

Sources for the History of Unemployment and the Unemployed

This fact sheet was created to coincide with the conference From the Blanketeers to the Present: Understanding Protests of the Unemployed, German Historical Institute, 16 and 17 February 2007. It is not an exhaustive survey of resources for the history of the unemployed but an overview of key collections held at institutions that are members of SSLH ARC. Researchers should also check the indexes of the National Register of Archives. See: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/nra/>

Bishopsgate Institute

The Bishopsgate Institute has been collecting archive and printed material since its opening in 1895 and offers unrestricted access to these special collections in its Library's reading room. It now houses the archives and printed collections of politicians George Howell and Charles Bradlaugh, and co-operative pioneer and secularist George Jacob Holyoake. The Library has also recently acquired the archives of historian Raphael Samuel, the extensive London Co-operative Society collection and the Freedom Press Library, the latter containing a wide range of internationally published books on anarchism. The Library's collections are strongest on co-operation, secularism and trade unionism and we hold a variety of archive and printed material of interest to researchers exploring the history of unemployment and protest.

George Howell Collection

The George Howell Archive contains material for those interested in trade unionism and unemployed protest in the nineteenth century. The Howell Library contains a large selection of annual reports, pamphlets, publications and circulars issued by a wide variety of nationwide trade unions from the early nineteenth to twentieth century detailing their activities, including various protests and issues concerning unemployment. The George Howell ephemera collection also includes handbills, notices and other material covering this area.

London History Workshop Archive

The London History Workshop photographic archive also holds a variety of images of protests of all kinds, covering many of the unemployed protests from the 1880s to the 1930s.

National Miners Support Network Papers

The Library also holds the papers of the National Miners Support Network which was established in 1992 at the initiative of the Socialist Campaign Group of Labour MPs and was supported by the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) and Women against Pit Closures. It aimed to encourage and coordinate maximum practical support and solidarity for miners in all areas of the country following the Government's announcement of pit closures in 1992. The collection includes publicity material, correspondence and other papers concerning the organisations activity.

Reg Glover Papers

Papers of the engineer and socialist Reg Glover (1900-1977) are also held at Bishopsgate Library. They include typescript and handwritten drafts of the autobiography, 'Thimble Pie', along with correspondence and manuscripts regarding the Coventry 'Gang' System, the engineering trade, strikes and other matters during the 1960s and 1970s.

Contact:

Bishopsgate Library
230 Bishopsgate
London EC2M 4QH

Tel 020 7392 9270
Fax 020 7392 9275
Email library@bishopsgate.org.uk
Web <http://www.bishopsgate.org.uk>

Hull University Archives

Archives and manuscripts have been collected since the establishment of Hull University College in 1928. The main strengths of the collections are: modern political papers; pressure group archives; trades union and labour archives; modern English literary manuscripts; landed family and estate papers; business records; religious archives; South East Asian manuscripts; records of Hull University College and the University of Hull; and papers of individuals employed by or associated with the University.

Material on the history of unemployment and unemployed protests is scattered amongst the archives of individuals, trade unions and pressure groups involved in various campaigns and in providing welfare and educational support to the unemployed. Files on redundancies and unemployment in individual constituencies, government policy and unemployment benefits can be found amongst the political papers of the following MPs: Will Howie, Labour MP, Luton [DMO]; Kevin McNamara, Labour MP, Hull North [DMC]; Austin Mitchell, Labour MP, Grimsby [DMM]; John Prescott, Labour MP, Hull East [DMR]; Sir Patrick Wall, Conservative MP, Beverley and Haltemprice [DPW]; David Winnick, Labour MP, Walsall North [DMW].

Jock Haston (1913-1986) [DJH]

Merchant seaman, secretary of, and parliamentary candidate for, the Revolutionary Communist Party and later, member of the Labour Party. The Haston archive comprises the records of a number of Trotskyist groups, principally the Revolutionary Communist Party. In the mid 1940s there was debate within the RCP on the issue of unemployment and redundancy and there are various internal bulletins, proposals by individual members (including Gerry Healy), Central Committee reports and resolutions on the subject.

Liberty (National Council for Civil Liberties) (est.1934) [DCL]

One of Britain's oldest and most consistently successful pressure group, founded in the 1930s against a background of mass unemployment, hunger marches and the rise of fascism.

The main aim of its founders was to observe and monitor police behaviour during demonstrations and protests, especially during the largest of the Hunger Marches which arrived in London on 25 February 1934. There are numerous files on the police, meetings and demonstrations, and free speech during the 1930s, and some of this material is relevant to the study of unemployed protests. For example there is a file on demonstrations by the unemployed at Camden Town Labour Exchange and More Street, Hackney in 1939, and another on unemployment and related issues in South Wales, 1935-36.

National Unemployed Workers' Movement [DBN/20; DX/70]

Amongst the papers of Reginald Bridgeman (1884-1968) are two files on the NUWM, one containing correspondence relating mainly to its activities in Southall and Uxbridge, and to Bridgeman's work as a NUWM representative before the Court of Referees, 1931-36, and the other containing publicity material issued by the campaign committee of the National Congress and March Council, following the Hunger March in February 1934. Amongst a miscellaneous collection of archives donated by John Saville is a set of photocopies of reports of National Conferences in 1929-30 and of meetings of the National Administrative Council, 1931-36.

Sir Mark Sykes (1879-1919) [DDSY2]

Traveller and writer specialising in the Middle East, officer in the militia, diplomat and military intelligence officer, Conservative MP for Central Hull. From around 1907, Sir Mark began to develop his political career, contesting a number of elections before taking Central Hull for the Conservatives in 1911. During this period he wrote,

published and spoke on a wide range of political issues, including unemployment, and there are several surviving speeches on this subject within his personal papers, dating from 1908-9.

