

COLLEEN TOPPINGS BOURKE COLLECTION

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prepared by Robert Gore, August, 1978



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Display - British Columbia Archival Union List (BCAUL)

Provenance: Bourke, Colleen Toppings, collector
Title: Labour research collection
Dates: [ca. 1964, 1967]
Physical desc.: 6 cm of textual records
Bio/Admin History: Colleen Bourke was Communications Director, Centre for Continuing Education at the University of British Columbia.
Scope/Content: The collection consists of typescript interviews relating to British Columbia labour history and labour education conducted by Colleen Toppings and Paul Phillips in 1964. Also includes typescripts of Paul Phillips' "No Power Greater - A Century of Labour in B.C." (1967) and press clippings discussing the interview project.
Title source: Title based on the contents of the collection.
Finding aids: Inventory available.
Repository: University of British Columbia Library Rare Books and Special Collections
Names: Phillips, Paul

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COLLEEN BOURKE COLLECTION

INTRODUCTION

The collections consists mainly of transcripts of interviews relating to labour history and labour education in British Columbia conducted by Colleen Toppings and Paul Phillips in the fall of 1964. Some of them were used in the radio programme, CBC Saturday Evening. R. Brodie compiled research material by recording references of interest to the project from various newspapers (B.C. Federationist, Ladysmith Chronicle, Nanaimo Free Press, Vancouver Province, and Victoria Colonist) and William Bennett's, Builders of British Columbia and transcribing the commentaries to typescript. A typescript of Paul Phillip's No Power Greater, A Century of Labour in British Columbia (HR HD 6529 B75 P45 1967) includes a bibliography that is not available in the published text.

Folder No.SeriesDatesINTERVIEWS

The interviewers are Colleen Toppings (now Colleen Burke) and Paul Phillips. The transcripts consist of description of union activities. Discussed are formation and break-up of unions, strikes, riots, political feelings and influences, working and living conditions, etc. The union activities discussed generally concern Vancouver, but there is a good deal of reference to union activity elsewhere.

- 1-1 Cross, CBC Saturday Evening n.d. (c.1964)
 Interviewed by Colleen Toppings
 Subject: His life; the Depression (work camps, etc); his involvement with unions; formation and strengthening of unions; riots of the unemployed (in Vancouver; communist influence (supposed); etc.
- Henderson, Jack CBC Saturday Evening (1964)
 Interviewed by Colleen Toppings
 Subject: Amalgamated society of Railway Servants; conditions in Great Britain (c. 1900); labour conditions in Canada (c.1907); IWW; labour camps; public feeling against oriental people - danger of riots; politics; unemployment (1930's); relief camps; labor in the 1960's, etc.
- McEwan, Tom program unknown Nov. 10, 1964
 Interviewer undetermined
 Subject: various unions; history (Vancouver, B.C. and national); activities in 1930's, 40's, 50's; etc. including his activities within Workers Unity League.
- McNeil, Grant CBC Saturday Evening (1964)
 Interviewed by Colleen Toppings
 Subject: formation of IWW - policies, aims, etc.; political tendencies of the IWW; the Wagner Act; exclusion of orientals form unions; Winnipeg General Strike; influence of the Russian Revolution; social pressure on unions; the International Woodworkers of America, etc.
- Neelands, H. program unknown (1964)
 Interviewer undetermined
 Subject: working condition in the printing trades; standard of living; labour relations 1910-1920; politics 1910-1920, OBU, etc.
- Pritchard, Chris program unknown (1964)
 Interviewer undetermined
 Subject: Winnipeg General Strike; 1927 Vancouver Construction industry strike; history of the Plumber's Union; relations with international unions; B.C. Federation of Labour; other unions, etc.

<u>Folder No.</u>	<u>Series</u>	<u>Dates</u>
1-2	Reece, Dave program unknown Interviewed by Paul Phillips Subject: labour conditions 1907; United Mine Workers; Western Federation of Miners; 1911 strike; blacklists; union involvement in politics.	Nov. 9, 1964
	Smeale CBC Saturday Evening Interviewed by Colleen Toppings Subject: Trip from Vancouver to Regina, 1935; Regina riot; Vancouver sit in - Hotel Georgia; Post Office sit in; public reaction; conditions for the unemployed (1930's); union organization; etc.	(1964)
	Stevens, H.H. CBC Saturday Evening Interviewed by Colleen Toppings Subject: life history; first clerk's union - Vancouver; member of parliament; feelings towards oriental - Kamagata Mara incident; riots; unemployment insurance; more union history; etc. including mining life in Rossland, Phoenix, and the Western Federation of Miners.	(1964)
	Stewart, Bill CBC Saturday Evening Interviewed By Colleen Toppings Subject: 1930's - union organization; CIO; steps toward one big union in craft industry; U.S.- Canada union relations; violence; union militancy - then and now; etc.	(1964)
	Turner, Arthur Interviewed by Colleen Toppings Subject: 1920's - political influence in unions; relations between Canadian unions - east and west; militancy; political influence of working force; Knights of Labour; OBU; IWW; AFL; etc.	
	Walker, Les program unidentified Interviewed by Paul Phillips Subject: Working conditions, living standards, 1910-1940; WFM, OBU, unions - CPR railroad working conditions, 1910- 1940; political leanings of union men - influence; break-up and formation of various unions; including much material relating to the Kootenays, mining and politics.	July 29, 1964

RESEARCH MATERIAL

Typescript of tapes prepared by R. Brodie containing references to newspapers, 1903-1938. Included are articles and correspondence taken directly from the newspapers. Also included are commentaries and brief summaries of single articles or a whole series of articles. Following is a list of the newspapers and approximate dates:

1-3 Tape #1
 from the B.C. Ferationist, 1918
 from the Vancouver Province, 1918 & 1938
 from the Victoria Colonist, 1960 (pg. 13)
 from Builders of B.C. by William Bennett

<u>Folder No.</u>	<u>Series</u>	<u>Dates</u>
1-3 cont.	Tape #2 from the Vancouver Province, May - June, 1918 from <u>Builders of B.C.</u> by William Bennett from <u>IWW</u> by Hall Brissenden	
	Tape #3 from the B.C. Federationist, 1911 - 1912	
1-4	Tape #4 from the B.C. Federationist, November 1912 - October 1913	
	Tape #5 from the B.C. Federationist, November 1919 - January 1920	
	Tape #6 from the Ladysmith Chronicle, August 1912 - March 1914 from the Nanaimo Free Press, April 16, 1934 (history - chronological - of coal mining in B.C.) from the Nanaimo Free Press, July - September, 1918; September 1912 Brief history (to 1905) of the labour movement in B.C. 3 pages, n.d.	
<u>MANUSCRIPTS: BOOK</u>		
1-5	Typescript of Paul Phillips, <u>No Power Greater, A Century of Labour in B.C.</u> entitled, <u>History of the British Columbia Labour Movement.</u>	
	Chapters 1-8	214 pgs.
	Post Script	9 pgs.
	Bibliography	5 pgs.
	Note: The bibliography is not contained in the published book.	
1-6	Photograph A photograph of delegates attending a B.C. District Union Convention, C.I.O.-I.U.M.M. and S.W., ca 1941-45	