

Robert J. Mills Collection

Papers, 1954-1980

4 linear feet

Accession Number 209

L. C. Number

The papers of Robert John Mills were placed in the Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs on October 1, 1980 and were opened for research in October of 1990. Additional papers were placed in the Archives by Mr. Mills in January of 1984 and opened for research in October of 1990.

Robert John Mills was born on October 10, 1918 in Highland Park, Michigan. After serving a toolmaker apprenticeship at Ford Motor Company, where he became a member of UAW Local 600, and after graduating in 1941, Mr. Mills was hired by Hudson Motor's naval arsenal operation, where he became a member of UAW Local 154. His stay at Hudson Motor was brief because he signed up as a Machinist's Mate in the Navy during World War II. At the War's end, Mr. Mills worked briefly at Coleman Tool and Die in Detroit as a member of UAW Local 157, then at Pro Duc Tive Machine and Tool Co., a subsidiary of Superior Tool and Die, where he was a member of UAW Local 155, then Chairman of three committees and a member of the Executive Board from 1947 to 1962. Between 1955 and 1963, Mr. Mills held a number of important union positions, including a 3-year stint as the first Chairman of the International Skilled Trades Advisory Committee from 1960 to 1963. In March of 1963, Walter Reuther appointed Mr. Mills to the International Staff as a representative. From 1966 to 1969 Mr. Mills served as the Assistant Director of the UAW Skilled Trades Department.

In addition to his work with the UAW, Mr. Mills served as a member of the Advisory Board of Macomb Community College, and attended both the University of Detroit and Wayne State University. He retired in October 1980.

Important subjects covered in this collection include:

- International Skilled Trades Advisory Committee
- Apprenticeship Training
- Skilled Trades policies
- Job Shop negotiations
- Numerical Control equipment

Robert J. Mills Collection

Contents

8 manuscript boxes

Series I, Robert J. Mills's career from UAW journeyman tool and die worker to an appointee of Walter Reuther to the International Staff and Assistant Director of the UAW Skilled Trades Department.

Boxes 1-4

International Skilled Trades Advisory Committee meetings and history, articles by Robert J. Mills and others, correspondence, job shop negotiations, manual of known skilled trades policies, newspaper clippings, articles on numerical control equipment, policy manual, speeches, reports.

Boxes 5-8

Resolutions Committee Resolutions, UAW Special Convention, 1961; Resolutions, 18th UAW Constitutional Convention, 1962; Resolutions Committee, UAW 18th Constitutional Convention, 1962; Resolutions Submitted, UAW 10th Annual Skilled Trades Conference, 23-25 Jan 1964; Resolutions Submitted, UAW 11th Annual Skilled Trades Conference, 1-2 Oct 1965; Robert J. Mills biography and resume; skilled trades matters; speeches; conferences; surveys; reports; wage comparison data, wage scales, wage survey.

Non-manuscript material:

Two photographs have been placed in the Archives' Audio Visual collection, and assorted pamphlets and printed materials have been added to the Archives' Library collection. UAW local newspapers received with this collection are available in the Archives Library.

Robert J. Mills Collection

Series I

Materials relate to Robert J. Mills's UAW career from 1946 until his retirement in 1980. Files are arranged alphabetically by subject or type of material.

Box 1

1. Advisory Committee minutes, 1960, and Table of Contents, 1960-1976
2. Advisory Committee minutes, 1961
3. Advisory Committee minutes, 1962
4. Advisory Committee minutes. 1963
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16. Advisory Committee minutes, 1975
17. Advisory Committee minutes. 1976
18. Advisory Committee minutes, 1977
19. Advisory Committee minutes, 1978
20. Advisory Committee minutes, 1979
21. Advisory Committee minutes, 1980
22. Advisory Committee: International Skilled Trades Dep't. History: Mar 1980

Box 2

1. Advisory Committee, 1956-1972 and n. d.
2. Analysis of Skilled Trades Advisory Board minutes, 29 Jan 1963
3. Apprenticeship training correspondence, 1964, 1968, 1975, 19767, 1979-1980
4. Apprenticeship training, fact sheet, Region 1. n. d.
5. Apprenticeship training, Fed. Commission report, 23 Jul 1974
6. Apprenticeship training, forms and tests
7. Apprenticeship training, Task Force Report, 31 Mar 1980
8. Articles, miscellaneous
9. Articles written by Robert J. Mills for *Solidarity*
10. Bargaining on subcontracting, 28 Oct 1963
11. Committee preamble and related materials, 1965
12. Correspondence, 1946, 1959-1961
13. Correspondence, 1962, 1964

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Box 2

14. Correspondence, 1966, 1971-1972, 1974
15. Decisions list, n. d.
16. Election procedures. Advisory Committee
17. Handwritten notes, n. d.
18. Job Shop negotiations, 1967
19. Job Shop negotiations, 1967, correspondence
20. Job Shop negotiations, handwritten notes
21. Job Shop negotiations, 1967, proposed hydraulic apprenticeship program
22. Job Shop negotiations, 1967, supporting documents
23. Journeyman card committee policy reports and lists 1960, 1966

Box 3

1. Local 155, miscellaneous
2. Manual of known skilled trades policies, 1954-1969, Sections 1-10
3. Manual of known skilled trades policies, 1954-1969, Sections 11-30
4. Manual of known skilled trades policies, 1954-1969, Sections 31-50
5. Manual of known skilled trades policies, 1954-1969, Sections 51-70
6. Manual of known skilled trades policies, 1954-1969, Sections 71-88
7. Metric conversion
8. Members and attendance lists, 1961, 1972 and n.d.
9. Minutes of related committees, 1960-1963
10. Model contract, skilled trades
11. Newspaper clippings, 1960 and n. d.
12. Newspaper clippings, miscellaneous
13. Numerical control; Appeal Case K-34, GM, 6 Jun 1966
14. Numerical control, articles, 1964-1965
15. Numerical control, correspondence, 1966
16. Numerical control, GM memorandum of understanding, 1978
17. Numerical control, handwritten notes, 1966
18. Numerical control, newspaper clippings, 1963-1966 and n. d.
19. Numerical control, preface and committee list
20. Policy manual, n. d., Index, Section I
21. Policy manual, n. d., Sections J-R
22. Policy manual, n. d., Classification Sections 1-14

