



BC 1522 RO DUDLEY PAPERS

Collection summary

Creator:	RO (Richard Owen) Dudley
Title:	RO Dudley Papers
Date:	1925-2010
Repository:	UCTScholar
Quantity:	41 archival boxes
Identification:	BC1522
Language(s):	English
Publisher:	UCT Libraries

Abstract:

The organisational and personal papers in this collection are a valuable complement to the history of liberation movements in South Africa in the 1980s and 1990s, and reflect the principled stance of non-collaboration taken by the New Unity Movement to South Africa's negotiated political settlement and first and subsequent democratic elections. The collection also includes some records of the Teachers' League of South Africa (particularly 1938-1950s) and of the Anti-Coloured Affairs Department Movement (1948-1957).

Biography and institutional history

RO (Richard 'Dick' Owen) Dudley (1924-2009) matriculated from Livingstone High School at the age of 15, and enrolled at UCT in 1940. He attained the following degrees: BSc (1942), MSc (1943) and BEd (1944). During a period of banning, he completed a BCom degree in Economics and Economic History at UCT (1963-1966). Shortly before his death, UCT conferred an honorary DEd on Dudley in April 2009. Dudley spent his entire teaching career from 1945 to 1984 at the Livingstone High School, where he served as Deputy, and as Acting Headmaster.

Dudley joined the New Era Fellowship in 1941 and became involved in the political struggle working with Ben Kies, Goolam Gool, IB Tabata, Hosea Jaffe and Ali Fataar. He was active in the Anti-Coloured Affairs Department Movement from 1943, serving on its National Committee. Dudley became a member of the Non-European Unity Movement from its inception in 1945 serving on its committees. He helped found its mouthpiece, The Torch newspaper, in 1946. Dudley was also active in the Teachers' League of South Africa, serving on its Executive Committee. Owing to his political activities, Dudley was banned by the government for several years in the 1960s, but was allowed to continue teaching. In 1983, Dudley co-operated with organisations that had continued the work of the NEUM to reorganise the Unity Movement. The New Unity Movement was formally

launched in 1985 and Dudley was elected President repeatedly, become Life President in 1998, shortly before retiring from active office owing to ill health.

In terms of the Group Areas Act, in 1961 Dudley's parents were forcibly removed from their home in Palmboom Road, Newlands, which had been in the family for a century. Dudley himself together with his own family were similarly removed from their home in Harfield Village in the early 1970s, after which they settled in Elfindale.

In 1948, Richard Dudley married a fellow teacher at Livingstone High School, Iris Atkins. They had three children: Nerine (1950), a medical doctor who died tragically in a car accident in 1979, Gary (1955) and Russell (1959). Iris passed away in November 2008. Richard Dudley died on 31 May 2009.

The New Unity Movement (NUM) was formed in Cape Town in April 1985 by 40 organisations. The NUM has a federal structure (where affiliate organisations have policy autonomy) with unitary features. Thus both an organisation and a branch can affiliate. During the period covered by the collection, the largest affiliate was APDUSA. Others included the Western Cape Federation of Civics, the Teachers' League of South Africa and the South Peninsula Education Fellowship. The NUM revamped the NEUM's Ten Point Programme of minimum requirements for the democratisation of South Africa. Its aim is "to build a single, undivided, independent, non-racial, democratic and socialist South Africa in which the interests of workers and rural poor shall be paramount".

The Teachers' League of South Africa (TLSA) was established in 1913 exclusively to cater for the interests of Coloured teachers. After the formation of the NEUM in 1943, the TLSA became an affiliate, and its publication, The Education Journal, became a mouthpiece of the NEUM and the Anti-CAD Movement. Some members began withdrawing from the TLSA in the mid-1950s fearing government repression. Dr Edgar Maurice became principal of Harold Cressy High in 1952 and served as vice-president in the mid-1950s. In 1953, Neville Alexander joined the TLSA. The TLSA became dormant and held its last conference in June 1963. Nevertheless, members of TLSA continued to influence young students who became leading anti-apartheid activists.

Scope and contents

The bulk of the material in this collection concerns the programmes and activities of the New Unity Movement since its inception in 1983-1985 until the death of RO Dudley in 2009. The collection includes material related to the constitution and Ten Point Programme, conferences and resolutions, National Executive Committee Meetings, correspondence and publications of the NUM, press releases, and writings and speeches of Dudley and others. A large quantity of published material such as journals, periodicals and monographs (other than those produced by

the New Unity Movement and the Teachers' League of SA) was interspersed with the records received. This material was listed and where it supplemented the holdings of published material in UCT Libraries, it was taken on stock.

