

University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections

Finding Aid - Magnus Eliason Collection (Mss 265 (A.08-66))

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Language of description: English

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Magnus Eliason Collection

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Summary information

Repository: University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections

Title: Magnus Eliason Collection

ID: Mss 265 (A.08-66)

Date: 1902-1993 (date of creation)

Language: English

Physical description: 0.37 m of textual records.

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Magnus Eliason was born on June 21, 1911. He was born and raised on a farmstead in North Laufholi. Eliason was only born with 10% of his normal vision. He and his brothers, Helgi and Frank, headed to the Peace River District of Northern British Columbia. He then became a founding member of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation and was deeply committed to the social democratic cause throughout the entirety of his life. During his life, he met C.C.F. giants J.S. Woodsworth and Tommy Douglas. Eliason was encouraged to start public speaking and became a known orator and organizer for the C.C.F. and New Democratic Party. He spread the word of the C.C.F. throughout Western and Atlantic Canada. He was the C.C.F.'s nominee in the Peace River district in the 1937 election but was defeated in this and several other elections. He was then elected as a City Councilor for Winnipeg in 1968 and remained in office until his retirement in 1989. Eliason was quite passionate about politics and equally so about his Icelandic heritage. He worked endlessly for the Icelandic community and Scandinavian Centre, which he served as President for several years. In his final years, he was rewarded with Iceland's greatest honor, The Order of the Falcon, by the President of Iceland. Magnus Eliason passed away Friday, November 11, 2005.

Custodial history

The collection was donated to University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections by the estate of Magnus Eliason in 2008 via Jim Blanchard, Acting Head of Elizabeth Dafoe Library.

Scope and content

The collection consists of printed material relating to the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, the NDP, and other socialist organizations. This collection includes sing-along books, pamphlets, election

handouts, and other assorted propaganda mediums. Some of the notable authors of this material are T.C. Douglas, Leon Trotsky, as well as anonymous authors of their respective organizations.

Notes

Title notes

Restrictions on access

There are no restrictions on this material.

Finding aids

A printed finding aid is available in the Archives reading room.

Accruals

No further accruals expected.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** published
-

Access points

- (documentary form)
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Collection holdings
