Guide to the Austin Lewis Papers, 1913-1944

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Note
History --History, California --General Social Sciences --Political Science --General Social Sciences --Law
Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: The Bancroft Library
Title: Austin Lewis Papers,
creator: Lewis, Austin, 1865?-1944
Identifier/Call Number: BANC MSS C-B 467
Physical Description: 5.5 linear feet (4 cartons, 1 box)
Date (inclusive): 1909-1944
Abstract: Relating primarily to his interest in civil liberties, to various causes including efforts to free Tom Mooney and Warren Billings and to repeal California's criminal syndicalism law, and to his legal career. Includes correspondence, MSS of his writings and lectures, legal files, and clippings.
Language of Material: English
For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the Library's online catalog.
Access
Collection is open for research.
Biographical Sketch
Austin Lewis was a lecturer, writer and attorney with law offices in San Francisco and Oakland. He devoted his career to so-called radical causes, such as the pardon of Tom Mooney and Warren K. Billings and the repeal of California's criminal syndicalism law, and to defense of civil liberties in general, usually involving persons with little or no money. He helped organize the Northern California Branch of the American Civil Liberties Union and served as its counsel and on the Advisory Committee.
Scope and Content
The papers relate mainly to his career. The bulk of them were given to The Bancroft Library in 1952 by Saxon A. Lewis and Mrs. Ralph H. Sliter. Some additional correspondence came from Mrs. Mary H. Hutchinson in 1965.
A key to arrangement follows.
Preferred Citation
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Subjects and Indexing Terms
Labor -- California
Lewis, Austin, 1865?-1944
Civil rights.
Legal documents -- California.
Lawyers -- California.
Labor movement -- California.
Labor unions and socialism -- California.
[List of Correspondents]

Series 1. Correspondence
Guides to the Austin Lewis Papers, 1913-1944

Series 1. Correspondence

box 1

Letters written by Lewis, 1913-1944

Scope and Contents

Letters dated 1913 to 1934 are typed copies written mainly to Roger N. Baldwin relating
to legal cases involving civil rights and efforts to free Mooney and Billings. Those from
1938 to 1944 are originals written to Mary E. Bulkley and comment on international
events, literature, friends, his health, etc.

box 1

Letters written to Lewis

Arrangement

Arranged alphabetically by name of person or organization. A partial list of correspondents follows the key to arrangement. Unlisted letters are arranged alphabetically in a miscellany at the end of the file.

Series 2. Manuscripts of Lewis' writings

Arrangement

Arranged alphabetically.

Carton 1

American Labor and the Crisis
Carton 1

The Basis of Solidarity
Carton 1

Bibliography of Poverty
Carton 1

Centralization and Decentralization
Carton 1

The Chalice of St. John (fiction)
Carton 1

The Citizen and Social Planning
Carton 1

Education and the Working Class
Carton 1

Effects of Breaking Regulations of Hours, etc.
Carton 1

German Militarism Under Hitler
Carton 1

Huey Long and His Background
Carton 1

Inflation and the Worker
Carton 1

Labor is a Commodity
Carton 1

Liberalism
Carton 1

Mexico and U.S.
Carton 1

The National Disgrace - Child Labor
Carton 1

[Poetry]
Carton 1

Social Credit
Carton 1

Some Matters of Law in Persecutions under Criminal Syndicalist Law of California
Carton 1

Syndicalism and Political Socialism
Carton 1

Syndicalism and Poverty
Carton 1

The University and the Working Class
Carton 1

What Happened to Quincy
Carton 1

What is Syndicalism?
Carton 1

The World Turned Upside-Down
Carton 1

Miscellaneous

Series 3. Clippings of Lewis’ writings

General

Published mainly in New Review.

Arranged alphabetically.

Carton 1

The A.F. of L. Convention
Carton 1

The Basis of Solidarity
Carton 1

Company Owned Towns in California

General

Incomplete.

Carton 1

The Mechanics of Solidarity
### Series 3. Clippings of Lewis' writings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Carton 1</th>
<th><strong>Movements of Migratory Unskilled Labor in California</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Incomplete.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Carton 1</th>
<th><strong>Organization of the Unskilled</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Incomplete.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Carton 1</th>
<th><strong>Potential Solidarity</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Carton 1</th>
<th><strong>Solidarity and Scabbing</strong></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Carton 1</th>
<th><strong>Solidarity - Merely a Word?</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Carton 1 | **Syndicalism and Mass Action** |
|----------|---------------------------------
|          | General                          |
|          | Incomplete.                      |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Carton 1</th>
<th><strong>War and Public Opinion</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>What Is Syndicalism?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Series 4. Manuscripts of lectures by Lewis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Carton 1</th>
<th><strong>The Coming Struggle for Power</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Contemporary Political Theory</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Labor Organization in the United States</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Marx and Marxism</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Miscellaneous</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Series 5. Notes

Scope and Contents
- Mainly excerpts from books and articles re economics, labor movements, philosophy, politics, etc.

