Finding Aid to the David F. Selvin Photograph Collection

Finding aid prepared by Frances Wratten Kaplan
Labor Archives and Research Center
San Francisco State University
J. Paul Leonard Library, Room 460
1630 Holloway Ave
San Francisco 94132-1722
larc@sfsu.edu
URL: http://library.sfsu.edu/larc
Title: David F. Selvin photograph collection
Date (inclusive): 1861-1991
Date (bulk): 1960-1980
Creator: Selvin, David F.
Extent: 5.5 Cubic Feet (10 boxes and 1 oversize box)
Collection number: larc.pho.0019
Accession number: 1985/002
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
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Abstract: Comprises photographs gathered by Selvin in his role as editor of Northern California Labor, a labor newspaper he founded in 1951. The photographs were also used in several books and articles Selvin published related to labor history. Collection available on site.
Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English.
Material Specific Details: The bulk of the materials comprise black and white prints of various sizes. Also includes negatives, contact sheets, and half-tone prints as well as correspondence pertaining to Selvin's acquisition of some of the photographs. 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 also be obtained by the reader.
Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], David F. Selvin Photograph Collection, larc.pho.0019, Labor Archives and Research Center, San Francisco State University.
Aquisitions
Photographs were donated with the David Selvin papers in 1985, accession number 1985/002.
Processing Information
Processed by Labor Archives and Research Center staff; revised by Frances Wratten Kaplan in 2016.
Arrangement
Arranged in five series: Series 1, Unions, is arranged alphabetically by union name. Series 2, General Subjects, is arranged alphabetically by subject. Series 3, Individuals and Groups, is arranged alphabetically by individual's last name. Series 4, Published Works, and Series 5, Miscellany, are arranged as received.
Biographical note
David Selvin (1913-2007) was a noted labor journalist, historian, author and activist. Selvin was working on a M.A. in Labor Economics at the University of California, Berkeley, when the 1934 Waterfront and General Strike shut down the docks in San Francisco. He later wrote about this period in his book, A Terrible Anger: The 1934 Waterfront and General Strikes in San Francisco. In 1951, after writing about labor issues for various San Francisco-based newspapers, Selvin took a job at the San Francisco Labor Council as editor of Northern California Labor, a position he held for nearly 30 years. Selvin authored several books about labor history and labor leaders, including Sky Full of Storm: A Brief History of California Labor, A Place in the Sun: History of Californian Labor, The Other San Francisco, and The Thundering Voice of John L. Lewis. Selvin was also involved in the formation of both the Labor Studies program and the Labor Archives and Research Center at San Francisco State University.
Scope and Contents
This collection consists of photographs gathered by Selvin in his role as editor of *Northern California Labor*, a labor newspaper he founded in 1951. Other photographs were used in several books and articles Selvin authored related to labor history, in particular, his 1996 book, *A Terrible Anger: The 1934 Waterfront and General Strikes in San Francisco*.

Many of the photographs in this collection are reprints from various repositories including the National Archives, the Library of Congress, Wayne State University, the U.S. Bureau of Mines, and the California Historical Society.

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**

- Labor unions -- Membership -- Photographs.
- Labor unions -- California -- San Francisco -- Photographs.
- Strikes and lockouts -- California -- San Francisco -- Photographs.
- Strikes and lockouts -- Hospitals -- Photographs.
- Labor union members -- Portraits.
- Picketing -- Photographs.
- International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union -- Pictorial works
- Photographic prints.
- Service Employees International Union -- Pictorial works
- Retail Clerks International Union. Local 1100 (San Francisco, Calif.) -- Pictorial Works
- Retail Clerks International Union. Local 648 (San Francisco, Calif.) -- Pictorial Works
- International Longshore and Warehouse Union--Pictorial works


| Physical Description: | 118 foldersBox 1, folders 1-42; Box 2, folders 1-22, Box 3, folders 1-20; Box 4, folders 1-14; Box 5, folders 1-20 |
| Arrangement | Arranged alphabetically by union name. |
| Scope and Contents | Photographs of union officials and members at various events, meetings, protest rallies and picket lines, as well as in the workplace. |

**box 1, folder 1**

**Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union circa 1970s**

| Scope and Contents | Includes photographs of Jane Fonda with local union representatives protesting the labor practices of J.P Stevens Company, a non-unionized textile firm. |

