



Errol Black collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions3992>

Part Of: RG 6 Brandon University fonds
Description Level: Sub-series
Series Number: MG 3 1.1
GMD: multiple media
Date Range: 1909-2010
Physical Description: 4.2 m textual records; 5 cassette tapes; 2 cd roms, 110 photographs (colour and b/w) various sizes

History /

Biographical:

Errol Black was born on September 8, 1939 in Brandon, Manitoba. He was the son of Thomas Alexander Black, who immigrated to Canada from Limerick, Ireland in 1929, and Roberta Jean (nee Groat) Black, a native of Chatham, New Brunswick. Black attended King George Elementary, Earl Haig Junior High, Brandon Collegiate Institute for Grade 10, and completed high school through correspondence courses for Grades 11 and 12. He left school in 1956 to work a variety of jobs in Brandon, Calgary and on the west coast. He spent a short time in the Royal Canadian Navy. Errol Black undertook post-secondary education at Brandon College (1963-1965, graduated with a B.A.), the University of Alberta (1965-1967, graduated 1973 with an M.A. in economics) and Warwick University (1975-1977). Black taught economics at Brandon University from 1970 until his retirement in 2002. Following retirement he was granted Professor Emeritus status in 2003.

Errol Black has published three books, as well as many articles and reports in leading academic journals. He has a longstanding interest in the history of organized labour and working-class politics in Brandon. These remain important themes in his research and writing. He served on the Executive of the Brandon University Faculty Association for many years, and was President of the Manitoba Organization of Faculty Associations for two years. Black is also a member of the Brandon District Labour Council, a founding member of the Manitoba branch of the Canadian centre for Policy Alternatives, and a board member of the Brandon Regional Health Authority (2000-2006). He was elected to Brandon City Council in 1998, and for a second term in 2001. In 1999 he was the federal NDP candidate for Brandon-Souris.

Black married Margaret Millard from Waskada, MB in 1961, with whom he had three sons: Sean, Dennis and Tom.

Custodial History:

Accession 17-1997 was originally owned by Jim Davis, brother to Communist activist Stanley Forkin. Taimi Davis, Jim Davis' wife, mailed the collection from her residence in Ontario to Errol Black in 1994. Professor Black donated the collection to the McKee Archives. Accession 02-2003 was donated to the Archives in November 2002 by Errol Black. Accession 15-2003 was donated to the Archives on April 30, 2003 by Errol Black. Accession 17-2003 was donated to the Archives on July 15, 2003 by Errol Black.

Scope and Content:

The collection consists of a number of accessions. Accession 17-1997, dating from 1935-1936, consists of twelve of the thirteen issues of the "Unemployed Worker," published in

Brandon in the 1930s. The "Unemployed Worker" was the organ of the Brandon Unemployed Workers' Council. This Council, like its counterparts in other communities, was created by Canadian Communist Party militants. The "Unemployed Worker" covered the activities of the Unemployed Workers' Council, the plight of Brandon's unemployed, efforts by the city's unemployed to improve their lives, and City Council decisions, specifically those regarding relief policy.

Accession 02-2003, dating 1917, 1936-1939, 1970-2002 (predominant 1970-2002), contains extensive correspondence from former Brandon University Economic Professor Don Wheeler to Errol Black. In addition, the accession contains an important body of correspondence received by Professor Black from Taimi Davis written by Pat Forkin and his wife Pheobe Forkin to family members in Canada during the years 1936-1939, while Pat was a Moscow based correspondent for the Canadian Communist Party Clarion. The accession also contains personal correspondence of Errol Black dating from ca. 1970, drafts of papers, newspaper clippings, pamphlets related to labour and labour political matters. Two publications of note include: "Labour in Brandon" published by the Brandon and District Labour Council and a student guide to labour law written by George MacDowell. The accession also contains several documents related to Black's involvement in the provincial Industrial Adjustment Committee.

