

Charles M. Dewey Collection

Papers, 1951-1985

3 linear feet

Accession #1609
OCLC #

The papers of Charles M. Dewey were placed in the Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs in October of 1994 by his wife, Hope Dewey, and opened for research in April of 2003.

Charles Manuel Dewey was born April 30, 1922 in Little Rock, Arkansas and grew up in Detroit, Michigan. He graduated from Eastern High School in 1939 and served as a radio operator and instructor in radio navigation and radio compass in the U.S. Army Air Corps from 1942 to 1946. After the war he attended Wayne State University, where he received a B.A. in English (1949) and completed one year of graduate school.

Mr. Dewey, a tool and die maker by trade, worked for a number of companies, including the Cross Company, Standard Machine and Tool and Spishock Automation Tool and Die, where he also served as chief steward. He made an unsuccessful run for the presidency of UAW Local 155 in the 1960's. A militant labor activist, he was a fixture on UAW picket lines and supported a number of UAW rank-and-file dissident groups, most importantly the Independent Skilled Trades Council, turning out leaflets and fliers by the thousands on a mimeo machine in his garage.

Charles Dewey and both his wives (Dorothy Czygan, 1942-59, and Hope Fern Kelly Smith, 1960-92) were actively involved in community affairs in their east side Detroit and suburban neighborhoods and in numerous causes for social and economic justice. He died July 14, 1992.

The Charles M. Dewey Collection consists primarily of government surveillance files on him and his wife, Hope, records from his activities with UAW Local 155 and files documenting his association with UAW rank-and-file dissident groups.

RESEARCHERS USING THIS COLLECTION MUST SIGN A RESTRICTED USE FORM. NO NAMES APPEARING IN THE FBI, MICHIGAN STATE POLICE OR DETROIT POLICE RED SQUAD FILES OTHER THAN THOSE OF CHARLES AND HOPE DEWEY MAY BE CITED WITHOUT THE WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE INDIVIDUAL NAMED. NO UNPUBLISHED MATERIAL IN RESTRICTED FILES MAY BE COPIED.

Subjects

Communist Party of Michigan
Community organization--Michigan--Detroit
Concerned Unionists
Cross Company
Grievance arbitration--Michigan--Detroit
Independent Skilled Trades Council
Skilled labor--Michigan--Detroit
Strikes and Lockouts—Automobile industry--Michigan--Detroit
Tool and Die Industry—Michigan
Trade-unions--Political activity
Trade-unions and communism
UAW Local 155 (Detroit, Mich.)
United National Caucus

Correspondents

Richard Healey
Sidney Lens
Frank Marquart

Transfers

Some photographs and handbill artwork and a few items of memorabilia related to Dewey's involvement with the Independent Skilled Trades Council and the peace movement have been transferred to the Archives Audiovisual Department.

Related Collections

Concerned Unionists
Angelo Deitos
Enid Eckstein
Labor Today
Blaine Marrin
Blaine Marrin oral history
UAW Local 157

Contents

3 manuscript boxes

Series I, Political Files, 1951-1985, Boxes 1-2:

FBI, Detroit Red Squad and Michigan State Police files on Charles and Hope Dewey are in this series, which documents the Deweys' involvement in grassroots community organizations, including the fight to reopen Waterworks Park.

Series II, Labor Files, 1952-1984, Boxes 2-3:

Correspondence, pamphlets, newsletters and articles documenting Charles Dewey's activities with dissident groups within the union. Many of the leaflets and flyers were produced by Dewey.

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Series I
Political Files, 1951-1985
Boxes 1-2

Box 1

- 1-2. Communist Party of Michigan; FBI Files **[RESTRICTED USE]**
3. Dewey, Charles; corres., misc., & letters to the editor, 1955-85
- 4-6. ; FBI file **[RESTRICTED USE]**
- 7-9. ; Detroit Red Squad file **RESTRICTED USE]**
- 10-11. ; Michigan State Police Red Squad file **[RESTRICTED USE]**
12. Dewey, Dorothy; Michigan Council for Peace, 1952
- 13-14. Dewey, Hope; FBI file **[RESTRICTED USE]**
- 15-19. ; Michigan State Police file **[RESTRICTED USE]**
20. East Detroit; "DEAR" newsletter and pamphlets, 1978-81
20. East Detroit Democratic Party Club, 1978-81
21. Flyers, misc., 1960's

