



ArchivesSpace

Albany Printing Pressmen, Assistants and Offset Workers Union, No. 23-C Graphic Communications International Union; Records

This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on September 28, 2021.

M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives

Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Administrative History	3
Scope and Contents	4
Arrangement of the Collection	5
Administrative Information	5
Controlled Access Headings	6
Collection Inventory	6

Summary Information

Repository:	M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives
Title:	Albany Printing Pressmen, Assistants and Offset Workers Union, No. 23-C Graphic Communications International Union Records
ID:	apap006
Date [inclusive]:	1951-1989
Physical Description:	1 Reels
Physical Location:	The materials are located onsite in the department.
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	Meeting minutes from the Albany Printing Pressmen, Assistants and Offset Workers Union who represented typographical workers from throughout the Capital District.

Preferred Citation

Preferred citation for this material is as follows:

Identification of specific item, series, box, folder, Albany Printing Pressmen, Assistants and Offset Workers Union, No. 23-C Graphic Communications International Union Records, 1951-1989. M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University at Albany, State University of New York (hereafter referred to as the Albany Printing Pressmen, Assistants and Offset Workers Union Records).

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative History

In 1886 the printing pressmen of Albany, New York, were organized as a separate pressmen's union by the International Typographical Union (ITU).[1] Chartered on February 6, 1886, this local had an unknown title, although it is likely to have been the Albany Printing Pressmen's Union. [2]

Traditionally, typographical unions had been dominated by the printers, and for years pressmen had been agitating for more recognition within the ITU. However, by the latter part of the nineteenth and the earlier part of the twentieth century, most members of the ITU who were not printers split away to form separate international unions. And in New York City on October 8, 1889, representatives of thirteen

pressmen's unions (both independent and those allied with the ITU) met in convention to discuss the formation of the International Printing Pressmen's Union of North America. The pressmen's union of Albany and Troy, New York, were among the delegates.[3]

On January 1, 1890, the Albany pressmen was chartered as Local 23 of the newly formed International Printing Pressmen's Union of North America.[4] In 1896, the international union changed its name to the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union of North America (IPPAU) to show the incorporation of assistants into the union.[5] The Albany local followed suit by modifying its title to Albany Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union No. 23. Local 23 added "Offset Workers" to its name in 1967 to indicate the dominance of offset work within the local's jurisdiction.[6] In 1973 the IPPAU merged with the International Stereotypers', Electrotypers', and Platemakers' Union of North America (ISE&PU) to form the International Printing and Graphic Communications Union (IPGCU). With the merger of the IPGCU and the Graphic Arts International Union (GAIU) in 1983, the Albany Printing Pressmen, Assistants and Offset Workers Union became Local 23-C of the Graphic Communication International Union (GCIU). The C in its title stood for "Commercial" and designated the local as one devoted in general to commercial work.

The membership of Local 23-C is composed of "practical Letterpress, Offset, Gravure, Flexographic Journeymen Pressmen, Apprentices and Assistants, Journeymen and Offset Cameramen, Platemakers, Strippers in the commercial and Newspaper Industry." [7] Its jurisdiction includes Albany, Schenectady, Troy, Saratoga, and Glens Falls, New York. Any shop within the local that includes more than one union member is designated as a chapel, organized to deal with its own specific matters, collect its own dues, and represent its own members. Web newspaper pressmen are treated as a separate branch of the local and "have full jurisdiction in all matters pertaining to regulation and control in their own branch of the printing industry, in so far as the interest of the other branches of the trade are not affected." [8] On January 1, 1990, the union celebrated its one hundredth anniversary. 1. Elizabeth Faulkner Baker. *Printer and Technology: A History of the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union*. Columbia University Press: New York, 1957, p. 71. 2. Albany Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union No. 23. "Constitution, By-Laws and Rules of Order," 1954. 3. Elizabeth Faulkner Baker. *Printer and Technology: A History of the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union*. Columbia University Press: New York, 1957, p. 73. 4. Albany Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union No. 23. "Constitution, By-Laws and Rules of Order," 1954. 5. Elizabeth Faulkner Baker. *Printer and Technology: A History of the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union*. Columbia University Press: New York, 1957, p. 73. 6. Albany Printing Pressmen, Assistants and Offset Workers Union No. 23-C, GCIU. Minutes, October 8, 1967. 7. Albany Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union No. 23. "Constitution, By-Laws and Rules of Order," 1954. 8. *Ibid*

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Contents

Minutes (1951-64, 1966-89) make up the bulk of these records. Unfortunately, all minutes before 1951 have been lost, but the rest of the minutes are complete except for those for 1965 and parts of the minutes before and after that year. The minutes are in manuscript through 1966 and typescript thereafter.

Arbitrations and other labor disputes are discussed quite fully in the minutes. The only other records included are constitutions and bylaws, which describe the official workings of the local.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Arrangement of the Collection

The collection has no series, arranged chronologically.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives

Revision Description

Converted to EAD Encoded in EAD by Gregory Wiedeman 2015 December 2015

Processing Information

Processed in 1990 June 1 by Geoffrey A. Huth.

Access

Access to this record group is unrestricted.

Copyright

This page may contain links to digital objects. Access to these images and the technical capacity to download them does not imply permission for re-use. Digital objects may be used freely for personal reference use, referred to, or linked to from other web sites.

Researchers do not have permission to publish or disseminate material from these collections without permission from an archivist and/or the copyright holder.

The researcher assumes full responsibility for conforming to the laws of copyright. Some materials in these collections may be protected by the U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) and/or by the copyright or neighboring-rights laws of other nations. More information about U.S. Copyright is

provided by the Copyright Office. Additionally, re-use may be restricted by terms of University Libraries gift or purchase agreements, donor restrictions, privacy and publicity rights, licensing and trademarks.

The Department of Special Collections and Archives is eager to hear from any copyright owners who are not properly identified so that appropriate information may be provided in the future.

Acquisition Information

All items in this manuscript group were donated to the University Libraries, M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections and Archives, by the by the Albany Printing Pressmen, Assistants and Offset Workers Unions, No. 23-C, GCIU, as a part of the Harry Van Arsdale, Jr., Labor History Project. The originals have been returned to Local 23-C.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Controlled Access Headings

- Labor
- Albany, New York
- Newspaper publishing -- New York (State) -- Albany
- Newspaper employees -- Labor unions -- New York (State) -- Albany
- Printing industry -- Employees -- Labor unions -- New York (State) -- Albany
- Printing industry -- New York (State) -- Albany
- Albany Printing Pressmen, Assistants, and Offset Workers Union, No. 23-C.
- International Printing Pressmen and Assistants Union of North America
- International Printing and Graphic Communications Union
- Graphic Communications International Union

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Instances
Constitutions and Bylaws, 1954-1968	Reel 1
Minutes, 1954-1955	Reel 1
Minutes, 1955-1959	Reel 1
Minutes, 1959-1961	Reel 1
Minutes, 1961-1964	Reel 1
Minutes, 1966-1967	Reel 1

Minutes, 1967-1968	Reel 1
Minutes, 1969-1972	Reel 1
Minutes, 1973-1976	Reel 1
Minutes, 1977-1980	Reel 1
Minutes, 1981-1985	Reel 1
Minutes, 1986-1989	Reel 1