Finding Aid to the Corrine Gilb Collection

Finding aid prepared by Labor Archives and Research Center staff.
Labor Archives and Research Center
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San Francisco State University
1630 Holloway Ave
San Francisco, CA 94132-1722
larc@sfsu.edu
URL: http://www.library.sfsu.edu/larc
Finding Aid to the Corrine Gilb Collection

Title: Corrine Gilb collection
Date (inclusive): 1951-1963
Creator: Gilb, Corrine L.
Extent: 6.25 cubic feet (16 boxes and 1 oversize box)
Collection number: larc.ms.0065
Accession number: 2005/002
Repository: Labor Archives and Research Center
                J. Paul Leonard Library, Room 460
                San Francisco State University
                1630 Holloway Ave
                San Francisco, CA 94132-1722
                (415) 405-5571
                larc@sfsu.edu

Abstract: This collection documents Dr. Corrine Gilb's work in her position as the first Director of the Regional Cultural History Project, the forerunner of the Regional Oral History Office (ROHO), at the University of California, Berkeley (UC Berkeley). The collection documents early methodology for conducting oral histories and includes interviews, conducted for the Institute of Industrial Relations at UC Berkeley, of union members, employers, and professionals in the labor relations field. The histories describe the daily work of typographers, teamsters, and retail clerks from the early 1900s to the 1950s, and provide a detailed history of San Francisco Bay Area labor relations during that period.

Collection is available onsite.

Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English.

Availability
Collection is open for research.

Restrictions
Copyright has not been assigned to the Labor Archives and Research Center. All requests for permission to publish or quote from materials must be submitted in writing to the Director of the Archives. Permission for publication is given on behalf of the Labor Archives and Research Center as the owner of the physical items and is not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder, which must be obtained by the reader.

Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Corrine Gilb Collection, larc.ms. 0065, Labor Archives and Research Center, San Francisco State University.

Acquisition
The bulk of this collection was donated in 2004 by Dr. Gilb's daughters, Lesley Taplin and Tyra Gilb. Additional material was received a year later and has been incorporated into the collection. Accession number 2005/002.

Processing Information
The collection was initially processed by Carol Cuénod in 2005 and 2006, with additional processing by Labor Archives and Research Center staff in 2015.

Arrangement:
The materials have been arranged into six series. Series 1: Oral History Programs; Series 2: Oral History Manual; Series 3: Interviews; Series 4: File Card Boxes; Series 5: Research Materials and Working Papers; Series 6: Clippings

Biographical Note
Dr. Corinne Lathrop Gilb (1925-2003), a native of Canada, came to the United States with her family at the age of 8. She attained her Bachelor of Arts from the University of Washington, and her Ph.D. from Radcliffe College in Cambridge, Massachusetts. She then moved to California where she earned a master's degree from the University of California, Berkeley (UC Berkeley), and attended Boalt Hall School of Law for 3 years. From 1953 to 1957, Dr. Gilb established and directed the Regional Cultural Oral History Project, later known as the Regional Oral History Office (ROHO), at UC Berkeley. In 1957, she accepted a position at the Institute of Industrial Relations at UC Berkeley where she was responsible for creating an oral history program in the field of labor relations. Dr. Gilb conducted interviews not only with key figures in the labor movement, but also with veteran workers, local union members, lawyers, judges, anthropologists, sociologists, and other active participants in labor relations. Between 1964 and 1968, Dr. Gilb taught courses in history both at Mills College and San Francisco State University. In 1969, after returning from several months in Paris on a Guggenheim Scholarship, she
was invited to join the history department at Wayne State University in Detroit. During her tenure at Wayne State University, Dr. Gilb remained active as a writer and public speaker and, from 1979 to 1985, also served as Planning Director for the City of Detroit. After retiring from Wayne State University in 1994 as Professor Emeritus, Dr. Gilb and her husband, Tyrell Gilb, moved to Atherton, California where she founded Atherton Press, Ltd. for academic publications.