Accession 15-2003, dating 1930-2002 (predominant 1930-1939; 1971-2002), contains extensive clippings from the Canadian Communist Party publications "The Worker" and the "Daily Clarion" from the years 1930-1939; twenty-one personal and family photographs (b/w 3x5) of the Forkin family of Brandon, many of whom were active in the Canadian Communist Party; various historical photographs (b/w 8x10) related to the history of labour in Brandon, Manitoba; personal files containing correspondence, letters and opinion pieces to various newspapers, course outlines, research materials and draft publications, arbitration awards and documents related to Black's involvement with the Manitoba Organization of Faculty Associations (MOFA).

Accession 17-2003, dating 1970-2002, contains correspondence, a manuscript of an autobiography written by Black's father Tom Black, research files, letters to the editor and draft publications by Errol Black.

Accession 3-2011, dating 1909-2010, contains an extensive record of newspaper clippings often of Professor Black's correspondence with the Brandon Sun from the early 1970s through to 2011. Clippings relate to civic issues, labour relations, social justice, economic questions. Documents (membership cards, cards of thanks, stamps) of various kinds, and photographs of Professor Black, family members, and various labour related events including parades and rallies, appear throughout these clippings. Collection includes miscellaneous files relating to the 75th Anniversary of the Winnipeg General Strike including the Brandon Sympathetic Strike of 1919, the Brandon Greys Baseball team, the Assiniboine College BMHC lobby campaign, Brandon and Area Environmental Council, the Brandon East NDP Constituency Association. Editions (1925-31) of the Sons of England - Official Organ of the Sons of England Benefit Society - published in Oshawa, Ontario, and copies of documents related to the Commission of Inquiry (1928) into labour issues at the Brandon Mental Hospital are included. Collection also contains extensive correspondence associated with Professor Black's activities as a department member, scholar, and activist in the Department of Economics at Brandon University. Collection contains as well research materials related to the Brandon labour movement, strikes at A.E. McKenzie Seed Company 1940s, cd roms containing research materials - clippings and images - for Labour Council Anniversary book (2006), and civic politics in Brandon. Records also contain research materials on various members of the Forkin family - in particular the Pat Forkin, Tom Forkin, and Stephen Forkin (aka Jim Davis) - who were active members of the Canadian Communist Party during their adult lives. A collection of family photographs and six tape cassettes containing accounts of the experiences of single unemployed men during the Great Depression and the funeral of Stephen Forkin (Jim Davis) and correspondence from Taimi Davis the widow of Stephen Forkin (Jim Davis) supplement the sources on the Forkin family.

Notes: Photographs of Joe Forkin, Pat Forkin, Stan Forkin, Jim Davis and other members of the Forkin family are contained in Box 3 (15-2003) and Box 10 (3-2011).

Name Access: Errol Black
Stanley Forkin
Stephem Forkin (a.k.a Jim Davies)
Assiniboine Community College
Brandon Greys Baseball Team
Brandon Mental Hospital
Brandon Unemployed Workers' Council
Canadian Communist Party
Brandon
Don Wheeler
Phoebe Forkin
Pat Forkin
Daily Clarion
A. E. Mckenzie
The Worker
Industrial Adjustment Committee (Manitoba)
Manitoba Organization of Faculty Associations
Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives
Sons of England

Subject Access: The Great Depression
unemployment
radical press
Brandon
labour
Communism
industrial relations
collective bargaining

Accruals: Further accruals are expected.

Access Restriction: Some restrictions. Consult the University Archivist for access.

Repro Restriction: Researchers are responsible for observing Canadian copyright restrictions.

Storage Location: MG 3 Brandon University Teaching and Administration
1.1 Errol Black

Related Material: MG 3 1.12 contains additional records related to George MacDowell; RG 6, Series 15 (BUFA) contains additional records on the Brandon University Faculty Association; RG 6, Series 7, Sub sub series 7.1.5 (Department of Economics) contains additional records related to the Department of Economics at Brandon University; RG 6, Series 7, Sub-series 7.1 (Dean of Arts) contains files on Don Wheeler and George MacDowell.



