The papers of Herman W. Benson were presented to the Archives of Labor History and Urban Affairs in 1964-1965. A second shipment was received in October, 1974.

Herman W. Benson's career has covered a wide range of activities, as a tool maker in Detroit, a member of both the United Auto Workers and the United Rubber Workers, and as a labor journalist. He served as Trade Union Editor of Labor Action and as Editor and Publisher of Union Democracy in Action. Mr. Benson has also been active in labor affairs work in the Socialist Party and has been an active member of the New York chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union since 1958.

The papers of Mr. Benson pertain mainly to reform movements within labor unions. The papers are arranged in two Parts, Part I being the material received in 1964-1965 and Part II being the material received in 1974.

Important subjects covered in the collection are:

Part I:
- Masters, Mates and Pilots, internal disputes, 1958-1960
- International Association of Machinists, 1959
- Split between Airline Pilots and Airline Stewards and Stewardesses
- The Michigan Commonwealth Federation, 1944

Part II:
- International Union of Operating Engineers, internal disputes
- International Association of Machinists, internal disputes
- International Longshoremen's and warehousemen's Union
- New York Civil Liberties Union and school decentralization
Among the correspondents are: (an index to the location of these letters will be found on the last page of the guide)

Albertz, Hubert
Brown, Roy
Burroughs, Renny
Deacon, Thomas

Hayes, A.J.
Weany, George

Contents, Part I

8 manuscript boxes
3 portfolios

Series I, Boxes 1-3 Maritime Unions
Correspondence, clippings, leaflets, etc. relating to maritime unions. Of particular importance are those records pertaining to the struggle within Local 88, Masters, Mates and Pilots, which led to the ouster and jailing of the International President. Other maritime unions considered are: International Longshoremen, Seafarer's International and Sailor's Union of the Pacific.

Series II, Boxes 4-5 International Assoc, of Machinists
Two disputes within the International Association of Machinists are the subjects of this series. The first concerns the expulsion of two members of Lodge 113 in 1959. The second major subject is the expulsion of two California members for advocating right to work laws.

Series III, Box 6 Pulp, Sulphite & Paper mill Workers, United Paperworkers
Rank and file movements during the 1950's and 1960's within the Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill workers and the United Papermakers and Paperworkers are considered in this series.

Series IV, Box 7 Airline Stewards, Stewardesses & Pilots
Material relating to the 1960 split between the Airline Pilots and the Airline Stewards and Stewardesses is arranged chronologically.

Series V, Box 7 Michigan Political Issues
The Michigan Commonwealth Federation, a third party movement in 1944, is reviewed by leaflets, handbills and clippings.
Series VI, Box 8 Reports and Newspapers
This series consists of newspapers and reports, covering the period from 1947-1950. Also included are three portfolios of newspapers, dating from 1949-1961.

[The folder inventory for Part I of the collection will not be included here. It is readily available for inspection in the original guide. As I was responsible for processing only the most recent acquisition, and as the folder inventory for Part I has already been done, I saw no reason to duplicate the typing job that would be necessary to include a detailed guide for Part I here.]
Contents, Part II

16 manuscript boxes

Series VII, Boxes 9-12 International Union of Operating Engineers
Correspondence, clippings, court cases and union trial hearings comprise the record of two disputes within the International Union of Operating Engineers in the early 1960's. The cases concern the misuse of union funds by the officers of Locals 3 and 12. A photograph of Thomas Deacon, the principle character in the Local 12 dispute, has been placed in the Archives's Audio-Visual Collection.

Series VIII, Boxes 13-24 International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union
A dispute over the status and right to work of some non-union "B men" is documented in this series by correspondence, clippings and court cases. The union involved is the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, 1958-1956. A pictorial essay on longshoremen, titled Men and Machines: A Story of Longshoring on the West Coast Waterfront by Otto Hagel and Louis Goldblatt, has been placed in the Archives' Library.

Series IX, Boxes 14-15 American Federation of Musicians
Correspondence, clippings and some of Mr. Benson's research notes comprise the record of a wage-scale and union dues dispute within the American Federation of Musicians in the mid 1960's. Included are several issues of a newspaper, The Musician's Voice, published by the dissident Musician's Voice Emergency Committee.

