



Special Collections and University Archives

**James Watta Industrial Heritage and Labor History Collection
Manuscript Group 252**

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Last Modified October 7, 2024**

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**James Watta Industrial Heritage and Labor History Collection, Manuscript Group 252
Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Special Collections and University Archives
3 Boxes; 3 Linear Feet**

Biographical Note

James (Jim) Watta graduated from the Keith School, and he graduated from Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP) with his BS in 1980 and MA in 2000. He worked for several departments at IUP including the Labor Relations Center, and later the Center for Student Life that became the Center for Multicultural Student Leadership and Engagement (see Record Group 48). James Watta also served as the SCUPA Union President.

See also Manuscript Group 150: International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU).

Scope and Content Note

The James Watta Industrial Heritage and Labor History Collection includes three archival boxes that contain biographical information, documentation, oversized items, memorabilia, and publications about Industrial Heritage and Labor History that have been collected by James Watta.

For more information about materials in this collection, see also Record Group 4 Box 3; Manuscript Group 52 United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) District 2; and Manuscript Group 150 International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU) which James Watta also donated.

Provenance

This collection was donated by James Watta in 2022.

Restrictions

None, this collection is open for research. Property rights reside with Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP), and the IUP Special Collections and University Archives. Literary rights are retained by the creators of the records and their heirs. For permissions to reproduce or publish, please contact the [Special Collections Librarian and University Archivist](#).

Processor

The collection was first organized by Harrison Wick on October 7, 2024.

Series List

Series 1: Documentation and Publications

Series 2: Oversized Materials and Publications

Container List

Series 1: Documentation and Publications

Box 1 Documentation and Publications (17 folders)

Documentation

1. McCreary Tire: Rubber Strike – Newspaper Articles, 1987
2. United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) Contract Negotiations, Newspaper Articles, and Promotional Materials, 1987-1993

3. *United Mine Workers Journal* (UMWA): Negotiations and Strikes – March 1990; January 1992; March-April 1992; July 1992; July 1993; August-September 1993; October 1993; and January-February 1994
4. UMWMA Calendars – 1994, 2003, and 2004
5. United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) AFL-CLIO/CLC: Report on the Sago Mine Disaster of January 2, 2006

Miscellaneous Publications

6. Miscellaneous Publications (1) no date
 - a. Labor Commission of Delaware: Child Labor Law; Ten-Hour Law for Female Employees; and Sanitary Law for Female Employees, no date (circa 1915)
 - b. Mine Safety Code for Bituminous Coal and Lignite Mines of the United States, no date (after 1946)
 - c. Seniority and Racial Progress by Bayard Rustin and Normal Hill, no date (1980)
 - d. State of New York, Department of Labor, Special Bulletin, Devices for Sanitary Control of Material Disengaged in Industrial Process, prepared by the Division of Industrial Hygiene of the Bureau of Inspection, no date (circa 1920)
7. Miscellaneous Publications (2)
 - a. Supplement to the Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science (March 1909): The Child Workers of the Nation, proceedings of the Fifth Annual Meeting of the National Child Labor Committee
8. Miscellaneous Publications (3)
 - a. Berger's Hit and Misses at the called session of the Sixty-Second Congress (April-October 1911) a symposium of Economic, Political, Sociological, Tactical, and Historic Live Topics, published by the New York Labor News Company, 1911
 - b. Treasury Department, United States Public Health Service, Public Health Bulletin Number 71 (May 1915), Studies in Vocational Diseases, the Health of Garment Workers, the Hygienic Conditions of Illumination in Workshops of the Women's Garment Industry, 1915
 - c. Treasury Department, United States Public Health Service, Public Health Bulletin Number 73 (March 1916), Tuberculosis Among Industrial Workers, a report of an investigation made in Cincinnati, with Special reference to predisposing causes, 1916
 - d. Report on Rehabilitation of Industrial Cripples Part IV of the Sixteenth Biennial Report of the Department of Labor and Industries of the State of Minnesota, 1917-1918
 - e. The Evolution of National Systems of Vocational Reeducation for Disabled Soldiers and Sailors, issued by the Federal Board of Vocational Education, May 1918
 - f. State of Tennessee, Bureau of Workshop and Factory Inspection, Seventh Annual Report, 1919
9. Miscellaneous Publications (4)

