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Edward Strong Papers

167-1 to 167-8

Prepared by:
Helen Rutt
June 1994

SCOPE NOTE

The papers of Edward E. Strong (1914-1957), youth organizer, span the period from 1924 to 1956 and measure approximately three linear feet. The bulk of the papers covers the period from 1937 to 1956. Throughout most of his career, Strong held offices in such organizations as the Southern Negro Youth Congress (S.N.Y.C.), the Communist Party, and the National Negro Congress. This collection documents Strong's involvement with these and other groups. It also consists of some family papers, most of which document Augusta Jackson Strong's involvement in S.N.Y.C.

In 1986 Denise Strong Janha donated the papers to Moorland- Spingarn. In 1989 Phillis Strong McKenzie added to the collection.

Biographical Data

Edward E. Strong

- 1914 July 28 Born in Texarkana, Texas to Julia Oglesby and Edward E. Strong
- 1936 Received A.B. from Central College, Chicago, Illinois
- 1936 Studied political science at Howard University
- 1936 Elected head of the youth division of the National Negro Congress (NNC)
- 1937 Elected Executive Secretary of the newly formed Southern Negro Youth Congress
- 1938 Married Augusta Jackson; Three daughters, Denise, Phillis, and Alison
- 1941-1945 Served in the U.S. Army
- 1945 Resumed work with NNC as Executive Secretary
- 1948 Became Organizational Secretary of the National Negro Congress
- 1949 Accepted position as Chairman of the Communist Party of Eastern Pennsylvania
- 1957 April 9 Died of cancer in New York

Source: Edward E. Strong Papers, Moorland-Spingarn Research Center, Howard University, Box 167-2, Writings about Edward Strong
Telephone interview with Denise Strong Janha. 20 June 1994.

Series Description

- Series A** **Personal and Family Papers**
Box 167-1 Contains correspondence and writings by Augusta Jackson Strong, Edward Strong's wife.
- Series B** **Correspondence**
Box 167-1 Consists of letters and telegrams emanating from Strong's tenure in the S.N.Y.C., mostly between Strong and other S.N.Y.C. officials. See Series A, Personal and Family Papers for Augusta Strong and Earline Balton's correspondence; See Series E, Southern Negro Youth Congress, for other S.N.Y.C. officers' correspondence.
- Series C** **Writings by Edward E. Strong**
Box 167-1 Includes open letters, newspapers and journal articles, reports and notes, to Box 167-2 concerning causes such as communism, war, and labor.
- Series D** **Writings about Edward E. Strong**
Box 167-2 Contains programs and articles about his participation in conferences and other events.
- Series E** **Southern Negro Youth Congress**
Box 167-2 Includes correspondence of S.N.Y.C. officials, conference and board to Box 167-4 meeting materials, resolutions, and printed matter. Also contains documentation compiled about blacks in Alabama for Gunnar Myrdal's An American Dilemma. See Series I, Photographs, for images of S.N.Y.C. events; See Series J, Oversize, for other S.N.Y.C. printed matter.
- Series F** **Communist Party USA**
Box 167-4 Consists of reports, resolutions, study discussion guides, and printed matter to Box 167-5 from both the national and state parties.
- Series G** **Subject files/organizations**
Box 167-5 Contains materials from Organizations with which Strong was associated. to Box 167-7 Among these are the N.A.A.C.P., National Negro Congress, and several labor groups.

Series Description

- Series H** **Writings by Others**
Box 167-7 Consists of unpublished writings by Strong's associates, including Esther V. Cooper and James E. Jackson.
- Series I** **Photographs**
Box 167-7 Images document S.N.Y.C. and other youth group activities.
- Series J** **Oversize**
Box 167-8 Cavalcade and S.N.Y.C. broadsides.

