

# S. J. McKee Archives



## A.E. McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd. fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4309>

Part Of: RG 3 A.E. McKenzie Company fonds

Description Level: Fonds

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 1887-1996; predominantly 1910-1974

Physical Description: 7.47 m of textual records  
500 photographs

### History /

#### Biographical:

The A.E. McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd. originated with the McKenzie family Flour, Grain and Seed business, started by F. B. McKenzie in the early 1880's. When F. B. McKenzie passed away in 1896, his son, Albert Edward McKenzie, assumed control of the company, and renamed it The Brandon Seed House. With its main office and plant in Brandon, Manitoba, the company specialized in the production and sale of field seeds and service exclusively to seed buyers in the prairie provinces and British Columbia. In later years, a complete line of products including garden seeds, lawn grass, and other allied lines was developed for sale across Canada.

In 1906, the company underwent a change of name when A. E. McKenzie determined that the growth of the country demanded a larger seed institute than could be managed by one man. As a result, the company was incorporated under provincial statutes and the federal Joint Stock Companies Act as A. E. McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd., and new personnel were hired.

Under the Joint Stock Companies Act, A.E. McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd. was required to elect a Board of Directors of not less than three, and not more than nine individuals. Only shareholders of the company were eligible for election, and election was to take place yearly with each shareholder entitled to as many votes as shares owned in the company. The Act also dictated that the directors were, from time to time, to elect from among themselves, a president of the company. They were also able to appoint and remove all other officers of the company and to create company by-laws. The directors were not obliged to pay any dividend on shares if the company should become insolvent. Under the Act, the stock of the company was deemed a personal estate and was only transferable as such. In addition, the company could acquire, hold, and transfer real estate, and was required to submit annual statements.

A. E. McKenzie was elected President of the newly constituted company. For the remainder of his natural life he remained in this position and supervised the operation of the company. S. A. Bradford, who was given responsibility for various company departments, filled the position of General Manager. H. L. Patmore became the Vice-President, overseeing the nursery business, while W. A. McCracken was put in charge of the warehouse stock, and shipping department. McCracken also supervised the mail order department.

The Company was initially comprised of three divisions: The Brandon Seed House, Brandon Nurseries, and Brandon Greenhouses. Each division was registered under Dominion Patents. Later, the company was divided into Retail Mail Order, Wholesale and Commission Packet Trade divisions. It also undertook some export business.

By registering the divisions of the company under federal legislation affecting trademarks and industrial designs, McKenzie and the Board, were able to register both the company's trademarks and to protect the company's industrial techniques. The company could thus patent the methods and processes of its operations so that no other individual or business could duplicate them.

Located at 30 9th Street, the head office and plant of A.E. McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd. housed all the facilities and staff of the company, with the exception of the regional sales offices and warehouses. The business of the A. E. McKenzie Co. Ltd. was conducted from a frame warehouse until the current McKenzie building was constructed on the same site after a fire destroyed the original premises. Designed by architect Thomas Sinclair, and built by the Brandon Construction Company, the new building opened in 1911. In time, The A. E. McKenzie Co. Ltd. came to be known as Western Canada's Greatest Seed House.

During the 1930's, before a new building was erected in 1945, the A. E. McKenzie Co. occupied space at five different locations in Brandon, including the Massey Harris Building, the International Harvester Building and the Security Building. The last of these premises was destroyed by fire in 1972. As a result of its proximity to the Security Building, the main McKenzie Building also suffered heavy fire and water damage. A. E. McKenzie Co. Ltd. also utilized a warehouse on the north side of Pacific Avenue alongside the Canadian Pacific Railway tracks between 5th and 6th streets. This building and its contents were destroyed by fire (1946). In May of 1949, the company purchased and erected a Quonset structure on the west side of 15th Street between Rosser and Pacific Avenues.

In 1908, the first branch of the A. E. McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd. was established at Calgary. In the following sixteen years, additional branches were established in Edmonton and Saskatoon (1923), Moose Jaw, Toronto (1934) and Winnipeg (1935). Both the Edmonton and Saskatoon branches were seasonal, operating for a four-month period, March to June inclusive. Business in the Maritime Provinces of Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick further extended the company's operations by the mid 1940's. In 1946, the company purchased property in Gilbert Plains, Manitoba, 120 miles north of Brandon. This purchase enabled the company to handle larger quantities of Sweet Clover, a popular crop that was grown in the surrounding area. Additional offices were opened in Vancouver and Quebec City in rented premises by the early 1960's.

