The papers of Carl Haessler were placed in the Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs in two installments. The first was donated in November of 1972 and the second after Mr. Haessler's death in December of that year by his wife, Lucy Haessler. The two sections of the collection were integrated and processing was completed in December 1978.

Carl Haessler was born 5 August 1888 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. His father was a builder's hardware contractor and his mother was a teacher in the Milwaukee school system. Carl attended public school in Milwaukee and graduated from the University of Wisconsin with a Bachelor Degree in Latin in 1911. It was also in this year that he was awarded a Rhodes scholarship. From 1911 to 1914 Carl attended Balliol College Oxford. During his years at Oxford, Haessler became interested in the socialist movement and joined the Fabian Socialists.

Returning to the United States in 1914, Haessler became a member of the American Socialist Party. He also began a teaching career in the Philosophy Department of Illinois University. He received his PhD upon completion of his thesis, "The Failure of Scottish Realism." In 1917 Illinois dismissed Haessler from his post for his political activity against American involvement in World War I.

For one year Haessler was employed by Victor Berger, editor of the labor-socialist paper, the Milwaukee Leader. In June 1918 Haessler was drafted into the army. Carl accepted the drafting, but in bootcamp refused to put on the army uniform. The military court-martialed him under the Articles of War. Carl received a twelve year sentence at hard labor. He served two years in Fort Leavenworth and Alcatraz before his sentence was commuted by Presidential pardon in August 1920.

Haessler returned to the Milwaukee Leader for a short period before joining the staff of the Federated Press. The FP was formed by labor and liberal editors at the national "Farm-Labor" conference held in Chicago in the fall of 1919. In 1922 Haessler became managing editor and secretary-treasurer, holding these positions until the organization became dormant in 1956.

In 1937, at the behest of the CIO, Haessler became the union's public and press relations man in Flint, Michigan during the sitdown strikes. He also served the labor movement by editing the United Auto Worker until 1941 and for nineteen years edited Tool & Die Engineering News. Haessler also founded or edited many UAW locals' papers.
In 1963 Haessler established a draft counseling service to aid objectors being drafted into the Vietnam War. His other activities included lecturing and writing articles. Haessler died 8 December 1972 after a long illness.

The papers of Carl Haessler reflect both his personal and professional activities described above. A more complete documentation of the Federated Press can be obtained at Columbia University where Haessler donated one hundred FP correspondence file drawers in 1957.

Important subjects and personalities covered in the collection are:

Biographical material on Carl Haessler, 1908-1972
Draft Counseling, 1966-1972
Federated Press, 1930's-1960's
Ford Motor-NLRB Hearings, 1941
Homer Martin, 1937-1939
Newspaper Guild of Detroit, 1960's
Walter P. Reuther, 1930's-1970
United Rubber Workers: "It's Labor", radio transcripts, January-June 1948

Among the correspondents are: (an index to the location of these letters will be found on the last page of the guide)

Federated Press Staff - inter-office correspondence
Lina Haessler - Carl's mother
Sinclair Lewis - author
Fred Mack - a college friend
Max C. Otto - University of Wisconsin professor, friend and biographer of Haessler

Contents

22 manuscript boxes
2 scrapbooks

Series I, Personal Files, 1908-1972, Boxes 1-3
This series contains correspondence, articles written by Haessler, lecture materials, PhD thesis, court-martial and prison experiences and other biographical material on Carl Haessler.

Series II, Federated Press, 1930's-1956, Boxes 4-6
This series is a short reflection of Carl's activities as managing editor of the FP. The files contain certificates, by-laws, correspondence, executive board minutes, subscriber lists, staff memos and several years of FP news releases.
Series III, Draft Counseling, 1966-1972, Box 7
This series relates to Haessler's work aiding young men objecting to the Vietnam War. The material includes booklets, Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors' News Notes, articles, leaflets, newsclips and other draft information.

Series IV, Subject Files, 1935-1972, Boxes 8-22
This series reflects the topical interests of Carl Haessler. Much of the material is Haessler's own research for the FP. The series covers a wide range of subjects and are made up of newsclips, press releases, pamphlets, speeches, radio broadcast transcripts, reports, articles and a small amount of correspondence.

Non-manuscript material
Approximately 50 photographs of a personal and professional nature, i.e. Haessler, as dozens of cartoon impressions for the FP have been placed in the Archives' Audio-Visual Collections. Numerous books and pamphlets covering labor education have been placed in the Archives' Library. A list of library materials is located later in this guide, (pp. 17-19).

The Archives also holds two oral interview records done with Carl Haessler. The first interview was done in 1959-1960 by Jack W. Skeels as part of the oral history project on the UAW done by the University of Michigan - Wayne State University Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations. A transcript of that interview is available for research under certain restrictions.

