



WAYNE STATE
UNIVERSITY

Walter P. Reuther Library

Guide to the Bernard G. Hoffman Papers LP000445

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English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Walter P. Reuther Library

5401 Cass Avenue

Detroit, MI 48202

URL: <https://reuther.wayne.edu>

Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
History	3
Scope and Content	4
Arrangement	4
Administrative Information	4
Related Materials	5
Controlled Access Headings	5
Collection Inventory	6
Series 1: General File	6
Series 2: Diaries	7

Summary Information

Repository:	Walter P. Reuther Library
Creator:	Hoffman, Bernard
Title:	Bernard G. Hoffman Papers
ID:	LP000445
Date [inclusive]:	1940-1968
Physical Description:	2 Linear Feet (4 MB)
Language of the Material:	English
Language of the Material:	Material entirely in English.
Abstract:	Bernard G. Hoffman served as union steward at the Briggs Manufacturing Company and Chrysler Corporation in the 1940s and 1950s. He also served as secretary of the Briggs Joint Apprenticeship Committee and secretary-treasurer of the National Skilled Trades Council, UAW-CIO. The bulk of the papers are minutes, pamphlets, newsletters, agreements and personal notes relating to Hoffman's union activities. Of particular value are his daily notes on plant activities written during his years at Briggs and Chrysler.

Citation Style

"Bernard Hoffman Papers, Box [#], Folder [#], Walter P. Reuther Library, Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs, Wayne State University."

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

History

Bernard Hoffman was employed at the Briggs Manufacturing Company and was elected steward of Die Design in 1940, continuing through 1967. During these years he also served as a member of the Briggs Joint Apprenticeship Committee and of the Joint Apprenticeship Committee once Briggs became the Automotive Body Division of the Chrysler Corporation in 1954. He served as the committee's secretary

and as chairman of the union members. Hoffman was a delegate to numerous UAW, Engineers, Skilled Trades and Chrysler conferences and conventions.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Content

The papers of Hoffman contain the minutes of the Joint Apprenticeship Committees and reflect the apprenticeship program.

Important subjects covered in the collection are: Apprentice, Journeymen, Upgraders positions. Historical material on the Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians and the Society of Designing Engineers. International Skilled Trades Council Minutes Joint Apprenticeship Committee Program.

Series Description: Series I, General File. Minutes interspersed with a small amount of inter-company correspondence, mainly dealing with apprentice programs and standards. Also included are some clippings, published contracts and apprentice standards.

Series II, Box 4-Diaries. Diaries of Hoffman dating from the 1940s to 1960s.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Arrangement

Arranged in 2 series: Series 1 (Boxes 1-3), Series 2 (Box 4). Folders are arranged by subject.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Acquisition

The papers of Bernard Hoffman were placed in the Reuther Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs in 1971 by Hoffman and were opened for research in June 1974.

Processing History

Processed and finding aid written by Walter P. Reuther Library in June 1974.

Access

Collection is open for research.

Use

Refer to the Walter P. Reuther Library "Rules for Use of Archival Materials."

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Related Materials

Transfers

One photograph and one delegate button have been placed in the Archives Photographic Collection. A small collection of pamphlets have been placed in the Archives Library.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Controlled Access Headings

- Labor unions
- Automobile industry workers
- International Union, United Automobile, Aerospace, and Agricultural Implement Workers of America

Collection Inventory

Series 1: General File

Scope and Contents

Minutes, contracts and inter-company correspondence dealing with apprentice standards and programs at Briggs and continuing with Chrysler as Briggs became the Automotive Body Division of Chrysler. Also included are clippings dealing with the Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians, as well as some dealing with the Society of Designing Engineers.

Title/Description	Instances	
Apprentices-Shop-All Trades, 1951-1959	box 1	folder 1
Apprentice Standards, 1944-1956	box 1	folder 2
Contracts: GM 1937, Briggs and Chrysler, 1944-1954	box 1	folder 3
Contracts: Engineering Seniority, Briggs and Chrysler, 1945-1961	box 1	folder 4
Contracts: Published, Briggs and Chrysler, 1937, 1941-1944, 1950	box 1	folder 5
Sol A. Dann, Outline of Remarks, Chrysler Annual Stockholders Meeting, 1960	box 1	folder 6
Inter-Company correspondence, Briggs employees on sale to Chrysler, 1953 October-December	box 1	folder 7
International Skilled Trades Council UAW-CIO, minutes, 1940-1946	box 1	folder 8-11
Briggs Joint Apprenticeship Committee, minutes, 1946-1950	box 1	folder 12-16
Briggs Joint Apprenticeship Committee, minutes, 1951-1953	box 2	folder 1-2
Automotive Body Division, Chrysler Corporation, Joint Apprenticeship Committee, 1954-1956	box 2	folder 4-7
Chrysler Stamping Division, Joint Apprenticeship Committee, 1957-1960	box 2	folder 8-10
Chrysler, National Joint Apprentice Committee, 1957-1964	box 2	folder 11-12
Chrysler, National Joint Apprentice Committee-Work Processes: Die Design, Tool Design, minutes	box 2	folder 13
Chrysler, National Joint Apprentice Committee, correspondence, 1965	box 2	folder 14
Chrysler, National Joint Apprentice Committee, 1965 September-1966 April	box 2	folder 15
Chrysler, Joint Apprentice Committee Member, memorandums, 1956 -1966	box 3	folder 1-3

Chrysler, Joint Apprentice Committee Member, new committee, 1968 January	box 3	folder 4
Chrysler, Joint Apprentice Committee Member, signed agreements, Apprenticeship, 1960	box 3	folder 5
Various documents, various dates	box 3	folder 6
Miscellaneous Publications, 1940-1964	box 3	folder 7
News Flash, 1940-1941	box 3	folder 8
News Flash, Blue Print, Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians (FAEOT)	box 3	folder 9
Newsgram, 1962-1963	box 3	folder 10
Society of Designing Engineers, 1942-1952	box 3	folder 11
Upgraders	box 3	folder 12
Wage Rates: Briggs, Chrysler, 1941-1960	box 3	folder 13

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 2: Diaries

Scope and Contents

Hoffman's diaries reflect his work as steward and as a member of the Joint Apprenticeship Committee and contain biographical sketches of various people with whom he dealt. They also reflect the problems of his department and how they were handled. At points in the steward diaries, lists of problems are presented as they might have been presented to management.

Title/Description	Instances	
Diaries, Notes, 1940-1967	box 4	folder 1-10
Diaries, Personal Notes on Apprenticeship, 1948-1960	box 4	folder 11-12

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)