

# Arthur B. Spingarn Papers

## A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



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Washington, D.C.

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LC Online Catalog record:

<http://lccn.loc.gov/mm79040949>

Prepared by Joseph Sullivan with the assistance of Brian McGuire  
Revised by Patrick Kerwin

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Arthur B. Spingarn Papers

**Span Dates:** 1850-1970

**Bulk Dates:** (bulk 1920-1955)

**ID No.:** MSS40949

**Creator:** Spingarn, Arthur B. (Arthur Barnett), 1878-1971

**Extent:** 35,000 items ; 66 containers plus 2 oversize ; 30 linear feet ; 58 microfilm reels

**Language:** Collection material in English

**Location:** Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

**Summary:** Civil rights leader and lawyer. Correspondence, memoranda, minutes of meetings, wills and estate files, reports, briefs, hearing and trial transcripts, and other papers relating chiefly to Spingarn's service with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) as vice president, chairman of the legal committee, and president (1911-1965).

## Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### People

Brooks, Van Wyck, 1886-1963--Correspondence.

Cobb, James A. (James Adlai), 1876-1958--Correspondence.

Du Bois, W. E. B. (William Edward Burghardt), 1868-1963--Correspondence.

Gruening, Ernest, 1887-1974--Correspondence.

Johnson, James Weldon, 1871-1938--Correspondence.

Lewis, Alfred Baker, 1897--Correspondence.

Martin, Isadore Maximilian, 1909- --Correspondence.

Mumford, Lewis, 1895-1990--Correspondence.

Ovington, Mary White, 1865-1951--Correspondence.

Pickens, William, 1881-1954--Correspondence.

Seligmann, Herbert J. (Herbert Jacob), 1891- --Correspondence.

Shillady, John R., 1875-1943--Correspondence.

Spingarn, Arthur B. (Arthur Barnett), 1878-1971.

Studin, Charles H.--Correspondence.

Thomas, Neval--Correspondence.

Van Vechten, Carl, 1880-1964--Correspondence.

White, Walter Francis, 1893-1955--Correspondence.

Wilkins, Roy, 1901-1981--Correspondence.

### Organizations

American Social Hygiene Association.

Circle for Negro Relief.

NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund.

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

New York (State). State Commission Against Discrimination.

New York Committee of Vigilance.

New York Tuberculosis and Health Association.

### Subjects

African Americans--Civil rights.

African Americans--Societies, etc.

African literature.

Civil rights.

Riots--Illinois--East Saint Louis.

World War, 1939-1945--Participation, African American.

### **Places**

Haiti--History--American occupation, 1915-1934.

### **Titles**

*Crisis*.

### **Occupations**

Civil rights leaders.

Lawyers.

## **Administrative Information**

### **Provenance**

The papers of Arthur B. Spingarn, lawyer and president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), were given to the Library of Congress by Spingarn in 1964. Subsequent additions were made to the collection by gift and purchase from 1968 to 1996.

### **Processing History**

The papers of Arthur B. Spingarn were arranged and described in 1994. Additional material received was incorporated into the collection in 1999. Some reprocessing was done in 2001.

### **Additional Guides**

A description of the earliest acquisition of Spingarn Papers appears in *The Quarterly Journal of the Library of Congress*, October 1965, pp. 331-332.

### **Transfers**

Some photographs have been transferred to the Library's Prints and Photographs Division where they are identified as part of these papers.

### **Related Material**

Other collections of papers in the Manuscript Division containing significant correspondence and references to Arthur B. Spingarn include the records of the [National Association for the Advancement of Colored People](#), NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund Records, and the papers of [Roy Wilkins](#).

### **Copyright Status**

Copyright in the unpublished writings of Arthur B. Spingarn in these papers and in other collections of papers in the custody of the Library of Congress is dedicated to the public.

### **Access and Restrictions**

The papers of Arthur B. Spingarn are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

### **Microfilm**

A microfilm edition of these papers is available on fifty-eight reels. Consult reference staff in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan. To promote preservation of the originals, researchers are required to consult the microfilm edition.

### **Preferred Citation**

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container or reel number, Arthur B. Spingarn Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Biographical Note

| <i>Date</i>   | <i>Event</i>                                                                                                                         |
|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1878, Mar. 28 | Born, New York, N.Y.                                                                                                                 |
| 1897          | A.B., Columbia University, New York, N.Y.                                                                                            |
| 1899          | M.A., Columbia University, New York, N.Y.                                                                                            |
| 1900          | LL.B., Columbia University, New York, N.Y.                                                                                           |
| 1900-1960s    | Practiced law, New York, N.Y.                                                                                                        |
| 1911-1915     | Associated with the New York Vigilance Committee and the New York City Branch, NAACP                                                 |
| 1911-1940     | Vice president and chairman, Legal Committee, NAACP                                                                                  |
| 1915          | Member, board of directors, NAACP<br>Published <i>Laws Relating to Sex Morality in New York City</i> (New York: Century Co. 139 pp.) |
| 1917-1919     | Captain, Sanitation Corps, American Expeditionary Force, United States Army                                                          |
| 1919          | Married Marion Meyer                                                                                                                 |
| 1936          | Initiated annual review of books by African-American authors in the <i>Crisis</i> magazine                                           |
| 1940-1957     | President, NAACP National Legal Committee                                                                                            |
| 1940-1965     | President, NAACP                                                                                                                     |
| 1971, Dec. 2  | Died, New York, N.Y.                                                                                                                 |

## Scope and Content Note

The papers of Arthur Barnett Spingarn (1878-1971), a lawyer and civil rights leader, span the years 1850-1970, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the period 1920-1955. Only a limited amount of correspondence and other material relates to Spingarn's personal or family life, and only glimpses of his law practice appear in the personal correspondence and various legal files. The documentation relates principally to his service with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) as vice president, chairman of the National Legal Committee, and president.

