

THE MERLE E. HENRICKSON COLLECTION

Papers, 1945-1973
(Predominantly, 1945-1950)

Accession Number 193
L. C. Number: MS

The papers of Merle E. Henrickson were placed in the Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs in January of 1966 and were opened for research in August of 1966. Additional papers were placed in the Archives by Mr. Henrickson in April of 1979 and in January of 1980 and opened for research in June of 1986.

Merle Henrickson was the President of the United Public Workers of America, Local 275, in the late 1940's. His papers primarily include materials on the United Public Workers, United Office and Professional Workers, Michigan CIO Council, the CIO-PAC, Greater Detroit and Wayne County Industrial Union Council. A few of the papers relate to the Black Militancy activities in Detroit between 1968 and 1973.

Important subjects are:

Merger of the State, County and Municipal Workers of America, CIO
and the United Federal Workers of America, CIO into the United
Public Workers of America, CIO on April 23, 1946.

Among the correspondents are:

Barney Hopkins
Emil Mazey

August Scholle

Correspondence is arranged chronologically and the entire collection is arranged alphabetically by subject.

Contents

4 manuscript boxes

Box 1

Black Militancy, 1968-1969
Black Militancy, 1971, 1973
Brightmoor District Council
CIO, Correspondence
CIO, Political Action Committee
CIO, Resolutions
CIO-PAC, Greater Detroit & Wayne County Indust. Union Council,
1947 Constitution
CIO-PAC, Greater Detroit & Wayne County Indust. Union Council,
1948 Constitution
CIO-PAC, Greater Detroit & Wayne County Indust. Union Council,
1948 Convention
CIO-PAC, Greater Detroit & Wayne County Indust. Union Council,
Correspondence, July 1946 - March 1950 (35 folders)
CIO-PAC, Greater Detroit & Wayne County Indust. Union Council,
Correspondence, undated
CIO-PAC, Greater Detroit & Wayne County Indust. Union Council,
Delegate Body Council Meeting, 1945-1949 (5 folders)
CIO-PAC, Greater Detroit & Wayne County Indust. Union Council,
Financial Statement, September 10 - December 31, 1948

Box 2

CIO-PAC, Greater Detroit & Wayne County Indust. Union Council,
Miscellaneous
CIO-PAC, Greater Detroit & Wayne County Indust. Union Council,
"Newsletter," January - March 1947
CIO-PAC, Greater Detroit & Wayne County Indust. Union Council,
"Newsletter," November 1948
CIO-PAC, Greater Detroit & Wayne County Indust. Union Council,
"Newsletter," 1949
CIO-PAC, Greater Detroit & Wayne County Indust. Union Council,
"Newsletter," n.d.
CIO-PAC, Greater Detroit & Wayne County Indust. Union Council,
Statement of Receipts and Disbursements, June 1947 - July 1948
CIO-PAC, Wayne County CIO Council, "News-Notes," March - July 1949
& February 1950
Detroit Mayoral Election, 1945
Detroit Mayoral Election, et. al., 1949
Dodge Local 3
Election, 1946
Fair Employment Practices Committee
Henrickson, Merle, Precinct Delegate
Housing
Labor Federation of Palestine
League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Detroit, 1945-1946
Legislative Guide, 1947-1948
Marzani, Carl

Box 2, cont'd.

Merger, SCMWA and UFWA, April 1946

Michigan Citizen's Committee

Michigan CIO Council - Convention Calls

- Correspondence, 1946
- Correspondence, January, March, May 1947
- Correspondence, July - December 1948
(2 folders)
- Correspondence, 1949
- Correspondence, 1950
- Correspondence, n.d.
- Financial Statement, September 30, 1949
- FDR Camp
- Legislative Conference, 1949
- Legislative Program, 1941
- Manuals

Box 3

Michigan CIO Council - Miscellaneous

- PAC, Correspondence, 1946-1949 (4 folders)
- PAC, Report
- PAC, "So You Want to be a Precinct Delegate"

Michigan CIO News, Correspondence

Michigan CIO News Service, February 1947 - August 1949 (3 folders)

Box 4

Michigan CIO News Service, September 1949 - November 1949
(3 folders)

Michigan CIO News Service, n.d.

Michigan CIO Women's Auxiliary

Miscellaneous

National Federation of Telephone Workers

National Planning Association

News of United Public Workers of America, CIO, 1947 - 1948

Newspaper Guild of Detroit

Progressive Party of Michigan

Reports of Campaign Attacks on UPW

Resolutions, Miscellaneous

State, Municipal Workers of America, Inter-Union Communication

State, County, Municipal Workers Association, Miscellaneous,
Local 177

Summary of Proceedings, UPWA Convention, May 1948

Taft-Hartley

"The Case of Joseph Sachs"

UAW-CIO, Tenth Annual Convention

UAW, Miscellaneous

UOPW, Local 26, Correspondence, October 1948

UOPW, Local 26, "Educational Notes," May 10, 1938

UOPW, Miscellaneous

UOPW, Statement of Executive Board, 1948, 1949

UPW, Detroit Joint Board

Box 4, cont'd.