- a. State of Montana, Fifth Annual Report of the Industrial Accident Board, 1920
 - b. Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Bulletin of the Department of Labor and Industry, containing proceedings of the Annual Pennsylvania Safety Congress, Volume VII Number 4, 1920
10. Miscellaneous Publications (5)
- a. United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Number 263, Housing by Employers in the United States, October 1920
 - b. Bituminous Mining Laws of Pennsylvania, 1921
 - c. New York State, Workmen's Compensation Law, 1922
 - d. United States Department of Labor, Children's Bureau, Child Labor and the Work of Mothers in Oyster and Shrimp Canning Communities on the Gulf Coast, Bureau Publication Number 98, 1922
11. Miscellaneous Publications (6)
- a. Labor & Industry, Volume XIII Number II, November 1926, featuring Children in Industry
 - b. Agreement between Consolidated Rail Corporation and United Transportation Union: Trainmen Conrail, 1981
12. Miscellaneous Publications (7)
- a. Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Labor and Industry, Regulations for Tunnel Construction and Work in Compressed Air, 1930
13. Miscellaneous Publications (8)
- a. Manual: Job Classifications, Wage Rates for Job Classifications and certain conditions of Employment for Employees between the Duquesne Light Company and the Independent Association of Employees of the Duquesne Light Company and Associated Companies, 1944
14. Miscellaneous Publications (9)
- a. Constitution of UMWA District 2, effective June 1, 1974
 - b. By-Laws, Local Union No. 1619, United Mine Workers of America (UWMA) District 2, no date
 - c. AFL-CIO Song Book, no date
 - d. Constitution and By-Laws of Chocolate Workers' Local Union No. 464, Hershey, Pennsylvania of the Bakery, Confectionery, and Tobacco Workers' International Union AFL-CIO, revised 1997
 - e. Articles of Agreement between Hershey Entertainment and Resorts, General Agreement, Hershey Laundry, Hershey Nursery, Hershey Communications; and Chocolate Workers' Local Union No. 464 of the Bakery, Confectionery, and Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers International Union (AFL-CIO), Hershey, Pennsylvania, March 12, 2002 to March 13, 2006
 - f. Constitution and Bylaws, Local No. 585, Service Employees International Union (AFL-CIO), 1996
 - g. Pennsylvania Labor History Society: Constitution and By-Laws, November 1995

- h. Constitution of the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO, amended April 2006
- 15. Miscellaneous Publications (10)
 - a. Workmen's Compensation Handbook (1980) prepared for UMWA District 5
 - b. Constitution of UMWA District 2, effective April 27, 1989
- 16. Miscellaneous Publications (11)
 - a. Constitution of UMWA District 2, effective July 25, 1996
- 17. Miscellaneous Publications (12)
 - a. Constitution of International UMWA Union, effective March 9, 2000
- 18. Miscellaneous Publications (13) Bituminous Coal
 - a. National Bituminous Coal Wage Agreement of 1978
 - b. Bituminous Coal Mining Laws of Pennsylvania for Underground Mines, 1961
 - c. A Teacher's Guide to Work and Unions: Pennsylvania AFL-CIO, no date
- 19. Miscellaneous Publications (14)
 - a. Preserving the Pattern PACE's Five-Year Comprehensive Campaign at Crown Central Petroleum, say no to: Union Busting, Racism, Sexism and Environmental Destruction
 - b. The Molly Maguires: Terrorism and Human Rights in the 1870s; James Maurer – Pioneer Labor Legislator; the 2006 Conference for the Pennsylvania Labor History Society, September 8-9, 2006
 - c. Labor Firsts in America, U.S. Department of Labor, 1977
 - d. Front Line Supervisor's Labor Relations Handbook, 1974
 - e. 1877: The Grand Army of Starvation: who built America? American Social History Project, no date
 - f. Labor and the Bicentennial: Unions in America, no date (1976)
 - g. Why Unions? American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations, 1980
- 20. Miscellaneous Publications (15)
 - a. Pennsylvania Department of Transportation: Daily Safety Talks, no date
 - b. Environmental Protection Agency: Asbestos Waste Management Guidance, 1985
 - c. Is Working Making You Sick? Information for Workers Handling Hazardous Chemicals
 - d. Chemical Hazards: Guide to the New Federal Hazard Communication Regulations
 - e. Working with Asbestos: A Carpenter's Guide
 - f. Safety-Health and Working Conditions: Training Manual, 1987
- 21. Miscellaneous Publications (16)
 - a. Workers' Memorial Day: Allegheny County Labor Council
 - b. Workers' Memorial Day: Johnstown Regional Central Labor Council
- 22. Presentation: The 1919 Steel Strike in the Mon (Monongahela) Valley: The Red Scare and the Struggle of Immigrant Labor for American Rights by Dr. Charles McColleston, Pennsylvania Center for the Study of Labor Relations at IUP, Carnegie Library, September 24, 1994

