

# S. J. McKee Archives



# Medi©Œval and modern history

http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/specialcollections1043

Part Of: MG 2 2.15 George E Thorman Collection

Collection: George E Thorman School Textbook Collection

Creator: Myers, Philip Van Ness, 1846-1937

Description Level: Item

Item Number: Archives 11-999-15-410
Item Number Range: Archives 11-999-15-410
Responsibility: by Philp Van Ness Myers

Start Date: 1885 Date Range: 1885

Publication: Boston; New York: Ginn and company

Physical Description: xvi, 751 p.: front., illus., plates, maps; 20 cm

Subject Access: Middle ages History

history Modern World War 1914-1918

Storage Location: Box 15 - History
Storage Range: Box 15 - History



# RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds

http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4351

Part Of: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds

Description Level: Fonds

GMD: multiple media
Date Range: 1884-1992

Physical Description: 9.46 m textual records; 1919 photographs & graphics

History / Biographical:

Brandon, Manitoba was incorporated as a city in 1881. In 1882, led by Charles Whitehead and a small Board of Directors that included J.W. Vantassel, Charles Pilling, George Halse, J.E. Smith, William Johnson, R.T. Evans, and Thomas Lockhart, it was decided to hold an agricultural exhibition. These men were all involved in the farm business in one way or another, and they wanted an opportunity to help residents realize the agricultural potential of the region. In October of that year, the fledgling community held its first agricultural exhibition. The fair was held in downtown Brandon at what was known as "Market Square." Market Square was two

weather, and the fact that not many people were ready to show animals and grain, there was a relatively small turnout. The following year was much improved. There were 730 entries into the exhibition. By 1884, the Board of Directors of the Brandon Agricultural Society, which was in charge of the exhibition, realized that they were in poor financial shape, to the point of being personally out of pocket. It was realized that October was not the best time for farmers to be leaving their farms to go to an exhibition. In 1888, it was decided to move the exhibition to the summer time, when it was much easier for people to attend.

The first Brandon Summer Fair was held in July 1889, and it was a resounding success. The Board of Directors had added many items of interest to appeal to the entire public, not just agricultural people. In 1892, the Western Agricultural and Arts Association (WAAA) was formally established to take over duties from the Brandon Agricultural Society. However, it was not until 1897 that the WAAA held its first meeting. There is no explanation as to why there is a five year gap between the formation and the first meeting of this organization. 1897 was the turning point of the Brandon Exhibition. The fair was now firmly established in Brandon, and the Board of Directors was instrumental in ensuring that it remained so. This was done by petitioning to both the municipal and provincial governments for grant money. As well, the Board booked midway and grandstand acts that would bring the city dwellers to the agricultural exhibition.

There were also early attempts at holding an agricultural exhibition in the winter. The first such attempt was in 1884. There was also a Spring Stallion show held in 1891. By 1904, however, a petition by J.D. McGregor had gone out to formally establish a winter exhibition. This effort also failed, but by 1906, it was decided by businessmen, politicians, and farm representatives in Brandon, including McGregor, to organize a winter fair. Rather than seeing this new fair as competition, the Board of Directors of the summer fair felt that it would complement their exhibition. The new fair would remain primarily agricultural. The first winter fair was held in 1906. While the two fairs were not amalgamated, they did share the same secretary-manager. The secretary-manager was responsible for the day to day management of the fair, as well as keeping track of meetings and decisions reached by the various fair boards and committees. In 1907, the Brandon Winter Fair and Livestock Association (BWFLA) was formed to act primarily as a land-holding joint stock company. The following year the Provincial Winter Fair and Fat Stock Association (PWFFSA), an entirely separate organization from the BWFLA, was formed to manage the activities of the winter fair. The PWFFSA name was soon changed to the Manitoba Winter Fair and Fat Stock Association (MWFFSA).

By 1906, Brandon could boast two full size exhibitions, one in the summer and one in the late winter, both of which were considered to be premiere events. In 1908, the Brandon summer fair was renamed the Inter-Provincial Exhibition, and in 1912 it held it's first Traveller's Day, an event which would soon become an important addition to the fair and is still in existence today. It is thought that the name "Traveller's Day" came from the fact that it was held on a Saturday, a day when many people could travel to Brandon for the exhibition.

