

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF CANADA
MANUSCRIPT DIVISION

ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES DU CANADA
DIVISION DES MANUSCRITS

THOMSON, Don W. & Theresa E.

MG 30, D 241

Finding Aid #1047 / Instrument de recherche #1047

Prepared in 1978 by Paul E.
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Cultural Archives Section

Préparé en 1978 par Paul E.
Prieur de la Section des archives
sociales et culturelles

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MG 30
D 241

Thomson, Don W. and Theresa E. Authors. Ottawa, Ont.

Don W. and Theresa E. Thomson fonds
Original, 1906-1993, 4.450 m. Finding Aid No. 1047.

1994-11-07
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Don W. Thomson was born in Edmonton, Alberta, and received his Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of Alberta in 1926. He was on the personal staff of several federal cabinet ministers from 1936 to 1957, and was the Ottawa columnist for the *Lethbridge Herald* in 1960-1961. Since 1961 he wrote three volumes under the title *Men and Meridians*, a report titled "Claiming and Surveying Procedures in Canada", and as a research consultant wrote the report of the Special Committee on the Dominion Land Surveyor Qualification. He was the National President of the Canadian Authors Association from 1960 to 1962, and the Press Officer at the Resources for Tomorrow Conference, 1961-1962. From 1973 to 1975, he was President of the Canadian Writers Foundation. He published several collections of verse with his wife. Awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from the University of Alberta in 1970, he is a (Lifetime) Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society.

Theresa E. Thomson was born in Calgary, Alberta. In 1927 she became a member of the Canadian Authors Association, and subsequently secretary to the Edmonton branch. She married Don W. Thomson in 1936, and they made Ottawa their home. She served as literary secretary to two noted Ottawa authors, the poet Duncan Campbell Scott and the novelist Madge Macbeth.

For many years she was the executive secretary treasurer and principal fundraiser for the Canadian Writers Foundation and subsequently became a member of its board of directors. She was also President of the Ottawa branch of the Canadian Authors Association and a member of its national committee.

The papers were presented in 1976, 1988 and 1994 by Don W. Thomson. Two scrapbooks and a note signed by C.P. Stacey were transferred from the National Photography Collection in June 1979.

No Restriction on Access.

Finding Aid No. 1047 is a file list.

Sound recordings, photographs and a plaque have been transferred to the Visual and Sound Archives Division.

The Don W. and Theresa E. Thomson fonds includes the following series: Canadian Authors Association files; Canadian Author and Bookman files; Men and Meridians files; Don W. Thomson personal papers; Theresa E. Thomson personal papers; Don W. and Theresa E. Thomson personal papers; Scrapbooks and note; Awards and honours.

Canadian Authors Association Files. Original, 1928-1975, 0.500 m. (Vol. 1-3).

Correspondence, general and printed material, scrapbooks. Included are the C.A.A.'s constitution, various financial statements and minutes. There are several publications, and information on conventions and membership fees.

Canadian Author and Bookman Files. Original, 1945-1976, 0.100 m. (Vol. 3).

Correspondence, general material. The bylaws of the C.A. and B. are included, and also miscellaneous information.

Men and Meridians Files. Original, 1908-1976, 0.020 m. (Vol. 4-13).

Correspondence, printed material, research files. There are numerous publications on surveying and mapping included. The research files use for *Men and Meridians*, and other publications, are listed.

Don W. Thomson Personal Papers. Original, 1906-1993, 1.400 m. (Vol. 14-23).

Correspondence, general material, manuscripts, personal material, printed material, scrapbooks. Included are several items of correspondence to publishers, and copies of his speeches. There are files concerning his honorary Doctor of Laws degree and various scrapbooks describing his trips to Europe, Africa, South America and Japan.

Theresa E. Thomson Personal Papers. Original, n.d., 1939-1976, 0.200 m. (Vol. 23-24).

Correspondence, general material, printed material, scrapbooks. There are various newspaper clippings included, and many of her short stories.

Don W. and Theresa E. Thomson Personal Papers. Original, 1951-1975, 0.100 m. (Vol. 24).

Correspondence, printed material. Included are contracts concerning their published books of poetry, and copies of their publications.

Scrapbooks and note. Original, 1927-1978, 0.050 m. (Vol. 25).

The scrapbooks contain newspaper clippings relating to Don Thomson's early career as Parliamentary reporter for the *Edmonton Journal*, as a book reviewer for the *Ottawa Citizen*, and clippings regarding the Canadian Authors Association and the Canadian Writers Foundation. The note signed by C.P. Stacey relates to Theresa E. Thomson.

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Awards and Honours. Original, 1927-1988, 0.050 m. (Vol. 26).
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Scrapbooks and note, 1927-1978, 5 cm (volume 25)

The scrapbooks contain newspaper clippings relating to Don Thomson's early career as Parliamentary reporter for the Edmonton Journal; as a book reviewer for the Ottawa Citizen; and clippings regarding the Canadian Authors Association and the Canadian Writer's Foundation. The note signed by C.P. Stacey is in memory of Theresa E. Thomson.