



The Historical
Society of
Pennsylvania

Collection 2076

**International Typographical Union, Local 2
(Philadelphia, Pa.)
Records**

1850-1967

11 boxes, 22 vols., 10 lin. feet

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Abstract

The International Typographical Union, Local 2 [Philadelphia, Pa.] (ITUP) evolved from unrest among local journeymen printers. After formally organizing into a union the members aided in establishing a National Union for typographical workers. 137 years after ITUP's inception the International Typographical Union (ITU) merged with CWA to form the Printing, Publishing and Media Workers Sector and ITUP eventually became known as Local 14199.

Begun in 1850, the records of the International Typographical Union, Local 2 document the union's activity up until 1967. Monthly and special meeting minutes comprise approximately ninety percent of the collection. They include union member reports, price scales for newspapers as well as books, proposed and accepted revisions and amendments to the by-laws and constitution, financial reports, conference delegate's reports, monthly statements and bulletins, union member lists and bills. The minutes document changes in labor unions throughout Pennsylvania and the United States as members did not only take issue with events surrounding Philadelphia. The collection also includes souvenir, receipt and membership books from the early years of the union.

Background note

The International Typographical Union, Local 2 was created as the result of discontent among journeymen printers in the mid-nineteenth century. On July 6, 1850, 419 out of 450 journeymen in the Philadelphia area signed an agreement to unite together and a Declaration of Principles was adopted on July 27. A month later on August 10 the Journeymen Printer's Union of Philadelphia was permanently organized. On December 2, 1850 this organization as well as similar bodies from New York, New Jersey, Maryland, and Kentucky came together in New York City to form what became the National Union. The National Union was formally organized in Cincinnati, Ohio in May 1862. At this time the local unions drew numerical lots by seniority thus renaming the Philadelphia journeymen's union the Philadelphia Typographical Union No. 2.

The first strike authorized by the union came a few months after its organization. On September 2, 1850, a Scale of Prices was to go into effect which many employing

printers disagreed with. Newspaper offices were not significantly affected by the scale and agreed to the provisions. Book and job offices, however, opposed the scale. The strike lasted until December 7, 1850, when the union called it off as only two larger book offices and several minor offices were the only agencies left in opposition to the scale.

The union attempted to raise money during the strike not only to support strike efforts, but also to benefit members who lost their jobs. Remaining employed members were assessed an extra fee and the union hired the unemployed members to produce issues of *Robinson Crusoe* while other members raised funds gathering contributions and subscriptions for the book. While five editions and 17,000 copies of *Robinson Crusoe* were issued, the venture was unsuccessful as it cost the union \$340; no profit was generated. Union officials also set up the vigilance committee at this time to keep members informed about employer activities and to bring new workers into the union.

ITUP also took action to provide for the families of those members enlisted in the Civil War. Union relief committees were created to help these families. Newspaper workers were assessed an extra \$1 a week to support the committees' activities as book men were assessed 50 cents extra each week.

In addition to providing help during time of unrest, the union also established ways to protect its members during ordinary times. The union assessed employed members various amounts throughout its history to be put in a fund designated for those out of work. ITUP also established Local Mortuary Benefits to family members of a union member who was in good standing. The Women's Auxiliary to Typographical Union No. 2 was responsible for many fundraisers as well.

The union used a chapel form of government to carry out its activities. The chapels associated with various places of employment were the visible part of the union that enforced union laws. The relationship between a chapel and a union is similar to the relationship between a state and the United States government. Chapels governed themselves in regulating internal affairs.

1987 saw the merger between CWA and International Typographical Union to form the Printing, Publishing and Media Workers Sector. ITUP became Local 14826 which later became Local 14199.

Scope & content

The records of the International Typographical Union, Local 2 (Philadelphia, Pa.), which begin in 1850, document the union's activity up until 1967. The range of materials featured in the collection include minutes, souvenir and conference books. The materials document the activities of various committees, organizations, people and particular issues and events. The collection makes up for the limited range of materials with depth of those materials collected, resulting in two series.