Another part of the collection constitutes records of, or material related to the Teachers' League of South Africa, covering mainly the period between 1938 and the 1950s, and the 1990s. Some items are official TLSA records, e.g. minutes, 1938-1948, correspondence in the late 1940s and 1950s, and a few membership registers, while others are copies. Some of the material shows signs of water damage, as Dudley buried the material in a time of repression, not anticipating that the water table would rise. The collection further contains some material of political and other organisations pre-dating the New Unity Movement, e.g. the Anti-Coloured Affairs Department Movement (Anti-CAD). The collection also contains a smaller amount of personal material and material related to educational matters.

The collection as received reflected little cohesion chronologically, structurally or thematically, and material from the various entities including the reference material was intermingled and included considerable duplication dispersed in the records. A classification scheme was therefore devised to organise and describe the records. As a result of the federal structure of NUM, which includes affiliated organisations, the dividing line between what should be regarded as internal or external to NUM may not have been applied accurately in all cases. Unidentified handwritten notes taken during meetings may not in all cases have been correctly classified according to the relevant structure.

Restrictions

No restrictions apply.

Acquisition and appraisal

The material in this collection was donated by Dr Basil Brown on behalf of the New Unity Movement. Appraisal has been performed in accordance with UCT Libraries Special Collections appraisal policies.

Subject headings

Anti-Coloured Affairs Department Movement (Anti-CAD)

Dudley, RO (Richard Owen)

Education

Fataar, Ali

Giyose, MP

Jaffe, Hosea

Kies, Ben
New Unity Movement (NUM)
Non-European Unity Movement (NEUM)
Teachers' League of South Africa (TLSA)

Inventory

A Personal papers

- A1 Correspondence, 1976, 1986-2008
- A2 Land Compensation Claims
- A3 Finance and banking
- A4 Accounts and receipts
- A5 Rough notes
- A6 Miscellaneous
- A7 Photographs

B Educational matters

- B1 Correspondence, writings, talks and reference material
- B2 Student assignments and school magazines
- B3 The Livingstone Past Students' Union: constitution, correspondence and ledger

C Teachers' League of South Africa

- C1 Constitution

C2 Minutes

C2.1 Executive committee

- C2.1.1 July 1938-October 1944 (water damaged)
- C2.1.2 December 1944-May 1948
- C2.1.3 1950s (manuscript notes); 1992; 1995
- C2.2 Claremont branch (mainly agendas), 1950, 1957, 1990s
- C2.3 Other structures (e.g. Cape Teachers' Federal Council; Joint Conference of Cape African Teachers' Association and TLSA), 1950s
- C2.4 Unidentified manuscript notes, 1990s

C3 Conferences

- C3.1 Regional and national, 1953-1954, 1962
- C3.2 Conference registration, 1955
- C3.3 Programmes, presidential addresses and papers, 1991-1999

C4 Correspondence

- C4.1 1940s
- C4.2 1950s (water damaged)
- C4.3 1950s (water damaged)
- C4.4 January-September 1951

- C4.5 January-June 1953
- C4.6 July-December 1953
- C4.7 1958-1959
- C4.8 1993, 1997
- C5 TLSA publications (including a few newsletters of branches)
- C6 TLSA statements, circulars and reports**
- C6.1 1950s
- C6.2 1990s
- C7 Writings of RO Dudley
- C8 Drafts and rough notes of RO Dudley
- C9 Writings of others
- C10 Membership**
- C10.1 Address book, national and regional office-bearers, 1944-1945
- C10.2 Register, 1946-1947 (oversize)
- C10.3 Register, 1948-1949
- C10.4 Membership analysis, 1946, 1950
- C10.5 Report of branch activities, 1949, 1950, 1959
- C10.6 Register, undated, and schools address list, undated
- C11 Financial
- C12 Advertisements and concert / dance tickets
- C13 Summary of the Report of the Coloured Education Commission, 1953-196, and Report on the Commission on the Separate University Education Bill, 1958, and news clippings
- C14 Rationalisation and teacher retrenchment and related issues, 1992-1996

- D Pre-New Unity Movement political and other organisations**
- D1 Correspondence, undated, 1949, 1956, 1962, 1980-1983
- D2 Pamphlets
- D3 Newsclippings, 1896, 1942, 1945, 1946, 1951, 1952, 1956, 1962
- D4 Articles and correspondence on the history of the Unity Movement
- D5 All African Convention: conference minutes, 1954, 1956; presidential address, 1955
- D6 National and Local Anti-Coloured Affairs Department Movement ('Ani-CAD')**
- D6.1 National Conferences**
- D6.1.1 Minutes, 1948
- D6.1.2 Registration forms, 1951
- D6.1.3 Registration forms, 1954
- D6.1.4 Reports and records of proceedings, 1954
- D6.1.5 Resolutions, 1954
- D6.1.6 Minutes, 1954