Tony Topham (1929-2004) [DTO]

Labour historian, adult education tutor (specialising in trade union education), member of the workers' control movement and of the Labour Party. Topham's personal papers include files on the Hull Unemployed Education Project, established in 1981 to run adult education classes for the unemployed, and a related project to create 'jobs from warmth', Hull Energy Action Team. There are also files about classes run for the Workers' Educational Association in the early 1960s on the subject of redundancy and papers produced by a study group into seasonal unemployment in Scarborough, 1958.

Miscellaneous items

- DP/161/38-39 Unemployment benefit payments books (2), 1929-39 [From the archives of the National Union of Operative Heating and Domestic Engineers, Whitesmiths and General Ironworkers, Hull Branch]
- DP/179/19-20 Letters (2) from Philip Larkin, poet and Hull University Librarian, to his friend Colin Gunner, arguing that abolishing unemployment benefit will eradicate unemployment, 1980-81
- DX/78/2 Printed. 'Speech for the Defence', by John Burns, delivered at his trial for riot and unlawful assembly in Trafalgar Square at an unemployed demonstration, 18 Jan 1888
- DX/255/1 Handbill from Hull and District Trades Council. 'A mass demonstration of the unemployed in the City Hall on Wednesday, November 28th, 1928'
- DX/280 Ts. paper on unemployment in Hull 1923-30, probably by Frank William Bromhead, with application form for allotments for the unemployed in Hull c1935
- DAR/6/1h Leaflet issued by the National Unemployed Workers' Committee Movement, c1922
- DAR2/11/78 Programmes and syllabuses for courses at Marx Memorial Library, including on unemployment, late 1930s [From: the papers of Robin Page Arnot (1890-1986), Communist and historian]
- DCP/21 Notebook labelled 'People's March' about an anti-unemployment march in Hull, c1985, [From the archives of Hull branch of the Communist Party of Great Britain]
- DHL/3 & 5 Notes for lectures by J Henry Lloyd, including on unemployment, 1919-55 [From: the papers of J Henry Lloyd (1883-?1966), trade unionist]
- DPB/5/9 'Unemployment and industrial maintenance', National Guild Council leaflet no.2, December 1922

Contact:

Hull University Archives
Brynmor Jones Library
University of Hull
Hull HU6 7RX

Tel 01482 465265
Fax 01482 466205
Email archives@hull.ac.uk
Web www.hull.ac.uk/arc

London School of Economics Archives

The Archives Division has a wide range of material relating to unemployment throughout its holdings and researchers are advised to use the Archives Catalogue to track down all available resources (see <http://archives.lse.ac.uk/>). The following are details of the more significant holdings for research into the history of unemployment.

Brian Abel Smith, (1926-1996), professor of social administration (ABEL-SMITH)

Personal and working papers of Professor Brian Abel-Smith, Professor of Social Administration, [1970-1989], includes work on social security and unemployment. Covering Dates: 1966-1989

William Henry Beveridge, (1879-1963), Baron Beveridge, economist (BEVERIDGE)

Personal papers of William Henry Beveridge, 1st Baron Beveridge of Tuggal, and his family, [1880]-1963, comprising the following. Includes papers relating to unemployment and Labour Exchanges, 1902-1960, notably material of the Mansion House Unemployed Fund, 1904-1905, the London Unemployed Fund, 1904-1905, and the Central (Unemployed) Body for London, 1905-1908; correspondence, notes and statistics concerning unemployment insurance and labour exchanges in Germany, 1907, and Britain, 1908; notice and syllabus of lectures by Beveridge on 'The economics of unemployment', 1908; material relating to the publication of unemployment: a problem of industry (Longmans and Co, London 1909), 1907-1934, notably correspondence with Longmans, royalty payments, reviews, and notes and drafts relating to later editions; papers relating to his work at the Board of Trade, 1908-1960, including correspondence and memoranda concerning juvenile employment, 1910-1911, reports and speeches concerning labour exchanges in Ireland, 1910-1919, and Ghent, Belgium, 1913-1914, and various memoranda on the working of labour exchanges, 1915-1916; material concerning the unemployment insurance scheme, 1907-1944, including memoranda and drafts, reports, statistics, committee minutes, press cuttings and Beveridge's notes about unemployment insurance by industries and casual labour; working notes and correspondence for Insurance for all and everything (Daily News, London, 1924); Ministry of Labour reports, notes and memoranda on unemployment insurance, 1910-1929; Government Acts, reports and publications on unemployment, 1902-1930. Covering Dates: 1869-1963.

William Henry Beveridge, (1879-1963), Baron Beveridge, economist, unemployment papers (BEVERIDGE UNEMPLOYMENT)

Central and Local Government reports and pamphlets collated by Sir William Henry Beveridge, 1886-1914, relating to the causes and incidence of unemployment and its possible cures, such as labour exchanges, benefits and relief, and including material created by the Charity Organisation Society, provincial Distress Committees (Birkenhead, Birmingham, Bournemouth, Bristol, Burton-upon-Trent, Coventry, Dudley, East Ham, Edinburgh, Great Yarmouth, Halifax, Leeds, Leicester, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Norwich, Nottingham, Plymouth, Reading, Sunderland, Warrington, West Ham, and Wolverhampton), various London boroughs (Bermondsey, Bethnal Green, Camberwell, Chelsea, Deptford, Finsbury, Fulham, Greenwich, Hackney, Hammersmith, Hampstead, Holborn, Lambeth, Lewisham, Paddington, Poplar, Marylebone, Saint Pancras, Southwark, Stepney, Stoke Newington, Wandsworth, Westminster, and Woolwich), the Central (Unemployed) Body for London, and the government of Great Britain. Includes reports and pamphlets on unemployment written by individual authors, for which there is an index. Covering Dates: 1886-1914.

