

Marc Stepp Collection
Papers, 1940-2000
(Predominantly, 1970's-1980's)

2 linear feet
2 storage boxes

Accession #1440

The papers of Marc Stepp were placed in the Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs by Mr. Stepp between 1993 and 2004 and opened for research in March of 2006.

Marcellus (Marc) Stepp was born January 31, 1923 in Versailles, Kentucky. The family moved to Evansville, Indiana when he was eleven years old. After graduation from Lincoln High School, he took the bus to Detroit, looking for adventure and opportunity. He worked a number of jobs before being drafted in 1943. After service in the Army Air Corps, he returned to Detroit and attended trade school, Highland Park adult education classes and night school at the University of Detroit, eventually earning an accounting degree.

Stepp worked for nineteen years at the Chrysler Highland Park plant and advanced through positions of union leadership from shop committeeman, chief steward and vice president of Local 490 to the Chrysler-UAW National Negotiating Committee. In 1967 he was appointed international representative with Region 1B, was elevated to assistant regional director in 1973 and in 1974 was elected International Vice President, assuming Nelson Jack Edwards' spot on the union's International Executive Board.

He was active in numerous community and civil rights organizations and in Democratic Party politics, running unsuccessfully for a seat on the all-white Detroit Common Council in 1965. Marc Stepp retired from the UAW in 1988.

The Marc Stepp Collection consists primarily of his speeches as UAW International Vice President. Files are arranged alphabetically by subject and then chronologically.

Important subjects in the collection:

Affirmative action
Black Shriners
Black workers
Effects of international trade and multinational corporations on workers
Impact of economic recession on black workers
Impact of Reagan administration policies on black workers
Job training and retraining
Occupational health and safety
Plant closings
South Africa
Unemployment
U.S. industrial policy

Non-manuscript material:

A number of photographs and audio and video tapes as well as items of memorabilia have been placed in the Archives Audiovisual Collection.

Related collections:

UAW International Executive Board Oral Histories

Box 1

1. Awards, testimonials, 1978-90
2. Biographical information
3. Black workers; speech reference material
4. Correspondence, misc., 1974-88
5. Democratic Party; First Congressional District Organization, 1964-66
6. Detroit Common Council election campaign, 1965
7. Economic Crisis and Political Response in the Auto City Conference; papers, 1981
8. Education, 1948-59
9. Education; Lincoln High School (Evansville, Ind.), 1940-88
10. Fox Lake Property Owners Association, 1983-88
11. Media coverage, 1966, 1977-78, 1988
12. Metropolitan Detroit Labor and Community Association, 1965
13. Reagan, Ronald, and blacks; speech reference material
14. Shriners, 1980's
15. Speech; National Wage and Hour Councils Leadership Conference, 9 Dec 1974
16. Speech; Skilled Trades Conference, 17 Dec 1974
17. Speech; Bertha Gordy Family Hour, 3 Feb 1975
18. Speech; introduction of Rep. James Corman at Washington, D.C. unemployment rally, 4 Feb 1975
19. Speech; Region 1E meeting, 20 Feb 1975
20. Speech; Conference of Midwest Mayors, 22 May 1975
21. Speech; Region 4 Fair Employment Practices Conference, 27 Jun 1975
22. Speech; Operation PUSH Convention, 7 Aug 1975
23. Speech; Region 5 Summer School, 8 Aug 1975
24. Speech; Region 8 Summer School, 14 Aug 1975
25. Speech; Region 3 Independent Parts and Suppliers (IPS) meeting, 6 Sep 1975
26. Speech; H.R. testimony in support of legislation to make Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday a national holiday, 9 Sep 1975
27. Speech; Muskegon County United Way Labor Leadership Rally, 15 Sep 1975
28. Speech; National IPS meeting, 3 Oct 1975
29. Speech; "Affirmative Action in Employment," 11 Nov 1975
30. Speech; King David Baptist Church 25th anniversary banquet, 6 Dec 1975
31. Speech; Third National Institute for Black Elected Officials, 12 Dec 1975

