

## Women's Collections in the Archives of Labor History and Urban Affairs

In recent months an increasing number of students and researchers have made inquiries about the existence of papers and material in the Archives concerning the role of women in the labor movement. This Newsletter represents an attempt to inform interested researchers of collections, both large and small, concerning this subject.

### THE MARY HEATON VORSE COLLECTION

Mary Heaton Vorse, one of the prominent labor writers and journalists of the twentieth century, is perhaps best known for her books, *Labor's New Millions* and *Strike*, accounts detailing the rise of the CIO and the strike at Passaic, New Jersey, in 1926. From 1912, when she became an observer and then a participant in the Lawrence, Massachusetts, textile strike, Mary Heaton Vorse wrote extensively about labor—the steel strike of 1919, the sit-down strikes of 1937, the textile strikes of the 1920's, child labor, housing for war workers, migrant workers, Progressive Miners of America, War Labor Board, AFL and CIO Conventions, and many other related events and subjects. But she primarily wrote about people, particularly the impact of work, living conditions, leisure, love, and family on women.

After eighteen years as a journalist, wife, and mother, Mary Heaton Vorse advised in a manuscript entitled "Working Mother,"

I do not think a woman can have a job and at the same time bring up her children well. All this talk of cooperating with one's husband in earning for the family seems to me like as much pure poison. I would unhesitatingly give the advice to any young woman: make money at your peril, the peril of your family.

In an outline of an article entitled "Women at War" she wrote of a War Department plan for a Bureau of Women and a study of "woman power" in connection with war preparation. Her manuscript, "The Industrial Mother," concerning the relationship of infant death rates to industrialization, concluded,

our industrial mothers are unprotected and therefore their babies as well, except for a few day nurseries connected with certain industries, the country as a whole has given no consideration to the question, and yet it is one that example has shown is not hopeless and which may be met by intelligent attention to the subject by State and employer.

Ms. Vorse's papers, which were placed in the Archives by her family in 1966, comprise eighty linear feet of drafts, notes, plot outlines, and published and unpublished manuscripts of her books and articles; published and unpublished articles and stories by other authors, including her husbands, Albert White Vorse and Joseph O'Brien, and her son, Heaton White Vorse; correspondence; daily, monthly, and annual notes; general information files; clippings; and personal family papers for the period 1841 to 1966.

Ms. Vorse, who was born in 1874 and raised in Amherst, Massachusetts, achieved her initial success as a writer of light fiction and her published writings include sixteen books and more than 400 articles and stories which appeared in more than seventy periodicals. She also wrote news articles for the International News Service, United Press, Labor Press Associates, Federated Press, and newspapers in New York, Washington, and Paris. From 1912 until her death in 1966, she traveled throughout the United States and abroad observing and reporting on strikes, civil disturbances, war, revolutions, and political upheavals.

The correspondence in the collection consists of letters to and from Ms. Vorse, members of her family, and close personal friends. Among the correspondents are Jane Addams, John and Katy Dos Passos, Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, William Z. Foster, Susan Glaspell, Emma Goldman, Sinclair Lewis, Robert Minor, Harvey O'Connor, Agnes O'Neill, Walter P. Reuther, Margaret Sanger, Lincoln Steffans, Carlo Tresca, William Allen White, and many other prominent labor, political, and literary figures.

The subjects discussed in the correspondence and general information files of the collection are almost too numerous to mention. A partial listing includes agricultural workers; American Labor Party; Anderson, Indiana, sit-down strikes; Associated Countrywomen of the World; Ella Reeve Bloor; British trade unionism; CIO; Chrysler strikes in 1937 and 1950; Consumer's League; civil liberties; Father Corrigan, the "waterfront priest"; criminal syndicalist laws; effects of strikes on women; Gastonia, North Carolina, textile strike; industrial diseases; Industrial Workers of the World; infant mortality; Office of Indian Affairs, 1935-36; International Congress of Women; Mesabi iron range strike in 1916; old age; postwar conditions in Germany, Italy, France, and Greece; problems and conditions of auto and textile workers; pure foods campaigns; Sinarquista movement in Mexico; Smith Act; Steel Workers Organizing Committee; Women's International Suffrage Alliance; Workers' Party; waterfront crime and corruption in New York and New Jersey in the 1950's; workmen's compensation; and Writers' War Board.

