

# S. J. McKee Archives



## David Sommerville Charleson fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4827>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 21-1997

GMD: textual records

Date Range: November 8, 1915

Physical Description: 2 mm (1 two-page letter -- 1 letter with envelope)

History /

Biographical:

David Sommerville Charleson was born January 14th, 1884, in Brandon, Manitoba. The Charleson's settled in the GlenSouris area south of Brandon, Manitoba in 1882. David Charleson enlisted on 24 September 1914. He served as a lieutenant in the 6th Infantry Battalion of the Canadian Expeditionary Force. Later, he transferred to the 8th Battalion. In Belgium, Charleson was a victim of an enemy gas attack early in the war, following which he returned to Canada incapacitated. Miss Estella Cullen, a trained nurse, cared for him following his return to Canada. David Sommerville Charleson died on May 12, 1925 a victim of war-time injuries. He is buried in the GlenSouris Cemetery just south of Brandon.

Custodial History:

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

Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of one letter written by Charleson from Belgium in early 1915 to Miss Estella Cullen in Rounthwaite, Manitoba. In the letter, Charleson describes the circumstances facing the Canadian troops in the trenches during the Great War and provides an account of the German trenches facing him. This is an evocative and reflective letter. Philatelists may find the condition of the stamps on the letter envelope of interest.

Notes: CAIN No. 202606

Subject Access: Estella Cullen

World War I

trench warfare

Great War

soldier's life

Canadian Expeditionary Force

Storage Location: 1997 accessions

Storage Range: 1997 accessions



## Laurie V. Smith collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4837>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 37-1997

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1939-1986; predominant 1939-1949

Physical Description: 18 cm

History /

Biographical:

Laurie V. Smith served as the President of the Brandon Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion during the 1940s.

Custodial History:

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

Scope and Content:

Fonds includes correspondence, policy documents, and publications relating to the activities of the Royal Canadian Legion, primarily in Brandon under the Presidency of Laurie V. Smith, during and after the Second World War. Prominent themes include the acquiring of gifts for hospitalized veterans, primarily through the Canadian Legion Christmas Tree project, veteran rehabilitation, and promotion of the Canadian Victory Loans project.

Notes: CAIN No. 202631

Subject Access: Canadian Legion  
Sanatorium Board of Manitoba  
The Legionary  
Veterans  
Legion Christmas Tree  
Victory Loan  
Canadian Legion War Services

Storage Location: 1997 accessions

Storage Range: 1997 accessions



## Mildred (Mollie) Kellet fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4834>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 8-1999

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1918; 1941; 1944

Physical Description: 2 cm

## History /

### Biographical:

Mildred (Mollie) Norton Kellet was born April 5, 1914, in Birmingham, England to Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Travers. At the age of 18, she joined the Cadbury Brothers Co. as a contometer. In 1942, she married George Crawford Kellet Jr. Mollie and George Kellet had two children together: Patricia (b. 1944) and Ian (b. 1949). In February of 1944, Mollie and her husband relocated to Manchester where George Kellet worked as an accountant.

Following World War II, the Kellets emigrated to Winnipeg, Canada. Mollie remained a mother and homekeeper until 1954, when she was hired as a secretary for Mitchell, Green, and Menouk Lawyers. She was also employed by The Bay and in the securities department of Montreal Trust Co, where she was the manager until 1966. She retired at age 65, but was recalled by the company to work until 1984, when she was 70 years old. In 1990, Mollie moved to Brandon to be closer to her daughter, Pat Alvestad. Due to complications from surgery and a weak heart, Mollie Kellet passed away on January 31, 1999.

George Crawford Kellet Jr. was born to George Crawford Kellet Sr. and Lizzie Auld Halliday Kellet on July 16, 1911, in Glasgow, Scotland. An only child, he attended private school, and in 1933, at the age of 21, he was the youngest Chartered Accountant graduate in Britain. At some point between 1933 and his marriage to Mildred (Mollie) Norton in 1942, George joined the British army; while with the army his job was to receive the orders concerning army accounting and process them for soldiers in the field.

George left the army after the war and sailed with his wife and daughter on the Mauretania for Canada. Upon settling in Winnipeg he worked for Family Fair. In 1956 and 1957, he continued to work while setting up his own accounting firm, Kellet & Co. He was also diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis in 1956. In 1971, George's health forced him to retire. Mollie continued to work at this time. Five years later she was unable to care for him adequately and he moved to a nursing home. In 1985, at age 74, George Kellet passed away.