Container List

Series A Personal and Family Papers

Box Folder

- 167-1 1 Earline Balton - correspondence
 2 Augusta Strong - sketch
 3 Augusta Strong - correspondence
 4 Writings by August Jackson Strong
 5 Writings by August Jackson Strong – book reviews
 6 Programs (concert, theatre, politics)

Series B Correspondence

- 7 B-C
8 D-H
9 Burnham, Louis
10 J-M
11 O-W, recipient unknown
12 Yergan, Max 1937-1938
13 Yergan, Max 1939
14 Yergan, Max 1940-1941

Series C Writings by Edward E. Strong

- 15 "Annual Report of Edward Strong, National Secretary" Presented at Second All-Southern Negro Youth Conference, Chattanooga, TN April 1938
16 "The Daily Worker and the Middle East Crisis." Daily Worker, 27 Nov. 1956, 4-5. [includes readers' responses]
17 "The Detroit Insurrection: An Attack Upon the War Effort and the Negro People." Congress Vue 1(Aug. 1943): 1,6.
18 "The 40th Annual NAACP Conference." [co-author with William Taylor]
19 "The Influence of the Socialist and Communist Parties on the American Negro."
20 Letter to Congressman Martin Dies. In S.N.Y.C. Press release 31 Oct. 1939.
21 Letter to the Platform Committee of the Republican Party. In S.N.Y.C. Press release 19 June 1940.
22 "Liberty and Political Obligation in the Soviet Union."
23 "A Message from the Executive Secretary." In souvenir program of the Fourth All-Southern Negro Youth Conference April 1940.
24 "The Negro and the Fight for Victory." Address delivered at the Eastern Seaboard Conference on the Problems of the War and the Negro People 10 April 1943.
25 "Negro-Labor Unity for Victory in the 48 Elections."
26 "The Negro People and the 1944 Elections." Congress Vue 1(Aug. 1943): 7-8.

Container List

Series E	Southern Negro Youth Congress
Box	Folder
167-2	21 Outline
	22 Research materials
	23 Research materials
	24 Research materials
	25 Research materials
	26 Research materials
	27 Research materials
	28 Research materials
	<u>All-Southern Negro Youth Conferences</u>
167-3	29 Richmond 1937
	1 Birmingham 1939
	2 New Orleans 1940
	3 Tuskegee 1942
	4 Atlanta 1944
	5 Columbia, SC 1946
	6 Resolutions
	7 Draft Constitution
	8 Histories
	9 Speeches of Edward Weaver
	10 American Youth Delegation to Cuba 1941
	11 National Council Meetings 1939-1944
	12 Executive Board meeting March 1946
	13 Executive Board meeting Dec. 1946
	14 Executive Board meeting Jan. 1948
	15 Greater Birmingham Youth Conference 1943
	16 Southern Youth Legislature 1948
	17 Johnny Craft Case 1946
	18 <u>Cavalcade</u> - supporting material
	19 <u>Cavalcade</u> - Oct. and Nov. 1941 issues
	20 Press releases
	21 Press releases and statements
	22 Petitions, applications, proposals
	23 Fliers, notices
	24 Financial papers
	25 Programs
	26 News bulletins 1939-1948
	27 "Memorandum on the Constitutionality of Poll Taxes" 1940

Container List

- Series E Southern Negro Youth Congress**
Box Folder
167-4 1 "Prospectus of the Association of Young Writers & Artists."
 2 Pledge cards, membership drives
 3 Booklets
 4 Manuals
 5 Clippings
 6 Clippings
 7 Clippings
 8 Clippings
- Series F Communist Party USA**
 9 Reports
 10 Reports
 11 Reports
 12 Reports
 13 Reports, resolutions concerning plans in the South
 14 Reports, resolutions concerning plans in the South
 15 The Lost and Found Sheep Educational Club
 16 Club discussion guides, questions
 17 Discussion article
 18 Study outline - "History of the American Negro People 1619-1918."
 19 Book outline, notes
 20 Reprints and summary of articles from Political Affairs
 21 Trial of the 12 Communists in New York
 22 Fliers, notices
- Series G Subject files/organizations**
 State Parties
167-5 1 Alabama
 2 Eastern Pennsylvania and Delaware
 3 Florida
 4 Florida - clippings and news accounts
 5 New York
 6 Texas
 7 Virginia - "The Path to Victory in Virginia"
 8 Virginia - leaflets, newsletters
 9 Alabama Council on Human Relations
 10 American Friends Service Committee, Inc.
 11 American Youth Congress
 12 Bar (legal) committees
 13 Census data (Southern U.S.) and demographic studies

