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UNIVERSITY

Walter P. Reuther Library

Guide to the Ray Ginger Papers WSP001473

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Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Walter P. Reuther Library

5401 Cass Avenue

Detroit, MI 48202

URL: <https://reuther.wayne.edu>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Walter P. Reuther Library
Title:	Ray Ginger Papers
ID:	WSP001473
Date [inclusive]:	circa 1940-1975
Date [bulk]:	1950-1969
Physical Description:	3 Linear Feet (3 SB)
Language of the Material:	Material entirely in English.
Abstract:	Raymond Ginger was a historian, author, and Wayne State University faculty member in the Department of History. Ginger authored <i>The Bending Cross</i> , an acclaimed biography of trade unionist Eugene V. Debs, <i>Six Days or Forever? Tennessee v. John Thomas Scopes</i> about the "Scopes Monkey Trial," and <i>Altgeld's America: The Lincoln Ideal versus Changing Realities</i> . He held faculty appointments at Harvard, Brandeis, Stanford, Calgary, and Wayne State Universities. The Ray Ginger Papers document a wide sampling of his research, academic, and publishing career. The collection contains personal correspondence; business correspondence related to university appointments, submissions for publication, and works-in-progress; drafts of published and unpublished works; and research notes and sources on business history and labor.

Citation Style

"Ray Ginger Papers, Box [#], Folder [#], Walter P. Reuther Library, Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs, Wayne State University"

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History

Raymond Ginger was a historian, author, and Wayne State University faculty member in the Department of History. Ginger was born in Memphis in 1924 and raised in Indianapolis. He began his career in the early 1940s as a journalist for the *Chicago Tribune* until he was drafted by the U.S. Army, serving three

years. Ginger obtained bachelor's and master's degrees in economics from University of Michigan, where he met his first wife, lawyer, activist, and author Ann Fagan Ginger; they had two children, Tom and Jim. While a doctoral student at Western Reserve University, Ginger published *The Bending Cross*, an acclaimed biography of trade unionist Eugene V. Debs. After completing a PhD in American studies in 1951, Ginger taught at Harvard University's Business School, but resigned after Harvard demanded he sign an oath declaring he was not a member of the Communist Party, which he had joined in the mid 1940s. Ginger worked in publishing in the late 1950s but returned to academia in 1960. Until 1966, he held a faculty appointment at Brandeis University, where he met his third wife, Victoria "Vicky" Ginger (née Granley, later Brandon). Ginger also held appointments at Stanford, Calgary, and Wayne State Universities between 1966 and his death in 1975. He published several other books, including *Six Days or Forever? Tennessee v. John Thomas Scopes* and *Altgeld's America: The Lincoln Ideal versus Changing Realities*. Ginger was appointed at Wayne State University when he died in 1975.

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Scope and Content

The Ray Ginger Papers document a wide sampling of his research, academic, and publishing career. The collection contains personal correspondence; business correspondence related to university appointments, submissions for publication, and works-in-progress; drafts of published and unpublished works; book research; and sources on business history and labor. Of particular interest are unpublished materials, including a manuscript for Ginger's only novel, *Squeeze Play*, and research notes on a projected biography of Clarence Darrow.

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Arrangement

Folders are arranged in original order.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Acquisition

The Ray Ginger Papers were donated to the Walter P. Reuther Library in August, September, and October 1991 by Victoria Brandon.

Processing History

Processed and finding aid written by Leah Minadeo on January 14, 2022.

Access

Collection is open for research.

Use

Refer to the Walter P. Reuther Library "Rules for Use of Archival Materials."

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Controlled Access Headings

- Labor -- History
- Universities and colleges -- Faculty

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Instances	
Correspondence		
Ray Ginger correspondence, 1948-1975	box 1	folder 1-7
Robert Patterson, 1969-1975	box 1	folder 8

Scope and Contents

Regarding Ginger's book in progress *People on the Move: A United States History*

Wayne State University, 1966-1968	box 1	folder 9
Allen Workman, 1972-1974	box 1	folder 10

Scope and Contents

Regarding Ginger's book in progress *People on the Move: A United States History*.

University job search correspondence, 1967-1973	box 1	folder 11
Victoria Granley correspondence, 1966-1967	box 1	folder 12
Personal letters, 1966	box 1	folder 13
Martha Swain, 1969-1970, 1973-1974	box 1	folder 14
Ray Ginger estate, 1940s, 1975-1976	box 1	folder 15
Condolences, 1975	box 1	folder 16
L.D. correspondence, circa 1950s-1960s	box 1	folder 17
Letters on <i>The Bending Cross</i> , 1949-1953	box 1	folder 18-19

Scope and Contents

Regarding Ginger's book *The Bending Cross: A Biography of Eugene Victor Debs*.

Arizona, 1968	box 1	folder 20
Letters to Victoria Granley, 1966-1967	box 1	folder 21
Tom and Jim Ginger, 1957-1969	box 1	folder 22-23
Clifford Solway, 1972-1974	box 1	folder 24

Scope and Contents

Regarding Ginger's book in progress *Ray Ginger's Jokebook on American History*.

Business history files

Scope and Contents

Histories of businesses prepared by Ginger while at Harvard Business School circa 1952-1954.