Monthly and special minutes comprise approximately ninety percent of the ITUP collection. The minutes include union member reports, price scales for newspapers as

well as books, proposed and accepted revisions and amendments to the by-laws and constitution, financial reports, conference delegate's reports, monthly statements and bulletins, union member lists, and bills. Communications and correspondence are also apart of the meeting minutes as they were read or circulated during the meetings. Also found in the collection are early receipt and membership books and what is presumably Philadelphia Typographical Union No. 2's original constitution. A *Fiftieth Anniversary Typographical Union* ITUP commemorative book and International Typographical Union convention books from 1918 and 1926 also find a home amongst the assortment of documents.

Various committees contribute to the functioning of ITUP and are, therefore, represented in the collection. Amongst these are the business, executive, relief, investigating, scale of prices, vigilance, apprenticeship, membership and boycotting committees as these are documented with the most frequency. In addition there have been memorial funds, charge, Pressmen, German Printers and proposition committees.

The majority of monthly meeting minutes document the meetings' locations. In the early years of the union there does not seem to be one consistent site where the meetings were held. Popular locations in Philadelphia include Franklin Hall, Union Rooms at 6th Street and Walnut Street, St. George's Hall at 13th and Arch Streets, Dramatic Hall, Merchant's Hall at 4th Street below Arch Street, Musician's Union Hall 120 N. 18th Street, 1211 Chestnut Street and Bellevue Stratford Hotel at Broad and Walnut Streets among other locations. Most frequently during the 20th century meetings were held at the Grand Fraternity Hall at 1626 Arch Street.

Organizations documented in the collection include the Caxton League, New Century Guild of Working Women, Hebrew Society, Toynbee Society, Allied Printing Trade Council, Eastern Pennsylvania District Typographical Union, Central Labor Union, Pennsylvania Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO, Journeymen Printer's Union, Dunlap Printing Co., and International Typographical Union among others. Communications showing contact with various other typographical unions including Detroit Typographical Union, New Orleans Typographical Union, LaFayette Typographical Union and St. Paul Typographical Union are found in the documents. Newspapers which employed union members include *Sunday World*, *The Press*, *The Times*, *The Record*, *Star*, *Sunday Morning Times*, *Evening Bulletin*, *Sporting Life*, *Public Ledger*, *Sunday Transcript* and *The Philadelphia Inquirer*.

Specific issues referred to in the collection are 1856 Argus Office Strike, International Copyright, Childs-Drexel Fund, use of the Union Label, Tariff Law of 1894, United Labor Reform Convention, length of the work day, U.S. Fair Labor Standard Act of 1938, AFL-CIO disputes and merger, Philadelphia Wage Tax, Walsh Healey Act, and child care programs. Many minutes also refer to actions against union members for violations to the constitution and by-laws. ITUP Secretary-Treasurer J.H. Kelley was investigated in 1966-1967 for misappropriation of funds. Various bills before the house and senate concerning labor unions are also explored in the minutes including opposition to the Taft-Hartley bill.

The strength of the collection lies with the meeting minutes as they are nearly complete accounts of 117 years of ITUP's functioning. The minutes also document changes in labor unions throughout Pennsylvania and the United States as members did not only take issue with events surrounding Philadelphia. Researchers will find the minutes to contain mundane activities of the local union as well as broader issues. Anecdotal elements are also revealed in the minutes such as Pennsylvania Governor Hastings signing a bill legalizing the use of the Union Label in 1895 with ITUP President George Chance's pen. Also the ITUP session gavel was rumored to be made of wood from the house in which Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence.

The collection lacks breadth in collection scope as there are only a few souvenir books from conventions and little material relating to the other activities of the local union. A complete member list is also not included as new members were recorded in the monthly meeting minutes. The collection, therefore, is arranged in two series. The first being meeting minutes and the second comprises a handful of books and ledgers into the additional materials series.

Overview of arrangement

Series I	Minutes, 1850-1965	16 volumes, 198 folders
Series II	Additional materials, 1850-1950	6 volumes, 3 folders

Series description

Series 1. Minutes, 1850-1965 (Boxes 1-9, Volumes 1-16)

The minutes series maintains its original order as it is arranged chronologically first by year and then by month. A significant portion of this series is contained in bound volumes with documents relating to the minutes interfiled inside the volume. ITUP's monthly bulletins can usually be found filed within that month's minutes. However, 1936, 1937, 1938 and 1940 monthly bulletins are grouped separately arranged chronologically by year amongst the minutes' folders. This arrangement reflects their original order.

