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## **Guide to the John Janosco United Packinghouse Workers of America (UPWA) Collection**

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**Contributing Institution:** Special Collections & Archives

**Title:** John Janosco United Packinghouse Workers of America (UPWA) Collection

**Creator:** Janosco, John

**Identifier/Call Number:** URB.JJ

**Extent:** 2.00 linear feet

**Date (inclusive):** 1908-1973

**Abstract:** John Janosco was a West Coast Representative for the United Packinghouse Workers of America (UPWA) from 1949-1960. His area of coverage included California, Oregon, Washington, and Arizona. Janosco through most of his life was an active participant in the labor movement. Records included in this collection document Janosco's activities as UPWA West Coast Representative and include weekly field reports, correspondence with union locals, and photographs.

**Language of Material:** English

**Biographical Information:**

John Janosco was a West Coast Representative for the United Packinghouse Workers of America from 1949-1960. His area of coverage included California, Oregon, Washington, and Arizona. Janosco through most of his life was an active participant in the labor movement. He began his labor involvement as a rank and file member of the Furniture Workers Union (FWU), Local 1859 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He also served as the local's financial secretary and business representative from 1936 to 1944. After a dispute over Janosco's strong disapproval of the Minneapolis local of the Teamsters' International, which was responsible for raiding the Furniture Workers Union, Local 1859, Janosco was suspended. Eventually he left the Local for private work.

His next involvement with union activities was with the United Packinghouse Workers of America when he became their West Coast Representative in 1949, a post he served in for ten years. During his time with UPWA, Janosco served as the field representative for District 4 and worked closely with local unions and their members. He taught classes on collective bargaining and enforcement of labor contracts for officers and stewards. He also was involved with arranging grievance cases for presentation before the National Labor Relations Board's Unemployment Division, and other governmental departments. His most prominent labor activities involved negotiating with employers for local union contracts, working out wage scales and working conditions for various packinghouse plants and industries.

In 1957, Janosco made frontpage news when he was charged for subversive activities under the McCarran-Walter Act. He was the first person to be charged under the Act for suspicion that he belonged to the Socialist Workers Party. As part of the indictment Janosco was charged with attempting to overthrow the government of the United States by the use of force and violence. Deportation proceedings by the Immigration and Naturalization Service to his native Hungary began in 1957. After several months, Janosco was acquitted of all charges based on the lack of evidence.

Janosco remained with the UPWA as a field representative until 1960 when he ran for the post of District Director during the UPWA International Convention against Joe Ollman, Administrator of Local 667. Ollman had warned Janosco prior to the election not to run against him. After the election, winner Ollman terminated Janosco's employment with UPWA.

After leaving the UPWA, Janosco worked as a custodian for the Los Angeles Unified School District until his retirement. Janosco passed away in 1973.

**Scope and Contents**

The *John Janosco United Packinghouse Workers of America (UPWA) Collection* documents his activities as UPWA West Coast Representative. The collection includes weekly field reports, correspondence with union locals, and photographs. A small amount of correspondence and union bulletins document his previous membership in the Furniture Workers Union in Minnesota. Papers in the collection document through newspaper clippings, court proceedings, and immigration documents the attempt to charge Janosco with subversive activities. Tax records, paycheck stubs and performance of evaluation records document Janosco's employment with UPWA and the Los Angeles Unified School District. The collection also contains correspondence between Janosco and his brother, Peter. It has been divided into four series: **UPWA, Minnesota** (1947-1961), **UPWA Weekly Field Reports** (1951-1960), **Personal and Family Documents** (1908-1973), and **Non-Manuscript Material** (1911-1965).

Series I, **UPWA, Minnesota**, consists of information linked to Janosco's work with United Packinghouse Workers of America Local Union #4, which includes credentials, correspondence for nomination and a withdraw transfer certificate.

