

# S. J. McKee Archives



## Reg Forbes collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4843>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 17-2002

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 1970-1977; predominant 1975-1976

Physical Description: 5 m textual records; approx. 30 photographs

History /

Biographical:

Reg Forbes was born September 16, 1924. He and his wife Clara have two children, Bob and Faye. Forbes served in the Royal Canadian Air Force as a Navigator during World War II. From 1945-1949, he attended the University of Manitoba where he received his B.Sc.A. While working as Village Councillor and as Secretary-Treasurer for the Pilot Mound Hospital, Forbes initiated the "Save the Soil Campaign," a soil conservation programme that became province-wide, between 1952-1962.

From 1956-1975, Forbes was the Principal of the Agricultural Extension Centre in Brandon, where he reorganized the Adult Education Centre into the Agricultural Extension Centre. During this period, Forbes was a founding member of the West-Man Regional Development Corporation and a founder of the Manitoba Committee on Rural Leadership. He was also instrumental in the amalgamation of the Royal Manitoba Winter Fair and the Provincial Exhibition and in the resulting construction of the Keystone Centre.

From 1975-1977 Forbes was a Commissioner for the Grain Handling and Transportation Commission (Hall Commission/GHTC). Following his work with the Commission, Forbes was employed as the General Manager of the Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba (1977-1979), the Director of the Grain Handling & Transportation Section of the Manitoba Department of Agriculture (1979-1983), the Industrial Commissioner for the Brandon Industrial Commission (1983-1986), and as the Westarc Group Inc. Project Director for delivery under contract of Canadian Rural Transition Programme in Manitoba.

Forbes also held a number of voluntary and elected positions, such as Long-term Director and President of the Royal Manitoba Winter Fair and of the Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba. In 1970-1971, he was the President of the Agricultural Institute of Canada, and from 1978-1981, Forbes was the first chairman of the Agricultural Advisory Committee of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. He was also a member of the Canada West Foundation Board, the Brandon University Board of Governors (1974-1976), and the Federal-Provincial Transportation and Industrial Development Advisory Committee (TIDAC). Forbes is also a Fellow of the Agricultural Institute of Canada. In 1977, he received the Jubilee Medal and in 1987, he was given the Distinguished Agrologist Award by the Manitoba Institute of Agrologists.

Custodial History:

Reg Forbes donated his working collection of briefs, correspondence and other documents relating to his work as a commissioner of the Grain Handling and Transportation Committee (GHTC) to the McKee Archives c. 1985.

Scope and Content:

The majority of the collection consists of records created and received by the Royal Commission on Grain Handling and Transportation (GHTC). Included are documents detailing numerous hearings from all four Western provinces. In addition to the GHTC hearings, there are also a number of documents given to the GHTC as reference material. These include information on the Snaveley Commission, documents for the province of Alberta, various reports, the Prairie Regional Studies in Economic Geography (No. 1-27) and General Information. The collection also includes two maps given to the GHTC.

Notes: CAIN No. 202599. Description by Christy Henry.

Subject Access: Justice Hall  
Canadian Pacific Railway  
Canadian National Railway  
Grains Group  
Royal Commissions  
Agriculture  
Grain Trade  
Railroad Transportation

Storage Location: 2002 accessions

Storage Range: 2002 accessions



## Keystone Centre development and construction fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4854>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 22-1998

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1957-1974; predominant 1970-1974

Physical Description: 36 cm

#### History /

##### Biographical:

The idea of the Keystone Centre was first mentioned in 1958, at a meeting of the board of directors of the Manitoba Winter Fair. The Manitoba Winter Fair wanted a new facility because the old Wheat City Arena had a leaking roof and a deteriorating west wall. The old facility also had limited space and the Winter Fair felt it needed more space for expansion. The Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba also had problems with their facilities, such as old barns and poor display areas. The idea of the Keystone Centre was put on hold until 1969, when the boards of the Provincial Exhibition and the Manitoba Winter Fair joined together as the Provincial Exhibition Association of Manitoba and the Wheat City Arena was sold and demolished. The original estimate for the cost of the Keystone Centre facilities was \$4.5 million and funding would be proportioned so that the federal and provincial governments would each put in one-third of the money, with the rest coming from local donations. The financial campaign for the Keystone Centre began in 1970, and construction began in November 1970. The grand opening of the Centre was in March 1973, and coincided with the Royal Manitoba Winter Fair of that year.

##### Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. Prior custodial history is unknown.

