

UNITED AUTOMOBILE WORKERS
WASHINGTON OFFICE, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT
DONALD MONTGOMERY FILES
Papers, 1935 - 1957

40 1/2 linear feet
19 oversize newspapers

Accession Number 36

The papers of United Automobile Workers Washington Office, Donald Montgomery were placed in the Archives of Labor History and Urban Affairs in 1966, 1968, and 1971 by the UAW.

The Washington Office of the United Automobile Workers opened on February 10, 1943. Under the direction of Vice Presidents Richard T. Frankenstein and Walter P. Reuther, it was divided into two major sections. Frankenstein directed the divisions relating to the National War Labor Board, the National Labor Relations Board, the Department of Labor, and Federal Legislation. Reuther directed the divisions relating to the War Production Board, the War Manpower Commission, the Office of Economic Stabilization and the Office of Price Administration.

Shortly after the 1947 Convention of the International Union, at an executive board meeting on November 28, the Washington Office was reorganized. The entire operation was placed under the supervision of the President of the International Union, and the various divisions were abolished or transferred to other departments. After 1947, the primary concern of the Washington Office was to direct the legislative lobbying activities of the United Automobile Workers Union. Donald Montgomery was put in charge of this operation, and he was assisted by Paul Sifton, Samuel Jacobs, and Matthew Amberg.

Donald E. Montgomery was born on October 16, 1896. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1918. Afterwards, he took two years of graduate study at the University of Wisconsin. He was Director of the Registration Division of the Securities and Exchange Commission when he resigned to become Consumer Counsel at the Department of Agriculture in September, 1935. In December, 1942 he left this position, and the following February, he became the Consumer Counsel for the United Automobile Workers Union. Most of his work as Consumer Counsel involved serving as the UAW representative on the Policy Committee of Price Administration. When the Washington Office was reorganized 1947, Walter Reuther appointed him as its Director. He held this position until his death in October, 1957.

Important subjects covered in this collection are:

Agricultural Adjustment Act - Consumer Amendment, 1936
 Allis Chalmers Manufacturing Company Strike, 1949
 Anti - Trust Legislation, 1944-55
 Basing Paint Legislation, 1947-1953
 Bell Aircraft Corporation Strike, 1949
 Brannan Farm Program, 1948-1950
 Chrysler Corporation Strike, 1950
 Congressional and Presidential Election Campaigns, 1948-1953
 Consumer Education, 1935-1943
 Consumer Foundation - Establishment, 1937
 Consumer Movement - Factionalism, 1936-1942
 Copper Shortage, 1951-1952
 Defense Appropriations, 1948-1954
 Defense Manpower, Mobilization, Procurement, and Production Policies for
 the Korean War, 1950-1953
 Defense Production Act, 1951
 Detroit Millers Crisis, 1943
 Dies Committee Investigation of the Consumer Movement, 1939
 Electric Power Legislation, 1952-1955
 European Economic Cooperation, 1947
 European Recovery Program, 1948-1950
 Farm Equipment Workers Merger with the UAW, 1945-1949
 Fat and Salvage Program, 1943-1945
 Flanders, Ralph - Motion to Censure Joseph McCarthy, 1954
 Ford Motor Company Strike, 1949
 Full Employment Legislation, 1945-1954
 General Motors Corporation Strike, 1945-1946
 German Steel Plants - Dismantlement, 1948-1951
 Good Housekeeping Magazine Investigation, 1939
 Housing Legislation, 1943-1956
 In-Plant Feeding of Defense Workers, 1944-1945
 Kohler Company Strike, 1955
 Margarine Processing Tax, 1943-1949
 Natural Gas Shortage, 1948-1953
 Office of Price Administration - Regional and District
 Labor Liaison Committees, 1943-1946
 Olds, Leland - Federal Power Commission Appointment, 1949
 Polio Vaccine Distribution - Appropriations, 1955
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Subsidy Regulations on Consumer Goods, 1943-1944
Taft-Hartley Act, 1947-1955
Tax Legislation, 1946-1951

Important Correspondents Include: (an index to the location of these letters will be found on the last page of the guide)

George Addes	Emil Mazey
Alben W. Barkley	Philip Murray
Chester Bowles	Robert Oliver
Homer Capehart	Wright Patman
James Carey	Roy Reuther
Nathan E. Cowan	Walter Reuther
Paul Douglas	Victor Reuther
Leo Goodman	John R. Steelman
William Green	R.J. Thomas
Hubert Humphrey	Harry S. Truman
Samuel Jacobs	Arthur Vandenberg
Everett M. Kassalow	Raymond Walsh
Mildred Jeffrey	Nathan Weinberg
Robert S. Lynd	

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19 oversize newspapers

Series I. U.S. Department of Agriculture - Consumer Counsel, 1935-1942.
Boxes 1-5

Records relating to the work of Donald Montgomery when he was employed with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. His interest in consumer affairs is particularly well-documented. Several files discuss the government investigation of Good Housekeeping Magazine in 1939, and the retaliatory action against the consumer movement by a committee of the House of Representatives under the chairmanship of Martin Dies.

Series II. Office of Price Administration - Labor Policy Committee, 1943-1946. Boxes 5-17

These records reflect the works of Donald Montgomery when he was employed as the UAW Consumer Counsel. Price control during World War II is particularly well-documented. Other important records include the minutes of Labor Policy Committee meetings.

Series III. Non-UAW Organizations and Individuals, 1943-1957. Boxes 18-28
Office files of Mr. Montgomery reflecting his works with various community organizations.

