The papers of Heber Blankenhorn were deposited at the Archives of Labor History and Urban Affairs on August 29, 1969 by Mrs. Ann Blankenhorn.

Heber Holbrook Blankenhorn was born in Orrville, Ohio on March 26, 1884. He received an A.B. from the College of Wooster in 1905 and, after a year's tour of Western Europe, returned to receive an A.M. in history from Columbia University in 1910.

Having rejected a faculty position at a small Midwestern college, he accepted a position as a reporter in 1910 on the staff of the New York Evening Sun where he became assistant city editor by 1914. Mr. Blankenhorn became familiar and interested in the problems and conditions of laborers and their efforts to organize effective unions. During his career with the Evening Sun, he continuously gathered research data by covering the major strikes of the period and meeting both liberal and radical supporters from social and political movements.

Upon completion of military service in World War I as a strategist of wartime propaganda in France, Heber Blankenhorn returned to his earlier interests and became co-director of the Bureau of Industrial Research in 1919. This portion of his career marks a period of firsthand knowledge into the origin of the InterChurch World Movement and its role in the Steel Strike of 1919. Also, as temporary publicity director for the Amalgamated Clothing Workers' Union in 1921, he aided in the establishment of the first labor daily, The New York Leader. Between 1921 and 1924, activities also included the publication of two books which dealt with labor unions in the steel industry and writing various labor journals. Mr. Blankenhorn expanded his interests in unionism by joining the international staff of Labor as a foreign correspondent in 1924.

With a background in both labor journalism and publicity management, he was called to join a public relations staff under the National Recovery Act and later worked as an assistant to Senator Robert F. Wagner on the passage of the National Labor Relations Act. Continuing as an industrial economist to both chairmen of the first and second National Labor Boards, the LaFollette Committee hearings and investigations cases launched against the Ford Motor Company in Detroit.
Again, from 1942 to 1946, he served in the United States Army on an innovative team who furthered the effectiveness of psychological warfare. Mr. Blankenhorn was awarded the Legion of Merit and retired with the rank of Colonel. Upon terminating his military leave of absence, he returned to the NLRB but resigned the following year. During 1949, expertise as a fact-finder led him to direct the UAW investigation into the attempts made on the lives of Victor and Walter Reuther. Upon completion of this assignment, Europe became his reporting base once more as he returned to the staff of Labor.

Mr. Blankenhorn retired to his home at Alexandria, Virginia in effort to publish his memoirs. He died on January 1, 1956 and was unable to complete the task.

The Heber Blankenhorn Collection covers the period of 1906 to 1967.

The important subjects are:
- Early NLRB activities
- LaFollette Committee investigations
- Steel and automobile unionization
- Detective agencies and industry
- Social and economic conditions of coal-miners during 1920's
- InterChurch World Movement and the Steel Strike of 1919
- Investigations be UAW into Reuther shootings, 1949
- Spanish Revolution

Among the correspondents are:
- J. Warren Madden
- Robert LaFollette Jr.
- John L Lewis
- Walter Reuther
- Estes Kefauver
- Peter Blume

Description of Series:

Box 1-2 Series I    NLRB, 1934-1947
Memoranda and correspondence are arranged alphabetically with miscellaneous material following in chronological order.

Sub-Series A. Reports, hearings and investigations - LaFollette Committee, 1936-1939. Arranged chronologically.


Sub-Series C. Ford Cases, 1940-1946. Miscellaneous material arranged chronologically.

Sub-Series D. Smith Committee, 1940-1941. Miscellaneous material arranged chronologically.

Sub-Series E. Miscellaneous Material, 1934-1939. Arranged chronologically.
Description of Series (cont.)

Box 3   Series 2   Psychological Warfare Activities, 1942-1948. Confidential files and miscellaneous material arranged chronologically.

Box 3   Series 3   UAW-CIO, 1949-1951. Correspondence arranged alphabetically.

Box 4-5   Series 4   Articles unpublished essays and reports, 1914-1958. Arranged chronologically.

Box 5-6   Series 5   Personal Correspondence and miscellaneous biographical data, 1906-1956. Correspondents listed alphabetically.

Box 6-13   Series 6   Memoirs: Correspondence, chapter material and manuscript drafts, 1956-1967. Related correspondence listed by subject followed by chapter material and manuscript drafts.
FOLDER INVENTORY

Box I   Series I NRA and NLRB, 1934-1947.

1-5. Memoranda - Madden and others, 1937.
1-10. Correspondence - Mason, C.H., 1941-1942.

Sub-Series A.
Reports, hearings and investigations - LaFollette Committee, 936-1939.
1-17. Official Questionaire for Company Activities, October, 1936.

Sub-Series B.
1-34. Investigation, John L. Lewis, July, 1936.
1-38. Investigation, Donald Bachart, 1937.

Box 2

Sub-Series C.
Ford Cases, 1940-1946.
2-2. Daily Membership, UAWA Ford Drive, July, 1940-1941; Cumulative chart of the UAWA Ford Drive, July, 1940-May 1941. [Filed separately in oversize box]
2-3. Scrapbook: Clippings. Detroit Investigation, 1940-1941. [Filed separately and shelved following box 13]
2-4. Investigation Material, 1941.

