

## **Shelton Tappes Collection**

**Papers, 1934-1989**

**1 linear foot  
1 storage box  
1 oversize folder**

Accession #220  
DALNET #  
OCLC #

Shelton Tappes was born in Omaha, Nebraska on March 27, 1911 and came to Detroit in the late 1920s. A UAW member since 1937, Mr. Tappes was particularly active in the organization of the Production Foundry Unit at the Ford Rouge plant in 1941. He was a part-time organizer for the Foundry Unit, the first Foundry Unit chairman, and a member of the negotiating committee that secured the UAW's first contract with Ford Motor Company in 1941. He served as recording secretary of Local 600 from 1942 through 1944. Defeated for a fourth term, he later went to work on the staff of Ken Bannon, where he was recognized as a top authority on contract interpretation and grievance procedure. From 1954 until his retirement in 1976, Mr. Tappes served as an international representative for the UAW in the Ohio area. He was active throughout his life in a number of civil rights organizations and was one of the UAW's most vocal advocates for African-American representation on the UAW executive board. Mr. Tappes died in 1991.

A transcript of an oral interview with Shelton Tappes may be found in the Blacks in the Labor Movement series of oral histories on deposit at the Reuther Library.

### **Important subjects in the collection:**

Afro-American automobile industry workers  
Afro-American labor leaders  
UAW Local 600 Production Foundry Unit  
UAW-Ford Motor Company strike, 1949  
World War II and the UAW

### **Important correspondents in the collection:**

Robert P. Griffin

### **Non-manuscript material:**

A few contracts and constitutions have been placed in the Archives Library, and a few photographs and buttons have been transferred to the Archives Audiovisual Collection.

<u>Box-folder</u>	<u>Folder heading</u>
1-98	Addes to testify at damage trial; clippings, 1946
1-21	African Americans in U.S. history; clippings, 1960s
1-37	Automation and Foundry Production, n.d.
1-30	Auto worker wages; UAW, 1947
1-11	B & E Machine Products; NLRB case, 1958
1-55	Black power; article, 1968
1-68	Carver, George Washington; clipping, 1942
1-70	CIO; welcome to new members, 1934
1-26	Citizens' Housing and Planning Council; newsletter, 1945
1-85	Compensation and Housing Dept.; report, 1946
1-34	Congress and labor; UAW, 1945
1-100	Correspondence, misc., 1963-70
1-24	Detroit Committee for a Permanent FEPC, 1945
1-50	"Detroit: Heart of the Arsenal"; clipping, 1943
1-83	FEPC Railroad hearing cancellation, 1943
1-31	Fisher Industries; organizing, 1957
1-64	Ford Drive Rally, 1941
1-63	Ford strike; clipping, letter, 1949
1-101	Ford strike; songs, 1949
1-38	Foundry Dept.; newsletter, 1958
1-78	Foundry Machine Shop Fraternity, 1941
1-57	Frankenstein, Richard; speech, 1945
1-79	International Afro-American Museum; newsletter, 1970
1-58	Labor-Management Production Committees, 1942
1-95	Leadership Conference on Civil Rights; Tappes' delegate card,
1952	
1-15	Local 2; <i>Eye Opener</i> ; 6th anniv. edition, 1958
1-71	Local 200, Windsor; clipping, 1948
1-41	Local 600, 1950
1-27	Local 600; activities, 1940s
1-69	Local 600; Chicago Convention, 1942
1-16	Local 600; committee mtg. and grievances, 1942
1-22	Local 600, decline of; clipping, 1967
1-75	Local 600; election, 1941
1-44	Local 600; election leaflet, n.d.
1-87	Local 600; election leaflet, n.d.
1-59	Local 600; election leaflet, 1949
1-62	Local 600; election leaflet, 1949
1-91	Local 600; election leaflet, 1951
1-10	Local 600; elections; leaflet, 1943 c.
1-49	Local 600; Exec. Board mtg., 1947 Oct
1-74	Local 600; Exec. Board mtg., 1947 Oct, Nov