Box 4

1. Policy manual, n. d., Index, Section 4
2. Policy manual, n. d., Section 5 & Supplemental materials
3. Policy manual, n. d., Index, Section D
4. Policy manual, n. d., Sections E and F
5. Policy manual, n. d., Section G
6. Policy manual, n. d., Sections H to J

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Box 4

7. Policy manual, n. d., Sections K to N.
8. Policy manual, n. d., attached correspondence, 1964-1980
9. Policy manual, Index, Section C
10. Policy manual, Sections D to J
11. Policy manual, Sections K to M
12. President's Report by Robert J. Mills

Box 5

1. Resolutions and decisions, 1960
2. Resolutions, UAW Spec. Conv., 1961, Cons. Committee minutes
3. Resolutions Committee Resolutions, UAW Spec. Conv., 1961, Index
4. Resolutions Committee Resolutions, UAW Spec. Conv., 1961, Coll. Barg. Obj & Contract Misc.
5. Resolutions Committee Resolutions, UAW Spec. Conv., 1961, Insurance, Legislative, Pensions and Separation Payments
6. Resolutions Committee Resolutions, UAW Spec. Conv., 1961, Production Standards, Shorter Work Week, Skilled Trades and SUB
7. Resolutions Committee Resolutions, UAW Spec. Conv., 1961, Transfer of Work, Vacation and misc. pay, Misc. & referraaals
8. Resolutions, 18th UAW Const. Conv., 1962, Index
9. Resolutions, 18th Const. Conv., 1962, Collective Bargaining
10. Resolutions, 18th UAW Const. Conv., 1962, Foreign Policy
11. Resolutions, 18th UAW Const. Conv., 1962, Legislation
12. Resolutions, 18th UAW Const. Conv., 1962, Pension-Retirement
13. Resolutions, 18th UAW Const. Conv., 1962, Organizing
14. Resolutions, 18th UAW Const. Conv., 1962, Shorter workweek
15. Resolutions, 18th UAW Const. Conv., 1962, Skilled trades
16. Resolutions, 18th UAW Const. Conv., 1962, Strike Fund
17. Resolutions, 18th UAW Const. Conv., 1962, UAW Policy
18. Resolutions, 18th UAW Const. Conv., 1962, Increased Benefits
19. Resolutions, 18th UAW Const. Conv., 1962, Referrals

Box 6

1. Resolutions Committee, UAW 18th Const. Conv., Index and minutes, 16 Apr-3 May 1962
2. Resolutions Committee, Drafts 1-10, UAW 18th Const. Conv., 1962
3. Resolutions Committee, Drafts 11-21, UAW 18th Const. Conv., 1962
4. Resolutions Committee, Drafts 22-30, UAW 18th Const. Cons., 1962
5. Resolutions Committee, Drafts 31-39, UAW 18th Const. Conv., 1962
6. Resolutions Committee, Drafts 40-50, UAW 18th Const. Conv., 1962
7. Resolutions Committee, Drafts 51-54, UAW 18th Const. Conv., 1962

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Box 6

8. Resolutions Committee, Drafts 55-56, UAW 18th Const. Conv., 1962
9. Resolutions Submitted, UAW 10th Annual Skilled Trades Conf., 23-25
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10. Resolutions Submitted, UAW 10th Annual Skilled Trades Conf., 23-25
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11. Resolutions Submitted, UAW 10th Annual Skilled Trades Conf., 23-25
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12. Resolutions Submitted, UAW 10th Annual Skilled Trades Conf., 23-25
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13. Resolutions Submitted, UAW 10th Annual Skilled Trades Conf., 23-25
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1. Resolutions Submitted, UAW 11th Annual Skilled Trades Conf., 1-2
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2. Resolutions Submitted, UAW 11th Annual Skilled Trades Conf., 1-2
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3. Resolutions Submitted, UAW 11th Annual Skilled Trades Conf., 1-2
Oct 1965, 3 of 3
4. Robert J Mills: biography and resume
5. Skilled Trades Classes and "paaabouts": Reuther Family Ed. Center, n. d.
6. Skilled Trades conferences
7. Skilled Trades policy manuals & related materials
8. Speeches & miscellaneous
9. Third Jt. IAM-UAW Aerospace Conf., 4 Oct 1963, 1 of 2
10. Third Jt. IAM-UAW Aerospace Conf., 4 Oct 1963, 2 of 2
11. UAW Local Unions lists
12. UAW Tool, Die & Maintenance Survey, 1954
13. UAW Tool, Die & Maintenance Survey, 1957
14. Unimate Industrial Robot
15. Vice-President's Report by Robert J. Mills, 1 of 2

Box 8

1. Vice-President's Report by Robert J. Mills, 2 of 2
2. Wage Comparison Data, Skilled Trades to 1967, 1 of 3
3. Wage Comparison Data, Skilled Trades to 1967, 2 of 3
4. Wage Comparison Data, Skilled Trades to 1967, 3 of 3
5. Wage scales
6. Wage Survey & Age Distribution, Aug 1964
7. When retirees left Loral Hall after Opening Retirement Center in
in 1962 - signatures of those who were present