Box 2

1. Safe Energy Coalition; newsletters, 1982-83
2. Southeastern Property Owners Association; correspondence, 1958-60
3. ; Dewey's notes
4. ; news articles and minutes
5. Waterworks Park; Cadillac Harding Community Club Red Squad file, 1954 **[RESTRICTED USE]**
6. ; correspondence, 1954
7. ; misc.
8. ; newspaper articles, 1954-61

Series II
Labor Files, 1952-1984
Boxes 2-3

Box 2

9. Building trades; informational packets, 1970's
10. ; pamphlets and news articles, 1970s
11. Concerned Unionists; pamphlets and newsletters, 1969-71
12. Detroit-Wayne County Tool and Die Council; agreements, 1953-61
13. ; bylaws, 1953-58
14. ; conventions/conferences, 1957-64
15. Dewey, Charles; corres., misc., 1959-80
16. ; letters to the editor, 1974-81
17. Independent Skilled Trades Council (ISTC); corres., 1970's
18. ; Dewey articles & letters to the editor, 1970-81
19. ; Dewey corres., 1976-85
20. ; Dewey newsletter materials
21. ; Executive Council minutes, 1974-81
22. ; meeting notices, 1970's-1980's
23. ; newsletter, 1970's
24. ; newspaper articles and resolutions, 1970's
25. ; organizational information
26. ; pamphlets
27. ; UAW Locals 155 and 157 pamphlets, 1970's-1980's
28. ; UAW locals (misc.) pamphlets and election material
29. Labor For Peace; founding conference, 23-24 Jun 1972
30. *Labor Today*; Dewey articles and corres., 1970's
31. National Coordinating Committee for Trade Union Action and Democracy; meetings, 1971, 1973
32. UAW dissident groups; misc. pamphlets
33. UAW Local 42 "Bulletin" (newsletter), 1952
34. UAW Local 140; Justice Caucus newsletters
35. UAW Local 155; Cross Company, Crump grievance v., 1969-72
36. ; Cross Company, Czekis grievance v., 1972
37. ; Cross Company, Dewey grievance v.-Company testimony, 1955-58
38. ; Cross Company, Dewey grievance v.-Dewey personnel records, 1955-57

Box 3

1. UAW Local 155; Cross Company, Dewey grievance v.–Dewey testimony, 1955-58
2. ; Cross Company, Dewey grievance v.–severance, 1959
3. ; Cross Company-labor contract, 1957
4. ; Cross Company-misc., 1956-57
5. ; Cross Company-settlement agreement, Aug 1957
6. ; Cross Company-strike, 1957
7. ; Cross Company, UAW grievance v., 1957
8. ; Cross Company, Ziolkowski grievance v., 1956
9. ; Democratic Caucus; corres., 1968-82
10. ; Democratic Caucus; newsletters, 1970's
11. ; Democratic Caucus; pamphlets, 1970's
12. ; Democratic Caucus-Sweedish Crucible Steel conflict, 1972
13. ; F. Jos. Lamb Company, Kammer grievance v., 1978-81
14. ; miscellaneous materials, 1950's-1980's
15. ; news articles, 1940's-1970's
16. ; newsletter, 1971-73
17. ; pamphlets, 1960's-1990
18. ; R and B Tool and Gauge Company, grievance v., 1960
19. ; Spishock Automation Tool and Die Company, grievances v., 1962-65
20. ; Standard Machine and Tool Company; contract negotiations, 1971-84
21. ; Standard Machine and Tool Company, Dewey grievance v., 1968-79
22. ; Standard Machine and Tool Company, Dewey personnel records, 1966-77
23. ; Standard Machine and Tool Company, DuBey grievance v. Dewey, 1981
24. ; Standard Machine and Tool Company, grievances v., 1964-83
25. UAW Local 157; pamphlets and news articles
26. ; skilled workers-bylaws and conference
27. ; Special Machine and Engineering, Inc., Rzeszut grievance v., 1978
28. UAW Locals 155 and 157; contract negotiations, 1964-81
29. ; Democratic Caucus-pamphlets
30. ; news articles, 1960's-1970's
31. ; pamphlets
32. ; Standard Machine and Tool Company pension plans, 1975-84
33. ; Standard Machine and Tool Company pension plans-corres., 1970-84

Box 3 (cont'd)

34. ; Standard Machine and Tool Company pension plans-Dewey
corres., 1980's
35. UAW (national); misc. publications, 1969-79
36. United National Caucus (UNC); news articles, 1970's
37. ; newsletters, n.d.
38. ; pamphlets, 1970's