

## **Remus Robinson Collection**

**Papers, 1928-1970  
(Predominantly 1953-1970)**

**16.5 linear feet  
16 storage boxes, 1 manuscript box & 1 scrapbook**

Accession # 447

DALNET #

OCLC #

Remus Grant Robinson was born December 4, 1904 in Birmingham, Alabama. He graduated from the University of Michigan with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1927 and with a medical degree in 1930.

He began his medical career as a surgeon in Detroit in 1934 and spent the rest of his career on the staffs of Grace and Providence Hospitals and as chief surgeon at Parkside Hospital. In 1961 the Detroit Medical Society honored Dr. Robinson for his contributions to the field of medicine by naming him physician of the year. Dr. Robinson also worked to integrate hospitals and medical and nursing schools, both to improve the quality of health care and to provide career opportunities in the health care professions for African Americans.

In 1953 Remus Robinson ran for a seat on the Detroit Board of Education, but was narrowly defeated. He won the seat two years later, the first African American to do so, and held it until his death in 1970, serving much of that time as president of the school board. As a board member, he worked to alleviate financial and overcrowding problems, while maintaining high educational standards. Despite often intense opposition, he continually supported the integration of the school system and equal educational opportunity for all of Detroit's children.

The Remus Robinson Collection consists of correspondence, reports, speeches, clippings, minutes, and printed material related to Dr. Robinson's career as a physician and as a member of the Detroit Board of Education. As a member of the school board, Dr. Robinson received weekly "informational volumes" containing news clippings, correspondence, reports and other material relating to the activities of the board; these volumes have been left intact and are filed chronologically.

### **Important subjects in the collection:**

Advisory Committee on Hospitals African-American Health Issues Committee	Equal Educational Opportunities Medical & Hospital Study
Civil Rights	Northern High School Incident in 1966
Decentralization of Detroit Public Schools	Racial Integration of Hospitals
Desegregation of Detroit Public Schools	Sherrill School Parents vs. Board of Education
Detroit Board of Education	
Election Campaigns	

**Important correspondents in the collection:**

Kenneth B. Babcock  
S. M. Brownell  
Lloyd Allen Cook  
Charles Diggs, Jr.  
Norman Drachler  
Clarence Hilberry

Mildred Jeffrey  
Arthur L. Johnson  
Damon J. Keith  
Frank J. Kelley  
Roy Reuther  
Walther Reuther

**Non-Manuscript Material:**

A few photographs and posters received with the collection have been placed in the Archives Audiovisual Collection.

**PLEASE NOTE: Folders are computer-arranged alphabetically in this finding aid, but may actually be dispersed throughout several boxes in the collection. Note carefully the box number for each folder heading.**

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15-7	Achievements of pupils in the Detroit Public Schools, 1969
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1-20	Administrative opening; posting, 1965
8-19	Adult education; administrative handbook, 1956
10-3	Adult probation & parole in Michigan, 1955
6-2	African history; manuscript for intermediate reading, n.d.
4-51	Afro-American history, 1968-69
11-21	American Board of Surgery; clippings, 1953
11-24	American College of Surgeons; corres., 1948-50
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7-6	Apprenticeship information, 1966
4-30	Apprenticeship legislative bills, 1970
13-30	Apprenticeship program, report on, 1965 Nov
7-53	Apprenticeship training; Washburn Trade School, 1959
4-9	Architects; corres., 1957
4-40	Architects; selection of, 1970
10-31	Architectural trades; outline of school building specifications, 1956
16-15	Articles; misc., 1968
1-8	Articles on Detroit schools, 1964-65
9-24	Athletic manual, 1956-57
10-25	Attendance and census; annual report, 1955-56
9-48	Attendance & census, dept. of; annual report, 1954-55
10-29	Attendance officers professional organization, 1956
15-15	Audit report, 1959
15-6	Audit report, 1967
15-47	Audit report; board of education, 1954
16-1	Audit report; board of education, 1956
10-21	Audit report; board of education, 1955
9-47	Audit report; employees retirement system, 1955
8-15	Audit report; Wayne University Division, 1955
9-45	Audit report; Wayne University Division, 1955
9-26	Audit report; Wayne University Division, 1957
8-16	Audit report; Wayne University dormitory & recreation building fund,
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1-6	Beaubien Junior High, 1965 Mar
3-18	Beaubien Junior High addition no. 2, 1970
4-39	Better Schools Association of Detroit; case history, n.d.
5-15	Bicknell, Fred; letter to, n.d.
2-80	Biography of father, n.d.

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4-36	Board of Education; by-laws, n.d.
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2-68	Board of Education; calendar, 1970 Jun
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3-26	Board of Education; calendars & agenda, 1970 May
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6-15	Board of Education; statistical reports, 1961
5-14	Board of Education vs. Detroit Federation of Teachers, 1962
8-33	Booklets; misc., 1955-56
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2-39	Boundary changes; regional, 1970
15-24	Boy's Committee of Detroit; annual report, 1959
4-26	Building fund, metropolitan Detroit, n.d.
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11-3	Building needs; priority list, 1963
15-29	Building program & costs, report on, 1957
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1-2	Cass High School, 1961, 1965
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6-27	Central High School; 1964
6-46	Central High School; self study, 1968
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4-17	Children and Youth, Commission on, 1957
15-42	Children's Museum, 1970
1-25	Chittlen test for black people and freedom bound whites, n.d.
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14-60	Citizens for Schools, 1963
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4-13	Citizens Redevelopment Corporation of Detroit; officers & minutes, 1959
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14-36	Citizens' suggestions to solve problem, 1963
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13-28	Civil Rights, Commission on, 1960
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16-12	Community control & quality education in urban school systems, 1968
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8-18	Construction, report of mechanical & electrical components, 1956
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1-3	Courses offered in high school, 1963-65
12-24	Courses offered & scheduled, 1961-62
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1-41	Desegregation pamphlet; "How Classroom Desegregation Will Work,"
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1-10	Desegregation; report, 1962-63
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9-44	Detroit Federation of Teachers; handbook, n.d.
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1-46	Detroit, profile of, n. d.
2-57	Detroit Public Schools; clippings, 1967
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3-27	Detroit Public Schools; clippings, 1970 May
4-32	Detroit Public Schools; high school enrollment data by race & geographic area, c. 1970
9-54	Detroit Public Schools; progress report, 1955
12-35	Detroit schools; publication, 1959-60
11-25	Detroit schools; publication, 1960-62
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8-8	"Detroit: The New City," 1966
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7-23	Detroit Urban League; parents' seminar project, 1963
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