

THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY
RARE BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS DIVISION
ACCESSION SHEET

Accession # *88 M 36

Location 4-f-3/6

Title Samuel Gompers Papers

Approximate inclusive dates 1884-1925

Date of receipt 1926

Received from American Federation of
Labor

Volume on arrival Unknown

Number of boxes (after reboxing) 42 volumes; 10 boxes; Charter case - 11 l.f.

Condition Generally good

Restrictions None

Description

(SEE ATTACHED SHEETS)

Special Formats Photographs Maps Audio Tapes Films Graphics
 Artifacts Machine-readable records
 Other (list) _____

Temporary catalog card added entries

(SEE ATTACHED SHEETS)

Accessioned by JT

Date 5/27/88

SAMUEL GOMPERS PAPERS

ACCESSION SHEET

Biographical Note

Samuel Gompers (1850-1924) was born in London but came to the United States in 1863. He was influential in organizing the American Federation of Labor, and was president from the year of its founding in 1886 until 1924 with the exception of the year 1895.

Scope and Content

The Samuel Gompers Papers consist of Scrapbooks (1914-1925), Testimonials (1911 & 1917), Memorials (1924-1925), Photograph Albums (1918; 1886-1927) - Various Certificates(1909-1923) - Photographs - Artifacts - Ephemera, and Invitations - Membership Cards - Dues Books (ca.1886-1924); in addition, there is an oversize certificate (1894) in the Charter Case. The 42 scrapbook volumes are in two parts, occasional correspondence and clippings. The occasional correspondence is concerned with both public and private events in Gompers' life. Along with incoming correspondence are press-releases and printed matter. There is one scrapbook of political cartoons with other papers included. The 31 boxes of clippings do not contain much else other than printed matter. Three boxes of unbound scrapbook pages contain letters and clippings concerned with the occasions of various deaths in Gompers' family and of birthday celebrations. Placed at the end of the scrapbook material is a file of outgoing letters, 1893-1907, and a biographical sketch, 1893, removed from Personal Miscellaneous. The letters are part of the microfilm of Gompers letters in other New York Public Library holdings. The Testimonials are three items. There are two bound testimonials; the first was presented to Gompers by the California State Federation of Labor, ca.1911. The second testimonial commemorates Gompers' 50th wedding anniversary in 1917; it is kept in its original mahogany case. The third is an album of letters and resolutions from the occasion of the 1917 celebration. The Memorials are a bound memorial dedicated to Gompers by the Brotherhood of Painters,

Decorators, and Paperhangers of America, and a large album of letters and other papers at the time of his last illness and death. One of the Photograph Albums consists of portraits of Gompers and various group pictures. The second album was presented to Gompers in 1918 by the Italian Supreme Command. This series also contains various Certificates and other documents, including three Italian salutations, two of which are on vellum. Photographs include loose items found in the front of the first of the photograph albums described above. In addition, there is a large autograph portrait of Gompers. A few minor Artifacts and Ephemera are also included in this series. Finally, there are Invitations, arranged alphabetically, Membership cards of fraternal organizations, and Dues books of the Cigarmakers International Union.

SAMUEL GOMPERS PAPERS

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Volume</u>	<u>Contents</u>
	Scrapbooks 1914-1925
1-11	Occasional Correspondence, 1914-1924
12-42 1-31	Clippings, 1923-1925
<u>Box</u>	
1-3	Unbound Pages
4-5	Testimonials 1911; 1917
6	Memorials 1924-1925
7-8	Photograph Albums (1918; 1886-1927); Various Certificates (1909-1923)-Photographs-Artifacts-Ephemera
9-10	Invitations-Membership Cards-Dues Books (ca.1884-1924)
Charter Case	Certificate 1894 (oversize)