

Deposited by Mrs M. Cumming (nee Cosgrove)  
8 February 1971  
Access: Open for research

SIR ROBERT COSGROVE

Sir Robert Cosgrove K.C.M.G. (1884-1969), a grocer by trade, became a trade union leader and politician. He was State President of the A.L.P. in 1916 and first elected to the House of Assembly for Denison in that year. He was Premier of Tasmania 1939-47 and Premier and Minister of Education 1948-58. He married Gertrude Geappen in 1911. He received the Knighthood, K.C.M.G. in 1959 and his wife was made a Dame of the British Empire in 1949.

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1 Personal Papers 1898 - 1969

Miscellaneous personal papers including character references, First Communion card, newspaper cutting relating to introduction of Fair Rents Bill, visit to Claremont Army Camp 1915, House of Assembly notice of regret at his retirement, 1958, House of Assembly and Legislative Council notices of regret at his death 1969, funeral card 1969.  
(folder of 17 documents)

2

(1-11) Official Appointments 1935-1959

Letters Patent or certificates of appointment to Government offices, justice of peace, etc., signed and sealed by Governor E. Clark or the Attorney General. Also illuminated "tribute" from the Education Department 1958, (framed) and grant of K.C.M.G., 1959 (framed).  
(parcel of 9 documents, plus 2 large framed documents)

3 Press Cuttings c 1919-1925

Including congratulatory messages etc.  
(quarto volume letter press copy book)

4 Press Cuttings 1918, 1930, 1933  
(in unused 1914 pocket diary)

5 Personal Press Cuttings c 1941-1959  
(bundle)

## POLITICAL PAPERS

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- 6 W. Morrow, A.R.U. 1938-9
- File of press cuttings relating to expulsion of W. Morrow, Secretary of Australian Railways Union from Labor Party, and notes prepared for Premier, A.G. Ogilvie.
- 7 Defence 1939,1942
- A.G. Ogilvie's file re 1939 Federal A.L.P. Conference defence motion - press cuttings, miscellaneous pamphlets and papers.
- 8 State Election 1955
- File relating to State General Election, 19 February 1955. Includes policy, platform, and broadcast speeches, list of A.L.P. candidates and pamphlets advertising, campaign helpers, letters of thanks.
- 9 State General Election 1956.
- Advertising, press cuttings, pamphlets, draft speeches, some correspondence, details of expenditure on education, public works, etc. and analysis of votes cast, Denison Division. Also includes Report on Tasmanian Government Railways, by Herbert H. Phillips, Hobart, 1 Oct. 1953.
- 10 Labor Party c 1917-1937
- Miscellaneous Labor Party election pamphlets, Labor's Challenge (1937), and notice of meeting of Shop Assistants and Warehouse Employees' Federation of Australia, 6 Sep. 1911
- 11 Policy speeches 1946, 1948, 1950, 1955, 1956
- Policy speeches of R. Cosgrove, and copy of Mercury report of 1941 speech, 20 Nov. 1941.
- 12 Policy speeches of A.G. Ogilvie, 30 Apr. 1934 (typed), and E. Reece, 14 Apr. 1959.

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## 13 Powers Referendum 1944

Files of press cuttings, miscellaneous papers and pamphlets relating to the "Powers Referendum".

## 14 H.E.C. 1929, 1941

Typescript notes on moving "A Bill to amend the Hydro-Electric Commission Act 1929" and copies of "Report on the Power Position to the Hon. the Minister for Lands and Works" and "Report of the Board of Inquiry on the Hydro-Electric Commission"

15 "Tasmania in the Coming Decade." (Possibly a broadcast election speech) c 1957.

## 16 A Precis of the Main Industrial Legislation introduced and amended since 1934." (typescript) 13 Feb. 1959

## PRESENTATIONS AND SOUVENIRS

## 17 Newnham Hall Community School 12 Aug. 1948

Photograph album of the first weeks of the Newnham Hall Community School, founded 3 Feb. 1948, presented to Robert Cosgrove, Premier and Minister of Education.

18 Loss of Bass voting papers c 1929

Tasmanian Government Gazette No. 8337, 1 May 1922.  
Regulations under the Electoral Acts relating to House of Assembly and Legislative Council Elections and press cutting relating to loss of voting papers in Bass seat after floods.

## 19 Tasmanian Government Gazette. 12 Dec. 1936. Abdication of Edward VIII and Proclamation of Accession of George VI announced.

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- 20 Twenty-ninth International Eucharist Congress, Sydney. (Souvenir)  
6-9 Sept. 1928.
- 21- Coronation Elizabeth II 1953  
22  
Miscellaneous papers including programmes, souvenir booklets, relating to Sir Robert and Dame Gertrude Cosgroves visit to the Coronation of Elizabeth II, and visits to England, Ireland, and Canada. Also scrapbook of invitation cards. (1 parcel, 1 volume)
- 23, English Electric Works Visits 1949, 1953  
24  
Commemoration photo album of visit of R. Cosgrove to Stafford works of English Electric and Annual Report 1953.
- 25 Royal Visit to Tasmania 1954  
Working programme of Tasmanian visit (including traffic arrangements), Tasmanian Programme, Commonwealth programme, script of documentary film.
- 26 Queen Mother's Visit to Tasmania Feb. 1958  
Working programme and commemorative booklet with summary of programme for use of the Royal household.

## MISCELLANEOUS

- 27 The Development of the Labor Movement in the Sydney District of New South Wales. L. Thomas. 1962  
Published in duplicated form by Australian Society for the Study of Labor History, for members.

