

## **UAW Local 687 Collection**

**Papers, 1941-1991**

**9 linear feet  
9 storage boxes**

Accession # 1585  
DALNET #  
OCLC #

UAW Local 687 was chartered by the International Union in 1939 as the bargaining agent for employees of McNerny Spring and Wire Company in Grand Rapids, Michigan, the first plant organized by the UAW in Grand Rapids. McNerny Spring and Wire manufactured car seats and interior and exterior trim for the automobile industry. In 1991, facing strong competition from newer plants in the South, the company permanently closed its Grand Rapids plant and Local 687 ceased to exist.

Fred E. Briggs was the founding president of Local 687 and served as president off and on until 1955. Owen Bieber was president of Local 687 from 1957 until 1962, when he resigned in order to accept a position as an International Representative on the staff of UAW Region 1D. He led Local 687 through a strike in 1957 and 1958.

The records of UAW Local 687 consist primarily of minutes, correspondence, grievances, negotiating material, seniority lists and insurance/pension documents relating to the activities of the local.

### **Important subjects in the collection are:**

Automobile industry workers--Michigan--Grand Rapids  
Benefit Association of Railway Workers  
Collective bargaining--Automobile industry and trade  
Insurance, Health  
Kent County Labor Association  
McInerny Spring and Wire Company  
Pensions  
Strikes and lockouts--Automobile industry and trade--Michigan--Grand Rapids  
Supplemental unemployment benefits--United States

### **Important correspondents in the collection:**

Owen Bieber  
Fred Briggs  
Emil Mazey  
Ken Robinson

**Non-manuscript material:**

A few photographs, buttons and stickers received with the collection have been placed in the Archives Audiovisual Department.

<b>Box-folder</b>	<b>Folder heading</b>
4-39	25th anniversary, 1964
7-4	Actuarial reports, 1952-64
2-27	AFL-CIO literature, 1955
3-9	Agreement documents, 1955-57
7-33	Apprenticeship standards, 1965
8-17 thru 8-18	Arbitration, 1947-53
2-26	Arbitration preparation, n.d.
3-3	Arbitration reports, 1951-59
3-4 thru 6	Arbitration reports, 1952-58
4-35	Audit reports, 1953-1957
7-28 thru 7-32	Audit reports, 1957-89
9-2	Audit reports, 1978
2-23	Awards, 1961-82
8-	Awards, 1963-72
3-20	BARE (Benefit Association of Railway Employees) claims, 1949-50
3-2	BARE, 1950-51
9-28	Bereavement pay, 1965-67
7-26	Bertschinger, Mike; work history, 1973-85
7-16	Bible orders, 1965-75
3-18	Briggs, Fred; correspondence, 1949-52
7-22	By-laws, 1960
9-13	By-laws, 1965
6-31	Cancer and dread disease insurance, 1971
6-32	Cancer and dread disease insurance, 1972
6-34	Cancer and dread disease insurance, 1974
7-6	Cancer and dread disease insurance, 1975
6-21 thru 6-25	Cancer and dread disease insurance, 1976-81
5-27	CAP Council, 1969
6-27	CAP fund, 1973-74
7-27	Certificates of apprenticeships, 1966-80
5-9	<i>Citizen's Guide to Personnel File Access in Michigan</i> , 1978
8-10	Clippings, 1954
1-19	Clippings, 1955
8-5	Company proposed contract changes, 1970
6-12	Constitutional changes, 1955
1-16	Contract agreement documents, 1953
3-8	Contract documents, 1958-59
4-2	Contract negotiation documents, 1953
5-2	Contract negotiations, 1965
8-6	Contract negotiations, 1970-71
3-12	Contract negotiations, 1958