Series II, **UPWA Weekly Field Report**, consists of information related to John Janosco's work as a United Packinghouse Workers of America representative. The reports are categorized by year.

Series III, **Personal and Family Documents**, consists of several documents that include income taxes, property taxes, employment applications, personal receipts, court proceedings, newspaper clippings and correspondence.

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Series IV, **Non-Manuscript Material**, includes ephemera, photographs, and oversized newspaper clippings. Ephemera includes several medals and delegate pins associated with John Janosco's work under the UPWA and personal medals. The 24 photographs are comprised of union conventions and several union meetings in which John Janosco participated. Oversize newspaper clippings deal primarily with John Janosco deportation case.

**Arrangement of Materials:**

Series I: UPWA, Minnesota, 1941-1961

Series II: UPWA Weekly Field Reports, 1951-1960

Series III: Personal and Family Documents, 1908-1973

Series IV: Non-Manuscript Material, 1911-1965

**Conditions Governing Access:**

The collection is open for research use.

**Conditions Governing Use:**

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**Immediate Source of Acquisition**

Steve Dakota, 2006

**Preferred Citation:**

For information about citing items in this collection consult the appropriate style manual, or see the [Citing Archival Materials](#) guide.

**Processing Information:**

Robert G. Marshall, Abraham Barragan; 2006

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**

Documents

Photographs

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**Series I: UPWA, Minnesota, 1947-1961**

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|-----------------|---|
| Box 1, Folder 1 | <b>United Packinghouse Workers of America (UWPA) - District Council: Credentials, 1949 July 7</b>                           |
| Box 1, Folder 2 | <b>United Packinghouse Workers of America (UWPA) - Local 4: Correspondence regarding Nominations for Office, 1947, 1948</b> |
| Box 1, Folder 3 | <b>United Packinghouse Workers of America (UWPA) - Local 4: Personnel Record</b>  |
| Box 1, Folder 4 | <b>United Packinghouse Workers of America (UWPA) - Local 4: Withdrawal or Transfer Certificate, 1961 February 14</b>        |

**Series II: UPWA Weekly Field Reports, 1951-1960**

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|------------------|---|
| Box 1, Folder 5  | <b>Field Staff: Weekly Reports and Expense Statements, 1950 March 25-December 30</b>  |
| Box 1, Folder 6  | <b>Field Staff: Weekly Reports and Expense Statements, 1951 January 13-December 29</b>  |
| Box 1, Folder 7  | <b>Field Staff: Weekly Reports, 1952 January 12-December 27</b>   |
| Box 1, Folder 8  | <b>Field Staff: Weekly Reports, 1953 January 3-December 26</b>  |
| Box 1, Folder 9  | <b>Field Staff: Weekly Reports and Expense Statements, 1954 January 2-December 25</b>   |
| Box 1, Folder 10 | <b>Field Staff: Weekly Reports, 1955 January 1-December 31</b>  |
| Box 1, Folder 11 | <b>Field Staff: Weekly Reports, 1956 January 7-December 29</b>  |
| Box 1, Folder 12 | <b>Field Staff: Weekly Reports, 1957 January 5-December 30</b>  |
| Box 1, Folder 13 | <b>Field Staff: Weekly Reports, 1954 January 4-1958 April 5</b>   |
| Box 1, Folder 14 | <b>Field Staff: Weekly Reports, 1959 December 12-26</b>   |
| Box 1, Folder 15 | <b>Field Staff: Weekly Reports, 1960 April 9-May 28</b>   |
| Box 1, Folder 16 | <b>United Packinghouse Workers of America (UPWA), West Coast - Elections: Statement by John Janosco regarding Termination, ca. 1960</b> |