Westman Oral History collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4350>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection
Description Level: Collection
Accession Number: 35-1998
GMD: multiple media
Date Range: 1981-1984
Physical Description: 3 meters
Material Details: 335 cassette tapes
310 files

History /

Biographical:

The Westman Oral History collection was a project of the Westman Oral History Association and ran from 1980-84. The Westman Oral History Association was created on August 12, 1980, by a steering committee of the Assiniboine Historical Society. The Oral History Association undertook a project called "Voices of Yesteryear." The project was created in order to record and preserve the lives and experiences of early settlers to the Westman area. Work began in 1981, and included interviews conducted with approximately seventy senior citizens from over twenty communities in western Manitoba. The Association held a training session for committee members on April 11, 1981, where 125 participants learned how to conduct an effective interview and how to operate the recorders used in the interviews. The chairman of the Westman Oral History Association was Effie McPhail, the coordinator was Sally Cunningham, and the secretary was Bob Coates. Some of the interviews recorded were used in the early months of 1982 on a local radio station, CKLQ, as part of a program called "Centennial Memories." The project resulted in the creation of the Westman Oral History Collection.

Custodial History:

This collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

The collection includes the audiotapes used to record the interviews, as well as corresponding files for each interview subject. The files contain facts about the interviewees, including date and place of birth, occupations, and marital status. The files also include a summary of the interview heard on each tape.

The interviews were done with men and women pioneers from the Westman area of Manitoba, and describe the daily lives of common people during the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. The topics covered in the interviews include the following: Agriculture, Associations and Clubs, Churches and Church Life, Cultural Events, Early Politics, Education, Health Services, Immigration, Local Businesses, Native-White Relations, Pioneer Settlements, Pioneer Way of Life, Social Life, Sports, Transportation, and War Brides. This collection includes interviews with residents from the following communities: Brandon, Boissevain, Brookdale, Carberry, Deloraine, Douglas, Elkhorn, Erickson, Forrest, Glenboro, Hamiota, Hartney, Justice, Kenton, Killarney, Melita, Minnedosa, Neepawa, Ninette, Oak Lake, Rapid City, Reston, Rivers, Shoal Lake, Sioux Valley Reserve, Souris, Strathclair, Virden, and Wawanesa. The interviews also disclose the unique experiences of pioneer women in rural areas. Many of the interviewees provide brief family histories during their interviews.

Notes: Some of the files include photocopied pictures of the interviewees.
Description written by Robyn Mitchell (2001).

Name Access: Mr. & Mrs. Alex Adams
Elizabeth Adams
Evelina Adams
Ethel Allen
Floyd Amos
Frank Anderson
Hans Anderson
Valere Andries
Herman Arason
Dorothy Armstrong
Elmer Armstrong
Hugh Armstrong
Edward Arnold
Verlie Amott
Hilton Ashton
T. Roy Bailey
Ann Barter
John G. Beddome
Howard Bedford
Myrtle Irene Bell
Rev. Linda Bergan
J. Melvin Berg
E.H. Birkinshaw
Alex Black
Jack Blatchford
Marfesia Bobinsky
Walter Borotsik
Roselle Boudreau
Edward P. Boyle
Emmeline Bradley
Allan W. Brigden
Harry Brindle
Hugh Broadfoot
Dorothy Broomhall
David Brown
Clara M. Bulloch
Betty Burton
Irene Calvert
Glen Campbell
Robert J. Campbell
Wilfrid D. Campbell
Elsie Carnahan
Beatrice Carr
Lorne Carruthers
Rex Carter

