

# S. J. McKee Archives



## Chief Dan George

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions3537>

Part Of: RG 6 Brandon University fonds

Description Level: File

Series Number: 2.4

File Number: 140

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1972-1973

Physical Description: 1 file

### Scope and Content:

File consists of correspondence, newsclippings, copy of a speech by Chief Dan George entitled "Brotherhood and Understanding," 1973 Brandon University special convocation program, biographical information on Chief Dan George and a copy of a citation respecting Chief Dan George.

Storage Location: RG 6 Brandon University fonds  
Series 2: Board of Governors  
2.4 Correspondence and subject files  
Box 7



## Chief Dan George

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4082>

Part Of: RG 6 Brandon University fonds

Description Level: File

Series Number: 6.5.1

File Number: 20

GMD: textual records

Date Range: March 1973

Physical Description: 1 file

### Scope and Content:

File consists of a draft parchment and George's citation.

Storage Location: RG 6 Brandon University fonds  
Series 6: Senate Office  
6.5 Convocation Services, Baccalaureates Services, Banquets

## George Thorman collection



<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4725>

Part Of: RG 1 Brandon College fonds  
Description Level: Sub-series  
Series Number: MG 2 2.15  
Accession Number: 11-1999  
GMD: textual records  
Date Range: 1801-1940, 1994; predominant 1880-1940  
Physical Description: 11 m (823 items); 1 diploma; 1 certificate

History /

Biographical:

George E. Thorman was born in Vancouver, British Columbia on September 17, 1913. His public school education began in Rivers, Manitoba and was completed, along with his high school and part of his university education in Brandon, Manitoba. After completing his Bachelor of Arts General at Brandon College, Thorman attended the College of Education in Toronto for one year before beginning his teaching career at Essex High School, Essex, Ontario in 1935. After four years in Essex, Thorman transferred to the St. Thomas Collegiate Institute (STCI) in St. Thomas, Ontario.

In 1941, Thorman joined the Canadian Army at Brandon as a gunner in the 59th Field Battery and after five years, having served in England, Italy and Western Europe, he retired with the rank of Captain. Following the Second World War, in 1945, Thorman taught in a high school for Fifth Division in Gronigen, Netherlands before moving on to teach first year university English at Kahki College in England in 1946. That same year he returned to Canada and rejoined the staff at STCI. Two years after his return George Thorman married the former Margaret Gliddon of St. Thomas and in 1953 returned to Europe where he taught in Scotland for one year on a teacher's exchange.

During the 1960's, Thorman's career reached its peak. In 1964, he became the Vice-Principal of STCI and in 1967, he attained the same position at Parkside Collegiate Institute before becoming its Principal in 1969. Three years later in 1972, Thorman retired as Principal of PCI and from his teaching career. Throughout his career Thorman's primary interests were in English and History, however he also taught Mathematics, Geography and Science. In addition to his classes following WWII, Thorman was an active instructor of the Cadet Corps, as well as a coach for various volleyball, basketball and track and field teams during his years at STCI.

Aside from being an educator, George Thorman had many other interests. He and his wife Margaret were active in the formation of the Elgin Theatre Guild in 1948 and together and separately they performed and directed several productions in the early years of that organization. Thorman was also largely responsible for the development of a local history course in the Elgin Secondary Schools in the early 1960's. In 1966, with his fellow history teacher Ralph Parker, he published a booklet to serve as an outline for teachers on the history of Elgin County.

That same year, 1966, Thorman, as the prime instigator in the re-formation of the Elgin Historical Society, became its first president and in 1971, he was elected Honorary President of the Society for life. This was followed by a further two-year term as elected president. The re-organization marked the beginning of Thorman's continuous active involvement with the EHS, including several lectures he presented to its members and many years as a Trustee. In 1985, he received the Ontario Volunteer Service Award for over 15 years of continuous service to the Society before retiring from the EHS in 1995.