##### Scope and Content:

Fonds contains many folders full of correspondence, financial statements, meeting minutes and other documents relating to the development and construction of the Keystone Centre from 1970-1974, including those from the Keystone Executive Committee, as well as the Building Committee. Fonds also contains one folder that pertains to the Brandon Area Agricultural Development Survey from 1959. This folder contains the names and locations of all farmers in the Brandon area in 1959. The Brandon Area Agricultural Development Survey was created in 1959, in order to make farming in the Brandon area more profitable. The survey was aided by Doane Agricultural Service from St. Louis, Missouri, who had success creating agricultural development programs in the United States. Fonds also contains folders from the Provincial Exhibition with correspondence, pamphlets, estimates, and studies from the 1960's. There is also one folder belonging to the Manitoba Winter Fair, which contains correspondence and financial statements relating to the Wheat City Arena. Fonds also contains information pertaining to the proposals made in the 1960's, for the building of the Keystone Centre, as well as one folder about the Keystone campaign from 1970-73. There is also one folder about the opening of the Keystone Centre, which contains newspaper clippings and guest lists. Finally, the fonds contains information about a court case involving Albert Bobyk and Robert Stewart. Stewart was the project manager for the Building Committee and Bobyk worked on the Keystone Center. The fonds includes a report about the trial of the two men who were charged with fraud involving their work on the Keystone Centre.

##### Notes:

CAIN No. 202608

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Subject Access:   | Ray Forbes<br>Fred McGuinness<br>Brandon Area Agricultural Development Survey<br>Doane Agricultural Service Inc<br>Agricultural & Homemaking School of Brandon<br>Royal Manitoba Winter Fair<br>Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba<br>South-Western District Agricultural Society<br>4-H<br>Manitoba Department of Agriculture<br>City of Brandon<br>Keystone Committee<br>Keystone Building Committee<br>agriculture<br>architecture<br>exhibitions<br>swine farming<br>sheep farming<br>cereal grain farming<br>rural life<br>winter fairs |
| Storage Location: | 1998 accessions   |
| Storage Range:    | 1998 accessions   |



## C. J. Barnes fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4808>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 20-1997

GMD: textual records

Date Range: ca. 1962

Physical Description: 2 cm

History /

Biographical:

C. J. Barnes was born in Brandon, Manitoba in February 1884. His parents were native Nova Scotians who arrived in Brandon in the early 1880s. In 1884, the family settled on a homestead near the present town of Lauder. This homestead was sold in 1899, and the family moved to farm in the district of Medora. C. J. Barnes took over the operation of this farm in the early 1900s. He farmed until 1924. Barnes was educated in schools in the Truro School District and the village of Lauder. He was active in the original Territorial Grain Growers' Association.

Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned by the McKee archives in 1997. Prior custodial history is unknown.

Scope and Content:

Fonds contains a pamphlet written and published by C.J. Barnes titled *Seventy Years in Southwestern Manitoba*. The pamphlet contains an account of life in rural southwestern Manitoba from the 1880s through to the 1940s. The pamphlet is based on a variety of sources including diaries written by Mr. Barnes' father. Fonds also includes some hand-drawn maps not included in the published version of the pamphlet, as well as four letters c.1962, between C.J. Barnes and Rev. Robert Harvey in his capacity as a columnist for the *Brandon Sun*.

Notes: CAIN No. 202605

Subject Access: Rev. Robert Harvey

Lauder

Medora

Deloraine

Southwestern Manitoba

Agriculture

Boundary Commission Trails

Storage Location: 1997 accessions

Storage Range: 1997 accessions



## United Grain Growers collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4822>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 48-1997

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1922-1937

Physical Description: 3 cm

History /

Biographical:

The United Grain Growers, a farmer controlled co-operative elevator association, was established in 1917, with the amalgamation of the Grain Growers Grain Company (1906), and the Alberta Farmer's Co-operative Elevator company (1913). Its original purpose was to provide a co-operative alternative to privately owned grain elevators.

Custodial History:

This collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1997. Prior custodial history is unknown.

Scope and Content:

Collection includes copies of correspondence between T.A. Crerar, President of United Grain Growers and Colin Burnell, President, Manitoba Co-operative Wheat Producers (1925-26); correspondence directed to the Shareholders of United Grain Growers (1926-38); minutes of a meeting between representatives of the United Grain Growers and the provincial wheat pools (1937); as well as a variety of publications about the history and activities of the United Grain Growers (1917-18, 1927, 1929, 1951, 1956).

Notes: CAIN No. 202642. Description by Christy Henry.

Subject Access: T.A. Crerar  
Colin H. Burnell  
R.S. Law  
Grain Growers Guide  
Elevators  
Agriculture  
Manitoba

Storage Location: 1997 accessions

Storage Range: 1997 accessions