies of Correspondence, 1946-1947
3. Correspondence, Jan-Aug 1947
4. Correspondence, Sept-Dec 1947
5. GCE Jr. Speech to Detroit Common Council, 1947
6. Correspondence, 1948
7. Correspondence, 1949
8. Correspondence, Jan-June 1950
9. Correspondence, July-Oct 1950
10. Correspondence, Nov-Dec 1950
11. Correspondence, Jan-March 1951
12. Correspondence, April-June 1951
13. Correspondence, Aug-Dec 1951
14. Copies of Correspondence, 1951

BOX 16

1. Correspondence, Jan-Feb 1952
2. Correspondence, March-April 1952
3. Correspondence, May 1952

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4. Correspondence, June-July 1952
5. Correspondence, Aug-Oct 1952
6. Political Correspondence, 1952
7. Clippings sent to GCE Sr. from Margaret Edwards, 1952
8. Correspondence, Feb-June 1953
9. Correspondence, July 1953
10. Correspondence, Aug-Sept 1953
11. Correspondence, Sept-Dec 1953
- 12-13. Copies of Correspondence, 1953

BOX 17

1. Correspondence, Jan-March 1954
2. Correspondence, April-July 1954
3. Correspondence, July-Aug 1954
4. Correspondence, Aug-Sept 1954
5. Correspondence, Sept 1954
6. Correspondence, Oct-Nov 1954
7. Correspondence, Dec 1954
8. Copies of Correspondence, Jan-March 1954
9. Copies of Correspondence, April-June 1954
10. Copies of Correspondence, July-Aug 1954
11. Copies of Correspondence, Sept-Dec 1954
12. Correspondence, Jan 1955
13. Correspondence, Feb 1955
14. Death of H. Pat Edwards, Feb 1955
15. Correspondence, March 1955
16. Correspondence, April 1955
17. Correspondence, May 1955
18. Correspondence, June 1955

BOX 18

1. Correspondence, Oct 1955
2. Correspondence, Nov 1955
3. Correspondence, Dec 1955
4. Copies of Correspondence, Jan-March 1955
5. Copies of Correspondence, May-July 1955
6. Copies of Correspondence, Aug-Oct 1955

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7. Copies of Correspondence, Nov-Dec 1955
8. Correspondence, Jan 1956
9. Correspondence, Feb 1956
10. Correspondence, March 1956
11. Correspondence, April 1956
12. Correspondence, May 1956
13. Correspondence, June 1956
14. Michigan Supreme Court Cases (June Term), 1956
15. Correspondence, July 1956
16. Correspondence, August 1956
17. Death of Octavia Nichols Edwards, Aug 1956
- 18-19. Correspondence, Sept 1956

BOX 19

1. Correspondence, Oct 1956
2. Michigan Supreme Court Cases (October Term), 1956
- 3-4. Correspondence, Nov 1956
5. Correspondence, Dec 1956
6. Proceedings (Meeting of the American Law Institute Group), Dec 1956
7. Copies of Correspondence, Jan-April 1956
8. Copies of Correspondence, May-June 1956
9. Copies of Correspondence, July-Dec 1956
10. Correspondence, Jan 1957
11. Correspondence, Feb-Mar 1957
12. Correspondence, March 1957
13. Correspondence, April 1957
14. Correspondence, Aug 1957
15. Correspondence, Sept-Nov 1957

BOX 20

1. Correspondence, Dec 1957
2. Copies of Correspondence, 1957
3. Correspondence, Feb-Aug 1958
4. Correspondence, Sept-Dec 1958
5. Correspondence, Jan-March 1959
6. Correspondence, April-June 1959
7. Correspondence, July-Nov 1959

BOX 20, continued

8. Correspondence, 1960
9. Correspondence with Carl Brannin, Oct 1957-July 1958
10. Correspondence with Carl Brannin, Aug-Dee 1958
11. Correspondence with Carl Brannin, Jan-March 1959
12. Correspondence with Carl Brannin, April-June 1959
13. Correspondence with Carl Brannin, July 1959-Sept 1960
14. Family Correspondence, undated
15. Correspondence, undated

Series III
Boxes 21-23

Notes, Speeches and Articles, 1913-1956. Notes, family historical and autobiographical materials, speeches on a variety of topics, legal research notes, and a body of material involving the many articles and letters "To the Editor" that Edwards wrote in his later years.