Scope and Contents
This collection documents Dr. Corrine Gilb's work at the University of California, Berkeley (UC Berkeley) in her position as the first Director of the Regional Cultural (Oral) History Project, the forerunner of the Regional Oral History Office (ROHO). The collection documents early methodology for conducting oral histories and includes interviews, conducted for the Institute of Industrial Relations at UC Berkeley, of union members, employers, and professionals in the labor relations field. The histories describe the daily work of typographers, teamsters, and retail clerks from the early 1900s to the 1950s, and provide a history of San Francisco Bay Area labor relations during that period. Series 1 and 2 contain correspondence, notes, legal forms, reports, and financial documents that describe Gilb's work at UC Berkeley, in particular, the development of two oral history projects, an oral history manual, and the techniques necessary for conducting oral histories for historical research. Series 3, Interviews, comprises twenty-four completed interviews edited by Gilb for clarity and continuity, and by the interviewee for content. Many of the interviews are accompanied by an introduction, table of contents, appendix and index; others include correspondence, notes by the interviewer, lists of prepared questions, and news clippings and other supporting documentation. Drafts, partial interviews, and notes regarding potential interviews are also included in this series. Series 4, File Card Boxes, contains handwritten note cards created by Gilb. These file card boxes, divided by subject headings, contain interview questions, biographical information, contact information, and comments. Series 5, Research Materials and Working Papers, consists of research materials collected by Gilb on labor unions and other subjects such as education, communism, and nuclear disarmament. Also included in this series are copies and drafts of papers written by Gilb after she left the oral history program. The last series, Clippings, includes clippings from various newspapers spanning the years 1948 to 1970.

Subjects and Indexing Terms
Labor -- California -- History -- 20th century.
Oral histories.
Strikes and lockouts -- California -- San Francisco.
Labor movement -- California -- History.
Labor union members -- United States -- Interviews.
Labor unions -- Organizing -- California.
Longshoremen's Strike, San Francisco, Calif., 1934.
Bombings -- California -- San Francisco
Pacific Maritime Association.
Mooney, Tom.
Retail Clerks International Union.
International Typographical Union.
University of California, Berkeley.
International Brotherhood of Teamsters.
Lapham, Roger D. (Roger Dearborn).
Regional Cultural History Project (University of California, Berkeley).
University of California, Berkeley. Institute of Industrial Relations.
Havenner, Franck, R.
Vail, Larry.
Tobriner, Mathew Oscar, 1904-1982.
Neylan, John Francis, 1885-1960.
Melnikow, Henry P.
Hodge, Frederick Webb, 1864-1956.
San Francisco Employers' Council.
Wirin, A.L.

Series 1:  **Oral History Programs 1953-1960, undated**

Extent: 15 folders (box 1, folders 1-15)

Arrangement
Arranged as received.

Scope and Contents
Series contains correspondence, notes, financial documents, and reports related to the development of the Regional Cultural History Project and Oral History Project at the Institute of Industrial Relations at UC, Berkeley. Includes grant application materials and expense sheets related to equipment and travel.

- box 1, folder 1  University of California Oral Histories proposal and report undated
- box 1, folder 2  Regional Cultural History Project 1955-1957
- box 1, folder 3  Regional Cultural History Project correspondence 1955-1959
- box 1, folder 4  Regional Cultural History Project legal forms 1955-1957
- box 1, folder 5  University of California, Berkeley, Institute of Industrial Relations Oral History Program correspondence 1956-1960
- box 1, folder 6  University of California, Los Angeles, Institute of Industrial Relations Oral History Program correspondence 1957-1960
- box 1, folder 7  Articles and reports by Corinne Gilb 1954-1959
- box 1, folder 8  Columbia University Oral History Program 1953-1958
- box 1, folder 9  Forest History Foundation Oral History Project 1957-1958
- box 1, folder 10  University of California Survey Research Center 1956
- box 1, folder 11  Correspondence undated
- box 1, folder 12  Instructions for transcription format undated
- box 1, folder 13  Travel expenses undated
- box 1, folder 14  Oral history equipment undated
- box 1, folder 15  Oral history questions undated

Series 2:  **Oral History Manual undated**

Extent: 2 folders (box 1, folders 16-17)

Arrangement
Arranged as received.

Scope and Contents
Includes documents related to the process of compiling an oral history manual. Focuses on the research, preparation, and organizational skills needed to conduct an oral history, as well as providing interview techniques, suggested questions, and rights information.

