

# S. J. McKee Archives



## Dorothy Cox collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions12724>

Part Of:	RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection
Description Level:	Collection
Accession Number:	11-2012
GMD:	multiple media
Date Range:	1878-1970
Physical Description:	17 cm textual records 4 color photographs
Physical Condition:	Cover of Young School minute book is moderately damaged, but pages are in good condition with only minor water damage and a few ripped pages.

### History /

#### Biographical:

Dorothy Cox (nee Frost) moved from Elm Creek to Justice in 1946 to work as a schoolteacher. In 1948, she married Laval Cox and together they had four children: Larry, Herd, Rosalie and Heather.

In 1949, Dorothy and Laval purchased Gibb Gillespie's PSV business and began hauling grain, cattle and agricultural equipment. Dorothy went back to teaching in 1959, first at Justice and then Elton Collegiate. After retiring from teaching in 1978, Dorothy started a greenhouse, which operated for 21 years.

All six members of the Cox family were active in community events and organizations. Dorothy was involved in establishing the baby band in 1951; her sons Larry and Herb were members. Along with Laval, Dorothy was a leader of the Cubs in 1955-1956 and again in 1958-1959. Laval was the leader of the local hockey club in 1958, and of a bible study group in 1960. Larry, Herb and Rosalie were avid skaters in 1960-64. Heather and Rosalie were enrolled in senior grades of Sunday school in 1970.

#### Custodial History:

Records were collected by Dorothy Cox, a resident of Justice, over a number of years. She donated them to the McKee Archives on April 4, 2012.

#### Scope and Content:

Collection consists of records related to the history of the Justice district. It includes a history of the Justice Church (1910-1970); minute and expense books for the Justice Hockey Club (1949-1966); a minute and expense book for Young Protestant School (1884-1898); a copy of the Justice 100th Anniversary community history (2009); and four color photographs of Justice Church.

Notes:	History/Bio information taken from the content of the collection. Description by James Heaman (2012).
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Name Access: Justice, MB

Subject Access: churches  
local histories  
Hockey

Repro Restriction: Church photos taken in 1970 are subject to Canadian copyright restrictions, which researchers are required to comply with.

Related Material: Lawrence Stuckey fonds 1-2002 (photographs of Justice school, church, elevator and houses)



## Margaret Menzies collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions12723>

Part Of: MG 4 Brandon University Students

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 13-2012

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 1959-2007; predominant 1983-2001

Physical Description: 18 cm textual records  
1 photograph

### History /

#### Biographical:

Margaret Menzies was born on July 30th, 1920, at a family farm located in Oakburn, Manitoba. She grew up on the family farm and attended school in both Oakburn and Shoal Lake. She married Donald Menzies on June 4th, 1941. Together they had four children. In 1959, the family moved to Brandon, Manitoba, where they lived for the rest of their lives.

Margaret Menzies was a longtime and active member of the International Toastmistress Club (ITC), and was also involved in the Consumers Association of Canada, Seniors for Seniors, as well as being a member of the Liberal Party of Canada and the Central United Church. Menzies did not graduate from high school in her early years, but managed to continue her education and receive a bachelor of arts degree from Brandon University at the age of 70.

Margaret Menzies passed away on June 9th, 2012.

#### Custodial History:

Records in the collection were brought to the S.J McKee Archives on July 13, 2012, by Gerald Brown, on behalf of the family of Margaret Menzies.

#### Scope and Content:

Collection contains of two scrapbooks created by Margaret Menzies. The scrapbooks contain various cards, itinerary's, and other documents associated with Menzies' membership in the International Toastmistress Club. The items in the scrapbooks date from the mid 1980's to the late 1990's.

Also included in the collection are four local history books. The first is a 100 year history of the town of Oakburn, Manitoba, from 1870 to 1970, published during celebrations of Manitoba's centennial in 1970. Next is a book about the history of the town of Shoal Lake, Manitoba, which was published in 1959 on the 50th anniversary of the founding of the town of Shoal Lake in 1909. The last two books are the first and second volumes of Ripples on the Lake, which cover the history of the Shoal Lake municipality from 1884. The first volume covers the first 100 years of the history of the Shoal Lake region, being published in 1984. The second volume was published in 2007, covering the history of Shoal Lake since 1984, as well as including new information that was not published in the 1984 version of the book.

Finally, the collection contains one photograph of Margaret Menzies receiving her bachelor of arts degree from Peter Hordern, dean of arts of Brandon University.

Notes:	Biographical information provided by obituary entry in the Brandon Sun, June 16, 2012. Description by Tyler Warren (October 2012).
Name Access:	Shoal Lake Oakburn International Toastmistress Club Urban Acres Toastmistress Club
Subject Access:	women's organizations public relations Leadership communication local histories
Storage Range:	2012 accessions
Related Material:	International Toastmistress Club-Land O' Lakes Region fonds (15-2002)



## Robert Troy Blair fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13300>

Part Of:	RG 1 Brandon College fonds
Description Level:	Sub-series
Accession Number:	18-2013
GMD:	multiple media
Date Range:	September 1950 - June 1954
Physical Description:	2 scrapbooks (7.5 cm)
Physical Condition:	Excellent

Robert (Bob) Troy Blair was born on March 11, 1930 in Brandon, MB. His first six years were spent in Alexander, MB, where his father and uncle operated a grocery store. In 1936, his family moved to Souris, MB, where his father ran a grocery store. Blair received his primary and high school education, with the exception of Grade 12, in Souris.

