



Finding Aid for

**JOSEPH C. BEH Sr. PAPERS, 1915-1928**

**Accession 147**

Finding Aid Published: April 2011



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## OVERVIEW

REPOSITORY: Benson Ford Research Center  
The Henry Ford  
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ACCESSION NUMBER: 147

CREATOR: Beh, Joseph C., Sr., 1889-1975.

TITLE: Joseph C. Beh, Sr. papers

INCLUSIVE DATES: 1915-1928

QUANTITY: 1 folder

LANGUAGE: The materials are in English.

ABSTRACT: John C. Beh Sr. became an employee of the Ford Motor Company in 1915. These papers mostly include employee lists for engineering and power plant related departments and other miscellaneous documents relating to his employment.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

- ACCESS RESTRICTIONS:** The papers are open for research.
- COPYRIGHT:** Copyright has been transferred to the Henry Ford by the donor. Copyright for some items in the collection may still be held by their respective creator(s).
- ACQUISITION:** Donated to The Henry Ford by the Ford Motor Company Archives in 1964.
- RELATED MATERIAL:** Related material held by The Henry Ford:  
- These papers are part of the Small Accessions Collection.  
- Joseph C. Beh, Sr. Oral History. Accession 65.
- PREFERRED CITATION:** Item, folder, box, accession 147, Joseph C. Beh, Sr. Papers, Benson Ford Research Center, The Henry Ford
- DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION:** Original collection inventory list prepared by staff of the Ford Motor Company Archives in March 1964.
- Hardcopy paper inventory scanned, converted to MS Word electronic format by Brian Wilson in February 2011.

## **BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE**

Born in Braddock, Pennsylvania, Joseph C. Beh, Sr. graduated from Saint Vincent College in Latrobe, Pennsylvania in 1909. He worked for Westinghouse Machine Company in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania from that year until 1915 when he joined Ford Motor Company in the Rear Axle Department. He soon became a timekeeper, then a clerk in the Cost Department of the Electrical Department, and finally a clerk to Fred Allison when Allison was Superintendent of Power with offices in the Highland Park powerhouse. In 1932 Beh became an electrical buyer in the Purchasing Department.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The papers include mostly undated employee lists for engineering and power plant related departments; two undated organizational charts; manpower counts for 1924-1926; coal and coke consumption, 1916-1917; a handful of World War I related poems (such as "The Liberty Motor"); some space planning documents; a paper written by Fred Allison in 1916 on power generation at the Ford Motor Company; and a few photographs. Two of the photographs are group portraits of power house employees. The only identified individual is William Perry, friend of Henry Ford and Ford Motor Company's first African-American employee.

## **SUBJECT TERMS**

### Names

Beh, Joseph C., Sr., 1889-1975.  
Allison, Fred.  
Perry, William, 1853-1940.  
Ford, Edsel, 1893-1943.  
Ford Motor Company--Employees.  
Ford Motor Company. Highland Park Plant.  
Ford Motor Company. Rouge River Plant.  
Ford Motor Company. Electrical Power Department.

### Subjects

Automobile industry and trade  
Power-plants--Michigan.  
Automobile engineers  
African American automobile industry workers  
World War, 1914-1918

### Genre and Form

Photographs.  
Group portraits.

## BOX AND FOLDER LISTING

**Box no.**                      **Description**

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### PERSONAL PAPERS

Abstract of paper "Power Generation at Ford Motor Company Highland Park, Mich.",  
by F. Allison, E.E. (Presented at the Detroit Ann Arbor Section Meeting of  
American Institute of Electrical Engineers, Detroit, Mich., June 9, 1916.)  
"The Liberty Motor" (Poem)  
"When There's An Irish Kaiser" (Poem)  
"Der Kaiser Und Der Crown Prince" (Poem)  
"Der Kaiser's Prayer" (Poem)  
"Some people were made to be soldiers..."etc (excerpt from untitled poem)  
Advertisement - "You will be interested in this information on land contract  
investments....Wade Sales Corp."  
Advertisement - Ford Clothes Shops (Commissary advertisement)  
"A Parent's Prayer" by Angelo Patri.  
Jottings, 1921  
Rate scale for classifications  
Blueprint of organization chart, undated  
Listing of top men and various number of mancount personnel for various shifts  
(power departments, electrical engineering and experimental departments  
Organization chart for electrical power department, giving names of top personnel  
(not dated)  
Personnel list, badge number, position, name of operation and manpower counts,  
1924, 1925, 1926  
Power data for branches and plants (domestic and foreign), undated  
Coal and coke consumption for power, 1916-1917  
Report of coal, coke and gas analysis and consumption, December 1917  
Employee notes, 1925  
Listing of licensed men-engineers and boiler operators, power house, undated  
Floor space data, power house number 1, producer gas dept, refrigeration dept,  
temporary heat, etc.  
Generator and motor name plate readings of power house machines, 03 February  
1915  
Non productive departments assigned to "G" series  
Productive departments assigned to "W" series  
Record change of badge numbers of foremen on layout  
Liberty bonds and victory notes data  
Cross reference sheets for manuals and catalogs which have been incorporated into  
other accessions, but originated from Mr. Beh.

### PHOTOGRAPHS

Power house photographs (2 items: Negatives #71967 and #72956-A)  
Portrait of Edsel Ford and clipping of Edsel's portrait  
Clipping of Henry Ford portrait