Documents found in the volumes that were larger than the volume itself have been removed and placed in folders marked "oversize" with their original location in the volume documented. Some of the minutes have been disbound and housed in folders for preservation purposes. These too maintain their original chronological order and original volume title preceding the date span of the documents contained in the folder. Users of the collection should note individual items in the folders are not always in day chronological order. As the ITUP often interfiled letters and other documents with the minutes some of these extra documents relate to the subject matter of the minutes rather than chronological date.

The minutes document ITUP's administration and functions from 1850-1967. The series is not complete, however, as 1906, 1907, 1915-1923, 1931, 1941, 1942, and

1944 minutes are missing. Found in the remaining years are statements, commission reports and proposals, election results, constitution and by-law amendments communications and bills. Committee reports documenting membership, apprenticeship and finances are also represented. Union cards, work locations and wages are discussed as well. Included in the ITUP minutes are charges brought against members for violations of the by-laws and constitutions, auditor's reports, National Delegates reports, union member reports, Eastern Pennsylvania District Typographical Union reports, and reports on the Eastern Pennsylvania-Delaware Typographical Union conference.

As indicated in the minutes activities of the union include: apprenticeship program begun in 1857, National Fund established in 1867 to compensate striking workmen, Union Employment Office and Reading Room created in 1879; various boycott, management and financial committees; child care programs begun in 1943; New Processes Training Center of ITUP opened in 1957; political education groups Labor League for Political Education organized in 1948 and joined with CIO's Political Action Committee in 1956 to form Committee on Public Education (COPE). The minutes also reveal support of factory, wage and labor laws and revision of labor laws, 1884-1904, 1927-1937; International Copyright Laws, 1868, 1886; High Tariff Laws, 1882, 1894; Immigration Restriction, 1902; and AFL-CIO merger, 1939. Opposition to the Taft-Hartley act is documented in this series.

Series 2. Additional materials, 1850-1950 (Volumes 17-22)

The additional materials series incorporates items used by and about the ITUP but do not relate to the ITUP minutes. These items span 1850-1950 with the bulk of the materials produced in the late nineteenth century. As a majority of the items are volumes they are arranged chronologically by year in the series. What appears to be ITUP's first constitution from 1850 can be found in this series. Souvenir books from the 64th and 71st International Typographical Union Conventions as well as the *Fiftieth Anniversary Typographical Union No. 2* commemorative book are also included. The Fiftieth Anniversary book documents events in the union's history as well as enumerates member, officers, presidents and includes pictures of many of these people. A receipt book, membership book and health benefits booklet are among the items in the series. The folder labeled "Ephemera" contains a small Philadelphia Typographical Society white ribbon and 1951 union label tags.

Separation report

None.

Bibliography

Fiftieth Anniversary Typographical Union No 2. June 2, 1900. Philadelphia:
Philadelphia Typographical Union No.2, 1900.

Subjects

Collective bargaining – Printing industry
Labor – Legislation – United States
Labor-unions – Pennsylvania – Philadelphia
Labor-unions – Strikes and lockouts
Labor-management committees
Labor-unions – Printing industry
Printing industry – Pennsylvania – Philadelphia.
Tariff – Law and legislation.
Union labels.
United States. Labor Management Relations Act, 1947.