32. Speech; testimony on the standard for occupational exposure to coke oven emissions, Dec 1975
33. Speech; Eighth Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Celebration, 15 Jan 1976
34. Speech; Delaware State UAW CAP Council Annual Convention, 17 Jan 1976
35. Speech; Wisconsin Governor's Conference on Employment and the Prevention of Crime, 3 Feb 1976
36. Speech; Region 2 IPS meeting, 24 Mar 1976
37. Speech; "Food Stamp Program," Black Issues Conference, 30 Apr-2 May 1976
38. Speech; U.S.-Japan Metalworkers Conference, 3-4 May 1976
39. Speech; Foundry Wage and Hour Council, 21 May 1976
40. Speech; effects of international trade and multinational corporations on workers, c. May-Jun 1976
41. Speech; IPS Conference, 30 Jul 1976
42. Speech; opening of UAW-Eaton contract negotiations, Sep 1976
43. Speech; Citizen Power in Criminal Justice Conference, 6 Nov 1976
44. Speech; statement on medical indigents before Wayne County Board of Commissioners Human Resources Committee, 29 Nov 1976
45. Speech; unemployment and crime, Jan 1977
46. Speech; Hamtramck Rotary Club, 17 Mar 1977
47. Speech; UAW Women's Conference, 20 Apr 1977
48. Speech; Region 3 Leadership Training Conference, 22 Apr 1977
49. Speech; United Labor Community Services Conference, 1 May 1977
50. Speech; introduction of Ambassador Eliav at Histadrut Tribute Dinner, 5 May 1977
51. Speech; H.R. testimony on the president's hospital cost containment legislation, 11 May 1977
52. Speech; UAW Women's Conference, 20 May 1977
53. Speech; Region 4 Fair Practices Council, 17 Jun 1977
54. Speech; "Moving Detroit Forward," 23 Jun 1977
55. Speech; UAW National Advisory Council on Anti-Discrimination, 24 Jun 1977
56. Speech; Booker T. Washington Businessmen's Association luncheon, 13 Jul 1977
57. Speech; "The UAW and the Job Crisis," National Urban League Conference, 22 Jul 1977
58. Speech; Berea St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 28 Aug 1977
59. Speech; IPS Conference, 15 Sep 1977
60. Speech; Region 1B Leadership Institute, 26 Sep 1977

61. Speech; "Economic Impact of the Transit System," SEMTA Transportation Conference, 17 Nov 1977
62. Speech; Guardians of Michigan, 18 Nov 1977
63. Speech; Michigan Conference on Group Prepaid Legal Services, 3 Dec 1977

64. Speech; WSU Conference on the Crisis in Affirmative Action, 24 Feb 1978
65. Speech; Region 9 Tri-State Fair Practices and Civil Rights Conference, 9 Mar 1978
66. Speech; Highland Park Caucus Club banquet, 11 Mar 1978
67. Speech; UAW SEMCAP Full Employment Conference, 17-18 Mar 1978
68. Speech; "Minorities and the City: Perspectives on Overcoming the Barriers," National Urban League Economic Development and Employment Conference, 27-31 Mar 1978
69. Speech; Jewish War Veterans of the U.S. Brotherhood Seminar, 11 Apr 1978
70. Speech; University of Chicago Graduate School of Business Lecture Series, 10 May 1978
71. Speech; "A U.S. Trade Unionist View of American Employment Policies," economic dislocation study tour, Jun 1978
72. Speech; testimony at OSHA hearing on control of carcinogens in the workplace, 10 Jul 1978
73. Speech; NAACP symposium on U.S. Supreme Court's Bakke decision, 21 Jul 1978
74. Speech; Automotive News World Congress, 24 Jul 1978
75. Speech; H.R. testimony on National Employment Priorities Act, 15 Aug 1978
76. Speech; Brockman Institute Annual Speakers Forum, 26 Aug 1978
77. Speech; Fair Practices Seminar, 6-10 Sep 1978
78. Speech; Region 2B Summer School, 19 Oct 1978
79. Speech; Society of Professionals in Dispute Resolutions Annual Conference, 31 Oct 1978
80. Speech; basic speech on inflation, Nov 1978
81. "Combatting Structural Unemployment from the Perspective of Labor," New Detroit/Committee for Economic Development Forum seminar, 4 Dec 1978