From the beginning of his law career at the turn of the century, Spingarn was interested in advancing the cause of civil rights and improving the condition of blacks, and he joined or advised a number of relevant organizations. The [Personal Correspondence](#) file contains material for such groups as the Circle for Negro Relief, the New York State Commission Against Discrimination, the American Social Hygiene Association, and the New York Tuberculosis and Health Association. The documentation relating to these and other groups and to individuals sharing his interests, however, lacks the range and depth of the material about the NAACP. Widely scattered throughout the papers are references to Spingarn's activities as a bibliophile interested in works by native Africans. These references are contained in the [Personal Correspondence](#) series (see Normil Georges Sylvain) and in an occasional letter in the [General Correspondence](#).

Material regarding aspects of the American occupation of Haiti during the 1920s also appears in the [Personal Correspondence](#). Spingarn's disillusionment with American foreign policy during this period, particularly in conjunction

with Haiti, takes shape in files related to J. Jolibois, Georges Sylvain, and Perceval Thoby and in a file marked “letters to the editor” protesting the violation of the civil rights of newspaper editor Louis E. Pouget.

The [General Correspondence](#) constitutes more than forty percent of the papers and represents the bulk of the series of NAACP files. Many subjects germane to the nature and interests of the association, principally legal in nature, are documented from the 1920s to the 1950s. Material addressing the relationship of officers of the association to each other reflects Spingarn's dominant presence. There are also references that reveal his relationship with the directors of the organization, including James Weldon Johnson, Walter Francis White, and Roy Wilkins. Information about other officers appears in both letters and memoranda addressed to Spingarn or sent to him as enclosures. These officers include W. E. B. Du Bois, Mary White Ovington, and William Pickens.

Included in the [NAACP series](#) are [general correspondence](#), [subject, legal](#), and [estate files](#) related to various aspects of the growth of the association, such as its difficult financial beginnings, rapid increases in membership during times of crisis, and program and administrative problems. These files reflect the East Saint Louis Riot of 1917; the New York Vigilance Committee for the years 1912-1913, which became the New York City (Manhattan) branch of the NAACP; the Shillady beating incident of 1919; the Internal Revenue Service's decision to disallow tax deductions for donors in 1925 and then to reinstate the deductions in the late 1930s (which includes references to these decisions as the origin of the Legal Defense and Educational Fund). Letters dated 1931, 1934, 1940, and 1942 relate, in part, to Mary White Ovington.

The many controversies surrounding W. E. B. Du Bois, especially his 1933 plan for reorganization to keep the *Crisis* magazine under his control, the segregation issue which led to his 1934 departure, his rehiring by the association in 1944, and his final dismissal in 1948, are noted in correspondence and memoranda in the [NAACP series](#) and reveal the antagonism between him and Walter White. Selected cases from the 1920s to the 1940s regarding discrimination in education, voting and civil rights, including both Nixon cases, *Nixon v. Condon* and *Nixon v. Herndon*, the Scottsboro case, and *Smith v. Allwright* appear in the subject file. The correspondence and memoranda in the [subject file](#) were sent as enclosures but lack the covering letters to Spingarn.

Areas of interest in the papers after 1940 include World War II, racial discrimination, and related topics. The NAACP's position on the issue of segregated training camps for black officers was clear, but remarks and articles giving a positive impression of segregated training facilities by William Pickens, the association's field secretary on leave for service with the United States government, forced this controversial issue to resurface. As outlined in a [subject file](#) labeled “William Pickens” and in the [General Correspondence](#), the board of directors severed ties with Pickens over his statements.

Also documented are the many controversies surrounding Walter White, the secretary of the association. Issues related to White include salary disputes, staff criticism, private behavior, and his relationship with his eventual successor, Roy Wilkins. Other subseries describe the [Crisis magazine](#), [board minutes and reports](#), and [financial material](#). The board reports contain secretary's reports not available in the NAACP records.

Correspondents in the [family](#) and [personal correspondence](#) include Van Wyck Brooks, Ernest Gruening, Lewis Mumford, Georges Sylvain, Perceval Thoby, and Carl Van Vechten. The [general correspondence](#), which is chronologically arranged, includes James A. Cobb, W. E. B. Du Bois, Isadore Martin, Walter White, and Roy Wilkins almost every year. Correspondence of others active in the civil rights movement, such as Alfred Baker Lewis, Herbert Seligman, Charles Studin, and Neval Thomas, appear throughout the collection.

An [addition to the Spingarn Papers](#), processed in 1996, includes two annotated editions of Spingarn's book, *Laws Relating to Sex Morality in New York City*, dated 1915 and 1926, and a certificate issued by the Supreme Court in 1926. The addition has not been microfilmed.

## Organization of the Papers

The collection is arranged in seven series:

- [Family Correspondence, 1912-1964](#)
- [Personal Correspondence, 1903-1967](#)
- [NAACP Files, 1912-1967](#)
- [Miscellany, 1850-1970](#)
- [Printed Matter, 1911-1967](#)

- Addition, 1915-1968
- Oversize, 1915-1964

## Description of Series

### *Container*

BOX 1  
REEL 1

### *Series*

#### Family Correspondence, 1912-1964

Letters between Arthur Spingarn and his family and between other family members. Arranged by name of family member, with files of some family members further subdivided chronologically.