Series X, Boxes 15-17 International Association of Machinists: Disputes
The International Association of Machinists is the subject of this series. Correspondence, clippings and court cases chronicle several disputes within the union from 1962-1968. Also in this series is a representation election conducted at McDonnel-Douglas between the IAM and the Technical Employees of Aerospace Manufacturers (TEAM), an arm of the Teamsters.

Series XI, Box 18 Federation of Union Representatives
This series concerns the attempts of union employees to establish their own union. Known as the Federation of Union Representatives (FOUR), this group tried to establish itself as the bargaining agent for employees of labor unions. Most of the correspondence and clippings deal with the FOUR chapter set up to bargain with the International Ladies Garment Workers Union. The period covered is 1961-1967,
Series XII, Boxes 19-23 N.Y. Civil Liberties Union
Correspondence, reports, court cases and clippings reflect the struggle within the New York Civil Liberties Union over the issue of school decentralization. Mr. Benson was personally involved in this case, opposing decentralization and community control of the New York schools. The material follows the conflict from 1966-1972.

Series XIII, Boxes 23-24 General Union Material
Correspondence, clippings and reports document several internal disputes, including the Building Services Employees International Union, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and an attempt by a rebel group within the Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers and United Paperworkers and Papermakers to secede from the parent unions. These miscellaneous topics date from 1958-1972. Also included in this series is material pertaining to an AFL-CIO attempt to organize immigrant farm laborer's, 1959-1962.
Part I

HERMAN W. BENSON COLLECTION

Box 1, Maritime: Masters, Mates and Pilots, Agreement to Local 88, News

1. Masters, Mates and Pilots; Agreement, 1958
2. ; The Sextant, September 1958
3. ; Reports, 1959-1960
4. ; Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1959-1961
5. ; Elections, 1959-1960
6. ; Committee for Integrity, 1959-1960
7. ; Committee for Integrity, Correspondence, March 1959 to May 1960
8. ; Committee for Integrity, Call for Integrity, 1959-1961
9. ; A. Holdeman, W.H. Brandt Correspondence, April-May 1960
10. ; Correspondence - Charles Crooks and H. Benson, Nov. 1959 to May 1960
11. ; Local 90 Resolutions, 1960?
12. ; Local 90, Main Channel, 1960
13. ; Local 90, Tide Rips, 1960
14. ; Local 90, Tide Rips, 1961
15. ; Locals 5 and 15, Elections, 1960
16. ; Local 14, Newsletter, 1958
17. ; Clippings, 1955-1962
18. ; Miscellaneous
19. ; Local 88, Summary of Events and "Captains in Revolt"
20. ; Local 88, Constitution and By-laws, 1950's-1960's
21. ; Local 88, American Mariners Association, 1953
22. ; Local 88, James Atkins Ouster, 1958
23. ; Local 88, Trusteeship, March - May 1958
24. ; Local 88, Trusteeship, June - December 1958
25. ; Local 88, Trusteeship, 1958
26. ; Local 88, Trusteeship, 1959
27. ; Local 88, Trusteeship, Clippings, 1958-1959
28. ; Local 88, Arthur Holdeman Correspondence and Interview, 1959
29. ; Local 88, Executive Board Minutes, 1960-1961
30. ; Local 88, Elections, 1949-1956
31. ; Local 88, Elections, 1958
32-33. ; Local 88, Elections, 1959 (2 folders)
34. ; Local 88, Elections, 1960
35. ; Local 88, Elections, 1961
36. ; Local 88, News, March 1953 - January 1961

Box 2, Maritime: True Course to Longshoremen Clippings, 1952

1. Masters, Mates and Pilots; Local 88, True Course, 1953-1954
2. ; Local 88, Newsletter, 1958
3. ; Local 88, Union Party Beacon, 1958-1959
4. ; Local 88, Beacon Newsletter, 1959
5. ; Local 88, Beacon Newsletter, 1960
6. ; Local 88, Miscellaneous, 1958-1962
7. ; Local 88, Clippings, 1953-1961
12-13. ; Factional Dispute, 1949 (2 folders)
14. ; Convention - Appeals Committee, 1949
15. ; Convention - Resolutions, 1949
16. Convention - Reports, 1949
17. Convention - Miscellaneous, 1949