With the cooperation of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin two boxes of material concerning strikes in Gastonia and Marion, North Carolina, and Elizabethton, Tennessee, 1928-30, were added to the Vorse Collection in 1971. A completed guide to the collection is available, and the collection is open to interested researchers.

### THE KATHERINE POLLAK ELLICKSON COLLECTION

The papers of Katherine Pollak Ellickson, former Associate Director of Research and Assistant Director of the Social Security Department of the AFL-CIO, were placed in the Archives of Labor History and Urban Affairs in 1969. Ms. Ellickson, before joining the AFL-CIO, taught



for the Women's Trade Union League, 1926-28; Bryn Mawr Summer School for Women Workers, 1927-29; Brookwood Labor College, 1929-32; and Southern Summer School, 1934. From 1935 to 1937, she served as assistant to the Director of the CIO and later worked for the National Labor Relations and Social Security Boards. In 1942 she returned to research work with the CIO and in 1961 was appointed to the President's Committee on the Status of Women. She later engaged in work for the President's Commission on Equal Opportunity.

The Ellickson Collection, containing fifty linear feet of material, covers the period 1929 to 1968, and consists of correspondence, minutes of meetings, clippings, lecture outlines, memos, reports, bulletins, interviews, speeches, research notes and reports, and photographs. The collection is open to qualified researchers and a typewritten guide is available.

One of the most important groups of records in the Ellickson Collection relates to the formative years of the CIO. The most complete set of minutes available for the first eighteen months of the CIO, summaries of CIO-AFL confrontations, correspondence, ghost-written speeches, key printed material, reports on specific industries, and related material can be found in this series.

Files concerning her involvement in workers' education at various schools, particularly Brookwood Labor College, form another portion of the collection. Correspondence, memos, and other material concerning Brookwood courses and policies, relations with the AFL, suspicions of subversion, and the Conference for Progressive Labor Action involvement are included.

Correspondence, leaflets, bulletins, and interviews concerning the organizing and activities of miners in West Virginia and textile workers in North and South Carolina for the period 1929-31 are contained in the Ellickson Collection. Other subjects are credit unions, company unions, post-war planning, Consumers' Price Index, productivity, guaranteed annual wage, unemployment insurance, agricultural workers, and the Continental Congress of Workers and Farmers.

Ms. Ellickson's files concerning the President's Commission on Equal Employment Opportunity and Committee on the Status of Women are of particular interest. The Equal Employment Opportunity material contains correspondence, memos, studies, speeches, and published material on minority opportunities, vocational training, testing procedures for hiring, civil rights, and related subjects. The Committee on the Status of Women, headed by Eleanor Roosevelt with Ms. Ellickson as Executive Secretary, studied problems of equal pay and rights, Indian, Chicano, and other minority women's problems, women's rights in social security and other questions.

Additional material in the Ellickson Collection includes her writings for pamphlets, articles, and legislative hearings including drafts of a proposed labor history book entitled *Labor's Breakthrough*. Among the correspondents in the collection are Arthur J. Altmeyer, John Brophy, James B. Carey, Wilbur Cohen, Eleanor Coit, David Saposs, Kermit Eby, John C. Kennedy, Philip Murray, A. J. Muste, Esther Peterson, Tom Tippet, Elizabeth Wickenden, and others.

#### THE CARRIE BURTON OVERTON COLLECTION

The papers of Carrie Burton Overton, covering the period 1856-1969, concern her career as secretary to civil rights leader Mary White Ovington, stenographer for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and Executive Secretary to Julian D. Rainey, who headed the "Colored Division" of the National Democratic Committee from 1932-40.



