

S. J. McKee Archives



Provincial exhibition of Manitoba documents

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4353>

Part Of: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds

Description Level: Series

Fonds Number: RG2SF1

Series Number: 1.1

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1910-1972

Physical Description: 25 cm

History /

Biographical:

These documents were created between 1910 and 1972 by the administration of the Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba.

Custodial History:

See sous-fonds RG2SF1 for custodial history.

Scope and Content:

This series includes various contracts and agreements between the Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba and companies hired for the fair. These companies include musicians, entertainment, stage hands, concessions and more. The series also includes inventories, by laws, the 1920 Act of Incorporation. Most of the documents are from 1957 to 1962.

Notes: Inventory of documents in the series is available in the printed finding aid.

Storage Location: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
RG2SF1 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba



Provincial exhibition of Manitoba minutes

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4354>

Part Of: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds

Description Level: Series

Fonds Number: RG2SF1

Series Number: 1.2

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1903-1981

Physical Description: 1.17 m

History /

Biographical:

The minutes were created by the summer fair Board of Directors and the various committees and sub-committees associated with the Board.

There is ample evidence in the minutes of the Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba that the administrative structure was largely one by committee. By 1903, there were at least nine separate committees. These committees were Grounds and Buildings, Sports and Attractions, Public Comfort, Advertising and Printing, Privileges, Gates, Finance, Excursion and Transportation, and Prize List. Of these committees only Public Comfort, Privileges, and Excursion and Transportation were comparatively short-lived. These committees are not mentioned after 1903, 1920, and 1925, respectively. The remaining six committees all survive in various forms to this day.

In 1908 there is mention of a Speed committee, which dealt with the racetrack at the fairgrounds. This committee was in existence until the early 1970s, when racing, along with the condemned grandstand, was discontinued. By 1915 there is mention of a Reception committee that continues on until the mid-1970s.

In the 1920 minutes several committees are mentioned. The committees included Concessions, Grandstand, Accommodation, Police/Security, and Wild Birds and Animals. The Wild Birds and Animals is not mentioned in further minutes, but Grandstand and Accommodation are mentioned into the mid 1950s. Both the Concessions and Police/Security are mentioned until the late 1970s.

In 1925, there are several new committees mentioned. They include Heavy Horse, Light Horse, Beef Cattle, Dairy Cattle, Sheep, Swine, Farm Boy's Camp, Poultry, Grains and Grasses, Horticulture, Dairy Competition, Machinery Row, Natural History, Fine Arts and School Exhibits, and Livestock Parade. The enormous expansion of committees is a reflection of the expansion of the exhibition. Almost all aspects of farming now had its own committee, and an effort to help young people continue in farming was made with the forming of camps for farm boys. All of these committees were long lived, although not necessarily with the original title. From approximately 1930 to 1940, all of the Cattle were lumped together, but by 1950 a Commercial Cattle committee was mentioned, and by 1974 there was also a Special Agriculture Display and Exotic Breeds. By 1979 there were Steer Show and Bull Sale committees. Around 1930, a Calf and Colt Competition committee was also added.

In 1930 there is mention of a Dining Room committee, but it is not mentioned again. In response to changing society, a Car Parking committee was created around 1935. This committee remained under various titles through to today. Another short-lived committee, Grandstand Gates, is mentioned from about 1935 to 1940. For some time there was also a Band Competition committee. It is mentioned from 1940 to 1945, and then not again until 1979.

In 1950 there was a Dogs committee, but no further mention is made of this committee. From 1955 to 1960 there was a separate Fire committee, until it was amalgamated with Police/Security. In 1955 two new committees are mentioned. These are the Trade Fair and Homecraft committees. While the Trade Fair is not mentioned after about 1960, the Homecraft committee seems to have been in existence until the mid 1970s.

A 4-H and Junior Activities committee was formed around 1960 to take the place of the Farm Boy's Camp. This committee continued the exhibition's attempts to keep young rural people interested in farming.

In the minutes for 1970, two more committees are mentioned. They are the Food and Beverage and the Bees and Honey committees. While one would suppose that the Food and Beverage Services committee was a new title for the Concessions committee, the Concessions committee is also mentioned. The Bees and Honey committee is mentioned until about 1974 in committee minutes.