Series IV. U.S. Government Executive Agencies and Commissions, and Congress, 1943-1957. Boxes 28-35

Office files of Mr. Montgomery primarily reflecting his work with the executive branch of the Federal Government. The defense mobilization, manpower, procurement, and production policies for the Korean War are particularly well-documented. In this series, there

are many files which discuss the unsuccessful attempt to get Leland Olds re-appointed to the Federal Power Commission. Another topic which is well documented is the in-plant feeding of defense workers during World War II.

Series V. Legislation, 1943-1957. Boxes 36-60.

Correspondence, testimony, legal records and other material relating to the legislative lobbying activities of the Washington Office. this series, there are numerous records relating to many important subjects. The natural gas shortage, 1948-1953 and the steel shortage, 1945-1947 are particularly well-documented.

Series VI. UAW Staff Members, 1943-1957. Boxes 60-68.

Correspondence and other records relating to UAW staff personnel. Most of this material pertains to routine office matters.

Series VII. Conferences and Institutes, 1943-1946. Boxes 68-69.

Correspondence and other records relating to the participation of Mr. Montgomery in conferences and institutes sponsored by the United Automobile Workers Union or the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

Series VIII. UAW Plant Cases, 1943-1955. Boxes 69-81.

Correspondence and other material pertaining to strikes, collective bargaining elections, government contracts, grievances of local unions, employment curtailment and contract negotiations within companies and plants in which the UAW was represented. The General Motors strike, 1945-1946 is particularly well-documented.

Series IX. Office File. Boxes 81-84.

Correspondence and other material on unrelated miscellaneous subjects. Some of these files document the Farm Equipment Workers merger with the UAW , 1945-1949.

Non-manuscript material.

Numerous monographs, pamphlets, and published reports concerning consumer and legislative problems have been placed in the Archives library.

Series I. U.S. Department of Agriculture-Consumer Counsel, 1935-1942.
Boxes 1-5

Correspondence, reports, speeches, testimony, legal, records, proceedings, drafts, notes, circular letters, and published material. These files are arranged alphabetically by surname of individual, by name of organization or agency, by topic, or by type of material. In this series, there are records relating to the following important subjects:

Agricultural Adjustment Act-Consumer Amendment, 1936
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Series II. Office of Price Administration - Labor Policy Committee, 1943-46
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Correspondence, reports, minutes, speeches, drafts, notes, testimony, newspaper clippings, circular letters, press releases, bulletins, and published material. These files are arranged alphabetically by name of agency, by topic, or by type of material. At the end of the series, there are twelve published Quarterly Reports of the Office of Price Administration, and some other pamphlets pertaining to the following important subjects:

- Detroit Milk Crisis, 1943
- Fat and Oil Salvage Program, 1943-1945
- Labor Policy Committee Meetings, 1943-1946
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Series III. Non-UAW Organizations and Individuals, 1943-1957
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Mostly Correspondence. Some reports, drafts of articles, speeches, testimony, newspaper clippings, newsletters and published material. These files are arranged alphabetically by the name of organization or by the surname of individual. Some of the records in this series document the legislative lobbying activities of some of the organizations.

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Correspondence; reports; minutes and proceedings; notes; speeches; newsletters, press releases and bulletins; newspaper clippings; and published material. Most of these files are arranged alphabetically

by name of agency or commission. For descriptive purposes the term "Congress" is used to refer to the House of Representatives. In this series, there are records relating to the following important subjects:

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Correspondence; reports; proceedings; testimony; notes; statistical worksheets; legal records - briefs, court opinions, and exhibits; speeches; newsletters, press releases, and bulletins; newspaper clippings; and published hearings and bills. These files are arranged alphabetically by topic. In this series, there are records relating to the following important subjects:

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Series VIII. UAW Plant Cases, 1943 - 1957

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19. UAW Washington Office - Consumers Division, Convention Reports, Drafts, 1943-1945
20. UAW Washington Office - Convention Report, Drafts, 1949
- 21-22. UAW Washington Office - Legislative Lobbying Reports to U.S. Senate, 1946-1951
23. 1946-1951
24. UAW Washington - Washington Office Reports for Automobile Workers, Drafts, n.d.-ca. 1953-1955
25. United Electrical Workers - Local Unions - Merger with UAW, 1948
- 26-30. United Labor Policy Committee, 1951

Index to Correspondents

The following index includes some (not all) of the correspondents in this collection. Not every letter of the persons listed here is necessarily noted. The following persons, who because of their positions are responsible for a preponderant amount of correspondence, are omitted from this index: Samuel Jacobs, Donald Montgomery, and Paul Sifton. The correspondence of persons whose names appear on specific folders in the folder inventory is also omitted. Example: Folder number eleven of box one is listed in the inventory as "Bowles, Chester" and folders 9-18 of box seven are listed as "OPA Personnel-Bowles, Chester". None of the correspondence of Chester Bowles which is in these folders is included in this index. Some of the correspondence in this collection consists of copies of letters sent by the persons indexed to third parties - e.g. persons other than Donald Montgomery. This correspondence is included, but at all times the names listed in the index refer to the persons who wrote the letters. Some of the correspondence consists of important mimeographed or form letters which was undoubtedly sent to several persons. Since not all the letters have handwritten signatures, some letters may be copies or may be drafts written by Mr. **Montgomery for the signature** of the person listed in the index.

This index is arranged alphabetically by surnames of the correspondents. Because this collection covers such a long time period (1935-1957), the dates (year only) of the letters appear in the index. The first number signifies the box number. The number after the colon indicates the folder in which the letters are located.

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