23. Battle of Homestead (Homestead, Pennsylvania), 1892
 - a. Pennsylvania Center for the Study of Labor Studies (IUP) newsletter
 - b. Teacher Guide about the Battle of Homestead
24. Ernest Mine Disaster, 1916
25. The Ludlow Massacre: A Study in the mis-employment of the National Guard (Ludlow, Colorado), 1914 by Alvin R. Sunseri, Professor of History, University of Northern Iowa, 1972
26. United Mine Workers of America (UMWA): Report – Industrial Homicide: Report on the Upper Big Branch Mine Disaster, 29 miners died in the Raliegh County, West Virginia mine accident on April 5, 2010
27. United Mine Workers of America (UWMA) Report on the Sago Mine Disaster of January 2, 2006, an explosion occurred at the Sago mine in Upshur County, West Virginia, 12 miners were killed (see Series 2 Box 2 Folder 2)
28. Publication (Communist China):
 - a. Tan, Yeh. (no date, 1950s-1960s). *It happened in a Coconut Grove.*” Children’s Literature, written in English, illustrated by Lin Wan-tsui

Series 2: Oversized Materials

Box 1 Oversized Memorabilia salvaged from Keith Hall (3 items) see also Record Group 4 Box 3

1. Keith Hall: Westinghouse Interlock Safety Switch, 1937 (installed in Keith Hall) see also Record Group 4 Box 3 for other Keith Hall building components saved and donated by James Watta before the demolition of Keith Hall in 2015
2. Keith Hall: Flag holder (wall mounted), circa 1937-1938
3. Keith Hall: Original Front Door Key, circa 1937-1938
4. Keith Hall: Universal Desk Wrench (American Seating Company) for original desks in Keith Hall, 1937-1938

Series 2: Oversized Materials and Publications

Box 2 Oversized Materials (8 items)

1. Newspaper: “United Auto Workers (UAW) Rally Peaceful, Police back on 8-hour duty,” 60,000 at Rally of Auto Workers Union, page 3-4, *Detroit Evening Times*, March 24, 1937
2. Newspaper: “The SAGO Drama: Miracle at Sago: 12 Miners Alive,” *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, January 4, 2006 (headline is false) 12 miners were killed (see Series 1 Box 1 Folder 27)
3. Display Boards (2) for the International Ladies Garment Union (see Manuscript Group 150), no date (1930s-1940s) cardboard stands
4. United Steel Workers of America (large circular paper sign), no date, established May 22, 1942
5. Union and Labor: Buttons and Pins including service pins for Robertshaw and Westinghouse
6. Porcelain Ash Tray (white with black lettering): 68th International Convention: Glass, Pottery, Plastics, and Allied Workers, International Union, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, August 26-31, 1985
7. Arm Band (black with white letters): Worker’s Memorial Day, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, April 28 (no year)

8. Banner: Liberty, Justice and Equality: God Bless America, We are Proud to be Americans (no date, circa World War Two)
9. Union Memorabilia: bumper stickers and advertising

Oversized Posters (4 Laminated Posters) in Flat File Drawer (labeled Bedford County) in Bay 1A

1. Organization of a Typical United States Diplomatic Mission, Foreign Service, the Soviet Union (Russia), no date (1960s)
2. How Heat Resistant Chemical Glassware is Made (Pyrex), Corning Glass Works (Corning, New York), no date (1960s)
3. Union Made: Measuring and Tracking Incidents and Systems of Safety Training, the Labor Institute, 2000
4. The Name of the Game is controlling Hazards, the Labor Institute, 2000