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Box 1, Folder 17	<b>United Packinghouse Workers of America (UPWA), West Coast - Industrial Commission of Arizona State Labor Department: Correspondence regarding Judith Ann Janosco, 1960 August 5-1961 September 22</b> <b>Series III: Personal and Family Documents, 1909-1973</b>
Box 1, Folder 18	<b>Deportation Case: Correspondence with Former Employers, 1942 September 28-1959 October 5</b>
Box 1, Folder 19	<b>Deportation Case: Deportation Proceedings, 1957 March 29</b>
Box 1, Folder 20	<b>Deportation Case: Deportation Proceedings, 1957 June 10</b>
Box 1, Folder 21	<b>Deportation Case: Deportation Proceedings, 1957 June 11</b>
Box 1, Folder 22	<b>Deportation Case: Deportation Proceedings, 1957 June 12</b>
Box 2, Folder 1	<b>Deportation Case: Newspaper Clippings, 1957 April 23-1958 March 5</b>
Box 2, Folder 2	<b>Furniture Workers Union, Local 1859 and Upholsterers' International Union of North America, American Federation of Labor (AFL): Furlough Documents, 1942</b>
Box 2, Folder 3	<b>Janosco, Peter (Brother): Correspondence, 1961 October 12-1971 August 29</b>
Box 2, Folder 4	<b>Janosco, Peter (Father): Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) Declaration of Intention (Photostat), 1908</b>
Box 2, Folder 5	<b>Los Angeles City Schools: Letters of Sympathy from School Children to Mrs. Janosco regarding John Janosco Passing, 1973 April 19</b>
Box 2, Folder 6	<b>Personal: Application for Employment, 1944 June 30, March 1961</b>
Box 2, Folder 7	<b>Personal: Bills and Receipts, 1942-1959</b>
Box 2, Folder 8	<b>Personal: Immigration Documents, 1941-1959</b>
Box 2, Folder 9	<b>Personal: Income Tax Audit Changes and Withholding Tax Statements, 1955-1964</b>
Box 2, Folder 10	<b>Personal: Income Taxes, 1937-1949</b>
Box 2, Folder 11	<b>Personal: Property Taxes, 1943-1952</b>
Box 2, Folder 12	<b>Personal: Income Taxes, 1946-1957</b>
	<b>Series IV: Non-Manuscript Material, 1911-1959</b>
Box 3, Folder 1	<b>Deportation Case: Press Release regarding Deportation Proceedings, 1957</b>
Box 3, Folder 2	<b>Los Angeles City Schools: Performance Evaluations, 1962-1967</b>
Box 4, Item 1	<b>Pin and Ribbon: Gr. Kat. Russki Sokol, Cislo 37. V Sojedineniju, Odelenue Sokoloch, Zalozeno April 2, 1911 Minneapolis, Minnesota, 1911</b>
Box 4, Item 2	<b>Delegate Pin and Ribbon: 35th Convention, Minnesota State Federation of Labor, Hibbing, 1937 September 20-22</b>
Box 4, Item 3	<b>Medal: 1940 Golden Anniversary Convention, Minnesota State Federation of Labor, St. Paul, 1940</b>
Box 4, Item 4	<b>Delegate Pin and Medal: Golden Anniversary, Upholsters International Union, Chicago, 1948 June 12</b>
Box 4, Item 5	<b>Delegate Pin: 61st Convention, Minnesota State Federation of Labor, Minneapolis, Floy B. Olson Memorial, 1943</b>
Box 4, Item 6	<b>Delegate Pin and Ribbon 23rd Biennial Convention, Upholsterers International Union, Philadelphia, 1944</b>
Box 4, Item 7	<b>Pin 9th Constitutional Convention, Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) Minnesota State Council, Duluth, 1946 November 1-3</b>
Box 4, Item 8	<b>Badge. 10th Constitutional Convention, Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) Minnesota State Council. Hibbing, Memorial Building, 1947 October 31-November</b>
Box 4, Item 9	<b>Delegate Pin and Ribbon: 5th Constitutional Convention, United Packinghouse Workers of America, CIO, Boston, Massachusetts, 1948 April 5-8</b>
Box 4, Item 10	<b>Delegate Pin and Ribbon: 11th Constitutional Convention, Minnesota State Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) Council, Winona, 1948 December 11-12</b>
Box 4, Item 11	<b>Guest Pin and Ribbon: 12th Constitutional Convention, United Packinghouse Workers of America (UPWA) St. Paul, 1949 September 9-11</b>
Box 4, Item 12	<b>Guest Pin and Ribbon: 7th National Constitutional Convention, United Packinghouse Workers of America (UPWA), Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO), Minneapolis, 1950 May 25-29</b>
Box 4, Item 13	<b>Guest Pin and Ribbon: 2nd Annual Convention, California Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) Council, San Francisco, 1951 July 26-29</b>