Margaret Catley
Gordon Chalmers
Violette Chapman
Cliff Clark
Harold Cleaver
Robert Coates
Robert John Coates
Roy Gordon Coates
J. Walters Collinson
Eveline Conley
Phyllis Field Cooper
Mary Jane Cosgrove
Mark Cousins
Fred C. Coutrice
Flora C. Cowan
Jim Cowan
Selia Cram
George Crighton
Charles Curle
Earle M. Currie
Eva Roddick Davis
Ivan R. Day
Catherine Dennis
Mrs. W. C. Stubbs Dixon
Edward I. Dow
Myrna Hicks Dring
Leween Drysdale
Georgina Morgan Duce
Eva Duncan
Kate Stronach Duncan
Lorne Dunn
Bernice C. East
Laurie O. East
Mary E. Edwards
Frank Ernest Ellis
Donald Jacob Engel
W. Joseph English
Clayton Farley
Marion Ferguson
Faith Flay
W. George Flay
Nellie Forbes
Arthur Galbraith
William Geiler
Tom Gibbs

Betty Gibson
Stanley Gilbert
James Gilmour
Mabel R. Godfrey
Helen Goethe
Eric B. Gowler
Andy Graham
Stella Freeborn Grant
George A. Grieve
Lesly Grundy
James Guild
Ethel Hall
Marion Hannah
R. H. Hannah
William Hardwick
Fred Heeney
Isabelle Heeney
A. Earle Henderson
J. Stan Henry
John Hepworth
Florence M. Hinch
Frank C. Hitchcock
Don E. Hockley
Victor Hockley
G. Albert Hodson
Arlie Hogg
Lloyd A. Horn
Aubrey Hume
Stanley Hunt
John Hunter
Thomas W. Jeffrey
Reg L. Johnson
Myrtle Johnston
F. Lloyd Jones
Richard Jones
William Jordan
Martin Kavanagh
Duncan E. Kennedy
Mrs. A. W. Kent
Midred Kilburn
Harvey Kindree
C. Jack Kingsmill
Ronald Kitchen
Arthur Koping
Jacob Krueger

Jean Landreth
Norah E. K. Lane
Marjorie Lange
Lillian Lawson
Herb Lazenby
Violet Leeson
Matilda Legg
Clarence Lennon
Albert Leronowich
Gertrude Leslie
Jake Loewen
Rev. Lloyd Lovering
Harold Lund
Jean Lyall
Edward Lykens
Marie MacDonald
Pearl MacDonald
Chester James MacFadden
Harvey MacFarlane
Mary MacIntosh
Frank S. MacKay
Mrs. W.K. MacKenzie
Grace Magnacca
Jean Cameron Mains
Molly Malinowsky
Peter Martens
Thomas H. Martin
Lewis Mathie
Alice May
Frank May
Harriet R. McCall
John D. McDonald
Eileen McFadden
Edward McGill
Estelle McGregor
John T. McGregor
Norman McGregor
James D. McKeand
Tulley McKenzie
Doug McKinney
Raymond McLaughlin
Annie McLean
Clarence W. McLean
Gerald Norman McLeod
Alex McPhail

Effie McPhail
Agnes McQuarrie
Harold Medd
Harry Miller
Mary Milroy
A. B. Mitchell
Tom Mitchell
Mabel Montgomery
William J. Montgomery
Gordon Mooney
Lillian Mummery
Vera Couling Munn
Earl Murray
Mildred G. Musgrove
Lillie H. Musselwhite
Andrew Fred Mutter
Jack Naismith
Robert Neilson
Eva Nelson
Maria Nelson
Ella Kerr Nicholson
Winnie North
John Oldcorn
Stan Oleson
Mildred Oriss
Patrick J. O'Sullivan
Muriel I. Outhaite
Donald Parrott
Phyllis Paskewitz
Daisy Patmore
Muriel Patmore
Gordon Patterson
Howard Patterson
Elmer Peeler
Jacob Penner
A. B. Pernal
John Peters
Emma Pratt
Frank Presunka
Jean Purdie
Mary Rauliuk
Jack H. Renton
Louis Richard
Lorne Rogers
Tranna Rogers