BOX 2-4  
REEL 1-2

#### Personal Correspondence, 1903-1967

Mostly letters received, with a few carbons of letters sent. Arranged alphabetically by name of individual or by name of organization and therein chronologically. Correspondents mentioning civil rights curtailment during the American occupation of Haiti are identified.

BOX 5-55  
REEL 2-50

#### NAACP Files, 1912-1967

BOX 5-25  
REEL 2-22

#### General Correspondence, 1912-1967

Letters received and carbons of letters sent. Arranged chronologically by date of the incoming letter or by date of response.

BOX 26-30  
REEL 22-26

#### Subject File, 1912-1966

Carbons of letters from the NAACP, minutes of meetings, statements, reports, memoranda, lists, congressional bills and other congressional material, and legal documents. Arranged alphabetically by subject and chronologically therein.

BOX 31-35  
REEL 27-31

#### Legal File, 1913-1966

Letters, briefs, statements, working papers, reports, and trial and hearing transcripts. Arranged alphabetically by case name and chronologically therein.

BOX 36-37  
REEL 32-33

#### Wills and Estates File, 1916-1961

Correspondence, copies of wills, legal documents, and financial evaluations relating to estates. Arranged alphabetically by name of person, estate, or property, and chronologically therein.

BOX 36-37  
REEL 34-35

#### Crisis File, 1921-1967

Typed drafts of editorials and financial reports of the *Crisis* magazine, the official organ of the NAACP. Arranged alphabetically by type of material and chronologically therein.

BOX 40-51  
REEL 36-47

**Minutes of Meetings and Reports, 1915-1967**

Minutes of meetings of the board of directors and committees of the NAACP and reports by officers and departments of the organization.  
Arranged alphabetically by type of material, then according to the reporting body or office, and chronologically therein.

BOX 52-55  
REEL 48-50

**Financial Papers, 1915-1967**

Income statements, expense statements, budget statements, treasurers' reports, general financial statements, budget sheets, and miscellaneous financial reports.  
Chronologically arranged.

BOX 56-60  
REEL 51-53

**Miscellany, 1850-1970**

Personal and NAACP material including correspondence to and from individuals other than Spingarn, speeches and writings, income tax material, lists, legal documents, depositions, proceedings, reports, statements, complaints, affidavits, notes, and photographs.  
Arranged by type of material.

BOX 61-66  
REEL 53-58

**Printed Matter, 1911-1967**

Press releases, legislative bills, pamphlets, programs, announcements, magazine and journal articles, and newspapers and newspaper clippings.  
Organized into three groupings; NAACP, non-NAACP, and newspaper and newspaper clipping files, and therein by subject or type of material.

BOX 66  
Not filmed

**Addition, 1915-1968**

A certificate, a legal document, printed matter, and annotated books by Spingarn.  
Organized alphabetically by title of publication or type of material.

BOX OV 1-OV 2  
REEL 58

**Oversize, 1915-1964**

Newspapers, newspaper clippings, and certificate issued to Spingarn by the Supreme Court.  
The certificate has not been filmed.  
Organized according to the series, arrangement, and containers from which the items were removed.



# Container List

| <i>Container</i>                  | <i>Contents</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>BOX 1</b><br><b>REEL 1</b>     | <b>Family Correspondence, 1912-1964</b><br><br>Letters between Arthur Spingarn and his family and between other family members. Arranged by name of family member, with files of some family members further subdivided chronologically.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>BOX 1</b><br><b>REEL 1</b>     | Spingarn, Joel (brother)<br><br>To and from Arthur B. Spingarn, 1912-1938<br>To and from others, with notes to Arthur B. Spingarn, 1913-1938<br>To Amy Spingarn (wife of Joel Spingarn), 1914<br>Spingarn, Amy<br>To and from Arthur B. Spingarn, 1941-1963, undated<br>From others, 1954<br>Spingarn, Edward (nephew) and his wife, Elizabeth, 1960-1964<br>Spingarn, Honor (niece), 1951-1964<br>Spingarn, Hope (niece), 1956-1964<br>Spingarn, Stephen (nephew), 1939-1964, undated<br>Various family members, 1937-1964 |
| <b>BOX 2-4</b><br><b>REEL 1-2</b> | <b>Personal Correspondence, 1903-1967</b><br><br>Mostly letters received, with a few carbons of letters sent. Arranged alphabetically by name of individual or by name of organization and therein chronologically. Correspondents mentioning civil rights curtailment during the American occupation of Haiti are identified.                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>BOX 2</b><br><b>REEL 1</b>     | “A” miscellaneous, 1915-1964<br><br>American Social Hygiene Association, 1916-1922<br>“B” miscellaneous, 1916-1967<br>Brooks, Van Wyck and Gladys, 1939-1963, undated<br>“C” miscellaneous, 1916-1963<br>Circle for Negro Relief, 1917-1921<br>“D-G” miscellaneous, 1915-1967<br>(4 folders)<br>Gruening, Ernest (on Haiti), 1923-1924<br>“H” miscellaneous, 1916-1966                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>BOX 3</b><br><b>REEL 1</b>     | “I-J” miscellaneous, 1922-1964<br><br>Jolibois, J. (on Haiti), 1923-1924<br>“K-L” miscellaneous, 1915-1966<br>(2 folders)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