In the years 1944-1945, the McKenzie Foundation was created. Through the Foundation, arrangements were put in place to transfer shares of the company to the Manitoba Government for the benefit of higher education, specifically Brandon College. In return for this gift, which included 90% of all capital resources of the company together with all of the income earned each year, except for the amount retained annually to ensure sufficient operating capital, the A.E. McKenzie Co. Ltd. received exemption from paying Corporate Tax.

Prior to the establishment of the McKenzie Foundation, in 1945, the National Trust for the benefit of the College held the shares of McKenzie Seeds. On April 7, 1945 the Manitoba Legislature passed legislation whereby A. E. McKenzie retained effective management control of his company, but 1031 shares out of 1145 issued shares were gifted to the Provincial Government. In return, the government agreed that all financial benefits from the shares would go to Brandon College through the A. E. McKenzie Foundation. When Mr. McKenzie passed away in 1964, the primary responsibility of appointing the Board of Directors for McKenzie Seeds passed to the Provincial government.

The remaining 114 shares of the Company were turned over to the Crown on July 16, 1975 in accordance with an agreement between Brandon University, A. E. McKenzie Co. Ltd. and the Manitoba government. The same agreement also turned the McKenzie Foundation over to Brandon University. Therefore, since 1975 the crown has held all shares of the McKenzie Co. through the Province of Manitoba.

A.E. McKenzie died on September 25, 1964 at the age of 94 and was succeeded as President of the company by J. Lasby Lowes. When Mr. Lowes retired in 1968, A. R. Swanson was appointed by the government to fill the position and was responsible for all operations of the company under a Board of Directors comprised mainly of appointees of the government. It has proven impossible to establish a complete list of those individuals who held the positions of President/General Manager of McKenzie Seeds after 1964. A partial account is as follows: Anthony J. Maruca became President of A. E. McKenzie Co. Ltd. in 1972. In 1975, the Board of Directors appointed William Moore General Manager, creating a new position to relieve the President of the company from management of plant operations. At the same time, Pat Kelleher was named new interim President. Following the resignation of Kelleher, William Moore assumed the role of President as well. Moore left the company in the early 1980s. He was later convicted of criminal misconduct as President of the company. Keith Guelpa became President/General Manager in the mid 1980's; Raymond West was his successor.

Beginning in 1969, the A. E. McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd. began phasing out the Field Seed division of their company, including business related to forage crops and cereals. Seed cleaning equipment located in Brandon and the company's Calgary and Toronto cleaning plants was sold. The Company concentrated its resources on the production and sale of vegetable and flower seeds, and lawn and turf grasses. It acted as a wholesaler and conducted business through chain stores, grocery, hardware and general stores.

Late in 1971, A. E. McKenzie Co. Ltd. purchased its largest competition in packaged seeds - Steele Briggs Seed Co. from Maple Leaf Mills Inc. for two million dollars. At the time of the acquisition the company changed its name to A. E. McKenzie Co. - Steele Briggs Seeds, in order to benefit from the favorable reputation held by Steele Briggs Seeds across Canada. In the early 1970s, the acquisition of Brett-Young Seeds Ltd., a Winnipeg company that dealt exclusively in the production and sale of field seed, brought the A. E. McKenzie Co. back into the field seed market.

In 1994 the Manitoba Government sold the A.E. McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd. to Regal Greetings and Gifts, Canada's largest non-retail mail-order catalogue company, which is owned by MDC Corporation of Toronto.

In 2001, McKenzie Seeds is Canada's leading supplier of packaged seeds and related gardening products. It is divided into a Retail Consumer Products division which features well known seed brands including McKenzie Seeds, Pike Seeds and Thompson & Morgan Seeds from England. As well, this division also carries a complete range of lawn seeds and perishables. It also continues to ship the seed racks invented by A.E. McKenzie to numerous retail stores. The second division, Direct Mail, consists of the McFayden and McConnell catalogues which reach over 500,000 Canadian homes each year.