In addition to the EHS, Thorman served on the St. Thomas Public Library Board from 1979 until 1991, and was a Chairman of the Board's Personnel Committee. He was also a member of the Ontario Historical Society. From 1975 to 1978, Thorman served as an elected member

of the Elgin County Board of Education and in 1979, he received from the City of St. Thomas the St. Thomas Civic Award for outstanding citizens. George Thorman was also a life member (1936) of Central Lodge No. 402, A.F. and A.M. (Masonry) of Essex, Ontario and had been an active member of the St. Thomas Duplicate Bridge Club since 1985.

As an authority on historical research relating to The Hudson's Bay Company, Thorman gave lectures and printed articles on the topic in "The Beaver" publication of The Hudson's Bay Company. In regards to the HBC he also did excavation work at Fort Albany with Walter Kenyon during several summers in the 1960's and 1970's.

As well, George Thorman was a founding member and served on the executive committee of the Elgin Military Museum since its inception in 1982 until the late 1990's. He contributed greatly to the library and files of this museum, particularly in the field of the War of 1812 and the Fenian Raid. The reference library of this small museum rates high in this country, largely through the efforts of George Thorman. Thorman's book collection was one of the finest and most extensive in Western Ontario. His personal library contained a wealth of information with particular emphasis on material relating to Elgin County, the City of St. Thomas and The Hudson's Bay company. His G.A. Henty collectio was nearly complete.

As an author Thorman contributed ten entries in The Dictionary of Canadian Biography on Aboriginal and Metis peoples, co-authored "St. Thomas 100 Years a City," the centennial history of the city of St. Thomas. In 1989, he edited "Frank Hunt, Essays on Elgin County" as well as wrote and privately printed "A Brief History of Secondary Education in St. Thomas" as his contribution to the STCI Reunion, at which he was one fo the honorees. In th early 1990's, Thorman co-edited "Garret Oakes, Tales of a Pioneer," authored and priveley printed "Letters and Petitions and other Papers Concerning the Mllitia Companies of Middlesex for 1839" and "The Chisholm Family in Elgin County: Myth and Reality."

For serveral years, ca. 1975 to the mid 1990's, Thorman hosted a TV talk show on local television interviewing persons connected to the history of St. Thomas and Elgin County. Many older residents, who have since passed away, were interviewed and the resulting tapes are an invaluable source of historical information.

Thorman and his wife lived in the historic section of St. Thomas and in the summer months spent their time in Port Stanley. In addition, for several years in the early 1990's, Thorman traveled annually to England - each time visiting a different area of the country. As well, Thorman was also interested in the lives and activities of his former students and was available and eager to assist any student or former student who asked for his guidance. George E. Thorman passed away on January 11, 1997.

#### Custodial History:

The Order of the Sheaf and Thorman's Bachelor of Arts degree were transfered to the McKee Archives by Rudi Denham, Chief Librarian, St. Thomas Public Library in August 2007. George Thorman had placed his papers with the St. Thomas Public Library at some point prior to his death; the Library had decided to deaccession the records and offered them to interested institutions.

#### Scope and Content:

The collection consists of textbooks covering the subject areas of: Agriculture, Art, Business education, Economics, Composition, Grammar, Rhetoric, Literature, Plays, Poetry, Prose, Readers, Spelling, Phonics, Stories, Geography, Health, History, French, German, Greek, Italian, Latin, Algebra, Arithmetic, Geometry, Trigonometry, General mathematics, Music, Philosophy, Logic, Psychology, Religion, Research, Methods, Manuals, Astronomy, Botany Chemistry, Physics, General science, Zoology, Cooking and Gardening. It also includes two notebooks.

The works found in the collection were published primarily between 1880-1940, although they range from 1801-1967, with an emphasis on history, all areas of mathematics, research and topics related to english or language arts. There are a number of works published in the nineteenth century dealing with most of the collection's subject areas. The majority of the collection focuses on public and high school textbooks, particularly in relation to the province of Ontario, with some attention to university education.

Also included is George Thorman's Order of the Sheaf, Clark Hall Guild certificate awarded to him in recognition of his outstanding contribution toward the betterment of Brandon University and Thorman's Bachelor of Arts degree from Brandon College (McMaster University).

