

THE EDWARD CONNOR COLLECTION

56 Manuscript Boxes

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The papers of Edward Connor were deposited with the Labor History Archives in August, 1967 by Mrs. Connor.

Edward Connor was born in Chicago in 1908. After graduating from high school, he worked for two years in a foundry and was a member of the hod carriers' union. In 1930, he graduated from Notre Dame University, and in 1935 he received a law degree from that institution.

In August, 1935, he accepted an appointment with the Public Works Administration as County Supervisor of Adult Education for Gary, Indiana. In July, 1938, he was appointed Chief of the Community Service Section in the Chicago Regional Office. He directed projects in adult education and recreation. In March, 1940, he was promoted to Regional Supervisor of the Public Activities Section. He directed programs in adult and in workers' education in six states - Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Ohio, and West Virginia. In April, 1941, he was appointed Chief of the War Public Services Division. He made analyses of community needs in the service field, determined their war connection and reviewed the financial ability of the local government administration to meet its needs without a Federal contribution. In 1943, he worked in the Chicago regional office of the War Manpower Commission.

In 1943, Connor was appointed Executive Director of the Citizens Housing and Planning Council of Detroit, a private agency supported by labor and industry to develop a better metropolitan community. He served in this position until 1948.

In 1948, he was elected to the Detroit Common Council and served for a continuous period until 1966. In 1954, he was elected to the Wayne County Board of Supervisors and served as its Chairman from 1954 until 1958. In 1954, the Supervisors Inter-County Committee was formed through which the Board of Supervisors of Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Monroe, Washtenaw and St. Clair Counties dealt with metropolitan area problems. He served as its first Chairman until 1958 and was re-elected Chairman in 1964. In 1966, he was elected as a judge on the Michigan Recorder's Court. Soon after the opening of the 1967 session, Edward Connor died in February, 1967.

Besides serving on the Detroit Council and on the Wayne County Board of Supervisors, Connor held other important positions. In 1947, he was appointed to the Executive Committee of the Detroit Metropolitan Regional Planning Commission. In 1955, he was appointed a Director of the Michigan State Association of Supervisors, and later he was elected as Chairman. In 1958, he was named Secretary

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of the Southeastern Michigan Metropolitan Community Research Corporation, an organization financed by the Ford Foundation to conduct development programs for the Detroit metropolitan area. In 1959, he was appointed a Director of the National Association of County Officials. In 1959, he was appointed by President Eisenhower to the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations. In 1961, he was appointed as a member of the Citizens' Advisory Committee on Local Government. In 1963, he was invited by the Surgeon General of the United States to be a member of the Advisory Committee on Urban Health Affairs, and was appointed to the National Advisory Environmental Health Committee of the United States Public Health Service.

The Collection covers the period from 1935 to 1966.

Important subjects are:

- Works Progress Administration, 1935-1943
- Adult Education, 1935-1943
- Workers Education, 1935-1943
- Detroit Citizens Housing and Planning Council, 1945-54
- Detroit Common Council, 1948-1966
- Detroit Transit Problems, 1952-53
- Southeastern Michigan Community Research Corporation, 1957-63
- Election Campaigns for Detroit Common Council, 1948-65
- Democratic Primary Election for Governor of Michigan, 1960
- Election Campaign for Michigan Recorder's Court, 1966

Important Correspondents are:

Barbour, Al	Carey, Edward
Cavanagh, Jerome P.	Coit, Eleanor, (Dir. Am. Labor Education Service)
Deverall, Richard	Dingell, John D.
Fitzsimmons, Frank E.	Hare, James
Hart, Philip A.	Hood, Nicholas
Kelley, Frank J.	Kennedy, John F.
Kennedy, Robert	Kowalski, Joseph
Mackie, John	Martel, Frank
Piggins, Edward S.	Poindexter, Thomas L.
Ravitz, Mel	Reuther, Roy L.
Rogell, William	Roosevelt, Dorothy K.
Silvey, Theodore	Van Antwerp Philip
Williams, G. Mennan	

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Series I Works Progress Administration

17 1/2 Manuscript Boxes - Correspondence, reports, press releases, notes, newspaper clippings, published material.

The records in this series pertain to the career of Edward Connor in the Public Works and Work Projects Administrations. As indicated in the biographical sketch, he held four positions during his employment with the Work Projects Administration – (1) County Supervisor of Adult Education (2) Chief, Community Services Section, Chicago Regional Office, (3) Regional Supervisor, Public Activities Section, (4) Chief, War Public Services Division. The records of this series refer to the above aspects of his career, but they are not arranged to reflect them. The records were originally divided alphabetically into topical categories, and this arrangement has been maintained.

Edward Connor was employed for a brief period by the War Manpower Commission. It should be noted that there are few, if any, records pertaining to this aspect of his career.