Container List

Series G	Subject files/organizations
	<u>State Parties</u>
Box	Folder
167-5	14 <u>Color Line</u>
	15 Committee to Free the Trenton Six
	16 Council on African Affairs
	17 Cuba
	18 Cuba - Agriculture
	19 Detroit Youth Council
	20 Du Bois, W.E.B.
	21 Illinois-Midwest Negro People's Assembly to Draft Roosevelt
	22 Independent Citizen's Committee to Elect Ada B. Jackson
	23 International Labor Defense
	24 Ku Klux Klan
	25 March on Washington
	26 Montgomery Improvement Association
167-6	1 Monthly journal - notes, prospectus
	<u>N.A.A.C.P.</u>
	2 Tennessee State Conference 1955
	3 Copies of correspondence
	4 Reports, resolutions, press releases
	5 Communiques between local and national offices
	6 38 th Annual Conference 1947
	7 39 th Annual Conference 1948
	8 40 th Annual Conference 1949
	9 41 st Annual Conference 1950
	10 Handbooks
	11 Brochures
	12 National Committee to Defend Negro Leadership
	13 National Committee to Free the Ingram Family
	14 National Conference of Negro Youth
	15 National Council of Negro Women
	16 The National Movement for Establishment of a 49 th State
	<u>National Negro Congress</u>
	17 Correspondence
	18 Meetings, constitution, resolutions, reports, work sheets
	19 Manual of organization, constitution
	20 Petitions
	21 Fliers, brochures
	22 Informational booklets

Container List

Series G **Subject files/organizations**

State Parties

- | | |
|-------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Box | Folder |
| 167-6 | 23 Press releases
24 <u>Congress View</u> Aug. 1943-Aug. 1944 |
| 167-7 | 1 <u>Congress View</u> Sept. 1944-March 1946
2 National Publication Society of America
3 Negro Trade Unionists Committee
4 Political campaigns
5 Progressive Party
6 Robeson, Paul
7 Southern Conference Educational Fund, Inc.
8 Southern Conference for Human Welfare
9 Student Conference on Negro Student Problems
10 Tennessee Valley
11 Textiles
12 Textiles
13 Till, Emmett case
14 Trade Unions
15 United Negro and Allied Veterans of America
16 Winston, Henry |

Series H **Writings by Others**

- 17 Drake, St. Clair. "Negro Veteran and the Church"
- 18 Jackson, Esther Cooper. "Historic London Conference Unites Youth of World."
- 19 Jackson, James E. "Negro Youth! Into the Armed Forces by the Tens of Thousands."
- 20 Wright, Ann and Harriet Lee. re: Economic status of the Negro working woman.
- 21 Author unknown. "A Brief History of the Organizing Struggles of the Workers in the R.J. Reynolds Plants in Winston Salem, N.C. Since 1942."
- 22 -----."Democracy is Indivisible."
- 23 -----. "Historical Aspects of the Struggle for Negro Freedom in N.J."
- 24-----. "Legislative Proposal for Amendments and Revision of Railway Labor Act."
- 25 -----. "My Past Experiences in Southern Struggles." (folder 1 of 2)
- 26 -----. "My Past Experiences in Southern Struggles." (folder 2 of 2)
- 27-----. "Sam Hall."
- 28 Poetry

Container List

Series I

Photographs

Box

Folder

167-7

29 S.N.Y.C. people and events

30 Second World Youth Congress in Poughkeepsie, NY 1938

31 Cuba 1941

32 Share croppers in East Texas 1955

33 Schools in Tatum District

34 Patel, Rajni; Lo Tsei

35 Unidentified groups

Series J

Oversize

167-8

Cavalcade April 1941

May 1941

June 1941

May 1942 [photocopy]

S.N.Y.C. broadside - National Anti-Poll Tax Week Proclamation May 1941

S.N.Y.C. broadside - Fourth of July Declaration for Negro Youth July 1942

Peekskill brochure issued by Progressive Party [photocopy]