## Personal Correspondence, 1903-1967

### Container

### Contents

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|                  |                                                                                                                                  |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                  | Letters From Port Au Prince, Haiti, unsigned, 1923                                                                               |
|                  | Letters to the editor from Spingarn (on Haiti), 1925                                                                             |
|                  | “M” miscellaneous, 1915-1966                                                                                                     |
|                  | Mumford, Lewis, 1929-1944, undated                                                                                               |
|                  | “N” miscellaneous, 1916-1964                                                                                                     |
|                  | New York State Commission Against Discrimination, 1948-1953                                                                      |
|                  | New York Tuberculosis and Health Association, 1950-1954<br>(2 folders)                                                           |
|                  | “O-S” miscellaneous, 1911-1965<br>(3 folders)                                                                                    |
| <b>BOX 4</b>     | Sylvain, Georges (on Haiti), 1923-1924, undated                                                                                  |
| <b>REEL 2</b>    |                                                                                                                                  |
|                  | Sylvain, Normil Georges, 1923-1925, undated                                                                                      |
|                  | “T-V” miscellaneous, 1920-1966                                                                                                   |
|                  | Thoby, Perceval (on Haiti), 1923-1927                                                                                            |
|                  | Van Vechten, Carl, 1925-1960, undated                                                                                            |
|                  | Villard, Oswald Garrison, 1924                                                                                                   |
|                  | “W-Z” miscellaneous, 1915-1963<br>(2 folders)                                                                                    |
|                  | Young, Art, 1929-1940, undated                                                                                                   |
|                  | Unidentified, 1903-1967                                                                                                          |
| <b>BOX 5-55</b>  | <b>NAACP Files, 1912-1967</b>                                                                                                    |
| <b>REEL 2-50</b> |                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>BOX 5-25</b>  | <b>General Correspondence, 1912-1967</b>                                                                                         |
| <b>REEL 2-22</b> |                                                                                                                                  |
|                  | Letters received and carbons of letters sent.<br>Arranged chronologically by date of the incoming letter or by date of response. |
| <b>BOX 5</b>     | July 1912-Dec. 1919                                                                                                              |
| <b>REEL 2</b>    | (9 folders)                                                                                                                      |
| <b>BOX 6</b>     | Jan. 1920-June 1922                                                                                                              |
| <b>REEL 3</b>    | (6 folders)                                                                                                                      |
| <b>BOX 7</b>     | July 1922-May 1925                                                                                                               |
| <b>REEL 4</b>    | (7 folders)                                                                                                                      |
| <b>BOX 8</b>     | June 1925-Dec. 1928                                                                                                              |
| <b>REEL 5</b>    | (6 folders)                                                                                                                      |
| <b>BOX 9</b>     | Jan. 1929-Oct. 1930                                                                                                              |
| <b>REEL 6</b>    | (7 folders)                                                                                                                      |
| <b>BOX 10</b>    | Nov. 1930-Apr. 1932                                                                                                              |
| <b>REEL 7</b>    | (9 folders)                                                                                                                      |
| <b>BOX 11</b>    | May 1932-Dec. 1933                                                                                                               |

## NAACP Files, 1912-1967

| <i>Container</i> | <i>Contents</i>                                |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| REEL 8           | (8 folders)                                    |
| BOX 12           | Jan. 1934-Apr. 1935                            |
| REEL 9           | (8 folders)                                    |
| BOX 13           | May 1935-Dec. 1936                             |
| REEL 10          | (8 folders)                                    |
| BOX 14           | Jan. 1937-Sept. 1938                           |
| REEL 11          | (8 folders)                                    |
| BOX 15           | Oct. 1938-Feb. 1940                            |
| REEL 12          | (6 folders)                                    |
| BOX 16           | Mar. 1940-Oct. 1941                            |
| REEL 13          | (7 folders)                                    |
| BOX 17           | Nov. 1941-Sept. 1943                           |
| REEL 14          | (7 folders)                                    |
| BOX 18           | Oct. 1943-Aug. 1945                            |
| REEL 15          | (7 folders)                                    |
| BOX 19           | Sept. 1945-July 1948                           |
| REEL 16          | (7 folders)                                    |
| BOX 20           | Aug. 1948-Dec. 1950                            |
| REEL 17          | (8 folders)                                    |
| BOX 21           | Jan. 1951-Mar. 1952                            |
| REEL 18          | (5 folders)                                    |
| BOX 22           | Apr. 1952-Mar. 1954                            |
| REEL 19          | (6 folders)                                    |
| BOX 23           | Apr. 1954-Dec. 1958                            |
| REEL 20          | (7 folders)                                    |
| BOX 24           | Jan. 1959-Aug. 1962                            |
| REEL 21          | (6 folders)                                    |
| BOX 25           | Sept. 1962-Dec. 1967                           |
| REEL 22          | (5 folders)<br>Fragments, 1915-1935<br>Undated |

**NAACP Files, 1912-1967**

*Container*

*Contents*

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**BOX 26-30**  
**REEL 22-26**

**Subject File, 1912-1966**

Carbons of letters from the NAACP, minutes of meetings, statements, reports, memoranda, lists, congressional bills and other congressional material, and legal documents.  
Arranged alphabetically by subject and chronologically therein.