Herman W. Benson

Box 2, continued

19. ; Factional Disputes, 1954 and 1960
20. ; Rank and File, The Lookout, 1960-1961
21. ; Clippings, 1949-1950
22. ; Clippings, 1954
23. ; Clippings, April 1-August 1955
24. ; Clippings, October-December 1955
25. ; Clippings, 1958
26. ; Clippings, 1960
27. ; Clippings, February-June 1961
28. ; Clippings, June-November 1961
29. ; Clippings, 1962
30. ; Pilot, February 1954 - June 1961
31. International Longshoremen; 1953
32. ; Handbills, 1953-1954
33. ; Clippings, 1951
34. ; Clippings, 1952

Box 3. Maritime: Longshoremen Clippings, 1953 to Miscellaneous Correspondence

1-2. International Longshoremen, Clippings, Jan - June 1953
3. International Longshoremen, Clippings; July-September 1953
4. ; October 1953
5. ; November 1953
6. ; December 1953
7. ; January 1954
8. ; February 1954
9. ; March 1954
10. ; March-June 1954
11. ; July-December 1954
12. ; 1958-1961
15. Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association, Clippings, 1954-1962
17. Seafarers International Union, Clippings, 1961 and undated
18. Sailors' Union of the Pacific, Clippings, 1958-1963
19. Maritime Unions, Miscellaneous, 1961
22. ; Clippings, 1958
23. ; Clippings, 1959-1961
25. The Maritime Story, Review and Correspondence, 1960
26. "Marine Officers and Union Democracy"
27. Maritime Strike, 1961, Clippings
28. Tug Boat Strike, 1961, Clippings
29. Progressive Correspondence and "Labor Uncertain Trumpet" 1959-1960
30. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, October 26, 1955 (Parker, et.al. vs Lester, et.al.
31. Maritime Correspondence Miscellaneous, 1959-1961

Box 4, International Association of Machinists, Lodge 113

1. Lodge 113, IAM - Chronology and Summary
2. ; Trustee Report, October 1956

Herman W. Benson

Box 4, continued

4. Lodge 113, IAM - "Food for Thought", 1956
5. Auditor's Report, June 1956
6. By-aws 1957 and U.S. Bill of Rights
7. and ACLU, 1958-1960
8. Hayes and Meany Correspondence, November 1958 - May 1958
9. Expulsion Order, February 12, 1959
10. Ciepley-Rappaport Appeals, March 1959
11.Reporter Correspondence, April 1959
13. (2 folders)
15. "A Tale of two Expulsions" Fall 1961
18. U.S. Federal Court Motions and Briefs
20. Sunbeam Strike, May-July 1961
22. 1955-1956
23. 1957
25. November 1958
26. December 1958

Box 5, International Association of Machinists, Lodge 113 and California Right to Work Case

1. Lodge 113, IAM - January-February 1959
2. March 1959
3. April 1959
4. May 1959
5. June-August 1959
6. September-December 1959
7. 1959
8. January-June 1960
9. July-December 1960
12. IAM and California Right to Work Case, 1959
14. April-October 1960
15. 1961-1962
16. JACLU Appeal Brief
17. Notes by H. Benson
18. "Right to Work in Practice" 1959
19. Right to Work Laws - Dept. of Labor, Pamphlets and Clippings
20. ACLU 39th Annual Report re: IAM Dispute
21. IAM, Miscellaneous, 1955-1962

Box 6, Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers and United Papermakers and Paperworkers

1. "The Sources of Vitality in the American Labor Movement" by G. Brooks, Nov. 1958
3. 1959-1960
4. ;January-June 1961  
5. ;June-December 1961  

6. Herman W. Benson

-9-

Box 6, continued

7. ; January 1962  
8. ; March 1962  
9. ; April-December 1962  
10. ; 1963  
11. ; Undated  
12. ; The Emplifier, June 1961-May 1963 A  
15. Western Pulp and Paper Workers, February-June 1962  
17. ; March-June 1961  
18. ; July-December 1961  
19. ; Eastern Tri-Regional Conference Ap & 0 1961  
20. ; 1962-1963  
21. ; Undated  
22. ; Clean-Upp, November 1961-July 1963

