

Manhattan and Bronx Code Agency Records
Manuscripts & Archives Division
New York Public Library

MANHATTAN AND BRONX CODE AGENCY

Section Three of the National Industrial Recovery Act, signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1933, provided for the formulation of what were known as "codes of fair competition." These codes regulated labor practices, production standards, pricing, and other aspects of industry. They were formulated by committees, or "code authorities," made up of representatives of each industry, with the assistance of National Recovery Administration deputy administrators, and were then approved by the President. The code authorities for each industry - subdivided by region where necessary - were charged with the task of enforcement.

The purpose of the code system was to provide a mechanism with which the federal government could regulate and standardize industrial practices as part of its effort to promote economic recovery during the Depression. The Supreme Court invalidated the code system in May, 1935.

The New York Public Library holds office records, 1933-1935, of the code authorities for the Alcoholic Beverage Wholesale Industry, Beer Division, Third Regional Board; the Construction Industry, Painting, Paperhanging, and Decorating Division; Electrical Contractors, Local Administrative Committee; and the Motion Picture Laboratory Industry.

Code Authority, Third Regional Board,
Alcoholic Beverage Wholesale Industry, Beer Division

This code authority (called, alternatively, the Third Regional Board, Wholesalers and Distributors of Brewery Products) had jurisdiction over breweries and beer distributors in New York State. Its office was in New York City. Its records, 1934-1935, twelve linear feet, consist of a group of office files; transcripts, summaries, and calendars of hearings; industry member files; and a group of files that remain unsorted.

Office files - which have been organized into a rough alphabetical order - document the routine operations of the Board's New York office, and its dealings

with industry members, board members, inspectors, and New York State and federal agencies including the New York State Liquor Authority, the Federal Alcohol Control Administration, and the National Recovery Administration. They contain correspondence; minutes; permit applications; government directives; ballots and proxies; office expense vouchers; blank forms and examples of stationery; and clippings.

Industry member files contain the Board's correspondence with New York State brewers and beer distributors concerning payment of assessments, code violations, failures to submit forms, and other routine matters. Also included are complaints, completed forms, hearing notices, and some hearing transcripts.

A group of transcripts (with some summaries and calendars) of hearings held for industry members brought before the Board for not complying with codes, have been filed alphabetically by industry member name.

Two boxes of extremely jumbled material remain unsorted.

JM, 1/19/89

Note: The title "Manhattan and Bronx Code Agency" is probably inaccurate.

Manhattan and Bronx Code Agency
National Code Authority, Third Regional Board
Alcoholic Beverage Wholesale Industry
Beer Division

Container List

Box

Files

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | A - Dead file |
| 2 | Dead file - Federal Alcohol Control Administration |
| 3 | Federal Alcohol Control Administration - Miscellaneous |
| 4 | Miscellaneous - Permit Applications |
| 5 | Permit Applications - Z |

- | | |
|---|--|
| 6 | <u>Hearing Transcripts, Summaries, and Calendars</u> |
|---|--|

Industry Member Files

- | | |
|----|----------------------|
| 7 | Abele - Egan |
| 8 | Eichler - Hygrade |
| 9 | Ilacqua - Paxon |
| 10 | Pearson - Villareale |
| 11 | Virgilio - Zorn |

- | | |
|-------|-----------------------|
| 12-13 | <u>Unsorted Files</u> |
|-------|-----------------------|

Note: The 1962 inventory to the Manhattan and Bronx Code Agency records lists the contents of thirty boxes. The first seven of these contained the records of the Third Regional Board... This material has been organized and redistributed into boxes 1-13, as listed above. This means that there are duplicate boxes 8-13. Labels on the newly organized boxes indicate that these contain Third Regional Board... records.

MANHATTAN AND BRONX CODE AGENCY

Pre-Processing Inventory

21 transfiles, 9 boxes, & 4 binders of the records of the following departments of the Agency: Alcoholic Beverages, Construction, Electrical Contractors, & Motion Pictures, for the period 1933-35. The function of the Agency of the NRA was apparently the formulation and administration of codes of fair competition.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE WHOLESALE INDUSTRY, BEER DIVISION

Corr., Reports, Notices of Hearings, 1935
(bx. #1-#5)
Minutes of Board Meetings, Press Releases, & Registration Applications
(bx. #6)
N. Y. State Beer Assoc., Office Memoranda; Ballots & Proxies of election of members; Vouchers & Cancelled Checks, 1935
(bx. #7)

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY, PAINTING, PAPERHANGING, & DECORATING DIVISION

Bids File (contractors' estimates), 1935
(bx. #8-#9)
Hearings & Complaints File, 1935
(bx. #10-#11)
Assessments of Payments to the Code Authority, 1935
(bx. #12-#14)
Building Management Files, 1935
(bx. #15)

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS CODE AUTHORITY, LOCAL ADM. COMMITTEE

Corr., Bids, & Memoranda, 1935
(bx. #16-#21)
Registration Applications of Electrical Work or Service
(bx. #22)
Contract Registration Applications, Acc't bks. & Misc.
(bx. #23)

MOTION PICTURE LABORATORY INDUSTRY

Corr., Memoranda, 1934-35;
Minutes, Bd. of Directors of Motion Picture Lab. Ass'n of America, 1933-34;
Minutes, Recovery Committee of Motion Picture Lab. Industry, 1934
(bx. #24-#26)

MISCELLANEOUS

NRA Pamphlets - Codes of Fair Competition by Industry
(bx. #27)
Code Authority Pamphlets
(bx. #28)

Unsorted material
(bx. #29-#30)

Misc. Minutes: Weekly Reports of Executive Secretary, 1935 - 1 vol.
(item #31)
Executive Orders, Construction Industry, 1935 - 1 vol.
(item #32)
Minutes of Regular Meetings of Code Agency, 1935 - 1 vol.
(item #33)
Minutes of Trade Practices Complaints Committee, 1935
(item #34)
Four card file drawers
(item #35)

Comments: All of the material is labelled & placed when necessary in new containers. Many redundant copies & office supplies have been eliminated from the collection, samples of the stationary, etc., having been retained. The folders are in good shape; the files, however, in most cases, require re-ordering as sequences are uneven.