I T IS WITH PLEASURE THAT WE INTRODUCE UMA—a Bulletin to appear twice a year, telling of The University of Melbourne Archives. Established in July 1960, the purpose of Archives is declared in University Statute 2.6 to be the acquisition of historical records including in particular those of commerce, industry, business and the professions, and records concerning the University.

Following this acquisition policy, our records of the University include those of central administration, faculties, departments, individuals, clubs and societies and other associated bodies. Our corporate business records cover companies and individuals in fields as diverse as mining, publishing, building, manufacturing, and farming. These can be linked fruitfully with our collections on the professions, particularly those of architecture, engineering, medicine, law, education, agricultural science and the theatre. Finally, we have major holdings of labour and political archives including individuals and industrial relations, also of the peace movement, the women’s movement and party political material.

The University of Melbourne Guide to Collections published by the Archives Board of Management in 1983, illustrates the span of material held. UMA Bulletin will provide, from time to time, brief listings of more recently acquired records.

This first issue of UMA Bulletin is devoted to our labour archives and includes an outline of trade union collections currently held. Subsequent issues will deal with acquisitions in other subject areas. The next will focus on business archives with particular emphasis on mining and metals treatment.
Access

Opening hours of Archives are Monday to Friday 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m., 2.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. All users must sign a daily visitors’ book as to time of arrival and leaving. A copy of the Archives Access and Repository Rules is provided along with an Access Form. The form must be completed by the user prior to initial engagement with a collection, or on engagement with a collection in a new calendar year. The form, to be signed by the user, states that he/she has read the rules and will fulfil their requirements.

Access conditions to collections vary. While many collections are on open access and may be viewed on request, permission to view others must be sought from transferors of the records. Some few collections have restrictions on the viewing of records less than thirty years old.

Researchers are advised to contact the Archives before visiting to allow time for access formalities to be completed and for material stored off-site to be brought to the research room.

Staff

While staff have knowledge of the span of holdings and can offer service over the whole range, the large quantity of material and complexities of collections is such that specialist areas have been allocated:

- **University Archivist**: Frank Strahan (Business and related records)
- **Senior Archivist**: Cecily Close (University records and other records relating to education)
- **Archivist**: Mark Richmond (Local history, architecture, theatre, art and photography)
- **Archivist**: Suzanne Fairbanks (Trade unions and the labour movement, the peace movement, women’s movement)
- **Archivist**: Leigh Swancott (Mining and metals treatment)
- **Administrative Assistant**: Joan Macneil
- **Repository Attendant**: James Bennett

Finding Aids

*The University of Melbourne Archives Guide to Collections*, published in 1983, contains brief descriptions of the contents of each collection held by Archives to that date—some 900 entries for over 700 collections. Many hundreds of additional collections have since been acquired and holdings extend to some 12,000 linear metres of records.

A database is being developed on Titan to provide a brief history and description of each accession with date-range, quantity and terms of access, searchable by collection name, gender, subject, person and place. Others are being built up for films and University photographs. Descriptive lists of the majority of collections are available at Archives for consultation.

Acknowledgement

We warmly acknowledge the generosity of The Paper House, who supplied the paper for this first issue of *UMA*.
Victorian Trades Hall Council

A list of records and indexes to the collection

Publication and launching of the list and indexes of the Victorian Trades Hall Council (VTHC) archival collection was an important event for the University Archives in 1990.

Sixty linear metres of VTHC archives were transferred to the Archives from Trades Hall between 1986 and 1988. These records cover VTHC business since its inception over 130 years ago through to 1974, although a smattering of records date beyond this year—the latest record held is dated 1988. We have planned a second accession of VTHC archives covering the period from 1974.

The Australian Bicentennial Authority provided funds for the compilation and publication of the list of the VTHC collection, as well as selective union, subject, and person indexes. Andrew Forell, who was employed for the purpose, and labour archivist Maryanne McCubbin, compiled the list and indexes over a year. The final two volume document, entitled *The Records of Victorian Trades Hall Council, First Accession (1857-1990): List and Indexes*, jointly published by The University of Melbourne Archives and the Victorian Trades Hall Council, was designed and printed at the University of Melbourne by Publications and Printing Services.

