

# Concordia University Library, Special Collections

## Finding Aid - S. A. Rochlin collection of South African political and trade union organizations (C009)

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**S. A. Rochlin collection of South African  
political and trade union organizations**

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## Summary information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Concordia University Library, Special Collections
<b>Title:</b>	S. A. Rochlin collection of South African political and trade union organizations
<b>Title [statRep]:</b>	Compiled by S.A. Rochlin
<b>Reference code:</b>	C009
<b>Date:</b>	1912-1960, predominant 1920-1950 (date of creation)
<b>Physical description:</b>	0.73 m of textual records
<b>Language:</b>	English
<b>Dates of creation, revision and deletion:</b>	Created 2014

## Custodial history

The material was moved to the private home of an unnamed individual affiliated with the South African Jewish Board of Deputies after Rochlin's death in 1961. It is likely that some of this material was then offered to Frank Thorold Booksellers in Johannesburg. The collection was purchased at a cost of £250 from Frank Thorold Booksellers by Donald Savage in 1965 for the Vanier Library at Loyola College, which merged with Concordia University in 1974.

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## Scope and content

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This collection contains documents collected by S.A. Rochlin in the course of his activities as a historian, archivist, and researcher. The documents in this collection were mainly created in South Africa between 1912 and 1960. This collection contains the documents of communist and labor organizations active in South Africa during the 1920s through the 1940s, including the Communist Party of South Africa, United Communist Party, South African Labour Party, Industrial Socialist League, South African Trades Union Congress, and South African Association of Employees Organizations. This collection also contains the papers of Cecil Frank Glass, a member of the Industrial Socialist League in Cape Town and the Communist Party of South Africa. C.F. Glass's documents were given to Rochlin around 1939 by Glass' first wife Fanny Klenerman.

Collection consists of 607 documents, including 90 pamphlets, 46 newspaper or periodical titles, and folders containing 471 miscellaneous documents, including minutes, accounts, flyers, news clippings, correspondence, and handbills. Many of the documents in this collection are unique. As a result of their ephemeral nature it is unlikely that they are to be found elsewhere.

This collection is organized according to the following series:

C009/A Pamphlets

C009/B Periodicals and newspapers

C009/C Folders

C009/D Microfilm reels

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## Notes

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### Title notes

- **Variations in title:** The collection was identified by Frank Thorold Booksellers as the Rochlin collection relating to left wing political movements in S. Africa.
- **Source of title proper:** Title based on the content of the collection and the name of its collector.

### Physical condition

Documents are extremely fragile. Many records are yellowed and faded. Other records are torn, discolored, and foxing. Brittle documents are cracked and flaking.

### Immediate source of acquisition

Purchased for the Vanier Library by Donald Savage in 1965.

### Arrangement

Original order of the material has been maintained.

### Conditions governing use

Reproduction for scholarly purposes is permitted.

Use of material in a publication is only possible with the authorization of the copyright owner.

### Finding aids

Box and item listings are available.

### Accruals

No further accruals expected.

### Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
- **Level of detail:** Full
- **Status description:** Final
- **Conservation:** Documents were placed in acid-free file folders, envelopes, and archival quality boxes.
- **Rights:** Copyright held by the creator(s).

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## Access points

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- Textual record (documentary form)

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## Series descriptions

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### Series C009/A: Pamphlets

Date: 1912-1960 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series documents the early years of the communist movement and contains 90 pamphlets dated between 1912 and 1920 collected by S.A. Rochlin and published by or on behalf of various organizations, committees, and unions. Organizations, committees, and unions include: Communist Party of South Africa, African Workers' Club, Building Workers Industrial Union of South Africa, Workers' International League, African National Congress, National Union of South African Students, Industrial and Commercial Workers' Union, South African Native Congress, South African Native Delegation, International Socialist League, All African Convention, and United Party.

Physical description: 90 textual records

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Publication status:

Published

### Series C009/B: Periodicals and newspapers

Date: 1919-1957 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series contains 46 periodicals and newspapers dated between 1919 and 1957 collected by S.A. Rochlin published by the Communist Party of South Africa, South African Labour Party, the Socialist Workers' League, Labour League of the Youth of South Africa, Anti-Nazi Vigilance Committee, League for the Maintenance of Democracy, Industrial Socialist League, South African Labour Defence, Youth League of South Africa, Young Communist League of South Africa, and Young Communist International, among others.

Newspapers and periodicals include: Labour's Voice, Socialist Action, The Revolutionary Communist: a journal, of Marxist-Leninism, Anti-Nazi, The Democrat, The Bolshevik: official organ of the Industrial Socialist League of South Africa, Umvikeli-Thebe/The African Defender, The African World: the mouthpiece of the Cape African National Congress, South African Young Communist,

organ of the Young Communist League, The Torch: the organ of the unemployed of South Africa, The Workers' Dreadnought for International Communism, and The Workers' Voice, among others.

Physical description: 46 textual records

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Publication status:

Published

### **Series C009/C: Folders**

Date: 1915-1954 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series contains 471 documents of all types dated between 1915 and 1954 organized into folders, probably by S.A. Rochlin. Documents include minutes, agendas, accounts, manuscripts, poems, leaflets, flyers, pamphlets, posters, newspaper clippings, manifestos, petitions, reports, speeches, constitutions, telegrams, press releases, applications, invitations, correspondence, and handbills. Documents concern the South African Labour Party, Workers' International League, South African Labour Defence, Irish Republican Association of South Africa, South African Labour Defence, African National Congress, Communist Party of South Africa, African National Improvement Movement, Congress of the People, United Communist Party, United Communist Party of South Africa, South African Section of the Communist International, International Socialist League, Communist Propaganda Group, and Youth League of South Africa, among others.

Physical description: 471 textual records

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Publication status:

Published

### **Series C009/D: Microfilm reels**

Date: 1912-1960 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series contains microfilmed copies of pamphlets, newspapers, periodicals, flyers, broadsides, manuscripts, press clippings and other miscellaneous documents in this collection.

Physical description: 2 microfilm reels

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Publication status:

Published