The papers of Joseph J. Kowalski were deposited with the Labor History Archives in October, 1967, by Mrs. Joseph J. Kowalski.

Joseph J. Kowalski, Speaker of the Michigan House of Representatives in 1965 and 1966, was responsible for the introduction of many important liberal reforms in the state. Born February 19, 1911, in East Chicago, Indiana, he was the son of a Gary steel worker.

He graduated from Valparaiso University, with an LL.B. degree. He entered labor in 1936 as an organizer in Indiana, Ohio and Michigan for the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees. In 1941 he was hired by August Scholle, state CIO president, to establish a workers' education program. He worked as a staff representative for the UAW, serving as director of the Workers Service Program of Michigan. He was educational consultant for the Michigan CIO Council, 1942-46; and served on the advisory committee on workers' education to the U.S. Secretary of Labor, on the advisory committee of the American Labor Education Service, and as international representative of UAW-CIO.

Kowalski was elected to the House of Representatives in 1948, and was returned each election after. His was the 19th district, of Wayne County. He was Democratic Floor Leader for six years. After the 1964 election the Democrats controlled the House for the first time since 1938. They elected Kowalski Speaker on December 4, 1964. For the two years he was Speaker, there were many changes in the Michigan political situation, as the new Constitution was implemented and reapportionment worked out. He lost the speakership when the 1967 session opened, and then became Democratic Leader of the House. He died at the age of 56, on March 18, 1967.

The Kowalski Collection covers the years 1958 to 1967, but the greatest bulk and interest lie in the years 1965 and 1966.

Important subjects touched upon in the collection are:

- Caucus and committee meetings, minutes and proposals on legislation
- Committee Hearings
- Agriculture
- Amish Education
- Banking
- Michigan Budgets
- Civil Rights
- Civil Service
- Conservation and Recreation
- Constitutional Implementation
- Constitutional Amendments and Revision
- Court Reorganization
- Democratic Party
- Economic Development
The Joseph J. Kowalski Collection

Subjects (continued)

| Education | Organization of the House |
| Health | Pollution |
| Homestead Exemptions | Prisons |
| Hospitals | Public Employees |
| Income Tax | Reapportionment |
| Insurance | Romney |
| Labor Unions | Salary Increases for Legislators |
| Legislative Proposals | Senior Citizens |
| Liquor Control | Taxation and Tax exemptions |
| Mental Health | Traffic Safety |
| M.E.S.C. | Veterans |
| Michigan Universities | Workmen's Compensation |
| Minimum Wage Bills | Youth Problems |

Among the Correspondents are:

Richard Austin
Vince Brannigan
John D. Dingell
Gerald R. Ford
Zoltan Ferency
Martha Griffith
Robert C. Grosvenor
James Hare
Philip A. Hart
W. A. Harriman
Albert E. Heustis
Clarence Hilberry
Ira Kaufman
William R. Keast
Frank Kelley
Robert B. Knox
T. John Lesinski
James H. Lincoln
Bill Moyers
Mrs. Esther Peterson
Walter Reuther
George Romney
Theodore Sachs
August Scholle
Neil Staebler
Robert E. Waldron
G. Mennen Williams

Also, innumerable letters to their congressman, from Michigan citizens.

The Joseph J. Kowalski Collection

Description of Series

Note on Arrangement:

Because of the heterogeneous nature of this collection, with its inclusion of some extraneous papers and because of the scope of subject matter, the original alphabetical filing system was retained, with letters from constituents scattered throughout, filed as most of them were, along with the subjects about which they were concerned. This puts an emphasis on the power of constituent opinion, which may not be misplaced. The concern which Joseph Kowalski felt for the ideas and opinions of the people, is evident in the collection. Some knowledge of the committee system and the departments in state government would be useful in any research.

Box 1. A to Appointments and Meetings, April, 1965.
Box 3. Attorney General, Opinions, 1966 to C
Box 6. Copeland, William, Rep. to Dental Survey
Box 7. Detroit to Education - Project II, 1967.
Box 11. Hospitals to Interim Committees, Studies, Reports, 1965
Box 12. Interim Committees, Reports, resolutions, 1965 to Kowalski, Misc., 1964
Box 15. Legislature, 1967 to Meat Inspection
Box 17. Michigan State Police to News Releases, Senate Democratic
Box 18. News Releases, Speaker, Jan.-June, 1965 to Optometry
The Joseph J. Kowalski Collection

Description of Series (Cond't.)

