

UAW LOCAL 1198 COLLECTION

Papers, 1952-1976
(Predominantly, 1963-64)

.75 linear feet

Accession Number 872
L.C. Number MS

The papers of UAW Local 1198 were placed in the Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs in December of 1977 by the UAW Region 8 Sub-Regional office in Nashville and were opened for research in September of 1983.

Local 1198 was chartered in 1952 to represent the workers of the American Metal Products Company in Union City, Tennessee which manufactured automobile seats. This plant had originally moved from the Detroit area to escape unionization of its work force.

Strikes occurred in 1955 and 1961. When the workers returned after the 1961 strike the company did not accept them all back which resulted in a prolonged dispute which was finally settled in 1963 by the National Labor Relations Board which recommended reinstatement. However, a dispute over firings in the following year led to further NLRB hearings and arbitration.

The company, whose name had changed to Lear Siegler, Inc. experienced cutbacks in orders in the 1970s, and in 1975 Local 1198 agreed to a wage reduction. However, they struck again in 1976 over the attempt of Lear Siegler to also scale down benefits. During the strike the company announced that they were closing due to insufficient business, and the local became defunct.

This collection documents the various prolonged disputes between the company and the local and the local's ultimate demise.

Important subjects covered in the collection are:

Plant closings
Runaway shops
Strikes, 1961, 1976

Among the important correspondents are:

Bradley, Lee Roy
Browning, Nelson K.
Goerlich, Lowell Holly,
John Fred Reynolds, John
J. A., Jr.

Series I
UAW Local 1198, 1952-1976
Boxes 1-2

Correspondence, agreements, NLRB case files, arbitration files, and other materials relating to UAW Local 1198 as the representative of the workers at AMPCO/Lear Siegler. Much of the material relates to the strike of November 1961 and its aftermath. Files are arranged alphabetically by type of material or subject.

Box 1

- 1-3. Agreements AMPCO/Lear Siegler, 1952-70
- 4-8. Arbitration & Grievances, 1963-73
- 9-10. Correspondence, 1962-69
- 11. Clippings, 1955-76
- 12-17. NLRB, 1962-63

Box 2

- 1-3. NLPB, 1964
- 4-6. UAW Local 1198 vs. AMPCO; Cases, 1963-64

Non-manuscript material

A small number of agreements and pamphlets have been placed in the Archives Library.