**box 1, folder 2**

**American Federation of Labor (AFL) convention 1915 November 13**

| Scope and Contents | Includes a photograph of Samuel Gompers and his wife at the Civic Auditorium in San Francisco, 1915. |

**box 1, folder 3**

**American Federation of Teachers (AFT) undated**

| Scope and Contents | Over 500 teachers, led by Ballard and Dolsen, picket in front of the Board of Education, San Francisco. |

**box 1, folder 4**

**American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (AFTRA) undated**

| Scope and Contents | Jack Klugman, Ricardo Montalban and Loretta Switt at the SAG and AFTRA strike. |

**box 1, folder 5**

**Bindery Workers undated**

**box 1, folder 6**

**Butchers' Union undated**

**box 1, folder 7**

**Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) undated**
Communication Workers of America (CWA) undated

Farm Labor Union Galena Unit No. 26 (Kansas) 1936 May

Scope and Contents

Wives of farmer laborites in Columbus, Kansas. Image reproduced from the exhibition "Workers and Allies" circulated by the Smithsonian Institution.

Farm Workers Union undated

Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees International Union (HERE) undated

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), Local 1501 undated

International Brotherhood of Teamsters undated

International Chemical Workers Union (ICWU), Local 882 undated

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union (ILGWU) 1964-1977, undated

Scope and Contents

Includes group portraits of the Executive Board of Local 8, Local 101, Local 213 and Local 214.

International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) 1977

International Typographical Union (ITU) undated

International Union of Painters and Allied Trades (IUPAT) undated

Mailers Union 1977 March

Marine Cooks and Stewards, AFL-CIO hiring hall 1978

National Association of Broadcast Employees & Technicians (NABET) undated

Office and Professional Employees International Union, Local 3 undated

Scope and Contents

Includes two photographs of San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (SFMOMA) striking workers.

Retail Clerks International Union (RCIA)

Local 373 (Vallejo) undated

Local 410 undated

Local 428 (San Jose) undated

Local 648 (San Francisco)

Safeway strike 1980

Picketing Liquor Barn undated

San Francisco Grocery Clerks circa 1970-1980

Officers and Members circa 1970-1980

Local 1100 (San Francisco)

Events undated

Meeting with Jane Fonda undated

Member portraits, identified 1977-1979

Scope and Contents

Individuals are identified on the back of each print.

Member portraits, unidentified circa 1970-1980

Members at their stores, GET circa 1970s

Members at their stores, Gumps circa 1970s

Members at their stores, Macy's 1978

Members at their stores, Weinstein's circa 1970s

Members at their stores, Woolworths circa 1970s

Members at their stores, Zukors circa 1970s
Members at their stores circa 1970s

Scope and Contents

Photographs of workers in various stores including Diamond Palace, Getz Hardware, Gucci, Emporium, Liberty House, Milan's, Lightstone's, Livingston's, National Dollar, Sherman-Clay, Zacks, and The Sandwich Place.

Negotiations meeting at Orpheum Theater 1975 July 27

Officers, staff and members undated

Contact sheets of officers, staff and members undated

Pensioners undated

Picketing

Bullock's 1977, November 11

Debs department store 1974

Doubleday 1975

J.C. Penney Co. 1960

Joseph Magnin undated

Sears Roebuck Co. undated

Zack Electronics undated

San Francisco Federation of Teachers undated

San Jose local union members and leaders undated

Service Employees International Union (SEIU)

Classified School Employees (CSE) undated

Classified School Employees, Locals 390, 400, 715 undated

Clerical conference undated

BSEIU offices in San Francisco undated

Hospital worker's union 1970 January

Member events 1958-1975, undated

Members at work 1956-1958

Scope and Contents

Includes janitors, window cleaners, school gardeners and school cooks.

Member's portraits undated

Scope and Contents

Names of individuals are written on the back of each photograph.

New York locals undated

Pensioners undated

Pension and welfare office and staff undated

Picketing, Los Angeles undated

Local 250

Hospital workers on strike undated

Kaiser workers on strike undated

Meetings and member events 1968, undated

Picketing undated

Local 400

Members and officials undated

Picketing undated

Local 535 picketing undated

Stationary Engineers undated

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Transport Workers Union undated
Union Label & Service Trades Department, AFL-CIO 1969
United Farm Workers of America circa 1970s

Scope and Contents
Photographs of Dolores Huerta, César Chávez, Joan Baez, Charlie Weirs, Water Johnsen, Jack Crowley, George Moscone and others at various UFW strikes and boycotts.