Beveridge Unemployment Insurance Committee (COLL MISC 0014)

Papers relating to the Unemployment Insurance Committee. Covering Dates: 1911-1915.

Charles Booth, (1840-1916), ship owner and social commentator (BOOTH)

Working papers of the Survey of 'Labour and Life of the People' and 'Life and Labour of the People in London' by Charles Booth 1886-1903, includes information on London's trade and industry and includes a

series of case histories from Stepney Union workhouse giving detailed information about the causes of unemployment and poverty in individual cases. Covering Dates: 1885-1905.

David Frederick Schloss, (1850-1912), author (COLL MISC 0221)

Description: Typescript of 'Insurance against unemployment'. Covering Dates: 1909.

Webb National Registration (COLL MISC 0238)

Papers collected/created by Beatrice Webb as a member of the Sub-Committee on National Registration, including unemployment Insurance. Covering Dates: 1915-1918.

Sir Theodore Morrison, (1863-1936), educationalist (COLL MISC 0239)

Two letters to Sidney Webb, relating to Morrison's version of a scheme by Webb for dealing with the unemployed. Covering Dates: 1908.

William Pember Reeves, (1857-1932), journalist, politician and economist (COLL MISC 0524)

Papers concerning labour legislation in New Zealand and Australia including the unemployment board. Covering Dates: 1901-1902.

Frederic Hillersdon Keeling, (fl 1911-1921), writer (COLL MISC 0841)

Correspondence, official print and statistics, press cuttings, reports and leaflets from local labour exchanges, labour juvenile employment, juvenile labour exchanges and juvenile employment committees in England and Ireland. Covering Dates: 1911-1921.

Salvation Army Farm Colony (COLL MISC 0842)

Hackney Union Report upon men maintained at the Salvation Army Farm Colony, quarterly reports listing men by name, brief history, dates of admission and discharge, also a copy of a letter about Laindon Army colony by W.G. Martley and T.C. Witherby, and the regulations of the Arbeitshaus der Stadt Berlin. Covering Dates: 1899-1907.

Church Army; Men's Social Department (COLL MISC 0843)

Letter from Colin F Campbell to the Reverend J.C. Pringle enclosing particulars of 50 married men who applied for aid to the Church Army in September 1906. Covering Dates: 1906.

Ministry of Agriculture: Departmental Committee on Agricultural unemployment Insurance (COLL MISC 1007)

National Farmers' Union copy of the minutes of the Ministry of Agriculture's Departmental Committee on Agricultural unemployment Insurance, May 1925-August 1926. Covering Dates: 1925-1926.

Arthur Ebenezer Cooke, (fl 1862-1935), trade unionist (COOKE)

Material collected by Arthur Ebenezer Cooke, 1886-1936, mainly concerning trade unions of lithographic artists, designers, engravers and process workers including papers relating to unemployment and unemployment levies. Covering Dates: 1886-1936.

Fabian Society Archives (FABIAN SOCIETY)

Correspondence and papers of the Fabian Society including investigations into unemployment and social security. Covering Dates: 1881-1980.

Independent Labour Party (ILP)

The ILP papers comprise an extensive and wide range of papers from a number of sources and includes many publications relating to unemployment. Covering Dates: 1893-1978.

Access: Mainly open; some items closed.

International Marxist Group (INTERNATIONAL MARXIST GROUP)

The papers of the International Marxist Group consist mainly of conference papers for the World Congress of the Fourth International, and discussion documents regarding industrial relations, Labour Government policy, and ways in which the group planned to further their aims within the class struggle. The collection also includes publications from various trade unions and the Trades Union Congress concerning unemployment, industrial relations, and legislation affecting unions. Covering Dates: 1969-1988.

George Lansbury, (1859-1940), politician (LANSBURY)

Lansbury's personal and political correspondence; correspondence between Lansbury's biographer, Raymond Postgate, and others after his death; correspondence and papers on subjects of interest to Lansbury, including unemployment. Covering Dates: 1877-1940.

Violet Rosa Markham, (1872-1959), afterwards Carruthers, Liberal activist and public servant (MARKHAM)

Material relating to Violet Markham's career including, the Central Committee on Women's Employment, the Unemployment and Assistance Board. Covering Dates: 1883-1958.

James Edward Meade, (1907-1995), economist (MEADE)

Economic and personal papers including work on unemployment. Covering Dates: 1921-1995.

Stanley Orme, (1923-2005), Lord Orme of Salford, politician (ORME)

Political papers of Stanley Orme. The papers relate to his work as a government minister in the Northern Ireland Office and subsequently the Department for Health and Social Security (1974-1979), Labour Party Opposition Spokesman on Trade and Industry (1979-1983), Energy (1983-1987), and Chairman of the Parliamentary Labour Party (1987-1992). Section 3 consists mainly in correspondence, and includes discussions of industrial policy and unemployment. Section 5 is devoted to the significant amount of material relating to the 1984-1985 miners' strike. Covering Dates: 1974-2004.

Political and Economic Planning and Policy Studies Institute (PEP/PSI)

Papers of PEP and PSI. comprising administrative and research papers including materials on unemployment. Covering Dates: 1922-1997.

