



Special Collections and University Archives

**Manuscript Group 82
Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers' Union Papers**

**For Scholarly Use Only
Last Modified November 4, 2014**

**Indiana University of Pennsylvania
302 Stapleton Library
Indiana, PA 15705-1096
Voice: (724) 357-3039
Fax: (724) 357-4891**

**Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers' Union Papers, Manuscript Group 82
Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Special Collections and University Archives
8 boxes, 7 linear feet**

Historical Note

The *Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America* (ACWA) was established in 1914 by Sidney Hillman and other disgruntled members of the *United Garment Workers Union* (UGWU) who left that union out of dissatisfaction with its craft structure and lack of interest in organizing immigrant workers. At its inception, the ACWA had close to 30,000 members, most of whom were drawn to the Amalgamated from the UGWU.

The *Amalgamated Textile Workers of America* (ATWA) was formed five years later amidst several strikes and during a period of general labor unrest in the textile industry. Sponsored by the ACWA, the ATWA resembled that union in that they both believed in signing contracts, hiring a well-paid staff and having a strong central office. The ATWA hoped to rectify mistakes made during earlier efforts to organize the industry by the United Textile Workers Union and the Industrial Workers of the World.

The history of the ACWA and the ATWA mirrored one another for several decades. Finally, in an effort to combine their strength and resources, these two organizations merged in 1976 to become the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union.

Scope and Content

The Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers' papers are housed in eight archival boxes. This collection, which dates from 1914-1990, contains early publications of the ACWA as well as later publications of the ACTWU. Also of note are the convention proceedings of the ACWA, the TWUA and the ACTWU. The collection also includes a series of books and publications which provide an historical overview of each of these unions and the industries they represented. This collection is divided into three series: Series one newspapers, series two convention proceedings, and series three books and pamphlets.

Provenance

Unknown.

Restrictions

None.

Processor

Date unknown; records arranged and inventory written by Special Collections Staff. Spring 2001; records rearranged and inventory rewritten by Special Staff Collections.

Container List

Series I Newspapers

On Shelf

1. ACWA Newspaper *Advance* Volume 5, 1921-1922
2. *Advance* Volume 6, 1922-1923
3. *Advance* Volume 7, 1923-1924
4. *Advance* Volumes 9-10, 1925
5. *Advance* Volumes 12-15, 1927-1928
6. *Advance* Volumes 14-15, 1928
7. *Advance* Volumes 22-23, 1936-1937
8. *Advance* Volumes 24-25, 1938-1939
9. *Advance* Volumes 26-27, 1940-1941
10. *Advance* Volume 28, 1942
11. *Advance* Volume 30, 1944
12. *Advance* Volumes 32-33, 1946-1947
13. *Advance* Volumes 34-35, 1948-1949
14. *Advance* Volumes 36-37, 1950-1951
15. *Advance* Volumes 38-39, 1952-1953
16. *Advance* Volumes 44-45, 1958-1959
17. *Advance* Volumes 52-53, 1966-1967
18. *Advance* Volume 62, 1976
19. *Labor Unity* Volumes 64-65, January 1978-December 1979
20. *Labor Unity* Volumes 68-69, January 1982-December 1983
21. *Labor Unity* Volumes 70-71, January 1984-December 1985
22. *Labor Unity* Volumes 72-73, January 1986-December 1987

Series I Newspapers

Box 1 Textile Labor

1. Volume 28, 1967
2. Volume 29, 1968

Series II Conventions

Box 2 ACWA Conventions and History

1. Documented History of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, 1914-1916
2. ACWA Historical Document, 1916
3. ACWA Documentary History, 1918
4. 4th Biennial Convention ACWA, 1920 Proceedings
5. 40th Anniversary Convention ACWA, 1954 Resolutions
6. 20th Biennial Convention ACWA, 1956 Proceedings
7. 21st Biennial Convention ACWA, 1958 Proceedings
8. 22nd Biennial Convention ACWA, 1960 Proceedings

Series II Conventions

Box 3 ACWA, ACTWU and TWUA Conventions

1. 23rd Biennial Convention ACWA, 1962 Proceedings
2. 50th Anniversary Convention ACWA, 1964 GEB Report
3. 25th Biennial Convention ACWA, 1966 GEB Report
4. 26th Biennial Convention ACW, 1968 GEB Report and Proceedings
5. 26th Biennial Convention ACWA, 1968 Resolutions
6. 27th Biennial Convention ACWA, 1970 Keynote Address of Jacob Potofsky
7. 28th Biennial Convention ACWA, 1972 GEB Report and Proceedings
8. 28th Biennial Convention ACWA, 1972 Resolutions
9. 29th Biennial Convention ACWA, 1974 GEB Report
10. 29th Biennial Convention ACWA, 1974 Proceedings
11. 29th Biennial Convention ACWA, 1974 Brief History of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America
12. Merger Convention, 1976 Proceedings
13. Special Convention ACWA, 1976 GEB Report
14. Merger Convention ACTWU, 1976 Proceedings