UPW, International Office, Audit, October 31, 1947
April 30, 1948
October 31, 1948
UPW, International Office, Correspondence, 1946-1949 (4 folders)
UPW, International Office, Department of Education, Research &
Publicity
UPW, International Office, Miscellaneous
UPW, International Office, "Newsletter," June 8, 1948
UPW, International Office, Statement by Abram Flaxner
UPW, International Office, News Release
UPW, Local 75, Miscellaneous
UPW, Michigan Region VI, Correspondence, October and December, 1948
Wayne County Medical Society

Non-manuscript Material:

Several t.v. films, two audio tapes and a miscellaneous collection of campaign buttons, relating to the campaigns of Senator Edward Kennedy and Senator George McGovern in 1972 have been placed in the Archives Audio-Visual Collection.

Merle E. Henrickson Papers, Part II

8 linear feet

1940s-1990s (bulk 1950s-1970s)

Walter P. Reuther Library, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI

Finding aid written by Aimée Ergas on August 16, 2010.

Accession Number: 193

Creator: Merle and Wilma Henrickson

Acquisition: Part II of the Merle & Wilma Henrickson Papers were placed in the Reuther Library by Merle Henrickson and Wilma Wood Henrickson on December 15, 1992 and February 2, 1993.

Language: Material entirely in English.

Access: Collection is open for research.

Use: Refer to the Walter P. Reuther Library *Rules for Use of Archival Materials*. **Restrictions: Researchers may encounter records of a sensitive nature – personnel files, case records and those involving investigations, legal and other private matters. Privacy laws and restrictions imposed by the Library prohibit the use of names and other personal information that might identify an individual, except with written permission from the Director and/or the donor.**

Notes: Citation style: Merle and Wilma Henrickson Papers, Box [#], Folder [#], Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs, Wayne State University

Related Material: Reuther Library Collections: Merle E. Henrickson Papers Part I, Detroit Federation of Teachers Records, Michigan Federation of Teachers Records, United Community Services Central Files (re Brightmoor District Council), Lewis B. Larkin Papers, Kenneth V. and Sheila M. Cockrel Papers, David Cohen Papers, Mary Ellen Riordan Papers (closed), Helen Bowers Papers, AFT Human Rights and Community Relations Department Records, Damon J. Keith Papers

PLEASE NOTE: Material in this collection has been arranged by series ONLY. Folders are not arranged within each series – we have provided an inventory based on their original order. Subjects may be dispersed throughout several boxes within any given series.

Abstract

[Refer to Part I of the papers for Merle Henrickson's early career and experiences in the labor movement.] From the 1940s through the 1980s, Merle Henrickson was involved with the neighborhood and community councils of Detroit, particularly the Brightmoor District Council. He was a major figure in the citizen movement to improve public schools in Detroit through the Better Schools Association in the 1940s and the Serve Our Schools (SOS) Committee in the 1950s through 1980s. Henrickson was Divisional Director of Planning and Building Studies in the Detroit Public Schools School Housing Division. As such, he was deeply involved in school desegregation in the 1970s, including the Bradley v. Milliken case. Wilma Henrickson received her B.A. and M.A. from Wayne State University and was a historian, teacher and writer. She chaired the Social Studies Department of Detroit's Murray-Wright High School for 15 years and was active in the same city and community associations as her husband. Among her several publications is the compendium of Detroit history that she edited, *Detroit Perspectives*, published by Wayne State University Press in 1991. Part II of the Henrickson papers reflect the work and activities of both Merle and Wilma.

Important Subjects:

Better Schools Association
Black history and politics
Bradley v Milliken
Brightmoor District Council and Community Center
City planning
Community and neighborhood councils
Desegregation
Detroit history and politics
Detroit Public Schools history and curriculum
Detroit Public Schools Department of Planning and Building Studies
Poe-Jefferson Neighborhood Council
School construction and renovation in Detroit
School desegregation and integration
School district boundaries and pupil assignment
School transportation
Serve Our Schools (SOS)

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into 2 series.

Series 1: Merle Henrickson (Boxes 5-11)

Series 2: Wilma Henrickson,(Boxes 11-12)

Folders in each series are simply listed by their location within each box. They are not arranged, so any given subject may be dispersed throughout several boxes within each series.

Unnumbered items in Box 7 & part of Box 8 are in their original binders. All other material is in numbered folders.

