

**MS-127, International Union of Electrical Workers (IUE), Amalgamated Local 804
Records**

Collection Number: MS-127

Title: International Union of Electrical Workers (IUE), Amalgamated Local 804 Records

Dates: 1937-1978

Creator: International Union of Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers. Local 804 (Dayton, Ohio)

Summary/Abstract: Local 804 was organized in 1937 to represent the workers at the Leland Electric Company in Dayton, Ohio. Records include membership meeting minutes, Executive Board and Labor-Management meeting minutes, contract negotiations, the records from organizing campaigns in several small plants in Dayton, correspondence, grievances, union bulletins, membership lists, and files on various subjects including the Communist controversy in the Dayton labor movement during the late 1940s.

Quantity/Physical Description: 8.5 linear feet

Language(s): English

Repository:

Special Collections and Archives, Paul Laurence Dunbar Library, Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45435-0001, (937) 775-2092.

Restrictions on Access: There are no restrictions on accessing material in this collection.

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Preferred Citation:

[Description of item, Date, Box #, Folder #], MS-127, International Union of Electrical Workers (IUE), Amalgamated Local 804 Records, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio.

Acquisition: The records of Local 804 were accessioned into the Wright State University Archives and Special Collections Department by the Ohio Labor History Project in September of 1980.

Other Finding Aid: The finding aid is available on the Special Collections & Archives, Wright State University Libraries web site at

http://www.libraries.wright.edu/special/collection_guides/guide_files/ms127.pdf. It is also available in the OhioLINK Finding Aid Repository at <http://ead.ohiolink.edu/xtf-ead/>.

Related Material:

Article "Profile of a Local, "The IUE News, April, 1977. Written on the occasion of Local 804's 40th anniversary.

MS-36 Dayton-Miami Valley AFL-CIO Records

(<http://libraries.wright.edu/special/collectionguides/files/ms36.pdf>)

MS-49 International Union of Electrical Workers (IUE), District Council 7 Records

(<http://libraries.wright.edu/special/collectionguides/files/ms49.pdf>)

MS-79 International Union of Electrical Workers (IUE), Local 755 Records

(<http://libraries.wright.edu/special/collectionguides/files/ms79.pdf>)

MS-83 International Union of Electrical Workers (IUE), Local 725 Records

(<http://libraries.wright.edu/special/collectionguides/files/ms103.pdf>)

MS-99 International Union of Electrical Workers (IUE), Local 689 Records

(<http://libraries.wright.edu/special/collectionguides/files/ms99.pdf>)

MS-103 International Union of Electrical Workers (IUE), Local 725 Records

(<http://libraries.wright.edu/special/collectionguides/files/ms103.pdf>)

MS-111 International Union of Electrical Workers (IUE), Local 801 Records

(<http://libraries.wright.edu/special/collectionguides/files/ms111.pdf>)

MS-114, International Union of Electrical Workers (IUE), Local 768 Records

(<https://www.libraries.wright.edu/special/collectionguides/files/ms114.pdf>)

MS-116 International Union of Electrical Workers (IUE), District Council 7 Records

(<http://libraries.wright.edu/special/collectionguides/files/ms116.pdf>)

MS-127 International Union of Electrical Workers (IUE), Amalgamated Local 804 Records

(<http://libraries.wright.edu/special/collectionguides/files/ms127.pdf>)

MS-266 International Union of Electronic, Electrical, Salaried, Machine and Furniture Workers, AFL-CIO, Local 769 Records

(<http://libraries.wright.edu/special/collectionguides/files/ms266.pdf>)

Processing Information: Finding aid updated according to DACS, 2017.

Processed by: Dorothy Smith, 1982.

Arrangement:

The collection is arranged into 7 series:

- Series I: Administrative Records
- Series II: Agreements and Contract Negotiations
- Series III: Organizing Campaigns
- Series IV: Grievances and Arbitration Cases
- Series V: Correspondence
- Series VI: Materials from Affiliated Labor Organizations
- Series VII: Miscellaneous Materials

Historical Note:

The following agency history is excerpted verbatim from the article "Profile of a Local" which appeared in The IUE News in April 1977 on the occasion of Local 804's 40th anniversary.

