

**L DSWE                      WORKERS' EDUCATION ASSOCIATION:                      1920-1990**  
**HULL BRANCH**

**Historical Background:**

Founded in 1903 as the Association to Promote the Higher Education of Working Men. The association was based upon a scheme proposed by Albert Mansbridge (1876-1952) who became the organisation's first general secretary in 1905 when the name was changed to The Workers' Educational Association.

After a conference on the WEA and Oxford University in 1907, the WEA Central Joint Advisory Committee was established and three year university tutorial classes were started with the close involvement of R.H. Tawney (1880-1962). The WEA was also linked to the trade union movement and formed the Workers' Education Trade Union Committee in 1919 to strengthen and give cohesion to the educational work with trade unions. The Hull Branch was formed shortly after this with its first meeting being held on the 6<sup>th</sup> August 1920 (See L DSWE/1/1).

The WEA campaigned for better state education and in particular prior to the 1944 Education Act. The WEA is now a national voluntary organisation existing primarily to provide adults with access to organised learning with over 650 local branches.

**Custodial History:**

The records were deposited at Local Studies Library in 1976 with additional deposits in 1987 and 1993.

**Description:**

Minutes of the Executive Committee and Members meetings (1920-1990 with some gaps) and the Social Committee meetings (1948-1962)

**Related material:**

The Workers' Educational Association Collection (Ref WEA) is held at: London Metropolitan University (London North campus). This includes the Archives of the Workers' Educational Association, 1906-1995, comprising central organisation records, 1906-1995; records of the WEA Central Joint Advisory Committee, 1910-1958; records of WEA districts, 1914-1992; and records of the Workers' Education TUC Committee, 1919-1964. Central Labour College archives, 1909-1918; and archives of the International Federation of Workers' Educational Associations, 1945-1986. Papers and pamphlets of R H Tawney, President of WEA, 1896-1962; papers and publications of Ernest Green, General Secretary of WEA, 1920s-1960s.

**Extent:**

14 items (3 boxes)

**Access Conditions:**

Access will be granted to any accredited reader

L DSWE/1	<b>Executive Committee and Members Meetings</b>	<b>1920-1990</b>
	<p>Minutes of the Executive Committee and Members meetings relating to the work of the WEA including financial and publicity matters.</p> <p>By 1945 the Executive Committee received reports from the Workers Education Trade Union Committee (WETUC) aswell as HQ, publicity, social and topical talks sub-committees though minutes of these sub-committees are not included (see L DSWE/2/1 for Social Committee minutes between 1948-1962).</p> <p>The minutes also record discussions surrounding future classes often naming the tutor for the proposed course with some basic financial information about the branch. 13 items</p>	
L DSWE/1/1	<p>Minute Book Includes the election of officers at the inaugural meeting following the creation of the branch. The first classes to be offered were in Industrial History, Biology and Economics. 1 volume</p>	6 Aug 1920- 11 Apr 1931
L DSWE/1/2	<p>Minutes With a printed list of classes for 1937-1939; fundraising for a permanent HQ and a programme for a symposium entitled 'They All Offer Us Peace' (Apr 1938). Includes the printed Annual Report for 1936/37 and 1939/40 through to 1942/43 and copy of the 'Adult Education Regulations 1932' for England and Wales. 1 file</p>	17 Jul 1936- 25 Mar 1939
L DSWE/1/3	<p>Minute Book Includes the resolutions to be discussed at the Annual General Meetings for 1942 and 1943 1 volume</p>	6 May 1939- 2 Nov 1943
L DSWE/1/4	<p>Minute Book Includes printed Annual Report for 1944/45 and a typescript copy of a lease (Oct 1943) on the premises at 80 Spring Bank for 5 years 1 volume</p>	4 Dec 1943- 31 Mar 1946
L DSWE/1/5	<p>Minute Book 1 volume</p>	10 Apr 1946- 14 Nov 1948
L DSWE/1/6	<p>Minute Book Includes the printed Annual Report for 1950/51 1 volume</p>	28 Nov 1948- 7 Jan 1951

L DSWE/1/7	Minute Book 1 volume	28 Jan 1951- 17 Jan 1954
L DSWE/1/8	Minute Book 1 volume	30 Jan 1954- 27 Oct 1957
L DSWE/1/9	Minute Book 1 volume	12 May 1965- 26 Apr 1974
L DSWE/1/10	Minute Book 1 volume	31 May 1974- 4 Dec 1980
L DSWE/1/11	Minute Book 1 volume	7 Dec 1980- 2 Mar 1986
L DSWE/1/12	Minute Book 1 volume	19 Mar 1986- 3 Jul 1988
L DSWE/1/13	Minute Book 1 volume	11 Jul 1988- 17 Dec 1990
<b>L DSWE/2/</b>	<b>Social Committee</b> Minutes of the Social Committee, established in 1948, meetings relating to the organisation of social events and activities including trips and visits, the annual dinner, whist drives and other fund-raising activities 1 item	<b>1948-1962</b>
L DSWE/2/1	Minute Book Includes information about the disposal and distribution of tickets for specified events (1951-1953) 1 volume	