BOX 21 Notes and Speeches, 1913-1952 [See NOTE ON ADDITIONAL MATERIAL, p. 23]

1. Notes, Sept 13-14, 1923
2. Notes, 1928-1931
3. Notes, 1933-1934
4. Notes re: Socialism, 1934-1938
5. Notes, 1935
6. Notes, 1945-1947
7. Notes, 1949
8. Notes, 1950
9. Notes, 1951-1952
10. Notes on Family History
11. Autobiographical Manuscript (incomplete), pp. 1-47
12. Autobiographical Manuscript (incomplete), pp. 58-84
13. Autobiographical Manuscript (incomplete), pp. 85-123
14. Manuscript Fragments, GCE Sr.
15. Manuscript Fragments, Octavia N. Edwards, Sr.
- 16-20. Materials "for Edwards Sketch"
21. Speech (Lawyer's Club), 1913
22. Speech ("The Chartists", SMU), 1929
23. Speeches (Dallas City Election), 1931
24. Speech (on Christianity and Socialism), 1932

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BOX 21, continued

25. Speech (on Economics and Socialism), 1932
26. Speech ("The Remedy", Dallas City Hall), 1933
27. Speech (on Socialism), 1934-1935
28. Speech (Freedom of Speech, Dallas), 1937
29. Speech ("Law or Mob Violence in Dallas?"), 1937

BOX 22 Notes and Speeches, 1930-1956

1. Speech ("Bill of Rights After 150 Years"), 12/13/1941 (Revision 1952)
2. Speeches, 1942-1943
3. Speech ("Negro Progress and White Justice"), 11/18/1944
4. Speech ("Universal Military Training"), 6/23/1945
5. Speeches, 1945-1946
6. Speech ("Do We Need a New Political Party?"), 1946
7. Speech (History of AFL-CIO), 6/21/1947
8. Speech (on occasion of swearing in of Judge GCE Jr.), 6/5/1956
9. Speech, "Confiscation or Compensation?"
10. Speech and Notes, Loan sharking/Usury
11. Speech (Socialism), at SMU
12. Speeches and Notes, Socialism
13. Speech, United Nations
14. Notes for Articles or Talks (undated), 1950s
15. Law Notes
16. Law Notes (Usury)
17. Legal Case Materials (Usury), 1930-1943
18. Legal Case Materials (Usury), 1932-1943
19. Law Notes (Usury), 1931-1932
20. Law Notes (Usury), 1933-1934
21. Law Notes (Usury), 1934-1936
22. Law Notes (Usury), 1940
23. Law Notes (Conspiracy), 1935
24. Wagner Act Materials, 1935-1938
25. Wagner Act Materials, 1939-1940
26. Wagner Act Materials, 1937-1940

BOX 23 Correspondence and Papers re: Articles and Book Reviews

1. Clippings Scrapbook (with 1st Dallas Socialist League Constitution and Membership Roster, 1920s), 1927-1934

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BOX 23, continued

2. Enclosures from Scrapbook, 1930s
3. Enclosures from Scrapbook, 1930s, 1949
4. Correspondence re: Newspaper Articles, 1940-1943
5. Correspondence re: Newspaper Articles, 1949-1953
6. Correspondence re: Newspaper Articles, 1954
7. Correspondence re: Newspaper Articles, 1955
8. Correspondence re: Newspaper Articles, 1956
9. Correspondence re: Newspaper Articles, 1957
10. Correspondence re: Newspaper Articles, Jan-May 1958
11. Correspondence re: Newspaper Articles, June-Dec 1958
12. Correspondence re: Newspaper Articles, Jan-May 1959
13. Correspondence re: Newspaper Articles, June-Dec 1959
14. Book Reviews (typed copies), 1958-1959

Series IV
Boxes 24-25

Human Rights Concerns, 1930-1960. Correspondence, clippings and brochures concerning various human rights issues, chiefly civil rights and capital punishment. From organizations such as the ACLU, Highlander Folk School, and the University of the South at Sewanee. Letters of appeal for aid in the form of money or time

BOX 24 Correspondence, Speeches and Clippings re: Civil Rights and Integration

1. NAACP Membership, 1937 and 1939
2. NAACP and Civil Rights Materials, 1940-1943
3. NAACP and Civil Rights Materials, Aug 1944-Sept 1945
4. NAACP and Civil Rights Materials, Oct-Dec 1945
5. The Nation ("White Justice in Dallas", by GCE Sr.), 9/15/1945
6. Civil Rights Materials, 1946-1953
7. NAACP and Civil Rights Materials (undated), 1940s
8. Clippings on Civil Rights, 1940s
9. Clippings and Notes on Henry Wallace, 1940s
10. Speech (Integration, Dallas NAACP), 8/21/1955
11. Correspondence and Clippings re: Segregation, 1955-1959
12. Speech ("The Constitution and Segregation", Dallas NAACP), 9/16/1946
13. Speech (to solicit funds for NAACP), 2/17/1957
14. Responses (to GCE's Letter to Editor re: Integration), March-April 1958