- 4 -

<b>Box-folder</b>	<b>Folder heading</b>
9-30	Contract negotiations & documents, 1967-68
4-4	Contract proposals, 1962-65
3-14 thru 15	Correspondence, 1943-51
1-6 thru 7	Correspondence, 1947-48
6-11	Correspondence, 1953-57
8-9	Correspondence, 1955
2-30	Correspondence, 1955-56
3-19	Correspondence, 1955-58
1-30	Correspondence, 1960-63
4-10	Correspondence, 1961-71
9-23	Correspondence, 1968-71
6-28	Correspondence, 1973-74
9-19	Correspondence from McInerny, 1967-71
8-15	Correspondence, clippings, 1952
4-28 thru 4-33	Departmental seniority list, 1955-1965
4-13	Documents, 1952-68
5-30	Documents, 1955-75
6-16	Documents, 1958-60
4-15	Draft SUB plan, 1956
4-7	Election documents, 1950-53
4-3	Election documents, 1954-56
4-18	Election notices & results, 1964-65
6-4 thru 5	Employee benefits, 1949-54
9-12	Employee benefits, 1963-68
2-2 thru 13	Employee grievances, 1950-71
4-27	Employee list, 1965
4-25	Employee list, n.d.
5-12	Employee recalls, 1955
8-11	Employment securities commission, 1953
9-17	Equal Employment/Equal Pay/Civil Rights Act, 1963-64
9-25	Federal Employment Protection, 1968-71
7-21	Finances/taxes, 1956-61
1-2	Financial reports, 1955-57
7-14	Financial reports, 1971
7-17	Financial secretary Correspondence, 1977
5-28	Financial statements, 1968-69
6-7	Fire inspection report, 1969
9-3	First national all unions conference to shorten the work week, 1978
9-6	Food and beverage sales, 1970
3-11	Ford Motor Co. contract negotiations, 1955-58

<b>Box-folder</b>	<b>Folder heading</b>
7-25	Ford, William; application, 1978
1-31	Grand Valley AFL-CIO news releases, 1965-69
2-21	Grand Valley Co-Op, 1965
1-24	Grand Valley State Newspaper releases, 1966
1-10	Grievances, 1940
1-12 thru 14	Grievances, 1956-58
7-1	Group insurance and employment security, 1955-75
1-5	Group insurance deposits, 1951-53
5-10	Group insurance plans, 1962-77
3-7	Group insurance proposals, 1957-58
1-26	Guaranteed annual wage, 1954-55
1-11	Guaranteed annual wage, 1956
9-11	Health insurance, 1974-76
6-1	Holiday forfeiture fund, 1949-62
9-7	Holiday pay forfeiture, 1962-70
9-33	Hutton, Carroll; correspondence, 1962-68
7-18	Income tax, 1959-83
7-2	Insurance and drug plan, 1974
9-1	Insurance claims, 1956-68
7-5	Insurance claims, 1972-79
5-7 thru 8	Insurance claims & documents, 1949-53
6-2	Insurance documents, 1952-54
3-1	Insurance documents, 1952-55
3-21	Insurance documents, 1956
6-33	Insurance documents, 1959-60
5-1	Insurance papers, 1951-1960
1-1	Insurance plan, 1950-54
2-15	Insurance policy, 1965
4-16	Insurance policy, 1972
6-29	Insurance policy, 1974
4-34	Insurance/pension plans, 1950-1958
9-24	International Executive Board Meeting Summaries, 1962-70
1-17	International Skilled Trades Conference minutes, 1953
8-7	Job descriptions, n.d.
5-5	Kent County Bldg. Assoc., 1955
8-16	Kent County Bldg. Assoc.: minutes, corres., financial documents, 1951
1-4	Kent County Financial Reports, 1957-60
1-3	Kent County Labor Association; constitution & by-laws, 1957
9-14	Labor organization councils & committees, 1963
7-19	Labor organizations annual reports, 1973-81

<b>Box-folder</b>	<b>Folder heading</b>
	9-16 Labor organizations publications, 1968-69
OS Box 3	Local Charter, 1941
	9-29 Mazey, Emil, corres., 1968-71
	6-20 McNerny Correspondence, 1971-74
	7-24 McNerny Inc. bankruptcy auction, 1991
	5-24 McNerny Spring & Wire Co.; employee wages, benefits, 1981
	4-1 McNerny Spring & Wire Co.; internal correspondence to foremen, 1946-
54	
	6-17 McNerny Spring & Wire Co.; notices to employees, 1952-61
	8-1 Meeting notes, 1944-52
	2-22 MESC (Michigan Employment Securities Commission), 1955
	2-25 Michigan Civil Rights Commission, 1970
	6-26 Michigan Life Insurance, 1971-73
6-8 thru 6-10	Michigan Life Insurance Co.; daily reports of claims paid, 1959-61
	1-18 Negotiation minutes, 1955
	5-26 New members program, 1969
	7-20 NLRB documents, 1946-62
	4-6 Notices, newsletters, 1951-54
	9-21 Notices of contract termination, 1961-70
	9-20 Pension agreements, 1950-66
	7-3 Pension and SUB negotiations, 1952-74
	2-16 Pension documents, 1952
	6-15 Pension documents, 1950-53
	8-13 Pension fund, 1950
	2-14 Pension proposal, 1952
	9-15 Pension trust fund, 1962-67
	4-11 Picnic expenditures, 1967-70
	4-20 Picnic program, 1968-69
	8-2 Pocket guide, 1966
	1-21 Production reports, 1947-54
	4-19 Proposed contract changes, 1962
	2-32 Published material, 1985
	1-29 Rates of pay, 1950-53
	8-12 Reapportionment, 1952
5-3 thru 4	Reprimands, 1952-54
	5-6 Reprimands, 1954
	4-5 Reprimands, 1955-57
	1-28 Reprimands, 1955-60
	6-6 Retired worker benefits, 1962-66
	9-31 Retired workers, 1963-69

