



NEWSLETTER

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Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs

Fall 1991

College of Urban, Labor and Metropolitan Affairs

RECENT ADDITIONS AND NEW ACQUISITIONS

From January 1986 through December 1990, the Archives made numerous additions to existing manuscript collections and acquired or opened 129 new collections. As indicated by brief profiles of a representative sampling provided below, all of the recent acquisitions provide enlightening documentary evidence of a wide array of historical developments. Since many of these new and expanded collections have not as yet been fully processed, interested researchers should contact the Reference Archivist regarding availability and access.

UAW Related Collections

George Amrhein Papers (1935-1955): clippings, correspondence, flyers, memoranda, and a personal diary relating to Mr. Amrhein's work and UAW organizing at the Chevrolet plant in Norwood, Ohio.

Louis Falstein Collection (1934-1937): unpublished manuscript of a "thinly disguised autobiography" describing the author's experiences in Detroit automobile plants and his involvement in the UAW's sit-down strike against the General Motors Corporation in Flint.

Daniel Forchione Papers (late 1940s-1980s): subject files, contract materials, correspondence, and memoranda relating to Mr. Forchione's responsibilities as assistant director of the UAW Ford Department.

Roy Reuther Papers (1924-1971): correspondence, reports, notes, pamphlets, and flyers depicting Mr. Reuther's wide-ranging activities, from his association with the Brookwood Labor College and the founding of the UAW to his service with the War Production Board and involvement in postwar politics.



Joseph Tomasi Papers (1970s-1980s): correspondence, reports, and office files relating to Mr. Tomasi's directorship of UAW Region 2B in Toledo, Ohio.

UAW Independents, Parts & Supplies Dept. Collection (1985): program and addresses of UAW President Owen Bieber and UAW Vice-President Odessa Komer at the UAW-IPS Leadership Conference in Louisville, Kentucky.

UAW Local 12 Collection (1950s-1980s): office files, scrapbooks, flyers, and clippings relating to the Toledo, Ohio local.

UAW President's Office, Howard Young Collection (1960s-1980s): correspondence and general subject files bearing on Mr. Young's activity as UAW Social Security Department Director and as a special assistant to Presidents Leonard Woodcock and Douglas Fraser.

UAW Region 1 Collection: 278 linear feet of records were added to the collection, covering the full range of union activities and community development in the metropolitan Detroit area from the 1930s through the 1970s.

UAW Region 2B Collection (1940s-1980s): correspondence, reports, and office files of the UAW regional office in Toledo, Ohio.

UAW Vice-President's Office, Donald Ephlin Collection (1980s): office files and correspondence, primarily bearing on activities of the UAW General Motors Department.

Ben Woodward Papers (1944-1967): minutes, correspondence, by-laws and constitutions, memoranda, and union election materials relating to his activities as president and vice-president of UAW Local 599 at the Buick plant in Flint, Michigan.

Labor-Related Collections

Association for Union Democracy Collection: 7.5 linear feet of additional records relating to the United Steelworkers of America elections in the 1970s.

Helen Berthelot Papers (1946-1988): convention materials, newsletters, meeting minutes, financial records, and interview transcript bearing on her activities in the National Federation of Telephone Workers and the Communication Workers of America.

Raphael and Olga Brown Papers (1933-1935): clippings, correspondence, and committee minutes relating to their organizing efforts for the American Federation of Silk Workers in New Jersey.

Valery Burati Papers (1948-1971): correspondence, memoranda, minutes, reports, press releases, and a scrapbook reflecting his career in international labor affairs, particularly in post- World War II Japan, Asia, and Africa.

James B. Carey Papers (1940s-1970s): correspondence, meeting minutes, reports, speeches, photographs, and publications dealing primarily with Carey's career as CIO Secretary-Treasurer.

Coalition of Labor Union Women Collection (1970s-1980s): local and national organizational files, correspondence, minutes, by-laws, financial documents, and publications documenting the organization's involvement in such issues as pay equity, sex discrimination, child care, affirmative action, and occupational health and safety.

Congress of Industrial Organizations, Office of the Secretary Treasurer Collection (1930s-1970s): two sizeable additions of executive board meeting minutes, field reports, correspondence, and publications.

Monseigneur Clement Kern Collection (1950s-1960s): correspondence and reports related to farm labor in Michigan.

Miners for Democracy Collection: 15.5 linear feet of additional materials dating from 1969 to 1974.

Rhode Island Federation of Teachers Collection (1946-1982): convention minutes, correspondence, reports, and

publications depicting the political, professional, and organizational efforts of the union.

The Newspaper Guild, Local 13 Collection (1934-1986): minutes, correspondence, contracts, and grievances of the Columbus, Ohio union local.

