

James G. Pyrros Collection

Papers, 1943-1988

**6 linear feet
6 storage boxes**

Accession #1940

OCLC #

The papers of James G. Pyrros were placed in the Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs in January of 2007 by Mr. Pyrros and opened for research in May of 2007.

James G. Pyrros, born in Detroit on March 10, 1928, showed an early interest in politics and world affairs. His first campaign experience came during George C. Edwards Jr.'s Detroit mayoral bid in 1949. The following year Pyrros ran unsuccessfully for precinct delegate in Detroit's 59th district, but from then on was active in Democratic Party politics, especially in the star-studded 15th Congressional District Democratic Party Organization, where he served as newsletter editor and vice chairman.

In the early 1950s, while studying for a law degree at Wayne State University, Pyrros worked at the Detroit Housing Commission with Zolton Ferency. Later he helped manage Ferency's 1963 campaign to unseat the Michigan state Democratic Party chair as well as his unsuccessful campaign for governor in 1966. In 1955, after returning from military service in the Korean War, he joined the staff of the Michigan attorney general's office.

Pyrros helped orchestrate Lucien Nedzi's 1961 upset victory in Detroit's 1st congressional district as well as his 1964 primary against Harold Ryan in the newly merged 1st and 14th districts. From 1961 until Nedzi's retirement in 1980, he served as an administrative assistant in the congressman's Washington office.

The papers of James G. Pyrros consist primarily of political campaign literature, some of his design, and newspaper and magazine coverage documenting Michigan Democratic Party politics and state and national elections from the 1940s through the 1970s. Also included are speeches and press releases he authored, files covering his work for Democratic presidential hopeful Paul Simon's campaign in 1988 and a few items relating to Nedzi's investigation of government intelligence agency improprieties as chair of the House Select Committee on Intelligence Operations.

Important subjects in the collection:

Democratic Party--Michigan
Detroit (Mich.)--Politics and government
Elections--Michigan
Ferency, Zolton
Michigan--Politics and government
Michigan 15th Congressional District Democratic Party Organization
Nedzi, Lucien
Simon, Paul M., presidential campaign, 1988

Box 1

1. Crime Prevention Conference (Lansing), May 1961
2. Democratic Party; Democratic Midwest Conference, 1960
- 3-6. Democratic Party; 15th Congressional District Democratic Party Organization—corres., reports, n.d., 1950-63
7. Democratic Party; 15th District—Spring Swing program book, 1951-58
- 8-10. Democratic Party; 15th District Young Democrats—flyers, newsletter, mailing lists, 1952-62
11. Democratic Party; 15th District Young Democrats—"A Study of Youth in Politics" (M.A. thesis), 1956
12. Democratic Party; Mackinac Island Democratic Conference, 1955
13. Democratic Party; Michigan Jefferson-Jackson Dinner—corres. program book, press coverage, 1956
- 14-15. Democratic Party; Michigan Jefferson-Jackson Dinner—program book, 1951-75 (scattered)
- 16-20. Democratic Party; state convention, 1956-58, 1964-65
21. Democratic Party; Wayne County, 1950s
22. Democratic Party; Young Democratic Clubs of Michigan Williams Day Dinner, 1956-58

23. Detroit election; press coverage, 1943
24. Detroit election; press coverage, 1947
25. Detroit election; campaign literature, press coverage, 1949
26. Detroit election; campaign literature, corres., press coverage, 1951
27. Detroit election; campaign literature, corres., press coverage, 1953
28. Detroit election; campaign literature, press coverage, 1954
29. Detroit election; campaign literature, press coverage, 1957
30. Detroit election; campaign literature, 1961
- 31-32. Detroit election; press coverage, 1961
- 33-34. Detroit election; press coverage, 1965
35. Detroit election; Pyrros (James) precinct delegate campaign, 1950
36. Detroit; housing and urban development—corres., publications, 1951-62
37. Detroit; "The Voice of Detroit's Blacks" (Detroit News), 1971

Box 2

- 1-2. Ferency, Zolton; Democratic Party State Chairman campaign, 1963
3. Ferency, Zolton; Democratic Party State Chairman campaign, 1967
- 4-6. Ferency, Zolton; gubernatorial campaign—corres., literature, Nov 1965-
Dec 1966
7. Ferency, Zolton; gubernatorial campaign—Democratic Party state convention, 1966
- 8-11. Ferency, Zolton; gubernatorial campaign—press coverage, Nov 1965-Nov 1966
12. Ferency, Zolton; gubernatorial campaign—schedules, 1966
13. Ferency, Zolton; gubernatorial primary campaign—corres., literature, 1970
14. Ferency, Zolton; gubernatorial primary campaign—press coverage, 1970
15. Ferency, Zolton; gubernatorial primary campaigns, 1974, 1978
16. Ferency, Zolton; Wayne County prosecutor campaign, 1960
- 17-18. Michigan Constitutional Convention, 1961-62

19. Michigan election; state and congressional campaigns—literature, press coverage, 1950
20. Michigan election; congressional campaign—literature, press coverage, 1952
21. Michigan election; state campaign—press coverage, 1952
22. Michigan election; state and congressional primary campaigns—corres., literature, press coverage, 1952
23. Michigan election; state campaign—literature, press coverage, 1953
24. Michigan election; congressional campaign—literature, press coverage, 1954
- 25-26. Michigan election; state campaign—literature, press coverage, 1954
27. Michigan election; state primary campaign—literature, press coverage, 1954
28. Michigan election; state campaign—press coverage, 1955
29. Michigan election; congressional campaign—literature, press coverage, 1956
- 30-32. Michigan election; state campaign—literature, press coverage, 1956