Box 7, Airline Stewards and Stewardesses - Michigan Commonwealth Federation - Miscellaneous

1. Airline Stewards and Stewardesses vs Pilots - Study
2. - 1957-1961
3. Airline Pilots Assoc. vs. ALSSA - Motion for Restraining Order, August 1960
4. - Brief, September 1960
5. Airline Pilots Association - 1960-1961
6. Flight Engineers, 1961
7. United Electrical Workers Local 419, 1949
8. Union Democracy in Action
9. Labor, Miscellaneous Clippings, 1948-1961
10. Labor Reform Bills, 1958=1959
11. Michigan Commonwealth Federation - Detroit Convention, March 1944
12-13. - Lansing Convention, July 1944 (2 folders)
14. - Constitution and Platform
15. - Declaration of Principles
16. - News, 1944
17. - Clippings, 1944 and 1946
18. - H. Benson notes
19. - Canadian Federation
20. - Leaflets and Election Materials
21. - Handbills
22. Michigan Democratic State Convention, Clippings, 1944
23. Wayne County CI-PAC, 1944
24. PAC, 1944
25. Political Clippings, 1944-1960
27. Miscellaneous
Box 8, Reports and Newspapers

Washington Log Book (Masters, Mates and Pilots), February 1958- December 1960
East Coast Local 14 News (Masters, Mates and Pilots), October 1959
The Master Mate and Pilot, February - August 1953
National Maritime Union - Report of National Secretary to the 6th Convention, Sept 1947
National Maritime Union - Organizing Report to the 6th Convention, September 1947
National Maritime Union - President's Report to the 6th Convention, September 1947
National Maritime Union - President's Report to the 7th Convention, September 1949
The ARA Log (American Radio Association) April-June 1961
The American Merchant Marine and Federal Assistance Programs, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1960
Merchant Seaman and the War, June 1942
Hearings before Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, House of Representatives, June and July 1955

Portfolio I, Newspapers

Local 88 News (Masters, Mates and Pilots), February 1958-March 1962
The Masters, Mates and Pilots, May 1961-July 1962
The Sextant (West Coast Local 90, Masters, Mates and Pilots)
July 1958-September 1959

Portfolio II, Newspapers

The NMU Pilot, September 1949-December 1961

Portfolio III, Newspapers

West Coast Sailor (Seaman's Union of the Pacific) June 1961-October 1961
American Marine Engineer, March-October 1961
Seafarer's Log, June-July 1961
Marine Fireman, October 1961
NMU-CIO (NMU-CIO Membership Committee), May 1954
IUE-CIO, November 1949
Labor Leader (American Catholic Trade Unions) December 1952-April 1960
Labor Action, September 1949
Part II

Series VII
Boxes 9-12
International Union of Operating Engineers

Correspondence, clippings, court cases and union trial hearings concerning disputes within the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE), 1957-1974. The disputes concern misuse use of union funds by officers of Locals 3 and 12.

Box 9
1. Thomas beacon's Expulsion
2. Deacon-Department of Labor Correspondence, Jan. 1961-April 1967
3. Deacon General Correspondence, 1964-1967
5. Deqcon vs. IUOE, 1966-1967
6. " , 1967
7. "The Expulsion of Thomas Deacon"
8. Deacon Miscellaneous Documents
9. Benson's notes on Deacon Case
10. Union Democracy in Action, Deacon Article
11. Deacon vs. Bronson
12. Deacon Court Cases
13. Local 12, General Membership Meeting, Minutes, Dec. 2, 1961
14-17. " , Executive Board Minutes, 1961-1962; 1966

Box 10
1-4. Local 12, Financial Records, 1961
5-6. Willard Wirtz vs. IUOE Local 12, 1964-1964
7. Local 12, Miscellaneous Correspondence
8. " , F.E.P.C. Complaint, 1966
9. Charles Inglis vs. IUOE Local 12, 1958
10. Local 12, Frank Ortiz-Herman Benson Correspondence, 1968
14-19. IUOE Local 3 Elections, Exhibits A-F
20-22. Renny Burroughs, "Arguments"