#### Custodial History:

Following the sale of the A.E. McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd. to Regal Greetings and Gifts, the records of McKenzie Seeds and its subsidiaries were retained in the McKenzie Plant on 9th Street. In April of 1997, the records were transferred to the McKee Archives at Brandon University. Because the company was a crown corporation, the records of McKenzie Seeds belonged to the Province of Manitoba and might have been placed in the Provincial Archives. However, Provincial Archivist Gordon Dodds permitted the retention of the records in Brandon at the S. J. McKee Archives. The minutes of the Board of Directors, previously transferred to the Provincial Archives, remain in Winnipeg. Until 1960 these minutes, by-laws of the Company, and the letters patent of incorporation (April 7, 1906) were in the possession of the Company's lawyers, Johnson, Garson, Forrester, Davidson, & Steen.

#### Scope and Content:

The fonds consists of textual records, photographs and artifacts from A.E. McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd. The textual records include minutes, documents, financial records, administrative records, by-laws, legal records, catalogues, sales literature, seed packets, newspaper clippings, appraisals, publications, scrapbooks and miscellaneous sections.

In addition, some of the records within the fonds relate to the operations of McKenzie subsidiaries -- Brett-Young Seeds, Steele-Briggs Seeds, Pike & Co. and McFayden Seeds -- and various properties owned by McKenzie Seeds.

Fonds contains approximately 500 photographs. These depict the operations and employees of McKenzie Seeds and the seed industry in general. Artifacts contained in the fonds include blueprints, newspaper clippings, copper printing plates, seed bags and plaques.

Fonds also includes an artificially created series of records dealing with Brandon College Inc., the A.E. McKenzie Foundation, the Brandon Allied Arts Council and the Brandon Board of Trade. These records stand outside the provenance of the McKenzie Seed Co.

Of particular interest within the textual records are the transcripts of various features of the company's history as dictated, researched and recalled by its second President/General Manager, J. Lasby Lowes. The fonds also contains a collection of company catalogue which is almost complete. Outside of the seed industry, the records dealing with both Brandon College Inc. and the McKenzie Foundation are significant records relating to the history of Brandon College/University and the City of Brandon.

Notes: Description written by Christy Henry (2001).

Name Access: A.E. McKenzie  
J. Lasby Lowes  
Irene Cullen  
Joseph Airey  
Alan R. Mundie  
Sandy Black  
Brett-Young Seeds/Sabetha  
McFayden Seeds  
Steele-Briggs Seed Co  
Pike & Co  
Davidson & Gowen  
Davidson Studio  
Frank Gowen  
Dean Photo Service  
Jerrett's Photo-Art Studio/Jerrett's Photo Service  
Crawford Drug Store  
Leech Printing Ltd  
Eastman Photographic Materials Ltd

Subject Access:	Seed Industry Seed Catalogues Brandon Business Seed Photographs Brandon Photographs Seed Packets Agriculture Women Workers Labour Relations A.E. McKenzie J. Lasby Lowes A.R. Swanson William Moore Anthony J. Maruca Pat Kelleher Keith Guelpa Raymond West Brett-Young Seeds Sabetha Steele Briggs Seed Co Pike & Co McFayden Seeds Seed Marketing Co Brandon Board of Trade Brandon Allied Arts Council McKenzie Foundation Regal Greetings and Gifts
Repro Restriction:	Because the A.E. McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd. was a crown corporation, the records in the fonds are subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA).
Storage Location:	RG 3 A.E. McKenzie Company fonds
Related Material:	Additional records regarding A.E. McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd. are housed at the Provincial Archives of Manitoba. In order to gain access to these records it is necessary to contact the Archives of Manitoba.
Arrangement:	RG 3 A.E. McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd. Fonds  McS 1 Board of Directors 1.1 Documents 1.2 Minutes/Meetings 1.3 Management Consultant Reports 1.4 Miscellaneous 1.5 Financial Records  McS 2 Office of the President/General Manager 2.1 A.E. McKenzie 2.2 J. Lasby Lowes 2.3 Comptroller 2.4 Properties

- 2.5 Marketing
- 2.6 Reference Library
- 2.7 Miscellaneous Publications/Correspondence

#### McS 3 Acquisitions

- 3.1 Brett-Young Seeds/Sabetha
- 3.2 Steele-Briggs Seed Co.
- 3.3 Pike & Co.
- 3.4 McFayden Seeds