**BOX 26**  
**REEL 22**

Administration, 1923-1964, undated

(2 folders)

Amenia conference, Amenia, N.Y., 1916

Annual conference, 1925-1960

Antilynching

1915-1936

**BOX 27**  
**REEL 23**

1937-1949

Archives, 1945, 1951

*Birth of a Nation*, 1915-1939

Board of directors, 1917-1963, undated

Branches and branch problems

General, 1921-1966

(2 folders)

District of Columbia, 1928-1960

**BOX 28**  
**REEL 24**

Phoenix, Ariz., 1941

Chicago, Ill., riots, 1919

Communism, 1947-1951

Constitution and bylaws, 1921-1952

Credit, 1929-1930

Crime, 1920-1932

*Crisis*, 1914-1948

Discrimination and segregation, 1913-1966, undated

(2 folders)

Du Bois, W. E. B., 1915-1948

Economic program for the Negro, 1933

**BOX 29**  
**REEL 25**

Education, 1930-1950, undated

Evers, Medgar, killing of, 1963

Fisk University, Nashville, Tenn., 1934

Funding, 1915-1960, undated

Garland Fund (American Fund for Public Service)

Correspondence, 1930-1935

Minutes, 1935

Reports, 1930-1937

(2 folders)

Haiti, 1920-1931

Harlem, N.Y.

Conditions, 1932

Hospital

|            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|            | Correspondence, 1933-1943                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|            | Minutes, 1933                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|            | Report, 1933                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| BOX 30     | Housing, 1943-1949                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| REEL 26    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|            | Inventions, 1931                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|            | <i>Journal of Negro History</i> , 1920                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|            | Labor, 1930-1963, undated                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|            | Legal Defense and Educational Fund, 1952-1962                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|            | Mob violence, 1917                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|            | New York Vigilance Committee, 1912-1916, undated                                                                                                                                                                                |
|            | Office relocation, 1913                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|            | Ovington, Mary White, portrait, 1935-1936                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|            | Pan-African movement, 1920-1949                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|            | Pickens, William, 1921-1945                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|            | Politics, 1914-1959                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|            | Publicity, 1913-1939                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|            | Shillady, John R., incident, Austin, Tex., 1919                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|            | Southern Tenant Farmers Union, 1935                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|            | Spingarn, Joel, death of, 1939                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|            | Spingarn medal, 1923, 1935-1941                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|            | Sweet, Ossian, 1930                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|            | Tax-exempt status, 1925, 1939                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|            | War taxes, World War II, 1943                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|            | White, Walter Francis, special conference held at "Breakneck Hill," West Redding, Conn., 1950                                                                                                                                   |
|            | Youth councils, 1937-1939                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| BOX 31-35  | <b>Legal File, 1913-1966</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| REEL 27-31 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|            | Letters, briefs, statements, working papers, reports, and trial and hearing transcripts. Arranged alphabetically by case name and chronologically therein.                                                                      |
| BOX 31     | Adams v. Board of Comm'rs of Elections of Columbia, 1932                                                                                                                                                                        |
| REEL 27    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|            | Ades, Bernard, 1933                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|            | Aldridge v. United States, 1931                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|            | Alston v. School Bd. of Norfolk, 1939                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|            | American Civic Opera Co. v. Murray, 1946                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|            | Bailey v. Wilkins, 1950-1951                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|            | Bard and Fleming, 1927                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|            | Before the National Labor Relations Board <i>In re</i> Bethlehem Almeda Shipyard, Inc., and Bethlehem Steel Co. and Bay Cities Metal Trades Council, A.F.L., and United Steel Workers of America Machinists Local 1304, undated |
|            | Bell v. Hill, 1934                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|            | Blake, Louis and Elbert, 1932                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|            | Bliley v. West, 1929-1930                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|            | Bluford v. University of Mo., 1939                                                                                                                                                                                              |

Bowman Street School, Mansfield, Ohio, 1931  
 Briggs v. Elliott, 1951  
 Brookins v. Atlantic Coast Line R. R. and Pullman Co., 1926-1927  
 Brown v. Mississippi, 1936  
 Brown v. Southern Ry., 1947  
 Buchanan v. Warley, and Harris v. City of Louisville, 1915-1926  
 Buckley v. Corrigan, 1923-1926  
 Carey v. City of Atlanta, 1915  
 Carraway v. Mississippi, 1931-1935  
 Cheeks v. Wirt, 1931  
 Clark, J. S., 1932-1934  
 Commonwealth v. Kozlowsky, 1933  
 Congress v. NAACP, 1938  
 Cooper, Ralph, and Collis English (the Trenton Two), 1948-1951  
 County Democratic Executive Comm. in and for Bexar County, Tex. v. Booker [1932]-1940  
 Crawford, George, 1932-1935

BOX 32  
 REEL 28

Curtis v. Buckley, 1924  
 Dukes, Jesse, 1954  
 Elaine, Ark., riot, 1919-1923  
 Elmore v. Rice, 1947  
 Franklin v. South Carolina, 1915-1920  
 Gibbs v. Arras Bros., Inc., 1915-1920  
 Gomez v. Daily News Co., 1930  
 Greathouse v. Board of School Comm'rs of the City of Indianapolis, 1924  
 Grigsby v. Harris, 1928  
 Grovey v. Townsend, 1935-1938  
 Harden v. Pullman Co., 1927  
 Herndon v. Georgia, 1935  
 Hocutt v. Wilson, 1933  
 Hollins, Jess, 1935  
 Jackson v. Maryland, 1915  
 Johnson v. Robicheau, 1923  
 Kraemer v. Shelley, 1946  
 Louisiana Understanding Clause, 1931  
 McCabe v. Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe R. R., 1913-1917  
 (1 folder)  
 (1 folder)

