

**UAW Washington Office Legislative Department:  
Samuel Jacobs and Paul Sifton Files**

**Papers, 1943-1962  
(Predominantly, 1948-1962)**

**29 linear feet**

Accession #799

OCLC #

The papers of Samuel Jacobs and Paul Sifton of the United Automobile Workers' Washington Office Legislative Department were placed in the Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs in 1966, 1968 and 1971.

The Legislative Department of the Washington Office was created shortly after the union's 1947 convention. Its primary responsibility, under the leadership of Donald Montgomery, was to direct the legislative lobbying activities of the United Automobile Workers Union.

Before joining the Washington Office staff as a legislative representative in 1948, Paul Sifton held a variety of jobs as a labor reporter, an administrator with government agencies and as a legislative representative with the National Farm Workers Union and other non-profit organizations. In 1957 he took over operation of the department from Donald Montgomery and remained in that position until December of 1962, when the Washington Office was abolished and the Legislative Department became part of the Citizenship-Legislative Department under the direction of Roy Reuther. Mr. Sifton retired from the UAW in 1963.

Samuel Jacobs was born in 1910. After receiving B.S. and M.A. degrees from Wayne University, he taught in the Detroit Public Schools (1928-1941). After working for the Office of Price Administration as consumer representative for the Detroit District and the CIO's representative on its Labor Policy Committee, he joined the staff of the United Automobile Workers Washington Office as a representative with the Legislative Department in 1948. From 1951 to 1953, he represented the union on the Consumer Advisory Committee of the Office of Wage Stabilization. He remained with the Legislative Department until his death in December, 1959.

**Important subjects covered in this collection are:**

Agriculture Legislation, 1948-1961  
Aid to Underdeveloped Countries, 1951-1962  
Area Redevelopment Legislation, 1956-1961  
Automobile Price Increases, 1957-1958  
Civil Rights Legislation, 1949-1960  
Consumer Protection Legislation, 1950-1958  
Data on Congressmen, 1947-1962  
Defense Production Act, 1951-1952  
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Postal Rate Legislation, 1955-1958  
Price Control, 1943-1953  
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Agricultural Implement, Aircraft and Automobile Industries,  
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Tax Legislation, 1949-1959  
Unemployment Legislation, 1948-1962  
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United Automobile Workers Legislative Conferences, 1959-1960  
United States Government Security Program, 1956

**Among the correspondents are:**

Ellis Arnall	Patrick McNamara
Solomon Barkin	John Meskimen
Chester Bowles	Donald Montgomery
Robert R.R. Brooks	Philip Murray
Paul H. Douglas	William Oliver
John Edelman	Roy Reuther
W.L. Ginsburg	Victor Reuther
Hubert Humphrey	Joseph Tuma
Murray Lincoln	Nat Weinberg

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Correspondence, reports, press releases, speeches, testimony, handwritten notes, drafts and clippings. These records were created by Samuel Jacobs and they reflect his work with the Detroit District and the Labor Policy Committee of the Office of Price Administration. They are arranged alphabetically.

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Correspondence, reports, press releases, minutes, speeches, testimony, voting records and clippings. These records were created by Samuel Jacobs and they reflect his work with the Consumer Advisory Committee. They are arranged alphabetically. The Defense Production Act of 1951-52 is particularly well documented.

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Correspondence, reports, press releases, statistical work sheets, handwritten notes and clippings primarily assembled by Samuel Jacobs for research purposes. The records pertaining to the aircraft industry, however, reflect Samuel Jacobs's work as a liaison official with various government agencies in regard to collective bargaining between the UAW and the aircraft manufacturing companies in 1957 and 1958. In February, 1957 the UAW and the International Association of Machinists established a Joint Planning and Coordinating Committee to facilitate cooperation in all phases of collective bargaining with the companies. Mr. Jacobs assembled some of the research for the first meeting of this conference, which was held in August, 1959. The files are arranged alphabetically.

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