Peter David Shore (1924-2001), Baron Shore, politician (SHORE)

Political papers of Lord Shore including material relating to the governments of Harold Wilson and James Callaghan and Labour Party politics. Covering Dates: 1958-2001. Access: Mainly open; some items closed

Martha Beatrice Webb, (1858-1943), nee Potter, social reformer and Sidney James Webb, (1859-1947), Baron Passfield, politician (PASSFIELD)

Papers of Beatrice and Sidney Webb, 1835-[1985], including correspondence and papers relating to industrial organisation, unemployment and reconstruction; cabinet papers on national expenditure and national insurance and pensions.]. Covering Dates: 1835-c1985.

Women's Industrial Council (WIC)

Correspondence and papers concerning the administration and incorporation of the Council; papers and correspondence relating to surveys concerning Trade Unions, the employment of teachers in hospitals, women admitted to workhouses, schools, and women's trades and conditions; correspondence and papers relating to the Council's Education Committee, and correspondence concerning Lipton Ltd; letter books and other correspondence, and printed material concerning unemployment in other European countries; correspondence and papers concerning technical education; and completed forms and charts relating to the home work survey. Covering Dates: 1895-1910.

Richard Morris Titmuss, (1907-1973), professor of social administration (TITMUSS)

Description: Includes papers relating to the National Insurance Advisory Committee and other work on unemployment. Covering Dates: c1938-1973.

Contact:

Archives
Library, London School of Economics
10 Portugal Street
London
WC2A 2HD

Tel 020 7955 7223
Fax 020 7955 7454
Email Document@lse.ac.uk
Web <http://www.lse.ac.uk/library/archives>

Modern Records Centre

TUC: MSS. 292

The archives of the TUC contain an extensive amount of material on this topic. The main sequence of files is concerned with the problem of unemployment and attempts to eradicate it and to make life easier for those who were unemployed. Included are files on the various conferences, marches and deputations which took place in the 1920s and 1930s. There is much discussion on the Unemployed Associations which the Trades Union Congress set up under the auspices of Trades Councils. There is a section on activities for those who were out of work, including Grith Fyrd (peace army) camps, Birmingham occupational centres, holiday camps, educational facilities, etc. Finally the problem of persons in receipt of relief being compelled by Public Assistance Committees to undertake work for very low rates of pay which had been done formerly by trade unionists for union rates of pay.

There are about 80 files containing correspondence, reports, minutes, pamphlets and other papers. There are additional files on unemployment insurance in the later deposit MSS.292/C. There are also many files on unemployment in the TUC archive MSS.292D which covers the period 1970–1990.

TGWU (MSS.126)

The Transport and General Workers' Union archive also contains material on this topic. There are papers on unemployment within the Bill Morris papers (MSS.126/BM) and in the papers of Ernest Bevin (MSS.126/EB), the latter mainly relating to insurance, though also including reports and statistics.

Dick Etheridge Papers (MSS.202)

There are many items in this collection relating to unemployment, particularly in relation to the car industry of the West Midlands. Etheridge was a shop steward at the Longbridge plant during the 1960s and 1970s and this collection contains a great deal of political material, correspondence and campaign material.

Iron and Steel Trades Confederation (MSS.36)

This collection contains files relating to unemployment within the iron and steel industry and other sectors from the early 20th century. It includes items on Idle Benefit /Unemployment Insurance for a range of industries, including agricultural workers, from 1916 to 1940's. Correspondence, reports and statistics 1920 – 1962 incl. circulars of the National Unemployed Workers' Movement, 1929.

Other collections:

There are many other collections of trades' union papers which contain items on unemployment. Many of the early annual reports include lists of those claiming benefits and collections such as the National Union of Vehicle Builders contain 'Out-of-Work' Books from 1905– 1922.

There are also items within the papers of the CBI and other employers' organisations including correspondence with the government, policy papers and minutes.

Contact:

The Archivist
Modern Records Centre
University of Warwick Library
Coventry
CV4 7AL

Tel 024 7652 4219
Fax 024 7652 4211
Email archives@warwick.ac.uk
Web <http://modernrecords.warwick.ac.uk>

Labour History Archive and Study Centre, People's History Museum

The People's History Museum is the national centre for the collection, conservation, interpretation and study of material relating to the history of working people in Britain. The museum galleries are housed in the Pump House: a former Edwardian hydraulic pumping station, Bridge Street, Manchester. The archives are housed at the People's History Museum's Head Office at 103 Princess Street, Manchester. The Labour History Archive and Study Centre (LHASC) is the only specialist repository for the political wing of the Labour movement. It holds records for working class political organisations from the Chartists to New Labour and includes the archives of the Labour Party and the Communist Party of Great Britain. The collections have been used for a variety of research purposes providing an insight into the social, political and economic life of the last two centuries. Besides housing papers of political organisations the LHASC collects the personal papers of radical politicians, writers and left wing organisations. Admission to the archive is free but it is essential to make an appointment.

Labour Party Records

The Labour Party collection has numerous records relating to unemployment, listed below are a selection of the larger collections of papers.

- LP/DAC Distressed Areas Commission: Social investigations into the conditions in the Distressed Areas c.1930s
- LP/ESH Eric Heffer Papers MP for Liverpool Walton from 1964-1991
Papers relating to unemployment including those specifically relating to Liverpool
- LP/HEN Arthur Henderson Papers This is an extremely miscellaneous collection, hardly representing the whole archive of Henderson's political career, should that have survived but does include some files on unemployment.
- LP/JSM James Smith Middleton Papers: Middleton (1878-1962) Assistant Secretary 1903-1934, and Secretary 1934-1944 of the Labour Representation Committee and the Labour Party. There are

numerous files in the collection relating to unemployment including LP/JSM/MT/1-51: Papers regarding the Unemployment Assistance Regulations (Means Test), December 1934

- LP/UNE Unemployment Correspondence and papers regarding unemployment, the Unemployed Workmen Bill [U.W.B.], 1909, and the Right to Work National Council.
- LP/GS/UNE General Secretaries Papers: Notes and press cuttings on Unemployment 1930-1959
- LP/WNC The War Emergency Workers National Committee 1914-1919 was a joint Labour organisation established at the very beginning of the World War 1 to protect the interests of the working classes on matters such as employment, wages and conditions of service and supply of essential commodities in the war-time situation. File LP/WNC/30/1 refers specifically to unemployment.

