

**A Guide to the  
Jones, Lewis Wade Collection  
Papers, 1932-1943**

**Processed by Aisha M. Johnson  
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**Biographical Note:** Sociologist and educator Lewis Wade Jones was born in Cuero, Texas on March 13, 1910. A member of the Omega Psi Phi fraternity, he received his A.B. degree from Fisk University in 1931, and followed it with postgraduate study as a Social Science Research Council Fellow at the University of Chicago in 1931-1932.

Jones returned to Fisk, where he continued to work closely with Charles S. Johnson, as a research assistant, supervisor of field studies, and instructor in the Department of Social Sciences from 1932 to 1942. In 1949 the two co-wrote *A Statistical Analysis of Southern Counties; Shifts in the Negro Population of Alabama*.

Jones was a Julius Rosenwald Foundation Fund Fellow at Columbia University, where he was awarded an M.A. degree in 1939 with the thesis "Occupational Stratification Among Rural and Small Town Negroes before the Civil War and Today." He earned his Ph.D. in 1955.

Jones, along with Johnson and John W. Work III, collaborated with the Archive of American Folk Song on the Library of Congress/Fisk University Mississippi Delta Collection (AFC 1941/002). This project was a two-year joint field study conducted by the Library of Congress and Fisk University during the summers of 1941 and 1942. The goal of the partnership was to carry out an intensive field study documenting the folk culture of a specific community of African Americans in the Mississippi Delta region. The rapidly urbanizing commercial area of Coahoma County, Mississippi, with its county seat in Clarksdale, became the geographical focus of the study.

Jones was associate editor of the Negro Yearbook in 1952 and contributed articles to journals. He spent much of the remainder of his career at Tuskegee Institute School of Education, as assistant professor of sociology, director of research for the Rural Life Council, research coordinator, and professor. He was a consultant to a variety of organizations, including the Opportunities Industrialization Centers, the Bureau of Social Science Research and the U.S. Department of Labor.

Jones married Queen E. Shootes, a home economist, in 1966. At the time of his death in September 1979, Lewis Jones was a professor of sociology and director of the Tuskegee Institute Rural Development Center.

**Scope Note:** The Lewis Wade Jones Collection consists of one archival box (.5 linear feet). The collection is small containing correspondence, newspaper clippings, printed materials, reports, speeches and various writing.

Papers, 1910 -1979

Inventory

Box 1

- f. 1. Correspondence, General -- Alexander, W. -- Delta Pine Land Company
- 2. Correspondence, General -- Edwards, F. -- Ickes, H.
- 3. Correspondence, General -- Johnson, Charles S. 1934-1943
- 4. Correspondence, General -- Jones, Lewis Wade 1932-1943
- 5. Correspondence, General -- Jones, T. -- Lundbergh, H.
- 6. Correspondence, General -- McLean, E. -- Nichols, F.
- 7. Correspondence, General -- Olsen, K. -- Williams, P.
- 8. Newspaper Clippings -- no date
- 9. Printed Materials -- Folk Culture Seminar
- 10. Printed Materials -- Pamphlets
- 11. Printed Materials -- Miscellaneous
- 12. Speeches -- Youth on New Frontiers, 1936
- 13. Speeches -- Tennessee Conference for Democracy, 1941
- 14. Speeches -- Protest Parties, no date
- 15. Writings -- Cheerful as an Aspect of Subdivision Employed as a Survival Technique  
by a Minority Group Manuscript
- 16. Writings -- Rural Schools in New Mexico Manuscript
- 17. Writings -- Rural Studies