By 1974 three more committees are mentioned in the minutes. They were the Baby Fair committee, which was a netting zoo, the Expansion Project and Grants committee and the

committee, which was a petting zoo, the Expansion, Project and Grants committee and the Midway committee. While the Midway and Baby Fair committees lasted until at least the late 1970s, the Expansion, Projects and Grants committee is not mentioned past the mid 1970s. Also mentioned in 1979 are the Pork Congress, Family Fair, Entertainment, and Exhibitor's Lounge committees.

Custodial History:

See sous-fonds RG2SF1 for custodial history.

Scope and Content:

The records consist of minutes created by the Board of Directors, Shareholders, and various committees and subcommittees of the Provincial Exhibition. It should be noted that while the minutes are extensive, they are not organized according to committee. Rather, they are organized by the year in which they were created.

Notes: Inventory of documents in the series is available in the printed finding aid.

Storage Location: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
RG2SF1 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba



Provincial exhibition of Manitoba scrapbooks

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4362>

Part Of: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds

Description Level: Series

Fonds Number: RG2SF1

Series Number: 1.10

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1968, 1969, 1971, 1972, 1975

Physical Description: 8 cm

History /

Biographical:

The records were created by a member of the administrative staff of the Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba.

Custodial History:

The scrapbooks were housed at the PEM and MEA until c1986 when they were transferred to the S.J. McKee Archives at Brandon University.

Scope and Content:

The scrapbooks mainly contain newspaper clippings that deal with the Provincial Exhibitions of various years. Most pictures and articles that appeared in various newspapers during this time are included in the scrapbooks.

Notes: Part of RG2SF1. Inventory of the documents in the series is available in the printed finding aid.

Storage Location: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
RG2SF1 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba



Provincial exhibition of Manitoba miscellaneous

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4363>

Part Of: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds

Description Level: Series

Fonds Number: RG2SF1

Series Number: 1.11

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1920, 1966-1980

Physical Description: 6.5 cm

History /

Biographical:

See Administrative History RG2SF1 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba.

Custodial History:

The scrapbooks were housed at the PEM and MEA until c1986 when they were transferred to the S.J. McKee Archives at Brandon University.

Scope and Content:

The file consists of various records that in some way involve the Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba, but do not belong to a specific series. There are newspaper clippings, a cartoon, a file believed to have originated with the Schidlof family, and some letters.

Notes: Inventory of the documents in the series is available in the printed finding aid.

Storage Location: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
RG2SF1 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba



Manitoba winter fair documents

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4365>

Part Of: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds

Description Level: Series

Fonds Number: RG2SF2

Series Number: 2.1

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1908-1968

Physical Description: 6.5 cm

History /

Biographical:

The documents were created by members of the Board of Directors, and others involved with the management of the winter fair.

Custodial History:

See sous-fonds RG2SF2 for custodial history.

Scope and Content:

The series includes several copies of the MWF Constitution, a 1908 constitution, 1909 MWFFSA shares belonging to John Bradley, a 1968 agreement for the non-military use of property, and several agreements between the MWF and several other companies spanning the dates 1934 to 1963.

Notes: Part of RG2SF2. Inventory of the documents in the series is available in the printed finding aid.

Storage Location: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
RG2SF2 Manitoba Winter Fair



Manitoba winter fair minutes

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4366>

Part Of: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds

Description Level: Series

Fonds Number: RG2SF2

Series Number: 2.2

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1908-1932

Physical Description: 6.5 cm

History /

Biographical:

These minutes were created by the Board of Directors and the Shareholders at the meetings that they held from 1908 to 1932. The Board of Directors was created in 1908. While the collection currently houses minutes from 1908 to 1932, it is evident from Prize Lists and Programs that the Board of Directors structure evolved in the following way.

The structure of the winter fair was quite different from the summer fair. Instead of having a committee structure, the winter fair had both committees and representatives from various agricultural associations. The representatives were part of the Board of Directors. In 1908 these representatives included men from the Horse Breeders' Association, the Cattle Breeders' Association, the Sheep Breeders' Association, the Swine Breeders' Association, the Poultry Breeders' Association, the Brandon Winter Fair and Fat Stock Association, and the Manitoba Agricultural College. With the addition of representatives from the Manitoba Clydesdale Association, and the Manitoba Seed Growers' Association, these committees continued virtually without change until 1930.