Notes: An inventory of the collection has been created. Also, the items have been added to the Brandon University Library catalogue. Description and inventory by Christy Henry (1999).

Language Note: Thorman's Bachelor of Arts degree is in Latin.

Storage Location: MG 2 Brandon College Students  
2.15 George Thorman



## George Thorman Order of the Sheaf

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions10248>

Part Of: BUPC 11 Documents, diplomas and certificates

Description Level: Item

Series Number: 11

Item Number: 11.16

GMD: textual records

Date Range: [1990s]

Physical Description: 21.5 cm x 28 cm

#### History /

#### Biographical:

See MG 2 Brandon College Students, 2.15 George Thorman for biographical information.

#### Scope and Content:

The item is George E. Thorman's Order of the Sheaf, Clark Hall Guild.

Storage Range: Oversized drawer 2

## George F. MacDowell collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4049>



Part Of: RG 6 Brandon University fonds  
Description Level: Sub-series  
Series Number: MG 3 1.12  
Accession Number: 9-2002  
GMD: textual records  
Date Range: 1941-1987, predominant 1960-1982  
Physical Description: 8.1 m  
Physical Condition: Good

History /

Biographical:

George F. MacDowell was born in 1913, in Prince Edward Island. He studied at Dalhousie University from 1930 to 1933, but did not complete a degree. During WWII, MacDowell served in Canada and Europe as a member of the Royal Canadian Signals Corps. After the war, he returned to Dalhousie University, graduating with a B.A. in 1947. Subsequently, he graduated with a Masters Degree in Economics from Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts. George McDowell taught at both Mount Allison University and the University of Alberta before coming to Brandon in 1957 to teach at Brandon College. He remained as a professor in the Economic Department until his retirement in 1979.

MacDowell's work was published in the Canadian Journal of Economics and Political Science. In 1971, McClelland & Stewart published his account of the Brandon Packers strike of 1960 titled "The Brandon Packer's Strike: A Tragedy of Errors." In Brandon, MacDowell maintained a relationship with the local Association of Fire Fighters, aiding them with collective bargaining procedures. He also served as Chairman for the MacKenzie Seeds Board, and was a member of the Manitoba Development Corporation Board.

MacDowell never married and had no known children. He passed away on February 26th, 1986.

Custodial History:

This collection was in the possession of George MacDowell until his death. It was then held by the Brandon University Department of Economics until 1997, at which time it was transferred to the McKee Archives at Brandon University.

Scope and Content:

The bulk of this fonds falls into five main categories:

1. Records dealing with the Brandon Packers Strike of 1960 and the subsequent legal actions against the owners, including all 2215 pages of the Brandon Packers Strike Commission;
2. Records dealing with the Commission of Inquiry into The Pas Forestry and Industrial Complex, including the complete transcript of the inquiry measuring approximately 5m. This Commission dealt with the conduct of Churchill Forest Industries, a company owned by a Swiss financial firm, which, in the 1960's, was given approximately 93 million dollars by the Roblin Provincial Government to develop The Pas Forestry and Industrial Complex. Churchill Forest Industries and its parent company subsequently came under suspicion of fraud and accused of fraudulently transferring The Pas Forestry funds into other foreign business interests;
3. Records dealing with business loans awarded by the Manitoba Development Corporation during the 1970's and 1980's to businesses primarily within Manitoba;
4. Records dealing with McKenzie Seeds, and McKenzie Steele-Briggs Seeds during the early 1980's when George MacDowell was a board member of McKenzie Seeds;
5. Records dealing with Professor MacDowell's career as a Professor at Brandon University, including records relating to his courses and to administrative activities.

To a lesser extent, this collection includes records dealing with the University of Saskatchewan College of Commerce, the publication the "Manitoba New Democrat," issues associated with politics, labor and union in the prairie provinces from the 1960's to the 1980's, articles from various economic periodicals including "Economica" and "Public Finance," a variety of government reports from 1941 to 1981, and records dealing with George MacDowell's relationship with the Brandon Firefighters Association.