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Box 4, Item 14	<b>Guest Pin and Ribbon: 8th Constitutional Convention, United Packinghouse Workers of America (UPWA), Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) Cosmopolitan Hotel, Denver Colorado</b>
Box 4, Item 15	<b>Delegate Pin and Ribbon 4th Annual Convention, California Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) Council, San Diego, California, 1953 November</b>
Box 4, Item 16	<b>Guest Pin and Ribbon: 9th Constitutional Convention, United Packinghouse Workers of America (UPWA) Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO), Sioux City, 1954 May 3-7</b>
Box 4, Item 17	<b>Delegate Pin and Ribbon: 10th Constitutional Convention, United Packinghouse Workers of America (UPWA), American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO), Cincinnati Music Hall, 1956 June 18-22</b>
Box 4, Item 18	<b>Delegate Pin and Ribbon: Convention, California Industrial Union Council and California Congress of Industrial Organizations CIO-COPE, San Francisco, December 1958</b>
Box 4, Item 19	<b>Delegate Pin and Ribbon: 57th Convention, Minnesota State Federation of Labor Duluth, 1959 September 11-13</b>
Box 4, Item 20	<b>Delegate Pin and Medal: 1st Annual Convention, California Labor Federation, American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO), 1958</b>
Box 4, Item 21	<b>Pin: I Am A Member of U.P.W.A. CIO Are You</b>
Box 4, Item 22	<b>Pin: United Packinghouse Workers of America, Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO)</b>
Box 4, Item 23	<b>Pin: United Packinghouse Workers of America, American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO)</b>
Folder 1	<b>Oversize Newspaper Clippings, 1942-1968</b>
Box 5, Item 1	<b>Photographic Material: California Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) Council - 2nd &amp; 4th Annual Convention (CIO), 1951, 1953</b>
Box 5, Item 2	<b>Photographic Material: John Janosco - Union Speech</b>
Box 5, Item 3	<b>Photographic Material: Portrait of John Janosco, 1965</b>
Box 5, Item 4	<b>Photographic Material: Santa Barbara - United Packinghouse Workers of America (UPWA) Political Action Committee, 1954</b>
Box 5, Item 5	<b>Photographic Material: Upholsterers' International Union of North America, American Federation of Labor (AFL UIU) - 23rd Biennial Convention, 1944</b>
Box 5, Item 6	<b>Photographic Material: United Packinghouse Workers of America - West Coast - Group Pictures</b>
Box 5, Item 7	<b>Photographic Material: United Packinghouse Workers of America - West Coast - Union Convention, 1954, 1956</b>
Box 5, Item 8	<b>Photographic Material: United Packinghouse Workers of America - West Coast - Union Dinner</b>
Box 5, Item 9	<b>Photographic Material: United Packinghouse Workers of America - West Coast - Union Meetings</b>
Box 5, Item 10	<b>Photographic Material: United Packinghouse Workers of America - West Coast - Union Meetings: Group Pictures</b>
Box 5, Item 11	<b>Photographic Material: United Packinghouse Workers of America - West Coast - Union Negotiations, 1960</b>
Box 5, Item 12	<b>Photographic Material: United Packinghouse Workers of America - West Coast - Union Negotiations</b>