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

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Language of Material: English
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.

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

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

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

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

Box 1, Folder 17
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

Series III: Personal and Family Documents, 1909-1973

Box 1, Folder 18
Deportation Case: Correspondence with Former Employers, 1942 September 28-1959 October 5

Box 1, Folder 19
Deportation Case: Deportation Proceedings, 1957 March 29

Box 1, Folder 20
Deportation Case: Deportation Proceedings, 1957 June 10

Box 1, Folder 21
Deportation Case: Deportation Proceedings, 1957 June 11

Box 1, Folder 22
Deportation Case: Deportation Proceedings, 1957 June 12

Box 2, Folder 1
Furniture Workers Union, Local 1859 and Upholsterers’ International Union of North America, American Federation of Labor (AFL): Furlough Documents, 1942

Box 2, Folder 3
Janosco, Peter (Brother): Correspondence, 1961 October 12-1971 August 29

Box 2, Folder 4
Janosco, Peter (Father): Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) Declaration of Intention (Photostat), 1908

Box 2, Folder 5
Los Angeles City Schools: Letters of Sympathy from School Children to Mrs. Janosco regarding John Janosco Passing, 1973 April 19

Box 2, Folder 6
Personal: Application for Employment, 1944 June 30, March 1961

Box 2, Folder 7
Personal: Bills and Receipts, 1942-1959

Box 2, Folder 8
Personal: Immigration Documents, 1941-1959

Box 2, Folder 9

Box 2, Folder 10
Personal: Income Taxes, 1937-1949

Box 2, Folder 11
Personal: Property Taxes, 1943-1952

Box 2, Folder 12
Personal: Income Taxes, 1946-1957

Series IV: Non-Manuscript Material, 1911-1959

Box 3, Folder 1
Deportation Case: Press Release regarding Deportation Proceedings, 1957

Box 3, Folder 2

Box 4, Item 1
Pin and Ribbon: Gr. Kat. Russki Sokol, Cislo 37. V Sojedineniju, Odeleneul Sokoloch, Zalozeno April 2, 1911 Minneapolis, Minnesota, 1911

Box 4, Item 2
Delegate Pin and Ribbon: 35th Convention, Minnesota State Federation of Labor, Hibbing, 1937 September 20-22

Box 4, Item 3
Medal: 1940 Golden Anniversary Convention, Minnesota State Federation of Labor, St. Paul, 1940

Box 4, Item 4
Delegate Pin and Medal: Golden Anniversary, Upholsters International Union, Chicago, 1948 June 12

Box 4, Item 5
Delegate Pin: 61st Convention, Minnesota State Federation of Labor, Minneapolis, Floy B. Olson Memorial, 1943

Box 4, Item 6
Delegate Pin and Ribbon 23rd Biennial Convention, Upholsterers International Union, Philadelphia, 1944

Box 4, Item 7
Pin 9th Constitutional Convention, Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) Minnesota State Council, Duluth, 1946 November 1-3

Box 4, Item 8
Badge. 10th Constitutional Convention, Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) Minnesota State Council. Hibbing, Memorial Building, 1947 October 31-November

Box 4, Item 9
Delegate Pin and Ribbon: 5th Constitutional Convention, United Packinghouse Workers of America, CIO, Boston, Massachusetts, 1948 April 5-8

Box 4, Item 10
Delegate Pin and Ribbon: 11th Constitutional Convention, Minnesota State Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) Council, Winona, 1948 December 11-12

Box 4, Item 11
Guest Pin and Ribbon: 12th Constitutional Convention, United Packinghouse Workers of America (UPWA) St. Paul, 1949 September 9-11

Box 4, Item 12
Guest Pin and Ribbon: 7th National Constitutional Convention, United Packinghouse Workers of America (UPWA), Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO), Minneapolis, 1950 May 25-29
| Box 4, Item 13 | Guest Pin and Ribbon: 2nd Annual Convention, California Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) Council, San Francisco, 1951 July 26-29 |
| Box 4, Item 14 | Guest Pin and Ribbon: 8th Constitutional Convention, United Packinghouse Workers of America (UPWA), Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) Cosmopolitan Hotel, Denver Colorado |
| Box 4, Item 15 | Delegate Pin and Ribbon 4th Annual Convention, California Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) Council, San Diego, California, 1953 November |
| Box 4, Item 16 | Guest Pin and Ribbon: 9th Constitutional Convention, United Packinghouse Workers of America (UPWA) Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO), Sioux City, 1954 May 3-7 |
| Box 4, Item 17 | 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 |
| Box 4, Item 18 | Delegate Pin and Ribbon: Convention, California Industrial Union Council and California Congress of Industrial Organizations CIO-COPE, San Francisco, December 1958 |
| Box 4, Item 19 | Delegate Pin and Ribbon: 57th Convention, Minnesota State Federation of Labor Duluth, 1959 September 11-13 |
| Box 4, Item 20 | Delegate Pin and Medal: 1st Annual Convention, California Labor Federation, American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO), 1958 |
| Box 4, Item 21 | Pin: I Am A Member of U.P.W.A. CIO Are You |
| Box 4, Item 22 | Pin: United Packinghouse Workers of America, Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) |
| Box 4, Item 23 | Pin: United Packinghouse Workers of America, American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) |
| Folder 1 | Oversize Newspaper Clippings, 1942-1968 |
| Box 5, Item 1 | Photographic Material: California Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) Council - 2nd & 4th Annual Convention (CIO), 1951, 1953 |
| Box 5, Item 2 | Photographic Material: John Janosco - Union Speech |
| Box 5, Item 3 | Photographic Material: Portrait of John Janosco, 1965 |
| Box 5, Item 4 | Photographic Material: Santa Barbara - United Packinghouse Workers of America (UPWA) Political Action Committee, 1954 |
| Box 5, Item 5 | Photographic Material: Upholsterers’ International Union of North America, American Federation of Labor (AFL UIU) - 23rd Biennial Convention, 1944 |
| Box 5, Item 6 | Photographic Material: United Packinghouse Workers of America - West Coast - Group Pictures |
| Box 5, Item 7 | Photographic Material: United Packinghouse Workers of America - West Coast - Union Convention, 1954, 1956 |
| Box 5, Item 8 | Photographic Material: United Packinghouse Workers of America - West Coast - Union Dinner |
| Box 5, Item 9 | Photographic Material: United Packinghouse Workers of America - West Coast - Union Meetings |
| Box 5, Item 10 | Photographic Material: United Packinghouse Workers of America - West Coast - Union Meetings: Group Pictures |
| Box 5, Item 11 | Photographic Material: United Packinghouse Workers of America - West Coast - Union Negotiations, 1960 |
| Box 5, Item 12 | Photographic Material: United Packinghouse Workers of America - West Coast - Union Negotiations |