Box 3

1. Michigan election; state primary campaign—literature, press coverage, 1956
2. Michigan election; state campaign—corres., literature, press coverage, 1957
3. Michigan election; state primary campaign—corres., literature, press coverage, 1957
4. Michigan election; congressional campaign—literature, press coverage, 1958
- 5-6. Michigan election; state campaign—corres., literature, press coverage, 1958
7. Michigan election; state primary campaign—literature, press coverage, 1958
- 8-9. Michigan election; state campaign—literature, press coverage, 1959
10. Michigan election; congressional campaign—literature, press coverage, 1960
- 11-12. Michigan election; state campaign—literature, press coverage, 1960
13. Michigan election; state primary campaign—corres., literature, 1960
14. Michigan election; state primary campaign—Hare (James) corres., literature, 1960
- 15-16. Michigan election; state primary campaign—press coverage, 1960
17. Michigan election; state campaign—literature, press coverage, 1961
18. Michigan election; congressional campaign—corres., literature, press coverage, 1962
- 19-21. Michigan election; state campaign—corres., literature, press coverage, 1962
22. Michigan election; state primary campaign—literature, press coverage, 1962
23. Michigan election; congressional campaign—corres., literature, press coverage, 1964
24. Michigan election; state campaign—literature, press coverage, 1964
- 25-26. Michigan election; state primary campaign—literature, press coverage, 1964
27. Michigan election; congressional campaign—press coverage, 1966

Box 4

1. Michigan election; congressional campaign—literature, press coverage, 1972
2. Michigan election; state campaign—press coverage, 1972
3. Michigan election; congressional primary campaign—corres., literature, 1976
4. National (presidential) election; press coverage, 1944
5. National election; press coverage, 1948
6. National election; campaign literature, corres., 1952
- 7-9. National election; Democratic National Convention—campaign literature, program book, press coverage, 1952
- 10-11. National election; press coverage, 1952
12. National election; results—press coverage, 1952
- 13-15. National election; campaign literature, press coverage, 1956
- 16-20. National election; Democratic National Convention—campaign literature, press coverage, 1956
21. National election; Humphrey (Hubert) vice-presidential campaign—literature, press coverage, 1956
22. National election; New York Times survey, 1956
23. National election; results—press coverage, 1956
24. National election; Stevenson's (Adlai) Michigan Labor Day appearance—press coverage, 1956
25. National election; campaign literature, press coverage, 1960
- 26-27. National election; Democratic National Convention—press coverage, program book, 1960

Box 5

1. National election; Democratic National Convention, 1960
- 2-3. National election; primaries—campaign literature, corres., press coverage, 1960
4. National election; results—press coverage, 1960
5. National election; campaign literature, corres., press coverage, 1964
6. National election; Democratic National Convention—corres., press coverage, 1964
7. National election; results—press coverage, 1964
- 8-10. National election; campaign literature, press coverage, speeches, 1968
- 11-13. National election; Democratic National Convention—campaign literature, press coverage, 1968
- 14-17. National election; primaries—campaign literature, corres., press coverage, 1968
- 18-19. National election; Republican National Convention—campaign literature, press coverage, 1968

Box 6

1. National election; results—press coverage, 1968
2. National election; Democratic National Convention—program books, 1972, 1976
3. National election; Simon (Paul) campaign—corres., speeches, 1988
- 4-6. National election; Simon campaign—literature, press coverage, 1988

7. Nedzi, Lucien; congressional staff, 1965-80
8. Nedzi, Lucien; constituent questionnaire, 1964, 1966, 1974-78
9. Nedzi, Lucien; election campaigns—corres., literature, press coverage, 1961
10. Nedzi, Lucien; election campaigns—corres., literature, press coverage, 1962
11. Nedzi, Lucien; (general) election campaign—literature, press coverage, 1964
- 12-13. Nedzi, Lucien; (primary) election campaign—corres., reports, literature, 1964
14. Nedzi, Lucien; (primary) election campaign—1962 14th congressional district race, 1964
15. Nedzi, Lucien; (primary) election campaign—press coverage, 1964
- 16-18. Nedzi, Lucien; (primary) election campaign—corres., reports, literature, press coverage, 1966
19. Nedzi, Lucien; election campaigns, 1968, 1970
- 20-22. Nedzi, Lucien; (general) election campaign—corres., reports, literature, press coverage, 1972
- 23-25. Nedzi, Lucien; (primary) election campaign—corres., reports, literature, press coverage, 1972
26. Nedzi, Lucien; election campaigns—corres., reports, literature, press coverage, 1974
27. Nedzi, Lucien; election campaigns—literature, reports, 1976, 1978
28. Nedzi, Lucien; House Armed Services Subcommittee on Intelligence Operations, 1971
29. Nedzi, Lucien; House Select Committee on Intelligence Operations, 1975
- 30-31. Nedzi, Lucien; Pyrros (James)—corres., reports, 1963-80
32. Nedzi, Lucien; Pyrros (James)—Michigan Democratic Luncheon Group, 1979-80
33. Nedzi, Lucien; "Report from Congress," 1962-72 (scattered)
34. Nedzi, Lucien; retirement, 1980
35. Nedzi, Lucien; "Sonnenfeldt Doctrine," 1976