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BOX 24, continued

15. Anti-Integration Correspondence, May 1958
16. Responses (to GCE's Letters to Editor re: Integration), July 1958-Nov 1959
17. NAACP Publications
18. The Green Pastures (Souvenir Program), 1930

BOX 25 Correspondence re: Capital Punishment, Appeal Letter

1. Correspondence and Clippings re: Capital Punishment, 1930-1931
2. Correspondence re: Capital Punishment, 1942-1948
3. Correspondence and Clippings re: Capital Punishment, 1950-1952
4. Correspondence and Clippings re: Capital Punishment, 1953
5. Correspondence and Clippings re: Capital Punishment, Jan-June, 1954
6. Correspondence and Clippings re: Capital Punishment, July-Aug, 1954
7. Correspondence and Clippings re: Capital Punishment, Sept-Dec, 1954
8. Clippings (Capital Punishment), 1954
9. Correspondence and Clippings re: Capital Punishment, 1955
10. Correspondence and Clippings re: Capital Punishment, 1956
11. Clippings: Capital Punishment, 1956
12. Correspondence and Clippings re: Capital Punishment, 1957
13. Correspondence and Clippings re: Capital Punishment, 1958-1959
14. Correspondence and Clippings re: Caryl Chessman/Capital Punishment, 1960
15. Correspondence and Clippings (Capital Punishment), undated
16. Speech Notes re: Capital Punishment, 1950s
17. Highlander Folk School, Letters of Appeal
18. Sewanee (University of the South), Letters of Appeal
19. Letters of Appeal, 1937-1955
20. Letters of Appeal, 1956-1957

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Series V
Boxes 26-30

Clippings and Publications, 1910-1959. Of the four manuscript boxes of clippings, most come from Detroit papers during 1937-1943, although many come from Dallas papers. Among the important topics are: Labor, UAW activities in Detroit, socialism, health, religion, civil rights, Detroit politics, and George C. Edwards, Jr. One manuscript box contains publications on topics or by organizations in which GCE Sr. had some interest. Included in these is the Common Herd, which he owned for a time.

BOX 26 Clippings, 1920-1938

1. Clippings, 1920s
2. Clippings, 1930
3. Clippings, 1932
4. Clippings, 1933-1934
5. Clippings, 1935
6. Clippings, 1936
7. Clippings, April-May 1937
8. Clippings, June 1937
9. Clippings, July 3-11, 1937
10. Clippings, July 13-28, 1937
11. Clippings, Aug-Sept 1937
12. Clippings, Oct-Dec 1937
13. Clippings (undated), 1937
14. News Releases (UAW), March-June 1937
15. News Releases (UAW), July-Dec 1937
16. Clippings, Jan-Feb 1938
17. Clippings, March 1938
18. Clippings, April 1938
19. Clippings, May 1938

BOX 27 Clippings, 1938-1939

1. Clippings, June 1938
2. Clippings, July 1938
3. Clippings, August 1938
4. Clippings, Sept 1938
5. Clippings, Oct 1938
6. Clippings, Nov-Dec 1938
7. Clippings (undated), 1938

BOX 27, continued

8. Clippings, Jan 1939
9. Clippings, Feb 1939
10. Clippings, March 1939
11. Clippings, April-May 1939
12. Clippings, June 1939
13. Clippings, July 1939
14. Clippings, Aug-Sept 1939
15. Clippings, Oct-Dec 1939
16. Clippings (undated), 1939

BOX 28 Clippings, 1940-1943

1. Clippings, Jan-June 1940
2. Clippings, July-Dec 1940
3. Clippings (undated), 1940
4. Clippings, Jan-July 1941
5. Clippings, Sept 1941
6. Clippings, Oct 1941
7. Clippings, Nov-Dec 1941
8. Clippings (undated), 1941
9. Clippings, Jan-Feb 1942
10. Clippings, March-July 1942
11. Clippings, Aug-Dec 1942
12. Clippings (undated), 1942
13. Clippings, Jan-July 1943
14. Clippings, Aug-Dec 1943
15. Clippings (undated), 1943