In 1913, Brandon was bestowed with the honour of hosting the Dominion Exhibition. This was a national exhibition sponsored by the federal government. It was held in a different city every year. There were several cities vying for the 1913 Dominion Exhibition, but it was Brandon that impressed the sponsors the most. With the government funds received for this honour, the Board of Directors supervised the building of a new grandstand, display buildings, and racetrack, as well as the general expansion and improvements to the fairgrounds.

In the spring of 1912, it was decided by the Board of Directors of the winter fair that the facilities they were currently housed in were inadequate for their needs. The mayor and city clerk of Brandon went to the provincial legislature in order to request that there be an amendment added to the Brandon city charter. This amendment would allow the city to guarantee bonds issued by the winter fair board to help pay for the construction of a new facility. This request was granted, and a \$70 000 addition was built next to the original winter

fair building. The new building was opened in 1913.

Throughout the First World War, both the winter fair and Provincial Exhibition buildings were used for the war effort. There was one distinct difference however. The summer fair Board was able to negotiate a deal with the army that enabled it to reclaim the fair buildings during fair week. The winter fair, however, had to give up the idea of holding fairs in 1915 and 1916. It was not until 1917, that the winter fair was able to resume.

During this time, due to the financial problems that had beset the winter fair, the two exhibitions considered amalgamation. The Board of Directors of the winter fair felt that because they were the smaller of the two fairs, their interests would be swallowed up by the summer fair. The winter fair withdrew from the negotiations to amalgamate. With this rather sudden turn of events, the Board of Directors of the summer fair petitioned the government to be allowed to incorporate. This was granted, and in 1920, the WAAA was incorporated as the Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba. From 1920, the summer fair was officially known as the Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba. This was the first time that the summer fair was incorporated, and received the "status and financial assistance" that came with incorporation.

More problems beset the winter fair in the 1920s. In 1920, a fire burned down the winter fair pavilion, located at the south end of the winter fair buildings, and caused the Board to cancel the 1921 winter fair. It was not until 1922, that a new building was completed. By 1929, both fairs were well regarded throughout Canada. In 1929, a decade long Depression hit the west. While many fairs closed during this time, Brandon struggled to keep its open. The Directors of both fairs felt that the agricultural shows "encouraged excellence at a time when faith and enthusiasm were at a low ebb." The summer fair proved to be quite successful during the Depression, likely as a result of the few moments one was able to forget one's troubles while there. The winter fair was not quite as successful, although both fairs received government grants and work relief projects. There was little new entertainment in these exhibitions.

There were changes about to manifest themselves at the summer fair, however. While the winter fair had representatives from various associations on its Board of Directors, the summer fair Board of Directors was a small close-knit group of men. Citizens saw entry into this elite group as elusive and difficult. To ward off the possibility of the Board becoming a "self-sustaining clique," that only chose Directors from within, it was decided by several citizens to try and elect some new blood into the fair Board. In 1933, there was a general election for the Board. Instead of the usual men shuffling positions, there were forty-four nominations for the twenty positions. When the voting was all over, seven new men sat on the Board. Despite some inner rumblings, especially on the summer fair Board over the next few years, both exhibitions survived the Depression.

During the Second World War the fairs once again were forced to operate under adversity. Once again, the buildings were requisitioned for the army, although they were released during fair week. The summer fair was forced to make several concessions, and the winter fair was relocated to the summer fair grounds for the duration.

The winter fair did not survive the Second World War intact. Due to financial reasons, in December of 1945, the Board of Directors turned the winter fair buildings over to the City of Brandon. By 1946, the BWFLA, which was the joint-stock land holding company, had ceased operations because the city now controlled the winter fair land and buildings.

The next fifteen years would be a time of rebuilding for both of Brandon's exhibitions. Children especially were more active participants in the agricultural exhibitions. The summer fair continued to diversify and look for new ways of entertaining the public at large. The winter fair remained primarily agricultural. By the end of the 1950s the winter fair, which was used to struggling, was now both successful and stable; and the summer fair, a perennial success, was starting to fade.