Notes: File level inventory available. Description written by Mike White (2002).

Name Access: Errol Black  
Brandon University  
University of Saskatchewan College of Commerce  
Manitoba New Democrat  
Manitoba Development Corporation  
Brandon Packers Strike Commission  
Bank Act  
A.E. McKenzie Steele Briggs Seeds  
Brandon Firefighters Association.

Subject Access: economics  
trade unions  
economics curriculum  
public service unions  
prairie politics  
Edward Schreyer government  
labour  
Manitoba business loans  
government economic reports

Access Restriction: Collection includes financial data on many Manitoba businesses. Consult the archivist for access.

Repro Restriction: Researchers are responsible for observing Canadian copyright restrictions.

Storage Location: MG 3 Brandon University Teaching and Administration  
1.12 George F. MacDowell

Related Material: Related material regarding George MacDowell's involvement with the A.E. McKenzie Company can be found in RG 3 McS A.E. McKenzie Company fonds.



## George Thorman Bachelor of Arts diploma

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions10249>

Part Of: BUPC 11 Documents, diplomas and certificates

Description Level: Item

Series Number: 11

Item Number: 11.17

GMD: textual records

Physical Description: 56 cm x 43 cm

History /

Biographical:

See MG 2 Brandon College Students, 2.15 George Thorman for biographical information.

Scope and Content:

Item is George Thorman's Bachelor of Arts degree (1934) from Brandon College (McMaster University).

Language Note: Diploma is in Latin, although liberties have been taken with the language, particularly in the case of names.

Storage Range: Oversized drawer 2



## Opening George Brown House Toronto Mon. Oct. 2/89

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions5657>

Part Of: RG 6 Brandon University fonds

Description Level: File

Series Number: MG 3 1.14.1

File Number: 721

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1989

Physical Description: 1 file

Scope and Content:

File consists of correspondence, agendas, notes re: speaking engagement/trip

Storage Location: RG 6 Brandon University fonds

MG 3 Brandon University Teaching and Administration

1.14.1 W. Leland Clark - political career

Box 27



## Angus McPherson; Murray McPherson; Hugh McPherson; Georgie McPherson; Hattie McPherson Morrison; George Richardson

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4538>

Part Of: Alfred Angus Murray McPherson collection

Description Level: Box

File Number: 15.1 - 15.15

Accession Number: 21-2006

Other Numbers: Box O

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1909-1956

Physical Description: 17 cm

History /

Biographical:

For biographical information on Angus McPherson and Hattie McPherson Morrison see the description for Box 6 of the Alfred Angus Murray McPherson collection.

For biographical information on Murray McPherson see the fonds level description for the Alfred Angus Murray McPherson collection.

For biographical information on Hugh McPherson see the description for Box 5 of the Alfred Angus Murray McPherson collection.

For biographical information on Georgie McPherson see the description for Box 4 of the Alfred Angus Murray McPherson collection.

There is no biographical information for George Richardson.

Scope and Content:

Contains the following files:

15.1 Medical receipts 1945-1950

15.2 Miscellaneous farm receipts 1945-1950

15.3 Cattle and grain papers 1941-1953

15.4 Correspondence 1943-1951

15.5 Insurance 1909-1952

15.6 Angus McPherson wills 1937-1953

15.7 Angus McPherson - income tax forms and papers 1946-1956 (includes Farmers Income Tax Guides and Farm account book)

15.8 Murray McPherson correspondence 1934-1956

15.9 Hugh McPherson - blank form for Fenian Raid Volunteer Bount Act 1912

15.10 Miscellaneous 1929-1950

15.11 Angus McPherson income tax forms and papers 1943-1947

15.12 Income tax forms/papers 1943-1947 for George Richardson (1947), George McPherson and Hattie McPherson

15.13 Angus McPherson - income tax forms 1918

15.14 Receipts 1947

15.15 Receipts 1949

Notes: Part of the Alfred Angus Murray McPherson collection.

Storage Location: Alfred Angus Murray McPherson collection  
Box 13