

**S0375 St. Louis Consumer Federation  
Records, 1935-1977  
84 Folders**

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Marian Weir, past president of the St. Louis Consumer Federation, donated the papers of the Consumer Federation (SLCF) to the Western Historical Manuscript Collection - University of Missouri-St. Louis in April 1978. (A-2020)

The collection contains the organization's subject files, bulletins, correspondence, minutes, constitution and bylaws.

SLCF was formed as one of over 200 Consumer Councils throughout the nation under NRA to act as communication links between consumers and the government. When NRA was abolished, it expanded into a federation to include representatives of churches, social services, labor and civic organizations. Over the years, SLCF has campaigned for such laws as the Standard Milk Ordinance, the Clean Restaurant Ordinance, Food Stamps, the Poultry Inspection Law and has favored strengthening the FDA. During World War II SLCF became an integral part of the Civil Defense Program as the Consumer Interest Division and collaborated closely with the Office of Price Administration. During the 1960's and early 1970's the SLCF was active in educational and legislative activities to protect consumer interests. By the late 1970s the SLCF membership had declined and the organization ceased to operate.

**SERIES DESCRIPTION**

The collection comprises one series which is arranged alphabetically by subject.

**FOLDER LIST**

**BOX 1 (040666)**

**FOLDERS 1-19: Subject Files, A-C, 1935-1977**

1. Advertising Club of St. Louis, 1940, correspondence.
2. Attorney General of Missouri, John Ashcroft, 1977, legal briefs.
3. Better Business Bureau, 1947-1970, correspondence, bulletins, and reports.
4. SLCF Bulletin, 1935-1961 (incomplete).
5. SLCF Bulletin, 1962-1974 (incomplete).
6. Canadian Association of Consumers, Bulletin 1958-1960, 3 issues.
7. Complaint Policies, big businesses, 1970.
8. Conference on Consumer Credit, 1955, correspondence, program and speech by Dr. Persia Campbell, Consumer Counsel to New York Governor Averell Harriman.

9. Conference of Consumers, 1958, notes.
10. Conference, President's Committee on Consumer Interests and SLCF regional consumer Conference 1964, program and speech by Paul Dixon, Chair of the FTC.
11. Conference on Consumer Protection, 1969, program.
12. Constitution, Bylaws and history of SLCF
13. Consumers' Advisory Board of the NRA, 1934 address of Mary Harriman Rumsey, Chairperson.
14. Consumer Advisory Council, 1963, First Report to the President.
15. Consumer Clearing House, 1944-1945, Minutes, information memoranda.
16. Consumer Complaints, 1961, 1970, correspondence.
17. Consumer Conference News, 1955, 1958, 1959, 1963, five issues.
18. Consumer Federation of America, 1968-1970, Action Memos.
19. Consumer Federation of America, 1970-1972, "News from CFA."

### **FOLDERS 20-33: Subject Files, Consumer-Council, 1937-1977**

20. Consumer Federation of America, 1969-1972, reports, minutes, memoranda, and statements.
21. Consumer Federation of America, 1969 meeting, resolutions and releases.
22. Consumer Federation of America, 1970 meetings, minutes, statements, and resolutions.
23. Consumer groups, various states, histories.
24. Consumer Protection League, 1970, literature.
25. Consumer Reports, 1969-1977 made by Wilma Halparin (SLCF) to Women's Chamber of Commerce.
26. Consumers Emergency Council, 1937 History and Resolutions on NRA proposals and on consumer representation. (replaced by Consumers National Federation.)
27. Consumers National Federation, 1937-1940, correspondence, by-laws, releases.
28. Consumers Union, 1941-1943, 1958-1960, correspondence, reports, memoranda, grant application.
29. Co-operatives, 1940's, memoranda.
30. Correspondence, general, 1941-1973.
31. Council on Consumer Information, 1956-1963, correspondence, memoranda, minutes.
32. Council on Consumer Information, 1957, conference materials and correspondence.
33. Council on Consumer Information, 1958-1963, Newsletter.