82. Speech; Western New York Council on Occupational Safety and Health, 10 Feb 1979
83. Speech; "Productivity, Technology, and Job Security: A Union Perspective on the 1970s," Labor-Management Conference on Collective Bargaining and Labor Law, 15 Mar 1979
84. Speech; City Care: A National Conference on the Urban Environment, 10 Apr 1979

85. Speech; Reclaiming Our Future—Dealing with Problems of Plant Closings and Tax Abatements Conference, 28 Apr 1979
86. Speech; "Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow—Civil Rights in the United States," Chicago Jewish Labor Committee Labor Conference on Civil Rights, 20 Oct 1979
87. Speech; public hearing on plant closings (Philadelphia), 16 Feb 1980
88. Speech; Senate testimony on plant closing legislation, 7 Mar 1980
89. Speech; Joint Center for Political Studies dinner, 18 Mar 1980
90. Speech; "The Impact of Increased Female Participation in the Labor Market on Minority Workers," National Urban League Economic Empowerment in the 80's Conference, 25 Mar 1980
91. Speech; statement before Detroit City Council on plant closings, 8 Apr 1980
92. Speech; "Plant Closings and the Right to a Job—Labor's Challenge for the '80s," 12 Apr 1980
93. Speech; NAACP Woodford County (Ky.) Chapter banquet, 21 Jun 1980
94. Speech; Lillian Hatcher retirement party, 22 Jun 1980
95. Speech; Operation PUSH Convention, 17 Jul 1980
96. Speech; "Notes on Imports, Employment, and Productivity," Democratic National Convention Black Caucus Forum, 11 Aug 1980

Box 2

1. Speech; "Role of the Worker in the Evolving Economy of the 80s," Senate testimony, 18 Sep 1980
2. Speech; Federated County Democrats of Ohio, 20 Sep 1980
3. Speech; United Christian Church Men's Day Program, 28 Sep 1980
4. Speech; Conference on Providing New Careers for the Unemployed, 6 Oct 1980
5. Speech; public forum on the political crisis of OSHA, 21 Oct 1980
6. Speech; "Why Black Parent Unity," Elma Lewis School of Fine Arts, 1 Nov 1980
7. Speech; Employment Conference, 13 Nov 1980
8. Speech; WSU National Anti-Draft Conference, 13 Feb 1981
9. Speech; Detroit—Managing the Uncertain 80's forum, 4 Apr 1981
10. Speech; University of Northern Iowa Center for Urban Education Black History Week program, 20 Apr 1981
11. Speech; Michigan NAACP Convention, 9 May 1981
12. Speech; Michigan House testimony on the Michigan Community Preservation and Recovery Act, 11 May 1981
13. Speech; International Metalworkers Federation World Congress, May 1981

14. Speech; UN Seminar on the Role of Transnational Corporations in South Africa and Namibia, 12 Jun 1981
15. Speech; H.R. testimony on extension of the Voting Rights Act, 23 Jun 1981
16. Speech; Chrysler Center Management Club, 16 Sep 1981
17. Speech; International Metalworkers Federation Executive Committee meeting, Oct 1981
18. Speech; statement at Leland Commission hearings on low and moderate income participation within the Democratic Party, 14 Nov 1981
19. Speech; Democratic Party 12th Congressional District Issues Conference, 14 Nov 1981

20. Speech; "Collective Bargaining in the 1980's," Jan 1982
21. Speech; labor leaders' meeting, 14 Mar 1982
22. Speech; WXYZ-TV interview about contract for Chrysler workers in Canada, 30 May 1982
23. Speech; "Putting Americans Back to Work," SEMCAP conference, 16 Jun 1982
24. Speech; NAACP Black Trade Unionists, 28 Jun 1982
25. Speech; National Summit Conference on Black Economic Development and Survival, 26 Jul 1982
26. Speech; "The War on Black Workers," SCLC Convention, 12 Aug 1982
27. Speech; Labor Day, 1982
28. Speech; Kansas City NAACP Freedom Fund Dinner, 16 Oct 1982
29. Speech; Coalition of Black Trade Unionists Health and Safety Conference, 30 Oct, 1982
30. Speech; Region 9 Leadership Conference, 27 Nov 1982