Boulton and Watt, circa 1950s	box 1	folder 25
Saco-Lowell Shops, circa 1950s	box 1	folder 26
Avedis Zildjian Co., circa 1950s	box 1	folder 27

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Thomas and John Hancock, circa 1950s	box 1	folder 28
John Jacob Astor, circa 1950s	box 1	folder 29
Almy, Brown and Slater, circa 1950s	box 1	folder 30
Waltham Watch, circa 1950s	box 1	folder 31
Whitin Machine Works, circa 1950s	box 1	folder 32
Werner Sombart, undated	box 1	folder 33
Bigelow-Sanford, circa 1950s	box 1	folder 34
Jay Cooke, circa 1950s	box 1	folder 35
James J. Hill, circa 1950s	box 1	folder 36
John Wanamaker, circa 1950s	box 1	folder 37
H.B. Claflin Co., circa 1950s	box 1	folder 38
International Typographical Union, circa 1950s	box 1	folder 39
Cornelius Vanderbilt, circa 1950s	box 1	folder 40
Armour, circa 1950s	box 1	folder 41
J.P. Morgan and Co., circa 1950s	box 1	folder 42
General Electric, circa 1950s	box 1	folder 43
First National Bank of New York, circa 1950s	box 1	folder 44
U.S. Steel Corporation, circa 1950s	box 1	folder 45
International Mercantile Marine, circa 1950s	box 1	folder 46
Sylvania Electric, circa 1950s	box 1	folder 47
Arkansas Power and Light, circa 1950s	box 1	folder 48
History of negroes in U.S., 1949	box 2	folder 1
Article on Lyman Mills, undated	box 2	folder 2
Growth of big business, 1954	box 2	folder 3
Business history, circa 1950s	box 2	folder 4
Technology, undated	box 2	folder 5
American economic history, 1946, 1949-1950	box 2	folder 6
Institutional economics, circa 1950s	box 2	folder 7
Entrepreneurial history, circa 1950s	box 2	folder 8
Tear sheets mailing pieces, undated	box 2	folder 9

Scope and Contents

Examples of Ginger's work as Director of Publications for the American Research Council.

USSR, undated	box 2	folder 10
Marxist economics, undated	box 2	folder 11
Temporary National Economic Committee (TNEC), undated	box 2	folder 12
National Industrial Recovery Act (NIRA), undated	box 2	folder 13
Theories of the labor movement, undated	box 2	folder 14
Business policy and conflicts of interest, circa 1950s	box 2	folder 15
Business records, undated	box 2	folder 16
Immigration of agriculturalists (1815-1860), undated	box 2	folder 17
Southern labor (to 1860), undated	box 2	folder 18
Company and/or union welfare programs, 1953, undated	box 2	folder 19
Government regulation of business, undated	box 2	folder 20
Labor codetermination with management, undated	box 2	folder 21
Capital sources in U.S. (1860-1890), undated	box 2	folder 22
Capital sources in U.S. (1800-1860), circa 1940s-1960s	box 2	folder 23
Lexington Group, 1953-1954	box 2	folder 24
Labor historians, 1953-1954	box 2	folder 25
Sheraton Group, 1953-1955	box 2	folder 26
<i>The Engineer as Businessman</i> , undated	box 2	folder 27
Mobility and stratification, undated	box 2	folder 28
Bibliographies in American literature, undated	box 2	folder 29
<i>Guatemala Newsletter</i> , 1953 May-August	box 2	folder 30
Philosophy of history, 1949, undated	box 2	folder 31
Clarence Darrow photographs, circa 1920s-1930s	box 2	folder 32
Completed draft of <i>Seeing is Believing</i> , 1952, 1958	box 2	folder 33

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Ernie Goodman correspondence; draft of *Seeing is Believing: Ten Years of Prejudice in the Detroit Newspapers* by Ernie Goodman.

<i>Reasons for the Early Successes of the CIO</i> , 1949	box 2	folder 34
History of the U.S., 1900-1920, 1948	box 2	folder 35

U.S. history (1920-1941), 1949-1950	box 2	folder 36
United Mine Workers Welfare Fund, undated	box 2	folder 37
Debs article, circa 1950s	box 2	folder 38
American Historical Association, circa 1960s	box 2	folder 39
Puerto Rico, circa 1960s	box 2	folder 40
Bibliographies on labor, undated	box 2	folder 41
<i>Society and the Visual Arts</i> article, undated	box 2	folder 42-43
Immigrant labor for industry 1815-1860, undated	box 2	folder 44
Labor, U.S. (since 1890), undated	box 2	folder 45
Labor relations on railroads 1860-1900, undated	box 2	folder 46
<i>Remarks from a Voluntary Exile</i> , circa 1970s	box 2	folder 47

Scope and Contents

Writing by Ginger about conditions in Detroit in the late 1960s and desire to relocate to Canada.

1966 Summer Program, 1966	box 2	folder 48
U.S. social-intellectual history, circa 1950s	box 2	folder 49
Bibliographies in American history, circa 1940s	box 2	folder 50
Research resources - pamphlets, circa 1950s	box 3	folder 1
Poetry, undated	box 3	folder 2
Journals, 1943-1944	box 3	folder 3
Unpublished manuscript, <i>Squeeze Play</i> , undated	box 3	folder 4-5

Scope and Contents

Typescript for Ginger's unpublished book *Squeeze Play*, his only novel.

Clarence Darrow projected biography research notes and sources, undated	box 3	folder 6-7
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Scope and Contents

Research notes and sources for Ginger's projected biography of Clarence Darrow.