

UAW LOCAL 400 COLLECTION

Papers, 1941-1966
(Predominantly, 1942-1961)

61.5 linear feet

Accession No. 64
L.C. Number MS

The papers of UAW Local 400 were placed in the Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs in two installments. The first installment was given by Ray Murray (Recording Secretary, Local 400) in August, 1962 and was opened for research in September, 1965. The second installment was given by Joe Bailey (Financial Secretary-Treasurer, Local 400) in November, 1966 and was opened for research in April, 1967. Originally, the collection was divided into two parts with two separate guides, but in September, 1981 the collection was reprocessed into one unit; some material (financial reports, grievance data, and general office documentation) was added, and the following guide was produced. In general, this guide reflects the arrangement scheme and subject descriptors of the original guides, with a few changes and additions.

Organized in 1941, Local 400 was located in Highland Park, Michigan for many years. (At present, the local still exists but is located in Romeo, Michigan.) In addition to servicing the Ford Highland Park Plant, Local 400 also represented Ford Facilities in Utica, Romeo, Mount Clemens, and the Michigan Proving Ground of the Ford Motor Company. The papers of Local 400 reflect union activities from 1941-1966. The period covering the years 1942-1961 is particularly well documented in terms of executive board meeting minutes, plant-wide meeting minutes, and correspondence. Also, the grievance file is quite comprehensive, especially for the years 1951-1959.

Important subjects covered in the collection are:

Allis Chalmers Strike and the Reuther-Thomas Split
Fair Employment Practices
Ford Contract Negotiations
Seniority
Retirement and Pension Plans
Unemployment and Unemployment Compensation
Wayne County AFL-CIO merger

Among the important correspondents are:

George Addes	Philip Hart	Al Musilli
Ken Bannon	Richard T. Leonard	William H. Oliver
Mary V. Beck	Norman Matthews	Roy Reuther
Albert E. Cobo	Emil Mazey	Victor Reuther
Edward Conner	Richard McIntyre	Walter Reuther
Homer Ferguson	Louis C. Miriani	R. J. Thomas
		Arthur H. Vandenberg

Contents

107 manuscript boxes
8 paige boxes

Series I, Grievances, 1943-1962; Boxes 1-62:

Grievances, shop committee and Review Board agendas, correspondence, health and safety reports, and digests and indexes of Umpire Decisions, 1951-1956.

Series II, Minutes, 1942-1963; Boxes 62-68:

Local 400 Executive Board Meeting Minutes, 1942-1963; Plant Wide Meeting Minutes, 1942-1961, and some miscellaneous meeting minutes of the National Ford Council, 1944, 1947 and other committees, 1945-1957.

Series III, Correspondence, 1941-1961; Boxes 69-77:

Letters and telegrams, carbon copies of local correspondence, and mimeo form letters from UAW International leaders and various UAW departments, regions, and other locals. This series also includes some published material.

Series IV, Office Files, 1942-1966; Boxes 78-115:

Correspondence, reports, publications, promotional fliers and other pamphlet material covering various subject areas such as seniority, health and retirement benefits, union finances and elections, contract negotiations, and unemployment compensation.

Non-manuscript material:

Approximately 140 tapes of Local 400 Executive Board, plant wide meeting, and miscellaneous meeting minutes for the period 1951-1959 have been placed in the Archives' Audio-Visual Collections.

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Series I
Grievances, 1943-1962
Boxes 1-62

Grievances, shop committee and Review Board agendas, correspondence, and health and safety reports. This series also includes digests and indexes to Umpire Decisions, 1951-1956. The grievances in boxes 1-50 are arranged either chronologically or alphabetically. The grievances in boxes 54-61 are arranged by type (e.g. work standards, Jurisdictional Board or Review Board policy grievances) and then by alphabet or by date. An index to the grievances will be found on page 5.

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Series III
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Series IV
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Correspondence, reports, publications, promotional fliers and other pamphlet material covering various subject areas such as seniority, health and retirement benefits, union finances and elections, contract negotiations, and unemployment compensation. There is also some information on labor relations and grievances, fair employment practices, union political action and labor councils such as the Michigan State AFL-CIO, the National Ford Council and the AFL-CIO of Wayne, Macomb, and Oakland counties. As in the Correspondence Series, some of the correspondence are mimeo form letters from the UAW International departments and Region I. The arrangement of the series reflects the order of the material as documented by the two original guides. Boxes 78-85 and 104-111 follow an A-Z arrangement. Boxes 86-103 are arranged by related subject headings (e.g. Councils and Conferences/Conventions or Health Insurance and Retirement Benefits). At the end of the series (boxes 111-115) there are typing and mimeographing requisitions, a general housekeeping record kept by the local whenever information was typed and reproduced for the membership. This includes a sample of the dispersed document which provides information on a variety of subjects such as elections, contract negotiations, and employees' pay and other benefits.

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- 21-24. Typing and Mimeographing Requisitions, 1943

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- 1-18. Typing and Mimeographing Requisitions, 1943

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