*The women Socialists, who lectured for the Party and worked for the APPEAL TO REASON, shown in this photograph are: top, Grace Brewer. Left to right, Josephine Conger Kenako, Pearl Busby, Leana Morrow Lewis, and Mrs. Ernest Unterman. The photograph is from the Grace D. Brewer Collection.*

Correspondence, leaflets, reports, and clippings for the period 1932-40 comprise the office files of the "Colored Division" of the National Democratic Committee. The material contains information on Negro voters; speakers and campaigns for the 1936 and 1940 national elections in New York City, Washington, D. C., and most states, particularly Illinois, Massachusetts, and Michigan; justifications of federal departments for either including or excluding Negroes; and leaflets and literature designed for black voters in several states and major cities.

Ms. Overton served as stenographer for the NAACP from 1924-28 and secretary to Mary White Ovington when she served as an officer of that organization in the 1940's. The NAACP files include correspondence of Ms. Ovington with Mary M. Bethune, Gloster B. Current, W. E. B. Du Bois, James Farley, James Weldon Johnson, William J. Thompkins, Walter White, and others; mimeographed reports; notices; board meeting reports; branch office letters; and clippings.

#### THE PHYLLIS COLLIER COLLECTION

The papers of Phyllis Fenington Collier and her husband, John Collier (William Armistead Nelson Collier, Jr.), were placed in the Archives in 1965. Ms. Collier served as secretary to John Collier (not her husband), organizer of the New York Training School for Community Center



Workers, United States Indian Commissioner, and Director of Cooper Union Institute. In 1919 she joined the Bookkeepers, Stenographers, and Accountants Union, AFL, and later became its organizer.

The collection contains correspondence, notes, clippings, photographs, and Ms. Collier's autobiography. Material related to the American Labor Party of New York, 1919-20, includes correspondence with Orville A. Babcock, editor of *Labor News*, Nathan Fine, and Faith Pierce. Additional information concerning the Garland Fund, Upton Sinclair's E.P.I.C. (End Poverty in California) campaigns, and Helicon Home Colony for the period 1906-7 is included. Among the correspondents with John and Phyllis Collier are Lindsey Cooper, Kate Crawford, Miriam Allen deFord, Mary Craig Kimbrough, Lucille Pittman, Margaret Sanger, Meta Sinclair, and other literary figures.

#### THE GRACE D. BREWER COLLECTION

The papers of Grace D. and George Brewer were placed in the Archives by Ms. Brewer during the 1960's. They cover the period 1905-68 and are concerned primarily with the Brewer's association with the Socialist Party newspaper, *Appeal to Reason*, and Eugene V. Debs. Mr. Brewer worked for the newspaper, lectured for the Socialist Party; edited and published *The Workers Chronicle* in Pittsburg, Kansas; served as the only Socialist in the Kansas legislature, 1915-16; and lectured for the Non-Partisan League in Minnesota and North Dakota, 1918-24.

Ms. Brewer served as secretary to Fred D. Warren, managing editor of the *Appeal to Reason*; editor of the "Appeal Army" column and woman's page; secretary to Eugene V. Debs, 1907-13; and managed the *Appeal* Lecture Bureau, routing her husband, Debs, and other speakers, and the Non-Partisan League Speakers Bureau.

Correspondence, mostly Eugene V. Debs to Grace Brewer, 1908-11, regarding lecture tour arrangements, speeches, biographical sketches, clippings, notes, letters of introduction, and pamphlets form part of the collection. Other correspondents include Robert Constantine, Katherine Debs, George Kirkpatrick, and Fred D. Warren. Scrapbooks concerning the Kansas legislature, 1915, and the Brewer's activities are included. In addition to the newspapers, *Appeal to Reason*, 1905, and *The Workers Chronicle*, 1913-16, there are forty-four photographs of the Brewers; Eugene V. Debs; members of the *Appeal to Reason* and Non-Partisan League; Josephine Conger Kenako, editor of *Socialist Woman*; Arthur Townley; J. A. Wayland; and others.

#### THE ANN CRATON BLANKENHORN COLLECTION

The papers of Ann and Heber Blankenhorn were placed in the Archives in 1969. Mr. Blankenhorn served as Co-Director of the Bureau of Industrial Research, worked with the Interchurch World Movement, and as assistant to Senator Robert F. Wagner on the passage of the National Labor Relations Act and the LaFollette Committee investigating cases against the Ford Motor Company.