### Custodial History:

In January 2000, Pat Alvestad, the Kellets' daughter, donated this fonds to the McKee Archives.

### Scope and Content:

The records contained within the Mollie Kellet fonds are contributions from both Mollie and her husband George. Included are: a collection of handwritten recollections by Mollie Kellet concerning her experiences during the Second World War (Mollie had been living in London and experienced life under German bombing); a document from WWI, presumably from her father, who was a veteran of this war; and records acquired by George Kellet during his service in the Second World War concerning the practical arrangements made to support troops following the 1944 D-day invasion of Nazi Europe. Marked "top secret," these records set out procedures for paying and provisioning the invading army.

Notes:	CAIN No. 202659
Subject Access:	George Kellet World War I D-day memoirs World War II
Storage Location:	1999 accessions
Storage Range:	1999 accessions



## Riverbank/Berbank Red Cross fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4855>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 18-1997

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1917-1919

Physical Description: 1 cm

History /

Biographical:

The Berbank Red Cross was founded in November 1917, as a local feature of the Great War. The name Berbank was created by combining the names of the two local districts, Riverbank and Bertha, located south of Brandon in the Rural Municipality of Oakland. The Berbank Red Cross sent supplies of various kinds to local soldiers serving in the Canadian Expeditionary Force in Europe. The organization also organized social gatherings in the Berbank area. With the end of the war most rural Red Cross organizations were disbanded, but the Berbank group agreed to remain intact to assist with the construction of a church. (See accession 28-1997 Berbank Church fonds)

Custodial History:

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

Scope and Content:

Fonds includes a minute book, which provides a complete record of every meeting held by the Berbank Red Cross, from its creation in 1917 to 1919, when it became the Berbank Ladies Aid. Fonds also includes a roll call, financial records, and meeting minutes.

Notes: CAIN No. 202600

Subject Access: Stella Martin

Jessie Martin

Pearl Martin

Edith Wharton

Berbank Ladies' Aid

Riverbank

Bertha

Rural Municipality of Oakland

Great War

World War I

rural women

Storage Location: 1997 accessions

Storage Range: 1997 accessions

Related Material: Berbank Church fonds (28-1997) and Berbank Ladies Aid fonds (27-1997).



## Berbank Church fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4825>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 28-1997

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1919-1966

Physical Description: 6 cm

History /

Biographical:

The name Berbank was created by combining the names of two local districts: Riverbank and Bertha. Both were located south of Brandon in the Rural Municipality of Oakland. The Berbank Church was built in 1919. Its construction grew out of the work of the Berbank Red Cross founded in 1917. The Berbank Church was a "union" church, constructed in anticipation of the formation of the United Church of Canada. In 1966, the Berbank congregation joined with the Nesbitt congregation to operate out of the Nesbitt United Church. The final service at the Berbank United Church was held in 1966.

Custodial History:

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

Scope and Content:

Fonds contains a document titled "Berbank Church History." This document is partially in a printed format with a portion handwritten. Fonds also contains minute books and legal documents pertaining to the ownership of the land upon which the Church was constructed.

Notes: CAIN No. 202614

Subject Access: Red Cross  
United Church of Canada  
Presbyterian  
Bertha  
Riverbank  
church union  
World War I

Accruals: Berbank Red Cross fonds (18-1997), Berbank Ladies Aid fonds (27-1997), and Bertha School District fonds (8-1998 ).

Storage Location: 1997 accessions

Storage Range: 1997 accessions



## Canadian Union of Public Employees (Brandon, Manitoba) fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4826>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection  
Description Level: Collection  
Accession Number: 22-2003, 30-1999  
GMD: textual records  
Date Range: 1956-1890; predominant 1964-1980  
Physical Description: 5.2 m

### History /

#### Biographical:

The Canadian Union of Public Employees came into existence in September 1963, during a convention in Winnipeg when The National Union of Public Employees and the National Union of Public Service Employees merged. In 1964, the Manitoba Division of CUPE (now CUPE Manitoba) held its founding convention in The Pas. At that time, there were 12 affiliated local unions and a total membership of 1,300. The Canadian Union of Public Employees is Canada's largest union. Public service employees formed CUPE to protect their rights, to negotiate wages and working conditions, and to achieve dignity in the workplace.

