



Finding Aid for

BEN R. DONALDSON PAPERS, 1941-1955

Accession 914

Finding Aid Published: March 2011



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OVERVIEW

REPOSITORY: Benson Ford Research Center
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ACCESSION NUMBER: 914

CREATOR: Donaldson, Ben R.

TITLE: Ben R. Donaldson papers

INCLUSIVE DATES: 1941-1955

QUANTITY: 1 folder

LANGUAGE: The materials are in English.

ABSTRACT: Ben R. Donaldson joined Ford Motor Company in 1919 and moved up the ranks through the years to become Director of Advertising of the Sales and Advertising Division. The papers document the friendship between Ben Donaldson and William J. Cameron after Cameron's retirement from Ford Motor Company.

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 by the Ford Motor Company in 1964.
- PREFERRED CITATION:** Item, folder, box, accession 914, Ben R. Donaldson papers, Benson Ford Research Center, The Henry Ford
- PROCESSING INFORMATION:** Collection processed by staff of the Ford Motor Company Archives circa 1964.
- DESCRIPTION INFORMATION:** Original collection inventory list prepared by staff of the Ford Motor Company Archives, May 1964.
- Finding aid written by staff of The Henry Ford, and published in February 2011.
- Finding aid prepared using Describing Archives: A Content Standard (DACS) and local guidelines.

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

Ben R. Donaldson joined Ford Motor Company in 1919 and moved up the ranks through the years to become Director of Advertising of the Sales and Advertising Division. Donaldson probably met William J. Cameron while they both worked at the Dearborn Independent newspaper office. Cameron later became a spokesman for Henry Ford and carried out many public relations tasks for the company. Cameron retired from Ford Motor Company in 1946 and died in 1955 while in California.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The papers document the friendship between Ben Donaldson and William Cameron after Cameron's retirement. The papers also contain Donaldson's collection of articles and writings documenting Cameron's career at Ford Motor Company. The papers include writings by Cameron, some of which outline Henry Ford's philosophy on various topics (1941-1948), newspaper clipping about Cameron's retirement (1946), correspondence between Donaldson and Cameron (1950-1955) and correspondence between Donaldson and Mrs. Cameron about her husband's illness, last days and death in 1955.

SUBJECT TERMS

Names, Personal and Corporate
Cameron, William John, 1878-1955.
Donaldson, Ben R.

CONTAINER LIST

Box no.	Description
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Single Folder

Washington Post "A Statement of Ford Policy" by J. R. Davis, Vice President, Ford Motor Company before House Public Works Subcommittee on Questionable Trade Practices, Washington, D. C., 15 December 1948.

Miscellaneous correspondence between B.R. Donaldson and W.J. Cameron, 1950-1955

Ad tear sheets

Clipping regarding W.J. Cameron retiring from Ford Staff (Washington Post, 4 April 1946)

Mr. Ford on Education

Postwar Thinking by Henry Ford

Some Ford Philosophy Sunday Evening Hour, 12 January 1941

More Ford Philosophy Sunday Evening Hour, undated

The Cross and the Flag, February 1946

Copy of Sidney Olson manuscript (Preface to book Olson was working on)

Mrs. W.J. Cameron's letter to Mr. B.R. Donaldson (re: Mr. W.J. Cameron's increasing ill health, last days, etc.)

B.R. Donaldson reply to Mrs. W.J. Cameron, 31 August 1955