By the 1930s, several more representatives joined the Board of Directors including the Winnipeg Livestock Exchange, the Manitoba Percheron Association, the Canadian Shorthorn Association, and the Hereford Association. By 1935 there were also representatives from the Prairie Thoroughbred and Racing Association, the Manitoba Boards of Trade, the Western Manitoba Board of Trade, the Aberdeen Angus Association, and the Canadian Percheron Association. The Canadian Clydesdale Association joined the Board by 1940.

By 1950, several more agricultural associations had joined the Board of Directors. They included the Brandon Light Horse Society, the Brandon Chamber of Commerce, the Manitoba Veterinary Association, the Minister of Agriculture, the Deputy Minister of Agriculture, and the Canadian Red Poll Association. By 1955, a representative from the City of Brandon rounded out the representatives on the Board of Directors.

The first committees of the Board of Directors began in 1908 with the formation of the Brandon Winter Fair and Fat Stock Association. The committees included an Executive, Horse, Livestock, Cattle, Sheep, Swine, Poultry and Seed. By 1915 there were also Program, Prize/Accounts, Carcass, Exhibits/Public Comfort, Building, and Provincial Government committees. Most of these later committees were not long lived, or were not mentioned much past 1915. A Judging Competition Committee was added in 1925 and lasted until sometime in the 1940s. In 1950 an official Finance committee was formed, as well as a Gates/Tickets committee. By 1955, three more committees had been added including 4-H/Junior Activities, Light Horse and Heavy Horse.

By the 1960s, a Publicity committee was also added. In 1965 there were several committees formed including Police/Traffic/Parking, Concessions, Calf/Pig Scrambles, Baby Fair, Flower Show and the Fall Feeder Show and Sale. A Fashion Show committee was added by 1970. In 1975 a Property committee is also mentioned.

The 1980s appear to have been a time of great growth for the winter fair, as there was a large increase in the number of committees. By 1985 the following committees had been formed: Dance, Hitching Ring, Steer Show, Bull Sale, Western Breakfast, Egg Show, Entertainment, Exhibitor's Lounge, VIP, Cattle Parade, Calcutta, Winter Fair Sponsors, Casino and Royal Manitoba Winter Fair. These committees continued for the most part through into the 1990s.

Custodial History:

See sous-fonds RG2SF2 for custodial history.

Scope and Content:

The series includes the minutes from meetings held from 1908 to 1932. An interesting aspect to these records is that they include the first meetings held by the newly formed winter fair Board of Directors. The early minutes are an interesting look into the formation of an organization.

Notes: Inventory of the documents in the series is available in the printed finding aid.

Storage Location: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
RG2SF2 Manitoba Winter Fair



Manitoba winter fair scrapbooks

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4374>

Part Of: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds

Description Level: Series

Fonds Number: RG2SF2

Series Number: 2.10

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1966-1971, 1975

Physical Description: 6 cm

History /

Biographical:

The records were created by a member of the administrative staff of the winter fair.

Custodial History:

The records were housed at the MWF, and the MEA until c1986 when they were transferred to the S.J. McKee Archives at Brandon University.

Scope and Content:

The series contains scrapbooks from 1966 to 1971, and 1975. The scrapbooks are mainly newspaper clippings pertaining to the winter fair.

Notes: Part of RG2SF2. Inventory of documents in the series is available in the printed finding aid.

Storage Location: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
RG2SF2 Manitoba Winter Fair



Manitoba winter fair miscellaneous

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4375>

Part Of: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds

Description Level: Series

Fonds Number: RG2SF2

Series Number: 2.11

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1920, 1926, 1955, 1971

Physical Description: 6.5 cm

History /

Biographical:

See Administrative History for RG2SF2 Royal Manitoba Winter Fair.

Custodial History:

The records were housed at the BWFLA, the MWF, and MEA until c1986 when they were transferred to the S.J. McKee Archives located at Brandon University.

Scope and Content:

The series contains records that did not fit into any other series. Some of these records include, notices of meetings, a donation sheet, sketches for a RMWF logo, a speech, and an article about Robert John Wright.

Notes: Inventory of documents in the series is available in the printed finding aid.

Storage Location: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
RG2SF2 Manitoba Winter Fair



Provincial exhibition of Manitoba financial records

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4355>

Part Of: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds

Description Level: Series

Fonds Number: RG2SF1

Series Number: 1.3

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1903-1939, 1963-1969

Physical Description: 9 cm

History /

Biographical:

See Administrative History for RG2SF1 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba.

Custodial History:

See sous-fonds RG2SF1 for custodial history.

