

**The New York Public Library
Humanities and Social Sciences Library
Manuscripts and Archives Division**

William A. Casselman Papers
1925-2000
MssCol 6142

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Table of Contents

Summary	iii
Biographical note	iv
Scope and content note	v
Arrangement note	v
Series descriptions and container list	1
SERIES I. CORRESPONDENCE, 1925-1989	1
SERIES II. NEWS CLIPPINGS, 1963-2000	1
SERIES III. PERSONAL MEMORABILIA, 1960S	1
SERIES IV. WRITINGS, 1948-1983	1
SERIES V. PHOTOGRAPHS, 1940-1970	1
SERIES VI. SOUND RECORDINGS, 195?	2

Summary

- Main entry:** Casselman, William A., 1903-
- Title:** William A. Casselman Papers, 1925-2000
- Size:** 0.75 linear feet (2 boxes)
- Source:** Gift of Ann Graff, August 2004.
- Abstract:** The papers document William Casselman's (1903-1989) career as a newspaperman with the New York *Daily News*, including correspondence, news clippings, press-passes, programs, resumes and biographical materials, an autobiographical manuscript and other writings, photographs and a sound recording.
- Access:** Apply in the Special Collections Office for admission to the Manuscripts and Archives Division.
- Preferred citation:** William A. Casselman Papers, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library.
- Special formats** Photographs, sound recordings,

Biographical note

William A. Casselman, lifelong newspaperman, was born in Montague, Michigan in 1901. At the age of seven his family moved to Madison, Wisconsin. After graduating high school Casselman worked for a variety of newspapers throughout Wisconsin and in Baltimore. In 1925 Casselman moved to New York to pursue his career. In 1928, after three years of working for smaller papers, Casselman was hired by the New York *Daily News* as a copy editor. Casselman remained at the *Daily News* for the next forty years, with the exception of a one-year stint at *Liberty Magazine* in 1930. In 1946 Casselman was promoted to news editor. In 1961 he accepted the position of night managing editor, and assumed the position of editor in 1963 after the retirement of Robert Shand. In 1966 Casselman was promoted to the position of executive editor, which he held until his retirement in 1968. After his retirement, Casselman continued to contribute to the *Daily News* as a consultant and was elected as president of the James Bennett Foundation, a private foundation that provides financial assistance to the families of newspapermen and women. He became chairman of the Foundation in 1976 and held the position until 1984. Casselman died in 1989.

Scope and content note

The papers include correspondence with Casselman's colleagues in the newspaper industry; news clippings documenting the New York *Daily News* and its parent company the Tribune Company; typescripts chronicling Casselman's career in newspapers and the development of newspaper printing processes; personal memorabilia including press passes, programs and several issues of the *Daily News' News Pix* magazine (a publication for employees); photographs capturing the workroom of the *Daily News* and portraits of Casselman and various functions and receptions; and a sound recording capturing the sounds of several machines in the *Daily News* buildings.

Arrangement note

The William A. Casselman Papers are organized in the following series:

- Series I. Correspondence, 1925-1989
- Series II. News Clippings, 1963-2000
- Series III. Personal Memorabilia, 1960s
- Series IV. Writings, 1948-1983
- Series V. Photographs, 1940-1970
- Series VI. Sound Recordings, 195?

Series descriptions and container list

<u>Box</u>	<u>Fol</u>	
1	1	<p>Series I. Correspondence, 1925-1989 The correspondence is arranged chronologically in a single file. Of note is Casselman's 1925 letter to his mother describing his first experience working in newspapers in New York, dealing with being fired and determination to stay in New York to pursue his career. Included in the file are letters of bereavement sent to the Casselman family after his passing.</p> <p>Series II. News Clippings, 1963-2000 The news clippings are organized into two folders; the first pertaining to the New York <i>Daily News</i>, and a second that Casselman kept on the Tribune Company (the parent company of the New York <i>Daily News</i>).</p>
1	2	New York <i>Daily News</i> , 1963-2000
	3	Tribune Corporation, 1981-1989
		<p>Series III. Personal Memorabilia, 1960s This series contains various items relating to Casselman and his work. A folder of biographical materials contains Casselman's resumes that he wrote in 1983 and obituaries for Casselman from various newspapers. Also in the series are folders containing Casselman's press passes, programs from receptions and several issues of <i>News Pix</i> magazine (published for employees of the New York <i>Daily News</i>.)</p>
1	4	News Pix (issues and clippings), 1959-1969
	5	Press badges
	6	Programs
	7	Resumes and obituaries
		<p>Series IV. Writings, 1948-1983 The writings series contains two unpublished manuscripts. The first, Casselman's "Fifty Years of Newspapering," is a chronicle of Casselman's experiences in the newspaper industry. The second, "Paper Type Newspaper," is a collaboration between Casselman and author Russ Symontowne that describes the development and use of the photoengraving process in the newspaper industry.</p>
1	8	Fifty Years of Newspapering, 1983
		Paper Type Newspapers, 1948
	9	typescript
	10	appendix - volume one
	11	appendix - advertising operation
		<p>Series V. Photographs, 1940-1970 The photographs series consists of mainly of portraits of Casselman at the New York <i>Daily News</i> workrooms or at various receptions and ceremonies. Also included are pictures of Mayor John V. Lindsay throwing out an opening pitch at Yankee Stadium in 1967 (Casselmann is present behind Lindsay), and several contact sheets and negative prints. One oversized print of the New York <i>Daily News</i> workroom has been separated and placed with oversize materials.</p>
2	1	Awards and receptions, 1940-1967
	2	Awards and receptions, 1967-1969
	3	Mayor Lindsay at Yankee Stadium, 1967
	4	Negatives and contact sheets, undated
	5	New York <i>Daily News</i> workroom, 1940-1968

Series VI. Sound Recordings, 195?

Unit ID
A04020-S

News Effects (1 sound disc : analog, mono, 78 rpm ; 10 in.)(Use service copy
in A04020-S)