Series II Conventions

Box 4 ACWA, ACTWU and TWUA Conventions

1. 1st Constitutional Convention ACTWU, 1978 GEB Report
2. 2nd Constitutional Convention ACTWU, 1981 GEB Report
3. 2nd Constitutional Convention ACTWU, 1981 Proceedings
4. 3rd Constitutional Convention ACTWU, 1984 GEB Report
5. 3rd Constitutional Convention ACTWU, 1984 Proceedings
6. 4th Constitutional Convention ACTWU, 1987 GEB Report
7. 4th Constitutional Convention ACTWU, 1987 Proceedings
8. 4th Constitutional Convention ACTWU, 1987 Proposed Amendments to Constitution

Series II Conventions

Box 5 ACWA, ACTWU and TWUA Conventions

1. Convention Proceedings TWUA, 1939
2. 6th Biennial Convention TWUA, 1950 Proceedings
3. 7th Biennial Convention TWUA, 1952 Proceedings
4. 8th Biennial Convention TWUA, 1954 Proceedings
5. 9th Biennial Convention TWUA, 1956 Proceedings
6. 10th Biennial Convention TWUA, 1958 Proceedings
7. 11th Biennial Convention TWUA, 1960 Proceedings
8. 12th Biennial Convention TWUA, 1962 Proceedings
9. 13th Biennial Convention TWUA, 1964 Proceedings
10. 14th Biennial Convention TWUA, 1966 Proceedings
11. 15th Biennial Convention TWUA, 1968 Proceedings
12. 16th Biennial Convention TWUA, 1970 Proceedings
13. 17th Biennial Convention TWUA, 1972 Proceedings
14. 18th Biennial Convention TWUA, 1974 Proceedings

15. 19th Biennial Convention TWUA, 1975 Proceedings
16. 20th Biennial Convention TWUA, 1976 Proceedings

Series II Conventions

Box 6 ACWA, ACTWU and TWUA Conventions

1. 5th Biennial Convention TWUA, 1948 Executive Council Report
2. 6th Biennial Convention TWUA, 1950 Executive Council Report
3. 7th Biennial Convention TWUA, 1952 Executive Council Report
4. 8th Biennial Convention TWUA, 1954 Executive Council Report
5. 9th Biennial Convention TWUA, 1955 Executive Council Report
6. 10th Biennial Convention TWUA, 1958 Executive Council Report
7. 11th Biennial Convention TWUA, 1960 Executive Council Report
8. 12th Biennial Convention TWUA, 1962 Executive Council Report
9. 13th Biennial Convention TWUA, 1964 Executive Council Report
10. 14th Biennial Convention TWUA, 1966 Executive Council Report
11. 15th Biennial Convention TWUA, 1968 Executive Council Report
12. 16th Biennial Convention TWUA, 1970 Executive Council Report
13. 16th Biennial Convention TWUA, 1970 Executive Council Report
14. 17th Biennial Convention TWUA, 1972 Executive Council Report
15. 18th Biennial Convention TWUA, 1974 Executive Council Report
16. 19th Biennial Convention TWUA, 1976 Executive Council Report
17. 6th Constitutional Convention ACTWU, 1993 Proceedings
18. 6th Constitutional Convention ACTWU, 1993 Report of the GEB

Series III Books and Pamphlets

19. Bookbinder, Hyman. *To Promote the General Welfare: The Story of the Amalgamated*. 1950.
20. Goldman, E.S. *The New York Story: A History of the New York Clothing Industry*. 1949
21. ACTWU Research Department. *Selected Bibliography*. 1993

Series III Books and Pamphlets

Box 7 Publications

1. Hardman, J.B.S. *New York Joint Board, ACWA Golden Jubilee Souvenir History*. 1964
2. Josephson, Matthew. *Sidney Hillman*. 1952
3. LaMar, Elden. *The Clothing Workers of Philadelphia*. 1940
4. LaMar, Elden. *The Picture that Came to Life: The Story of the Sidney Hillman Medical Center*. 1951
5. Leiter, Jeffery, Michael Schulman, and Rhonda Zingroff. *Hanging by a Thread: Social Change in Southern Textiles*. 1991
6. Samuel, Howard. *Toward a Better America*. 1968
7. Schlossberg, Joseph. *The Workers and Their World*. 1935
8. Wolman, Leo. *The Clothing Workers of Chicago, 1910-1922*. 1922

Series III Books and Pamphlets

Box 8 Publications

1. Soule, George. *Sidney Hillman*. 1939

Pamphlets

2. ACTWU Songbook
3. Amalgamated Cultural Activities, 1940
4. The Social Insurance Program of the ACWA, 1952
5. Health Security by Union Action, 1952
6. Security the Central Issue, 1952
7. "To Serve Our Members" Thirty Years of Progress AMCA, 1957
8. Profile of a Union ACWA, 1958
9. Needle and Thread 1915-1960 ACWA, 1960
10. Amalgamated Panorama, 1960
11. 40th Anniversary Amalgamated, 1977. Service and Allied Industries Joint Board ACTWA
12. A Reunion of Shoe Workers, 1980