31. Speech; Michigan Council on Alcoholism Conference, 6 May 1983
32. Speech; "The Employment Crisis and Government's Role in Solving It," University of Detroit Business School, 7 May 1983
33. Speech; Mercy College Community Reception and Awards Program for College Prep 1983 Summer Session, 8 Aug 1983
34. Speech; "Human Impact of Economic Decline and Dislocation," American Sociological Association, 2 Sep 1983
35. Speech; H.R. testimony on the international political situation in South Africa, 14 Sep 1983
36. Speech; Phi Delta Psi Fraternity (U-D), 9 Nov 1983
37. Speech; "A U.S. Industrial Policy—The Time Is Now," AUTOFACT, 14 Nov 1983
38. Speech; King David Lodge A.F.&A.M. and Greater Queen Esther Grand Chapter O.E.S., 19 Nov 1983
39. Speech; Ferndale Co-Op, 20 Nov 1983
40. Speech; WDIV editorial reply on Vincent Chin murder, 2 Dec 1983

41. Speech; "A U.S. Industrial Policy—The Time Is Now," Baltimore A. Philip Randolph Institute, 8 Dec 1983
42. Speech; job training and retraining panel discussion, 29 Feb 1984
43. Speech; "A Labor Leader's View Toward Unionism and Black Progress," Fourth National Policy Institute, 1 Mar 1984
44. Speech; "Quality," Chrysler Outside Supplier Quality Meeting, 13 Mar 1984
45. Speech; AFL-CIO Dept. for Professional Employees Technology Conference, 7 Apr 1984
46. Speech; "Current U.S. Trade Problems: What Should Be Done?," Detroit Country Day School, 11 Apr 1984
47. Speech; "Today's World of Work and the Future," Little Rock Baptist Church, 20 May 1984
48. Speech; Gary Branch NAACP annual meeting, 30 May 1984
49. Speech; "the Economic Issue and the 1984 Election—Labor's Drive for a Progressive American Industrial Economy," Metro Detroit AFL-CIO Convention, 1 Jun 1984
50. Speech; NAACP National Convention panel presentation on employment, training and retraining, 3 Jul 1984
51. Speech; AFT Convention Technological change workshop, 21 Aug 1984
52. Speech; Michigan Labor History Society Labor Day Mobilization Luncheon, 29 Aug 1984
53. Speech; Indiana University, 30 Aug 1984
54. Speech; Michigan House testimony on the balanced budget amendment, 5 Sep 1984
55. Speech; Labor's Role in Helping the Troubled Worker Conference, 26 Sep 1984
56. Speech; "South Africa: Sanctions or Constructive Engagement," Congressional Black Caucus Legislative Weekend, 28 Sep 1984
57. Speech; "The Struggle," Mondale rally, 9 Oct 1984
58. Speech; UAW Joint Councils Conference, 8-11 Oct 1984
59. Speech; Evansville, Indiana NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet, 19 Oct 1984
60. Speech; Mayflower Congregational Church of Christ, 13 Jan 1985
61. Speech; "The Future of Black America," Channel 56 Forum on Black America, 30 Jan 1985
62. Speech; Brookings Institution Conference, 18 Apr 1985
63. Speech; UAW Civil Rights Advisory Council Conference, 20 Jun 1985
64. Speech; Foundry Wage and Hour Conference, 3 Apr 1986
65. Speech; New Center Kiwanis Club Luncheon, 9 Apr 1986

66. Speech; OSHA testimony on proposed rule on occupational exposure to formaldehyde, 14 May 1986
67. Speech; Lewis College of Business commencement, 15 May 1986
68. Speech; UAW Local 599 and GMI Forum on Industrial Policy in the U.S., 22 May 1986
69. Speech; National Urban League Labor Affairs Luncheon, 11 Sep 1986
70. Speech; Detroit Round Table of Christians and Jews, 30 Sep 1986
71. Speech; Indiana Labor and Management Conference, 31 Mar 1987
72. Speech; initiation of the UAW-Chrysler research program, 7 Mar 1988
73. Speech; Atlanta civil rights group, 16 Jul 1988
- 74-75. Stepp family
76. Stepp family; Charles Buford
77. UAW International Vice President; appointment, 1974-75
78. UAW International Vice President; nominating speech given by John Coyne, 4 Jun 1986
79. UAW Local 490, 1956-61