- Box 1 Adult Education Program, Correspondence and Reports, 1939-1941 (17 folders)
- Box 2 Adult Education Program, 1936-1941 (16 folders)
- Box 3 Adult Education Program (13 folders) Civilian Defense (4 folders)
Community Service Program, 1941 (4 folders)
- Box 4 Community Services Program, 1939-1942 (10 folders) Connor, Biographical
Material
- Box 5 Correspondence, 1935-1940 (17 folders)
- Box 6 Correspondence, 1940-1942 (19 folders)
- Box 7 Correspondence, 1942-43 (7 folders)
Indiana - Adult Education and Recreation Programs, 1935-40
(6 folders) Illinois - Adult Education Program (8 folders)
- Box 8 Illinois - Recreation Program, 1935-43 (5 folders) Lanham Act, 1942 (2 folders) Michigan -
Adult Education and Recreation Programs, 1935-1943 (5 folders)
Miscellaneous Material (4 folders)
- Box 9 Miscellaneous Memoranda and Notes, 1942-43 (4 folders) Missouri - Reports on field
trips, 1938-40 Newspaper clippings
Ohio - Adult Education, Health and Welfare, and Recreation Programs, 1938-40 (16
folders)

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- Box 10 Ohio - Summary of operations
Professional and Service Division, 1939-1942 (13 folders)
- Box 11 Professional and Service Division (4 folders) Public Activities Program,
1936
Public Work Reserve Program, 1942
Recreation Program
Research Projects Reports, 1943
Staff Planning Chart, 1942
Volunteer Services Program (3 folders)
Weekly Activity Reports and Memos, 1941-1942 (2 folders) War Services Program,
1942
Workers Education Program, 1940-1942 (4 folders)
- Box 12 Workers Education Program (16 folders)
- Box 13 Workers Education Program (11 folders)
- Box 14 Workers Education Program, 1935-43 (15 folders)
- Box 15 Workers Education Program (9 folders)
- Box 16 Published Material
- Box 17 Published Material
- Box 18 Published Material

Series II Citizens Housing and Planning Council of Detroit

2 Manuscript Boxes, 19 43-19 54 - Correspondence, minutes, speeches, press releases, drafts of articles, newspaper clippings, published material.

The Citizens Housing and Planning Council was the successor of the Michigan Housing Association which was established in 1937. In 1950, the name of the Citizens Housing and Planning Council was changed to Detroit Future Inc. This organization became inactive in 1953 and was terminated on January 30, 1954. The records of the organization were given to Wayne State University in 1956.

This series is arranged according to topical categories.

- Box 18 cont.
Articles, Drafts of
Correspondence, 1944
Detroit Area Workers Education Conference, 1944 (4 folders)
Executive Board Minutes, 1951-52 (2 folders)
- Box 19 Minutes and Budget Reports, 1951-52 Miscellaneous
Material (8 folders)

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Box 19 cont.

Newspaper Clippings (3 folders)
Pamphlets
Policy and Program Workbook, 19 49-50

Box 20 Press Releases, 1944-51 (2 folders) Reports, 1950-53 (5 folders) Speeches, notes for (2 folders) Wayne University, Transfer of records to, 1955-56 Published Material (2 folders)

Series 3 Detroit Common Council and Wayne County Board of Supervisors

10 Manuscript Boxes, 1948-66 - Correspondence, reports, resolutions , newspaper clippings, scrapbooks, appointment books.

The records of this series are divided into two sections -Detroit Common Council and Wayne County Board of Supervisors. The records of section one are arranged alphabetically. The scrapbooks, which contain newspaper clippings and photographs, and the appointment books are placed at the end of the section. The records of section two consist of only four folders and some published material.

Part I - Detroit Common Council

Box 20 cont.

Airport Facilities (2 folders)
Budget, 1954-1966 (3 folders)
Charitable Trusts, 1963
City-County Longeirty Study Committee, 1954
City Efficiency, 1948-49
Civil Defense

Box 21 Conferences, Correspondence and Reports, 1956-1962 (10 folders)

Box 22 Conferences, 1962-1966 (6 folders)
Correspondence, 1949-1963 (6 folders) Crime Enforcement and Police Problems, 19 61 Detroit Brick Plant, 1952

Box 23 Detroit Brick Plant, 1952 (7 folders) Detroit Labor Arbitration Committee D.S.R. Fare Increases, 1952-53 (2 folders) Fair Housing, 1963 (2 folders) Health Care for the Aged, 1960 Housing (9 folders) Industrial Study Commission, 1957 (3 folders) Loyalty Oath, 1949