Ms. Blankenhorn was associated with the Bureau of Children's Guardians, 1916-18, Bureau of Labor Statistics, the New York Child Labor Committee, and during the 1920's conducted research on the clothing and textile industries. Between 1926 and 1931 she was a caseworker for the American Red Cross. The collection contains correspondence, clippings, diaries, manuscript notes, articles, and unpublished essays.

Information on working conditions in the textile industries, the Works Progress Administration, the imprisonment of Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, and social and economic conditions in various industries, especially as applied to women and children, can be found in the collection. Among the articles by Ms. Blankenhorn are "Those Terrible Amer-

icans," "I Saw The Men in the Mines," "The Little Boy Who Didn't Like Candy," and "Child Worker in the Pennsylvania Coal Fields." A major portion of the collection consists of notes and chapter drafts concerning her investigation of the influence of the church in industrial towns during the 1940's.

#### THE JEAN GOULD COLLECTION

Twelve letters and a fragment of a thirteenth of Eugene V. Debs were placed in the Archives by Ms. Gould, a biographer of Walter P. Reuther and editor of *Homegrown Liberal*, the memoirs of C. W. "Charlie" Ervin. The Debs letters are to Ervin, the publisher and editor of the *New York Daily Call*, and cover the period 1907-10. Debs' reactions to events among the Socialists in Philadelphia, factional struggles within the Party, and other related subjects are expressed in the letters.

#### THE RAYA DUNAYEVSKAYA COLLECTION

The papers of Ms. Dunayevskaya, author, philosopher, and political analyst, were placed in the Archives in 1970. The papers, which cover the period 1941-69, consist of correspondence, drafts of articles, clippings, published items, and related materials concerning Marxist-Humanism.

Ms. Dunayevskaya was secretary to Leon Trotsky in exile in Mexico 1937-8. After her break with Trotsky a year later, she undertook studies of the initial Five-Year Plans, which led to her analysis that Russia is a state-capitalist society. During the 1940's she was co-founder of the political "State-Capitalist" Tendency, called the Johnson-Forest Tendency, within the Trotskyist movement. In 1955 a split between the two founders of the "State-Capitalist" Tendency occurred and Ms. Dunayevskaya became chairwoman of the majority group, the News and Letters Committee. At that time she completed her work, *Marxism and Freedom*, which re-established the American and Humanist roots of Marxism. She was the first to translate and publish the *Humanist Essays of Marx and Lenin's Philosophic Notebooks* and has published and lectured extensively in the United States and abroad.

The first five volumes of the writings in the collection concern the origins of Marxist-Humanism within the development of the State Capitalist Theory of the Workers Party, Socialist Workers Party, the Johnson-Forest Tendency, 1941-45, and the Correspondence Committee, 1953-55. The remaining five volumes focus on the creation of the Marxist-Humanist grouping, called the News and Letters Committee, 1955-69, which Ms. Dunayevskaya headed. An Appendix to one of the volumes also contains unpublished writings, particularly photostatic copies of letters from Leon Trotsky accepting Ms. Dunayevskaya as his secretary and acknowledging her work on behalf of the *Russian Bulletin* of the Left Opposition and a copy of the *Russian Bulletin* in the form it was published for underground transmission to Russia.

Portions of the Dunayevskaya Collection have been microfilmed and copies can be purchased through the Archives. Additional information concerning the microfilm and cost can be obtained by writing the Archives.

#### THE LILLIAN SHERWOOD COLLECTION

The papers of Ms. Sherwood concerning her work for the Kent County, Michigan, and National Congress of Women's Auxiliaries of the Congress of Industrial Organizations cover the period 1943-55. The collection consists principally of correspondence, clippings, convention proceedings, and photographs.



## Industrial Workers of the World Collections

### THE MATILDA ROBBINS COLLECTION

The following confessional, penned in 1927, introduces an unpublished manuscript, "From the Life of a Wage-Earning Mother," by Matilda Robbins (nee Rabinowitz).