- box 1, folder 16  Drafts, notes undated
- box 1, Folder 17  Oral History manual, draft undated

Extent: 72 folders (box 2, folders 1-6; box 3, folders 1-6; box 4, folders 1-8; box 5, folders 1-4; box 6, folders 1-6; box 7, folders 1-7; box 8, folders 1-6; box 9, folders 1-8; box 10, folders 1-5; box 11, folders 1-5; box 12, folders 1-5; box 13, folders 1-6)

Arrangement
Arranged alphabetically by interviewee.

Scope and Contents
Comprises transcripts of interviews and associated notes. Includes interviews with union members and leaders, employers, politicians, elected officials, and lawyers, as well as professionals who worked in the field of labor relations. There are a variety of documents associated with each oral history interview: correspondence, lists of questions, interview notes, first drafts, edited drafts, and the final document, which may include assignment of copyright, an introduction, a table of contents, a transcript of the interview, appendices, and an index. All interviews are conducted by Corrine Gilb except where otherwise noted.

Billings, Warren K.
- box 2, folder 1
  Draft transcript, p. 1-200 1957
- box 2, folder 2
  Draft transcript, p. 201-404 1957
- box 2, folder 3
  Edited transcript with draft introduction 1957
- box 2, folder 4
  KPFA interview undated

Brown, Seth
- box 2, folder 5
  Draft transcript 1957
- box 2, folder 6
  Final transcript with introduction, table of contents, and index 1957

Campbell, Kemper
- box 3, folder 1
  Draft transcript 1957

Carter, Jess
- box 3, folder 2
  Interview questions, correspondence, and San Francisco News article, "Legal Blast" by Arthur Caylor. 1955
- box 3, folder 3
  Final transcript with introduction, table of contents, and index 1955

Conboy, William
- box 3, folder 4
  Draft and final transcript undated

Daniels, Woodie and Chris Maelstrom
Scope and Contents
Corinne Gilb and Jefferey Cohelan interview with two milk wagon drivers, members of International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Local 302 (Oakland, Calif.)

- box 3, folder 5
  Draft transcript of interview with Woodie Daniels 1957
- box 3, folder 6
  Draft transcript of interview with Chris Maelstrom 1957
- box 4, folder 1
  Final transcripts with introduction and table of contents 1957

Desepte, Warren G.
Scope and Contents
Corinne Gilb and David Selvin interview with Selvin Desepte, a grocery clerk and member of Retail Clerks Union Local 648 (San Francisco, Calif.)

- box 4, folder 2
  Draft transcript 1958
- box 4, folder 3
  Second draft transcript 1958
- box 4, folder 4
  Final transcript 1958

Falk, Adrien J.
- box 4, folder 5
  Interview questions from Bob Knight 1955, July 15
- box 4, folder 6
  Final transcript with introduction, table of contents, and index 1955

Field, Sara Bard
Scope and Contents
Corinne Gilb and Professor James Caldwell interview with Sara Bard Field, noted poet and suffragist.

- box 4, folder 7
  Draft transcript undated
Scope and Contents
Corinne Gilb and Walton Bean interview with John Francis Neylan, a former teamster and journalist who later became a lawyer in San Francisco. Neylan negotiated the purchase of San Francisco Call on behalf of William Randolph Hearst and, until 1937, remained general counsel for Heart's enterprises. In 1928 Neylan was appointed to the Regents of the University of California where he served until his resignation in 1955. Includes correspondence, interview notes, and a transcript, as well as minutes from the Board of Regents related to the loyalty oath imposed by the University on all University employees.

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box 9, folder 6  Draft transcript 1956
box 9, folder 7  Final transcript with table of contents, introduction, and appendix 1956
St. Sure, Joseph Paul

General note
This oral history is located in LARC's Oral History Collection.

box 9, folder 8  Interview questions with alternative introduction undated
Scharrenberg, Paul

box 10, folder 1  Partial index to oral history undated
Silverthorn, G. A. "Fred"

Scope and Contents
Transcripts and notes related to Corinne Gilb and Jeffery Cohelan's interview with G.A. Silverthorn, Secretary-Treasureeer of the Milk Wagon Drivers Union, Local 302.

box 10, folder 2  Final transcript with introduction, table of contents, and index 1957
Storie, William G.