Office and Professional International Employees Union, Local 10 Collection (1970s-1980s): office files, correspondence, contracts, and published materials relating to the union's dealings with various Detroit-area companies.

Arnold Zander Papers (1930s-1960s): executive board minutes for the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees Union and the Wisconsin State Employees Association; AFSCME office files, national and local union charters and constitutions, convention materials relating to Mr. Zander's tenure as AFSCME President; 1959 manuscript by Leo Kramer. ♦

Collections Related to Urban and Metropolitan Affairs

Among the many notable research collections housed in the Archives, are the records of the *United Community Services of Metropolitan Detroit (UCS)*, comprised of approximately 575 linear feet of documentation on Detroit's social welfare history from the late nineteenth century to the present. The papers contain minutes (including a comprehensive collection of board minutes from 1906 on); correspondence; studies and reports (many generated by UCS's own research division); financial records; service statistics; publicity; promotional materials used in fund-raising campaigns; brochures; photographs; and twenty-six volumes of case records from 1878-1897, a period during which UCS (then called the Associated Charities of Detroit) served as a clearinghouse for the investigation and referral of social service cases. They provide rare and enlightening glimpses into the social history of metropolitan Detroit during the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries; its cultural and racial diversity and tension; as well as the dislocation brought on by economic instability, population shifts, and war. The records



also offer insights into the motives and activities of social workers, health care professionals, and civic and religious leaders who strove to understand and alleviate the causes and symptoms of poverty.

Four processed UCS collections are open to researchers:

- *United Community Services* (1878-1945)
- *UCS Central Files* (1891-1972)
- *UCS Suburban Councils* (1921-1959, 1966)
- *UCS School Program on Community Services Department* (1927-1969)

They incorporate much of the early record of UCS and its predecessor organizations, both the welfare/planning federations and the fund-raising arms, and offer information about the operations of many of their member agencies. Subjects of research significance include social welfare, social work, philanthropy, juvenile delinquency, race relations and discrimination in the delivery of social services, immigrant history, aging, family history, volunteerism, public health, veterans' issues, community organizations, recreation, war relief, and women's issues. Labor-related topics of interest would include unemployment, industrial health and safety (e.g. the UAW-CIO Health Institute), wartime industry and social dislocation (e.g. housing and recreation in the Willow Run area), community service programs, and labor participation in fund-raising campaigns. Unprocessed material is open to researchers only at the discretion of the archivist.

Another significant group of records acquired by the Archives are the inactive records of Detroit's *Merrill-Palmer Institute*. Established as a result of a 1916 bequest by Lizzie (Pitts) Merrill Palmer, the Institute originally functioned as a school for motherhood and home training. Over the years the organization dramatically broadened its programs and services to become one of the nation's foremost educational and research institutions in the areas of developmental psychology, parent-child relations, and child rearing. Six processed collections bearing on the evolution of the Merrill-Palmer Institute and its personnel are open to researchers:

- *The Merrill-Palmer Institute: Merrill-Palmer Corporate Collection* (1916-1981): correspondence, board minutes, notes, reports, newsclippings, and biographical materials relating to the operation of the Institute.
- *The Merrill-Palmer Institute: Merrill-Palmer Families Collection* (1848-1926): correspondence, journals, business records, and legal documents dealing with the families' personal activities and involvement in the Michigan business community.
- *The Merrill-Palmer Institute: Kresge Historical Library Collection* (1911-1980) correspondence, newspaper clippings, pamphlets, publications, reports, and press releases relating to the Institute and the establishment and operation of the Kresge Historical Library in Child Development and Family Life.

- *The Merrill-Palmer Institute: A. Grams Papers* (1962-1977): correspondence, papers, and printed materials related to his work as head of the Institutes' Human Development Department, communications coordinator, and editor of various publications.

- *The Merrill-Palmer Institute: Lawrence Kelson Frank Papers* (1922-1968): correspondence, minutes, reports, clippings, conference proceedings, manuscripts, speeches and publications relating to Mr. Frank's activities in the fields of education, psychology, and child development.

- *The Merrill-Palmer Institute: Ethel B. Waring Collection* (1920-1971): manuscripts, journals, bulletins, reports, instructional materials, correspondence, and proposals relating to Dr. Waring's research in child development and activities as a faculty member at Cornell University.

Additional collections recently deposited for research at the Archives include:

Russ Bellant Papers (1970-1981): correspondence, memoranda, newsletters, press releases, and reports issued by various organizations which opposed the federal government's efforts to revive the Selective Service System.