BOX 33  
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McLaurin v. Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Educ., 1950  
 Mills v. Lowndes, 1939  
 Ming v. Horgan, 1958  
 Moore v. Dempsey, 1921-1923  
 Moore v. NAACP, 1966  
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 Murray v. University of Md., 1935-1936  
 NAACP v. Button Virginia, 1963

|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
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| <p>BOX 34<br/>REEL 30</p>       | <p>NAACP v. District of Columbia Branch, NAACP, Inc., 1937-1939<br/>                 Nixon v. Condon, 1928-1938<br/>                     (2 folders)<br/>                 Nixon v. Herndon, 1924-1930<br/>                 Nixon v. McCann, 1931-1934</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <p>BOX 35<br/>REEL 31</p>       | <p>People <i>ex rel</i> Whitfield v. Enright, 1921<br/>                 People of the State of N. Y. v. Janetti, 1932<br/>                 Porter, G. F., 1938<br/>                 Porter v. Barrett, 1925<br/>                 Redmond v. Hyman, 1937-1938<br/>                 Schroeder v. Holt, [1925]<br/>                 Scottsboro, Ala., cases, 1931-1937<br/>                     (3 folders)<br/>                 Simmons v. Board of Educ. of Muskogee, 1938-1939<br/>                 Sipuel v. University of Okla., 1948<br/>                 Sissle, 1936-1938</p> <p>Smith v. Allwright, 1944<br/>                 State v. Jenkins, 1914<br/>                 Stratton v. Posse Normal School of Gymnastics, 1922-1925<br/>                 Sweet, Henry, 1926-[1930]<br/>                 Tobias v. Horn, 1934<br/>                 Trudeau v. Barnes, 1932<br/>                 Tyler v. Harmon, 1925<br/>                 United States v. Sprague, 1930-1931<br/>                 Waring v. Childs Co., 1913<br/>                 Washington v. Florida, 1928<br/>                 Wayt v. Patee, 1926-1928<br/>                 Weaver v. Ohio State Univ., 1933-1934<br/>                 White v. Pasfield, Jr., 1917-1918<br/>                 White v. White, 1929<br/>                 Worthy v. Board of Educ. of the Township for Berkeley in the County of Ocean, N. J., 1927<br/>                 Wrighten v. University of S. C., 1947</p> <p>Miscellaneous<br/>                     Single cases, 1913-1940<br/>                     Multiple cases, 1913-1962<br/>                     Unidentified, 1913-1935</p> |
| <p>BOX 36-37<br/>REEL 32-33</p> | <p><b>Wills and Estates File, 1916-1961</b></p> <p>Correspondence, copies of wills, legal documents, and financial evaluations relating to estates.<br/>                 Arranged alphabetically by name of person, estate, or property, and chronologically therein.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <p>BOX 36<br/>REEL 32</p>       | <p>Adler, Morton L., 1940-1950</p> <p>Balis, Lola A., 1938</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

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     Correspondence, 1939-1943  
     Legal papers, 1928-1932  
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Schenck, Louie A., 1958  
 Schott, May, 1955  
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 Singleton, H. E. L., 1921  
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 Stern, Madeleine S., 1933  
 Terrell, Eleanor K., 1936-1940  
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     Correspondence, 1926-1932  
     Legal papers, 1931-1932

BOX 37  
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## NAACP Files, 1912-1967

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Whitehead, Mamie A., 1950  
Williams, Daniel H.  
    Correspondence, 1931-1938  
    Legal papers, 1928-1934  
Wilson, Emily T., 1943  
Woodlin, William J., 1932-1933  
Young, Clara A., 1929  
Unidentified, [1940]

**BOX 36-37**  
**REEL 34-35**

#### ***Crisis* File, 1921-1967**

Typed drafts of editorials and financial reports of the *Crisis* magazine, the official organ of the NAACP.  
Arranged alphabetically by type of material and chronologically therein.

**BOX 38**  
**REEL 34**

Editorials, 1921-1953

(16 folders)

**BOX 39**  
**REEL 35**

Financial papers, 1922-1967

(8 folders)

**BOX 40-51**  
**REEL 36-47**

#### **Minutes of Meetings and Reports, 1915-1967**

Minutes of meetings of the board of directors and committees of the NAACP and reports by officers and departments of the organization.  
Arranged alphabetically by type of material, then according to the reporting body or office, and chronologically therein.

**BOX 40**  
**REEL 36**

Minutes

Board of Directors  
    1915-1939  
    (6 folders)

**BOX 41**  
**REEL 37**

1940-1947

(6 folders)

**BOX 42**  
**REEL 38**

1948-1955

(5 folders)

**BOX 43**  
**REEL 39**

1956-1967, undated

(6 folders)

**BOX 44**  
**REEL 40**

Branch Committee, 1949-1959

Committee on Administration, 1927-1963  
Committee on Branches and Youth Work, 1956-1957  
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NAACP Files, 1912-1967

