Holt Edgar Ross papers MSS.43

Dates: 1916-1966
Extent: 1 cubic foot
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Donor: Mr. and Mrs. Charles Brown, Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

Scope and Contents
The Holt Edgar Ross papers, pertaining to the state, national, and international labor scene, contain correspondence, speeches, poems, legal papers, published material, newspaper clippings, and miscellaneous items collected by Mr. Ross during his career as a labor leader.

Folder A, 1934-1966 contains Ross' personal correspondence and includes copies of letters to him from General Dwight D. Eisenhower (10-25-44) and President Harry S. Truman (1-19-53). Folders B.1, B.2, and B.3, 1936-1939, contains correspondence pertaining to the International Longshoreman's Union. Included are letters from labor union leaders and copies of Ross' letters.
In 1944 Ross attended the Trades Union Congress in Blackpool, England. Folder C contains correspondence (mostly copies), speeches, reports, and published material concerning this trip.

Ross' son was killed while dusting cotton by airplane. Folder D, 1951, contains correspondence regarding Ross' efforts to establish a union for crop dusting pilots.

In 1952 Mr. and Mrs. Ross traveled to Puerto Rico. Folder E consists of correspondence re this trip and reports by Ross on the Puerto Rican labor situation.

Folders F1 and F2 (1956) contain correspondence pertaining to the efforts of Louisiana labor leaders to hold a Holt Ross Day celebration.

Folders G1, G2, and G3 are made up of Ross' speeches (23) and notes for speeches. Included are speeches by Ed Miller (1) and Cecil S. Dearmond (1). Folder H contains poems (8) by Ross. Legal material pertaining to labor unions comprise folder I; published articles by Ross make up Folder J.

Folders K1 through K4 contain newspapers and clippings. Folder L contains aerial photographs of eastern world cities before, during, and after World War II bombing attacks.

Miscellaneous personal items including photographs (3) of Ross make up folders M1 through M4.
Biographical Data

Full name of person about whom biographical data is needed:
Holt Edgar Ross

Date and place of birth:
1897 Stonewall, Mississippi

Date and place of death:
8/4/1968 Laurel, Mississippi

Names of parents, wife or husband, children, or other family relationships:
Son, Ellis Ross, Dallas, Texas, deceased (October 20, 1968)
Son, Louis Edgar Ross, deceased (August, 1951)

Parents: Mr. Louis E. Ross, Sr. and Daisy Edna White Ross
Wife: Lucy Davis Ross, deceased

His occupation, activities, and place or places where he flourished:
Graduated from Cumberland University (Lebanon, Tenn.) 1924 (law). Admitted to
Mississippi Bar Association 1924. Practiced law until 1933 when he went
to work full time in the labor movement. He was representative of A. F. of L.;
Southern Representative of International Hod Carriers, Building and Common
Laborers' Union; 2nd President of the State (Mississippi) Federation of Labor.
Served until retirement as counselor and conciliator for A.F. of L. – C.I.O.

Titles of books or other sources where further information can be found:
The Laborers' Story, by Arch A. Mercy, 1954.

Name and address of person supplying data (and relation to biographee):
Mrs. Charles L. Brown, Jr., granddaughter

Date October 24, 1968
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>No. Items</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Personal correspondence</td>
<td>1934-66</td>
<td>18</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Includes letter to H. Ross from Dwight D. Eisenhower, 10/25/44 (copy) and letter to Ross from President Harry S. Truman, 1/19/53 (copy).</td>
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<tr>
<td>B1</td>
<td>International Longshoremen correspondence</td>
<td>1936-37</td>
<td>11</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Includes letters from:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>W. C. Bryant, Secretary Tampa Maritime Association, to H. Ross, 8/29/36.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>H. R. Bridges, Pres. Pacific Coast District Executive Board I.L.A., to H. Ross, 9/1/36</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wm. Green to J. P. Ryan, 9/28/37, 9/29/37 (copies).</td>
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<tr>
<td>B2</td>
<td>I. L. A. correspondence</td>
<td>1938</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gilbert Mers, Corpus Christi, Texas, to Ross (2) 10/19/38, 11/4/38</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
Ross to William Green, Pres. AF of L, 10/31/38, 11/3/38 (copies)

Ross to George L. Googe, Southern Repre. A. F of L., 11/2/38 (copy)

Ross to Mers, 11/2/38 (copy)

Wm. Green to Ross, 11/1/38, 11/14/38 (tele.), 11/15/38 (tele.)


B3 I.L.A. Correspondence 1939 7
Includes letters from:

Gilbert Mers to Ross, 1/4/39


Ross to Mers, 1/16/39 (copy)

Ross to R. E. Sundberg, Secre. I. L. A. Local No. 1224, Corpus Christi, Texas, 1/16/39 (copy).

Ross to R. H. Raymer, 1/16/39 (copy).


C Trip to England 1944 26
Includes letters from:

Ross to Moreschi, 9/6/44, 9/15/44 (2) 9/19/44 (copies).
Ross to Wm. Green, 9/19/44 (copy).

Herbert Tracy, Publicity officer, Trades Union Congress, London England, to Ross. 10/25/44

Typed copy of news article re: trip

Speech made by Ross in England

A report to Pres. (A. F. of L.?) by Ross re: trip

Misc. speeches

D Crop Dusting Folder 1951 214
Includes letters from:

Ross to Dr. John R. Steeleman, Assistant to President, Washington D.C., 8/28/51 (copy).

Ross to Wm. Green, 8/29/51 (copy).