Children's Hospital of Michigan Collection (1886-1980): correspondence, ledgers, Board of Trustees meeting minutes, photographs, and surgical instruments.

Kenneth Cockrell/Sheila Murphy (DARE) Papers (late 1960s-1980s): correspondence, flyers and reports documenting the community activist endeavors of the former Detroit city councilmember and his wife; correspondence and office files of the Detroit Alliance for a Rational Economy; published materials, research papers, and convention materials on black issues.

Andrew T. Court Papers (1930-1966): analyses, letters, press releases, and circulars relating to his career as an economist for the General Motors Corporation and the Automobile Manufacturers Association.

Grace Hospital Collection (1890-1980): extensive photographic material, Board meeting minutes, newsletters, financial reports, records of Nurses Training School, and published materials on Michigan medical history.

Harper Hospital Collection (1865-1980): departmental reports, photos, nurses' uniforms, School of Nursing records.

New Detroit Collection (1970s-1980s): meeting minutes, printed materials of the urban coalition formed after the 1967 riot to seek solutions to racial and social problems.

Saul Padover Collection (1930s-1980s): manuscript drafts, correspondence, and course materials related to his distinguished career as an educator and political scientist.

Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) Collection (1947-1970): meeting minutes, reports, charts, maps, surveys, contracts, and correspondence regarding state and federal legislation for urban planning and aid programs. ♦

LIBRARY COLLECTIONS

The Library component of the Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs has grown to over 12,765 volumes. Recent significant additions to this specialized collection of books include donations from UAW Region 9A (Connecticut); Detroit ACLU attorney, Rolland O'Hare; labor journalist, Harvey O'Connor; former UAW international representative and Michigan state legislator, Joseph Snyder; former UAW Education Department Director Carroll Hutton; the UAW Aerospace Department; and the American Civil Liberties Union South Texas Project.

A section of the Library that has great research value is the labor journal and newspaper collection which comprises approximately 1550 titles. In addition to 570 current serials received, the Library also houses over 1000 non-

current titles. Hard copy original runs of titles such as Journeyman Barber (1918-1944); Cigar Makers' Official Journal (1888-1951); American Photo-Engraver (1915-1952); Carpenter (1902-1917); Commercial Telegraphers Journal, Chicago (1904-1941); Leather Workers Journal (1915-1918, 1920-1926) can be used by researchers who prefer to work with original material in lieu of microfilm. Since the Archives is the official depository for IWW records, a majority of their original publications are also available in the Library, such as IWW Solidarity (1909-1916) and One Big Union Monthly (1919-1921, 1937-1938), both of which are also available on microfilm.

Many other publications from various other unions are also available, the most prominent of which are a wide variety of UAW newspapers. In addition to the

International UAW publication, The United Automobile Worker (1928-1956)—the name changed in 1956 to UAW Solidarity (1957-)—most of the regional and local union publications are well represented. One significant aspect of the UAW publications collection is the availability of local editions of the United Automobile Worker. Between the years 1927 and 1958, it was published under the banner of various corporate-based organizational units, such as GM Automobile Worker, The United Automobile Worker/Chrysler Edition, etc. Furthermore, the UAW published special editions for states, regions, cities, local unions, elections, and special union conventions. Consisting primarily of irregular and scattered runs, these papers have been organized chronologically according to company, state, region, etc. ♦

AUDIO-VISUAL COLLECTIONS

The audio-visual holdings of the Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs consist of hundreds-of-thousands of still-photographs, thousands of audio tapes, approximately 500 catalogued and 2,500 uncatalogued but inventoried films, and many other non-textual items. Videotape holdings number in the hundreds and are constantly growing. Much of the material parallels our manuscript collections and dates from the turn of the century to the early 1980s. Each year the Archives' audio-visual material is reproduced in numerous books, films, television programs, and exhibits.

Recent openings and additions to the Archives' audio-visual holdings include the *William Cahn Collection* which contains illustrations and photographs from the nineteenth century to the 1960s on a variety of topics, including labor and social history. An outstanding set of union posters illustrating women's rights issues in the workplace is found in the *Susan Ellen Holleran/AFSCME Collection*. The audio-visual department also has recently expanded its holdings of *IWW graphics*. The *Metro-Detroit AFL-CIO Collection* consists of photographs of union activities and meetings in Detroit from the 1930s to the 1960s. The *Victor G. Reuther Collection* contains over two thousand photographs relating to Mr. Reuther's personal life and

career as a UAW and CIO official. Of recent interest to documentary film makers has been the photo album assembled by Victor and Walter Reuther, consisting of scenes of the Great Depression in Detroit in 1932. The audio-visual

