Manuscript Group 150
International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)
International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU); Manuscript Group 150  
Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Special Collections and University Archives  
1 box, 1 linear foot

Historical Note
The International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU) was founded in 1900, and it originated among Jewish and Italian immigrants, but soon expanded across all nationalities. Leading two major strikes in 1909 and falling victim to a devastating fire in 1911, the IGLWU soon became one of the most progressive and powerful unions throughout the 1930’s and 1940’s. Under the leadership of President David Dubinsky (1932-1966) and strong ties to Washington membership in influence soared. By the 1960’s, because of cheaper imports from overseas and new labor laws the IGLWU membership began to dwindle. Recently in 1995, the IGLWU combined with the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers’ Union, the Union of Needletrades and others to continue the union’s efforts.

Scope and Content
The International Ladies Garment Workers Union Manuscript (ILGWU) Collection is housed in one archival box. It consists of newsletters, newspapers (The Justice), brief histories of the union, songbooks, convention programs and retirement/dinner announcements. The materials span from 1950s through the early 1990s. Most union newsletters and newspapers are from the 1980s and 1990s.

Provenance
The International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU) collection was donated by James Watta in 2010-2011. It was collected by the Labor Center in the Department of Employment and Labor Relations at IUP.

Restrictions
None.

Processor
The collection was processed and organized, and this finding aid was created by Lynn Rice in 2011.

Contents Description
Box 1 (21 folders)
1. Histories of the ILGWU
4. Newspaper: Garment Worker, March 1956-April 1960
5. Newspaper: Garment Worker, June 1960-December 1962
15. Newsletter: *Union Worker*, Local Union, 1982-1984
18. Report to the Delegates, May 1983
22. ILGWU coffee mug (white plastic), no date (on display)