"I was twenty nine years old when I decided to have a child. Until then I invoked every means of contraception and worse, so firmly convinced was I that conditions being what they were for wage-earning mothers I had no right to bring a child into the world . . . Then, even as I was still arguing that intelligent women had no right to bring children into a social chaos, there came over me a strange mood, an overwhelming, unconquerable desire to have a child. In vain my theories about economic insecurity; in vain my attempts to be reasonable. Nothing could dispel the powerful, relentless feeling for motherhood that held me in its grip."

The manuscript further relates the practical problems and personal anxieties of a working mother seeking to provide for herself and her child. Ms. Robbins concluded,

If one could at least get some intelligent assistance in rearing one's child, as partial compensation for the cramping life in the city! But there is nothing to meet the needs of thousands of wage-earning mothers in the cities of this country . . . Nothing but those makeshifts which I have tried and found wanting. So we are buffeted between the demands of the job and the demands of motherhood, an unrelated mass clutching at a compromise here, a makeshift there, a concession elsewhere. Somehow we worry along and the children are growing up.

Matilda Robbins was a labor organizer, principally for the Industrial Workers of the World, and she began that career in 1912 at the Lawrence, Massachusetts, textile strike after arriving in this country from Russia in 1900. To the student of history the writings of Matilda Robbins provide information, characterization, and opinion about the early labor struggles and the impact of industrialization and urbanization on society, families, and individuals—particularly the women.

In "From The Notebook of a Labor Organizer" she wrote of the mill women working in North Carolina,

After supper the man's tasks were over. But the woman worked on. There were the dishes and clothes to be washed; there was mending and cleaning, a dozen other things to do—the interminable tasks of a house-keeping unrelieved by any modern conveniences. No rest, no recreation, no social life did these women know. Mill slaves and the slaves of slave husbands, bringing into the world slave children.

Other manuscripts in the Matilda Robbins Collection include *The Education of Shirley Shimmer*, *Judy and the Banker's Lady*, *Lois Jackson's Secret Mission*, *Magdalene of the Mills*, *Maida Lynn*, *The Agitator*, *Joe Ettor*, and her autobiography, *My Story*.

### THE JOYCE KORNBLUH COLLECTION

Ms. Kornbluh, the author of *Rebel Voices, An IWW Anthology*, has placed notes and chapter drafts from her book; correspondence with various IWW members, including Fred Thompson, Ben Williams, Sullo Peltola; thirty-nine IWW pamphlets; drafts of unidentified articles and papers; and miscellaneous clippings, poems, and songs in the Archives.

A tape recording entitled "Personal Recollections of the Industrial Workers of the World" by ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN was presented to the Archives by

Michael Johnson of the History Department at Northern Illinois University. The tape was made when Ms. Flynn spoke at the university in November, 1962.

## UAW Collections and Oral Histories

### THE DOROTHY HUBBARD BISHOP COLLECTION

The papers of Ms. Bishop for the 1930's concern her work with household employees with the YWCA and as Director of the WPA Workers' Education Program in Michigan. Correspondence, clippings, reports, programs, notes, and outlines comprise the collection. The two most important subjects in the collection are the development of the Workers' Education Program in Michigan and the Communist charges arising from the program.

### THE OLGA MADAR COLLECTION

Ms. Madar, a Vice-President of the UAW and Director of the Conservation and Resource Development and Recreation and Leisure Time Activities Departments, has placed clippings, press releases, and related items concerning her election in 1966 to the UAW International Executive Board in the Archives.

### UAW ORAL HISTORIES

Over a decade ago when the Oral History Project of the UAW was undertaken, interviews with CATHERINE "BABE" GELLES, JOSEPHINE GOMON, ELIZABETH McCracken, and MAY REUTHER were conducted. All of these women were either active in the UAW or predecessor organizations and participated in the organizing drives, strikes, relief programs, and related activities surrounding the establishment and growth of the UAW in the 1930's and 1940's.

Among the subjects discussed in the interviews are the activities of the Automobile Industrial Workers Association; Mechanics Educational Society of America; the organization and role of the International Women's Auxiliaries in the sit-down strikes, political campaigns, and food and clothing relief efforts during World War II; Ford Motor Company policies toward women; Frank Murphy; Walter P. Reuther; Emil Mazey; William Clappett; among others.

