
Guide to the Daniel F. Buckley typographical union strike collection

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Guide to the Daniel F. Buckley typographical union strike collection

Collection number: MS0034

Center for Sacramento History
Sacramento, CA

Processed by:

Michelle Wallen

Date Completed:

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Encoded by:

Sean Heyliger

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Daniel F. Buckley typographical union strike collection

Dates: 1938-1987

Bulk Dates: 1978-1980

Collection number: MS0034

Creator: Buckley, Daniel F.

Creator: International Typographical Union. Local 46 (Central Valley, Calif.)

Collection Size: 2.75 linear feet(3 boxes)

Repository: Center for Sacramento History

Sacramento, California 95811-0229

Abstract: The Daniel F. Buckley collection consists of 2.75 cubic feet of documents that span from 1938 to 1987, with the bulk of them dating from 1978 to 1980. Nearly all of the materials in the collection relate to the 1978 strike of the *Sacramento Bee* by the International Typographical Union, of which Dan Buckley was a member. The oversized materials are mostly newspapers with articles covering the strike's progress. Other oversized material includes posters and bumper stickers related to the strike. Series include Correspondence, California Democratic Party Convention (1979), Personal, Strike Materials, and Printed Materials.

Physical location: 28I5, 29C3

Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English

Access

Collection is open for research use.

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Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], [box and folder number], Daniel F. Buckley typographical union strike collection, MS0034, Center for Sacramento History.

Acquisition Information

Donated to the Center for Sacramento History in 1988 from Daniel F. Buckley, former employee of the Sacramento Bee (accession #1988/074, 1993/032).

Processing Information

Processing and finding aid by Michelle Wallen, 2009.

Biography / Administrative History

Daniel F. Buckley was born in 1923 and lived in the Sacramento region throughout his life. He graduated from McClatchy High School in 1940 and became a newspaper printer, a profession which he continued for forty-seven years. At that time

newspapers were not yet using computers or lasers to print their daily editions, so printers were necessary to type the articles, create the layouts, and work with heavy machinery.

Early in his career Buckley worked for the *North Sacramento Journal*. During World War II he temporarily worked for a local Alaskan newspaper. After this he went on to work as a printer for the *Sacramento Bee*. He was a member of the Central Valley Typographical Union No. 46, which was a local branch of the International Typographical Union. This union was founded in 1852 and included printers, pressmen, photo engravers, and other such newspaper employees in the Sacramento region. In the mid 20th century this labor union and others like it began to grow, allowing them more bargaining power against the newspaper owners. This occasionally led to conflicts between the newspaper employees and their employers.

One such conflict between the Sacramento Bee and Sacramento Mailers Union Local 31 escalated to the point of a strike on April 17, 1978. McClatchy Newspapers, which owned of the *Sacramento Bee*, and the Mailers Union had reached an impasse during strike negotiations. The printers of the Typographical Union soon joined the strike and refused to cross picket lines in an attempt to show their support for the Mailers Union. Although these two groups held different jobs and were members of different unions, they believed that it was important to show their solidarity against McClatchy Newspapers, who they felt had recently become very anti-union towards its employees.

Dan Buckley, as a member of the Typographical Union, participated in the strike and even joined the picket lines. He took photographs and made several notes regarding the scabs that crossed the picket lines. He also remained in contact with strike leaders and other individuals in the community who were sympathetic towards the strikers' cause. To support his family Buckley began to search for another job, and soon took a printing position with the *Sacramento Union* newspaper. However, many of the other strikers had difficulty finding new jobs and feared the economic troubles that were to come throughout the strike's duration.

The Mailers strike continued until an agreement could be reached in 1981. The Typographical Union did not reach an agreement with McClatchy Newspapers until 1986. Dan Buckley never returned to the *Sacramento Bee*, along with many of his former co-workers. A later legal agreement stated that McClatchy was required to hire back any of the printers that had gone on strike, but this agreement was often ignored and the issue was tied up in legal battles for many years to come.

The techniques of the newspaper printing industry began to change drastically during this time. The use of computers has cut the number of printers necessary for the daily business of the *Sacramento Bee* and other newspapers. As a result, the International Typographical Union was dissolved in 1986 and its remaining members merged into larger, more diversified unions.