#### Custodial History:

Fonds was in the possession of the Brandon CUPE Office until its donation to the S.J. McKee Archives in 1995.

#### Scope and Content:

Fonds contains general administrative files of the CUPE including agreements, newspaper clippings, correspondence, and convention records. In addition, fonds includes records for many CUPE locals in southwestern and north-central Manitoba. These includes files for each local containing agreements, lists of officials, correspondence and financial records. An extensive body of records dating from 1956 exists for CUPE local #69. This local began its existence as the Brandon Civic Employees Federal Union formed in April 1919.

Notes: CAIN No. 202610  
Subject Access: Canadian Union of Public Employees  
Brandon Civic Employees Federal Union Local 69  
collective bargaining  
public sector unions  
industrial relations  
Storage Location: 2003 accessions  
Storage Range: 2003 accessions



## Canadian Federation of University Women (Brandon University) fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4804>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection  
Description Level: Collection  
Accession Number: 4-1997, 1-2004, 5-2004  
GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1948-2003

Physical Description: 24 cm

History /

Biographical:

The Canadian Federation of University Women was founded in 1919 under the leadership of Margaret McWilliams of Winnipeg to promote the interests of women with higher education at local, national and international levels. It is a voluntary, non-profit, self-funded organization with a membership of over 10,000 university-educated women and 122 local clubs. The CFUW promotes high standards of public education; encourages advanced study and research by women university graduates; encourages active participation in public affairs by qualified women; works to safeguard and improve human rights and the economic, legal and professional status of women in Canada; and participates in the work of the International Federation of University Women. The Brandon University chapter of the Canadian Federation of University Women was established in 1948. It continues to be active.

Custodial History:

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

Scope and Content:

Fonds contains correspondence with other branches of the CFUW, minutes and programs from meetings and seminars held throughout Canada, as well as administrative records and minutes of the Brandon branch. Most administrative records concern the problems of maintaining membership levels and recruiting younger members. Fonds also contains various issues of the "Chronicle," a CFUW publication. Fonds also includes CFUW Brandon minutes, miscellaneous projects, annual reports and member lists, as well as a number of documents relating to the provincial, national and international activities of the CFUW.

Notes: CAIN No. 202621

Subject Access: Ellen Clark  
Margaret Strongiham  
Theodora Carroll Foster  
Patrick Boyer  
CFUW  
IFUW  
UNESCO  
Canadian Advisory Council  
Disarmament  
Status of Women  
Equality rights  
Enrollment

Storage Location: 1997 accessions

Storage Range: 1997 accessions



## Brandon Business and Professional Women's Club fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4859>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 10-2002  
GMD: textual records  
Date Range: 1932-1972  
Physical Description: 20 cm

History /

Biographical:

The Business and Professional Women's Club of Brandon was created in November 1932. The club grew out of a meeting of business and professional women who were interested in forming an association. Guest speakers at the meeting were Miss Hilda Hesson, the Vice President of the Federation of Canadian Business and Professional Women's Clubs, and Miss F. Ingram, the President of the Winnipeg Business and Professional Women's Club. The objective of the Brandon club, according to its constitution, was the "promotion of educational, service, and social facilities for the business and professional women." The club consisted of active and associate members and belonged to the greater Canadian Federation of Business and Professional Women's Club. The first President of the club was Miss Margaret Gemmell, with approximately 80 women attended the club's first meeting. The club established sub-committees on a variety of subjects including current events, sports, bridge instruction, public speaking, dress making, photography, stitch craft, manual training, and physical culture. The club also put on exhibitions, participated in drama festivals, held rummage sales and an annual Christmas party. During the Second World War, it established a War Effort Department. This department organized activities such as sewing and knitting in support of the war effort. The War Effort Department also raised money for charities such as the Red Cross. During its meetings, the club often heard local and national speakers or watched films. Women of many different vocations joined the club including florists, teachers, salesclerks, nurses, and housewives. Over the years, additional departments were added to the club including those named poetry, pottery, woodcraft, and drama.

Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 2002. Previous custodial history is unknown.

Scope and Content:

Fonds contains three small scrapbooks, which cover the years 1932-1939, 1939-1949, and 1950-1959, respectively. The scrapbooks contain newspaper clippings from the Brandon Sun, the Winnipeg Free Press, and the Flin Flon Daily Miner. The scrapbooks also contain exhibition and meeting programs from the Brandon Club. Fonds also contains meeting minutes for the years 1932-1972.

