The collection of the Presidents of the State University of New York at Albany has been in the processing stage for several years.

This Accession # specifically covers the term of President John Manville Sayles (1939-1947).

John Sayles was born on June 17, 1877 in Mexico, New York. His education includes an A.B. from Colgate University in 1900, a P.d.B. from the New York State College for Teachers in 1902 and an honorary P.d.D from Colgate in 1937.

Sayles' educational experience includes the position of principal for Richmondville High School (1902-03), Glens Falls High School (1905), Albany Model High School (1905-06, and Milne High School (1906-20) as well as the Director of Teacher Training at the New York State College for Teachers (1920-39) and the head of State College's Department of Education.

While Sayles served as President of the New York State College for Teachers, he was responsible for implementing several changes and programs at the school. There were curriculum changes. The five year plan began in 1943. Entrance qualifications were eased and there was no specific curriculum required except 4 years of English plus a foreign language, math, science or social studies, and a recommendation from a high school.

John Sayles died on December 3, 1956 in Albany, New York.
The Sayles collection is made up of one series. The series is an alphabetical file that includes all of President Sayles personal and office papers and correspondence.

**Series I**

Boxes 1 - 9

Collection of activities, associations, bureaus, correspondence and office materials. Also included are presidential, departmental, and group reports and data. The years covered are 1934-1947.

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3. " - Admissions, 1945-57
5. " - Air raid procedures, 1942
7. " - Alumni, 1933-41
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10. " - American Assoc. of Teachers Colleges, 1940-41
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**Box #2:**

1. Sayles - Annual Report, 1944-45
6. " - Appointment Bureau, 1942-47
7. " - Army (U.S.), 1943
8. " - Assoc. of Academic Principle of NYS, 1939-41
9. " - (NYS) Assoc. of Faculties of Teachers Colleges and Normal Schools, 1938-40
10. Sayles - (NY) Assoc. of Teachers College Faculties, 1944-46
11. " - Athletics, 1932
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14. " - B/Corres., 1939-46
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17. " - Chemistry Dept. - Laboratory, 1942-46
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7. " - Departmental Reports - Dean's Office, 1940
8. " - Departmental Reports - Milne High School, 1939-40
9. " - Dormitory Authority - corres. and minutes - by-laws, 1944-47
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12. " - Correspondence (l), 1934-47
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15. " - Library School, 1940-41
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