Listing of collections is a major task of archivists. It is unusual to be able to provide indexes to collections, that is, indexes to the entire contents of a collection rather than an index to the list of a collection. In this instance, we did so for two major reasons. The VTHC was conceived by its founders to be “a workingman’s parliament”, and since 1858 it has been a central stage for the industrial and political activity of working men, and increasingly women, within the Victorian labour movement. Therefore it must be recognized as one of the most important collections of records extant in Victoria, and indeed Australia. However, unlike the records of individual trade unions, the VTHC collection was so big and broad that pinpointing particular subject interests without extensive indexes would have proved a major obstacle for researchers. The VTHC indexes enable researchers to quickly locate in the collection those issues in which they have an interest, identify the crux of the matter and the main protagonists, and then make more efficient and fruitful use of the other collections of trade union and related records. Researchers who have used the list and indexes have already found them most useful.

The two volume publication can be purchased from the University of Melbourne Archives for $20.00 a set plus postage.

The Western Mining Corporation Ltd. Prize for Archival Research

$1,000 prize

1. Western Mining Corporation Ltd. has agreed to award an annual prize for:

   The best written work substantially based on records held at the University of Melbourne Archives

2. Each entry must be an essay, article or thesis of not less than 3,000 words on any subject substantially sourced from the social, fine arts, political, economic, scientific, technological - whatever - records at the University of Melbourne Archives.

3. Those eligible must be Australian residents enrolled as undergraduate, master of arts preliminary, bachelor of letters or approved diploma students of any Australian tertiary institution, provided they are not a member of the academic staff nor a post-graduate research student.

4. The prize was initiated in 1993 as an annual award for 10 years. The starting base of $1,000 will be indexed annually to the consumer price index. As with entries, the company looks to real value of the prize. The closing date for entries in 1994 is 16th December.

GO FOR IT NOW!

For further information contact

The University of Melbourne Archives, 119 Barry Street, Carlton, Victoria 3053. Phone: (03) 344 6848/9. Fax: (03) 347 8627.
Recent use of the Labour Archives

Our researchers continue to be productive. Undergraduates at the University of Melbourne undertaking the Labour History subject in the Economic History Department compile their major research essays from our labour history archival collections, and postgraduates from Australian and overseas universities publish articles in journals such as Labour History, Australian Historical Studies, and Labour and Industry, and books on a variety of topics. Some of the latter to appear recently are:

- Ellem, Bradon; *In Women's Hands?: A History of Clothing Trades Unionism in Australia*, NSWUP, Kensington, 1989
- History Institute, Victoria, *In and Out of Work, Personal Accounts of the 1930s*, History Institute, Carlton, 1988
- Lack, John and Templeton, Jacqueline, *Sources of Australian Immigration*, History Department, University of Melbourne, Parkville, 1988

Many of these publications make extensive use of our labour photographic and poster resources, while various other bodies frequently employ these resources. Recently, some of our photographs appeared on television in a current affairs segment about Eight Hours Day, and on a children's educational television program in a segment about unionism. Photographs of union banners were employed extensively and spectacularly in the December 1989 edition of *Trust News*, published by the National Trust of Victoria.

Labour archives have been used in some outstanding exhibitions, most recently in the 'Melbourne Life' exhibition in 1992 to celebrate Melbourne's municipal sesquicentenary.
THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE ARCHIVES
TRADE UNION HOLDINGS—AN OUTLINE
Trade union collections form the crux of the labour movement holdings at the University of Melbourne Archives. Names and approximate date ranges of these holdings are listed below. Of course, collections do not always comprise the whole of a union’s records, and range in size from one or two small items up to about sixty-five shelf metres. As well as the trade union and peak union body records listed here, a large number of other labour movement records are held, both from individuals’ collections and from bodies such as Eight Hours’ Day Committees, provincial trades and labour councils, shop stewards’ committees and rank and file committees.
For more specific information on the trade union collections, contact the labour archivist.