By 1969, both the winter and summer fair Boards had realized that amalgamation was the best possible decision, both practically and financially, for the future of the two fairs. On 29 October, 1969, the two exhibitions amalgamated to become the Manitoba Exhibition Association. The reconstituted Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba was now responsible for both the winter and summer fairs. A new building was erected on the summer fair grounds to house both of the exhibitions. On 2 April 1973, the Keystone Centre was officially opened at the winter fair, although it had been in use since October of the preceding year.

In 1970, Manitoba's Centennial, it was decided that an organization in Manitoba would receive the title of "Royal," as a way to celebrate the centennial. Although many organizations applied for the honour, it was the Brandon winter fair that received the accolades. The winter fair was bestowed with the title "Royal", and became known as the Royal Manitoba Winter Fair.

In 1975, a third exhibition was added, this time a purely agricultural fall show known as the Agricultural Exhibition, or AgEx. This fair was partly organized on behalf of the cattle growers, who found that the summer and winter fairs did not give them adequate time and space to properly show their cattle. The return to a fall show, which had not existed since 1888, would be the return to a purely agricultural exhibition. This show was to be primarily a show and sale event. On 3 November 1975, the first AgEx was opened to resounding success.

The Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba, the Royal Manitoba Winter Fair and AgEx are all still in existence in Brandon. They are regarded as three of the most important events to take place annually in the city.

### Custodial History:

These files were housed with the Manitoba Exhibition Association until c1986 when they were transferred to the S.J. McKee Archives at Brandon University.

#### Scope and Content:

The fonds consists of textual records and photographs comprised of the records from the three annual exhibitions that are held in Brandon, Manitoba: the Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba, the Royal Manitoba Winter Fair, and the Agricultural Exhibition (Ag-Ex). The textual records include prize lists, programs, minutes, financial, administrative files, original results, scrapbooks, tickets, news releases, contracts, by laws, documents as well as a miscellaneous section. There are approximately 1846 photographs that include scenes from these three exhibitions. These records provide a unique perspective on the development of agriculture and rural life in southwestern Manitoba. Fairs such as these have been and remain prime media of farm improvement, technological and scientific advancement in rural Canada, and the promoters of country living. These fairs also reflected the long tradition inherited from Britain and Europe of country fairs as centers of entertainment, social interchange and diversion. These records are a principal source of information about the most broadly based vocational, entertainment and social events held on an annual basis in southwestern Manitoba over the last century. The records are vital to academic research on agriculture or fairs, individual biography, or community history.

Notes: The RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association finding aid was

created by Karyn (Riedel) Taylor with the exception of Series 9 and the accompanying database, which were created by Donica Belisle. This

finding aid was created in August 1999.

Name Access: Charles Whitehead

J.W. Vantassel Charles Pilling George Halse

Subject Access: Brandon Agricultural Society

Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba

Royal Manitoba Winter Fair

Agricultural Exhibition

Brandon Manitoba

AgEx

Repro Restriction: Researchers are responsible for observing Canadian copyright

restrictions.

Finding Aid: Available

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

Related Material: Additional records regarding the Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba, the

Royal Manitoba Winter Fair, and AgEx are housed at the Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association offices. To gain access to these records, it is necessary to contact the general manager of the Provincial

Exhibition of Manitoba Association.

#### Arrangement:

The fonds is divided into sous-fonds by exhibition. There is a Provincial Exhibition sous-fonds, a Royal Manitoba Winter Fair sous-fonds, an Ag-Ex sous-fonds, and a Miscellaneous sous-fonds that holds information that could not be easily broken down into one exhibition. The arrangement is as follows:

#### RG 2 Provincial Exhibition Association of Manitoba fonds

#### RG2SF1 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba

- 1.1 Documents
- 1.2 Minutes
- 1.3 Financial Records
- 1.4 Administrative Files
- 1.5 Prize Lists and Programs
- 1.6 News Releases
- 1.7 Original Results
- 1.8 Tickets
- 1.9 Photographs
- 1.10 Scrapbooks
- 1.11 Miscellaneous