Department also recently processed an addition to the *Mary Heaton Vorse Photograph Collection*, which includes family photos, Cape Cod scenes, and the Provincetown Players and which depicts her journalistic coverage of labor strikes, women's conferences, and other historical events. The *Bogdan Baynert Collection* consists of original drawings of labor, union, and political cartoons. Photographs in the *National Sharecroppers Fund Collection* document the organization's work among poor farmers and migrant workers from the 1940s through the 1960s. Similarly, the *Workers Defense League Photograph Collection* reflects that organization's history. The *United Automobile Workers Public Relations Department Collection* covers a wide variety of UAW activities, mostly from the 1950s and 1960s. The

Works Progress Administration, Estelle Wolf Collection details the occupations of WPA workers in Detroit in 1934-35. Finally, the *Douglas Fraser Collection* highlights aspects of Mr. Fraser's career from the 1930s to the 1980s. ♦



Oral Histories

The Archives recently opened various Oral History Interviews; access to which is restricted to qualified researchers. Interviews with *Homer Martin*, *Nat Weinberg*, *Monroe Lake*, *Charles Gentile* and *Lloyd Jones* deal with the evolution of the UAW from the 1930s through the 1960s. The Socialist Workers Party, Brookwood Labor College, and union activities are examined in the *Genora* and *Sol Dollinger* Interviews. *Katherine Ellickson* discusses Brookwood Labor College, the labor movement, and women's issues in two interviews. The *Fred Thompson* Oral History Interview deals with the Work People's College. ♦

ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION RESIDENCY IN HUMANITIES FELLOWSHIPS

Since the 1985-86 academic year, the Rockefeller Foundation has provided funding to the Walter P. Reuther Library for Residents in Humanities Fellowships. This Rockefeller Residency Program is designed to enable visiting scholars to conduct extensive research in the archival resources of the Reuther Library, to promote the publication of scholarly humanistic studies based upon these sources, and to contribute to the intellectual life of the community. In addition to research in their areas of interest, therefore, the Rockefeller Fellows presented their findings in various seminars, colloquia, and community events during the terms of their residencies.

Recipients of the Rockefeller Foundation awards have pursued research on a wide array of topics:

1985-86: Prof. Nancy Gabin (Purdue University), "The Role of Women In the UAW, 1936-1970" and Prof. Stephen Meyer (Illinois Institute of Technology), "The Reaction of Workers to Technological Change In the Automobile Industry From the 1930s Through the 1960s"

1986-87: Prof. Anthony Carew (University of Manchester, England), "The International Role of the UAW and CIO in Postwar American Economic Aid Programs" and Prof. Jeffrey Mirel (Northern Illinois University), "The Detroit Federation of Teachers, 1939-1954: The Role of the Union in Shaping Educational Policies"

1987-88: Prof. Albert Bacdayan (University of Kentucky), "Unheralded Partners: Filipino Unionism and the United Farm Workers of America;" Prof. Dennis Valdes (University of Minnesota), "Farm Worker Organizing in California, 1959-1972;" and Prof. JoAnn Argersinger (University of Maryland, Baltimore County), "Workers and Unionism in the Great Depression"

1989-90: Prof. Brian Gratton (Arizona State University), "Age, Work, and Welfare: The Older Worker in the United States, 1850-1960;" Prof. Nelson Lichtenstein (University of Virginia), "At the Fulcrum of Management:

A Social and Political History of First-Line Supervision;" Prof. Margaret Rose (UCLA Center for the Study of Women), "Community, Class, and Cross-Cultural Cooperation: The Farm Workers Boycotts in Texas, 1966-1975;" and Prof. Warren Whatley (University of Michigan), "Race and Unionization of the Ford Motor Company"

1990-91: Prof. John Barnard (Oakland University), "American Autoworkers and the UAW in a Time of Challenge;" Prof. Kevin Boyle (University of Toledo), "The UAW and Black Detroit, 1946-1970;" and Prof. Marjorie Murphy (Swarthmore College), "The History of AFSCME." ♦

RECENT STAFF ACTIVITIES

Dr. Philip Mason was appointed Distinguished Professor of History in July, 1990. He continues to serve as Editor of the Great Lakes Series of the WSU Press and on the Editorial Board of *Labor History*. He edited the Winter/Spring issue of *Labor History* which was devoted to labor archives in the United States. His recent publications include *Ambassador Bridge: Monument to Progress* (1987) and *Copper Country Journal* (1991), both published by the WSU Press.

Warner Pflug served as co-advisor for "Roses, Too: Sixty Years of Labor Art Programs," a symposium organized by the Midwest Regional Center of the Archives of American Art/Smithsonian Institution and held at the Detroit Institute of Arts on February 24, 1990. Mr. Pflug also published "'The Strategy Is All Reuther's, Damn Him': Two Letters From the Reuther Library" in the July 1990 issue of *Labor's Heritage*.