Box 11
1-3. Local 3, Election, 1966, Burroughs Correspondence, 1965-1966
4-5. Burroughs General Correspondence, 1964-1970
10. "Burroughs File" 1966
13. " , 1966
14. " , Miscellaneous Clippings
15. Letters to Senators and Congressmen, 1957-1965
16. "Violence"
Correspondence, clippings and court cases document the struggle for the right to work of "B" classification longshoremen. Not union members, these men were hired out of the ILWU hiring hall to fill jobs calling for the least skilled workers. The material covers the period 1958-1972. The Workers Defense League was a participant in this case.
This series consists of correspondence, clippings and some of Herman Benson's notes on a union dues and wage-scale dispute within the American Federation of Musicians. Some of the material pertains to the dissident Musicians Voice Emergency Committee. The series covers the years 1963-1969.

Box 14, continued
8. William Winnick Correspondence, 1965-1968
9. Local 802, 1966
10. AFM-ICSOM, 1969
11. AFM Election, 1963
12. Appeal to AFM, 1967
13. Benson's Notes
14. AFM Miscellaneous Material
15. Musicians Voice
16. MVEC Miscellaneous Material
17. Gurton vs. Arons; Guarnaccia vs. Kenin
18. Gurton vs. Arons and Manuti; Guarnaccia vs. Kenin
19. AFM Clippings

Box 15

The International Association of Machinists is the subject of this series. Several internal disputes marked the years 1959-1968. Correspondence, clippings and court cases are included. The disputes often centered around IAM Local elections.

Box 15, continued
3-7. Alonzo (Buz) Sawyer vs. IAM
8. Buz Sawyer, 1967
11. " , NLRB Material
12. "State of the Union," by Buz Sawyers
13. Roy Brown Correspondence, April-Dec. 1962
Box .15 continued
15. Roy Brown, 1963
16. " , Biography
17. Joe Addison, 1960
21. Ciepley and Rapponot vs. IAM, 1962
22. IAM vs King and Anderson, 1964
23. Eligibility of Snider and Shean

Box 16
1. IAM Representatives Association, 1965
2-3. " , 1966
5. " , 1967
6-7. Official Minutes, California Conference of Machinists,
      Jan. 1964
8. Official Minutes, California Conference of Machinists,
      April 1964
10. TEAM, 1967
11. HOE Committee
12. IAM Liquidation, 1962
13. IAM Lodge 727, 1959
14. IAM District 9
15-18. IAM Lodge 837
19. Al Green, 1961-1962
20. Department of labor Correspondence, 1966-1967
21. IAM-UAW, 1964
22. IAM, West Coast, 1960-1961
23. IAM, Miscellaneous Correspondence
24. IAM, Miscellaneous Clippings
25. IAM, Reprints

Box 17
1-3. IAM Reprints
4. IAM Handbills
5. TEAM Handbills
6. IAM Clippings
7. McDonnel-Douglas Clippings
8. IAM Banner, Chico Local 1853, 1961-1966
9. " , 1964
10. Union News; 1961

Series XI
Box 18
Federation of Union Representatives

Correspondence and clippings comprise most of this series dealing
with the Federation of Union Representatives (FOUR). The central case here involves efforts to establish a FOUR chapter to deal with the International Ladies Garment Workers Union. The material covers the years 1960-1967.

Box 18
1-2. ILGWU-FOUR, NLRB, 1961
4-5. ILGWU vs. NLRB, 1965
6. ILGWU-FOUR, 1965
8. Report of the General Executive Board to the 31st ILGWU Convention
9. ILGWU, Statement of Disbursements and Receipts, 1960
10. FOUR, Correspondence, Dec. 1960-April 1961
12. FOUR, Miscellaneous
15. FOUR, Newsletter, 1961-1964
16-18. FOUR, Clippings
19. La Parola del Popola, Dec. 1962

Series XII
Boxes 19-23
N.Y. Civil Liberties Union

Correspondence, reports, court cases and clippings concerning the New York Civil Liberties Union and a school decentralization controversy comprise this series. The NYCLU split on the issue. Herman Benson opposed the decentralization. The struggle covered several years, 1966-1972.

