1979

Dorothy Rodgers Tilly Papers - Accession 235

Dorothy Rodgers Tilly

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I

The papers of Dorothy Rogers Tilly, civil rights activist and church worker from Atlanta, Georgia were received as a gift from Dr. Arnold Shankman on February 5, 1979. A large part of the collection contains duplicate and photocopied material from the Southern Regional Council records now part of the Atlanta University Archives Collection and the Dorothy Rogers Tilly Papers at the Special Collections Department of the Robert W. Woodruff Library of Emory University.

Linear ft. of shelf space occupied: .5
Approximate no. of pieces: 1,000

Restrictions: Open to researchers under the rules and regulations of the Louise Pettus Archives & Special Collections at Winthrop University.

Literary Rights: remain with the donor. For permission to quote from the writings of Dorothy Rodgers Tilly, a researcher seeks the permission from the Atlanta University Archives in Atlanta, Georgia which houses the Southern Regional Council Papers and the Special Collections Department of the Robert W. Woodruff Library which houses the Dorothy Rogers Tilly Papers.

A notice was sent to the NUCMC on February 13, 1979 (see collection control file for any additional notices).

Scope and Content Note: Dorothy Rodgers Tilly (1883-1970) was a Civil rights worker and church worker from Atlanta, Georgia. The collection consists of photocopies (from material in the possession of the Atlanta University Archives and Emory University) of biographical data, reports, correspondence, newspaper and magazine clippings, minutes, speeches, and other papers collected by Dr. Arnold Michael Shankman, Winthrop history department member (1975-1983), who did research on Mrs. Tilly. Most of the collection concerns Mrs. Tilly’s work as a field worker and member of the Fellowship of the Concerned and the Southern Regional Council, with which the Fellowship was affiliated.
### BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

**DOROTHY RODGERS TILLY**

- **June 30, 1883**: Born at Hampton, Georgia
- **1899**: Graduated Reinhardt Junior College, Georgia.
- **1901**: Graduated Wesleyan College, Georgia
- **ca. 1901**: Married Eben Tilly
- **1931**: Joined Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching.
- **1940-1948**: Secretary of Christian Social Relations Committee of the Women’s Society of Christian Service for the Methodist Episcopal Church
- **1944**: Became a field worker and a director of women’s work for the Southern Regional Council.
- **1945**: Appointed President Truman’s Committee on Civil Rights
- **1949**: Founded Fellowship of the Concerned in Atlanta, Georgia
- **1949**: Sent to Israel by the American Christian Palestine Committee to help prepare a report of the internationalization of Jerusalem.
- **1956**: Elected to national committee of American Civil Liberties Union
- **March 16, 1970**: Death

*See Box 1-Folders 1 and 2 for additional biographical information on Dorothy Rogers Tilly.*
III

DESCRIPTION OF SERIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box(es)</th>
<th>Folder(s)</th>
<th>Series</th>
<th>Year(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>BIOGRAPHICAL DATA</td>
<td>1950-1951, 1956, 1964-1978, nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mainly magazine and newspaper articles about Mrs. Tilly, but also included are obituary articles of her death in 1970, short biographical sketches and a draft of a sketch of Mrs. Tilly by Dr. Shankman for the supplement to the <em>Notable American Women</em> to be published by Harvard University Press. In chronological order.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>3-11</td>
<td>CORRESPONDENCE AND RELATED PAPERS CONCERNING DOROTHY ROGERS TILLY</td>
<td>1936, 1945-1972, nd</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Includes newspaper clippings, reports by Mrs. Tilly, minutes financial records, speeches and news released mainly relating to Mrs. Tilly’s work with the Southern Regional Council, particularly the Fellowship of the concerned. Mrs. Tilly served as director of women’s work for the Southern Regional Council and was founder of the Fellowship of the Concerned in 1949. The papers are in chronological order.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>VARIOUS ARTICLES WRITTEN BY MRS. TILLY</td>
<td>1947-1966, nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>These articles concern her work as a Methodist church leader, her activities with the Southern Regional Council, particularly the Fellowship of the Concerned, her interest in the emerging state of Israel, and her general interest in human rights.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>13-14</td>
<td>CORRESPONDENCE OF DR. ARNOLD SHANKMAN RELATING TO MRS. TILLY</td>
<td>1977-1979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>This series concerns Shankman’s research on the life and work of Mrs. Tilly, particularly his efforts to acquire and certify information for his biographical sketch of Mrs. Tilly, which will be published by Harvard University Press in <em>Notable American Women</em>.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>“DOROTHY TILLY CIVIL RIGHTS AND THE METHODIST CHURCH”</td>
<td>1979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A paper by Dr. Arnold Shankman on the life of Mrs. Tilly Published in the <em>Methodist History</em> in 1980.</td>
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