United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) undated
United Telegraph Workers undated
Western Graphic Arts Union (WGAU) 1977 March


Physical Description: 30 folders Box 5, folders 21-23; Box 6, folders 1-27
Arrangement
Arranged alphabetically by subject.

Scope and Contents
Photographs from articles published in Northern California Labor. Includes picket line and protest rally photographs from various strikes and boycotts in the San Francisco Bay Area. Also includes a 1966 photograph of grape strikers marching from Delano to Sacramento. The bulk consists of black and white prints, with some color prints and 35mm negatives.

Apprenticeship programs 1972, undated

Scope and Contents
Photographs of cook's apprenticeship programs at the San Francisco Hilton Hotel and the Sir Francis Drake Hotel.

Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) undated
Conferences and meetings circa 1950-1970
San Francisco State College, Local 1352 of the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) 1968-1969

Scope and Contents
Three photographs of San Francisco State College faculty, possibly at Labor Council meetings. In December 1968, the campus American Federation of Teachers (AFT) Local 1352 sought strike sanction from the San Francisco Labor Council. In January 1969, about 350 teachers from San Francisco State College went out on strike. Photocopies of photographs from the San Francisco State Strike Collection were added to this folder as a reference for identifying faculty members.

Elections 1970, undated

Scope and Contents
Comprises photographs of union members and volunteers preparing for various elections by registering people to vote, canvassing local communities, and creating outreach materials.

Events and award presentations undated
Hawaii undated
Japanese relocation and internment camps 1942-1943

Scope and Contents
Includes two Dorothea Lange prints.

Labor unions, England 1973
Los Angeles 1954
Metal workers 1976-1977
Migrant workers circa 1930

Scope and Contents
Reproductions from The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley.

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box 6, folder 10
National Guard (Law Enforcement Assistance Force) 1955

box 6, folder 11
New York City 1949-1959

box 6, folder 12
Public health workers undated

box 6, folder 13
San Francisco Convention & Visitors Bureau reproductions 1950-1975, undated

box 6, folder 14
San Francisco Labor Council 1985, undated

Scope and Contents
Portraits of San Francisco Labor Council leaders and members. Includes clippings from Northern California Labor listing members of the Executive Committee.

box 6, folder 15
Social security and the elderly 1961-1971, undated

Picket lines and protest rallies circa 1960-1991

box 6, folder 16
J.P. Stevens Company boycott 1978-1979

Scope and Contents
Includes a photograph of Jane Fonda at a protest rally.

box 6, folder 17-21
Picket lines and rallies circa 1960-1980

box 6, folder 22
Picket lines and violence 1971-1973, undated

Protesting union busting undated

box 6, folder 23
Solidarity Day rally 1991

box 6, folder 24
Women in the trades 1861-1980, undated

Scope and Contents
Photographs of women working in a variety of non-traditional occupations. Includes reproductions from the Women's Bureau at the U.S. Department of Labor.

box 6, folder 25
Workers in Japan 1969

box 6, folder 26
Workers in the United States 1976, undated

Series 3: Individuals and Groups 1951-1986

Physical Description: 120 foldersBox 6, folders 28-35; Box 7, folders 1-60; Box 8, folders 1-32; Box 9, folders 1-15; Box 10, folders 1-5

Scope and Contents
Includes prints, negatives, contact sheets, and half-tone prints of identified and unidentified union members and other individuals at events, meetings, and protest rallies.

Arrangement
Identified individuals are arranged alphabetically by last name.

box 6, folder 27
Actors, writers, singers 1976-1979, undated

Scope and Contents
Scenes from films related to labor, including Norma Rae, and the documentary Harlan County, U.S.A. Also includes portraits of Carl Sandberg, Woody Guthrie, and Studs Terkel.