Communist Party of Great Britain Records (CPGB)

The CPGB collection also has numerous files relating to unemployment but probably the largest concentration of CPGB material on unemployment is collected in the Wal Hannington Papers

- CP/IND/HAN Wal Hannington Papers: Hannington was a founding member of the CPGB, and in 1921 was one of the founders of the National Unemployed Workers' Movement [NUWM], in which he was the leading figure until it was wound up during and after World War II. NUWM was the organiser and leader of the struggles of the Unemployed for improved conditions during its active history.

Department of Employment/Ministry of Labour

DOE Department of Employment 1850-1993: The Ministry of Labour [later Department of Employment] was created in 1916. Over the years the department has carried out work relating to youth employment, acquired powers relating to training and employment of the disabled and took over responsibility for the registration of trade unions. It co-ordinated the Labour Exchanges, resettlement of civilians after World War 1, demobilisation of troops and unemployment benefit. In addition to the archive material held at LHASC, the Department of Employment museum collection contains objects relating to employment and unemployment.

LHASC also has a pamphlet collection of over 18,000 covering numerous topics including unemployment. Other sources to be considered are the Labour Party and TUC reports which are also held at LHASC. A large proportion of LHASC catalogues including those of the Labour Party and Communist Party of Great Britain are available to search online at www.a2a.org.uk

People's History Museum: museum object collections

Researchers may also be interested in accessing the People's History Museum's collections that relate to unemployment, which include an extensive collection from the former Department of Employment, now the Department for Work and Pensions. A selection of records can be accessed on the museum's collections website by visiting www.phm.org.uk and selecting 'Search Our Collections' from the home page. Entering 'unemployment' in the 'General Search' box will yield a selection of relevant material, including a sample of records from the Department of Employment collection. There are also photographs in the Labour Party and Communist Party of Great Britain collections that relate to unemployment. Please address any museum object collection enquiries to Phil Dunn, Museum Registrar, People's History Museum at phil.dunn@phm.org.uk

Contact:

Labour History Archive and Study Centre
People's History Museum Head Office
103 Princess Street
Manchester
M1 6DD

Tel 0161 228 7212

Fax 0161 237 5965

Email archive@phm.org.uk

Web <http://www.phm.org.uk/>

National Library of Scotland

Since 1964 the National Library of Scotland has been very active in the collection of labour and trade union history with the major assistance of the Scottish Labour History Society and the Scottish Working People's History Trust. It has extensive coverage of the Scottish trade union movement's documentary record. Many collections contain papers relating to unemployment and the unemployed:

Acc. 4068 The records of the Edinburgh Typographical Society contain Out-of-work rolls 1935-1939 and Out-of-work benefit-book, 1936-1946 (Acc. 4068/97-100).

Acc. 4251 Papers, 1909-1973, of John MacLean connected with his political activism.

Acc. 4412 Minutes of the Unemployment Committee, 1914-5 of the Scottish Painter's Society, Edinburgh District Committee (Acc. 4412/20).

Acc. 4594 Benefit books, 1923-1940, of the Amalgamated Society of Mill-Sayers, Wood-Cutting Machinists and Wood Turners, Edinburgh Branch (Acc. 4594/12-15).

Acc. 4685 Records of the Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers, Edinburgh Branch, includes details of membership and numbers in receipt of benefits, March 1958-December 1960, (Acc. 4685/138).

Acc. 4707 Records of the Amalgamated Slater's Society of Scotland, includes Benefit Book, 1913-6, (Acc. 4707/29), State Sickness Benefit, 1918 (Acc. 4707/30), Benefit Society Book, 1932-9 (Acc. 4707/31), Accident and Compensation Book, 1936-40 (Acc. 4707/32), Banff and Macduff Branch: Sickness Book, 1946-57 (Acc. 4707/33).

Acc. 4725 Amalgamated Engineering Union, Edinburgh Central Branch, includes Sickness Benefit Book, 1960-56 (Acc. 4725/39), Donation and State Unemployment Benefits Book, 1937-59 (Acc. 4725/40).

Acc. 4727 Records of the Associated Shipwrights' Society, Leith Branch, includes Sickness, Disablement and Unemployment Register, 1906-12 (Acc. 4727/37); Sickness Registers, 1913-15 (Acc. 4727/38-39).

Acc. 4959 Records of the Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers, Abbeyhill Branch, includes Vacant Book (Unemployment Benefit), 27 March 1941 – 20 June 1959 (Acc. 4959/22); Benevolent Fund Book, October 1934 – 22 July 1959 (Acc. 4959/34).

Acc. 5862 Papers of Thomas Johnston, Secretary of State for Scotland, 1941-5, includes notes on Hansard's speeches on unemployment, 1924-9 (Acc. 5862/22).

Acc. 6088 Copies of papers, 1911, of George Dallas of the Independent Labour Party concerning a threatened legal action of the United Turkey Red Company Ltd., against him and the 'Forward' printing and publishing company and Thomas Johnston.

Acc. 12155 Ian Wood papers contains a series of socialist pamphlet literature and press cuttings on UK industrial relations:

Petersen, A. *Unemployment and 'Overproduction': Workers Unemployed and Starving because they Produce Too Much. The Cause and Remedy*, Arm and Hammer pamphlet, No 11, 1931 (Acc. 12155/3)

Castle, B. 'How can we avoid the Tragedy of Back to the Dole?' *The Tribune*, 1952 (Acc. 12155/8).