#### McS 4 Seed Marketing Co.

#### McS 5 Photographs

- 5.1 McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd. Executives
- 5.2 Construction at McKenzie Seed Co. Brandon (two files)
- 5.3 Exterior Photographs of the A. E. McKenzie Co. Building
- 5.4 McKenzie Seed Co. Plant Operations and Workers (2 files)
- 5.5 McKenzie Seed Co. Equipment and Plant - Head Office 1983
- 5.6 McKenzie Seed Co. Field Operations and Workers
- 5.7 McKenzie Seed Co. Strike 1944
- 5.8 Fires at McKenzie Seed Co. 1910, 1945, 1972
- 5.9 McKenzie Seed Co. Centennial Exhibition 1996
- 5.10 Miscellaneous McKenzie Seed Co. Photographs
- 5.11 People Connected to McKenzie Seed Co.
- 5.12 Princess Anne's Visit to McKenzie Seed Co. 1982
- 5.13 Onion Set Production Book
- 5.14 Irene Cullen Photographs - McKenzie Seeds Employee Photos
- 5.15 Josiph Airey Photographs - McKenzie Product Photos
- 5.16 Alan R. Mundie Seed Production Photographs
- 5.17 Steele Robertson/Steele Briggs Seeds Photographs
- 5.18 Seed Packet Display Units Photographs
- 5.19 Product Photographs
- 5.20 Parade Photographs
- 5.21 Oversized Photographs
  - 5.21.1 Drawer #1: Executive Photographs
  - 5.21.2 Drawer #2: Office and Equipment/Plant Photographs
  - 5.21.3 Drawer #3: Miscellaneous Oversized Photographs
  - 5.21.4 Drawer #4: Artifacts

#### McS 6 Miscellaneous

- 6.1 Centennial Exhibition
- 6.2 Miscellaneous Publications
- 6.3 Scrapbooks

#### MG 1 A.E. McKenzie Fonds

- 1.1 Brandon College Inc.
- 1.2 McKenzie Foundation
- 1.3 Brandon Allied Arts Council
- 1.4 Brandon Board of Trade
- 1.5 Miscellaneous



## Brandon College class of 1913

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions8285>

Part Of: Brandon University Photograph Collection  
Creator: Photographer: Cole  
Description Level: Item  
Series Number: 9  
Item Number: BUPC 9.5b  
GMD: graphic  
Date Range: 1913  
Physical Description: 24" x 5" (b/w)  
Physical Condition: Robert Harvey's portrait has come loose of the backing. Matting is torn at base.

### History /

#### Biographical:

John B. Cole, who operated Cole's Photographic Studio, first at 656 15th Street and then at 831 Rosser Avenue, was a photographer in Brandon from c. 1911 to c. 1914.

#### Scope and Content:

Item consists of eleven oval shaped portraits of the members of Brandon College's graduating class of 1913. L to R: Lillian Wilhelmina Speers; Robert Harvey; James Robinson, Muriel Vivien McCamis; Tom Hare Harris; Leslie Alberta Ward; J.R.C. Evans; Evelyn J. Simpson; W.E. Wilkin; Archibald Gordon; and Constance Gunn.

Subject Access: class portraits  
portraits

Storage Range: BUPC oversize drawer 1

## Images

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## Mr. Ford Bond

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions11364>

Part Of: CKX fonds  
Creator: CKX  
Description Level: Item  
Item Number: 11-2010.B41  
Accession Number: 11-2010  
GMD: graphic  
Date Range: after 1954  
Physical Description: 4" x 5" (b/w)  
Material Details: Negative  
Custodial History:

See fonds level of the CKX records for custodial history.

Scope and Content:

Portrait of Mr. Ford Bond.

Name Access: CKX Television  
Ford Bond  
Subject Access: portraits  
Storage Location: CKX fonds - 2010 accessions

### Images

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## Francis Borowski

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions11366>

Part Of: CKX fonds  
Creator: CKX  
Description Level: Item  
Item Number: 11-2010.B42  
Accession Number: 11-2010  
GMD: graphic  
Date Range: after 1954  
Physical Description: 5" x 4" (b/w)  
Material Details: Negative

### Custodial History:

See fonds level of the CKX records for custodial history.

### Scope and Content:

Portrait of Francis Borowski.

Name Access: CKX Television  
Francis Borowski  
Subject Access: portraits  
Storage Location: CKX fonds - 2010 accessions

## Images

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## Garth Brown

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions11382>

Part Of: CKX fonds  
Creator: CKX  
Description Level: Item  
Item Number: 11-2010.B54  
Accession Number: 11-2010  
GMD: graphic  
Date Range: after 1954  
Physical Description: 5" x 4" (b/w)  
Material Details: Negative

### Custodial History:

See fonds level of the CKX records for custodial history.