Series 1

Box 5

1. District and Community Councils, 1940s
- 2-3. District and Community Councils, 1950s-1960s
- 4-15. Federation of Community Councils, 1950s
- 16-20. Federation of Community Councils, 1960s

Box 6

1. Detroit Communities in Council Action, 1957
2. What About Housing Cooperatives? By Henrickson, 1945
- 3-4. Poe-Jefferson Neighborhood Council, 1940s
- 5-13. Brightmoor District Council and Community Center, 1950s-1960s
14. Brightmoor Community Center, proposed budget, 1964
15. The Illustrated News, 1962-1964
- 16-18. Labor documents, various pamphlets, 1940s-1950s

Box 7

- Detroit Public Schools, Pupil Reassignment Plan with Revisions and Illustrative Maps as Implemented, January 26, 1976
- Detroit Public Schools, Pupil Assignment Plans: September 19, 1975; October 18, 1975 revised; September 1976, as revised June 4, 1976; September 1978; September 1979; September 1980; September 1981; 1982-83; 1983-84; 1984-85; 1985-86; 1986-87; 1987-88
- Detroit Public Schools, Office of Desegregation, Proposed Desegregation Strategies, first draft, March 19, 1975
- Detroit Public Schools, Office of Desegregation, Desegregation Plan, 1975-76
- Detroit Public Schools, Citizens Advisory Committee on School Needs, General Record, 1957-1958
- Detroit Public Schools, Architectural Planning Department, Report on School Buildings, May 9, 1957
- Detroit Public School, School Housing Division, Survey of Acquisition, Development and Utilization of Recently Acquired School Sites in Relation to Site Standards Adopted in 1959, August 1967, revised November 1970

- Detroit Public Schools, Department of Planning and Building Studies and School Housing Division, Procedures for Analysis of Recent Population Trends and Future Enrollment Prospects, November 1967
- Detroit Public Schools, Department of Planning and Building Studies, Membership/Population/Enrollment Counts, 1960s-1981
- Detroit Public Schools, Citizens Advisory Committee on School Needs, Sub-Committee on School Plant, General Record, 1957-1958

Box 8

- Detroit Public Schools, Department of Planning and Building Studies, Possible School Closings and Consolidations, November 24, 1987
 - Detroit Public Schools, Office of the Superintendent, Office of Legal Affairs, Student Transportation in The Detroit Public School System: A Legal Guide, January 7, 1976
 - Detroit Public Schools, Inventory of Facility Needs, Revised 1972
 - Detroit Public Schools, School Housing Division, The Price of Excellence: An Inventory of Facility Needs in the Detroit Public Schools, August 1962
 - Detroit Public Schools, Citizens Advisory Committee on School Needs, Findings and Recommendations (Abridged), November 1958
 - Detroit Public Schools, Preparing Pupils for the World of Work, 1962
 - Detroit Public Schools, Citizens Advisory Committee on School Needs Consultants' Reports to the School Program (Curriculum) Sub-Committee, July 1958
 - Detroit Public Schools, Citizens Advisory Committee on Equal Educational Opportunities, Findings and Recommendations (Abridged), March 1962
1. Detroit Educational Bulletin, No. 2, 1920
 2. Better Schools Association, 1946
 3. Better Schools Association, 1947
 4. Better Schools Association, 1948
 5. Better Schools Association-Serve Our Schools (SOS) Committee, 1949
 - 6-9. Serve Our Schools (SOS) Committee, historical documents, 1950s
 10. Serve Our Schools (SOS), statements and addresses, 1940s-1960s
 11. Serve Our Schools (SOS), membership and voter lists, 1950s

Box 9

1. Serve Our Schools (SOS) Committee, 1950
2. Serve Our Schools (SOS) Committee, 1951
3. Serve Our Schools (SOS) Committee, Telephone Campaign list, 1951
4. Serve Our Schools (SOS) Committee, 1952
5. Serve Our Schools (SOS) Committee, 1953
- 6-7. Serve Our Schools (SOS) Committee, 1954
8. Serve Our Schools (SOS) Committee, 1955
- 9-12. Serve Our Schools (SOS) Committee, 1956
13. Serve Our Schools (SOS) Committee, 1957
- 14-15. Serve Our Schools (SOS) Committee, 1958
- 16-17. Serve Our Schools (SOS) Committee, 1959
18. Serve Our Schools (SOS) Committee, 1960

19. Serve Our Schools (SOS) Committee, 1961
20. Serve Our Schools (SOS) Committee, 1962
21. Serve Our Schools (SOS) Committee, 1963
- 22-24. Serve Our Schools (SOS) Committee, 1964
25. Serve Our Schools (SOS) Committee, 1965