### Trade Union Holdings
#### An Alphabetical Listing

**Actors and Announcers’ Equity Association of Australia**
- Victorian Division 1943-1984

**Administrative and Clerical Officers’ Association, Victorian Branch**
- Reform Group 1976-1984

**Amalgamated Engineering Union**
- Ballarat No. 1 Branch 1907-1968
- Ballarat No. 2 Branch 1955-1968
- Bendigo No. 1 Branch 1865-1965
- Bendigo No. 2 Branch 1943-1951
- Castlemaine Branch 1911-1968
- Melbourne District Youth Committee 1942-1964
- Melbourne District and Political Committees 1883-1972
- Northcote Branch 1940-1967
- Northern Central District Committee 1913-1925
- Sydney District Film Committee 1950s-1960s

**Amalgamated Metal Workers and Shipwrights’ Union**
- Castlemaine Branch 1911-1958

**Amalgamated Metal Workers’ Union**
- Victorian Branch, 1983-1987

**Amalgamated Metal Workers’ Union**
*see also*
- Amalgamated Engineering Union
- Blacksmiths’ Society of Australia
- Boilermakers’ Society of Australia
- Boilermakers’ and Blacksmiths’ Society of Australia
- Federated Moulders (Metals) Union of Australia
- Federated Shipwrights’ and Ship Constructors’ Association of Australia
- Friendly Trade Society of Iron Moulders of N.S.W.
- Friendly Trade Society of Iron Moulders of Q’ld.
- Iron Moulders’ Friendly Society of Victoria
- Sheet Metal Working, Agricultural Implement and Stovemaking Industrial Union of Australia
- United Tinsmiths’, Ironworkers’ and Japanners’ Society of Victoria

**Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners of Australia**
- Victorian Branch 1950-1976
- Ballarat Sub-branch 1957-1970

**Association of Draughting, Supervisory and Technical Employees**
- Federal Office 1956-1981
- Victorian Branch 1942-1988

**Australasian Meat Industry Employees’ Union**
- Victorian Branch 1890-1982

**Australian Bank Officials’ Association** 1908-1950

**Australian Boot Trade Employees’ Federation**
- Ballarat Branch 1921-1922
- Geelong Sub-branch 1948-1951
- Victorian Branch 1902-1980

**Australian Building Construction Employees and Builders Labourers’ Federation**
- Victorian Branch 1915-1942

**Australian Coal and Shale Employees’ Federation**
- Union Theatre Committee 1938-1941
- Victorian District/Powlett River Branch 1909-1968

**Australian Federated Union of Locomotive Engineers**
- Ararat Branch 1942-1973
- Bendigo Branch 1921-1963
- Central Branch 1929-1958
- Federal Executive 1899-1960
- Jolimont Branch 1952-1954
- N.S.W. Branch 1923-1984
- Q’ld Branch 1956-1973
- Victorian Division 1880-1974

**Australian Foremen Stevedores’ Association**
- Victorian Branch 1945-1970

**Australian Glass Workers’ Union**
- Victorian Branch 1918-1969

**Australian Hairdressers, Wigmakers and Hairworkers’ Employees Union**
- Victorian Branch 1908-1974

**Australian Institute of Marine and Power Engineers**
- Victorian Branch 1883-1979

**Australian Journalists’ Association**
- Victorian Branch 1892-1955
- Federal Branch 1929-1978

**Australian Leather and Allied Trades Employees’**
Federation
- Victorian Branch c.1945-1972

Australian Nursing Federation, Victorian Branch
1900-1985
see also Royal Australian Nursing Federation, Federal Branch
and Royal Victorian College of Nursing

Australian Paper Mill Employees’ Union
- Melbourne Branch 1942-1959

Australian Postal and Telecommunications Union
- Federal Office 1956-1984

Australian Public Service Association (Fourth Division
Officers)
- c.1977-1983

Australian Railways Union
- Ararat Branch c.1970s
- Maryborough Branch 1901-1909
- North Bendigo Railway Workshops 1943-1981
- Victorian Branch 1912-1981

Australian Rope and Cordage Workers’ Union
- Victorian Branch 1919-1971

Australian Telecommunications Employees’ Association
- Victorian Branch 1918-1976

Australian Textile Workers’ Union
- Geelong Division 1947-1972
- Melbourne Division 1949-1971
- Provincial Division 1920-1976
- Victorian Branch 1927-1972