The people of Amalgamated Local 804, Dayton, are celebrating their 40th anniversary this month. They have the distinction of being the first IUE (then UE) local certified in the Dayton-Miami Valley area.

Conrad Grimes, former local president, was a leader in establishing Local 804 at the Leland Electric Company plant in 1937. At that time, male employees worked 50 hours a week and earned 50 cents per hour. Women earned \$18 per week winding electrical cables.

"I don't know how some of those people survived," says Grimes. "It was bad. The people had no insurance, no overtime pay, no vacations. It's no wonder they organized."

Grimes and his fellow unionists met stiff resistance and firing threats from management, which was attempting to set up a company union. The employees voted to refuse to discuss union matters with employer representatives unless two or more union people were present. Grimes became the first test case when he refused to report to a company official unless accompanied by a union brother. Leland immediately fired Grimes for "insubordination" and the union filed an unfair labor practice charge with the newly-formed National Labor Relations Board.

As Grimes waited out his case for a month, other employees told him that if the NLRB ruled for reinstatement, they would sign the union card. Grimes won the case and was back at his machine the next day. The battle was won and Local 804 was born. Grimes went on to become the financial secretary, vice-president and president of the local.

During World War II, Local 804 members worked building invertors for fighter planes. Employment at the plant was in excess of 2,000 and the local received an award for war production.

In 1948, the local bought an older home across from the Leland plant which became the center of their business meetings, receptions and parties.

In the late 40's, when the issue of Communist domination of the UE's brought about the founding of the IUE, the local voted to become part of the new union. Old time members recall having both active party members and FBI "double agents" in the local's ranks.

Financial reversals caused Leland to sell the plant to the American Machine and Foundry Company in the early 1950's and AMF moved production to a new plant in Vandalia. AMF kept some government contracts, but began to concentrate on producing cash registers and automatic pin setters.

In 1951, Bill Bainter succeeded Grimes as president, a position he would hold for 13 years. Bainter was president when AFL and CIO merged in 1955 and Local 804 became the first local chartered to the AFL-CIO in the Dayton area. A few years later, Local 804 amalgamated with smaller units in several plants in the Dayton area. In the 1960s and early 1970s, Local 804 struck several times as foreign imports, loss of government contracts and automation began to take their toll. Amalgamated Local 804 which once counted 1,200 members, is now, in 1977, down to 425 members.

Scope and Content:

The records within the IUE Local #804 collection are divided into seven different series.

Series I, Administrative Records, contains the minute record of regular business meetings for 1937-1972, the minute record for executive board meetings for 1947-1974, minutes of the Leland Plant Suggestion Committee for the years 1943-1944, minutes of labor-management meetings 1938-1960, and the regular business meeting minutes of IUE Local #756 from 1961 until it merged with Local #804 in 1970. Other records in this series include a constitution and bylaws for both Locals #804 and #756, copies of Union Bulletins from 1940-1961, a 1947 membership list for Local #804 and monthly operating statements for 1961-1972.

Series II contains copies of agreements and a great deal of material documenting contract negotiations between Local #804 and the various companies in the Dayton area whose workers it represented. The bulk of material in this series pertains to the Leland Electric Company, the firm with which Local #804 has had the longest contract and whose workers make up the majority of Local #804's membership. The remaining negotiations and agreements are with several smaller companies that Local #804 won contracts with over the years. The material in Series 2 covers such concerns as wages, hours, seniority, working conditions, job classification, pensions, health benefits, collective bargaining, and apprenticeship standards. It is arranged by company, then chronologically within the folders. Span dates are 1937-1978.

Series III, Organizing Campaigns, contains papers documenting Local #804's attempts to organize several small plants in the Dayton area during the 1960s and 1970s. The series contains election results, NLRB rulings, broadsides, correspondence and notes pertaining to these organizing efforts. Span dates are 1965-1972.

Grievances and Arbitration Cases comprise Series IV. Included are the minutes of the Leland Plant grievance meetings for 1957-1972, and transcripts, briefs and rulings of selected arbitration cases

for 1955-1978. These materials give an insightful view into the day-to-day problems and conflicts encountered by Local 804's membership.

