Gladys Dena Freeman Cahn, 1901-1964


0.6 linear feet

(in one standard-size and one half-size manuscript box)

Biographical Notes

March 19, 1901  b. Chicago, daughter of Meyer M. and Sarah Gans Freeman
1918-1920  Attended Simmons College and the University of Wisconsin
1922  Married Moise S. Cahn
1938-1949  President, Parent-Teacher Association, Newman School, New Orleans, Louisiana
1940-1944  President, New Orleans Section, National Council of Jewish Women
1948-1951  President, New Orleans Urban League
1949-1955  National first vice president, National Council of Jewish Women
1950-1953  Board member, National Urban League
1951-1954  President, International Council of Jewish Women
1952-1953  President, Louisiana Conference on Social Welfare
1954-1956  President, Louisiana Organizations for State Legislation
1955-1959  President, National Council of Jewish Women
1956-1960  Executive board member, U. S. Commission for UNESCO
1960  Secretary, Louisiana Advisory Committee, U. S. Civil Rights Commission
early 1960's  Board member, Save Our Schools, New Orleans
1964  d. New Orleans
Gladys Dena Freeman Cahn, 1901-1964

Papers, 1939-1965 and n.d.

Scope Note

The papers are contained in two boxes measuring about 0.6 linear feet. There are four series; Series I is biographical information, Series II is African-American-related topics, primarily speeches given by Cahn when she was an official of the National Urban League (1950-1953) or the New Orleans Urban League (1948-1951), Series III, almost all of which are records of the National Council of Jewish Women, which she served as National President, 1955-1959, and Series IV, an honor from the Louisiana Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The principal topics of the Urban League speeches are social welfare, equal rights for black Americans, and desegregation. Fragments of speeches occupy two folders. There is one folder each of pamphlets and other material about the Urban League. There is one folder of press clippings, other writings by Cahn, and two photographs of her. The National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) records consists of minutes and reports of the NCJW National Conventions from June 1955, to January 1957. Also included are the records of the “Workshop on Self-Evaluation” presented by the NCJW in October 1952, while Cahn served as National First Vice-President, and a capsule history of the NCJW, presented in 1954.
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Papers, 1939-1965 and n.d.

Shelf List

Box 1

Series I  Biographical Data

1/1  Biographical Data, 1958-1965. 3 items

Series II  Urban League

1/2  Speeches, ca. 1952-ca. 1962 and n.d. 11 items
1/14  Other Writings, ca., 1942 and January 2, 1958. 4pp.
1/15  Photographs, n.d. 2 items.
1/16  Material on Urban League, 1939-1952. 6 items
1/17  Twenty-five Year Anniversary Pamphlet, 1963. 1 item
1/18  Press Clippings, July 3, 1954 and April 27, 1963 and n.d. 5 sheets

Series III  National Council of Jewish Women

Box 2

2/1  1952-1954:
   Workshop on self-evaluation, October 1952. 91 pp.
   Highlights of address by Dr. Nathan E. Cohen about the Workshop on
   “The March of Council, 1893-1954,” capsule history of the National

2/2  March 25, 1955:
   Rules to Govern Meeting of the Post Convention Board of Directors.
   1 p.
   Post Convention Board Meeting of the National Board of Directors,
June 7-9, 1955:
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of the National Board of Directors. 12 pp.
Report of the Chairman of the Executive Committee to the Executive Committee of the National Board of Directors. 5 pp.
Report to the Executive Committee of the National Board of Directors. 3 pp.
Report of the Executive Director to the Executive Committee of the National Board of Directors. 18 pp.
Agenda of the Executive Committee of the National Board of Directors. 1 p.
Report of the Treasurer to the Executive Committee of the National Board of Directors. 12 pp.
Report of the Committee to Search for Executive Director to the Executive Committee. 2 pp.
Progress Report of Office Survey Committee to the Executive Committee. 3 pp.
Report on Retention Survey to the Executive Committee. 2 pp.
Report of the Committee to Select the Next Convention City to the Executive Committee. 2 pp.
Grant Request of the Fund for the Republic. 3 pp.

October 4-7, 1955:
Minutes of the Meeting of the National Board of Directors. 20 pp.
Agenda of the Meeting of the National Board of Directors. 2 pp.
Report of the National President to the National Board of Directors. 9 pp.
Report of the Executive Director to the National Board of Directors. 40 pp.
Report of the Treasurer to the National Board of Directors. 4 pp.
Report of the Chairman of the Committee on Finance to the National Board of Directors. 4 pp.
Report of the Committee on Office Survey to the National Board of Directors. 2 pp.
Report of the Personnel Practices Committee to the National Board of Directors. 2 pp.
Report of the National Committee on Public Affairs to the National Board of Directors. 2 pp.
Report of the Membership Committee on Retention Survey to the National Board of Directors. 21 pp.
2/5 January 10-12, 1956:
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of the National Board of Directors. 17 pp.
Agenda of the Executive Committee of the National Board of Directors. 1 p.
Report of the Chairman of the Executive Committee to the Executive Committee of the National Board of Directors. 10 pp.
Report of the Chairman of the Committee on Finance to the Executive Committee of the National Board of Directors. 1 p.
Report of the Treasurer to the Executive Committee of the National Board of Directors. 2 pp.
Budget, n.d. 9 pp.
Report on National Office Administration and Operation to the Executive Committee of the National Board of Directors. 37 pp.
Report of the Meeting of the Committee to Study Status of Regional Presidents, December 6, 1955. 1 p.