Scope and Content:

The series consists of the financial records, transfer ledgers and prize money lists created by the Provincial Exhibition.

Notes: Inventory of documents in the series is available in the printed finding aid.

Storage Location: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
RG2SF1 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba



Provincial exhibition of Manitoba administrative files

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4356>

Part Of: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds

Description Level: Series

Fonds Number: RG2SF1

Series Number: 1.4

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1980, 1982

Physical Description: 71 cm

History /

Biographical:

See Administrative History for RG2SF1 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba.

Custodial History:

The records were housed with the MEA until c1986 when they were transferred to the S.J. McKee Archives at Brandon University.

Scope and Content:

The series include various files from the Provincial Exhibition from 1980 and 1982. The contents include staff meetings, mailing lists, insurance, contracts, tenders, trophies and ribbons, animal events and shows, exhibits, results, etc.

Notes: Inventory of documents in the series is available in the printed finding aid.

Storage Location: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
RG2SF1 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba



Provincial exhibition of Manitoba news releases

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4358>

Part Of: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds

Description Level: Series

Fonds Number: RG2SF1

Series Number: 1.6

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1984-1990

Physical Description: 13.5 cm

History /

Biographical:

This series is a product of the Publicity committee of the Board of Directors. The collection has minutes from this committee from 1903, when it was known as the Advertising and Printing committee, until approximately 1979. The name change occurred in the 1920s.

Custodial History:

The records were housed with the MEA until c1986 when they were transferred to the S.J. McKee Archives at Brandon University.

Scope and Content:

The series contains copies of the news releases that went out to various forms of media before, during, and after the Provincial Exhibitions from 1984 to 1990.

Notes: Part of RG2SF1. Inventory of documents in the series is available in the printed finding aid.

Storage Location: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
RG2SF1 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba



Provincial exhibition of Manitoba original results

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4359>

Part Of: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds

Description Level: Series

Fonds Number: RG2SF1

Series Number: 1.7

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1935-1949, 1984, 1985

Physical Description: 13 cm

History /

Biographical:

See Administrative History RG2SF1 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba.

Custodial History:

The records were housed with the PEM and the MEA until c1986 when they were transferred to the S.J. McKee Archives at Brandon University.

Scope and Content:

This series contains records from the horse races from 1935 to 1949. These ledgers contain information regarding the horse, the horse's owner, who entered the horse, who is riding or driving the horse, where the horse is from, the color, sex, gait and age of the horse, what race he is entered in, and what prize money is to be won. As well, the series contains the original results files from 1984 and 1985. These files include the results of several different events and competitions, and include information on the exhibitor and exhibit, as well as the prize money to be collected.

Notes: Inventory of documents in the series is available in the printed finding aid.

Storage Location: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
RG2SF1 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba



Manitoba winter fair financial records

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4367>

Part Of: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds

Description Level: Series

Fonds Number: RG2SF2

Series Number: 2.3

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1925-1977

Physical Description: 76.5 cm

History /

Biographical:

This series was created by a committee attached to the Board of Directors of the winter fair.

Custodial History:

See sous-fonds RG2SF2 for custodial history.

Scope and Content:

The series contains financial statements from 1925 and 1926, as well as financial records from the 1930s to 1969. There is also a transfer ledger from the years 1939 to 1953. There is a box with the statement of prizes won from 1972 to 1977.

Notes: Inventory of the documents in the series is available in the printed finding aid.

Storage Location: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
RG2SF2 Manitoba Winter Fair



Manitoba winter fair administrative files

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4368>

Part Of: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds

Description Level: Series

Fonds Number: RG2SF2

Series Number: 2.4

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1980, 1982

Physical Description: 62 cm

History /

Biographical:

These files were created by a member of the administrative staff of the winter fair.

Custodial History:

The records were housed at the MEA until c1986 when they were transferred to the S.J. McKee Archives at Brandon University.

Scope and Content:

The files include the administrative records from the 1980 RMWF and the 1982 RMWF. The files encompass such subjects as Prize List Production, Concessions, Correspondence, Mailing Lists, Canvassing, Grants and Donations, and many others.

Notes: Part of RG2SF2. Inventory of the documents in the series is available in the printed finding aid.