Box 20. Peterson, Mrs. Esther to Politics, Republicans, 1965-1966

Box 21. Pollution to Proposed Legislation, 1966

Box 22. Proposed Legislation, 1967 to Resolutions

Box 23. Retirement, State Employees to Salary Increase Protests, 1966

Box 24. Secretary of State to Students, State Scholarships

Box 25. Sumeracki, Adam to Telegrams, Misc.


Box 27. W to Z and Misc. Unsorted Invitations and Misc. Unsorted Legislators' Notes
Box 1
A - Correspondence, Miscellaneous
Administration (Department) 1965-1966
Administrative Board
Agenda, 1965
Agrawal, S. N. (Indian visitor)
Agriculture Department - 1964-1966 Correspondence
Agriculture Department - Bills, notices, laws
Amendments
Amendments (Democratic Caucus proposals) 1965
Amish Education
Appointments, meetings, 1964
Appointments, meetings, January, 1965
Appointments, meetings, February, 1965
Appointments, meetings, February, 1965
Appointments, meetings, March, 1965
Appointments, meetings, April, 1965

Box 2
Appointments, meetings, May, 1965
Appointments, meetings, June-July, 1965
Appointments, meetings, August-September, 1965
Appointments, meetings, October, November, December, 1965
Appointments, meetings, January, 1966
Appointments, meetings, February, 1966
Appointments, meetings, March, 1966
Appointments, meetings, April, 1966
Appointments, meetings, May, 1966
Appointments, meetings, June-July, 1966
Appointments, meetings, August-December, 1966
Apportionment, 1961-1964
Apportionment, 1965-1966
Attorney General - Correspondence, memoranda, 1965-1966
Attorney General - Requests for Opinions, 1965
Attorney General - Requests for Opinions, 1966
Attorney General - Opinions, 1965-1966

Box 3
Attorney General - Opinions, 1966
Audit Commission (Legislative Audit) 1965 Auditor
(Legislative) 1964-1965 Auditor General
B - Correspondence
Banking
Barbers
Beedon, Francis, Rep. (letter to new representatives)
Bills - Analyses, miscellaneous
Boundary (Michigan-Ohio)
Bradley, James, Rep.
Budget
Building Commission
JOSEPH J. KOWALSKI

Box 4 Capitol Development
Caucus - Democratic - 1964-1965
Caucus - Democratic - 1967
Chiropractic Association
Citizen's Conference on State Legislatures
Citizen's Research Council
Civil Rights Commission and Committee
Civil Service Commission
Coldwater State House
Colleges and Universities Committee
Committees, Legislative - 1962-1963
Committees, Legislative - 1964
Committees, Legislative - 1965 (Jan.-May)
Committees, Legislative - 1965 (June-Dec.)
Committees, Legislative - 1966-1967

Box 5 Committee Reports - 4 Folders Compulsory Arbitration

Box 6 Copeland, William R., Rep.
Cosmetology
Council of Churches (1965) County Home Rule - 1965-1966 (proposed bill)

D - Correspondence
Deer
Del Rio, James, Rep. - 1965-1966
Democratic Candidates 1964
Democratic Policy
Democratic State Convention - (party platform and complete convention "kit")
Democratic - Lists, (losers, winners)
Dental Survey

Box 7 Detroit - 1964-1966 (Letters, miscellaneous) Dog Racing
JOSEPH J. KOWALSKI

Box 7 (Cond't.)