### Scope and Content:

Portrait of Garth Brown.

Name Access: CKX Television  
Garth Brown  
Subject Access: portraits  
Storage Location: CKX fonds - 2010 accessions

## Images

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## Cal Brown

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions11383>

Part Of: CKX fonds  
Creator: CKX  
Description Level: Item  
Item Number: 11-2010.B55  
Accession Number: 11-2010  
GMD: graphic  
Date Range: after 1954  
Physical Description: 2.25" x 2.25" (b/w)  
Material Details: Negative

### Custodial History:

See fonds level of the CKX records for custodial history.

### Scope and Content:

Portrait of Cal Brown, his wife and sons.

Name Access: CKX Television  
Cal Brown  
Subject Access: portraits  
Storage Location: CKX fonds - 2010 accessions

## Images

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## Joan Brownell

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions11393>

Part Of: CKX fonds  
Creator: CKX  
Description Level: Item  
Item Number: 11-2010.B60  
Accession Number: 11-2010  
GMD: graphic  
Date Range: after 1954  
Physical Description: 5" x 4" (b/w)  
Material Details: Negative

### Custodial History:

See fonds level of the CKX records for custodial history.

### Scope and Content:

Portrait of Joan Brownell.

Name Access: CKX Television  
Joan Brownell  
Subject Access: portraits  
Storage Location: CKX fonds - 2010 accessions

## Images

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## Gerald Buchanan (H&S)

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions11566>

Part Of: CKX fonds  
Creator: CKX  
Description Level: Item  
Item Number: 11-2010.B105  
Accession Number: 11-2010  
GMD: graphic  
Date Range: 1969  
Physical Description: 5" x 4" (b/w)  
Material Details: Negative

### Custodial History:

See fonds level of the CKX records for custodial history.

### Scope and Content:

Portrait of Gerald Buchanan, a CKX staff member.

Name Access: CKX  
Gerald Buchanan  
Subject Access: portraits  
Storage Location: CKX fonds - 2010 accessions

## Images

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## Ron Boltos

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions11587>

Part Of: CKX fonds  
Creator: CKX  
Description Level: Item  
Item Number: 11-2010.B115  
Accession Number: 11-2010  
GMD: graphic  
Date Range: 1967  
Physical Description: 1.5" x 1" (b/w)  
Material Details: Negative

### Custodial History:

See fonds level of the CKX records for custodial history.

### Scope and Content:

Portrait of Ron Boltos? (Boltoz?).

Name Access: CKX  
Subject Access: portraits  
Storage Location: CKX fonds - 2010 accessions

## Images

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## Frank Bird seated at Farm Markets desk

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions11608>

Part Of: CKX fonds  
Creator: CKX  
Description Level: Item  
Item Number: 11-2010.B125a  
Accession Number: 11-2010  
GMD: graphic  
Date Range: 1966  
Physical Description: 2.25" x 2.25" (b/w)  
Material Details: Negative

### Custodial History:

See fonds level of the CKX records for custodial history.

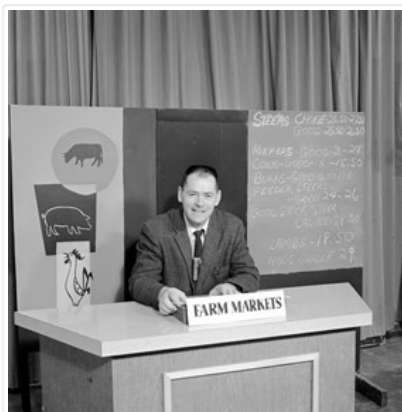
### Scope and Content:

Image of Frank Bird seated at the Farm Markets desk.

Name Access: CKX Television  
Frank Bird  
Subject Access: portraits  
Storage Location: CKX fonds - 2010 accessions

## Images

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## Frank Bird

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions11610>

Part Of: CKX fonds  
Creator: CKX  
Description Level: Item  
Item Number: 11-2010.B125c  
Accession Number: 11-2010  
GMD: graphic  
Date Range: 1967  
Physical Description: 1.5" x 1" (b/w)  
Material Details: Negative

### Custodial History:

See fonds level of the CKX records for custodial history.

### Scope and Content:

Portrait of Frank Bird.