BOX 29 Clippings, 1944-1959

1. Clippings, Jan-Oct 1944
2. Clippings, Nov-Dec 1944
3. Clippings (undated), 1944
4. Clippings, Jan-June 1945
5. Clippings, July-Dec 1945
6. Clippings (undated), 1945
7. Clippings, 1946
8. Clippings, Jan-July 1947
9. Clippings, Aug-Dec 1947

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BOX 29, continued

10. Clippings (undated), 1947
11. Clippings, 1948-1949
12. News Release (UAW), 1949
13. Clippings, 1950
14. Clippings, 1951
15. Clippings, 1952
16. Clippings, 1953
17. Clippings, 1954
18. Clippings, 1955
19. Clippings, 1956
20. Clippings, 1957-1959
21. Clippings (undated), 1940-1959

BOX 30 Publications

1. The American Tradition in 1957
2. The Common Herd: 1910, 1922, 1931, 1940
3. The Common Herd: Nov 1926, Dec 1936, March 1937, Dec 1937, June 1938, Sept 1938, March 1939, June 1939, March 1940
4. The Common Herd: Uncle Dick's Concordance. June 1940
5. Dallas Housing Publications
6. Dallas Proposed Charter Amendments, 1916
7. Detroit College of Law, 48th Annual Announcement. 1938-1939
8. Detroit Housing Commission. Annual Report. 1940, 1941, 1944
9. Harvard Publications, 1919 and 1958

10. last Minute News. Workers' Defense league, 24 May 1940
11. Liberty, 7 Sept 1935
12. Religious pamphlets
13. The Truth Seeker. Aug 1940
14. Thomas Paine (pamphlet)
15. What Now? ILGWU newsletter, 2 April 1936

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Series VI
Boxes 31-33

Diaries, 1925-1960. Desk dairies, appointment books, memo books, and address books which Edwards used, not only for their intended purposes, but also to jot down his thoughts, and inspiring quotations from religious literature, the classics, or more contemporary literature.

BOX 31

1925-1927
1928
1929
1931
1936
1938
1939 (no cover)
1940
1941
Pocket Diaries: 1925, 1930-1933, 1935-1944
Memo books: 1933-1935, 1936-1942, 1937-1940

BOX 32

1942
1943
1944
1945 (marked 1944)
1946
1947 (2)
1948
1949
1950 (2)
Memo books: 1941, 1942, 1944, 1945
Daily reminder books: 1947, 1948, 1949

BOX 33

1951
1952 (2)
1953
1954
1953-1954
1955
1956
1957
1958
1960
Address books (3)
Daily reminder book: 1952

Series VII
Boxes 34-37 (Clamshell Boxes)

Accounts Books and Journals, 1899-1958. Accounts books, journals and ledgers used by Edwards to record financial information concerning his law practice, his household accounts, and his rental properties.

BOX 34

Accounts Books 1899-1911
1913-1915
1918-1921
1923 1924
1926

BOX 35

Accounts Books 1926
1927-1928
1929-1930
1931-1932
1931-1936

-23-

BOX 36

Accounts Books 1932-1934
 1934-1936
 1936-1937
 1937-1939
 1939-1942

BOX 37

Accounts Books 1942-1944
 1945-1946
 1947-1949
 1950-1952
 1952-1954
 1954-1958

OVERSIZE BOX

1. Henry Nichols: Civil War Muster Roll, 1865; Commendation, 1878
2. "Sewanee Purple", 1897
3. Anti-Child Labor Bill, 1903; Socialist Platform
4. "Appeal to Reason", 1919-1920; "Dallas Morning Star", 1919-1925
5. Letters to the Editor by GCE Sr., 1923-1924
- 6-9. "Semi-Weekly Campus"
10. NAACP Bulletins, 1945-1947; The Worker, 1954
11. United Rubber Worker History, 1935; "United Rubber Worker", 1955
12. Testimonial Resolution to George Edwards, 22 April 1956
13. "The Texas Observer", 1957-1958
14. Clippings, ca. 1900
15. Clippings, ca. 1910-1930
16. Clippings, 1920-1935
17. Clippings, 1929-1957
18. Miscellaneous newspapers
19. Diplomas and certificates, University of the South, 1898-1900
20. Diplomas and certificates, 1899-1904

NOTE ON ADDITIONAL MATERIAL: A duplicate copy of the manuscript found in Box 21, Folders 11-13, with changes, additions, and some renumbering, is unprocessed in one-half manuscript box with the processed collection. It was received after processing.