<u>Box-folder</u>	<u>Folder heading</u>
1-60	Local 600; General Council mtg., 1941 Dec
1-46	Local 600; resolution, n.d.
1-96	Local 600; rules for delegates to conventions, 1949
1-9	Local 600; <i>Spotlite</i> issues, corres., 1941-45
1-51	Local 600; Veterans' Dept. mtg., 1947
1-2	Marston workers organizing, 1957-58
1-45	Michigan Citizens for Roosevelt; receipt, 1945
1-32	Michigan Credit Union League, 1942
1-67	Michigan gubernatorial election; Local 600, 1942
1-7	National CIO Council to Abolish Discrimination; report, 1945
1-81	National Ford Conference; minutes, 1941
1-73	National Negro Congress (Detroit); "Negroes and the National Defense" speech, 1941
1-47	Negro plumbers complaint against Chicago Journeymen Plumbers Union #130, 1942
1-76	"Negro Workers: Do You Know What Reuther's Election Means You?," 1946
to	
OS folder	"Negroes and the War"; Office of War Information publication, 1942
1-25	"Negroes in Combat"; National Negro Congress publication, 1945
1-8	Nowak, Stanley; Defense Committee, 1942-43
1-35	Organizing leaflets, n.d.
1-19	Organizing leaflets and artwork, 1950s
1-6	People's Institute of Applied Religion, Inc.; leaflet, n.d.
1-18	Poverty March on Washington; clipping, 1968
1-53	President's Day Comm. on Fair Employment Practices, 1942
1-82	Production Foundry elevator operators, 1942
1-94	Production Foundry Unit history, 1941
1-12	Racine Foundry election, 1942
1-42	Racism; foundry workers' resolution, n.d.
1-20	"Reuther for Negro on the UAW Board"; clipping, 1943
1-54	Reuther, Victor; Det. Board of Ed. election, 1945
1-93	Reuther, Walter P.; death of; Tappes to be questioned, 1970
1-65	Reuther, Walter P.; Farm Equipment "goon raid," 1949
1-28	Reuther, Walter P.; last public statement, 1970
1-13	Reuther, Walter P.; "The Bosses' Boy," 1945
1-33	Segregation and Busing; clippings, 1960s-1970s
1-36	Severance pay clauses in UAW contracts, 1958
1-89	Social Security, 50th anniversary of, 1988

<u>Box-folder</u>	<u>Folder heading</u>
1-40	Staff Council newsletter, 1980
1-99	Stellato, Carl, up for UAW Regional job; clipping, 1952
1-23	Strike officers, duties of, 1946
1-43	Tappes for UAW V.P.; leaflet, n.d.
1-92	Tappes, Shelton; clipping, 1980
1-17	"This is the UAW-CIO"; pamphlet, 1954
1-66	Thomas, R.J.; testimonial, 1945
1-39	Todd-Phillips Home for Boys; fundraising, n.d.
1-14	"To Unite . . . Regardless"; UAW Education Dept. leaflet, 1943
1-4	UAW and racism; UAW IEB statement, 1969
1-29	"UAW-CIO Wants FEPC"; leaflet, n.d.
1-88	UAW International Representatives' manual, 1970 c.
1-90	UAW International Representatives Staff Council anniv., 1988
1-5	"UAW Washington Report," 1980
1-1	United Staff Union; constitution, etc., 1976
1-48	U.S. War Dept. statement on fair practices, 1942
1-61	Vaughn, Jackie III; clipping, n.d.
1-3	Wagner-Murray-Dingell Social Security bill; article, 1943
1-72	Wayne County CIO convention preparations, 1946
1-86	West-Side Auto Workers; leaflet, 1947-48
1-52	"White Stereotypes of the Negro," 1944
1-80	Wilson, Martha; clipping, 1989
1-84	World War II, UAW effort in, 1942
1-77	World War II; Negro publishers pledge loyalty, 1942
1-97	World War II; support for Negro Women in Industry, 1942
1-56	World War II; Win the War Council, 1940s