#### RG2SF2 Royal Manitoba Winter Fair

- 2.1 Documents
- 2.2 Minutes
- 2.3 Financial Records
- 2.4 Administrative Files
- 2.5 Prize Lists and Programs
- 2.6 News Releases
- 2.7 Original Results
- 2.8 Tickets
- 2.9 Photographs
- 2.10 Scrapbooks
- 2.11 Miscellaneous

### RG2SF3 AgEx

- 3.4 Administrative Files
- 3.5 Prize Lists and Programs
- 3.6 News Releases
- 3.7 Original Results
- 3.9 Photographs

### RG2SF4 Miscellaneous

- 4.1 Documents
- 4.2 Minutes
- 4.3 Financial Records
- 4.4 Administrative Files
- 4.9 Photographs
- 4.10 Scrapbooks
- 4.11 Miscellaneous

# RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4722



Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Fonds
Fonds Number: RG 5

GMD: multiple media

History / Biographical:

This record group was artifically created in January 2007 by Tom Mitchell and Christy Henry of the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

The record group consists of various fonds and collections concerned with the political, cultural, social, and educational life of western Manitoba. See the Subject Access field for a list of titles.

Notes: Description written by Christy Henry (2007).

Subject Access: Joseph H. Hughes

Canadian Federation of University Women

Verna Gamey

Brandon Cinema Club

Birtle Indian Residential School

Brandon Assisted Passage Association

Binscarth Women's Institute Griswold School District

Manitoba School Trustees Regional Association

Riverbank/Berbank Red Cross

A.C. Miller

C.J. Barnes

David Sommerville Charleson

Southwest A Region Manitoba Women's Institute

Berbank Ladies Aid

Berbank Church

Blyth Protestant School District #471

Crown Protestant School District #184

Ward Watson

Laurie V. Smith

Marion Doig

Elm Creek/Wingham Branch United Farmers of Manitoba

Roseland Church

Fairfax United Church

Humesville & Forrest Women's Missionary Society

Chater Protestant School District

William Wallace

United Grain Growers

G.R. Rowe

Cecil Herbert Edward Johnston

Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium

Brandon Art Club

James Duncan McGregor

Stephan Adolph Magnacca

Harry "Hap" Fraser

Leslie Victor Robson

Bertha School District #861

Manitoba Genealogical Society

Brandon Golf & Country Club

Keystone Centre Development and Construction

Manitoba Elevator Company

B.J. Hales

**Brandon Council of Women** 

Westman Oral History

Mildred (Mollie) Kellet

Gerald McKinney

Janet Donnelly

Minnedosa OddFellows

Basswood OddFellows

Archibald E. Wilson

Audrey Silvius

Western Manitoba Philharmonic Choir

Lawrence Stuckey

Minnedosa Women's Institute

Clanwilliam Women's Institute

Cordova Women's Institute

Crocus Women's Institute

Rathwell Women's Institute

Strathclair Women's Institute

Manitoba Women's Institute

Brandon Business & Professional Women's Club

Minnedosa Business & Professional Women's Club

Neepawa Business & Professional Women's Club

Brandon Women's Musical Club

International Toastmistress Club - Land O'Lakes Region

Fred McGuinness

Reg Forbes

Jack Stothard

Janet Louisa May More

William J. Birtles

Ruby Miles

Manitoba Action Committee on the Status of Women

Canadian Union of Public Employees

Brandon & District Labour Council (CLC)