box 6, folder 28
AFL scholarship winners 1960-1962

Political candidates and union leaders

Adams, Brock undated

Alioto, Joseph 1960-1974

Ames, Fitzgerald undated

Anderson, Glenn Malcolm undated

Avakian, Spurgeon 1959, undated

Bates, Tom undated

Becker, William undated

Belardi, Joseph undated

Berry, Paul undated

Blum, Joseph A. undated

Brann, Frank undated
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 7   | 6      | Bridges, Harry 1951, undated  
      |        | Scope and Contents  
      |        | Includes a September 1951 article pertaining to Harry Bridges deportation trial. |
| 7   | 7      | Brown, Edmund (Jerry) 1978, undated  
      | 8      | Brown, Pat 1966-1980  
      | 10     | Burton, John 1960-1980  
      | 11     | Burton, Phil 1968-1980  
      | 12     | Carberry, Matthew C. undated  
      | 14     | Cervantes-Gautschi, Peter undated  
      | 15     | Champion, Hale undated  
      | 16     | Chavez, Cesar undated  
      | 17     | Chin, John undated  
      | 18     | Craig, Sam undated  
      | 19     | Cranston, Alan M. undated  
      | 20     | Crowley, John 1976, undated  
      |        | Scope and Contents  
      |        | With Joseph Belardi, Jack Hemmings, and Yehoshua Levy. |
| 7   | 21     | Davis, George undated  
      | 22     | Davis, Joseph Graham (Gray), Jr. undated  
      | 23     | Delaurenti, Charlie undated  
      | 24     | Dellums, Ronald undated  
      | 25     | Dymally, Mervyn undated  
      | 26     | Edwards, Don undated  
      | 27     | Eu, March Fong undated  
      | 28     | Feinstein, Dianne undated  
      | 29     | Foran, John Francis undated  
      | 30     | Freitas, Joseph undated  
      | 31     | Gaffney, Edward, M. 1960, April 11  
      | 32     | Gage, Henry undated  
      | 33     | Goff, Judy undated  
      | 34     | Grosch, Edmund undated  
      | 35     | Gregorio, Arlen F. undated  
      | 36     | Haggerty, Jack undated  
      | 37     | Hardy, George undated  
      | 38     | Harris, David undated  
      | 39     | Hayden, Richard D. undated  
      | 40     | Hayes, Rose undated  
      | 41     | Hennings, John undated  
      | 42     | Herman, James 1976, undated  
      | 43     | Herman, Jerry Richard undated  
      | 44     | Humphries, Hubert undated  
      | 45     | Hutch, Eila Hill undated  
      | 46     | Itliong, Larry 1965, October 6  
      |        | Scope and Contents  
      |        | Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee (AWOC) at a rally of striking grape workers in Delano, California. |
| 7   | 47     | Jackson, Mattie undated  

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Scope and Contents
Includes a photograph of George Johns, Secretary of the Dan Francisco Labor Council, discussing plans to unionize Chanatown's shops and restaurants.

Scope and Contents
Walter Johnson with labor leaders and politicians, including Barry Silverman, Nancy Walker, Senator Daniel Inoye, Herman Griffin, Dick Williams, Marion Sills, Ed McLaughlin, and Cyril Magnin.

Scope and Contents
Bill McCase with Cesar Chavez, Delano, California.

Abstract: Associate Minister, Little Zion Baptist Church
Scope and Contents

Includes a photograph of an Award of Merit presented to San Francisco Labor by the International Labor Press Association.

Material Specific Details:
2.25 x 2.25 negatives

Unidentified individuals and groups undated

Scope and Contents

Bulk consists of black and white prints of unidentified union members, political candidates, and union and community leaders.
Series 4: **Published Works 1922-1967**

Physical Description: 10 foldersBox 10, folders 6-10; Oversize-box 1, folders 1-5

Arrangement
Arranged as received.

Scope and Contents

Also includes correspondence between Selvin and other organizations related to requests for photographic images.

Oversize-box 1, folder 1-3, box 10, folder 6
box 10, folder 7-8
Oversize-box 1, folder 4, box 10, folder 9
Oversize-box 1, folder 5
box 10, folder 10

**A Terrible Anger: The 1934 Waterfront and General Strike in San Francisco 1934**

American labor leaders 1963-1966, undated
John L. Lewis and mine workers 1922-1967, undated

**Alan MacGregor Cranston undated**

**Historical reprints of garment workers and forge workers undated**

Series 5: **Miscellany undated**

Physical Description: 2 foldersBox 10, folders 11-12

Scope and Contents
Unidentified prints and negatives.

Arrangement
Arranged as received.

box 10, folder 11-12

**Prints and negatives undated**