The second interview was done by Haessler's son-in-law, Wallace McLay. It deals more fully with Haessler's own life, especially before the mid-1930s, whereas the Skeels interview focuses on Haessler's account of UAW history in the 1930s and 1940s. The second interview is available only on tape, but an index to the tape has been made.

Two scrapbooks, one containing clippings and documents describing the functioning of the Federated Press and the other containing clippings documenting the struggle to oust Horner Martin from the UAW presidency, have been photocopied for the collection.
Articles, correspondence, lecture notes, Balliol College Oxford pamphlets and newsclips, interview, membership cards, thesis and other materials which reflect the personal life of Carl Haessler. The files are arranged in alphabetical order and cover the period 1908-1972.

Box 1
1. Address Books
2. Article: "AFL-CIO Merger", written 27 December 1955
5. Articles - General, 1920s
6. " " 1930s
7. " " 1940s
8. Articles on Scott Nearing, ca. 1969
10. Articles on World War I and newsclips, 1920
20. Correspondence Files, 1904-1918.
22. " "  July-December, 1919.
26. " "  1921-1923
27. " "  1924-1926.
Box 2

1. Correspondence Files, 1940-1941
2. " " , 1942-1944
3. " " , 1945-1949
5. " " , 1955-1959
9. Correspondence Files: Balliol College Oxford, 1912, 1930s.
12. " " : Fred Mack to Carl's mother while Carl was in prison, 1918-1919.
14. " " : Sinclair Lewis
16. Correspondence Files: Rhodes Scholarship, letters from Carl's professor to Scholarship Committee, 1909-1910.
17. Court Martial Proceedings, extract of court held at HQ Camp Sheridan, 8 July 1918.
22. Lucy Whitaker Haessler: birth certificate, 13 June 1904.
24. Interview with Carl and Lucy Haessler from Changeover, 15 September 1971
27. Lecture Appearances, notices of, 1920s-1940s.

Box 3 (Half manuscript box)

4. Notes on Sinclair Lewis to Mark Schorer, by Carl, May 1959 (See correspondence files)
6. Passports, 1911 and 1927.
13. Skit and Songs by Carl, 1950s.

Series II
Federated Press Files, Boxes 4-6

Correspondence, minutes of meetings, membership lists, subscribers lists, staff memos and press releases of the Federated Press, the cartoons of Ben Miller, and other press releases written by Carl Haessler in his professional capacity as editor. The files are arranged in alphabetical order by subject and cover the period 1919-1958.

Box 4
1.-2. Conference of Editors: Of Labor, Non-partisan League and Socialist papers; minutes of meeting, 25 November, 1919.
5. " " : Certificates and By-laws, 1919, 1943.
6. FP, Correspondence Files, 1930s-1952.
7. " " " , 1953-1954
8. " " " , 1955
10. " " " , 1965-1969
11. " , Credentials; lists of staff members giving: date, name and number for the years 1929-1955.
12. FP, Executive Board; Annual meetings, minutes, notices and executive board membership lists, 1920-1956.
13. FP, Executive Board; correspondence, 1930s.
14. " , " " , 1940s.

Box 5
1. FP: Executive Board; correspondence, 1950s-1961
2. " " " ; paid-up members for annual meetings, 1934-1956.
3. " " " ; proxies for voting, 1940s-1956.
4. " " " ; releases for annual meetings, 1930-1956.
10. FP Releases, March-December 1933.

Box 6
1. FP Releases, January-December 1936.
2. " " , February 1937.
4. FP: Special Labor Day Service; Annual review, August 1952.

Federated Press Ledger Book: many listings-examples are: bills and receipts, cash and disbursements, assets, capital surplus, wages, profit/loss statements, accounts and written off accounts, 1947-1951.

Series III
Draft Counseling Box 7

Booklets, news releases, clippings, articles and leaflets pertaining to Haessler's draft counseling service during the Vietnam War. The files are arranged alphabetically by type of organization or material and covered the period 1966-1972.

Box 7
12. " " : various leaflets
Articles, newsclips, news releases, radio transcripts, pamphlets, speeches, reports and like material covering organizations, unions and labor leaders. The files are arranged alphabetically by name of person, organization or general subject. The files cover the period 1935-1972.

Box 8 (Ad-At)
1. George Addes: Audit Reports, 1939, 1941.
2. " " : Newsclips and pamphlets, 1940-1943.
17. ACTU: Speeches and news releases by, 1940, 1943.