Scope and Content of Collection

The collection is arranged in five series: Correspondence, California Democratic Party Convention (1979), Personal, Strike Materials, and Printed Materials. The first four series compose about .25 cubic feet of the collection. A portion of the Printed Materials series composes the remaining .5 cubic feet of documents. Oversized material is 2.5 linear feet in size and includes the bulk of the Printed Materials series as well as a small number of items from the Strike Materials series.

The Correspondence series consists of four subseries: Invitations, Union Correspondence, Sacramento Bee, and General Strike Correspondence. The date range for this series is 1978 to 1987. The invitations subseries includes event invitations from the Sacramento Bee and various labor unions. Union Correspondence includes letters exchanged by the International Typographical Union and Dan Buckley, as well as correspondence between other unions. The Sacramento Bee subseries consists of letters from the newspaper to various unions, employees, and subscribers. General Strike Correspondence includes letters that Dan Buckley wrote to friends and fellow union members about the 1978 Sacramento Bee strike. There is also a letter from Pat Brown to the strike leaders discussing labor relations.

The California Democratic Party Convention series contains a folder holding several items that Dan Buckley obtained at the January 1979 Convention that took place in Sacramento. Some of these items are a press badge, a list of committee members, and a letter to the party from Vice President Mondale.

The Personal series includes two subseries: Reporter Notes and Certificates. It ranges in date from 1960 to 1986. The Reporter Notes subseries consists of several small notebooks that Dan Buckley used to take notes on news pieces as well as daily events on the picket line. There are also several papers which include photograph descriptions. Certificates includes a participation certificate from the 1964 California State Fair and Exposition and a 40 year membership certificate from the International Typographical Union.

The fourth series, Strike Materials, includes three subseries: Strike Ephemera, Christmas Parodies, and Legal Documents. This series contains materials that range in date from 1971 to 1980. The Strike Ephemera subseries consists of oversized materials such as bumper stickers and posters that are related to the 1978 Sacramento Bee strike. It also contains several flyers used during the strike. Christmas Parodies includes Christmas songs and poems that were changed to include lyrics about the suffering of the strikers during the 1978 Christmas season. The Legal Documents subseries consists of contracts

between the *Sacramento Bee* and local unions, a 1980 Book of Laws of the International Typographical Union, and a copy of a previous strike agreement.

The last series, Printed Materials, consists of several subseries containing different newspapers and newsletters. The bulk of these are editions of *Catholic Herald*, *Sacramento Bee*, *Sacramento Union*, *Sacramento Valley Union Labor Bulletin*, and *The Worker Bee*. There are also subseries that contain only one or two editions of newspapers specific to certain regions or subjects; Sacramento Region Newspapers, Bay Area Region Newspapers, and Labor Union Newspapers. There are several clippings and photocopied stories that compose an Article Clippings subseries. The number of editions within each subseries varies widely, with the largest being the *Union Labor Bulletin*, *Sacramento Union*, and *The Worker Bee*. All of the newspapers and newsletters date from 1978 to 1982, with the exception of *The Prospector*, contained within Sacramento Region Newspapers, which dates from April 29, 1938. Many editions include articles that Dan Buckley circled or underlined because of their relation to the ongoing strike.

Arrangement

Series 1. Correspondence Series 2. California Democratic Party Convention Series 3. Personal Series 4. Strike materials Series 5. Printed materials

Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog. International Typographical Union. Local 46 (Central Valley, Calif.)

Sacramento bee (Sacramento, Calif.)

Sacramento Mailers Union Local 31

Newspaper employees--Labor unions

Newspaper employees--Labor unions

Newspaper employees--Labor unions--United States

Strikes and lockouts--California

Strikes and lockouts--Newspapers

Other Finding Aids

McClatchy Company records, Center for Sacramento History

Series 1. Correspondence

Physical Description: 4 folders

Series Scope and Content Summary

The Correspondence series consists of four subseries: Invitations, Union Correspondence, *Sacramento Bee*, and General Strike Correspondence. The date range for this series is 1978 to 1987. The invitations subseries includes event invitations from the Sacramento Bee and various labor unions. Union Correspondence includes letters exchanged by the International Typographical Union and Dan Buckley, as well as correspondence between other unions. The Sacramento Bee subseries consists of letters from the newspaper to various unions, employees, and subscribers. General Strike Correspondence includes letters that Dan Buckley wrote to friends and fellow union members about the 1978 *Sacramento Bee* strike. There is also a letter from Pat Brown to the strike leaders discussing labor relations.

