

THE JAMES POLAND COLLECTION

2 Manuscript boxes

2 oversized scrapbooks

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By: AM

The papers of James Poland were deposited with the Labor History Archives in September, 1969 by Mr. Poland.

James Ray Poland was born March 11, 1902. An employee of Bendix Products Division, Bendix Aviation Corp., South Bend, Indiana, Mr. Poland was an early member and official of Federal Labor Union No. 18347 organized in 1933 [later known as Bendix Local No. 9].

Mr. Poland's activities during 1934 were especially notable in connection with the formation of the International UAW. In June of that year, as a FLU #18347 delegate to the Conference of A.F. of L. Federal Labor Unions in Chicago, he drafted the resolution calling for a convention of all automobile workers' local unions. This conference, the First National Conference of Automobile Unions, was held in Detroit June 23 and 24. The formal resolution submitted by FLU #18347 was adopted citing "the need for a Union of Automobile Workers and Automotive Parts Workers," long the goal of James Poland.

From this time, through the 1950s, Mr. Poland was regularly an officer and/or delegate of Bendix Local #9. In addition, he served as an International Representative of the UAW from 1937 into the early '40s.

The James Poland Collection covers the period from 1934 to 1956.

Important subjects are:

Formation of International UAW, 1934.
Homer Martin Factional Struggle, 1937-1939.
Bendix Local No. 9, 1934-1950.

Important correspondents are:

George F. Addes
Richard T. Frankenstein
John L. Lewis
Homer Martin
Walter P. Reuther

DESCRIPTION OF SERIES

| Boxes | Description |
|-------|---|
| 1 | <u>Formation of International Union, UAWA: Minutes, resolutions</u> and related materials concerning conference of all unions representing automotive industry labor. The original of the resolution presented by FLU 18347 calling for such a conference is included (1934). |
| 1 | <u>Homer Martin Factional Struggle: Correspondence and publications</u> reflecting problems of this factional split, March, 1937-August, 1939 arranged chronologically. Included is typescript of UAWA-CIO Caucus of August 13, led by George F. Addes, "to map out a program whereby the UAW could be taken out of the hands of Martin." |
| 1 | <u>Bendix Local#9, South Bend, Indiana: Materials cover period</u> beginning 1935 through 1950. Topics are Negotiations and Agreements (1939-1950), War Production (1942-1945), and general correspondence arranged chronologically. |
| 2 | <u>James Poland: Letters, telegrams, publications encompassing various</u> areas. In one group are documents pertaining to Mr. Poland's fight of principle for salary and expenses while in and out of Homer Martin's employ (1937-1940). Arranged chronologically. Actual work as an International Representative comprises a second group (1937-1939), chronologically, with a separate division for locals in Connersville, Indiana (1937-1938) also arranged chronologically. Mr. Poland was often a convention delegate and several of these conventions are represented in this collection (1938-1951). Following are personal letters, notes for speeches, union cards, delegate badges, etc., extending from early to recent limits of the collection, again, chronologically. |

Oversized material Scrapbooks: Cleveland, South Bend, Detroit (1939-1940). Peoria (1945). Two volumes.

FOLDER LIST

Box 1, Formation of International Union, UAWA
Homer Martin Factional Struggle Bendix
Local #9, South Bend, Indiana

International Union - Resolution calling for convention of all automobile workers' local unions, FLU 18347, 1934.
- FLU 18347: May 24-June 28, 1934. Minutes.
(photo static copies).
- Resolution by FLU 18347 to form International Union," 1934.
- Related materials: June, 1934 - December, 1944.

Homer Martin - Correspondence: March, 1937- October, 1938.
- Union information publications: July - August, 1938."
- Charges Against Richard Frankenstein, et. al., August 3, 1938.
- UAWA - CIO Caucus, Toledo, Ohio: August 13, 1939."

Bendix Local #9 - Contract negotiations and ratification: Sept., 1939.
- Working copies, agreements: Nov., 1935-Sept., 1950.-
- Published agreements: Nov., 1935 - Sept., 1950.
- Rate Structure: May, 1940.
- Rate Structure: Feb., 1942.
-Correspondence, general and miscellaneous; March, 1939- June, 1952.
- War Productions Drive Committee: April, 1942 - May, 1943. Minutes.
- War Production, misc.: April, 1942 - June, 1945.
- National War Labor Board, "Job Descriptions," NWLB June, 1944.

Box 2, James Poland

Scrapbooks

Fight of principle - Expense controversy, October, 1937 - April, 1939.
- Expense controversy, January, 1940 - September, 1940."

Work as International Rep. - Correspondence: April, 1937 - October, 1938.
- Correspondence: March, 1939 - June, 1939.-
- Connersville, Indiana: April, 1937- July, 1938.
- Miscellaneous.

Conventions - First Indiana Convention of the CIO: May, 1938. Governor's address.
- Second State Convention, [Indiana] CIO: June, 1939. Yearbook.
- UAW-CIO Seventh Convention: August, 1942. Publications.
- UAW-CIO Seventh Convention: August, 1942. James Poland-Notes.
- Skilled Trades Council: December, 1950; March, 1951.

FOLDER LIST

- Personal - Letters: August, 1938 - May, 1956.
- Notes for speeches.
- Union cards. Delegate badges. (Envelope).
- Scrapbook: April - June, 1937.
- Miscellaneous.

Oversized Material

- Scrapbook - Cleveland, South Bend, Detroit: 1939 - 1940.
- Peoria: 1945.