THE HUGH THOMPSON COLLECTION

Received: 6-14-62        Revised: 8-65

This collection of varied materials was presented to the Labor History Archives in June of 1962 by Mr. Hugh Thompson. Mr. Thompson was born in Lurgan, County Armagh, Ireland, June 3, 1902. Working on a farm and as a weaver he was exposed to unionism at an early age. He came to the United States in 1925. His first job in the U.S. was with Michigan Stamping. He was fired from this job and many others for his talk of unionism.

The Thompson Collection throws light upon many important episodes in the formation period of the U.A.W. It describes Thompson’s activities as organizer for the A.P.L. and the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, and as one of the first paid organizers of the U.A.W. The documentation is particularly complete on the strike in Oshawa, Ontario which was directed by Thompson in the spring of 1937 against the General Motors Plant.

The collection covers the period 1936 to 1950, and is open to all qualified researchers without restriction.

Important correspondence include:

Geo. Addes          Homer Martin
F. J. Dillon        Philip Murray
Richard Frankensteen Jas. M. Mead
John L. Lewis       Philip Murray
Walter P. Reuther   David J. McDonald
Arthur J. McManus   R. J. Thomas

Box 1  Correspondence, Documents, Newspaper Clippings and Press Releases.

Correspondence - 1936
Correspondence - 1937-39
Correspondence - 1940's & 1950's
Documents 1935-36
D. L. Auld Co. - 1936
Anderson, Indiana 1936-37
Wagner Act - Newspaper clippings
Oshawa - 1937, Correspondence
Oshawa - 1937, Newspaper Clippings
Oshawa - 1937, April; Newspaper Clippings
Misc. Newspaper Clippings, 1930's - 1950's
Press Releases, July-Dec. 1936
Press Releases, Jan. 1937
Radio Addresses, July-Nov. 1936
Miscellaneous Material

Scrapbook, 1930's - 1940's, includes some personal and business correspondence.

One folder of mounted newspaper clippings 1930's-1940's in file of outside material.