box 10, folder 3  Correspondence 1958-1959
box 10, folder 4  Draft transcript 1958-1959
box 10, folder 5  Final transcript with introduction, table of contents, and appendix 1958-1959

Thompson, Roy B.

box 11, folder 1  News clippings 1935-1958
box 11, folder 2  Draft transcript 1958
box 11, folder 3  Draft transcript 1958
box 11, folder 4  Draft transcript 1958
box 11, folder 5  Final transcript with introduction, table of contents, and index 1958

Tobriner, Matthew O.

box 12, folder 1  Interview questions and notes 1958-1959
box 12, folder 2  Final transcript with introduction, table of contents, and index 1958-1959
Vail, Larry

box 12, folder 3  Interview questions 1958-1959
box 12, folder 4  Draft transcript 1958-1959
box 12, folder 5  Final transcript with introduction, table of contents, and index 1958-1959

Wellstein, Fred and Steven Gilligan

box 13, folder 1  Correspondence, notes, and interview questions related to Milk Wagon Drivers undated
box 13, folder 2  Draft transcript undated
box 13, folder 3  Draft transcript undated
box 13, folder 4  Final transcript with introduction, table of contents, and index undated
Wirin, A.L.

Scope and Contents
Comprises correspondence and news clippings related to A.L. Wirin, prominant civil rights lawyer for the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU). There are no interview notes or transcripts.

box 13, folder 5  Correspondence and news clippings 1953
box 13, folder 6  Draft transcript 1956

Series 4: File Card Boxes undated
Extent: 2 boxes (box 14; box 15)
Arrangement
Arranged as received.
General note
Comprises two file card boxes containing handwritten notes divided by subject headings. The cards offer general subject information, questions for interviews, notes, and biographical information related to the interviewees.
Box 14  File card box undated
Arrangement
Arranged as received.
Scope and Contents
Subject headings include: Interviews in Process; Ideas for Interviews; Addresses; People to Contact; Politics-Government; Business; Architecture; Law; Agriculture; Associated Farmers; Food Processing; Raisin Industry; Peaches; Rice; Water and Power; Industry; Shipping; Chamber of Commerce; Newspapers; Politics; Public Morals; Public Relations; Racial Minorities; Japan; China; Greece; University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA); Main Trends in California; Main Trends in United States; Business Organizations.

Box 15  File card box undated
Arrangement
Arranged as received.
Scope and Contents
Subject headings include: Childhood; Education; Racial Minorities; Institutions-Bibliography; Interviewing; California; Politics; Public Morals; Racial Minorities; University of California, Berkeley; Labor; Arbitration; Employers Organizations, Cannery Labor; Central Labor Council; East Bay; Garment Workers; IWW; Grievance Procedures; Lawyers; Longshoremen; Los Angeles; Machinists; Maritime Unions; Mooney Case; Labor People; National Rifle Association (NRA); Printing Trades; Railway Labor; Retail Clerks; Strikes; Strike, 1919; General Strike, 1934; Strike, 1936; Strike, 1948; Union Rivalry; Union Structure; Labor Questions.

Extent: 7 folders (box 16, folders 1-7)
Arrangement
Arranged as received.
Scope and Content
Comprises pamphlets, booklets, flyers, bulletins, reports, and conference materials collected by Gilb on education, communism, nuclear weapons, House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC), and various unions. Also includes copies and drafts of papers written by Gilb after she left the oral history program.

box 16, folder 1  HUAC and civil liberties materials 1951-1961
box 16, folder 2  Education and communism 1954-1962
Box 16, folder 3  Union bulletins and reports 1955-1958
Box 16, folder 4  Education and integration 1957, undated
Box 16, folder 5  Nuclear weapons and disarmament 1957-1959
Box 16, Carton 6  International Brotherhood of Teamsters conference materials 1959-1965
box 16, Folder 7  Corinne Gilb working papers 1965

Series 6: Clippings 1948-1970
Extent: 1 oversized items(Oversize box 1)
Arrangement
Arranged in chronological order.
Scope and Content
Clippings from various newspapers and bulletins including: The Kennedy Convention Bulletin, The Nation, American Civil Liberties Union News, Muhammad Speaks, and Alert.