Baer, Frank W.
Bailey, John W.
Brown, M.C.
Burke, John F.
Chance, George
Childs, George William, 1829-1894
Clavert, Alfred D.
Dailey, James J.
Eckert, William B.
Evans, John T.
Flavin, James H.
Foster, William H.
Glaser, Jacob
Haldeman, John R.
Jones, Isaac N.
Knorr, George T.
Kreft, Ernst
McIntosh, Edward S.
Miles, Thomas B.
Muir, Sinclair L.
Murnane, Thomas
Neilson, William H.
Ostrander, Charles A.
Somers, Ira

Turner, William
Welsh, James
Yarnall, Theodore
Young, William

Allied Printing Trades Council.
Central Labor Union of Philadelphia and Vicinity.
International Typographical Union.
Journeymen Printer's Union (Philadelphia Pa.)
National Typographical Union (U.S.)
Philadelphia Junior Typographical Union.
Philadelphia Typographical Union 2 (Pa.)
Printing, Publishing, and Media Workers Sector of the CWA.
United Labor League (Philadelphia, Pa.)
Women's Auxiliary to Typographical Union 2

Administrative Information

Restrictions

None

Acquisition information

The collection was deposited by the Philadelphia Typographical Union No. 2 in 1978.

Alternative format

None

Preferred citation

Cite as: [Indicate cited item or series here], International Typographical Union, Local 2 (Philadelphia, Pa.) records (Collection 2076), The Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

Processing note

The majority of this collection came to the Historical Society of Pennsylvania in bound volumes. Conservation measures were taken to build custom fitted housings for the items. Some of these volumes were disbound and placed in acid free folders as a conservation measure. A large portion of the collection was treated for mold. In some cases the mold damage was so extensive a photomechanical reproduction was created to preserve the intellectual value of the documents while the originals were separated from the rest of the collection.

Processing made possible by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this finding aid do not necessarily reflect those of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Box and folder listing

Series 1. Minutes

Folder title	Date	Extent	Box	Folder
Business committee 1850-1861	August, 17 1850- December 15, 1861	Vol. 1		
Business committee 1880-1896	June 2, 1880-April 11, 1896	Vol. 2		
Executive committee 1901-1905	October 18, 1901-May 14, 1905	Vol. 3		
1853-1860	October 8, 1853- January 31, 1860	Vol. 4		
1860-1866	February 11, 1860- May 9, 1866	Vol. 5		
1866-1871	June 16, 1866- March 18, 1871	Vol. 6		
1871-1876	April, 15, 1871- September 13, 1876	Vol. 7		
1876-1881	September 16, 1876- October 8, 1881	Vol. 8		
1881-1887	October 15, 1881- June 19, 1887	Vol. 9		
1887-1889	July 17, 1887- March 16, 1889	Vol. 10		
1890-1892	April 20, 1890- November 20, 1892	Vol. 11		
1892-1896	December 18, 1892- May 27, 1896	Vol. 12		
1896-1901	June 21, 1896- September 21, 1901	Vol. 13		
1901-1905	October 19, 1901- November 20, 1905	Vol. 14		
1908-1929, 1949-1950	November 22, 1908- 1929, 1949-1950	Vol. 15		
1910-1914	June 10, 1910- December 20, 1914	Vol. 16		
1924-1927	January-March 1924	10 items	1	1
1924-1927	March-April 1924	10 items	1	2
1924-1927	May-June 1924	10 items	1	3
1924-1927	July-August 1924	10 items	1	4
1924-1927	August-October 1924	10 items	1	5
1924-1927	November 1924- January 1925	10 items	1	6
1924-1927	January-March 1925	10 items	1	7
1924-1927	April-May 1925	13 items	1	8

1924-1927	June-July 1925	7 items	1	9
1924-1927	August-October 1925	10 items	1	10
1924-1927	October-November 1925	10 items	1	11
1924-1927	December 1925-February 1926	13 items	1	12
1924-1927	March-April 1926	7 items	1	13
1924-1927	May-June 1926	10 items	1	14
1924-1927	June-July 1926	10 items	1	15
1924-1927	July-September 1926	10 items	1	16
1924-1927	October 1926	10 items	1	17
1924-1927	November-December 1926	10 items	1	18
1924-1927	January-February 1927	10 items	1	19
1924-1927	February-May 1927	10 items	1	20
1924-1927	May-June 1927	10 items	1	21
1924-1927	July-September 1927	12 items	1	22
1924-1927	October-December 1927	16 items	1	23
1928	January-May	25 items	1	24
1928	June-September	21 items	1	25
1928	October-December	15 items	1	26
1929	January-May	22 items	1	27
March 17, 1932-December 17, 1933	February-June 1932	17 items	1	28
March 17, 1932-December 17, 1933	June-November 1932	18 items	1	29
March 17, 1932-December 17, 1933	November 1932-February 1933	16 items	1	30
March 17, 1932-December 17, 1933	March-April 1933	14 items	1	31
March 17, 1932-December 17, 1933	April-June 1933	13 items	1	32
March 17, 1932-December 17, 1933	June-October 1933	19 items	1	33
March 17, 1932-December 17, 1933	October-December 1933	13 items	2	1
1934	January-March	21 items	2	2
1934	March-May	19 items	2	3
1934	May-July	16 items	2	4
1934	July-August	14 items	2	5
1934	September-October	13 items	2	6
1934	October-December	17 items	2	7
1935	January-February	26 items	2	8
1935	March-May	22 items	2	9

