Reference code: GB165-0115
Title: Sir Robin Allason Furness Collection
Name of creator: Furness, Sir Robert Allason (1883-1954) Knight Egyptian Civil Servant
Dates of creation of material: 1906; 1920-1951
Level of description: Fonds
Extent: 5 boxes

Biographical history: Furness, Sir Robert Allason (1883-1954)
Born 1883, son of Revd. and Mrs. John Monteith Furness. Educated Rugby School; King’s College, Cambridge. Entered Egyptian Civil Service, 1906; Deputy Chief Press Censor, 1914; Director of Imports and Exports, War Trade Dept, 1917; P.A. to Financial Adviser, 1919; seconded to staff of High Commissioner for Egypt, 1919; retired from Egyptian Civil Service, 1923; Oriental Secretary to High Commissioner, 1923-26; CBE 1926; Deputy Director-General, Egyptian State Broadcasting, 1933-34; Press Officer, Government of Palestine, 1934-36; Professor of English, Fuad I University, Cairo, 1936-44; Deputy Chief Censor of Publications, Anglo-Egyptian Censorship, 1939-44; CMG 1944; British Council representative in Egypt, 1945-50. KBE,1951. Married, 1945, Joyce Marc - one daughter, Mary. Died 4 December 1954.

Scope and content: Papers relating to Anglo-Egyptian relations, English teaching at secondary school and university level, the formation of the Anglo-Egyptian Union, and censorship in Egypt.

System of arrangement: Largely as received.

Access conditions: Open
Language of material: English, French, Arabic

Conditions governing reproduction: No restrictions on copying or quotation apart from statutory regulations and preservation concerns.

Custodial history: In the possession of Sir Robin and Lady Furness.
Immediate source of acquisition: Received from Lady Furness at intervals between 1980 and 1985.
Finding aids: In Guide; Handlist

## FILE LEVEL DESCRIPTION OF THE SIR ROBIN ALLASON FURNESS COLLECTION

### Box 1

| 1/1 | Atrocities of Justice under British rule in Egypt, Wilfred Scawen Blunt, pub T. Fisher Unwin. | 1906 | 1 vol |
| 1/2 | A few words on the Anglo-Egyptian settlement, Abbas Hilmi II, pub. George Allen & Unwin. | 1929 | 1 vol |
| 1/4 | The Anglo – Egyptian Association – list of officers and members. | 1937 | 1 item |
| 1/5 | The Anglo – Egyptian Union – rule book and memo from the cultural director on future extensions. | n.d. | 4 sheets; 1 item |
| 1/6 | “Publicity censorship in Cairo. Report on the press of various countries”. Typescript. | n.d. | 1 item |
| 1/7 | “The Anglo – Egyptian treaty revision – why negotiations broke down.” Typescript. | 1947 | 28 sheets |
| 1/8 | Papers and correspondence as Professor of English Literature, Fuad University, Giza, Cairo. | 1933-1939 | 118 sheets; 1 item |
| 1/9 | Papers, accounts, minutes and staff details relating to Victoria College, Cairo. | 1942-1944 | 6 sheets; 1 item |
| 1/10 | Egyptian visiting cards. | | 25 sheets |
| 1/11 | Papers relating to Lewis Awad and his application to carry out doctoral research at King’s College, Cambridge. | 1937-1938 | 18 sheets; 1 item |
Box 2  Fuad University, 1933-1939

2/1  Correspondence relating to appointments to the English Staff, 1933-1939.
     Exam papers and syllabuses, 1937-1939.

Faculty of Letters

2/2  Faculty Council – agendas and minutes of meetings (mostly in French) 1937-1939.
     Faculty Committees – papers and correspondence (mostly in French) 1937-1939.

     Association of British Schoolmasters in Egyptian Secondary Schools. 1937
     Papers relating to 4th ad 5th year school examinations in English. 1937-1938.

Censorship in Egypt, 1940-1945

2/4  Consolidated instructions on censorship issued between July 1940 and June 1942.

   *List showing the treatment of publications in censorship,*
   Government of India Press, New Delhi, 1942.
     Publicity Censorship Department, Cairo – papers and correspondence 1942-1945.

Box 3

3/1  Papers relating to Egyptian politics and internal affairs, including letters from Rennell Rodd, Archibald Clark-Kerr, Lord Lloyd and Gerald Delany, correspondence with *The Manchester Guardian*, a pamphlet on martial law in Egypt 1914-1923 by Maurice Sheldon Amos, and a memoir of Saad Pasha Zaghlul by Owen Tweedy, with memos, notes and drafts by Furness.

3/2  Papers relating to staffing, curriculum, discipline etc. in the English Section of the Faculty of Arts, Fuad University.

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Printed material relating to the Egyptian Constitution, 1923-1930

3/3  *Rescrit établissant le Régime Constitutionnel de l’État Egyptien.*

Rescrit Royal No. 42 de 1923. Imprimerie Nationale, Le Caire, 1923. [Bilingual French/Arabic].

Report on the modifications to be introduced into the Constitution and the Electoral Law. n.d., with annotations by Furness.

Décrétons du Régime Constitutionnel de 1930, with annotations in French by Furness.

**Box 4  Anglo – Egyptian Union, 1936-1947**

4/1  Minutes, correspondence, notices of meetings. 1936-1947 189 sheets

4/2  Papers and drafts for a new constitution for the Anglo – Egyptian Union. 1938-1939 96 sheets

4/3  Printed material produced by the Anglo – Egyptian Union including: constitution and statutes, 1938 and 1941; balance sheet, 1938; annual reports, 1942-1944; membership lists, 1940-1943 1938-1944 9 items

4/4  Letter and report by L. Dorothy Potter (École de Service Social d’Alexandrie) on the possibility of setting up an international centre in Alexandria for the Allied Forces serving in the area. 1942 11 sheets

**Box 5**

5/1  Papers relating to the Rupert Brooke Memorial Committee, Cairo. 1930 7 sheets

5/2  Papers relating to Furness’ work in censorship in Palestine. 1931-1936 22 sheets

5/3  Papers relating to the Royal Institute of International Affairs, Cairo. c1944 14 sheets

5/4  Miscellaneous notes, articles and press cuttings relating to Egypt, including statistics of staff in government departments, the geography of the Libyan desert, Egyptian pupils at foreign schools in Egypt, a talk by Sir William Croft on the post-war economic future of Egypt, social reforms in Egypt, and a copy of “Mespot – Again: A Personal Record” by J.A. de C. Hamilton. 1920-1944 30 sheets
Papers relating to Furness’s membership of King’s College, Cambridge, and the Horatian Society.