Box 9 (Au-Ce)
2. Automotive Industry: Bulletins and news releases on (FP), 1939-1942.
7. " " : News releases (FP) and report of salaries prepared by the Research Department, UAW-CIO, 1941.
9. Melvin Bishop: letters to locals and news clips on, 1940s.
10. The Harry Bridges Case (ILWW): Articles and pamphlets on, 1941-1942.
12. Catholicism: Church and Labor-newsclips on, 1940s.
13. "": pamphlets and articles, 1940s.

Box 10 (Ch-Com)
9. James Cichecki; President of UAW-CIO Local 742, correspondence and pamphlets; 1946, 1952-1953.
10.-12. Civil Liberties; leaflets, newsclips and releases, newsletters and various pamphlets on civil liberties issues, 1960s.

Box 11 (Con-Es)
3. CIO: Industrial Union Council-minutes of regular meeting of Greater Detroit and Wayne County, 20 April 1943.
8. Detroit Federation of Labor: various newscips on; Martel (1935 & 1954), Labor Temple Investigation (1941), and "Payoffs" (1944).
9. The Detroit Free Press: John S. Knight, publisher-article and newscips, 1940s.
12. The Dies Committee: Newscips, pamphlets and new releases (FP), 1938-1942.
17. Education; newscips and news releases, 1934-1942.
18. " : pamphlets on, 1941-1942.
20. Albert Einstein: address to the assembled pacifists, "Meine Damen und Herren!", article by Haessler, article by J. Bronowski, FP news release; 1931, 1933, 1950, 1953.

Box 12 (Fa-Ge)
4. FBI: newscips and news releases (FP), 1940s-1950s.
8. Henry Ford: Articles on, 1940s.
9. " " : Pamphlets on; NLRB, agreements, the Negro and almanac, 1930s-1950s.
12. Ford Motor Company: Hearings before the NLRB; Case No. C-199, August 1939.
13. Ford Motor Company: Hearings before the NLRB; Various Cases, XVI-C-509, 542, 544, 545, 550, Part I of 85 pages, April 1940
14. Part II of 85 pages, April 1940.
15. Ford Motor Co.: Hearing before the NLRB; Case No. VII-C-148, April 1941.
20. "": unofficial returns summary, 3 Nov 1964.

Box 13 (General Motors)
1. General Motors: agreement and pamphlets, 1928, 1940s.
5.-6. GM: 1950 Contract Settlement Agreement
9. GM: newscips, 1940s-1950s.
10. GM: stockholders reports, 1950s.

Box 14 (Ger-Je)
3. Global Books Forum: Bank Statements (Carl Haessler was the chairperson for this group), 1960-1961.
10. House Un-American Activities Committee: correspondence, hearings, reports and new releases, 1940s-1960s. (see Subversive Activity)
19. Iran: news clips and news releases (FP), March and May 1951.

Box 15 (Jo-Li)
3. "(FP): newsclips on, 1937-1957
4. " & the War: irresponsible reporting; news articles, January 1943
6. Martin Luther King, Jr.: articles on, 1968, 1970
7. William S. Kudson, Director-General Office of Production Management-newsclips and news releases, 1940s
8. Labor Committee of the Detroit Coalition to End the War Now, handouts, n.d.
10. Labor Press Association: newsclips, ca. 1950s
11. "Labor Relations and Productivity": address by John S. Burgas before American Management Association, 2 Oct 1947
12. Labor's Non-Partisan League: Supreme Court Reform, releases, 1937
16. John L. Lewis: articles and pamphlets, ca. 1940s
17. "(FP): news releases (FP) and correspondence on John L., 1947.
18. "(FP): newsclips and releases, 1940s-1950s

Box 16 (Ma-Na)
1. The Mafia: Scope magazine article, 24 May 1969
2. March of Labor: three issues; April 1952, January 1953, April 1954
3. Homer Martin: campaign brochures, 1937
4. "(FP): correspondence, 1937-1939
5. "(FP): miscellaneous file, 1937-1938
6. "(FP): newscips, general, 1930s-1940s
7. "(FP): August-December 1937
8. "(FP): , 1938
9. "(FP): , 1939
11. "(FP): Proceedings in Trial Against": Mortimer, Hall, et al., 25 July to 6 August, 1938
17. Moon landing of Apollo 11, newspaper accounts of, July 1967.
18. "Moral, Employee and the War Effort": newclip and departmental correspondence of the Murray Corporation; 1942.

Box 17 (Ne-Nu)
5. Newscips, General, 1950s.
12. NG of D and the CIA-Special Committee Recommendations on Involvement, June 1967.
13. NG of D: Committee on ANG's International Activities, a report, 1967.
14. NG of D: Executive Board-minutes, members and correspondence, 1970s.