1935	May-June	19 items	2	10
1935	July-August	13 items	2	11
1935	August-October	16 items	2	12
1935	November-December	21 items	2	13
1936 Monthly bulletin	February-November	8 items	2	14
1936	January-February	13 items	2	15
1936	March-April	10 items	2	16
1936	April-May	16 items	2	17
1936	June	11 items	2	18
1936	July-August	19 items	2	19
1936	August-September	12 items	2	20
1936	October	12 items	2	21
1936	November	17 items	2	22
1936	November-December	18 items	2	23
1937 Monthly bulletin	January-December	12 items	2	24
1937	January-February	20 items	2	25
1937	February-April	15 items	3	1
1937	April-May	19 items	3	2
1937	May-June	9 items	3	3
1937	June-July	12 items	3	4
1937	July-August	9 items	3	5
1937	August	9 items	3	6
1937	September	11 items	3	7
1937	September-October	12 items	3	8
1937	October	11 items	3	9
1937	November	15 items	3	10
1937	December	14 items	3	11
1938	January	13 items	3	12
1938	February	17 items	3	13
1938	March	13 items	4	1
1938	April-May	11 items	4	2
1938	May-June	19 items	4	3
1938	July-August	9 items	4	4
1938	August-September	14 items	4	5
1938	September-October	15 items	4	6
1938	October-November	15 items	4	7
1938	December	16 items	4	8
1938 Monthly bulletin	January-December	10 items	4	9
1939	January-February	15 items	4	10
1939	February-March	18 items	4	11
1939	March	25 items	4	12

1939	April-May	26 items	4	13
1939	June-July	25 items	5	1
1939	August-September	26 items	5	2
1939	September-November	41 items	5	3
December 17, 1939- June 23, 1940	December 1939- January 1940	20 items	5	4
December 17, 1939- June 23, 1940	January-February 1940	22 items	5	5
December 17, 1939- June 23, 1940	February-March 1940	13 items	5	6
December 17, 1939- June 23, 1940	March-April 1940	31 items	5	7
December 17, 1939- June 23, 1940	May-June 1940	25 items	5	8
1940 Monthly bulletin	May-August 1940	4 items	5	9
1943	May-June	23 items	5	10
1943	July-August	17 items	5	11
1943	September-October	26 items	5	12
1943	November-December	20 items	5	13
1945	June-December	13 items	5	14
1946	January-March	13 items	5	15
1946	April-June	8 items	5	16
1946	September-December	6 items	5	17
1947	January-March	20 items	5	18
1947	April-June	36 items	6	1
1948	January-February	26 items	6	2
1948	March-May	47 items	6	3
1948	June-September	86 items	6	4
1948	October-December	19 items	6	5
1949	January-March	33 items	6	6
1949	April-June	20 items	6	7
1949	September-December	32 items	6	8
1950	January-February	24 items	6	9
1950	March-June	53 items	6	10
1950	August-December	39 items	6	11
1951	January-March	26 items	6	12
1951	April	29 items	6	13
1951	May-June	19 items	6	14

