

THE WILLIAM DUFTY COLLECTION

Papers, 1940-1947
(Predominantly, 1941)

4 folders

Accession Number 388
L. C. Number MS

The papers of William Dufty were placed in the Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs in February of 1970 by Mr. Dufty and were opened for research in October of 1983.

William Dufty was born in Merrill, Michigan, February 2, 1916. He graduated from Boys Catholic Central High School, Grand Rapids and attended Wayne State University from 1935 through 1938. He also spent a year at the University of Southern California in 1937.

In 1939 Dufty worked on a free-lance basis for Edward Levinson, Publicity Director of the UAW-CIO and did public relations work for George Edwards then director of the WPA Welfare Department of the UAW. Dufty subsequently engaged in educational and public relations work for Charles F. Edgecomb, president of Local 203. He then became a full-time assistant to Levinson. In 1941 he was named Public Relations Director of the CIO drive to organize the aircraft industry under the direction of Richard T. Frankenstein.

In 1942 Dufty took the post of Public Relations Director of the National CIO War Relief Committee organized under the direction of Monroe W. Sweetland. After army service between 1942 and 1945 he acted as Public Relations Director for the Michigan CIO Council under August Scholle, and he edited the Council's weekly newspaper. Leaving the CIO in 1947 he assumed the post of Co-Director of Public Relations for the Americans for Democratic Action. He resigned from the ADA in 1948 to devote full time to free-lance assignments.

The papers of Mr. Dufty consist of clippings, correspondence, and several radio scripts reflecting his participation in the efforts to organize the Ford Motor Company and the aircraft industry.

Non-manuscript Material:

Ten photographs relating to Dufty's work with the UAW Aircraft Division have been placed in the Archives Audio Visual Collections.