

Press Release
Not issued

The proposed Labor History Archives at the University of Toledo can be another step in this institution's development. The city of Toledo enjoys a rich heritage in the development of organized labor in the United States. In 1959 the executive council of the AFL-CIO passed a resolution urging all local labor unions to consider preserving their records and possibly depositing them in a place where scholars could benefit from their study. Nothing has been done in northwestern Ohio to pursue this resolution. It is our proposal that steps be taken to create such a center on our campus as rapidly as possible.

The Labor History Archives would afford graduate students and scholars the basic raw materials for study and research. Such areas of inquiry could include: history, law, economics, sociology, labor-management relations, labor organizations and methods of operation, the role of local, state and national government in labor problems, the impact of technology on labor and others. With such a wide scope the work of the center would involve many departments and colleges within the University and community. In addition to the scholarly and educational values of such a project, the rich heritage of the entire city could be preserved for posterity. ~~The center should also be regarded as a source of information for local government agencies~~ Undoubtedly the scope of the work of the center will involve it in many aspects of urban problems, and in this area alone the center could make some marked contributions to the overall benefit of Toledo.

It is expected that materials for the center can be obtained from several sources. Local labor unions will be solicited for out-of-date records; labor leaders for personal papers; back files of labor publications; and materials now available on microfilm. In addition a survey will be taken of all area unions on the ~~papers~~ records which they have maintained and which, while they might not be willing to deposit them in an archives, would be willing to make available to scholars for study.