Dr. Crawford Rose
Simon Rosenman
Ralph Rowan
Kaye Rowe
Charles Sage
Clara Scott
Dorothy Scott
Thomas Seens
Janet Seward
Gladys Mary Sharpe
Hallard Shelvey
William Sheridan
Beverly Sherman
Ermina Shier
Lynn Shier
Nelson Shoemaker
Esther Short
C. Lem Shuttleworth
Joseph Shwaluk
Rev. Anthony Simbalist
Bessie Simmons
Eleanor Siple
Rev. Michael Skrumeda
G.M. Bay Smith
Hazel Smith
Margaret Scarrow Smith
Robert Smith
Vella Smith
Alvie R. Spafford
Clarence B. Spurr
Robert Strath
Einar Sundmark
Willard H. Switzer
Elsie Taylor
Ruth E. Tester
George Thomas
Joanne Titus
J. Harvey Tolton
E.A. Travis
Stewart Trites
Charles Robert Turner
Edward Turner
Sybil S. Tuthill
Edith Vallender
William G. Vallender

Molly Vance
Jack Vickers
Gladys Ward
Eleanor Warren
Irene Wasylshyn
Harold E. Watson
Lena G. Wayte
Ada Whitmore Wells
Frank Wereham
Margaret Whetherhill
Allen John Whetter
Ruth Whitlaw
Jessie Whyte
Dave Willey
Kenneth Williams
W.D. Wilson
Kathleen Winters
Marjorie Wolfe
Edythe May Wood
Norah Wright
James M. Young
Stanely Young
G.H. Younge
Brandon
Boissevain
Brookdale
Carberry
Deloraine
Douglas
Elkhorn
Erickson
Forrest
Glenboro
Hamiota
Hartney
Justice
Kenton
Killarney
Melita
Minnedosa
Neepawa
Ninette
Oak Lake
Rapid City
Reston

Rivers
Shoal Lake
Sioux Valley Reserve
Souris
Strathclair
Virden
Wawanesa
Agriculture
Associations and Clubs
Churches and Church Life
Cultural Events
Early Politics
Education
Health Services
Immigration
Local Businesses
Native-White Relations
Oral History
Pioneers
Pioneer Settlements
Pioneer Way of Life
Social Life
Sports
Transportation
War Brides
Creators
Westman Oral History Association
J.E. Bateman
Mary Booth-Kipling
Gladys Bray
Kay Briggs
Irene Brown
Bill Burgess
Phyllis Cairns
Eva Cassils
Winnie Cheetham
K. Cochrane
F.M. Collinson
Elsie Cory
Hilda Curry
Marge Deschambault
Margaret Dickie
Ola Duncan
Cliff Findlay
Marjorie Fitton
Jean Flay

John Forsyth
Elwood Gorrie
Phillis Hallett
Audrey Harburn
Amy Harrison
Wilma Hatch
A.L. Henderson
Lloyd Henderson
Stan Henry
Ron Heritage
Gwen Hickson
Shirley Hunt
E. John
Mae Johnson
Isla Kennedy
W.J.L. Kilkenny
Irene Lazenby
Phillis Long
Blair Loree
Ray MacNeill
Effie MacPhail
Dorothy Martin
Marion Martin
Marion Mayert
John Miller
John Moore
Hazel Patmore
Velma Patterson
William Patterson
James Penhale
Terry Penton
Bernice Pettypiece
Edith Poole
Roberta Poole
Hazel Rose
Gordon Sefton
Jack Senchuk
Gordon Shanks
Glady Sharpe
Mervin Smire
Delbert Spurr
Dr. David Stewart
Rosalyn Sutley
Margaret Switzer
Mary Thomas

Charles Turner

Location Original: ~~Nora Turner~~
The originals for the collection are held at the Brandon Public Library.

Storage Location: ~~Mayne Warren~~
1998 accessions

Storage Range: ~~Tom Wilkins~~
1998 accessions

Related Material: ~~Assiniboine Historical Society~~
The Minutes for the meetings of the Westman Oral History Association from 1980-85 are located at the Daly House Museum in Brandon, Manitoba.