THE IWW SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA BRANCH COLLECTION

Papers, 1922-1981 (Predominantly 1963-1979)

3 linear feet

Accession Number 1129 L.C. Number MS

The papers of the IWW San Francisco Bay Area Branch were placed in the Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs in July of 1983 by Louis Prisco, Branch Secretary and opened for research in April of 1984.

The IWW San Francisco Bay Area Branch was formed in the early 1960s when some members of the already-existing Oakland branch petitioned the IWW General Headquarters for a separate charter. Members engaged in a leafletting campaign throughout the Bay area to encourage new memberships, then moved to the university campuses in 1963 to take advantage of increasing student activism. San Francisco branch members were actively involved in the Berkeley Free Speech fight in September of 1964 and one month later organized a strike of the employees at a popular local coffee house, Cedar Alley. The strike lasted until the owner filed for bankruptcy and closed the establishment in mid-1965.

Membership in the branch peaked during the time of the anti-war movement in the late 1960s and early 1970s and declined rapidly following the end of American involvement in Vietnam. In the spring of 1975, a special election was held to determine whether or not to disband the branch; the membership voted in favor of retaining their charter. The San Francisco branch remains active to this day, although on a much smaller scale than in the previous decades.

Important subjects covered in the collection are:

Anarchism Coffeehouse strike, 1964-65

Foreign radical groups IWW branch activities

Among the important correspondents are:

Richard Ellington Fred Thompson Goddard Graves Walter Westman

An index to subjects and correspondents will be found on p.7

IWW SF Bay Area Branch Collection

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6 manuscript boxes

Series I, General Office Files, Leaflets and Pamphlets, 1922-1981, Boxes 1-6: Correspondence, leaflets and pamphlets relating to the activities of the San Francisco branch as well as their contacts with other radical groups.

Non-manuscript material:

Nine photographs relating to a demonstration by IWW San Francisco branch members against the Nixon administration and the Vietnam war as well as an IWW lapel button and posters have been placed in the Archives Audio-Visual Collection. Numerous radical newspapers received with this collection are available in the Archives Library.

Series I General Office Files, Leaflets and Pamphlets, 1922-1981 Boxes 1-6

Correspondence, leaflets, pamphlets and other publications relating to the activities of the IWW San Francisco Bay Area Branch as well as their contacts with radical and political groups throughout the United States and abroad. Included are materials concerning the Cedar Alley coffee- house strike and newsletters from other IWW branches. Files are arranged alphabetically by subject or title.

Box 1

- 1. Anarchism and Anti-Social Behavior, pamphlet, (N.D.)
- 2. "Anarchism and Trade Unionism", article, Apr 1951
- 3. Anarchist Black Cross, newsletters, 1973-74
- 4-5. Anarchist leaflets
- 6-7. Announcements for fund-raising events and activities
 - 8. "Anti-Bolshevist Communism in Germany", Paul Mattick, 1947
 - 9. Anti-Franco leaflets, c.1964
 - 10. Authoritarian Conditioning, pamphlet, Oct 1970
 - 11. Bank statements re: San Francisco branch, 1974-75
 - 12. Black civil rights and black power, leaflets
 - 13. Catalogs re: labor and political films, 1974-79
 - 14. Chico Conference re: student activism, Chico, Calif.,1971-72
 - 15. Class War Prisoner, bulletins, 1973, 1977
- 16-17. Coffeehouse strike, leaflets and legal briefs, 1964-65
 - 18. Communication Workers' Industrial Union no.560, leaflets
- 19-23. Correspondence, 1963-70

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- 1-8. Correspondence, 1971-79
 - 9. Correspondence re: Berkeley branch, 1970-71
- 10. Correspondence re: Frank Cedarvall tour, 1971-72
- 11. Correspondence re: General Headquarters, Chicago, 1972
- 12. Correspondence re: orders for IWW materials, 1971-74
- 13. Correspondence, (N.D.)
- 14-15. Delegate's and Branch Secretary's report sheets, 1964-74
 - 16. Delegate's supply inventories, 19 74-75
- 17-18. Educational and informational leaflets

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- 1-2. Educational and informational leaflets
- 3. Election materials, 1964, 1970-77
- 4. Eleventh World Festival of Youth and Students, Havana, 1978, booklet
- 5. Employment Problems of Offenders, report, 1974
- 6. <u>Federation of Australian Anarchists</u>, bulletins, 1975
- 7-10. Financial records, 1968-75
- 11. Folk music newsletters, 1976-79

- 12. Franco's Prisoners Speak, booklet, 1960
- 13-19. General Organization Bulletins, 1970-76

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- 1-4. General Organization Bulletins, 1977-81
 - 5. "HIP" Products strike, leaflets, 1971
- 6-7. Hispanic civil rights, leaflets and pamphlets
 - 8. House Un-American Activities Committee, San Francisco hearings, transcript, 1960
 - 9. Internationalism, U.S. Communist publication, 1978-79
 - 10. IWW branch newsletters; Boston, 1973-79
 - 11. IWW branch newsletters; Boulder, Colo., (N.D.)
 - 12. IWW branch newsletters; Canada, 1972-79
 - 13. IWW branch newsletters; Chicago, 1964-65, 1974-79
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- 16. IWW branch newsletters; London, England, 1975-76
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- 18. IWW branch newsletters; Malmo, Sweden, (N.D.)
- 19. IWW branch newsletters; New York City, 1973-75
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- 1. IWW branch newsletters; San Francisco, 1964-65, 1972-78
- 2. IWW branch newsletters; Santa Cruz, 1976
- 3. IWW branch newsletters; Tacoma-Olympia, 1973-79
- 4. IWW contract, sample copy
- 5. Korea Link/Commentary, newsletter, 1976-77
- 6. Labor law reference materials
- 7. Legal brief re: University of California Regents, 1971
- 8. Liberty in Chains, D.N. Pritt, (N.D.)
- 9. Mailing labels
- 10. <u>Manifesto on the Russian Revolution</u>, booklet, 1922
- 11-14. Meeting minutes, 1963-77
 - 15. Meeting notices, 1972-78
 - 16. Merritt College Reporter, newspaper, 1972
 - 17. <u>Nationalization and the New Boss Class</u>, Tom Brown, (N.D.)
 - 18. Native American Solidarity Committee, newsletter, 1976
 - 19. Organizing leaflets, IWW
 - 20. Pacifica Nexus, newsletter, 1974-75
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 - 22. Press releases, 1971-72
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 - 28. Restaurant employee unions, leaflets

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- Self-Management Group, leaflets and newsletters, 1972-74
- Sexual Revolution, pamphlet, 1971 Shell Oil Co., strike leaflets
- 5. Social General Strike, Tom Brown
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- Social Revolutionary Anarchist Federation, bulletins, (N.D.)
- Soldiers and Strikers, Vincent Pinto, 1974
- Some Thoughts on Chairman Mao, pamphlet, (N.D.)
- 10. Syndicalism the Workers' Next Step, Philip Sansom, 1951
- 11. Synthesis, newsletters, 1976-77
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- Trade Unionism or Syndicalism?, Tom Brown, 1940
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- 16. Undeveloped Resource, report, Jan 1965
- Unemployment and the Machine, 1934
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- Why Strikes Fail, pamphlet, 1976 20.
- Why Unemployment?, draft for leaflet, 1971
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- 25. Work Force, booklet, (N.D.)
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- World Strength of Communist Party Organizations, U.S. State 27. Department report, 1969
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