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## PHOTOGRAPHS

## 28 Photograph Collection

Photographs of Robert Cosgrove and others, including early photograph in group with staff of Robert Walker, grocer, various political groups, St Virgil's football team (1931, 1932), visits to Britain, Royal tours.  
(2 parcels of 98 photographs. See appendix for list.)

## TASMANIAN WORKERS' POLITICAL LEAGUE

Denison Division, No.1 Branch. R. Cosgrove Secretary and later President.

## 29 Minute Book (signed) 1914-1916

## 30 Secretary's Correspondence received Jan.-Dec. 1915

## 31 Agenda paper for annual conference, Tasmanian Workers' Political League. 5 May 1915.

32 Miscellaneous nominations for office bearers of Tasmanian Workers' Political League. c 1915-16

## 33 Accounts 1915-16

Miscellaneous accounts and receipts of Denison No.1 Branch, and statement of receipts and expenditure of Central Execution of Tasmanian Workers' Political League for year ending 24 Apr. 1915.

## 34- Australian Labor Party

35

Reports of Proceedings of annual conferences. 1955, 1957.

## 36 Federal Platform Constitution and Rules. 1961

Amended by 24th Commonwealth Conference.

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## A.L.P - TASMANIA

- 37 File relating to Denison Divisional Council's fund-raising raffle. May-August 1957.
- 38 Reports of annual conferences. 1947, 1956, 1957.
- 39 Branch Rules and Procedure 1937.
- 40 Platform Constitution and Rules, amended to 1957.  
(2 copies)

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28 LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS

- 1 R. Cosgrove as young man with group of staff of Robert Walker, grocer, Hobart, N.D.
- 2 R. Cosgrove 1909  
Head and shoulders portrait by Lilley. Endorsed: "To Gertrude with Love from Bert 16.1.1909."
- 3 Group 1917  
Including: R.Cosgrove, A. Ogilvie, J.A. Lyons, W.E. Shoobridge.
- 4 Federated Storemen and Packers' Union of Australia 1919  
Adelaide, group including R. Cosgrove.
- 5 A.L.P. 1921  
Including R. Cosgrove.
- 6 House of Assembly 1925  
J.A. Lyons, Premier, including R. Cosgrove.
- 7-8 2 Groups including J.A. Lyons. N.D.  
Beattie photo.
- 9 Cabinet group: A. Ogilvie, E. Dwyer-Gray, R. Cosgrove, etc.
- 10 Parliament in session. N.D.  
Includes A. & E. Ogilvie, E. Dwyer-Gray, R. Cosgrove.
- 11 Executive Council 1934  
Includes Govr. E. Clark, A.G. Ogilvie, Premier, R.Cosgrove (Minister for Transport).
- 12 Police at funeral of A.G.Ogilvie, Premier 16 June 1939.  
Barnett photo.
- 13 Hon. R. Cosgrove's Ministry 18 Dec. 1939  
Names on mount.
- 14 Executive Meeting "with compliments of E. Dwyer-Gray, Premier, Dec. 1939."
- 15 R. Cosgrove and Ministers, including E. Dwyer-Gray. N.D.  
photo J, Burgess Watt
- 16-18 Premiers' Conference, Canberra, 1945.  
Including R. Cosgrove, B. Chiffley, E. Dwyer-Gray.
- 19 Education Conference, Gorge, Launceston. Feb. 1940.  
R. Cosgrove at tea-table with three others.

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- 20 Chamber of Commerce Dinner, Launceston. 1 Apr. 1946.
- 21 A.G. Townley elected for Denison 22 Dec. 1949.
- 22- Visit to Carpet Factory, E. Devonport N.D.  
24a,b Winter Photographer, Burnie.
- 25- Groups, meetings, etc. N.D.  
32 In car with Mrs Cosgrove, "Caruso" group, hospital ladies' group including Mrs M.Cummings (nee Cosgrove), Goodyear tyre display, Melbourne restaurant, Parliament.
- 33 R. Cosgrove with Governor, Sir Hugh Binney N.D.  
[1945-51]
- 34-5 Greeting Sir Ronald H. Cross, Governor, and Lady Cross.  
[? 1951]
- 36 R.Cosgrove and Brigadier E.M. Dollery N.D.
- 37- Visits to U.K. 1949, 1953.  
77 Photographs of Robert and Gertrude Cosgrove on their visit to London in 1949, when Dame Gertrude received the D.B.E., including: arrival, Air Force Group, receptions, Reading's thanks for food parcels distributed to the town in 1948 and 1949, reception for "Miss Australia" visit to Metro-Vickers Electrical at Manchester (37-48); visit to Glasgow for launching of the "Merino" (49-56); visit to English Electric Stafford Works (57-67); Hendry Bros., Engineers, London (R. Cosgrove looking at school desks and chairs 68-71); also departure by 'plane and on board "Strathair", Melbourne (April 1949) and in London (? Coronation visit 1953 76-7).
- 78- Visit to Dublin, Amsterdam, etc.  
82 Including: unveiling plaque in memory of Abel Tasman in Amsterdam (79); proof copies of Allied Photo Service portrait (80-82).
- 83- Royal Tour of Tasmania 1954  
86 Queen Elizabeth II and Duke of Edinburgh greeting R. Cosgrove and at receptions, Parliament.



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- 87 R. Cosgrove's last press conference c 1958.
- 88-9 St Virgil's College Football Teams 1931, 1932.  
Including R. Cosgrove (?son of R.Cosgrove)
- 90 Rowing Four on water N.D.  
Not named. ? includes R. Cosgrove jnr.
- 91 Young men on ship waving N.D.  
Age photo.
- 93-4 Cadets marching and in group. N.D.
- 95 Military ceremony (? Military College) N.D.
- 96 School sports or marching display. N.D.  
Mercury photo.
- 97 Torvisosa Elementary School, Italy.