D6.2 Minutes and correspondence

D6.2.1 1951-1952

D6.2.2 1953

D6.2.3 1954-1957

D6.3 Notices and pamphlets

D6.4 Address sheets

D7 The Claremont APO Terminating Building Society

D7.1 Rules

D7.2 Annual reports and minutes, 1959-1974

D7.3 Loan fund: correspondence, 1947-1959

D7.4 Correspondence and statements: Sections A and B, 1925-1954

D7.5 Correspondence and statements: Section D, 1961-1963

D7.6 Correspondence and statements: Section E, 1967-1974

E New Unity Movement

E1 Constitution

E2 Ten Point Programme

E3 Strategic planning and strategic directions

E4 Conferences

E4.1 Planning, agendas, reports, minutes and notes

E4.1.1 Undated

E4.1.2 1984-1991

E4.1.2.1 Audio recordings of the 1991 conference with manuscript index (oversize)

E4.1.3 1992

E4.1.4 1993-1996

E4.1.5 1997-1999, 2001-2003, 2006

E4.2 Presidential addresses

E4.2.1 Published, 1989, 1995-1999, 2001, 2003-2004, 2006, 2008, 2010

E4.2.2 Typescript and manuscript, undated, 1985, 1991-1993, 1995-1998

E4.3 Resolutions

E5 National Executive Committee

E5.1 Undated

E5.2 1984-1993

E5.3 1994-1999, 2005, 2008

E5.4 Week of Action on Constituent Assembly, 1991

E6 National, Regional and Local Coordinating Committees

E6.1 Undated and 1985, 1986, 1988, 1989

E6.2 1991-1994

E6.3 1996-1998, 2002

E7 Branches and Youth Wing, 1986-2001 (For constitution of Youth Wing, see E1)

E8 Internal correspondence

- E8.1 Undated
- E8.2 1985-1989
- E8.3 1990-1991
- E8.4 1992
- E8.5 1993-1995
- E8.6 1996-2007
- E8.7 African People's Democratic Union of South Africa (APDUSA), 1990-1993

E9 External correspondence

- E9.1 Undated
- E9.2 1984-1989
- E9.3 1990-1991
- E9.4 1992
- E9.5 1993
- E9.6 1994
- E9.7 1995-1996
- E9.8 1997-1999
- E9.9 2000-2005

E10 Publicity and publications

E10.1 Media releases, flyers and posters

- E10.1.1 Undated and 1984-1989
- E10.1.2 1990-1992
- E10.1.3 1993-1994
- E10.1.4 1995-2003
- E10.2 Monographs and booklets (2 folders)
- E10.3 Bulletin, 1987-2005 (incomplete)
- E10.4 Unity Movement Newsletter, 1991-1999 (incomplete) (Includes one issue of Northern Suburbs Newsletter and of Cape Town Branch Newsletter)
- E10.5 The Worker, 1993-2004 (incomplete)
- E10.6 Ikhwezi (Journal of the NUM Youth Wing), 1988-1992 (incomplete) and Die Vonk, Vol 1, No 1, Aug-Sept 1991
- E10.7 APDUSA Views, 1985-1994 (incomplete)

E11 Writings, speeches and talks of RO Dudley

- E11.1 Undated (2 folders)
- E11.2 1984-1990
- E11.3 1991-1992
- E11.4 1993-1994
- E11.5 1995-2005
- E11.6 National and international situation

- E11.7 Imperialism
- E11.8 Trade Union Workers' Struggles
- E11.9 Education
- E12 Research notes; planning of articles and talks
- E13 Rough notes
- E14 Proofreading
- E15 Obituaries, condolences and tributes
- E16 Writings and talks of others (including Hosea Jaffee)
- E17 Membership and subscribers
- E18 Finance
- E19 Administration**
- E19.1 Correspondence, memos and rough notes (3 folders)
- E20 Advertisements of other entities and service providers
- E21 Documents of civic associations**
- E21.1 Federation of Cape Civic Associations, 1980-1987
- E21.2 Individual associations arranged in alphabetical order
- E21.3 Claremont Residents' objections to valuations, 1958, 1968
- E22 Documents of political, sports and other organisations
- E23 Documents of trade unions