## American Federation of Teachers and Related Collections

### THE SELMA M. BORCHARDT COLLECTION

The papers of Selma Munter Borchardt of Washington, D. C., were placed in the Archives in 1969, by Louis Camera, the Executor of Ms. Borchardt's estate. Ms. Borchardt served as Legislative Representative and Vice-President of the AFT from 1924 to 1935 and 1942 to 1962. From 1927 to 1946, Ms. Borchardt was Director of the World Federation of Education Associations and helped establish the successor organization, the Institute of World Studies. Her work also included service with the Women's Joint Congressional Committee, National Youth Administration, Office of Education Wartime Commission, Secretary of the Education Committee of the Washington Central Labor Union, and Director of the Washington Self-Help Exchange.

Among the subjects discussed in the collection are AFT Executive Council and Conventions, 1925-1961; AFT factionalism and the Communist issue, 1933-1940; National Women's Trade Union League, 1918-1948; Greater Washington Central Labor Union, 1936-1966; legislation involving federal aid to education, academic freedom, compulsory military training, the District of Columbia, child





*Genora Johnson, head of the Women's Emergency Brigade, is shown leading a contingent of members during the sit-down strikes at Flint, Michigan, in January 1937.*

*The Women's Emergency Brigade and Women's Auxiliary played important roles during the sit-downs. The Auxiliary provided speakers, maintained first aid stations and nurseries, collected food and money and related information to the families of strikers. The Emergency Brigade members, regaled in red tams and red arm bands with white lettering,*

labor, senior citizens, domestic workers, taxation, equal pay and rights for women, and workers' education, 1938-1962; Washington Trade Union College, 1919-1924; Washington Teachers Union, including complete minute books, 1916-1930; Maryland and District of Columbia Federations of Labor; International Relations Committee of the AFT; World Peace Through Education, including correspondence with David Starr Jordan, 1925-1933; the Progressive Caucus within the AFT; the dismissal of Irwin Kuenzli as AFT Secretary-Treasurer, and many other subjects.

Correspondents include Mary C. Barker, George S. Counts, Mary C. Dent, John M. Eklund, Arthur Elder, Mary J. Herrick, Irwin Kuenzli, Henry R. Linville, Florence Rood, Rebecca Simonson, Mark Starr, Freeland G. Stecker of the AFT; U.S. Senator George D. Aiken; Congressman Emanuel Celler; William Green, President of the AFL; Jay Lovestone; A. J. Muste; and others.

#### THE MARY J. HERRICK COLLECTION

Ms. Herrick, past President of Women High School Teachers in Chicago, 1933-36, and Vice-President and Director of Research of the AFT, placed her papers in the Archives in 1970.

The collection contains information on such subjects as activities of AFT locals, Executive Council policy and procedures, National Teachers Corps, constitutional rights of married women teachers, and national AFT Conventions and caucus material.

The collection, covering the period 1932-1960, contains correspondence with Lillian Herstein, Selma M. Borchardt, Jerome Davis, Rebecca Simonson, Carl Megel, John N. Fewkes of the AFT, and others.

Additional papers of Ms. Herrick have been placed with the Chicago Historical Society and the University of Illinois-Chicago Circle.

*worked along with the strikers, particularly in the seizure of Chevrolet Plant No. 4.*

*Information concerning the women's role during the sit-down strikes can be found in the Henry Kraus, George Ades, Bud and Hazel Simons, Tom Klasey and other collections in the Archives.*

#### THE MARY R. WHEELER COLLECTION

In 1970, Ms. Wheeler, past President and Executive Secretary of the West Suburban Teachers Union, Local 571 located in Westchester, Illinois, and Vice-President of the AFT, placed her papers in the Archives.

The collection contains correspondence; reports; minutes of meetings; negotiation and legal files; and clippings concerning the AFT, the Illinois Federation of Teachers, and Local 571.