The correspondence in Series V includes correspondence between Leland Electric and Local #804, 1945-1974; correspondence and memos from the IUE International Office, 1940-1976; correspondence and memos from various labor affiliates, 1950-1978; a file of correspondence from the National War Labor Board, 1942-1945; and general correspondence, 1947-1978. The papers in this series range over such topics as World War II defense work, strikes, the 1940s Communist controversy, Leland's closure and move to Vandalia, political issues relevant to labor, and various Local #804 business matters. The span dates are 1940-1978.

Series VI contains a scattered collection of materials from labor organizations affiliated with Local #804. Included are minutes of IUE District Council #7, and constitutions from the IUE International, Ohio CIO, and Montgomery County Industrial Union Council. Span dates for the series are 1942-1974.

Series VII, Miscellaneous Materials, contains a War Production Board report on the Leland Labor-Management Production Committee, 1944; a file concerned with the UE Communist controversy during the late 1940s; material on wages and job classifications for the electrical trades; and files on civil rights apprenticeship, sex discrimination, severance pay, and the IUE pension plan. Span dates for this series are 1944-1969.

Subject Terms:

Persons/Families

Grimes, Conrad

Organizations/Corporate Names

Leland Electric Company

American Machine and Foundry Company

International Union of Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers. Local 804 (Dayton, Ohio)

Places

Dayton (Ohio)

Subjects (General)

Labor unions and communism – Ohio

Labor unions – Ohio -- Dayton

Electric industry workers – Labor unions – Ohio – Dayton

Material Types

Collective labor agreements

Minutes (administrative records)

Correspondence

Collection Inventory

Series I: Administrative Records, 1937-1978			
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	1	Minutes, Regular Business Meetings	1937-1941
1	2	Minutes, Regular Business Meetings	1943-1944
1	3	Minutes, Regular Business Meetings	1947-1949
1	4	Minutes, Executive Board and Regular Business Meetings (ledger)	1947-1955
1	5	Minutes, Regular Business Meetings	1950-1958
1	6	Minutes, Executive Board Meetings	1950-1958
1	7	Minutes, Executive Board and Regular Business Meetings (ledger)	1959-1969
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
2	1	Minutes, Executive Board and Regular Business Meetings	1959-1962
2	2	Minutes, Executive Board and Regular Business Meetings (ledger)	1969-1973
2	3	Minutes, Executive Board and Regular Business Meetings	1971-1972
2	4	Minutes, Executive Board Meetings	1973-1974
2	5	Minutes, Regular Business Meetings, Local 756	1961-1964
2	6	Minutes, Regular Business Meetings, Local 756	1965-1970
2	7	Minutes, Suggestion Committee	1943-1944
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
3	1	Minutes, Labor-Management Meetings	1938-1940
3	2	Minutes, Labor-Management Meetings	1941-1942
3	3	Minutes, Labor-Management Meetings	1943
3	4	Minutes, Labor-Management Meetings	1944
3	5	Minutes, Labor-Management Meetings	1945
3	6	Minutes, Labor-Management Meetings	1946
3	7	Minutes, Labor-Management Meetings	1947
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
4	1	Minutes, Labor-Management Meetings	1948
4	2	Minutes, Labor-Management Meetings	1949
4	3	Minutes, Labor-Management Meetings	1950-1951
4	4	Minutes, Labor-Management Meetings	1952-1953
4	5	Minutes, Labor-Management Meetings	1954-1955
4	6	Minutes, Labor-Management Meetings	1956-1957

4	7	Minutes, Labor-Management Meetings	1960
4	8	Constitution and Bylaws, Local 804	1949-1978
4	9	Constitution and Bylaws, Local 756	
4	10	Union Bulletins	1940s
4	11	Union Bulletins	1951-1956
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
5	1	Union Bulletins	1958-1960
5	2	Union Bulletins	1960-1961
5	3	List of Dropped and News Members	1947
5	4	Monthly Operating Statements	1961
5	5	Monthly Operating Statements	1964-1967
5	6	Monthly Operating Statements	1968-1969
5	7	Monthly Operating Statements	1970-1972
5	8	Monthly Operating Statements (scattered)	1961-1967
Series II: Agreements and Contract Negotiations, 1937-1978			
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
5	9	Agreements, Leland Electric and UE 804	1937-1939
5	10	Agreements, Leland Electric and UE 804	1941-1947
5	11	Agreements, Leland Electric and IUE 804	1950-1959
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
6	1	Agreements, Leland Electric and IUE 804	1960-1962
6	2	Agreements, Leland Electric and IUE 804	1964-1969
6	3	Agreements, Leland Electric and IUE 804	
6	4	Agreements, Leland Electric and IUE 804	
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
7	1	Supplementary Agreements, Leland Electric & IUE 804	1957-1959, 1964
7	2	Agreements, Leland Electric and IUE 756	1960-1972
7	3	Proposed Union-Management Agreement, Leland Electric and IUE 804	1955
7	4	Contract Negotiations, Leland Electric and IUE 804	1948-1954
7	5	Contract Negotiations, Leland Electric and IUE 804	1955-1957
7	6	Contract Negotiations, Leland Electric and IUE 804	1960-1965
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>

