

S. J. McKee Archives



Mrs. W.K. MacKenzie and Norah Lane interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14744>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH183.Mack

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: March 2, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [0:30:00]

History /

Biographical:

Elizabeth ? Tully was born on November 5, 1873 in Bruce County, ON to John Patrick Tully and Mary Anne Doran. She married William Kenneth MacKenzie (1872-1935) on July 4, 1900 in Strathclair, MB. Together they had at least four children: Kenneth, John, Gladys and Ellenore. Elizabeth MacKenzie died on November 5, 1968 in Los Angeles, California. She is buried at Rapid City Cemetery.

Ellenore Kathleen (Nora) MacKenzie was born on September 13, 1908 on 36-13-19W in the RM of Saskatchewan to William MacKenzie and Elizabeth Tully. She was a school teacher at Glanton School Division, Brandon Hills and Riverview School Division between 1928-1935. She returned to the classroom in Brandon in 1953, retiring in 1972. Nora MacKenzie married John (Jack) Lane (1903-1975) on March 14, 1936 in Brandon, MB. Together they had two children: Robert and Anne. Nora and Jack Lane were pioneers in bluebird conservation in the Westman region. Their work began in the 1950s when the birds were approaching endangered species status. In 1975, following Jack's death, Nora helped organize a society in Brandon called 'Friends of the Bluebirds,' a group of citizen volunteers dedicated to the ongoing survival of bluebirds. In 1982, the society established the John and Nora Lane Award, presented annually to those members who have distinguished themselves in the preservation of the bluebird species. In 1984, Nora moved to Toronto to be closer to family. Nora Lane died on July 19, 2004 in Toronto, ON. She is buried at Brandon Municipal Cemetery.

Robert Kenneth Lane was born on February 7, 1937 to Jack Lane and Nora MacKenzie. Bob grew up in Brandon. Early in his career he worked as a meteorologist in Churchill, MB. He completed his PhD in Oceanography at Oregon State University in 1965, and then spent his entire career with the Canadian federal government, retiring as the Western Regional Environmental Protection Director. Bob married Gail Ann Christianson in Vancouver in 1961, and together they had a son, Chris. Robert Lane died on May 5, 2021 in Edmonton, AB.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape that contains excerpts from a recording conducted in 1963 with Mrs. W.K. MacKenzie and her grandson Robert Lane. Norah Lane, Mrs. MacKenzie's daughter, provides comments to clarify some of the excerpts. Interviewer is Marjorie Lange.

Notes:

History/bio information from the records, articles about John and Nora Lane in The Brandon Sun, the Find A Grave website, the Manitoba Vital Stats website and Bob Lane's obituary. Manitoba Vital Stats and Find A Grave has the family's last name spelt "McKenzie," while the records spell it "MacKenzie." Description by Christy Henry.

Audio Tracks