### **FOLDERS 34-59: Subject Files, Council-Minutes, 1933-1972**

34. Council of Organized Consumers, 1942-1944, correspondence, memos.
35. Courses, 1940-1952, including Food and Nutrition Course, Consumer Course.
36. Paul Douglas, 1933, address at Institute on Economic Control, Washington University.
37. Drugs Issues, 1959-1964, correspondence, announcements.
38. Farm Prices and Standards, 1933, 1942, reports, statistics.
39. Federal Trade Commission, 1972, letter, newsletter.
40. Food and Drug Administration, 1955, Citizens Advisory Committee Report.
41. Food Stamp Plan, 1939-1957, correspondence, releases, news clippings.
42. Gasoline bills, 1952, 1957, report and letter.
43. Home Economics Study Project, Social Planning Council, 1946-1948, correspondence, minutes, reports.
44. Household Employment Institute (Social Planning Council), 1941, information.

45. Housing Issues, 1941-1947, correspondence, bills, newsclippings .
46. Inflation - Fight Inflation Committee, 1946, memoranda.
47. International Organization of Consumer Unions, 1966, meeting notes.
48. Laclede Gas Light Co., 1935-1941 , memoranda, newsclippings.
49. League of Women Shoppers, (national and St. Louis), 1940-1944, newsletters, memoranda.
50. League of Women Voters, 1939-1944, correspondence, flyers, reports.
51. Lists - individuals and organizations.
52. Manual for Program Planners (Washington University), 1951, SLCF suggestions.
53. Membership Drives, 1945-1960, promotion material.
54. Milk Dating, 1963, SLCF statement, newsclippings.
55. Milk Dating, 1970, SLCF statement, correspondence, newsletters - (Farm Marketing News).
56. Milk Labeling, 1955-1958, correspondence.
57. Milk Pricing, 1943-1971, correspondence, memoranda, newsclippings.
58. Milk Sanitation, 1960, Bill to amend milk sanitation ordinance.
59. Minutes, SLCF, 1944, 1969-1973.

**BOX 2 (040669) FOLDERS 60-84: Subject Files, Nader-Truth in Lending, 1940-1970.**

60. Ralph Nader, speech before Consumer Federation of America, 1970.
61. National Association of Consumers, 1948, 1954, 1956, 3 newsletters.
62. National Consumers Act, 1970, "First Final Draft."
63. National Consumers League, 1942-1943, correspondence, memorandum.
64. National Defense Advisory Commission, 1940, address "Government and Industrial Mobilization." By Miss Caroline F. Ware.
65. National Nutrition Conference for Defense, 1941, correspondence, recommendations, reports.
66. Nutrition, general, 1940-1943, correspondence, minutes, memoranda.
67. Nutrition, Missouri State Nutrition Committee, 1941-1942, correspondence, minutes, memoranda.
68. Office of Civil Defense, 1942-1944, bulletin, memoranda, publicity.
69. Office of Civil Defense, Consumer Information Center, (St. Louis) 1942, press releases, speech, suggestions.
70. Office of Civil Defense, Consumer Interest Committee, (St. Louis), 1944, report.
71. Office of Price Administration, Consumer Advisory Committee, 1944-1945, memoranda.
72. Office of Price Administration, Price Panel Assistants, 1943-1944, correspondence, memoranda, reports.
73. Office of War Mobilization, Consumers' Council, 1944, press release.
74. Press Releases and publicity (SLCF), 1941-1961.
75. Poultry Inspection, 1952-1958, correspondence, pamphlets.
76. Radio Scripts (SLCF), 1940-1942.
77. Recommendations and positions (SLCF), 1944-1963.
78. Red Cross Community Nutrition Committee, 1948, minutes, letter.
79. St. Louis Committee on Elimination of Smoke, 1940, report.
80. Social Planning Council, 1942-1943, annual report.
81. Speeches (SLCF), 1951-1960.
82. Statements before Senate Committees, 1958, 1961, 1970.

83. Leonore Sullivan, 1958-1967, correspondence.  
84. Truth in Lending Bill, 1955-1964, correspondence, memoranda.

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