Patricia Bartkowski conducted a workshop, "Processing Historical Materials," at the Midwest Archives Conference Fall Meeting in Lansing on September 27-30, 1989.

Raymond Boryczka joined the staff as reference archivist in February 1990.

Carolyn Davis was appointed co-chair of the Labor Librarians Caucus of the Special Libraries Association, organized at the SLA annual convention in June, 1989. Ms. Davis also represented the Reuther Library at the annual convention of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists in New Orleans in 1990.

Thomas Featherstone chaired a panel session entitled "Evaluating Performance and Awarding Merit to Archivists" at the MAC Spring Meeting in Chicago in May, 1990.

William R. Gulley, Jr. in 1990 became editor of *Open Entry*, the biannual newsletter of the 250-member Michigan Archival Association. Mr. Gulley also presented a paper entitled "Riot, Race and Mobocracy in Nineteenth-Century Detroit" at the Thirty-Second Annual Conference on Local History which was co-sponsored by the Reuther Library and held at Wayne State University on April 6-7, 1990.

William LeFevre was appointed to an Archivist I position in December 1990. His duties will include collection processing and accessioning.

Margery Long presented a paper on "The Preservation of Sound Recordings" at the MAC Spring Meeting in Chicago on May 12-15, 1990.

Ellen Miller joined the staff as an Archival Assistant in the Audio-Visual Department in 1990 and organized and chaired a session at the recent Local History Conference.

Margaret Raucher was hired in 1987 as the processing archivist for the United Community Services and the United Way for Southeastern Michigan Collections.

Kathleen Schmeling published "'Every Child Is Worthy of Kindness and Care': The Founding and Early Development of the Children's Hospital of Michigan, 1886-1922" in *Michigan History* (January/February 1990). Ms. Schmeling also was promoted in 1990 to archivist in charge of processing and graduate student training.

Taronda Spencer joined the staff as an Archivist II in January 1991. She previously was employed as an archivist at the Historic New Orleans Collection. ♦

RECENT EVENTS

• More than one hundred invited guests attended a press conference and luncheon at Wayne State University on October 12, 1989 to celebrate the presentation of architectural plans for the Walter P. Reuther Library's new Leonard Woodcock Wing to be built as a result of a \$3.4 million donation from the UAW. University President David Adamany, UAW President Owen Bieber, and retired UAW President Leonard Woodcock, spoke at the occasion. Groundbreaking for the new wing occurred during the summer of 1990 and formal dedication ceremonies are scheduled for October 8, 1991.

• The Nat Weinberg Award will be presented at the Thirteenth Annual North American Labor History Conference to be held at Wayne State University on October 17-19, 1991. Established to honor the memory of Mr. Weinberg's many contributions to the American labor movement, the cause of social justice, and particu-

larly to the UAW where he spent most of his illustrious career, the award is granted to distinguished individuals whose actions reflect his philosophy. Previous recipients have been UAW local president, Michael Kearney (1987); Teamsters for a Democratic Union organizer, Ken Paff (1988); and Director of the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, Robert Greenstein (1990).

• On November 26, 1990 the Reuther Library co-sponsored an appearance at Wayne State University by United Farmworkers of America President Cesar Chavez, who delivered an address on the dangers of pesticides utilized in the California grape fields and the UFW's call for a boycott by American consumers.

• The Thirty-Third Annual Conference on Local History, "Michigan In Perspective," was held April 12-13, 1991 at Wayne State University. Co-sponsored by the Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs and chaired by Dr. Philip P. Mason, conference sessions explored topics relating to the history and culture of Michigan and southwestern Ontario from a variety of perspectives including oral history, genealogy, folklore, archives, historical preservation and museum work, as well as current research in the field of local history. ♦

A Note To Readers:

With this issue, the Newsletter resumes publication after a five-year hiatus. This issue will synopsise the Archives' accessions, activities, and programs since the last Volume 5, #2 which appeared in the Winter of 1984-85. Subsequent newsletters will focus on specific topics, describing manuscript collections that contain materials bearing on subjects of current interest to researchers in the various labor and urban-related fields.

Photos: cover: Workers leaving the Chrysler-Jefferson Avenue Assembly Plant at the end of their shift, 1950s. Page 2: Women workers finishing lenses (William Cahn Collection). Page 4: Members of a sharecropping family in Wilcox County, Alabama (National Sharecropper's Fund Collection). Layout and design by Sandra Kimberley.



Wayne State University

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