2/6 March 17-21, 1956:
Membership Presentation, Plenary Session of the Twenty-second National Convention. 5 pp.
Keynote Address by National President, Gladys F. Cahn. 17 pp.
Minutes, Twenty-second National Convention, National Council of Jewish Women. 31 pp.
Report of the National President to the Pre-Convention Meeting of the National Board of Directors. 13 pp.

2/7 April 10-12, 1956:
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of the National Board of Directors. 15 pp.
Report of the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Executive Committee of the National Board of Directors. 10 pp.
Reports to the Executive Committee. 6 pp.
Progress Report of the Subcommittee on Divisional Planning to the Executive Committee. 7 pp.
July 10-12, 1956:
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of the National Board of Directors. 22 pp.
Report of the Chairman of the Executive Committee to the Executive Committee of the National Board of Directors. 4 pp.
Report of the Chairman of the Committee on Finance to the Executive Committee of the National Board of Directors. 2 pp.
Report of the Treasurer to the Executive Committee of the National Board of Directors. 5 pp.
Report of the Chairman of the Committee on Investments to the Executive Committee of the National Board of Directors. 2 pp.
Plan to the Executive Committee. 3 pp.
Summary of the Convention Program Committee, August 6, 1956. 1 p.
Statement Addressed to the Chairman of the Democratic and Republican Parties, August 15, 1956. 1 p.

October 2-5, 1956:
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of the National Board of Directors. 2 pp.
Minutes of the Meeting of the National Board of Directors. 24 pp.
Final Agenda of the Meeting of the National Board of Directors. 1 p.
Agenda of the Meeting of the National Board of Directors. 5 pp.
Report of the Meeting, Board of Directors. 5 pp.
Report of the National President to the National Board of Directors. 14 pp.
Addendum to the Report of the National Board of Directors. 4 pp.
Report on National Operations to the National Board of Directors, includes,
Report of the Treasurer to the National Board of Directors. 59 pp.

October 2-5, 1956, continued:
Report of the Chairman of the Committee on Finance to the National Board of Directors. 16 pp.
Addendum I, National Office Report to the Board of Directors, Divisional Plan. 7 pp.
Report of the National Board of Directors by the President of the International Council of Jewish Women. 3 pp.
Report of the Special Committee to Study the National Council of Jewish Women in Relation to the Jewish and General Population. 3 pp.
Summary of Progress Report of Convention Program Committee to the National Board of Directors. 2 pp.
Summary of Responses to the Questionnaire Circulated at the October 1956 Board Meeting. 2 pp.
Highlights of the National Board Meeting. 4 pp.
Appendix A: National Office Report to Board of Directors; Survey of Section Questionnaire Responses and Implications. 6 pp.
Appendix B: National Office Report to Board of Directors; National Council of Jewish Women Professional Representation at Outside meetings. 8 pp.
Appendix D: National Office Report to Board of Directors; National Scholarship Program for Section Leadership. 11 pp.
Addendum II: National Office Report to Board of Directors; Regional Conferences. 4 pp.

2/11 December 11-13, 1956:
Minutes of the Executive Committee of the National Board of Directors. 28 pp.
Agenda of the Executive Committee of the National Board of Directors. 1 p.
Report of the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the National Board of Directors. 5 pp.
Statement by Mrs. Moise F. Cahn, President, National Council of Jewish Women, to the Executive Committee, December 12, 1956. 2 pp.
Report to the Executive Committee of the National Board of Directors by the Executive Director. 12 pp.
Revised Report to the Executive Committee by the National Finance Committee. 6 pp.
Report to the Executive Committee by the National Finance Committee. 6 pp
Duties and Responsibilities Relating to the Finance Committee and Financial Officers;

From Organizational By-Laws. 5 pp.
Corrected Report of the Treasurer to the Executive Committee of the National Board of Directors, with Statement of Financial Condition. 12 pp.
Report of the Treasurer to the Executive Committee of the National Board of Directors. 9 pp.
Report to the Executive Committee: Ad Hoc Committee on Volunteer Training. 9 pp.
Statement on the Middle East and Hungary; National Executive Committee of the National Council of Jewish Women, December 13, 1956. 1 p.
Resolution Approved by Presidents Conference of Major Jewish Organizations regarding the Suez Crisis, November 26-27, 1956. 2 pp.
Resolution Supporting Israel by the National Council of Jewish Women, November 27, 1956. 1 p.
Appeal to President Eisenhower on Behalf of Egyptian Jews, November 27, 1956.
January 11-13, 1957:
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of the National Board of Directors. 20 pp.
Addendum, Meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Board of Directors. 1 p.
Agenda of the Executive Committee. 2 pp.
Report of the Chairman of the Executive Committee to the Executive Committee of the National Board of Directors. 11 pp.
Report of the Executive Director to the Executive Committee of the National Board of Directors. 8 pp.
Report of the Treasurer to the Executive Committee of the National Board of Directors. 4 pp.
Report of the Investment Committee to the Executive Committee of the National Board of Directors. 2 pp.
Report on the President’s Conference to the Executive Committee. 2 pp.
National Office Newsletter, April 1957. 5 pp.

Series IV Honor

Plaque presented to Gladys Cahn: “Louisiana State NAACP Salutes Mrs. Moise Cahn for Her Courageous and Untiring Efforts in the Field of Human Relations, July 1, 1953, N. O., La.” 1 item