Dep. 204 Papers of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, Foundry Section, includes a volume of district returns of unemployment benefit payments, 1940-6 (Dep. 204/7).

Contact Details:

National Library of Scotland
Manuscripts Division
George IV Bridge
Edinburgh EH1 1EW
Tel: 0131 623 3876
Fax: 0131 623 3866
Email: manuscripts@nls.uk
URL: www.nls.uk

Senate House Library, University of London

The archive holdings of Senate House Library, University of London include the following items on unemployment:

- Essay on Scottish unemployment, manuscript volume containing 'An essay on the causes and cure of a redundant agricultural population', written in Glasgow, 1832-1833. Inscribed by Herbert Somerton Foxwell as written 'By a boy under 16 years of age' (ref. MSS171).
- Notes and essays on Political Economy written by Charles Booth, 1866-1915 (ref. MS797/III/27) includes 'Unemployment and Industrial Policy.' undated (3 leaves.)
- The Frank Milligan papers (reference MS867) contain papers reflecting on unemployment in the 1930s
- The Ron Heisler papers include photographs of unemployment protests from the 1930s (reference MS1089/4/1)
- The papers of the Scarman Inquiry touch on the effects of unemployment in 1981 within the West Indian Community (reference MS897/4/5)

The on-line archives catalogue of the University of London Research Library Services gives more details on these holdings and other sources, <http://archives.urls.lon.ac.uk/search.aspx>. Details of how to use Senate House Library Special Collections are included on its website,

<http://www.shl.lon.ac.uk/historic/historicaccess.shtml>. Archives users should give at least 24 hours notice of research visits.

Contact:

Special Collections
Senate House Library
Malet Street
London
WC1E 7HU

Tel 020 7862 8470
Fax 020 7862 8480
Email richard.temple@london.ac.uk
Web <http://www.ucl.ac.uk>

South Wales Coalfield Collection, University of Swansea

The University of Wales Swansea holds the South Wales Coalfield Collection (SWCC), which includes a wide range of printed and archival material on the history of the South Wales Coalfield. Much of the Collection relates to the National Union of Mineworkers (South Wales Area) and its predecessor, the South Wales Miners' Federation (SWMF). The collection is held in two locations, the Archives and The South Wales Miners' Library.

Amongst the material held in the Archives are the records of the central administration and its branches or lodges, personal collections and a large photographic collection and it is here that relevant material on unemployed protests, trade union involvement and pressure groups supporting the unemployed can be found, for example:

- Official correspondence between the SWMF/NUM(South Wales Area) and Bedwas Unemployed Lodge committee 1938-40.

Material relating to unemployed protests in particular material relating to the Hunger Marches of the 1930's, for example:

- Personal Collection: Claude Stanfield
1936 account written on 23 postcards of the Hunger March from Merthyr to London

Material relating to camps for the unemployed can also be found in the personal collections such as:

- Personal Collection: W.Eddie Jones (Cwmbran)
1935 letter from 18 unemployed men from Bargoed about conditions inside centres for the unemployed

Material relating to the Miners' strike 1984/5 can be found in Lodge minutes for the relevant years, correspondence, leaflets, posters, financial records, and various strike committees and miners' support groups minutes.

Pressure group material is dominated by correspondence, leaflets, minute books, newsletters and circulars relating particularly to the National Unemployed Workers Movement (N.U.W.M.), for example:

- Personal Collection: Arthur Lewis Jones
1938 National Unemployed Workers Union Dowlais Branch minute book

A large collection of photographs is also held in the Archives and include Hunger Marchers and particularly vivid photographs capturing different aspects of the 1984/5 strike.

The South Wales Miners' Library also houses part of the South Wales Coalfield Collection. It holds a wide variety of material, including oral history interviews and printed pamphlets, on the subjects of unemployment and the unemployed.

The Hunger Marches of the 1920s and 1930s are well represented in the oral history interviews, for example:

- AUD 301 Jim Minton – discusses the hunger march to London, 1922

The National Unemployed Workers Movement and the hunger marches of the 1930s are also discussed:

- AUD 446 Will Paynter – National Unemployed Workers' Movement and hunger marches

Printed material includes a number of titles by politically important men of the coalfield, including Wal Hannington, A.J. Cook and Lewis Jones:

- Hannington, Wal: Achievements of the Hunger March against the labour government Pub: National Unemployed Workers' Movement, 1930, SWCC pamphlets. HD5767 Han
- Hannington, Wal: Beware!: slave camps and conscription Pub: National Unemployed Workers' Movement, 193?, SWCC Pamphlets, D.M. Jones Pamphlets, Box 1
- Jones, Lewis: South Wales slave act special: full explanation of the unemployment allowances, Pub: Lewis Jones, 1935, SWCC Pamphlets, HD7095 Sou
- Cook, A.J: Nine days: the story of the general strike told by the miners' secretary, Pub: Co-operative Publications Society., 1928, SWCC pamphlets JN1135.5

The SWCC can be searched online through the following link:<http://www.swan.ac.uk/swcc/> However two further printed catalogues of material are available in the Archive Department itself. A number of photographs can be seen and audio material heard through the Coalfield Web Materials site, <http://www.agor.org.uk/cwm/>

Contact:

The SWCC is held at two different locations. Manuscript archives and photographs are held at:
Archives, Library & Information Services
University of Wales Swansea
Singleton Park
Swansea SA2 8PP
Tel 01792 295021
Email: archives@swansea.ac.uk

Audio and video, banners, posters and printed material are held at:
South Wales Miners Library
Hendrefoelan Campus
Gower Road
Swansea SA2 7NB
Tel 01792 518603
Email miners@swansea.ac.uk

TUC Library Collections, London Metropolitan University

The TUC Library Collections, established in 1922, transferred to London Metropolitan University, in September 1996. Core areas of the collection include trade union publications from the UK and overseas, documents relating to working conditions and industrial relations in various industries, and material collected from the various campaigns and policy areas in which the TUC has been involved since its foundation in 1868. All TUC conference documents, pamphlets and campaign material relating to unemployment are held, as are the relevant publications of individual trade unions. All TUC and union publications held are listed on our online catalogue at <http://catalogue.londonmet.ac.uk> . You can research TUC policy on unemployment 1868-1968 by searching TUC Congress Reports online at <http://www.unionhistory.info> .