Storage Location: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
RG2SF2 Manitoba Winter Fair



Manitoba winter fair news releases

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4370>

Part Of: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds

Description Level: Series

Fonds Number: RG2SF2

Series Number: 2.6

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1984-1989

Physical Description: 6.5 cm

History /

Biographical:

This series was created by the Publicity committee attached to the Board of Directors. There are no records of this committee, but it is possible to find mention of it in the prize lists and programs for the winter fair. See Appendix 2 in the printed finding aid.

Custodial History:

The records were housed at the MEA until c1986 when they were transferred to the S.J. McKee Archives at Brandon University on a continuing basis.

Scope and Content:

The series include the news releases that were sent out to various media to promote the fair. The series includes the years 1984, 1985, 1987, and 1989.

Notes: Part of RG2SF2. Inventory of the documents in the series is available in the printed finding aid.

Storage Location: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
RG2SF2 Manitoba Winter Fair



Manitoba winter fair original results

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4371>

Part Of: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds

Description Level: Series

Fonds Number: RG2SF2

Series Number: 2.7

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1982-1985

Physical Description: 43.5 cm

History /

Biographical:

The series was created by a member of the administrative staff of the Board of Directors. It is believed that these files were originally part of a larger administrative file, but before deposit in the archives they were separated from the files and a new series was created.

Custodial History:

The records were held by the MEA until c1986 when they were transferred to the S.J. McKee Archives at Brandon University.

Scope and Content:

The files include original results for the different events from 1982, 1983, 1984, and 1985.

Notes: Part of RG2SF2. Inventory of the documents in the series is available in the printed finding aid.

Storage Location: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
RG2SF2 Manitoba Winter Fair



Manitoba Pool Elevator Library collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/specialcollections1407>

Part Of: RG 4 Manitoba Pool Elevator fonds

Collection: Manitoba Pool Elevator Library collection

Description Level: Series

Series Number: MPE E

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1888-1998

Physical Description: 13.7 m

History /

Biographical:

The importance of knowledge and education to the Manitoba Wheat Pool is made clear in the *The Scoop Shovel*, the official organ of the Manitoba Wheat Pool and other co-operatives in Manitoba. Established in the 1920s, *The Scoop Shovel* owed its existence to a decision by the directors of the Pool to set aside small percentage of income per bushel for educational purposes. R.A. Hoey began to hold meetings to discuss the idea that the Pool was about more than just marketing grain, and in 1926 a Department of Education and Publicity was organized within the Pool. It was directed by J.T. Hull and advised by R.A. Hoey; they expanded and supervised *The Scoop Shovel*.

They also began to accumulate the educational volumes that would become the Pool library.

Hull announced in November of 1926 that the library would be open by the end of the month and reported that: "We have a good representation of works on sociology... On co-operation we have about every book that we can find published in the English language. We have also a good selection of books on economics, history, science, general literature, and rural life. In a word, we have tried to make the library one of usefulness to people whose life is on the land."

He also encouraged Pool members—who were the only ones allowed to use the library at this time—to utilize the library to educate themselves, saying "Use it, for knowledge is power". Once the library was open to all Pool members, Hull wrote a regular column for *The Scoop Shovel* called "In the Library", in which he would review books and recommend reading in response to frequent questions from members. When the library gained new books, which was almost continually, he would list them and sometimes discuss them.

The library service was a mailing one; the main collection was kept at the Manitoba Wheat Pool central office in Winnipeg and members could request a catalogue of all the library holdings. If they wanted to borrow a book or books on a specific topic, they could write to Hull and the books would be mailed out to the member and returned by mail, all postage costs covered by the Pool Library.

During the crisis of the early 1930s, the library was saved because the Manitoba Co-operative Conference believed it was vital to the success of the Pools and the co-operative movement. The Conference took over administration of the Pool library in 1931, leasing the books and equipment from the Wheat Pool. The library was formally incorporated under a charter after it changed hands, the other charter members being the Co-operative Marketing Board and the United Farmers of Manitoba.

In 1935 the service was made available free of charge to all rural Manitobans with the financial support of the Co-op Marketing Board. By 1939, Manitoba Pool Elevators had begun to prosper again, and took back responsibility for the administration and housing of the library. The traveling library was also established around this time, and hundreds of boxes were distributed to all MPE points. The boxes were rotated and refreshed twice a year.

