

Title: Irving Richter Collection

Genre: **Papers**

Dates: **1934-1988**

Size: **1 linear foot: 1 storage box**

ID #: **932**

OCLC #:

Scope & Contents

Irving Richter was born in New York City on October 3, 1911. Trained as a labor economist under Selig Perlman at the University of Wisconsin, he worked in the Transient and Investigation Divisions of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (later, the WPA) from 1934 until 1938 and served as president of FERA Lodge 139 of the American Federation of Government Employees.

In 1943 he left a job as an economist with the U.S. Labor Department and joined the staff of the UAW-CIO Washington office as its legislative representative and director of political action, writing a syndicated column on legislative affairs for union newspapers and lecturing widely to union groups. A member of the anti-Reuther caucus of the UAW, Richter was identified as a Communist by Walter Reuther and his supporters and fired as part of the general purge of leftists in 1947.

He formed Organization Services, Inc. in 1948, providing services to labor unions until 1963 when he entered Cambridge University as a doctoral student in economics. He taught briefly at Mount Holyoke College, moving in 1968 to the University of the District of Columbia where he stayed until his retirement in 1984. Irving Richter died on May 13, 1989. His personal recollections and interpretation of the postwar history of the American labor movement, *Labor's Struggles*, was published posthumously in 1994.

Subjects

American Federation of Government Employees
CIO--History
Labor Management Relations Act (Taft-Hartley), 1947
Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.
Trade-unions—Political activity
Trade-unions and communism—United States
UAW factional disputes
UAW Legislative Department

Correspondents

Eugene Cotton	Richard Sasuly
Elizabeth Eudey	H. A. (Herbert Arthur) Turner
Lincoln Fairley	Arthur H. Vandenberg
David Montgomery	Edith Van Horn

Related Collections

UAW Secretary-Treasurer George Addes
UAW Veterans' Department
Irving Richter oral history interview (untranscribed)

Contents

[Box 1]

1. Articles published; "The Decline of Organized Labor: A View from 1945," 1984
2. Articles published; "The Evolution of Federal Housing Programs and Their Impact on the District of Columbia," 1976, 1983
3. Articles published; miscellaneous, 1939-84
4. Book reviews published, letters to the editor, 1938-84
5. Books published; *Labor's Struggles*, corres. re, 1985-88
6. Books published; *Political Purpose in Trade Unions*; corres. re, reviews, 1971-76
7. Correspondence; Eudey, Elizabeth, 1977-84
- 8-10. Correspondence; miscellaneous, 1964-88
11. Correspondence; Turner, H. A., 1963-74
- 12-14. FBI file on Irving Richter
15. FBI; research file, 1977, 1984-85
16. Federal government jobs; corres. and reports, 1934-38
17. HUAC testimony, 1956
18. Interview with Richter about organizing public workers in the 1930s, 1983
- 19-20. Newspaper columns, 1945-48
21. Powell, Adam Clayton, Jr.; "The Powell Affair and Organized Labor" (unpublished paper by Richter), c. 1977
- 22-24. Powell, Adam Clayton, Jr.; research file
25. Speaking engagements, 1974-84
26. UAW-CIO Legislative Department; corres., reports, clippings, minutes, 1943-47
27. Vandenberg, Arthur; corres. and reports, 1943-47
28. *Washington Post* craft unions' strike, Oct 1975-Apr 1976

Irving Richter Papers, Part 2

.5 linear foot (1 MB)

1945-1980s

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

Finding aid written by Jennifer Meekhof on May 29, 2012

Accession Number: LP000932

Creator: Irving Richter

Acquisition: Part two materials were accessioned in September 2010.

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 which might identify an individual, except with written permission from the Director and/or the donor.**

Notes: Citation style: “Irving Richter Papers, Part 2, Box [#], Folder [#], Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs, Wayne State University”

PLEASE NOTE: Folders in this collection are not necessarily arranged in any particular order. The box folder listing provides an inventory based on their original order. Subjects may be dispersed throughout the collection.

Abstract

Part two of Richter's papers contain copies of his articles for "Behind Washington Headlines" and research files, consisting of notes, articles and clippings, for his writings.

Important Subjects:

AFL-CIO

Industrial relations--United States

International Brotherhood of Teamsters

International Union, United Automobile Workers of America (CIO)

Labor--United States

Labor Management Relations Act (Taft-Hartley), 1947

Trade unions--Political activity

Important Names:

Hoffa, James R. (James Riddle), 1913-

McCarthy, Joseph, 1908-1957.

Meany, George, 1894-1980.

Arrangement

Folders are listed by their location within each box. They are not necessarily arranged, so any given subject may be dispersed throughout the entire collections.

Box 2

1. Behind Washington Headlines, distribution and deadlines, 1946
- 2-4. Behind Washington Headlines, 1945-47
5. Clippings and notes, 1980s
6. AFL-CIO incomes, research material, 1970s
7. Corrupt Teamsters, articles and clippings, 1960s
8. IBT non-corrupt, articles and clippings, 1960s