E - Correspondence
Economic Expansion, Michigan Dept. 1965 (proposed research)
Economic Opportunity, Office (analysis of 1964 act, Neighbor Youth Corps,
    Adult Basic Education, War on Poverty, Vista Rural Form Loans, etc.)
    Education, Dept. of - 1966 (letters, reports) - 3 Folders
Education, Higher - 1965
Education, Higher - 1965-1966
Higher - 1966 (Assistance Bill)
Education, Higher - Reports
Education, Parochial Schools 1964-1965
Education, Project II - 1967 - (letters)

Box 8   Education - Public 1964-1966
Education - Special Education (committee report)
Education - State Aid - 1964-1967
Education - State Board of (Reports, higher education, WMU, U of M requests)
Education - State Board of - 1966 - Reports
Education - Teacher's Retirement - 1964-1967
Eighteen-year-old Vote - 1964-1966
Elections - 1964-1965
Elections - Committee on 1965-1966
Elliott, Mrs. Daisy, Rep. (miscellaneous)
Employees - Legislative
Extra Session, 1965

Box 9   F - Correspondence
Family Planning (letters)
Faxon Art Display - 1965
Federal Relations - 1965 - (committee)
Fellowship Program (House)
Film - on Michigan Legislature
Fiscal Reform - 1965-1967 (speeches, reports, letters)
Fitzpatrick, John J., Rep. (poems)
Flower fund - 1962-1964
Fluoridation
Food Industry
Forestry

G - Correspondence
Gill is, Joseph A., Rep.
Governor's Office
Grocers' Dairy Company - 1963 (trial, memoranda)
Gun Laws - 1966
Guzowski, Richard (Speech about WSU)
JOSEPH J. KOWALSKI

Box 9 (Cond't.)

H - Correspondence
Half-way Houses
Health
Hellman, Russell, Rep. (Speech on women)

Box 10 Highway Department - 1958; 1963-1965
Highway Department - 1966 Historical (clippings, misc.) Holmes, David S., Rep.
Home Sales


Income Tax - State
Indian Affairs - 1965-1966
Industrial Development - 1965-66
Insurance - 1964-1965
Insurance - 1966-1967
Interim and Special Committees 1963
Interim and Standing Committees 1963
Interim Committees - 1964
Interim Committees - 1965 - (studies, reports)

Box 12 Interim Committees - reports and resolutions - 1965 Interim Committees - reports, 1965-1966 Interim Committees - reports, papers - 1966 Interstate Cooperation Commission

J - Correspondence
Jacobetti, D. J., Rep.
Judiciary Committee

K - Correspondence
Karoub, James, Rep.
Kowalski - Letters, notes - 1964-1965
Kowalski - Letters, notes - 1965-1966
Kowalski - Miscellaneous - 1958-1959
Kowalski - Miscellaneous - 1964
JOSEPH J. KOWALSKI

Box 13  Kowalski - Miscellaneous, 1965
        Kowalski - Miscellaneous, 1966
        Kowalski - Miscellaneous, Posthumous
        L - Correspondence
        Labor Committee - 1965
        Labor Committee - 1966
        Labor Committee - (Report)
        Labor, Department - 1966
        Labor, Government Employees - 1965
        Labor - MESC 1965 - 2 Folders
        Labor Migrant - 1965
        Labor Minimum Wage - 1963-1964

Box 14  Labor, miscellaneous
        Labor Unions - AFL-CIO 1964-1966
        Labor Unions - UAW-C10 1964-1966
        Landscaping
        Legislative Committee Reports
        Legislative Compensation Commission - 1965-1966
        Legislative Council
        Legislative Programs - Federal Aid
        Legislative Programs - Summaries - 1963 (Democrat - Republican)
        Legislative Report - 1965
        Legislative Retirement
        Legislative Service Bureau - 1965-1966
        Legislative Summaries - 1966
        Legislature - Members, candidates, 1962-1963
        Legislature - Members, candidates, 1964-1965
        Legislature - Members, lists 1964-1966

Box 15  Legislature - 1967
        Libraries Licensing
        Liquor Control Commission, 1964 Liquor Control
        Committee Reports, 1964 Liquor Control - 1965-(miscellaneous)
        Liquor Control - 1966-67
        (miscellaneous) Lobbyists - 1965
        M - Correspondence
        Mackinac Bridge Authority
        Mac Namara, Senator Patrick V.
        Mahoney, Frank, Rep.
        Mahoney, Robert D., Rep.
        Mailing List, J.J.K.
        Marine Affairs, Committee
        Maritime Union (Handbook for Saboteurs)
        Meat Inspection

