



Carpenters' Local No. 5 Financial Books (S0160)

Collection Number: S0160

Collection Title: Carpenters' Local No. 5 Financial Books

Dates: 1885-1888, 1904-1913

Creator: Carpenters' Local No. 5 (Saint Louis, Mo.)

Abstract: The Carpenters' Local No. 5's Financial Books contain meeting minutes, financial ledgers, and rosters documenting weekly meetings of Carpenters' Local No. 5 from 1885 to 1888 and 1904 to 1913.

Collection Size: 1 microfilm roll

Language: Collection materials are in German.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-St. Louis](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at stlouis@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

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Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Carpenter's Local No. 5 Financial Books* (S0160); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-St. Louis [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-St. Louis].

Donor Information: The records were loaned for microfilming to the Western Historical Manuscript Collection by Reynold Binder on July 18, 1983 (Accession No. SA2545).

Related Materials: Additional materials related to the Carpenters' Local No. 5 Financial Books can be found in the following collections:

[Missouri State Labor Council, AFL-CIO Records](#) (C0216)

[St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO Minute Books](#) (S0061)

[Oral History Collection](#) (S0829)

[Missouri State Council of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, AFL-CIO Records \(C3700\)](#)
[Carpenters' Local No. 5 Records \(S0161\)](#)

Processed by: Processed by Rachael Heriford November 2023

Historical Note:

After the formation of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America (UBC) in 1881, the UBC chartered three union chapters in St. Louis: Carpenters' Local No. 6, No. 12, and No. 14 in 1882. However, by 1883, the UBC decided to revoke the charters of Carpenters' Local No. 6, No. 12, and No. 14 due to the chapter's inability to work together to improve wages and establish working hours for carpenters across the St. Louis area. On November 20, 1883, the UBC chartered Carpenters' Local No. 5 to consolidate and serve as the legal successor of Local No. 6, No. 12, and No. 14.

Carpenters' Local No. 5 held its first meeting at Broadway and Duchauquette Street in St. Louis, Missouri. The first elected officers of Carpenters' Local No. 5 included August Oberbeck as president, Robert Becker as vice president, August Dodel as recording secretary, and P.B. Blattner as financial secretary. In 1886, Carpenters' Local No. 5 assisted in the establishment of an eight-hour working day for its members. Carpenters' Local No. 5 also helped raise the wage rate from 22.5 cents per hour to 30 cents per hour in 1886.

After the UBC merger with the United Order of America Carpenters and Joiners in 1888, the former United Order required the creation of District Councils for cities with two or more local union chapters. Carpenters' Local No. 5 played an integral part in the creation of the Carpenters' District Council of Greater St. Louis, which made sure all local chapters of the UBC in St. Louis received the same wages and paid the same number of dues. In 1891, Carpenters' Local No. 5 moved its meetings to Schnettler's Hall to accommodate for larger attendance at Carpenters' Local No. 5 weekly meetings. Nicknamed the "Old Dutch Local," Carpenters' Local No. 5 continued its meetings in German until 1913. The group remained active until it was merged with a different local chapter.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged chronologically.

Scope and Content Note:

This collection contains the meeting minutes, ledgers, circulars, and rosters from the weekly meetings of Carpenters' Local No. 5 from 1886 to 1888 and 1904 to 1913. Most of the materials in this collection are in German, except for the circulars created by the executive body of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America. The meeting minutes detail weekly meetings of Carpenters' Local No. 5 and include topics such as committee appointments, investigation of employer complaints against Carpenters' Local No. 5 members, and advertising Carpenters' Local No. 5 in German St. Louis newspapers. Other materials of interest include

financial ledgers that detail the weekly expenses of Carpenters' Local No. 5, and yearly trustee and officer rosters. The financial books have been microfilmed chronologically onto one reel.

Container List:

Roll 1	v. 1-2	Financial Secretary's book, meeting minutes, list of members and officers, and dues, 1886-1888, 1904-1913
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Index:

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United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America. Local 5 (Saint Louis, Mo.)	v. 1-2