

THE WALTER WESTMAN COLLECTION

Papers, 1921-1963

1 folder

Accession Number 1103
L.C. Number MS

The papers of Walter Westman were placed in the Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs in September of 1982 by Mrs. Westman and opened for research in February of 1984.

Walter Westman joined the IWW in August of 1916, working as a teamster for a construction company. In 1937 as Secretary of the IWW General Defense Committee, Mr. Westman engaged in a letter campaign to various labor organizations throughout the country seeking support in the defense of IWW member Michael Lindway, who was arrested by the authorities for allegedly running a bomb factory in his home. In spite of Mr. Westman's efforts however, Lindway was convicted and given a twenty year sentence. Mr. Westman was also active in organizing drives for the IWW, seeking to recruit new members from the lumbering industry in the Northwest in the late 1930's and from Midwestern railroad workers in the mid-1940's,

In February of 1949, Mr. Westman became the IWW General Secretary-Treasurer, a position he held for over a decade. During that time, he sought to have the IWW removed from the U.S. Attorney General's list of subversive organizations but was unsuccessful.

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Series I
Membership Cards, 1921-1963
Folder 1

Fourteen membership cards relating to Walter Westman's involvement with the IWW. Included in this series is one membership card from the IWW General Defense Committee.

Folder 1 - 14 membership cards, 1921-1963