Name Access: CKX Television  
Frank Bird  
Subject Access: portraits  
Storage Location: CKX fonds - 2010 accessions

## Images

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## Mr. and Mrs. Baker

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions11699>

Part Of: CKX fonds  
 Creator: CKX  
 Description Level: Item  
 Item Number: 11-2010.B137  
 Accession Number: 11-2010  
 GMD: graphic  
 Date Range: 1967  
 Physical Description: 1.5" x 1" (b/w)  
 Material Details: Negative

### Custodial History:

See fonds level of the CKX records for custodial history.

### Scope and Content:

Portrait of Mr. John and Mrs. Mary Baker on the occasion of their 25th Anniversary.

Name Access: CKX Television  
 Mr. John Baker  
 Mrs. Mary Baker  
 Subject Access: portraits  
 Storage Location: CKX fonds - 2010 accessions

## Images



## The Railway foreman's children

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13510>

Part Of: Brandon and Area Photograph Collection  
 Description Level: Item  
 Series Number: 5  
 Item Number: BAPC 5.10  
 Accession Number: 3-2014  
 GMD: graphic  
 Date Range: June 1911  
 Physical Description: 3.5" x 5.5" (b/w)  
 Material Details: Postcard

Physical Condition:     Excellent

History /

Biographical:

Alfred Walter Pryce was born in England c. 1880. He emigrated from England in 1903 and was hired by the Canadian Pacific Railway, likely in Manitoba. His wife, Kate Louisa Buchan, was older than her husband. She was born in England c. 1873. They were married in England? and she followed her husband to Canada in 1904. Alma Jane Pryce was born June 24, 1905 and Herbert Walter Pryce was born May 12, 1907 in [Elton] Manitoba. In autumn 1911, the Pryce family returned to England for a Christmas visit. They sailed from Halifax on the Empress of Britain and arrived in Liverpool on December 9, 1911. The family returned to Canada on the Empress of Ireland from Liverpool in early 1912, landing at St. John, New Brunswick.

Alfred Walter Pryce died in Brandon, MB on January 31, 1922. Kate Pryce died in Winnipeg, MB on March 18, 1938.

Custodial History:

Donated to the McKee Archives by Jennifer L. Bunting in November 2013.

Scope and Content:

Studio portrait of Alma and Herbert Pryce, The Railway Foreman's children, taken June 1911 in Kenora, ON. Writing on the back reads: To Granfather with Love from Herbert and Alma. Alma Jane Pryce Age 6 years. Herbert Walter Pryce Age 3 years 5 months. Keonra, Ont. Canada. June 1911.

Notes:                     History/Bio information provided by Jennifer Bunting. Additional information is available in the custodial file.

Name Access:           Alma Pryce  
                              Herbert Pryce  
                              Alfred Pryce  
                              Kate Louisa Buchan  
                              Kate Louisa Pryce

Subject Access:        portraits

Storage Location:      BAPC photograph drawer

## Images

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## Spafford brothers 1909

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13734>

Part Of:	Fred McGuinness collection
Description Level:	Item
Series Number:	McG 9
Item Number:	20-2009.44
Accession Number:	20-2009
GMD:	graphic
Date Range:	1909
Physical Description:	3.25" x 5.5" (b/w)
Material Details:	postcard

## History /

### Biographical:

Harry Spafford (b. 22 Oct 1888, d. 10 May 1978) was born in Holmfield, Manitoba. He married Isabella Hawking of Ninga in 1914 and the couple moved to Brandon in 1915 where they continued to reside until 1973. Harry worked as a locomotive fireman and then as an engineer with the Canadian Northern Railway (CN). While with CN, he was an active member of the Brotherhood of Local Engineers and Firemen No. 788 of Brandon. He served as an alderman in Brandon from 1928 to 1945. In 1932, Harry ran in the Manitoba by-election for Brandon as an Independent Labour candidate and lost to the Conservative member George Dinsdale. In 1952, Harry ran as a Co-Operative Commonwealth Federation (CCF) member in the provincial election and lost to Conservative party representative Reg Lissaman. Harry Spafford passed away in Burnaby, BC, and is interred in the Ocean View Cemetery. (Source: see obituary in McG 4.1 File 66)

Alva/Alvery/"Alvie" Reddell/Riddell/Ridall Spafford (b. 15 Mar 1891, d. 23 Aug 1985) was born in Enterprise, Manitoba, in the R.M. of Turtle Mountain. In 1911, he married Francis Ethel Harrison (d. 1979) in Killarney and had three children. Alvie farmed in Bannerman from 1902 to 1936, after which he moved to Boissevain to work as a Rawleigh salesman. In 1942, the family moved to Brandon where Alvie worked as a conductor with the CNR until his retirement. Alva Spafford passed away at the age of 94 at the Brandon General Hospital. His funeral was held in Killarney, Manitoba. (Source: Obituary, Brandon Sun, 23 Aug 1985)

### Scope and Content:

Postcard is a studio portrait of the Spafford brothers. Alvie is seated, Harry is standing.