#### OTHER AFT COLLECTIONS

Several small collections concerning individuals and locals associated with the AFT have also been received. Speeches, clippings, and pamphlets concerning Ms. S. S. GOLDWATER and the New York Teachers Guild Associates were placed in the Archives by Ms. Cuthbert Daniel. LAYLE LANE, a member of the AFT's Committee for Democratic Human Relations, has placed briefs submitted in the Brown vs the Board of Education case, clippings, pamphlets, and speeches concerning blacks and the AFT in the Archives. MARY McGOUGH and the late LETTISHA HENDERSON completed oral history interviews concerning the early history of the St. Paul Federation of Teachers for the Archives. ROSE McGHEE, currently an AFT Vice-President, has deposited small amounts of material concerning her activities. The late TRUDA WEIL presented six letters from John Dewey, tributary letters, programs, and photographs concerning the Memorial Lecture for Henry Richardson Linville. A major portion of the records of the St. Louis Teachers Union contains correspondence, reports, and other material of BETTY FINNERAN regarding her service as AFT Vice-President and President and member of the Executive Board of the St. Louis local.

## Recent Acquisitions

*The Industrial Workers of the World.* Within the last few months the Archives has obtained an additional twenty



cartons of unprocessed material documenting the activities and status of the Industrial Workers of the World from the 1920's to 1965. Correspondence and minutes pertaining to the General Executive Board; General Recruiting Union; General Defense Committee; Industrial Union branches, including Lumber Workers IU 120, Metal Mine Workers IU 210, Oil Workers IU 230, Shipbuilding Workers IU 320, Building Construction Workers IU 330, and Metal and Machinery Workers IU 440; plus additional pamphlets and leaflets, branch ledgers, and copies of the *One Big Union Monthly* and *Industrial Pioneer* are included in the material received. The material is now being processed and integrated into the existing IWW records here in the Archives.

*The People's Songs Library.* This collection comprises songs gathered by the Almanac Singers from 1941-43; People's Songs Inc., 1946-49; People's Artists Inc., 1950-57; and Sing Out Inc., 1958-70. Important subjects included in the collection are the Almanac singers, CIO, election songs, topical and traditional folksongs, leftist movements, New Deal, Spanish Civil War, union organizing, Henry A. Wallace, and World War II.

Among the songwriters and correspondents included in the collection are Aaron Copland, Agnes "Sis" Cunningham, Woody Guthrie, Lee Hays, Aunt Molly Jackson, Millard Lampell, Huddie "Leadbelly" Ledbetter, Alan Lomax, Sarah Ogan, Pete Seegar, Josh White, and others.

### Research in the Archives

Gerda Lerner of Sarah Lawrence College and the author of *The Grimke Sisters From South Carolina: Rebels Against Slavery* and *Black Women in White America: A Documentary History* visited the Archives for research on a book concerning women in the trade unions. Dorothy J. Rupprecht and Joann Urquhart have also utilized Archives

material for research on women in the labor movement and industrial unions.

Collections containing the writings and correspondence of Elizabeth Gurley Flynn have been used by Rosalyn Baxandall of SUNY at Old Westbury and Margaret Gerteis of Tufts University. Ms. Baxandall is studying the feminist writings of Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, and Ms. Gerteis is researching Ms. Flynn's association with the IWW. Other interested researchers have used Archives collections for information on the political thought of Mary Heaton Vorse, the leadership of Lila Hunter in the Washington and Seattle Federation of Teachers, and women's participation in the labor force.

### Bits and Pieces

Beverly Fodell of the Archives staff has compiled a selected bibliography for K through 12 students on the United Farm Workers and Cesar Chavez. The bibliography will be available for distribution to elementary, junior high, and high school students on a limited basis later this summer.

The final processing of several labor union and individual collections in the Archives has been completed. Among those collections are the GI Underground Press: *Broken Arrow*—American Servicemen's Union; St. Louis Newspaper Guild; St. Louis Federation of Teachers; UAW Local 833, Sheboygan, Wisconsin; UAW Local 932, St. Paul, Minnesota; Richard H. Austin, former Wayne County Auditor and now Michigan's Secretary of State; and Delmond Garst, member of the UAW Executive Board, 1936-42, and Director of Region 15, AFL-CIO. Additional information concerning these collections can be obtained by writing the Archives.

Dennis East, Newsletter Editor

## ARCHIVES OF LABOR HISTORY AND URBAN AFFAIRS

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