E Puerto Rico Labor Story 1952 5
Includes letters from:

Robert M. Bathurst Brigadier General, U.S.A. to Ross, 3/12/52.


Reports: of personal conferences and contacts in Puerto Rico by Ross. Puerto Rican labor story by Ross giving description of island and the labor situation.

Fl Holt Ross Day (correspondence) 1956 18

Robert S. Green, Rec. and Cor. Secre. Construction and General Laborers Local Union No. 689, New Orleans, La., 10
letters from and various labor union leaders in La. Re: plans for "Holt Ross Day" (copies) 10/31/56, 11/2/56

Robert S. Green to Moreschi, 11/9/56 (copy)

Charles Bedell, Fin. Sec. City Employees Local Union 1069, Baton Rouge, La., to Robert S. Green, 11/6/56 (copy)

Lindsey J. Williams, Port Agent, Seafarers International Union, New Orleans, to Green, 11/6/56 (copy).


D. P. Frazier, Business Repre. International Hod Carriers, etc., Union, Jackson, Miss. to August Rossi, 11/6/56 (copy).


Vincent Morreale, Gen. Council International Hod Carriers, etc. Union to Robert S. Green, 11/9/56 (copy).

F2 Holt E. Ross Day (correspondence) 1956 19

John D. Ross, Pres. and Treas. International Hod Carriers, etc. Local No. 1450, and August Rossi, 11/12/56 (copy).


Woodrow E. Broussard, Fin. Secre and
Treas. International Hod Carriers, etc,
Local No. 762, to Robert S. Green, 11/15/56 (copy).

Robert S. Green to Moreschi, 11/16/56 (copy).

Moreschi to Robert S. Green, 11/19/56 (copy)

Green to Moreschi, 11/21/56 (copy)

Robert S. Green, August Rossi to Union leaders who had contributed to Holt Ross Day, 11/23/56 (12 letters, copies)

Robert S. Green to H. Ross, 11/28/56.

G1 Speeches by H. Ross 12
Includes letters to Ross re: speech

G2 Speeches by H. Ross, Ed Miller, and Cecil S. Dearmond. Also includes letter to Ross re: speech

G3 Notes for speeches 24

H Poems by H. Ross 8

I Legal Material 7

J Publications 5
Published articles, speeches by H. Ross

K1 Newspapers 7
Marine Workers Voice, April, 1931
The New Deal 5/5/33
A.F. of L. Weekly News Service 4/9/38
Seafarer's Log 2/24/50
Miss. Labor Federationist 3/17/50, 4/7/50
New York Times (in part) 5/3/50

K2 Newspaper clippings 13

K3 Newspapers clippings re La. Gov. 1938 4
Richard W. Leche and labor unions

K4  Newspapers clippings (scrapbook)  

K5  Newspapers, clippings, re: W.W.II  

L  Aerial photographs of eastern world cities before, during, after bombing attacks in World War II (not in folder)  

M1  Miscellaneous Items  
Includes photographs (3) of H. Ross, newspaper clipping of Mr. and Mrs. Ross, copies of Mr. Ross's discharge from National guard unit, etc.  

M2  Miscellaneous items  
Alumni directory supplement from Cumberland University, 2 Miscellaneous items by Ross, etc.  

M3  Miscellaneous items  

M4  Miscellaneous items  
Appointment of Ross as Colonel on staff of La. Gov. Earl K. Long, 1956  

Appointment of Ross as Arkansas Traveler by Gov. Orval E. Faubres, 1957  

Appointment of Ross as Colonel on staff of La. Gov. Jimmy Davis, 1961  

Volumes  

15
Appendix

Books in the Holt Ross collection

1. Auerback, Irving
   Are Unions Necessary?
   San Francisco, California, Plimpton Press, 1954. Autograph by Truing Auerback

2. Beard, Mary
   A Short History of the American Labor Movement New York, George H.
   Doran Co., 1924. In collection

3. Citrine, Sir Walter, ed.
   McIntosh, J, reporter
   Report of Proceedings at the 76th Annual Trade Unions Congress, London,
   Co-operative Printing Society Limited, 1944.

4. Cummings, James H.
   Tennessee Blue Book

5. Danish, Max D.
   William Green

6. Davis, Clayton C. & Gerald B.
   Construction Workers’ Pocket Reference Book, Michigan, Union Publishers,
   1947. In collection

7. Debnam, W. E.
   Weep No More, My Lady

8. Frey, John P.
   Craft Unions of Ancient and Modern Times.
   Autograph by John P.

9. Harris, Herbert
   Labor's Civil War
   New York, Alfred A. Knopf, 1940.

10. Johnston, Eric
11. Mercery, Arch A.
The Laborer's Story 1903-1953

12. Muller, Alden W, ed.

13. Packard, Frederick C., Jr., ed.
Great Americans Sneak
New York, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1950. In collection

14. Taft, Philip
The Structure and Gov't of Labor Unions Cambridge, Mass., Harvard Univ.

15. Constitutions of the International Hod Carriers' Building and Common

University, Miss., 1966. In collection

New Orleans, La., 1959. In collection
The following items have been routed to the above unit for appropriate disposition:


Mississippi:
  Canton: *Madison County Herald*; December 20, 1912.
  Jackson: *The New Deal*; May 5, 1933.
  Mississippi Labor Federationist; March 17, April 7, 1950.

  *Seafarers Log*; February 24, 1950.


Philippines: Manila: *Free Philippines*; August 15 (1:00am and 11:30am editions), August 16, 1945.