Index to Correspondents

Addes, George, 11:11
Brannin, Carl, 9:9, 20:9, 20:24-28
Herling, Jack, 9:9
Hughes, Judge Sarah T., 11:11
Maverick, Maury, 12:12
McCree, Wade, 19:4
Murphy, Frank, 11:11
Sugar, Maurice, 11:11
Sumners, Judge Hatton W., 11:11
Thomas, Norman, 8:16
Williams, Claude, 9:9
Williams, Joyce (Mrs. Claude), 9:9
Winn, Frank, 11:10

Subject Index

Capital Punishment, Box 25
Civil Rights, 22:3, Box 24
Common Herd, 10:20, 30:2-4
Detroit Politics, Box 13, 14:12-15, 15:5; Boxes 26-29
Edwards Family, Box 2, 21:10-13
Edwards, GCE Jr. - Army, Boxes 13-14
Edwards, GCE Jr. at Harvard, 8:3-4, 8:14-16
Edwards, GCE Jr. at Southern Methodist University, 8:8-13
Edwards, GCE Jr. - Standard Operational Letters, 13:17, 13:19, 13:20, 14:9, 14:11
Edwards, GCE Jr. - Student League for Industrial Democracy, Box 9
Edwards, GCE Jr. - Yale and Towne Strike, 11:10-11
Edwards, GCE Sr. at Harvard, 3:6-14, Box 4
Edwards, GCE Sr. at Sewanee, 2:5-8, 25:16
Michigan Supreme Court, 18:14, 19:2
Nichols Family, Box 1
Potts, Richard, 9:2, 10:20
Socialism, 10:16, 10:19, 21:4, 21:24-25, 21:27, 22:11-12, 23:1
Socialist Conventions, 1936 and 1938, 10:6-10, 12:1-4
UAW, 26:14-15, 29:12
UAW-WPA Welfare Department, 11:19
Usury, 22:10, 22:16-22
Wagner Act, 22:24-26

George C. Edwards, Sr. Papers
Part II
.5 linear feet
1944-1956

Walter P. Reuther Library, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI

Finding aid written by Anne Johns on April 14, 2010.

Accession Number: 238

Creator: George C. Edwards, Sr.

Acquisition: Part II was deposited on December 14, 1993, with a subsequent deposit on January 12, 1994

Language: Material entirely in English.

Access: Papers are open for research.

Use: Refer to the Walter P. Reuther Library *Rules for Use of Archival Materials*.

Notes: Citation style: “[Collection Name], Box [#], Folder [#], Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs, Wayne State University”

Copies:

Other Access Aids:

Related Material: Reuther Library Collections: George C. Edwards, Jr. Papers, 1921-1970

History

George Clifton Edwards (1877-1961) was a schoolteacher who established the first night school in Dallas, after which he returned to law school and served in that profession for 40 years. As a member of the Socialist Party for over 50 years, he fought against segregation and child labor, and was a great supporter of women's suffrage. He wrote many letters in support of his liberal views to the editors of the Dallas News. His son, Judge George C. Edwards, Jr. served on the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals at the behest of President John F. Kennedy.

Scope and Content:

Part II covers the years between 1944 and 1956. Materials include: correspondence addressing his opinions and involvement in *L.C. Akins vs. the State of Texas* (1944-1945), one letter to his family about his stance in a case regarding discrimination (1956), and responses from readers of his many liberal letters to the editors of the Dallas News; Edward's appointment to the Civil Liberties Committee of the Bar Association of Dallas, and his notes and speech "Negro Progress White Justice;" Writings include book reviews, his autobiography, letters to the editor of The Dallas News, and letters from readers in response to his viewpoints. Small publications and clippings, from 1944 and 1956, are also included that relate mainly to segregation.

Important Subjects:

Capital punishment
L.C. Akins vs. The State of Texas
NAACP
Segregation
Socialism

Arrangement

Arranged into one manuscript box.

Box 38

1. Correspondence, L.C. Akins vs. the State of Texas, 1944-1956
2. Correspondence, Readers, 1944-1956
3. Professional Activities; The Bar Association of Dallas, Correspondence, 1943-1945
4. Professional Activities; The Bar Association of Dallas, "Negro Progress White Justice", 1944
5. Publications, 1944-1956
- 6-7. Writings; Autobiography, Undated
8. Writings; Book Reviews, 1958
9. Writings; Letters to the Editor, 1955-1958
10. Writings; Notes, 1944-1955
11. Writings; Notes; Case Citations, Undated
12. Clippings, 1944,1956
13. Harvard College Class of 1899, Third Report – 1909; Harvard College Class of 1899, Fourth Report - 191