8	1	Contract Negotiations, Leland Electric and IUE 804	1966-1968
8	2	Contract Negotiations, Leland Electric and IUE 804	1970-1972
8	3	Contract Negotiations, Leland Electric and IUE 804	1974
8	4	Leland Efficiency Bonus Plan	1940's
8	5	Weekly Labor Turn-over Reports, Leland Electric	1945-1946
8	6	Weekly Labor Turn-over Reports, Leland Electric	1952-1954
8	7	Leland Electric's Labor Policy Statements	1937
8	8	NLRB Election at Leland Electric for Plant Protection Employees	1957
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
9	1	Job Postings	1957
9	2	Job Evaluation Disputes, Leland and IUE 804	1958-60
9	3	Material, re: Closing of Leland Plant in Dayton	1959, 1962
9	4	Benefit plan for hourly paid employees of Leland Electric	1959-1961
9	5	List of Leland Employees	1959
9	6	Pension Plan, Leland	1954-1959
9	7	List of Hourly Pension Plan Employees, Leland	1963
9	8	Apprenticeship Standards for Leland	1969
9	9	Complaint filed by IUE 756 against Leland, NLRB	1969-1970
9	10	Severance File, Leland	
9	11	Rules for Leland Employees	1940s
9	12	General Instructions from Leland Management	1955-1958
9	13	Agreement and Contract Negotiations, Master Vibrator Co. and IUE 804	1953-1964
9	14	Agreement and Contract Negotiations, Instrulab Inc. and IUE #804	1962
9	15	Agreement and Contract Negotiations, Rexarc Inc. and IUE 804	
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
10	1	Agreements, Gregory Stone Co. and IUE 804	1963-1978
10	2	Contract Negotiations, Gregory Stone Co. and IUE 804	1964-1966
10	3	Contract Negotiations, Gregory Stone Co. and IUE 804	1967-1978
10	4	Agreement and Contract Negotiations, Megacity Warehouse and IUE 804	1964-1967
10	5	Agreement and Contract Negotiations, Wacline Inc. and IUE 804	1968
10	6	Contract Negotiations, Wacline Inc. and IUE 804	1968-1969
10	7	Contract Negotiations, Wacline Inc. and IUE 804	1969-1970
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>

11	1	Agreement and Contract Negotiations, Western Steel Corp. and IUE 804	1973-1977
11	2	Agreement and Contract Negotiations, Gem City Engineering and IUE 804	1972
Series III: Organizing Campaigns, 1965-1972			
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
11	3	Organizing Campaign, Lewisburg Container	1965
11	4	Organizing Campaign, Dyna Corp.	1966
11	5	Organizing Campaign, Ledex Inc.	1967-1968
11	6	Organizing Campaign, Wacline Inc.	1968
11	7	Organizing Campaign, Sprague Electric	1968-1969
11	8	Organizing Campaign, Ohio Precision Castings	1969
11	9	Organizing Campaign, Orco Products	1970
11	10	Organizing Campaign, Depco Corp.	1970-1971
11	11	Organizing Campaign, Western Iron & Steel Co.	1971-1972
Series IV: Grievances and Arbitrations, 1949-1978			
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
12	1	Minutes, Grievance Meetings	1957-1960
12	2	Minutes, Grievance Meetings	1965-1967
12	3	Minutes, Grievance Meetings	1966-1968
12	4	Minutes, Grievance Meetings	1969-1972
12	5	Arbitration Rules and IUE Arbitration Handbook	1949-1950, 1957
12	6	Transcript of Arbitration Hearing, IUE 804 vs. Leland Electric Co.	1959
12	7	Arbitration Cases, Rulings & Briefs	1955, 1957- 1963
12	8	Arbitration Cases, Rulings & Briefs	1964-1978
Series V: Correspondence, 1942-1978			
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
12	9	Correspondence, Leland and IUE 804	1945-1953
12	10	Correspondence, Leland and IUE 804	1954-1955
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
13	1	Correspondence, Leland and IUE 804	1956