Special Collections include

- Unemployment - 3 metres of official documents, pamphlets from political and pressure groups and local material – includes material on demonstrations, labour camps, small-holdings, etc
- Unemployment benefit – 2 metres of printed material

- Campaign material 1930s and 1980s - 1 metre of mainly printed ephemera from People's March, Jobs Express, etc
- London Trades Council – includes minute book of the Central Workers Committee on Unemployment 1905-7
- Unemployed Workers Centres – 1 metre of reports, bulletins and publicity material
- Gertrude Tuckwell Collection 1895-1921- folders relating to women's unemployment and loss of benefit after WW1 – online catalogue at http://www.londonmet.ac.uk/library/x60186_24.doc
- Press cuttings on National Unemployed Workers' Movement – online database at <http://webapps2.north.londonmet.ac.uk/apps/tuc/search.cfm>

Audiovisual resources on strikes include a large photograph collection [open to researchers later in 2007] and union produced videos. A selection of visual material on unemployment [photos, posters, etc] is available on The Union Makes Us Strong : TUC History Online at <http://www.unionhistory.info>

Further details of the Collections can be found at www.londonmet.ac.uk/libraries/tuc or www.unionhistory.info

Contact:

Christine Coates, Librarian
TUC Library Collections
London Metropolitan University Learning Centre
236 Holloway Road
London N7 6PP

Tel 020 7133 2260
Fax 020 7133 2529
Email tuclib@londonmet.ac.uk
Web <http://www.londonmet.ac.uk/libraries/tuc>

The Welsh Political Archive, National Library of Wales

The Welsh Political Archive was established in 1983 to coordinate the collection of archives and documents relating to the political history of Wales. Its content includes the papers of individual Welsh politicians (such as David Lloyd-George); leaflets and pamphlets from Welsh political parties (including Plaid Cymru) and information on Welsh nationalist movements such as the Parliament for Wales Campaign and the fight for political devolution in the region. The National Library of Wales has scores of stray documents and letters relating to the general theme of unemployment and the unemployed. The following are some of the more substantial items:

- J. Sylvester Papers file B28 - press cuttings and other papers, Feb-Apr 1929, relating to We Can Conquer Unemployment and the build-up to the general election of 30 May 1929, including a typescript 'Report of Proceedings at a Luncheon given to Newspaper Representatives by Mr Lloyd George at the House of Commons on Tuesday, 12th Mar 1929', and various press cuttings describing D. Lloyd George's election meetings.
- Bute Estate Archives P1/147 1919, Dec 23 - An Act to increase the rate of unemployment benefit payable under the National Insurance (Unemployment) Acts, 1911 to 1918, and to make certain consequential amendments to those Acts.
- South Wales and Monmouthshire Coalowners Association no. 33: Correspondence with Minister of Health, Minister of Labour and Unemployment Assistance Board. Memorandum submitted to Minister of Health.
- Council for the Principality Records 2/42 i-ii Unemployment levels in the Principality, 1975-80; Records 2/42A Special Temporary Employment Programme for Unemployed People (Wales), 1977-83.

- Committee of Welsh District Councils ED/1/9 Unemployment file, Nov 1984-Dec 1988; ED/1/9iii Unemployment, 1995, Oct-1996, Sept.
- Dafydd Elis Thomas Papers O10/9 - Papers relating to the payment of unemployment benefit, 1977-85.
- Herbert Stanley Jevons papers 188: papers on unemployment; papers 51 'Unemployment: a statement', 1907.
- Huw T Edwards Papers: miscellaneous letters on unemployment in Wales, mainly in north Wales.
- James Griffiths Papers C4/117 - papers and press cuttings, 1938, relating to unemployment in the steel, sheet and tinplate industries within the borough of Llanelly; C4/118 papers and press cuttings, 1938-58, concerning the tinplate and other industries and unemployment in south Wales.
- Jill Hutt Papers 7: 1987-9, relating to unemployment and the Wales Campaign Against Workfare, set up to oppose the Government's plans to introduce a new training scheme for adults in September 1988; Papers 19-20: relating to other groups, including the Cardiff Unemployed Group, 1963-98.
- Labour Party Wales: archive file 67 - Official monthly unemployment and job vacancy statistics, 1974-78; archive file 173 - Papers relating to the Wales TUC policy on unemployment and the Welsh economy, 1975-79; archive file 175 - Papers, correspondence and press cutting, relating to the steel industry and unemployment (including 'Proposed Developments in the Steel Industry, 1972-81); archive file 178 - Papers, correspondence and press releases relating to unemployment figures, 1980; archives S/51: the file contains press releases and circulars on the Labour Party and unemployment, some relating to Wales.
- Leo Abse Papers file C/4-6 - File on youth training, employment and unemployment, 1959-74; papers C/106 - File on unemployment, 1977-81.
- Lord Cledwyn Papers C31 - File on unemployment, 1984.
- Lord Hooson Papers - Miscellaneous files containing papers on unemployment in Montgomeryshire.
- Tŷ Cenedl collection, file AV/6 - Protests and strikes, including the Miners' Strike (1984), the closure of the Shotton Steelworks, unemployment campaigns, etc., 1970s-80s.
- Papers mainly relating to the work of the Unemployment Assistance Board (Cardiff) Sports and Social Club, 1935-45.
- TUC Wales Archive - Class G3: material on Employment and Unemployment.
- Bert Pearce Papers WA 4/4: The file comprises Wales People's March for Jobs committee minutes and planning conference, Oct. 1981, Midlands People's campaign for jobs and Merthyr peoples campaign for jobs papers; WJ/11: The file includes papers relating to unemployment, and the Young Communist League.
- Robin Reeves Papers S/58: file on unemployment, 1980-86.
- Sir Daniel Lleufer Thomas Papers C1/10 - Correspondence, 1928, from Hugh Seebohm and his son, Derrick, relating to the possible emigration of unemployed Welsh miners to Canada.
- Elwyn and Margaret Davies Papers C11/1 - Notes, press cuttings, etc, on industry in Wales from the wool trade of medieval times to lead and coal mining, copper smelting, tin, steel and iron works; a list of unemployed in Wales, 1922-49.
- Keith Best Papers 69 - The unemployed Nov 1984-May 1987.