Box 17  Michigan State Police
Michigan State University
Military Affairs (confidential report on Michigan National Guard)
Milk
Mines
Minor Courts
Montgomery, George F., Rep.
Mortgages
Motor Carriers
Moving and Storage Bill
Municipal Finance Commission

N - Correspondence
National Societies and Councils
News Clippings
News Media - 1964; Jan.-June, 1965
News Media - July-Dec, 1965
News Media - 1966
News Releases, (miscellaneous)
News Releases (Senate Democratic)


0 - Correspondence
O'Brien, Michael J.
Office Correspondence (Kinney and Cook, assistants to Speaker
Office Procedure - personnel
Optometry

Box 19  Organization of House - 1964 (miscellaneous) - 2 Folders
Organization of House - 1964-1965 (Democratic)
Organization of House - 1965-1966
Organization of House - 1967 - 2 Folders
Osteopaths

P - Correspondence
Peche Island, 1964
Peoples Community Hospital Authority
JOSEPH J. KOWALSKI

Box 20 Peterson, Mrs. Esther Petri, Alexander, Rep. Physical
Therapists Podiatrists
Politics - Democratic - Feb.-Aug., 1964 (Staebler Releases) Politics -
Democratic - Sept.-Nov., 1964 (Staebler Releases) Politics - 1964 Campaign -
miscellaneous)
Politics - Democratic Party (miscellaneous)
Politics - Democratic State Central Committee, 1964
Politics - Democratic State Central Committee, 1965
Politics - Democratic State Central Committee, 1966
Politics - Republican, 1965-1966

Box 21 Pollution Prisons
Prisons - Reports
Procedure (in house)
Programs - Democratic - 1965-1967
Proposed Legislation - 1963-1964
Proposed Legislation - 1964 - 3 Folders Proposed
Legislation - 1965
Proposed Legislation - 1966 - 2 Folders

Box 22 Proposed Legislation - 1967
Proposed Legislation - 1967 (agriculture, conservation)
Proposed Legislation - 1967 (miscellaneous - crime, motorcycles, aeronautics, securities, economic
expansion, financial institutions, insurance, liquor, implied consent, civil rights)
Proposed Legislation, 1967 (Health, labor)
Proposed Legislation, 1967 (civil service, consumers)
Protests - 1965
Public Employees (Commission Investigation on Employee Rights) Public
Safety
Public Utilities

Questionnaires

R - Correspondence
Racing - Letters
Racing - (Michigan Racing Commission Reports)
Reform - Legislative Reform Task Force
Reorganization - Governmental
Republicans
Resolutions

Box 23 Retirement - (State Employees, Judges, Legislators) Revenue -
Department Roads and Bridges Romano, William, Rep.
Romney, 1964-1967

S - Correspondence
Salary Increases - Legislators
Salary Increases - Letters - 1965
Salary Increases - 1966 (Protests) - 2 Folders
JOSEPH J. KOWALSKI

Box 24 Secretary of State Senior Citizens Snyder Joseph M., Rep. Social Services Department Speeches and Speech Information - J.J.K. Staff Positions - House State Fair Authority Stationery Orders Steering Committee - 1963-1964 Students - Legislative Interns Students - State Scholarships

Box 25 Sumeracki, Adam, Rep. Supervisors - Boards Supervisors - Inter-County Committee Supplies and Expenditures (committee) Supreme Court (recommendations re circuit ct. judges - 1966) Supreme Court - 1966 (Apportionment Appeal Case)


U - Correspondence U. S. Federal Issues University of Michigan Upper Peninsula Urban Renewal and Affairs

Box 27  W - Correspondence
Water Resources Commission
Wayne County
Wayne State University Ways and Means (committee) Welfare, 1964
Welfare, 1965
West, Daniel, 1965
White House Conference for Legislative Leaders - June 15-16, 1966 Workmens Compensation - Department - 1964
Workmens Compensation - 1965-1966
Workmens Compensation - Reports
Wozniak, Chester, Rep.

Y - Correspondence
Young, Maxcine, Rep. - 1963
Youth

z - Correspondence

Miscellaneous Unsorted Invitations Miscellaneous Unsorted Legislators Notes