

The Sanford B. Cohl Collection

Papers, 1939-1962
(Predominantly, 1939-1940)

.5 Linear feet

Accession Number 1047 L.C.
Number MS

The papers of Sanford B. Cohl were deposited in the Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs by Sanford Cohl in June of 1981 and opened in August, 1983.

This collection of published materials relates to the 1940 split between the minority and majority factions of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP). The factionalism resulted from the controversy over the SWP's stand on the Hitler-Stalin Pact issue. The majority chose to follow Leon Trotsky's unconditional defense of USSR's policies. The minority condemned the Hitler-Stalin Pact as an unjustifiable alliance, particularly after its resultant invasion of Poland. These irrevocable differences within the party ultimately led the minority faction to leave the SWP and form the Workers Party (WP).

The papers of Sanford B. Cohl document a critical theoretical discordance in the doctrine of the Trotskyist movement.

Important subjects covered in the collection are: (an index to subjects

will be found on p.3) Hitler-

Stalin Pact
Socialist Workers Party factionalism

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1 manuscript box

Series I, Radical Movements Publications, 1936-1962; Box 1:

Bulletins, resolutions, statements, and other printed materials relating primarily to the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) and the Workers Party (WP).

Series I
Radical Movements Publications
Box 1

Published material primarily relating to the 1940 split between the minority and majority factions of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP). The minority faction later reorganized themselves as the Workers Party (WP). The files are arranged alphabetically by political organization.

Box 1

1. New Views, 25 Aug 1945
2. Revolutionary Workers League: open letter, 1940
3. Socialist Party: national convention, 8-10 Jun 1962
4. Socialist Workers Party: Internal Bulletin, Oct-Dec 1939
5. : Internal Bulletin, Jan-Apr 1940
6. : resolutions, statements, 1937, 1939
7. : resolutions, statements, Jan 1940
8. : resolutions, statements, Feb 1940
9. : resolutions, statements, Mar 1940
10. : resolutions, statements, Apr-May 1940
11. Workers Party: Basic Documents, series no. 1
12. : Basic Documents, series no. 2
13. : Bulletins, 1940
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15. : international position
16. : resolutions, statements, 1940
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