Box 18 (O-Re)
2. The Packinghouse Worker: article, December 1954.
13. Railroads: news articles and pamphlet, 1940s.
14. Radio: uses by labor, literature on, 1940s.

Box 19 (Re-To)
2. " " " " : " " , 1940s.
3. " " " " : " " , 1950s.
4. " " " " : " " , 1960s.
6. Victor Riesel: article on, from The Worker, 29 Feb 1948.
8. Eleanor Roosevelt: newscaps, 1940s.
11. George Bernard Shaw: newscaps, 1940s.
17. Socialism: in Great Britain: pamphlets on
19. The Steel Industry: pamphlets, articles and newscaps on, 1930s-1940s.
20. Subversive Activities: pamphlets and articles (see HUAC)
25. Norman Thomas: "How Democratic are Labor Unions", article by, n.d.
26. Tool and Die Engineering: newscaps on, 1940s.
Box 20 CUAW)
7. UAW: Biographical sketches of UAW leaders (B-Y), 1970.
11. UAW Ford Local 600: newsletters, news releases and one agreement, 1940s-1950s.
12. Local 600: Tenth Anniversary Celebration - a report on, 1957.
15. UAW History: news articles, 1940s, 1961.
17. UAW-Kelsey Hayes Local 174: newspapers and news releases, 1938-1942.
18.-19. UAW Local 156: newsletters, February 1937.

Box 21 (UAW-URW)
7. UAW Special Convention; reports, 22-24 January 1958.
10. UAW: Women's Auxiliary Department UAW-CIO: news releases, The Labor Woman, and an article by Carl Haessler, 1940s.
15. UAW-CIO International Education Dept.: pamphlets, 1942.
20. United Rubber Workers: "It's Labor" radio scripts, January-June 1948. #'s 1-5.
21. #'s 6-10.

Box 22
1. URW: radio scripts #11-15.
2. URW: radio scripts #'s 16-19.
8. Henry Wallace: speeches by, news releases, pamphlets and news clips on, 1940s.

Scrapbooks

History of the Federated Press
UAW Clippings, Jan 10-Mar 13 1939
Non-manuscript Materials: Books and pamphlets that have been placed in the Archive's Library Collections. The list is arranged alphabetically by author or organization that put the item out.


-------, Industrial Relations Department, "Labor, Big Business and Inflation, September 1958.

-------, Legislative Department, "Labor Looks At The 85th Congress", October 1957.

American Friends Service Committee, "Labor and the Cold War", by Stewart Meacham, September 1959.


American Telephone and Telegraph Company, "1956 Annual Report".

-------, "1958 Annual Report".

Canadian Pacific Railway Company, "1955 Annual Report".

-------, "1956 Annual Report".

-------, "1957 Annual Report".


-------, "Wages and the Public Interest", January, 1958.
CIO, Department of Research and Education, "Guaranteed Wages The Year Round", ca. 1940's.

----, Legal Department, "Procedure and Preparation Of Cases Before the National War Labor Board", December, 1942.

-- -, Publicity Department, "The Right to Strike: Keystone of Liberty", pamphlet no. 54, April, 1941.


Hall, Covington (Covami), Battle Hymns of Toil, General Welfare Reporter, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, ca. 1946.


-------, "Labor and the Public", by Maxwell S. Stewart, no. 301, August, 1960.


Sinclair, Upton, The Goslings, Pasadena, California, 1924.


Translation World Publishers, The Trial Of The U2; The Exclusive Authorized Account of the Court Proceedings of the Case of Francis Gary Powers Heard Before the Military Division of the Supreme Court of the USSR Moscow August 17, 18, 19, 1960, Chicago, 1960.


The United Steelworkers of America, "Facts... about the Union Shop", ca. 1951.

-------, International Affairs Department, "The 1959 Steel Strike", published, 1961.


"A Conversation About Higher Pay"
"The Dean of Canterbury: To the People of America We Can Keep Peace"

(note: see photograph in A/V)
Leo Huberman
"Imperialism: Old and New", Hamza Alavi
"Peace, Plenty, Politics and People", Testimony of Walter P. Reuther
"The Principles of Unionism: Questions and Answers"

Progressive Labor, vol. 8, no. 2, August, 1971
Public Affairs Pamphlet No. 443: "How to keep your teeth after 30"
Public Affairs Pamphlet No. 446: "Better health in later years"
Ramparts: "The university on the make (or how MSU helped arm Madame Nhu)"
"The Roman Catholic Church: in Medicine, Sex, and Education"
"Soviet Jews: Fact and Fiction"
"What Organized Labor Wants", UAW Education Dept., 1937
Index to Correspondents:

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Sinclair Lewis, 2-14
Fred Mack, 2-12
Max C. Otto, 2-15