

Acc.13203
September 2010



Inventory

Acc.13203

Papers of John McDiarmid Airlie, Labour Councillor and Parliamentary Candidate

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Personal and political papers, 1899-1953, of John McDiarmid Airlie (1885-1965), Labour Councillor and Parliamentary candidate to Ayr Burghs, related to his involvement in the Trade Union and Labour movement.

The collection includes correspondence from Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald (1866-1937) and Labour Ministers of Fuel and Power Hugh Gaitskell (1906-1963) and Philip Noel-Baker, Baron Noel-Baker (1889-1982). The collection also contains some printed papers and photographs, 1932-1953, relating to Airlie's son Robert McGregor Airlie and a collection of songbooks and printed music, c.1900-1960, probably belonging to John Airlie's wife.

Further papers of John Airlie are available in Acc.11566.

Presented 2010

1. Personal and political papers of John Airlie consisting of:
 - (i) and (ii) School certificates, 1899.
 - (iii) Discharge certificate of the Territorial Army, 1913.
 - (iv) Campaign material for the Ayr Burghs election, 1923-1924, with a letter from Ramsay MacDonald regretting Airlie's unsuccessful attempt to win a seat for Labour at the General Election 1924.
 - (v) Letter concerning John Airlie's resignation as national Scottish officer from the National Union of Public Employees, 27 January 1948. The letter details Airlie's wide-ranging involvement in the trade union and Labour movement from 1906 up to his resignation in 1948.
 - (vi) Letters from Labour Ministers of Fuel and Power Hugh Gaitskell and Philip Noel-Baker appointing John Airlie to the South East Scotland Area Electricity Board and as chairman of the South East Scotland Electricity Consultative Council, with related correspondence from John Airlie to both, 1948-1951.
 - (vii) Printed items mostly consisting of boilermakers, iron and steel shipbuilders standard weekly wages, 1909-1921.
 - (viii) Two posters of the Labour Party probably related to the General Election 1924, c.1924.
2. Printed papers and photographs relating to the work of Robert McGregor Airlie, engineer with Edinburgh Water Board, 1932-1953.

3. Songbooks and printed music, mostly undated, c. 1900-1960.