Box 1:1

Invitations 1979-1987

Box 1:2

Union correspondence 1978-1981

Box 1:3

Sacramento Bee 1978-1981

Box 1:4

General strike correspondence 1978-1982

Box 1:5

Series 2. California Democratic Party Convention 1979

Physical Description: 1 folder

Series Scope and Content Summary

The California Democratic Party Convention series contains a folder holding several items that Dan Buckley obtained at the January 1979 Convention that took place in Sacramento. Some of these items are a press badge, a list of committee members, and a letter to the party from Vice President Mondale

Series 3. Personal**Physical Description:** 2 folders**Series Scope and Content Summary**

The Personal series includes two subseries: Reporter Notes and Certificates. It ranges in date from 1960 to 1986. The Reporter Notes subseries consists of several small notebooks that Dan Buckley used to take notes on news pieces as well as daily events on the picket line. There are also several papers which include photograph descriptions. Certificates includes a participation certificate from the 1964 California State Fair and Exposition and a 40 year membership certificate from the International Typographical Union.

Box 1:6

Reporter notes 1978-1980

Box 1:7

Certificates 1960-1986**Series 4. Strike materials****Physical Description:** 4 folders**Series Scope and Content Summary**

The Strike materials series includes three subseries: Strike Ephemera, Christmas Parodies, and Legal Documents. This series contains materials that range in date from 1971 to 1980. The Strike Ephemera subseries consists of oversized materials such as bumper stickers and posters that are related to the 1978 *Sacramento Bee* strike. It also contains several flyers used during the strike. Christmas Parodies includes Christmas songs and poems that were changed to include lyrics about the suffering of the strikers during the 1978 Christmas season. The Legal Documents subseries consists of contracts between the *Sacramento Bee* and local unions, a 1980 Book of Laws of the International Typographical Union, and a copy of a previous strike agreement.

Box 1:8

Strike ephemera 1978

Box 1:9

Christmas parodies 1978

Box 1:10

Legal documents 1971-1980

Box 3

Posters and bumper stickers 1978**Series 5. Printed materials****Physical Description:** 27 folders**Series Scope and Content Summary**

The Printed materials series consists of several subseries containing different newspapers and newsletters. The bulk of these are editions of *Catholic Herald*, *Sacramento Bee*, *Sacramento Union*, *Sacramento Valley Union Labor Bulletin*, and *The Worker Bee*. There are also subseries that contain only one or two editions of newspapers specific to certain regions or subjects; Sacramento Region Newspapers, Bay Area Region Newspapers, and Labor Union Newspapers. There are several clippings and photocopied stories that compose an Article Clippings subseries. The number of editions within each subseries varies widely, with the largest being the *Union Labor Bulletin*, *Sacramento Union*, and *The Worker Bee*. All of the newspapers and newsletters date from 1978 to 1982, with the exception of *The Prospector*, contained within Sacramento Region Newspapers, which dates from April 29, 1938. Many editions include articles that Dan Buckley circled or underlined because of their relation to the ongoing strike.

Arrangement

Arranged by newspaper

Box 1:11

Article clippings 1978-1982

box 2

***The Worker Bee* 1978-1980**

box 3

***Catholic Herald* 1978-1980**

box 3

***Sacramento Bee* 1978-1982**

box 3

***Sacramento Union* 1978-1982**

box 3

***Sacramento Valley Union Labor Bulletin* 1978-1982**

box 3

***AFGE Local 1857 News* November 1979**

box 3

***California AFL-CIO News* November 9, 1979**

box 3

***Dialogue* March 19, 1980**

box 3	<i>The Beaver</i> December 7, 1978 and Octobert 23, 1980
box 3	<i>Press-Tribune</i> May 1, 1980
box 3	<i>The Prospector</i> April 29, 1938
box 3	<i>Suttersown News</i> December 30, 1978 - January 12, 1980
box 3	<i>San Francisco Chronicle</i> November 10-14, 1978 and March 2, 1980
box 3	<i>The Tribune</i> November 9, 1978