

Walter Assef fonds

Originals, photocopies, and clippings, 15 cm of textual records and 24 photographs, c. 1974-1982.

Scope and Content: The Walter Assef fonds consists of two series, one of which includes a scrapbook compiled by Assef himself from 1974-1978, and the other a collection of photographs.

Series A 102/1/1: Scrapbook - 15 cm - 1974-1978 (originals, photocopies, and clippings).

This series contains one oversized scrapbook compiled by Walter Assef from 1974 to 1978. The scrapbook contains letters from Assef, letters addressed to Assef, newspaper clippings covering a wide range of subjects, Thank You cards and Thank You letters to Assef, brochures, reports, and pictures.

Series A 102/2/1-24: Photographs - 24 photographs - A majority of the pictures are not dated, the most recent is 1982.

This series contains twenty-four photographs collected by Walter Assef. Four of the photographs are in colour while the remaining twenty are in black and white. One of the coloured photographs is framed and signed by Ed and Lily Schreyer and was given as a gift to Walter and his wife. The subjects of the photos range from portraits, to designations, to groups of people gathered together, and to a group of photos that were taken at a baseball game which appears to have had prominent people from Thunder Bay, Ontario, take part in it.

Biographical Sketch: Walter Assef (d. January 4, 1988) was a Canadian Politician in Fort William, Ontario, which later became Thunder Bay, Ontario. He began his political career in 1960 which lasted for twenty-five years until he retired at the age of 72. He served as mayor of Thunder Bay, Ontario from 1973-1978, and then again from 1981-1985. He was the first and only mayor to have been elected for two discontinuous terms. Before he was mayor he served as alderman of Fort William Ontario, and before his political career he was a performer on the vaudeville circuit. Locally he is famous for allegedly patting Queen Elizabeth II's backside when she came to Thunder Bay. He passed away in his sleep on January 4, 1988 at the age of 74.

Additional Information:

Custodial History: The scrapbook was acquired from Walter Assef's niece, Lorraine Mandziuk, the daughter of Elsie Assef. The scrapbook was donated by Dave Nicholson on July 29, 2007, and the photos on August 8, 2007, also by Nicholson.

Associated Material: See 2007.7.1-3 in the artifacts collection as the scrapbook and photos were donated with three 45 rpm records as well.