13	2	Correspondence, Leland and IUE 804	1957
13	3	Correspondence, Leland and IUE 804	1958-1959
13	4	Correspondence, Leland and IUE 804	1960-1964
13	5	Correspondence, AMF and IUE 804	1974
13	6	Correspondence, Western Steel & IUE 804	1973-1975
13	7	Correspondence, Correspondence and Memos from UE Int'l Office	1940-1942
13	8	Correspondence and Memos from UE Int'l Office	1944-1945
13	9	Correspondence and Memos from UE Int'l Office	1946-1947
13	10	Correspondence and Memos from IUE Int'l Office	1953
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
14	1	Correspondence and Memos from IUE Int'l Office	1954
14	2	Correspondence and Memos from IUE Int'l Office	1955
14	3	Correspondence and Memos from IUE Int'l Office	1956
14	4	Correspondence and Memos from IUE Int'l Office	1957
14	5	Correspondence and Memos from IUE Int'l Office	1959
14	6	Correspondence and Memos from IUE Int'l Office	1960-1961
14	7	Correspondence and Memos from IUE Int'l Office	1962
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
15	1	Correspondence and Memos from IUE Int'l Office	1963
15	2	Correspondence and Memos from IUE Int'l Office	1973-1974
15	3	Correspondence and Memos from IUE Int'l Office	1975-1976
15	4	Correspondence with IUE Int'l Representative in Dayton	1944-1945
15	5	Correspondence & Memos from IUE Dist. Council 7	1950-1953
15	6	Correspondence & Memos from IUE Dist. Council 7	1958-1951
15	7	Correspondence & Memos from IUE Dist. Council 7	1962-1964
15	8	Correspondence & Memos from IUE Dist. Council 7	1972-1978
15	9	Correspondence & Memos from Ohio CIO Council	1954-1955
15	10	Correspondence & Memos from Ohio CIO Council	1956-1964
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
16	1	Correspondence & Memos from Mont. Co. CIO Council	1957-1959
16	2	Correspondence with IAM Local Lodge 2155	1959-1960
16	3	Correspondence with Wage Stabilization Board	1950-1953
16	4	Correspondence & Bulletins, Nat'l War Labor Board	1942-1945
16	5	General Correspondence	1947-1968
16	6	General Correspondence	1970-1978
Series VI: Materials from Affiliated Labor Organizations, 1942-1976			

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
16	7	Minutes, Dist. Council #7 Misc. Conference Board Meeting	1962-1964
16	8	Minutes, IUE Dist. Council #7 & Executive Board Meetings	1973-1974
16	9	Minutes, IUE Dist. Council #7 & Executive Board Meetings	1975
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
17	1	Minutes, IUE Dist. Council #7 & Executive Board Meetings	1976
17	2	Reports and Constitution, Ohio CIO Council	1940-1943
17	3	IUE Constitutional Convention	1960
17	4	Montgomery County Industrial Union Council, Constitution, Scattered Minutes & Reports	1942-1945
Series VII: Miscellaneous Materials, 1944-1969			
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
17	5	War Production Board Report on Leland Labor-Management Production Committee	1944
17	6	File re: Communist Controversy in UE	1949
17	7	Civil Rights File	
17	8	CIO News File	
17	9	Job Classification & Wage Data Material for Electrical Trades	1950-1951
17	10	Material on Area Wage Rates & Cost of Living	1953
17	11	Apprenticeship File	1960s
17	12	Sex Discrimination Case	1967-1968
17	13	Severance Pay Benefit Plan File	1954-1957
17	14	Aerial Photo of Leland Airborne	
17	15	IUE Pension Fund File	1965-1969