Sub-Series D.
Smith Committee, 1940-1941.
2-7. Merle Vincent, "The Origin and Purpose of the Smith Committee," April, 1940.

Sub-Series E.
Miscellaneous Material, 1934-1939.
2-11. "Steel Labor, the NIRA, and the Amalgamated Association," Part II.
2-15. Regional Staff Roster, 1936.
2-18. Miscellaneous Reports and notes, 1939.

Box 3  Series II - Psychological Warfare Activities, 1942-1948.
3-1. Confidential Files, 1942.
3-2. Confidential Files, 1943.
3-3. Confidential Files, 1944.
3-4. Confidential Files, 1945.
3-5. Confidential Files, 1946.
3-6. Citations and memorabilia.
3-8. Clipping, "Les Derniers Nouvelles; a Alaer le Soir," (1943), Part I. [Filed separately in oversized box]
3-10. Soldatenwacht and the "Black" Leaflets, 1944.
3-12. Report: Capture of Brest, September, 1944.
3-17. Propoganda leaflets - W.W. II


Sub-Series A: Reports and Miscellaneous Investigation Material, 1949-1954
3-32. Winstead, Ralph, FBI Interview, August, 1950.
3-33. Kefauver Committee: Miscellaneous material.
1950-1954.

Box 4 Series IV Articles, unpublished essays and reports.

4-2. "Findings of U.S. Industrial Relations Commission (1915)."
4-3. Heber Blankenhorn, "Newspapers in Wartime,"
The Public, (March 16, 1918).
4-4. Urban League of Pittsburgh Pa., interview with
official, November 20, 1919.
4-5. Testimony of Prof. Francis B. Tyson, Pittsburgh
University, 1919.
4-7. Heber Blankenhorn, "National Industrial Conferences
and after," 1919.
4-8. R. Cabot and Robert Dunn, "The Cabot Investigation
of Espionage in American Industry." (1920).
4-9. "Outline of Work: Publicity, Dept. of Amalgamated
Clothing Workers, 1920-1921"
4-10. Heber Blankenhorn, "Marching Through West Virginia,"
The Nation, (Sept. 14, 1921.)
4-12. Research Material, Somerset County, April, 1922.
The Survey, (May 13, 1922.)
4-14. Heber Blankenhorn, "Question for Coal Barons,"
The New Republic, (May 24, 1922).
4-15. Heber Blankenhorn, "Report and Recommendations on
the New York Collection," (February, 1923).
4-16. Heber Blankenhorn, "Towards a Labor Research
Department (April, 1923)
4-17. Heber Blankenhorn, "Workers as Researchers, Labor
Age (April, 1923).
The American Mercury, (September, 1922).
4-23. Heber Blankenhorn "Kindhearted Dog: a Roadside
Conservation," (c. 1929-1933).
4-24. Heber Blankenhorn, "The Keeper of the Ypres Inn,"
(c. 1929-1933). Part I.
4-25. Heber Blankenhorn, "The Keeper of the Ypres Inn,"
Part II.
4-27. Heber Blankenhorn, "The Stronghold of Leventre,"
(c. 1929-1933).
(c. 1929-1933).
4-30. Heber Blankenhorn, "The Danger," (c. 1929-1933.)
4-33. Heber Blankenhorn, "Comedy in Two Decades and a Curtain Call," (1932).
4-35. Heber Blankenhorn, "Venture in 'Liberty'" (January 21, 1933).
4-42. Heber Blankenhorn, "Progress into Fear," (n.d.)

Box 5

5-4. Clippings from Labor, 1951.
5-6. Heber Blankenhorn, "To Make or Brake Spain's Revolution," (c. 1951).
5-10. Heber Blankenhorn, "Surprise is the Acid for Pictures in the Exhibition," (n.d.).
5-11. Miscellaneous Notes, 1953.

Series V - Personal Correspondence and Miscellaneous Biographical Data. 1906.
5-17. Personal Correspondence. Blankenhorn, Heber, 1907.

Sub-Series A. Biographical Data, 1910-1956.
5-28. Miscellaneous Biographical Notes and memorabilia.

Box 6

Series VI Memoirs: Correspondence, Chapter Material and Manuscript drafts, 1956-1967.
6-9. 6-16. Chapter Material (7 folders)

Box 7
7-1. to 7-19. Chapter Material (19 folders).

Box 8
8-1. to 8-6. Chapter Material (6 folders).
8-7. Manuscript (MS) Draft
8-8. Manuscript (MS) Draft
8-9. Manuscript (MS) Draft
8-10. Manuscript (MS) Draft

Box 9
9-1. to 9-10. MS Draft (10 folders).

Box 10
10-1. to 10-9. MS Draft (9 folders).

Box 11
11-1. to 11-12. MS Draft (12 folders).

Box 12
12-1. to 12-10. MS Draft (10 folders).

Box 13
13-1. to 13-12. MS Draft (12 folders).

All photographs have been removed from the Collection and are available in the Audio-Visual Collections.