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|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|            | Miscellaneous meetings, 1920-1963                                                                                                                                |
|            | Reports                                                                                                                                                          |
|            | Acting Secretary to the Committee on Administration, 1929-1947                                                                                                   |
|            | Department of Branches                                                                                                                                           |
|            | 1924-1939                                                                                                                                                        |
| BOX 45     | 1940-1945                                                                                                                                                        |
| REEL 41    |                                                                                                                                                                  |
|            | Department of Special Research, 1945-1947                                                                                                                        |
|            | Field work, 1919-1936                                                                                                                                            |
|            | General Counsel, 1958-1967                                                                                                                                       |
|            | (2 folders)                                                                                                                                                      |
|            | Legal Defense and Educational Fund                                                                                                                               |
|            | Monthly, 1950-1959, Jan.                                                                                                                                         |
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| BOX 46     | Docket                                                                                                                                                           |
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|            | Sept. 1960-Apr. 1967                                                                                                                                             |
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| BOX 47     | June-Oct. 1967                                                                                                                                                   |
| REEL 43    |                                                                                                                                                                  |
|            | Legal Department, 1935-1952                                                                                                                                      |
|            | (3 folders)                                                                                                                                                      |
|            | Secretary to the Board of Directors                                                                                                                              |
|            | 1919-1929                                                                                                                                                        |
| BOX 48     | 1930-1944                                                                                                                                                        |
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|            | (5 folders)                                                                                                                                                      |
| BOX 49     | 1945-1954                                                                                                                                                        |
| REEL 45    |                                                                                                                                                                  |
|            | (5 folders)                                                                                                                                                      |
| BOX 50     | 1955-1962                                                                                                                                                        |
| REEL 46    |                                                                                                                                                                  |
|            | (5 folders)                                                                                                                                                      |
| BOX 51     | 1963-1967                                                                                                                                                        |
| REEL 47    |                                                                                                                                                                  |
|            | (2 folders)                                                                                                                                                      |
|            | Veterans' Affairs Office, 1945                                                                                                                                   |
|            | Washington Bureau, 1943-1967                                                                                                                                     |
|            | (4 folders)                                                                                                                                                      |
|            | Youth secretary, 1941-1945                                                                                                                                       |
|            | Miscellaneous                                                                                                                                                    |
|            | Special or <i>ad hoc</i> , 1914-1964                                                                                                                             |
|            | Staff, 1920-1963                                                                                                                                                 |
| BOX 52-55  | <b>Financial Papers, 1915-1967</b>                                                                                                                               |
| REEL 48-50 |                                                                                                                                                                  |
|            | Income statements, expense statements, budget statements, treasurers' reports, general financial statements, budget sheets, and miscellaneous financial reports. |
|            | Chronologically arranged.                                                                                                                                        |

## NAACP Files, 1912-1967

### Container

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|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| BOX 52<br>REEL 48       | 1915-1940<br><br>(12 folders)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| BOX 53<br>REEL 49       | 1941-1951<br><br>(11 folders)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| BOX 54<br>REEL 50       | 1952-1960<br><br>(9 folders)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| BOX 55<br>REEL 50       | 1961-1967<br><br>(6 folders)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| BOX 56-60<br>REEL 51-53 | <b>Miscellany, 1850-1970</b><br><br>Personal and NAACP material including correspondence to and from individuals other than Spingarn, speeches and writings, income tax material, lists, legal documents, depositions, proceedings, reports, statements, complaints, affidavits, notes, and photographs. Arranged by type of material.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| BOX 56<br>REEL 51       | Correspondents other than Spingarn<br><br>Studin, Charles H., 1915-1922<br>Studin, Charles H., and Leon Mintz, letters relating to the Circle for Negro Relief, 1918-1920<br>Various, 1915-1966<br>Letter fragments, 1930-1960<br>Speeches<br>Spingarn, Arthur, 1918-1962<br>Harriman, W. Averell, 1953<br>White, Walter Francis, 1930-1954<br>Wilkins, Roy, 1949-1956<br>NAACP staff, 1940-1962<br>Unknown, 1940<br>Wills, Brooks, Van Wyck, 1952, 1957<br>Writings<br>Nash, Roy, 1916<br>Ovington, Mary White, 1934<br>Pickens, William, 1925-1942<br>White, Walter Francis, 1943-1954 |
| BOX 57<br>REEL 51       | Book review drafts for the <i>Crisis</i> , 1955-1963<br><br>Collaboration contract, Langston Hughes, 1931<br>Income tax<br>Brooks, Van Wyck, 1941-1945<br>Du Bois, W. E. B., 1943<br>White, Walter Francis, 1926                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

## Miscellany, 1850-1970

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List of commissioners in other states authorized by the New York state legislature to transact legal business pertaining to the State of New York in other states, 1850

Publication contract, Van Wyck Brooks (*The Flowering of New England*, 1865-1915), 1936

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Legal papers, 1918

Minutes of meetings, 1918-1920

Miscellaneous material, [1918-1920]

Printed matter, [1918]

New York State Commission Against Discrimination, 1950-1953, undated

New York Tuberculosis and Health Association, 1950-1952

Haiti, civil rights, 1923-1932

Personal material

BOX 58

REEL 52

Canceled checks, credit balances, receipts, notes, contract, agreement, material relating to James Weldon Johnson, etc., 1883-1966, undated

Invitations and related material, NAACP functions, 1917-1967, undated  
(2 folders)

Invitations, thank-you notes, etc., 1934-1964, undated

NAACP

Contracts, statements, lists, citations, daily mail sheets, notes, reports, mimeographed material, legal documents, resolutions, etc.

1916-1959

(2 folders)

1960-1967

BOX 59

REEL 52-53

(2 folders)

Partial draft of *Study of Negro Troops in World War II*, by Jean Byers, 1945-1946

Non-NAACP

Resolutions, bills, ordinances, articles, statements, lists, legal documents, songs, press releases, reports, mimeographed material, etc.

1913-1942

1943-1966, undated

BOX 60

REEL 53

(3 folders)

Photographs

Spingarn, Arthur B., 1970

Young, Art (cartoonist), undated

BOX 61-66

REEL 53-58

### Printed Matter, 1911-1967

Press releases, legislative bills, pamphlets, programs, announcements, magazine and journal articles, and newspapers and newspaper clippings.