Notes: CAIN No. 202576

Subject Access: Miss Margaret Gemmel  
Miss Marjorie McKenzie  
Dr. Jane Turnbull  
Miss Muriel Bowen  
Miss Jessie Crawford  
Mrs. Robert Darrach  
Miss Margaret Clay  
Hilda Hesson  
Miss Jenny Gemmell  
City of Brandon  
Business and Professional Women's Club of Brandon  
Canadian Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs  
women's organizations  
women's clubs  
Manitoba women  
scrapbooks

Storage Location: 2002 accessions  
Storage Range: 2002 accessions  
Related Material: Brandon Business and Professional Women's Club (10-2002);  
Minnedosa Business and Professional Women's Club (11-2002);  
Neepawa Business and Professional Women's Club (12-2002); Trilliam  
Business and Professional Women's Club (2-2006).



## Minnedosa Business and Professional Women's Club fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4811>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection  
Description Level: Collection  
Accession Number: 11-2002  
GMD: textual records  
Date Range: 1953-1965  
Physical Description: 10 cm

## History /

### Biographical:

The Minnedosa Business and Professional Women's Club was organized on May 14, 1959. The group received its charter on September 15, 1959 at a ceremony that included guests from Minnedosa, Neepawa, Dauphin, Brandon, and Portage La Prairie. The first president of the club was Mrs. Julie Johnson. In September 1959 the club had 15 members. The Minnedosa Club became the thirteenth Business and Professional Women's Club chartered in Manitoba. The purpose of the club was to train and educate women in business and the professions and to promote women's participation in local, provincial, and national affairs. The club included many committees such as the Public Relations, Membership, Survey and Archives, Programme and Projects, Social and Courtesy, International Affairs, Budget and Finance, Federation Promotion, Personal Development, Public Affairs, and Resolutions, Legislation and Employment Committees. The Minnedosa Club held exhibitions, hosted guest speakers, observed Business Women's Week, and held workshops for all of the Business and Professional Women's Clubs in Manitoba on a few occasions. Over the years the club made many donations to the Minnedosa Museum, the Minnedosa Centennial Committee, and charities such as UNICEF, Ramallah Fund, Children's Aid, and United Way. The Minnedosa Business and Professional Women's Club was very concerned with the status of women in Canada and around the world. The Minnedosa Club disbanded in May 1980. After the disbanding of the club, the women who were involved in the club formed the Just For Fun Club.

### Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 2002. Previous custodial history is unknown.

### Scope and Content:

Fonds is comprised mainly of four scrapbooks, which run from 1959-1979, 1959-1963, 1959-1964, and 1977-1979. The scrapbooks contain photos, newspaper clippings, Christmas cards, correspondence and programs. The clippings relate to Business and Professional Women's Clubs from around Manitoba, while focusing on the Minnedosa Club. Many of the clippings also focus on the status of women in Canada and the rest of the world.

Fonds also contains financial records and minutes from the years 1959-1980. There is also a copy of the club's bylaws, as well as monthly membership reports from 1976-1980. The fonds also includes a brief typed history of the Minnedosa Club, as well as other loose newspaper clippings, programs, songbooks, and correspondence. Finally, there are three guestbooks included in the collection. The first runs from 1959-1978. The second guestbook is from the Art and Ceramic Display and Tea, held on May 27, 1972. The third guestbook is from the Art and Ceramic Display and Tea, held on May 29, 1976.

Notes: CAIN No. 202581

Subject Access: Julie Johnson  
Louise Card  
Effie Macdonald  
Mary Macdonald  
Marion McCormick  
Gladys Thompson  
Town of Minnedosa  
Minnedosa Business and Professional Women's Club  
Canadian Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs  
Manitoba Provincial Organization of Business and Professional Women's Clubs  
Flin Flon Business and Professional Women's Club  
Dauphin Business and Professional Women's Club  
Brandon Business and Professional Women's Club  
International Peace Gardens  
women's clubs  
women's issues  
status of women  
scrapbooks  
newspaper clippings

Storage Location: 2002 accessions

Storage Range: 2002 accessions

Related Material: Brandon Business and Professional Women's Club (10-2002);  
Minnedosa Business and Professional Women's Club (11-2002);  
Neepawa Business and Professional Women's Club (12-2002); Trillium  
Business and Professional Women's Club (2-2006).