### Series 6. Manuscripts of writings by others

Scope and Contents
- Typescripts, arranged alphabetically by name of author.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Carton 1</th>
<th><strong>Flynn, Elizabeth Gurley, Sabotage</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Lewis, Saxon A., Law of Conspiracy and Combinations of Labor in Great Britain and the United States</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Rorty, James, The Pretensions of American Poetry</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Scharrenberg, Paul, Minority Report - Wheatland Hop-field Riot Investigation</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Series 7. American Civil Liberties Union. Northern California Advisory Committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Carton 1</th>
<th><strong>Financial statements, June -Aug. 1935</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Reports to the director, Jan. -Mar. 1935</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Minutes of meetings, Jan. -Apr. 1935</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>By-laws and miscellaneous Papers</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Pledge cards (signed)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Miscellaneous publications</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Series 8. Committees, national and state, concerned with efforts to free Mooney and Billings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Carton 1</th>
<th><strong>Miscellaneous form letters, etc.</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Series 9. Labor Defense League of California

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Carton 1</th>
<th><strong>Miscellaneous papers</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Series 10. Pamphlets and miscellany
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Carton</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Assorted pamphlets regarding equal rights for women, labor unions, syndicalism, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Miscellany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Legal files</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Carton</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Charles Alden vs. Pacific Coast Lumber and Mill Company 1909</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Lawsuit to recover damages, industrial accident.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Gerda Bensen vs. Carl Bensen 1911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Dissolution of marriage.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Paul Hartman vs. Kate L. Cassity 1912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Land ownership dispute.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Hugo, Gustav V. approximately 1913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Articles of co-partnership.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Kintner vs. Southern Pacific</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Automobile accident.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>People vs. Richard &quot;Blackie&quot; Ford and H.D. Suhr (trial transcripts) 1914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 volumes of transcripts from the 1914 trial (in Marysville, California) of Richard &quot;Blackie&quot; Ford and H.D. Suhr, who were tried for second degree murder of District Attorney E.T. Manwell during the 1913 Wheatland Hop Riot at the Durst Ranch in Wheatland, California.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>People vs. Emil Madsam 1921</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Arson case. Incomplete.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>People vs. Welton, Casey, Dunn, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Violation of criminal syndicalism law. Incomplete.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>People vs. James J. Wieller 1921</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Violation of criminal syndicalism law. Incomplete.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Rockledge Resilient Spring Company 1917</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Incorporation and patent papers.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Walter Skrocki vs. H.F. Stahl and F.J. McGettigan 1909</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Slander case.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Series 11. Legal files

Transcripts of court proceedings in cases involving civil liberties

General
Lewis was attorney in some of the cases.

Series 12. Newspaper clippings

Scope and Contents
Lewis' folder titles, arranged alphabetically as follows:

Carton 4
Abyssinia
Carton 4
Behind literary London
Carton 4
C.I.O.
Carton 4
Communism
Carton 4
Contemporary politics
Carton 4
Economic nationalism
Carton 4
Economics
Carton 4
Fascism
Carton 4
Fascism, America
Carton 4
Foreign
Carton 4
Free speech
Carton 4
Isolation
Carton 4
Labor
Carton 4
Labor, American - history
Carton 4
Labor and N.R.A.
Carton 4
Left deviation
Carton 4
Liberalism
Carton 4
Liberals
Carton 4
Mexico
Carton 4
Middle class
Carton 4
Mooney case
Carton 4
N.R.A.
Carton 4
Revolutionary parties
Carton 4
Right and left
Carton 4
Russia
Carton 4
Social credit
Carton 4
Socialism
Carton 4
Socialism, etc.
Carton 4
Wells [H. G.] on America
Carton 4
Miscellaneous
Carton 4
Scrapbook

Scope and Contents
Clippings concerning civil liberties, world conditions, etc. Includes postcard written by John D. Barry and a letter written by Alice L. Park.