1951	July	8 items	6	15
1951	September	24 items	6	16
1951	September-October	28 items	6	17
1951	November-December	27 items	6	18
1952	January-February	33 items	6	19
1952	March-April	40 items	6	20
1952	May-June	22 items	6	21
1952	September-October	34 items	7	1
1952	November-December	28 items	7	2
1953	January-February	27 items	7	3
	<i>See Also: 1953, October</i>		7	
1953	March-April	47 items	7	4
	<i>See Also: 1953, October</i>		7	
1953	May	22 items	7	5
1953	May, Federation of Labor Annual Report	2 items	7	6
1953	June-July	13 items	7	7
1953	August-September	16 items	7	8
	<i>See Also: 1953, October</i>		7	
1953	October	17 items	7	9
	<i>See Also: 1953 January- February and March- April and August- September</i>		7	
1953	November-December	37 items	7	10
1954	January-February	28 items	7	11
1954	March-April	51 items	7	12
1954	May	21 items	7	13
1954	June	12 items	7	14
1954	August-September	10 items	7	15
1954	October-December	21 items	7	16
1955	January	15 items	7	17
1955	February-March	36 items	7	18
1955	April-May	18 items	7	19
1955	June	7 items	7	20
1955	September	11 items	7	21
1955	October	14 items	7	22
1955	November-December	15 items	7	23

1956	January-February	23 items	8	1
1956	March-April	20 items	8	2
1956	May-June	17 items	8	3
1956	September-October	26 items	8	4
1956	November-December	11 items	8	5
1957	January-February	18 items	8	6
1957	March-April	27 items	8	7
1957	May-June	13 items	8	8
1957	September-October	21 items	8	9
1957	November-December	19 items	8	10
1958	February-April	8 items	8	11
1958	May-June	24 items	8	12
1958	August-September	15 items	8	13
1958	October-November	21 items	8	14
1958	December	10 items	8	15
1959	January-February	11 items	8	16
1959	March-April	24 items	8	17
1959	May-June	31 items	8	18
1959	July-August	25 items	8	19
1959	September-October	31 items	8	20
1959	November-December	18 items	8	21
1960	January-February	29 items	8	22
1960	March-April	16 items	8	23
1960	May-July	25 items	8	24
1960	August-September	9 items	8	25
1961	January-February	18 items	8	26
1961	March-April	17 items	8	27
1961	May-June	16 items	8	28
1961	July-August	7 items	8	29
1961	September-October	22 items	8	30
1961	November-December	29 items	9	1
1962	January-February	18 items	9	2
1962	March-April	17 items	9	3
1962	May-June	21 items	9	4
1962	July-September	15 items	9	5
1962	October-December	34 items	9	6
1963	March	2 items	9	7

1964	March	12 items	9	8
1964	April-May	26 items	9	9
1964	June-July	22 items	9	10
1964	September-October	19 items	9	11
1964	November-December	22 items	9	12
1965	January-February	31 items	9	13
1965	March-April	15 items	9	14
1965	May-June	33 items	9	15
1965	July-August	9 items	9	16
1965	September	14 items	9	17
1966, 1967	December 1966- January 1967	4 items	9	18
Oversize: <u>The Times</u>	September 21 & 28, 1890	2 items	9	19
Oversize: <u>The Call</u>	November 28, 1890	1 item	9	20
Oversize: <u>The News</u>	July 3, 1891	3 items	9	21
Oversize: <u>Public Ledger</u>	February 6, 1894	1 item	9	22
Oversize: <u>Philadelphia Record</u>	September 8, 1943	1 item	9	23

Series 2. Additional materials

Folder title	Date	Extent	Box	Folder
Receipt Book	August 21, 1850- July 1858	Vol. 17		
Constitution – Philadelphia Typographical Union No.2	1850-1909	Vol. 18		
Membership Book	1854-1865	Vol. 19		
Constitution & By-Laws of the Philadelphia Typographical Union No.2	1870	1 item	9	24
Fiftieth Anniversary Typographical Union No. 2	June 2, 1900	Vol. 20		
International Typographical Union Convention 64 th Session	August 12-17, 1918	Vol. 21		
71 st Convention International Typographical Union	September 13- 18, 1926	Vol. 22		

UEA Typographical Joint Welfare Fund Health Benefits Program	Ca. 1950	1 item	9	25
Ephemera		2 items	9	26