Guide to the Records of the Metropolitan Los Angeles Conference on Employment Problems of the Negro

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Descriptive Summary
Title: Metropolitan Los Angeles Conference on Employment Problems of the Negro records
Date: 1940-1941
Collection Number: MS-R129
Creator: Metropolitan Los Angeles Conference on Employment Problems of the Negro
Extent: 0.1 linear feet (1 box)
Languages: The collection is in English.
Repository: University of California, Irvine. Library. Special Collections and Archives.
Irvine, California 92623-9557
Abstract: The collection comprises records from the Metropolitan Los Angeles Conference on Employment Problems of the Negro held in Los Angeles, California in 1940. The bulk of the material was produced by the conference's Findings Committee, including a conference event program, annotated conference transcripts, committee meeting notes, findings, recommendations, and an unpublished report.
Access
The collection is open for research.
Publication Rights
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Preferred Citation
For the benefit of current and future researchers, please cite any additional information about sources consulted in this collection, including permanent URLs, item or folder descriptions, and box/folder locations.
Acquisition Information
Unknown.
Processing History
Processed by Cyndi Shein, 2008.
Historical Background
The Metropolitan Los Angeles Conference on Employment Problems of the Negro was sponsored by the California Department of Employment and cooperating agencies. It met on December 2, 1940 at the University of Southern California under the direction of Lieutenant Lawrence A. Oxley. It was one of at least fifteen conferences held around the nation with the goal of improving the welfare and employment opportunities of African Americans. Conference participants included representatives from the Social Security Board and the California Department of Employment.

The Findings Committee was formed to voice the hopes and plans of conference attendees and communicate the potential of the African American labor force to prospective employers. The committee was composed of representatives of labor, industry, and the government, including Emerson Spear, vice president, Pacific Wire Rope Company; Dr. Emory S. Bogardus, head of the Department of Sociology, USC; Gordon S. Watkins, dean of the College of Letters and Sciences, UCLA; G.L. Huff, employment officer, Merchants and Manufacturers Association, Los Angeles; Floyd C. Covington, executive director, the Urban League of Los Angeles; Thomas L Griffith Jr., president of the Los Angeles NAACP (1932-1948); Paul R. Williams, architect; Arthur E. Wood, manager, Los Angeles office, California Department of Employment; H. D. Huxley, assistant regional representative, Social Security Board; H. B. MacAfee, Public Relations Department, California Department of Employment. Findings Committee meetings took place in the office of Arthur E. Wood.

Collection Scope and Content Summary
The collection comprises records from the Metropolitan Los Angeles Conference on Employment Problems of the Negro, which was held in Los Angeles, California in 1940. The bulk of the material was produced by the conference's Findings Committee, including a conference event program, annotated conference transcripts, committee meeting notes, findings, and recommendations. It also includes a conference report, written by the Findings Committee in 1941, accompanied by instructions to a printer. The report was never published.

Collection Arrangement
This collection is arranged in alphabetical order by type of record.
Box : Folder 1 : 1  Conference program 1940
Box : Folder 1 : 2  Conference program invoice for printing 1941
Conference report
Box : Folder 1 : 3  Final draft and notes 1941
Scope and Content Note
Report includes the Findings Committee's recommendations and an annotated "Final Copy" of the conference transcript.

Box : Folder 1 : 4  Printer's samples 1941
Conference transcript, annotated drafts
Box : Folder 1 : 5  Copy belonging to committee member Emerson Spear 1940
Box : Folder 1 : 6  Copy belonging to committee member Thomas L. Griffith Jr. 1940
Findings Committee
Box : Folder 1 : 7  Meeting notes and lists of attendees 1941
Box : Folder 1 : 8  Recommendations, findings, and list of committee members 1941
Research files
Box : Folder 1 : 9  Michigan State Conference, Negro Employment Problems: postcard, form letter, and quotes from sponsors 1940