- Dr Thomas Jones CH Papers: Vol B5 relating to the advisory committees of the Unemployment Assistance Board, Aug 1935-Oct 1936; Vol C4 papers relating to unemployment including remedial policies pursued and remedial institutions created by the Government, but also the records of private groups working for amelioration, some of which had access to government material. 5 Collections of papers relating to private groups of different kinds. Some of these, such as the Nuffield College Survey of World War II, had semi-official status and their papers include valuable studies and memoranda; Vol C3 and Vol C4 Economic Policy, papers Dec 1916-28 Nov 1918, papers 6 Jun 1919-4 Apr 1935; Vol C5 Industrial Relations, papers 27 May 1909-Oct 1919; Vol C6 Industrial Relations, papers 26 Jan 1920-9 Nov 1921; Vol C7 Industrial Relations, papers 18 Dec 1922-29 Dec 1925; Vol C8 Industrial Relations, papers Feb 1926-28 Jan 1927; Vol C9 Industrial Relations, papers 4 April-27 July 1927; Vol C10 Industrial Relations, papers 23 Jun 1927-19 Feb 1929; Vol C11 Unemployment general, papers 16 Dec 1921-22 Feb 1933; Vol C12 Unemployment, Astor Group, papers 1 Aug 1922-21 Jun 1926; Vol C13 Unemployment: Industrial Transference Board, 24 Jan-May 1928 Emigration Schemes, Feb 1928-11 Mar 1929; Vol C14 Unemployment: National Council for Social Service, Coalfields Distress, 29 Nov 1928-22 Oct 1932; Vol C15 Unemployment: Unemployed Assistance board, 24 Jun 1934-9; Dec 1935; Vol C16 Unemployment: Unemployment Assistance Board, 8 Feb 1936-17 Dec 1937; Vol C17 Unemployment: Unemployment Assistance Board, 20 Jan 1938-24 Oct 1945; C11, Nos 1-76, correspondence, memoranda and papers relating to unemployment and government action, 16 Dec 1921-22 Feb 1933.

Contact:

The Welsh Political Archive
The National Library of Wales
Aberystwyth
Ceredigion
SY23 3BU

Tel 01970 632866
Fax 01970 632883
Email holi@llgc.org.uk
Web <http://www.llgc.org.uk>

Working Class Movement Library

The Working Class Movement Library is a national collection of the history of British and Irish radical and labour movements from the late 18th century up to the present day. It includes books, pamphlets, leaflets, banners, pottery, prints, photographs, personal papers, posters, videos, trade union records and much else that documents and illuminates the story of working class struggles for social justice, democracy and equality. The Library is open to everyone to visit between 10am and 5pm Tuesday to Friday.

National Unemployed Workers' Movement (NUWM) material:

- 6th National Conference report, 1929 (at that stage known as National Unemployed Workers' Committee Movement) ; 7th National Conference report, 1931
- National Administrative Council meeting reports 1931-1936
- 2 Boxes of pamphlets, papers, press cuttings and ephemera

Periodicals

- Out Of Work - The National Administrative Council Of the NUWM - Mar 1921-Feb 1923, Vol. 1 Nos. 1-53
- Unemployed News - The N.A.C. of the National Unemployed Workers Committee Movement - Dec 1928 Nos.1-2

- Unemployed Special - Organ of the NUWM - Jul 1932 No.1
- Unemployed Organiser - Paper of the Unemployed Workers Charter - 1986 (9 copies)
- Unemployed Journal - Paper of the Unemployed Workers Charter Combine - Jan 1994 - 1 copy

Miscellaneous

- 4 boxes of assorted material on unemployment, largely dating from the 1980s but with some earlier material (earliest 1930s) - handwritten list available on request
- Manuscript copy of Sid Elias's autobiographical memoirs
- Richard Croucher, *We refuse to starve in silence: a history of the National Unemployed Workers' Movement, 1920-46*, London: Lawrence and Wishart, 1987. 216,(8)p of plates;ill.
- Wal Hannington, *A short history of the unemployed*. London: Gollancz, 1938. 94p
- *Black coffins and the unemployed*. London: FACT, 1939. 96p

Contact:

Working Class Movement Library
Jubilee House
51, The Crescent
Salford M5 4WX

Tel 0161 736 3601
Email enquiries@wcml.org.uk.
Web <http://www.wcml.org.uk>