

Political and Social Themes in Addresses and Writings of William J. Keough: 1929-1971.

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William J. Keough (1913-1971), labour activist and politician, was a prominent public figure who played a key role in shaping the debates of the National Convention. He served subsequently for more than two decades in various cabinet portfolios of the Smallwood government. The research project represents the first, organizing phase of a project that will lead to the publication of an annotated edition of Keough's writings and addresses, which express his social thought and document his political engagement. The papers promise not only to shed new light on political and economic history but also to furnish significant information on available intellectual options that shaped the "New Newfoundland" during the Commission of Government and the first two decades of the Smallwood era. Since Keough was part of a progressive Roman Catholicism oriented toward social action, the relationship of the Newfoundland co-operative movement with the Antigonish Movement, which sought a similar amelioration of social conditions, will be of particular interest. Keough's papers will furnish significant primary sources for documenting and analyzing this circle of influence as well as his own social and political thinking.