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- Box 24 Mariners' Church, 1954 (3 folders) Miscellaneous Material (3 folders) Newspaper Clippings, 1950-1966
Pittsburg Regional Planning Association, 1963 (2 folders) Police and Firemen's Uniforms, 1955
Port Commission, 1953-58
Public Bank, 1955-1962 (6 folders)
- Box 25 Public Bank (2 folders)
Railroad Grade Separation, 1949-1954 (8 folders)
Recreation, 1951-53
Research Committee
Resolutions introduced by Connor, 1950-1966 (3 folders)
- Box 26 Retired Workers, Reduced D.S.R. Rates (5 folders) Southeastern Michigan Community Research Corporation, 1957-1962 (9 folders)
- Box 27 Southeastern Michigan Community Research Corporation, 1962-63 (6 folders)
State Legislature, visit to Detroit, 1964 (3 folders) Tax Review Board (2 folders)
Telephone Calls and Office Visitors, 1958-63 T.V. Program - Meet Your Council, 1953 Transit Problems, 1952 (7 folders)
- Box 28 Transit Problems, 1952-53 (10 folders) Transportation Committee
Unemployment, 1952-59 Voting Machines Water Fluoridation, 1953-62
- Box 29 Scrapbooks, 1951-55
- Box 30 Scrapbooks, 1957-55
- Box 31 Appointment Books, 1950-1965

Part II - Wayne County Board of Supervisors

Wayne County Water Committee Newspaper Clippings (3 folders)
Michigan Association of Supervisors, Published Proceedings, 1957-64

Series 4 Election Campaigns

18 Manuscript Boxes, 1948-1966 - Correspondence, press releases, newspaper clippings, publicity material.

The records of this series pertain to elections for Detroit Common Council, 1948-1965, to the Democratic Primary Election for Detroit Common Council, 1948-1965, to the Democratic Primary Election for Governor, 1960, and to the election for Recorder's Court, 1966.

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- Box 32 cont.
 Biographical Sketches, 1948-65 (2 folders) Council Election, 1948
 (6 folders)
- Box 33 Council Election, 1948 (20 folders) Council Election,
 1949 (6 folders)
- Box 34 Council Election, 1949 (21 folders)
- Box 35 Council Election, 1949 (21 folders)
- Box 36 Council Election, 1951 (10 folders) Council Election, 1953
 (17 folders)
- Box 37 Council Election, 1953 (19 folders)
- Box 38 Council Election, 1957 (17 folders)
- Box 39 Council Election, 1957 (16 folders) Council Election, 1957
 - Scrapbook Council Election, 1961 (2 folders)
- Box 40 Council Election, 1961 (15 folders)
- Box 41 Council Election, 1961 (21 folders)
- Box 42 Council Election, 1961 (17 folders)
- Box 43 Council Election, 1965 (14 folders)
- Box 44 Council Election, 1965 (15 folders)
- Box 45 Council Election, 1965 (20 folders)
- Box 46 Council Election, 1965 (6 folders)
 Primary Election for Governor, 1960 (15 folders)
- Box 47 Primary Election for Governor, 1960 (22 folders)
- Box 48 Primary Election for Governor, 1960 (12 folders) Recorder's Court Judge Election, 1966
 (9 folders)
- Box 49 Recorder's Court Judge Election, 1966 (21 folders)
- Box 50 Recorder's Court Judge Election, 1966 (10 folders) Miscellaneous Publicity (1
 oversize folder)

Series 5 Office File

4 1/2 Manuscript Boxes - Correspondence, reports, press releases, newspaper clippings,
 and published material.

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The records of this series are arranged alphabetically. There is one-half a manuscript box of published at the end of the series.

Box 50 cont.

- Advisory Commission on Intergovernment Relations, 1966
(3 folders)
- Biographical Data requests
- Calender of Meetings, 1954-66
- Detroit Catholic Central High School, 1955
- Detroit Cultural Commission, 1966
- Detroit Metropolitan Goals Conference, 1966
- Detroit Regional Planning Commission
- Health Education and Welfare Department
- General's Advisory Committee on Urban Affairs (2 folders)

Box 51 Health Education and Welfare Department - Trip to Russia, 1964 (7 folders)

- Judges' Retirement System
- Kennedy Campaign, 1960 (2 folders)
- Memberships, 1959-66 (5 folders)

Box 52 Memberships, 1966 (4 folders)

- Michigan Bar Association, 1950-1966
- Miscellaneous Material (9 folders)
- Miscellaneous Certificates
- Newspaper Clippings
- National Advisory Commission on Selective Service, 1966
- National Advisory Committee on Selective Service, 1966
- National Association of Counties, 1965-1966 (2 folders)
- National Association of County Officials, 1959 (15 folders)

Box 53 National Association of County Officials, 1959 (2 folders) Presidential Inauguration, 1965

- Toth, John, Beehive Patent, 1935
- Wayne County Civic League, 19 56-1957
- West Alexandrine Corporation, 1962-63
- Published Material

Series 4 Birthday Clambakes

3 Manuscript Boxes - (Boxes 54-56) Correspondence, mailing lists, scrapbooks.

The records of this series pertain to annual birthday clambakes which Connor sponsored to raise campaign funds. The records are arranged chronologically.