Australian Theatrical and Amusement Employees’
Association
- Federal Executive 1910-1949
- N.S.W. Branch 1924-1937

Australian Timber Workers’ Union
- No. 2 Victorian Branch 1905-1983

Australian Tramways and Motor Omnibus Employees’
Association
- Australian Council 1921-1964
- Ballarat Division 1921-1960s
- Bendigo Division 1921-1972
- Geelong Division 1923-1956
- Victorian Branch 1910-1985

Australian Transport Officers’ Federation
- Victorian Branch 1922-1965

Australian Workers’ Union
- Victoria/Riverina Branch 1908-1975

Bakery Employees and Salesmen’s Federation
- 1972-1981

Ballarat Relief and Sustenance Workers’ Union
- 1935-1940

Blacksmiths’ Society of Australia
- Bendigo Branch 1948-1963
- Melbourne Branch 1912-1919
- Victorian Branch 1918-1956

Boilermakers’ and Blacksmiths’ Society of Australia
- Bendigo Sub-branch 1963-1972
- Victorian Branch 1967-1971

Boilermakers’ Society of Australia
- Ballarat Sub-Branch 1965-1970
- Federal Council 1926-1971
- Geelong Branch 1940-1972
- Melbourne District Committee 1941-1970
Melbourne No. 8 Branch 1919-1942
Williamstown Branch 1903-1976

Building Workers’ Industrial Union
- A.S.C.J. Ballarat Branch 1890-1947
- A.S.C.J. Geelong Branch 1911-1915
- A.S.C.J. Richmond Sub-Branch 1889-1947
- B.W.I.U. Melbourne City Sub-Branch 1952-1964
- B.W.I.U. Victorian Branch 1951-1966

Coach-makers Society
see Vehicle Builders Employees’ Union

Electrical Trades Union
- Victorian Branch 1920-1978

Federated Artificial Fertilizer and Chemical Workers’ Union
- Victorian Branch 1949-1973

Federated Carters and Drivers Industrial Union
- Ballarat Branch 1924-1930

Federated Clerks’ Union of Australia
- National Office 1904-1984
- Victorian Branch c.1950s-1980

Federated Clothing and Allied Trades Union of Australia
- Victorian Branch 1881-1962

Federated Confectioners’ Association of Australia
- Federal Executive 1924-1975
- Victorian Branch 1880-1970

Federated Engine Drivers and Firemen’s Association
- Federal Executive 1944-1954
- N.S.W. Branch 1940-1947
- Victorian Branch 1910-1954
- Yallourn Sub-branch 1946-1982

Federated Felt Hatting and Allied Trades Employees’ Union of Australia
- N.S.W. Branch 1912-1981
- Victorian Branch 1886-1950

Federated Liquor and Allied Industries Employees’ Union of Australia
- Victorian Branch 1900-1950,
- Branch History 1990-1991

Federated Marine Stewards and Pantrymen’s Association of Australia
- Victorian Branch 1919-1983

Federated Millers and Mill Employees’ Association of Australia
- Federal Executive 1922-1950
- Victorian Branch 1917-1970

Federated Mining Employees’ Association of Australia
- Victoria and Tasmania, 1912-1918

Federated Moulders’ (Metals) Union of Australia
- Ballarat Branch 1881-1967
- Broken Hill Branch 1938-1965
- Federal Office 1900-1970
- Geelong Branch 1923-1970
- Ipswich (Q’ld) Branch 1911-1964
- Maryborough (Q’ld) Branch 1896-1981
- N.S.W. District 1899-1960
- Queensland District 1921-1975
- Tasmanian District 1910-1973
- Victorian District 1900-1978

Federated Municipal and Shire Council Employees’ Union of Australia
- Federal Executive 1955-1964
- Victorian Division 1902-1983

Federated Photo Engravers, Photo-Lithographers and Photogravure Employees’ Association of Australia 1916-1972

Federated Rubber and Allied Workers’ Union of Australia
- Federal Executive 1922-1966
- Victorian Branch 1912-1962

Federated Shipwrights and Ship Constructors’ Association of Australia
- Victorian Branch 1901-1970