Notes: Writing on the front of the postcard reads: out of the past, Harry & Alvie Spafford, 1909 Winnipeg. The back of the postcard reads: Harry on left, Alvie on right, in our early, days, Railway.

Name Access: Harry Spafford  
Alvie Spafford

Subject Access: portraits

Storage Location: RG 5 photograph storage drawer 2 (hanging photos)

## Images

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## Spafford brothers 1909-1910

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13758>

Part Of: Fred McGuinness collection

Description Level: Item

Series Number: McG 9

Item Number: 20-2009.69

Accession Number: 20-2009

GMD: graphic

Date Range: 1909-1910

Physical Description: 3.25" x 5.5" (b/w)

Material Details: postcard

History /

Biographical:

Harry Spafford (b. 22 Oct 1888, d. 10 May 1978) was born in Holmfild, Manitoba. He married Isabella Hawking of Ninga in 1914 and the couple moved to Brandon in 1915 where they continued to reside until 1973. Harry worked as a locomotive fireman and then as an engineer with the Canadian Northern Railway (CN). While with CN, he was an active member of the Brotherhood of Local Engineers and Firemen No. 788 of Brandon. He served as an alderman in Brandon from 1928 to 1945. In 1932, Harry ran in the Manitoba by-election for Brandon as an Independent Labour candidate and lost to the Conservative member George Dinsdale. In 1952, Harry ran as a Co-Operative Commonwealth Federation (CCF) member in the provincial election and lost to Conservative party representative Reg Lissaman. Harry Spafford passed away in Burnaby, BC, and is interred in the Ocean View Cemetery. (Source: see obituary in McG 4.1 File 66)

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Scope and Content:

Postcard is a studio portrait of the Spafford brothers. Harry is seated on the left, Alva ("Alvie") is standing with his right arm around his brother.

Notes: Writing on the front of the postcard reads: Harry on left, Harry & Alva Spafford, our early Railroad days in Winnipeg 1909 or 1910.

Name Access: Harry Spafford

Alvie Spafford

Alva Spafford

Subject Access: portraits

Storage Location: RG 5 photograph storage drawer 2 (hanging photos)

## Images



## Flora Cowan

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13861>

Part Of: Fred McGuinness collection

Description Level: Item

Series Number: McG 9

Item Number: 20-2009.172

Accession Number: 20-2009

GMD: graphic

Date Range: [19--]

Physical Description: 5" x 7" (b/w)

Material Details: reproduction

History /

Biographical:

Mrs. Flora Cowan (1902-1986) was born on July 15, 1902 in Edinburgh, Scotland. She was the daughter of Adam and Helen Cruickshank and immigrated to Brandon with her parents in 1927. She married E.C. Cowan, and they had two children, Franklin and Ruth. From 1953 until Brandon College became Brandon University, she served as the Dean of Women. In 1966 she received the Good Citizenship Award of the Golden Boys of Manitoba. She was a member of the I.O.D.E. and a life-member of the International Peace Garden, and the Provincial Council of Women. From 1954 to 1970 Mrs. Cowan served as a member of the Brandon City Council and was the first woman to be appointed acting mayor. She was also the Chairman of the Board for Fairview Home, Inc. In 1967, Mrs. Cowan received the Trillium Business and Professional Club Woman of the Year Award. She was also a member of several other community committees. The women's residence at Brandon University, Flora Cowan, is named in her honour. In December 1980, Mrs. Cowan finally retired from her many positions. She died in Brandon on September 25, 1986 at the age of 84.