Box 10

1. Integration Plans, early, 1960s-1970s
2. Modified Feeder Pattern Plans, 1971
3. Roth Panel summaries, 1972
4. Integration Plan A, 1971-1972
5. Integration Plan B, 1971
6. Integration Plan C, 1971
7. Integration, miscellaneous plans, undated
8. Desegregation planning data, 1974
9. State Superintendent documents, 1971-1972
10. Pupil assignment, 1972
11. Personnel data, 1972
12. Interim orders, 1972
13. Governance, 1972
14. Construction policy, 1972
15. Special education, 1972
16. Transportation data, 1970-1972
17. Specialized high school and base school plans, 1971
18. Paired schools and troikas, 1971
19. Universal voluntary enrollment plan, 1971
20. Detroit Public Schools, documents and correspondence, 1974-1975
- 21-32. Detroit Public Schools, documents and correspondence, 1970s-1980s
33. Detroit Public Schools, Super Task Force Report, 1971
34. Detroit Public Schools, Desegregation Report to Judge Roth, 1972

Box 11

1. Detroit Public Schools, Magnet School Plans, 1971
2. School desegregation, court testimony, 1971
3. School desegregation, pupil reassignment plans, 1975
4. School desegregation, briefs, 1973
5. School desegregation, various documents, 1970s
6. School desegregation, various documents, 1980-1982
7. School desegregation, plaintiff's desegregation plan for pupil assignment, 1975-1976
8. School desegregation, State Board of Education critique of DPS plan, 1975
9. School desegregation, Detroit Public Schools response to court order, 1975
10. School desegregation, State Board of Education plans, 1972
11. School desegregation, Detroit Public Schools integration plan, 1972
12. Metropolitan plans, 1971
13. Bradley v. Milliken, Court of Appeals opinions, 1976, 1980
14. Bradley v. Milliken, documents, 1975

- 15-16. Bradley v. Milliken, orders, opinions and documents, 1978
- 17. Bradley v. Milliken, Detroit Board of Education revised proposed pupil reassignment plan, 1978

Series 2

- 18-19. Detroit city planning, 1970s-1980s
- 20. Economics, notes and ideas, 1960s-1970s
- 21. Detroit Public Schools history, articles and correspondence, 1970s-1980s
- 22. Detroit Public Schools history, alternative social studies course plan, 1978
- 23. A Soviet View of the American Past, 1960
- 24. Detroit Public Schools, American history teachers' guides, 1964, 1965, 1970
- 25. Detroit Public Schools, Teachers' Bulletin No. 4, 1966
- 26. Detroit Public Schools history, Murray-Wright High School
- 27. Detroit Public Schools history, Board of Education reports, 1890s
- 28. Detroit Public Schools history, Mathilde Coffin, 1896
- 29. Detroit Public Schools history, elections, 1961, 1964
- 30. Detroit Public Schools history, Moehlman text
- 31. Detroit Public Schools history, pamphlets and directories, 1950s-1970s
- 32. Detroit Public Schools history, 1964 campaign
- 33. Detroit Perspectives, Mathilde Coffin chapter
- 34. Detroit Perspectives, manuscript and notes, Gilded Age
- 35. Detroit Perspectives, various chapter notes and materials
- 36. Detroit Perspectives, final editor's notes and design, 1989-1990
- 37. Detroit Perspectives, manuscript material not used

Box 12

- 1-5. Bradley v. Milliken, court documents, 1970s
- 6-8. Bradley v. Milliken, Roth panel pupil assignment plan, 1971
- 9. Detroit politics and labor, 1930s-1940s
- 10. Michigan politics, Gus Scholle-CIO, circa 1940s
- 11. Sojourner Truth homes, 1942
- 12. Labor-Reuther, 1950s-1960s
- 13. Detroit politics, WCO, 1960s
- 14. Detroit politics, Louis Lomax-News, 1967
- 15. Detroit politics, model cities, 1960s-1970s
- 16. Detroit politics, 1970s-1980s
- 17. Detroit politics, 1980s-1990s
- 18. Observation Balloon newsletters, 1967-1970
- 19. Detroit politics, Model Neighborhood Area, 1960s-1970s
- 20. Model Neighborhood Area Citizens Governing Board, Education Committee report, 1968
- 21. Black politics, C.C. Douglas, 1960s
- 22. Mayor Young, 1960s-1990s
- 23. Detroit Black history
- 24. Detroit progressives, Elenbaas and Fragnoli
- 25. Detroit politics, Inter-City Voice, 1970-1971
- 26. Detroit politics, Urban Alliance, 1970s
- 27. Equal Justice Council, Court Watcher study, 1969

28. St. Joseph's Episcopal, draft resistance, 1969-1971
29. Michigan Civil Rights Commission, 1960s
30. Grigsby, Snow, 1981
31. Detroit history, World War II
32. Detroit women, Feminist Women's Club, 1950s-1980s