Federated Storemen and Packers’ Union of Australia
- Federal Office 1911-1981
- Victorian Branch 1910-1980

Federated Straw Hatters’ Society 1910-1920
see Federated Clothing and Allied Trades Union of Australia

Federated Tobacco Workers’ Union of Australia
- Federal Council 1937-1959
- NSW Branch 1891-1978
- Victorian Branch 1903-1988

Federation of Scientific and Technical Workers
- N.S.W. Branch

Female Confectioners’ Union (Victorian and Tasmanian Branch) 1916-1945

Flight Crew Officers Industrial Tribunal 1952-1975

Food Preservers’ Union of Australia
- Federal Council 1918-1980
- Victorian Branch 1922-1974
- Goulburn Valley District Council (Victoria) 1962-1970
- Bendigo Sub-branch 1917-1964
- N.S.W. Branch 1917-1972
- Tasmanian Branch 1961-1977

Friendly Trade Society of Iron Moulders of N.S.W. 1877-1940
- Newcastle Branch 1885-1889

Friendly Trade Society of Iron Moulders of Queensland 1885-1908

Gas Stokers Employees' Federation 1890

Hospital Employees' Federation
- Victorian No. 2 Branch 1974-1982

Iron Moulders' Friendly Society of Victoria 1877-1896

Manufacturing Grocers Employees' Federation of Australia
- Victorian Branch 1907-1977

Melbourne Enginedrivers' and Firemen's Association
see A.F.U.L.E.

Melbourne Wharf Laborers' Union 1885

Miners Federation
see Australian Coal and Shale Employees' Federation

Municipal Officers' Association of Victoria
- S.E.C. Branch 1929-1980
- Victorian Branch 1937-1988

Operative Bakers' Union of Victoria 1862-1982

Operative Painters and Decorators' Union of Australia
- Ballarat Branch 1950-1954
- Federal Council 1912-1990
- N.S.W. Branch 1874-1986
- Victorian Branch 1886-1988

Pastrycooks, Bakers, Biscuitmakers and Allied Trades Union
- Federal Office 1932-1983
- Victorian Branch 1898-1983

Plumbers and Gasfitters Employees' Union of Australia
- Bendigo Branch 1960-1965

Professional Fire Brigade Officers' Association of Australia 1925-1972

Royal Australian Nursing Federation
- Federal Branch 1930-1985

Royal Victorian College of Nursing 1903-1973

Sheet Metal Working, Agricultural Implement and Stovemaking Industrial Union of Australia
- Federal Branch 1911-1972

- Footscray Sub-branch 1913-1914
- Geelong Branch 1939-1972
- Victorian Branch 1858-1975

South Gippsland Fishermen's Union 1899-1902

Sugar Works Employees' Union of Australia 1904-1975

Tailors' Trade Protection Society 1890-1903
see Federated Clothing and Allied Trades Union of Australia

Transport Workers' Union of Australia
- Federal Office 1970-1979

United Commercial Travellers' Guild of Victoria 1946-1956

United Firefighters' Union
- National Office 1950-1972
- Victorian Branch 1911-1982
- Australian Government Employees' Branch (formerly Aviation Branch)

United Tinsmiths, Ironworkers and Japanners' Society of Victoria 1883-1906

Vehicle Builders Employees' Federation of Australia
- Victorian Branch 1883-1977

Victorian Fibrous Plasterers and Plaster Workers' Union 1921-1973

Victorian Operative Bricklayers' Society
- Ballarat Lodge 1914-1970
- Bendigo Lodge 1901-1950
- Geelong Lodge 1928-1969
- Melbourne Lodge 1909-1969
- Victorian Executive 1907-1982

Victorian Railways Employees' Mutual Association 1887-1888

Victorian Trades Hall Council 1873-1974

Victorian Trades Union Salaried Officers' Association 1931-1976

Waterside Workers' Federation
- Victorian Branch 1948-1970

Wicker Workers' Union of N.S.W. 1908-1949

Women Bookbinders and Stationery Employees' Association (Victoria) 1916-1918

Wool and Basil Workers' Federation of Australia
- N.S.W. Branch 1946-1970
- Victorian Branch 1911-1964