

**William Leland Jensen Collection**  
**M/A 1998.48.01-02**

**Finding aid prepared by Nick Steffel**

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	James K. Hosmer Special Collections Library
<b>Creator</b>	Jensen, William Leland, 1907-1998
<b>Title</b>	William Leland Jensen Collection
<b>Date</b>	1942-1947
<b>Extent</b>	1.75 Linear feet
<b>Language</b>	English

## **Biography**

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William Leland (Lee) Jensen was born on July 27, 1907 in Albert Lea, Minnesota. Jensen grew up in Albert Lea, attending Albert Lea High School and later studying economics at Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota. Jensen married Doris Verne Phelps, whom he met while at Carleton, in 1932. They had one daughter (Nancy Lee) born in 1934 and one son (William Phelps) in 1937.

During World War Two, Jensen served as a Regional Director for the War Production Board, overseeing operations in Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Montana, one of 12 regional offices across the country. The WPB was responsible for overseeing the production of war materiel, allocating scarce industrial resources, and rationing civilian use of gasoline, rubber, and other important materials. He continued to serve this role in the Civilian Production Administration (the postwar successor to the War Production Board) until 1947 when he resigned to return to private business.

Jensen remained in Minneapolis thereafter, participating in various civic and business organizations. Jensen died on April 29, 1998 after suffering a stroke and is buried next to his wife Doris at Lakewood Cemetery.

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## **Description of Collection**

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The collection consists of 2 boxes containing various items pertaining to the War Production Board (WPB) from the Minnesota, North and South Dakota region. Includes good documentation of the process of Mr. Jensen being hired on with the War Production Board, organizational charts, reports, publications, photographs, and clippings pertaining to the WPB during the years 1942-1947.

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## **Administrative Information**

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### **Publication Information**

James K. Hosmer Special Collections Library

## Related Materials

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### Related Materials

*Arsenal of Democracy, The Story of American War Production* (1946) by Donald M. Nelson Available in circulating collection and the Kittleson WWII Collection **(338.0 N42)**

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## Controlled Access Headings

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### Corporate Name(s)

- United States. War Production Board.

### Subject(s)

- World War, 1939-1945 -- Economic aspects -- United States
- World War, 1939-1945 -- Minnesota
- World War, 1939-1945 -- War work -- Minnesota -- Hennepin County.

## Collection Inventory

	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Biographical Sketch and Container List	1	1
Biographical -- Professional Documentation and Correspondence	1	2
Biographical -- Professional -- Humor	1	3
Civilian Production Administration	1	4
Clippings 1940s	1	5
Correspondence -- Personal	1	6
Minnesota Postwar Council Feb. 1947	1	7
War Production Board -- Correspondence 1942	1	8
War Production Board -- Correspondence 1943	1	9
War Production Board -- Correspondence 1944-1945	1	10
War Production Board -- Correspondence 1946-1947	1	11
War Production Board -- Contact List	1	12

War Production Board -- Lumber Industry	1	13
War Production Board -- News Releases	1	14
War Production Board -- Newsletters, Meetings, Directory	1	15
War Production Board -- Misc. Publications	1	16
War Production Board -- Reports and Charts	1	17
Photos -- William Leland Jensen	1	18
Photos -- War Production Board, misc.	1	19
		<b>Box</b>
Scrapbook 1940s		2

### Scope and Contents note

Scrapbook contains various clippings, correspondence, photographs and ephemera related to the War Production Board and Jensen.