Westman Multi-Cultural Council

Westman Coalition on Equality Rights

Martin Kavanagh

James Buckley

James Douglas Wall

Brandon Women's Institute

Trilliam Business & Professional Women's Club

Westridge Senior Citizens

Kodaly in Manitoba

WARUCC - Western Association of Registrars of the Universities and

Colleges of Canada

Margaret Laurence Endowment

Douglas Women's Institute

Albert Angus Murray McPherson

**Edward Walker** 

Alexander MacPhail

Inventory of Archival Material in Western Manitoba Project

Greenway Fair

Brandon Hills Busy Bees

Prairie Horizons Toastmistress Club

Grand Valley School District #206

Douglas Brolund

Norma Laird

Brandon Square Dancing Club

Tully McKenzie

**Basswood School District** 

Anna Enns

Frank Robb

Bankburn School District

John Crawford

J.C. Cousins

William Ridley Sheridan Wade

Mary Schwalm

Robert (Bert) Lane

Ross Hume

Quincy H. Martinson

Helen Dutka

Dorothy Frances Davidson

Brandon Sno-Goers Snowmobile Club

Brandon Folk, Music & Art Society, Inc.

Baker family

Brandon Daily Sun microfilm

Western Manitoba Home Economic Association

Hubert Weidenhamer

Len Evans

Henry Hlady

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Westman Recycling Council

Herbert Goodland

Storage Location: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Storage Range: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Arrangement:

The fonds and collections in RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript collection have been arranged primarily by accession number.



# RG 11 Lawrence Stuckey fonds

http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4795

Part Of: RG 11 Lawrence Stuckey fonds

Description Level: Fonds
Accession Number: 1-2002

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 1849-2001 (predominant 1935-2001)

Physical Description: 1.2 m of textual records;

c. 2700 photographs -- Primarily black and white;

c. 42,500 stamps

History / Biographical:

Lawrence Adne Stuckey was born in Brandon, Manitoba in 1921 to Adne and Catherine Stuckey, and was the grandson of a Brandon pioneer family, the Gilmours. Stuckey attended both Fleming and Earl Oxford schools, as well as the Brandon Collegiate Institute. In May 1941, he began working for the CPR as a wiper/fireman. In October of the following year he joined the RCAF. During World War II, Stuckey served overseas as a Navigator/Bomb Aimer and was promoted to the rank of Flight Sergeant. He continued his work with the CPR after the war, and was promoted to fireman/engineer in 1950. Stuckey left the CPR in January of 1958 to purchase Clark-Smith Photo Studio in Brandon.

Stuckey and his wife Mavis, whom he married in 1946, ran the studio until their retirement in the mid 1980s. Throughout his life Stuckey pursued a number of interests, such as botany, history, photography and politics and was active in many local, provincial and national organizations. He was a member of the Brandon Stamp Club, the Allied Arts Council, Brandon Horticultural Society, Brandon Model Railroad Club, the Brandon Historical Society, and the Fort Whyte Centre. Stuckey was also the author of four books, as well as numerous articles on horticulture, railways, and Brandon area history. In 1987 he received the Manitoba Order of the Buffalo Hunt and in 1997 he was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Laws Degree from Brandon University. Lawrence Stuckey passed away on June 13, 2001.

#### Custodial History:

The entire collection was housed in Mr. Stuckey's residence at 658 11th St. Brandon, Manitoba, prior to its transfer to the McKee Archives. A portion of the stamp collection was donated to the Archives in August 2001. The balance of the materials were deposited in the Archives following Mr. Stuckey's death.

Scope and Content:

Collection consists of a variety of materials, both textual and graphic.

The philately collection is the largest part of the Stuckey Collection and covers a wide geographical and temporal range. The majority of the stamps are from the United States, the British Commonwealth, France and the French Empire. There are also a number of stamps portraying animals, art and flowers.

The slide collection includes approximately 10,000 images of various topics, such as landscapes, flora and fauna of North America and Expo 1967.

The Stuckey photograph collection is perhaps the best collection of Brandon and Southwestern Manitoba photographs in one place. Images include grain elevators and historical buildings of the northern United States and western Canada, railways, the City of Brandon, as well as ships and boats, sporting activities, portraits, animals, flora and fauna, landscapes and farming/homestead photographs. This series also includes a large number of negatives, including glass plate negatives.