Box 19
1. NYCLU General Correspondence, 1966-1967
2. " , 1968
4. " , March-April 1969
5. " , May-June 1969
7. " , Jan.-April 1970
10. " , Jan.-April 1971
11. " , May 1971
12. " , June 1971
Box 19 continued
13. NYCLU General Correspondence, July-Dec. 1971
15. NYCLU Miscellaneous Correspondence
16. Civil Liberties Forum Correspondence, June 1969-March 1971
17. Civil Liberties Forum, 1970

Box 20
1. Board of education, Report and Recommendations
2. Final Report of the Advisory Committee on Decentralization
3. NYCLU, Report on Tensions at George Washington High School
4-8. NYCLU, Reports on School Decentralization
9-13. ACLU, Miscellaneous Reports and Correspondence
14. Herman Benson, Commentary on "The Burden of Blame"
15. NYCLU, Election, 1969
16. Proxies, 1969
17. NYCLU, Election, 1970
18. Nominating Petitions, 1970
19. NYCLU, Election, 1971
20. " , 1972
21. NYCLU, Election Reform, 1971-1972

Box 21
1. NYCLU, By-Laws, 1967 and 1969
2. " , Board of Directors, 1968-1969
3. " , Board of Directors, Minutes, Feb.-Dec. 1969
5. " , " , May 1971
6. ACLU, 1969
7. " , Constitution, 1969
8. " , Board of Directors, 1969
9. NYCLU, Requests for Spring Meeting, 1968
10. Belk vs. The Chancellor of Washington University
11. Davis, Lerner and Maxwell vs. NYCLU
12. NYCLU, Academic Freedom Resolution
13. " , Student Protests
14. " , Student Rights
15. " , Anti-Semitism
16. " , and UFT
17. " , Nassau Chapter, 1968
18. " , Miscellaneous
19. Arizona Civil Liberties Union
20. Commentary, March 1972
21. Pygmalion in the Classroom, Review
22. Report of the Civil Liberties Defense and Education Fund
23. Diary of a Teacher
24-25. NYCLU, Pamphlets
Box 22
1-7. NYCLU, Clippings

Box 23
1. Civil Liberties Forum, Nos. 1-11 (undated)

Series XIII
Boxes 23-24
General Union Material

Small quantities of correspondence and clippings dealing with
a variety of research topics, including an attempt by the AFL-CIO
to organize migrant farm laborers in 1959-1962. There is also
some material dealing with a secessionist movement from the
Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers and the United Paperworkers
and Papermakers by the rebel Association of Western Paper and
Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and the Benjamin Electric
Employees Independent Union is also considered in this series.
In addition, there is some interesting material on a one man
crusade for justice within the Building Services Employees
International Union by Hubert Albertz, an elderly immigrant
custodian.

Box 23 continued
3-6. Laborer's Local 261
   7-8. " , Clippings
10. ILGWU and NAACP, 1962
11. " , Clippings

Box 24
1. Farm Labor, 1959-1962
2. To Build a Union
3. Changes in Farming in War and Peace
4. Farm Labor, Clippings
5. Hubert Albertz, Nov. 1961-April 1965
6. " , Jan.-March 1966
8. " , Clippings
10. The BSEIU in the Bronx (By George Albertz)
11. AWPPW, Jan. 1962-July 1967
Box 24, continued

12. AWPPW, Clippings
14. IBEW and BEEIU, 1958
15. Negroes and Labor Unions, Miscellaneous
16. Black Panthers "Platform and Program"
17. Herman Benson, Miscellaneous

Index to Correspondence

Albertz, Hubert, 24: 5-7
Brown, Hoy, IB:: 13-15
Burroughs, Renny, IO: 12-13; 11: 1-9, 12
Deacon, Thomas, 9: 1-6
Sawyer, Alonzo (Buz), 15: 3-11
Index to Correspondents

Albertz, Hybert, 24:5-7
Brown, Boy, 15:13-15
Burroughs, Benny, 10:12-13; 11:1-9, 12  Lindsay, John, 4:14
Deacon, Thomas, 9:1-6
Goldwater, Barry, 5:14
Thomas, Norman, 4:16-17, 26
5:1,9-11

Hayes, A.J., 4:8-9, 4:22-25,
5:3-4
Meany, George, 4:8, 5:2
Sawyer, Alonzo (Buz), 15:3-11