

THE ROBERT BURKART COLLECTION

2 manuscript boxes

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Accession Number 180

The papers of Robert Burkart were deposited with the Labor History Archives in January 1966 by Mr. Burkart.

Robert Burkart was born July 9, 1915, In 1935 he started to work for the Spicer Corporation of Toledo, Ohio. Burkart became active in union affairs and went on to serve UAW Local 12 in many capacities. By 1951 he had become the Local's financial secretary and editor of its paper. In that year Burkart left Local 12 to serve the UAW as an International Representative in the Competitive Shop Department. After a short stay in Syracuse, New York, Burkart was assigned to Sheboygan, Wisconsin to aid the Kohler Strikers. In addition to working directly with the strike, Burkart also played a leading role in the UAW's campaign to boycott the use of Kohler products. In 1956, Burkart was assigned to the West Coast and continued working with Kohler strikers who had sought employment in the Los Angeles area.

The Robert Burkart Collection covers the period from 1949 to 1965.

Among the correspondents are: Lyman Conger, Richard Gosser, Emil Mazey, and Donald Rand.

Description of Series

Boxes	Description
1 - 2	Correspondence, clippings, minutes, reports and statements relating to the Kohler Strike. Topics covered include such areas as the history of unionism at Kohler, contract negotiations, the NLRB and the Kohler Strike and the Senate Labor Subcommittee's hearings on the Strike. Arranged Alphabetically for the period, 1952-1965.
2	Miscellaneous materials pertaining to non Kohler subjects. These consist mainly of items regarding Robert Burkart's organizing work for the UAW. Arranged alphabetically for the period 1949-1963.

ROBERT BURKART COLLECTION

- Box 1, "Chronological Background of Unionism at Kohler and Personnel Involved in Negotiations"
- Chronology of Kohler Strike, April 1954-January 1956
 - Clippings, August 1954-March 1958
 - Clippings, April 1958-December 1965 and undated
 - Conciliation Panel and Management - Notes on Meetings with, September 1953-January 1955
 - Contract Gains by Union
 - Contract Negotiations - Points in Dispute, March 8, 1954
 - Contract Negotiations - Summary, February 26, and April 1, 1954
 - Contract Negotiations - Summary and Tentative Agreement, June 20, 1954
 - Contract Proposed by Company, June 5, 1954
 - Contract Proposed by Company - Union Changes, June 5, 1954
 - Contract Proposed by Union, January 25, 1954 (2 folders)
 - Correspondence, 1953-1954
 - Correspondence, 1955
 - Correspondence, 1956
 - Correspondence, April 1957-July 1965 and undated
 - Facts and Figures re: Kohler Strike, June 1952-December 1957
 - Grievance Correspondence, October 1953-December 1954
 - Grievance Meeting Agenda, September 1953-March 1954
 - Kohler Labor History
 - Kohler Workers' Association
 - Labor's Daily, April 10, 1956
 - Local 833 Agenda and Miscellaneous, March 1954
 - Local 833 Membership
 - Miscellaneous
 - NLRB Brief and Opinion, September 1954 and October 1954
 - NLRB Interviews - Los Angeles, Address Lists, February 1963
 - NLRB Interviews - Los Angeles, Appointment Calendar, February 1963
 - NLRB Interviews - Los Angeles, Correspondence and Miscellaneous
- Box 2, Notes
- Pensions, Insurance and Health, 1953-1954
 - Pensions, Insurance and Health, Correspondence, October 1953-October 1954
 - Press Releases, October 1956-February 1965
 - Resolutions, November 1954-January 1957
 - Senate Labor Committee - Conger Statement, June 3, 1955
 - Senate Labor Subcommittee - Exhibits re: Unions Efforts to Avoid Violence
 - Senate Labor Subcommittee - Index of Union Personalities
 - Senate Labor Subcommittee - Mazey Statement
 - Senate Labor Subcommittee - Miscellaneous Statements and Notes
 - Senate Labor Subcommittee - Reuther Statement
 - Speech Outline
 - Statements, Miscellaneous, 1954-1956 and undated
 - Wages
 - Wages - Correspondence, July 1953-March 1954
 - Wages - Supplements A and B, May 1953 and August 1953
 - Wisconsin Employment Relations Board and Industrial Commission, 1953
 - Non Kohler - Clippings
 - Correspondence, May 1949 and 1951
 - Correspondence, 1952
 - Correspondence, 1953 and August 1961
 - Engineers, Organizing of
 - Miscellaneous

Box 2, continued

- Non Kohler – Organizing Literature
 - "Race Hate Wins 1st Round" Big Springs, Mississippi
 - Report to Gear, Axle and Transmission Council, May 1952
 - UAW and U.E. Local 167 Meeting, April 16, 1963