



*New York State Archives*

**New York State Joint Legislative Committee to Investigate  
Seditious Activities Suspected Radical Organizations Seized  
Files L0029**

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## Overview of the Records

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<b>Repository:</b>	New York State Archives
<b>Summary:</b>	The Joint Legislative Committee to Investigate Seditious Activities (known as the "Lusk Committee for its chairman Clayton R. Lusk) seized these records during raids on suspected radical organizations including the Communist Party, the Rand School, the Socialist Party Left Wing Section, and the Workers Defense Unions. Records include correspondence, meeting minutes, organization by-laws, membership lists, receipts, reports, pamphlets, and published articles relating to the philosophy, organization, membership, publications, and activities of both the national organizations and their local branches in New York.
<b>Creator:</b>	New York (State). Legislature. Joint Legislative Committee to Investigate Seditious Activities
<b>Title:</b>	Suspected radical organizations seized files
<b>Quantity:</b>	1 cubic foot
<b>Inclusive Date:</b>	1916-1919
<b>Series:</b>	L0029

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## Arrangement

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Organized into 2 subseries: Subseries 1, Original Records, 1918-1919, 0.5 cubic foot, and Subseries 2, Photostatic Copies of Seized Records, 1916-1919, 0.5 cubic foot, are both arranged alphabetically by name of organization.

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## Scope and Content Note

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The series consists of original and photostatic copies of records from approximately a dozen organizations suspected of radical activities. The records were seized by the committee during raids on the organizations' headquarters in New York City in order to gather information and

evidence about suspected radical groups and individuals. The records include correspondence, meeting minutes, pamphlets, articles, organization and membership lists, and other materials.

The records pertain to the various groups' organization, philosophy, membership, meetings, educational programs, and publications. There is information both on national organizations and their local branches, such as the Communist Party, the Socialist Party, the Union of Russian Workers, and the Workers Defense Union. Some non-English language materials are found in this series.

Subseries 1, Original Records, 1918-1919, 0.5 cubic foot. This subseries pertains to activity of nine suspected radical organizations. The majority of records relate to the Communist Party and to the left wing section of the Socialist Party.

Subseries 2, Photostatic Copies of Seized Records, 1916-1919, 0.5 cubic foot. This subseries pertains to a number of suspected radical organizations. This subseries contains a number of articles appearing in various radical publications and approximately 50 letters, articles, and reports in Russian without translations. Some organizations represented in this subseries are also found in Subseries 1, and while some of these copies duplicate original documents in Subseries 1, most do not.

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## Other Finding Aids

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### Available at Repository

A folder list is available at the repository.

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## Use of Records

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### Access Restrictions

There are no restrictions regarding access to or use of this material.

### Alternate Formats AvailableAlternate Formats Available

Microfilm is available for use at the New York State Archives or through inter-library loan.

Microfilm: 1 roll; 16 mm.

## Administrative Information

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### Custodial History

This series was originally accessioned as part of boxes 17 and 18 of old collection #281, accessions -236 and -237.

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## Access Terms

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- Socialism--New York (State)
- Anti-communist movements--New York (State)
- New York (State)
- Communist parties--United States
- Investigating communism
- Investigating radicalism
- Investigating socialism
- Socialist parties--New York (State)
- Radicalism--New York (State)
- Jewish radicals--United States
- Communist Labor Party of America
- Communist Party of America
- Socialist Party of the United States of America
- Workers Defense Union
- Union of Russian Workers
- Jewish Communist Federation