The textual materials within the collection include personal journals written by Stuckey covering the years 1935-2001. These journals are autobiographical and act as a key to the rest of the collection in that they provide general time frames and the motivations behind Stuckey's activities. In addition to the journals, the collection consists of copies of Stuckey's four books and a few papers he wrote for the committees and clubs he belonged to. Other textual materials included are a small amount of personal correspondence, and research materials on a number of topics such as the CPR and Brandon area history. There are also three scrapbooks created by Stuckey dealing with his various interests. The collection also contains certificates presented to Stuckey by a number of the organizations he belonged to, as well as his honorary degree from Brandon University and his Order of the Buffalo Hunt award. A number of books, newspapers and articles on various topics, such as stamp collecting and horticulture are included in the collection.

Notes: CAIN No. 202573. Description by Christy Henry.

Name Access: Ed Radcliffe

Clark-Smith Studios - Brandon

Subject Access: Mavis Stuckey (nee Vanstone)

George Harris
Doug Bottley
Georges Cesari
Clark-Smith Studios
City of Brandon

Canadian Pacific Railway

Canadian Northern Railway

Manitoba and Northwest Railway

Expo 1967

Manitoba Naturalists Society Brandon Historical Society

**Brandon University** 

Assiniboine Community College

Manitoba Pool Elevators
Austin Agriculture Museum
Brandon Camera Club
Canadian National Railway
Royal Canadian Air Force
Kellock Royal Commission

Millwood Family

Natural History Photography

Railway Photography Landscape Photography

Personal Journals
Brandon Photography

Railway History Brandon History Horticulture

Repro Restriction: The McKee Archives is the copyright holder for the Stuckey materials.

Finding Aid: A copy of the photograph inventory is in the blue binder on the reference

shelf in the reading room.

Related Material: Alf Fowler collection 6-1999 (Brandon photographs) and the BU Art

Exhibitions Committee fonds 69-1997 (Georges Cesari).

#### Arrangement:

A description for the photograph collection has been entered as a separate series of the Lawrence Stuckey collection. The collection remains in original order.



# Brandon Women's Musical Club fonds

http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4810

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection
Accession Number: 13-2002

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1953-1965

Physical Description: 10 cm

History / Biographical:

The Brandon Women's Musical Club was formed in 1945 by Miss Peggy Sharpe and Miss Hilda Smith. Together with a group of women from around Brandon, they managed to form a large club for, according to the club's constitution, "the study of vocal and instrumental music, literature and related arts and the encouragement of promising Junior Artists under eighteen years of age." With these goals in mind, the club undertook to provide tuition for young music students and contributed to the formation of the Brandon Women's Musical Choral Club. The club held meetings during which club members listened to guest speakers and observed performances by local musical and dance groups, as well as some national musical stars. The group also sponsored performances of musicals, plays, and recitals, and held an annual Christmas party.

### Custodial History:

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

#### Scope and Content:

Fonds is composed predominantly of two scrapbooks, one of which covers the years 1953-1960, the other the years 1960-1965. The scrapbooks contain newspaper clippings about the Musical Club's meetings and performances. There is also a file containing miscellaneous correspondence, the constitution and bylaws of the group, the club's membership lists from 1959-1964, and questionnaires about the Women's Musical Club.

Notes: CAIN No. 202589

Subject Access: Peggy Sharpe

Hilda Smith

Lorne Watson

**Eric Davies** 

Nona Mari

Isabelle Coghlin

Janine Theriault

Peggie Sampson

Howard Leyton-Brown

Norman Chapman

Peter Koslowsky

Nora Needham

Lucien Needham

Brandon Women's Musical Club

Brandon Women's Musical Choral Club

Baroque Trio of Montreal

Brandon College School of Music

Wilson Trio

City of Brandon

women's clubs

choral groups

musical clubs

scrapbooks

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

Fred McGuinness

Brandon Area Agricultural Development Survey

Doane Agricultural Service Inc

Agricultural & Homemaking School of Brandon

Royal Manitoba Winter Fair

Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba

South-Western District Agricultural Society

4-H

Manitoba Department of Agriculture

City of Brandon

Keystone Committee

Keystone Building Committee

agriculture

architecture

exhibitions

swine farming

sheep farming

cereal grain farming

rural life

winter fairs

Storage Location: 1998 accessions
Storage Range: 1998 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 subcommittees 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 newpaper 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);

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