<b>Box-folder</b>	<b>Folder heading</b>
6-30	Retired workers, 1974-1975
9-26	Reuther, Walter, correspondence, 1962-69
9-10	Robinson, Ken, correspondence, 1967-68
9-9	Robinson, Ken, correspondence, 1967-71
4-17	Scholarships, 1963-68
5-13 thru 22	Seniority, 1946-56
7-15	Seniority, 1948
8-3	Seniority list, 1944
1-23	Seniority list, 1945
1-22	Seniority list, 1947
7-7 thru 7-12	Seniority list, 1953-60
4-24	Seniority list, 1958
5-11	Seniority list, 1961
7-23	Seniority list, 1988
4-36 thru 4-38	Seniority lists, 1949-1959
2-1	Seniority lists, 1958-62
4-26	Seniority lists, 1964
1-25	Skilled trades, 1953-54
7-34	Skilled trades, 1959-65
3-17	Skilled Trades Council, 1956-60
4-14	Social Security Act of 1965, health care, 1965
2-29	Solidarity song for picnic, n.d.
4-23	Steward grievance procedures, n.d.
9-8	Strike assistance program, 1958
6-13	Strike emergency assistance forms, 1958
1-8	SUB, (supplemental unemployment benefit plan), 1958
2-33	SUB Trust, 1971
4-9	<i>Talking Points</i> ; UAW Education Department publication, 1965-67
7-13	Tax reports, 1974-86
2-24	Termination notices, 1944
5-29	<i>The Business Outlook</i> , weekly newsletter, 1956-57
5-23	Time and motion study, 1951
6-18	Time study reports, 1959-60
9-22	Transfer requests, 1969-72
9-5	UAW administrative letter, 1958-67
9-4	UAW administrative letter, 1967-72
4-8	<i>UAW Arbitration Services News Notes</i> , 1969
9-32	UAW citizenship; Legislative Department, 1965
3-13	UAW contract negotiations, 1960-62
2-28	UAW Guaranteed Employment Plan, 1954

<b>Box-folder</b>	<b>Folder heading</b>
4-21	UAW Newsletters, 1969
2-31	UAW published material, 1956-57
4-22	UAW Region 1D CAP Dollar Drive results, 1968
9-27	UAW strike fund reports, 1962-70
5-25	<i>UAW-CIO Looks at Time Study</i> , 1947
6-14	Unemployment and wage stabilization, 1952
1-9	Unemployment cases; MESC, 1950-55
4-12	Union Hall documents, 1956-68
2-19	<i>Union Labor Report</i> , Apr - Jun, 1955
6-19	United Farm Workers, 1974
6-3	Vending machine sales, 1956-62
1-27	Wage agreement documents, 1953
3-10	Wage data & job description, 1946
1-20	Wage increase and agreement documents, 1947
1-15	Wage rates & wage agreement documents, 1948
9-18	Wage schedules, 1956-66
8-8	Wage stabilization, 1951-52
8-14	Wartime production documents, 1944
4-40	Weekly meeting minutes, 1964
2-20	Weekly meeting notes, 1952-53
8-19 thru 8-32	Weekly meeting notes, 1968-74
2-18	Weekly meeting notes; Fred Briggs, 1954
2-17	Weekly meeting notes; Fred Briggs, 1957
3-16	Workers compensation, 1950-53