Scope and Content:

Photograph is a portrait of Flora Cowan

Name Access: Flora Cowan

Subject Access: portraits

Storage Location: RG 5 photograph storage drawer 2 (hanging photos)

Related Material: Trillium Business and Professional Women's Club records

Arrangement:

From 2009 loose photos, from File 13

## Images

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## Fred McGuinness 1970s headshot

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13889>

Part Of: Fred McGuinness collection

Description Level: Item

Series Number: McG 9

Item Number: 20-2009.199

Accession Number: 20-2009

GMD: graphic

Date Range: 1970s

Physical Description: 4.5" x 7.25" (b/w)

Scope and Content:

Photograph is a Fred McGuinness headshot

Name Access: Fred McGuinness

Subject Access: portraits

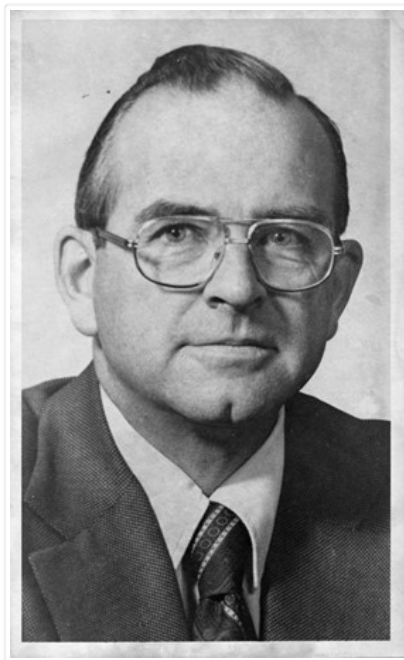
Storage Location: RG 5 photograph storage drawer 2 (hanging photos)

Arrangement:

From 20-2009 #4 plastic envelope #1

### Images

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## Fred McGuinness headshot

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13893>

Part Of: Fred McGuinness collection  
Creator: Photographer: Sandy Black  
Description Level: Item  
Series Number: McG 9  
Item Number: 20-2009.204  
Accession Number: 20-2009  
GMD: graphic  
Date Range: 1980s  
Physical Description: 5" x 3.5" (b/w)  
Physical Condition: Photograph is stamped stamped on back

### Scope and Content:

Photograph shows Fred McGuinness standing in the stacks at Brandon University's John E. Robbins Library

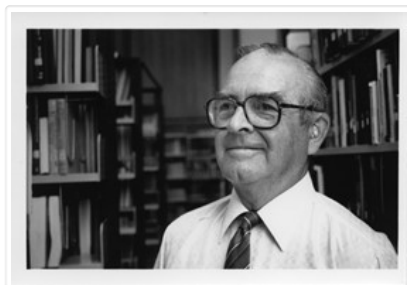
Notes: Writing on back of photograph reads: Photography by Sandy Black  
Name Access: Fred McGuinness  
Subject Access: portraits  
Storage Location: RG 5 photograph storage drawer 2 (hanging photos)

### Arrangement:

From 20-2009 #4 plastic envelope #1

## Images

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## Fred McGuinness headshot

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13894>

Part Of: Fred McGuinness collection

Description Level: Item

Series Number: McG 9

Item Number: 20-2009.204

Accession Number: 20-2009

GMD: graphic

Date Range: 1952

Physical Description: 2.25" x 3.25" (b/w)

Scope and Content:

Photograph is a headshot of Fred McGuinness. Image was taken for the Saskatchewan Golden Jubilee Committee.

Notes: Writing on back of photograph reads: Reporting for Duty, Executive Director, Saskatchewan Golden Jubilee Committee, 1952

Name Access: Fred McGuinness

Saskatchewan Golden Jubilee

Subject Access: portraits

Storage Location: RG 5 photograph storage drawer 2 (hanging photos)

Arrangement:

From 20-2009 #4 plastic envelope #1

## Images

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## Fred McGuinness with Queen Elizabeth II

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13899>

Part Of: Fred McGuinness collection  
Creator: Photographer: Towne Studios  
Description Level: Item  
Series Number: McG 9  
Item Number: 20-2009.210  
Accession Number: 20-2009  
GMD: graphic  
Date Range: 1984  
Physical Description: 3" x 4" (colour)

### Scope and Content:

Photograph shows a group of individuals posing with Queen Elizabeth II. Fred McGuinness is standing behind the Queen.

Notes: Behind the photograph is a letter dated 15 November 1984 to Fred McGuinness, Brandon, Manitoba, from Michael B. Decter, Clerk of the Executive Council, Cabinet Secretary, re: Her Majesty's Visit to Manitoba

Name Access: Fred McGuinness  
Queen Elizabeth II

Subject Access: portraits

Storage Location: McGuinness oversize storage drawer (1-2015)

### Arrangement:

From 20-2009 #4 plastic envelope #1

## Images

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