In 1942 Hull estimated that there were approximately 4,700 books in the Pool Library with an annual circulation of 4,000 to 5,000 books. Operating the library cost around two thousand dollars per year, although the cost was split between the members of the Manitoba Co-operative Conference, at least it was in theory. The Pool library ran as a free service to all rural Manitobans, regardless of whether they were members of the Pool, and the federal government census in 1941 indicates that over half of Manitoba's population (56%) still lived in rural areas. In 1948, the majority of the Pool Library's services were rendered unnecessary by an act called the "Public Libraries Act" that had been passed by the Manitoba legislature on April 22, 1948, and would go into effect July 1, 1948. The act provided for the establishing of a provincial "Public Library Advisory Board" that would be appointed by the government. Once the board had been established, the act allowed for the establishment of municipal and regional libraries that would be the administrative responsibility of the municipality or region they served and would be supported by a land tax levied on the population that would have access to the library. All employees of the central provincial library would be considered civil servants.

When the Provincial Library was being established in 1949, the Minister in charge of education—Ivan Shultz—actively sought both the advice of those who operated the Pool Library and the physical resources of the Library. In a letter to W.J. Parker, the President of Manitoba Pool Elevators, Shultz wrote that: "We find that in looking at the province as a whole that the box library service of the Manitoba Pool Elevators is the best developed and the best distributed within the province... We would feel that to a considerable extent you had pioneered in this field and we would be using your accomplishments as a springboard for a wider coverage of the province and an enlargement of the service."

He also requested that Miss E.L. Shields—the Pool Librarian—be released from Pool employment so that the Provincial Library could hire her for a year to aid in setting up the new library system.

An agreement was reached between MPE and the Provincial Library, and the bulk of the Pool Library was transferred to the province. The Pool retained the volumes it wished to keep as reference for its employees, and donated the rest of the open shelf library to the province. The traveling library service was sold at a discount to the province, with the caveat that service not be interrupted during the transfer and that the quality of service to rural Manitoba not diminish once the Library had been entirely transferred to the government. In a letter to Ivan Shultz after the agreement to sell the traveling library had been reached, W.J. Parker wrote that:

"...Manitoba Pool Elevators has maintained an open shelf library for a period of some twenty years. These books have been made available to anyone in Manitoba, outside the City of Winnipeg, and the postage both ways was paid by the Pool. We feel it has served a very useful purpose, but that it is not primarily our function and if the government proposes to offer a more complete and universal service we are prepared to retire from the field and avoid what might be considered unnecessary duplication."

Scope and Content:

Series contains items once held as part of the Manitoba Pool Library. It has been divided into the following four sub-series: (1) MPE E 1 Manitoba Pool Library publications; (2) MPE E 2 The Scoop Shovel; (3) MPE E 3 The Manitoba Cooperator; and (4) MPE E 4 Pamphlet collection.

Notes:

Description by Jill Sutherland and Christy Henry



Provincial exhibition of Manitoba prize lists and programs

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4357>

Part Of: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds

Description Level: Series

Fonds Number: RG2SF1

Series Number: 1.5

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1910-1991

Physical Description: 62.5 cm

History /

Biographical:

The Prize Lists and Programs are products of the Prize List Committees and the Programs Committees respectively. The committees were attached to the Board of Directors. The history of the committees can be traced from 1903 to 1979 by using Appendix 1 in the printed finding aid.

Custodial History:

See sous-fonds RG2SF1 for custodial history.

Scope and Content:

The series consists of five boxes containing the prize lists and programs from the summer fairs. The prize lists and programs encompass virtually all events held at the summer fair. The programs include daily programs, as well as the programs for specific events and competitions. The competitors for each class are also listed. The prize lists include all classes and list the amount of prize money or the prize to be won in each class.

Notes: Inventory of documents in the series is available in the printed finding aid.

Storage Location: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
RG2SF1 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba



Manitoba winter fair prize lists and programs

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4369>

Part Of: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds

Description Level: Series

Fonds Number: RG2SF2

Series Number: 2.5

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1918-1992

Physical Description: 56 cm

History /

Biographical:

The prize lists and programs of the winter fair were created by a committee attached to the Board of Directors of the fair. This committee was in existence from c1909, shortly after the winter fair was organized.

Custodial History:

See sous-fonds RG2SF2 for custodial history.

Scope and Content:

The series includes prize lists and programs from 1918 to 1992. The programs include daily programs, as well as individual classes and competitions. They also list the competitors for each class. The prize lists include all classes and the prize money or prize to be won.

Notes: Inventory of the documents in the series is available in the printed finding aid.

Storage Location: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
RG2SF2 Manitoba Winter Fair