Organized into three groupings; NAACP, non-NAACP, and newspaper and newspaper clipping files, and therein by subject or type of material.

BOX 61

REEL 53-54

NAACP

**Printed Matter, 1911-1967**

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|                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                    | Press releases, 1920-1967<br>(6 folders)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>BOX 62</b><br><b>REEL 54-55</b> | Annual<br><br>Fellowship Dinner, 1967<br>Conventions, programs, etc., 1913-1967<br>(3 folders)<br>Reports, 1911-1936<br>Branch material, 1915-1964, undated<br>Christmas Seal campaign, 1951-1962                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
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| <b>BOX 64</b><br><b>REEL 56-57</b> | Non-NAACP<br><br>American hate groups, 1946-[1950s]<br>Antilynching<br>Bills and reports, 1918-1947<br>(2 folders)<br>General, 1916-1937<br><i>Birth of a Nation</i> , 1915<br>Carver, George Washington, 1938<br>Columbia, Tenn., riot, 1946<br>Columbia University, New York, N.Y., fiftieth reunion, class of 1897, 1947<br>Commission on Interracial Cooperation, 1926<br>Congress of Racial Equality, 1951, undated<br>Du Bois, W. E. B., 1957                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

- Education, 1925-1960
- Fair Employment Practices Committee rally, 1946
- Grandfather clause on campus, 1929
- Hackley, E. Azalia, 1916-1917
- Harmon Foundation, 1926-1929
- Howard University, Washington, D.C., 1922-1925
- Imhotep National Conferences on Hospital Integration, 1957-1960
- Intermarriage, Washington, D.C., 1914
- Institute of Race Relations, 1934
- Labor and related issues, 1934
- Legal issues, 1932-1935
- Miscellaneous, 1926-1964, undated
- NAACP, history of, 1967 ( *Boston Globe* articles)
  
- National Information Bureau, 1917-1921
- National Urban League, annual reports, 1930-1931
- Negro
  - Books, 1946
  - Soldiers, 1917-1925
- New York, laws, 1914-1951, undated
- New York State Commission Against Discrimination
  - Agenda and reports, 1950-1953
    - (2 folders)
  - Newsletter and reports, 1952-1953
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  - Press releases, 1950-1952
- Pan-African congresses, 1921-1927
- Programs, 1916-1964
- Public health and prisons, 1920-1945
- Tobias, David E., 1911-1920
- Wilkins, Roy, 1949-1958
  
- Newspapers and newspaper clippings, 1915-1964 *See Oversize for original material*
  
- Newspapers
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    - St. Louis NAACP Citizen*, June-Aug. 1959 (3 issues)
    - Common Sense*, 1 Nov. 1954; 15 Sept. 1962
    - Daily Bulletin*, 16 Jan. 1943
    - Mobile Labor Journal*, 20 Dec. 1946; 27 Dec. 1946
    - Washington Daily American*, 17 Nov. 1924
    - Washington Daily News*, 13 Feb. 1943
  - Select pages
    - Black Dispatch*, Oklahoma City, Okla., 3 and 24 Sept. 1949; 2 Mar. 1955
    - Chicago Defender*, 17 Dec. 1949
    - Journal and Guide*, Norfolk, Va., 4 Dec. 1937; 18 Mar. 1950
    - Memphis World*, Memphis, Tenn., 19 Nov. 1935
    - St. Louis Argus*, St. Louis, Mo., 7 Sept. 1923

BOX 65  
REEL 57-58

BOX 66  
REEL 58

*Union*, Cincinnati, Ohio, 3 Mar. 1933; 19 Mar. 1942

Clippings

Antilynching, 1916-1940, undated

"Behind the Iron Curtain--USA," articles by Constance Webb, 1959

*Birth of a Nation*, 1915-1916, undated

Crime, 1917-1931, undated

East Saint Louis, Ill., riot, 1917

Education, 1943

Haiti, 1923-1925, undated

Harlem Hospital, New York, N.Y., 1933

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Legal cases, 1916-1952

Miscellaneous, [1920s-1950s]

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Negroes in Franklin D. Roosevelt's administration, 1941-1943

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Voting, 1921-1940

White, Walter Francis, 1934-1955

(2 folders)

Wills and estates, 1929-1931

**BOX 66**

Not filmed

**Addition, 1915-1968**

A certificate, a legal document, printed matter, and annotated books by Spingarn. Organized alphabetically by title of publication or type of material.

**BOX 66**

Not filmed

*A Catalog of First Editions and Rare Books*, James F. Drake, Inc., 1926

Certificate issued to Spingarn, Supreme Court, 1926 *See Oversize*

*Laws Relating To Sex Morality In New York City*, by Arthur Spingarn, 1915

*Laws Relating To Sex Morality In New York City*, by Arthur Spingarn, revised edition, by Bruce Cobb, 1926

Newspaper clipping, *New York Age*, 1954

Power of attorney, H. Herman Zand, 1968

**BOX OV 1-OV 2**

**REEL 58**

**Oversize, 1915-1964**

Newspapers, newspaper clippings, and certificate issued to Spingarn by the Supreme Court. The certificate has not been filmed.

Organized according to the series, arrangement, and containers from which the items were removed.

## Oversize, 1915-1964

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### *Contents*

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**BOX OV 1**

Newspapers and newspaper clippings, 1915-1964 (Container 66)

**REEL 58**

**BOX OV 2**

Certificate issued to Spingarn, Supreme Court, 1926 (Container 67)

Not filmed