Blair remembers his school years in Souris as mainly happy years. He was involved with both piano and organ music lessons. he was never interested in physical sports with the exception of golf. World War II broke out in September of 1939. Souris became the site of #17 SFTS and home base for the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan. Many of the service men came from England, Australia and New Zealand. Blair's mother always entertained at least two for dinner every Sunday. Rationing of sugar, tea and coffee, butter and meat became a way of life. Blair had the job every Saturday of pasting the ration coupons into booklets. It was also when he was in Grade 6, that Blair realized he was more attracted to boys than to girls. Perhaps it was because so many attractive airmen surrounded him!

In November of 1947, the Blair family relocated to Alexander where Bob Blair finished his Grade 11. This was not a good year due to bullying. In September of 1948, Blair moved to Winnipeg to attend United College for his Grade 12. Upon completion of Grade 12, Blair remained in Winnipeg until June 1950. he worked at a number of businesses - Gestetner, Eaton's Mail Order shoe department, Maple Leaf Milling, and the drug store in the Medical Arts Building. In September 1950, he entered Brandon College. Blair was very active in extra-curricular affairs while at Brandon College; particularly drama. Following his B.A. he enrolled in the Education Faculty, having decided to become a teacher.

Blair's teaching career spanned 34 years. All but one year was spent in the Brandon School Division. On his first day of teaching in the Division he met the man with whom he would spend the next 46 years. He was primarily a teacher of English and Music. A highlight of his career was exchange teaching in Sacramento, California in 1961. Orientation for exchange took place in August in Washington, D.C., where Blair had the opportunity to meet President J.F. Kennedy. He vividly recalls the morning that JFK was assassinated on November 22, 1963. In September 1965, Blair assumed the principalship of Park School and in September of 1969, the same position at George Fitton School where he remained until his retirement in 1989. He was a member of the Brandon Principals' Association, the National Association of Elementary School Principals, and served as President of the Brandon Teachers' Association. Among his major accomplishments during his time as principal were the introduction of a centralized school library in both Park and George Fitton Schools and the integration of special needs students into regular classroom situations wherever possible. He was made a Life Member of the Manitoba Teachers' Society (Brandon) in June 1990. Following his retirement Blair worked as a Library Automation Consultant (1989-1993).

Blair also had numerous community involvements during his time in Brandon. he was active in the Brandon Little Theatre (Best Actor Award, Manitoba Drama Festival for One Act Plays in 1963), the Brandon Festival of the Arts, the Eckhardt-Gramatte National Music Competition, and Arm Industries to name a few.

Following the death of his partner in 2001, Blair moved to Saskatoon to live with a younger gay couple. He has been active in volunteerism: as an Ambassador for the Saskatoon Airport Authority, assistant with the Saskatoon Health Region's Immunization Clinics, information clerk for the Festival of Trees, data entry clerk for the Saskatoon Music Festival, on the Board of the Saskatoon Jazz Society, and Hospitality Coordinator for the Saskatoon Jazz Festival.

As of October 2013, Bob Blair continues to live in Saskatoon, SK.

Custodial History:

Records were in Blair's possession until he donated them to the McKee Archives on Homecoming weekend October 2013.

Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of two scrapbooks containing 145 photographs and ephemera (play and graduation programs, tickets, pins, newspaper clippings) documenting Bob Blair's days at Brandon College. Social events and extra-curricular activities are heavily featured in the two scrapbooks. Also included are graduation portraits for the Classes of 1951, 1952 and 1953. Of the 145 photographs all are black and white except for two photos of the Class of '53 reconconvocation (May 1993), and one from the Class of '53 reunion (2003).

Notes: History/Bio provided by Bob Blair (October 2013).

Name Access: Brandon College  
Angus Jackson  
Pat Magnacca  
Freshie Week  
Senior Stick  
Lady Stick  
Harvest Cabaret  
Sigma Mu  
Glee Club  
Bob Blair  
Jack Yeomans  
Walter Dinsdale  
Don Cronk  
Bob McPherson  
Lorne Watson  
Marg Sanderson  
Hazel Turnbull  
Claudia Dickey  
Gordon Bradley  
Terry Prysiazniuk  
Diane Lissaman  
Joan Garnett  
Doris Penstock  
Dianne Macdonald  
Ivey Graham  
Joyce Pickard  
Cathy Crawford  
Robertta Wilkie  
Marie Kullberg  
Isabel Lyon  
Shirley Pryce  
J.R.C. Evans  
Marjorie Kyles  
Jo Thordarson  
Ross George

Edward Perry  
Ernest Birkinshaw  
Barney Thordarson  
Fall Formal  
Variety Night  
Installation Night  
Paul McKinnon  
The Saga of Brandon  
Bill White  
Ron Bell  
Jerry Jerret  
Rosa Ziolkowski  
Murray Smith  
Class of 1951  
Harold Moffat  
Bill Sutherland  
Murray Coulthard  
Frank Adamski  
John McLean  
Jack Medd  
Jack Muir  
Bill Fraser  
Ken Morrison  
Clifford Kitson  
Ray Brown  
Mike Doig  
Ernie Shaw  
Jack Scott  
Doreen Dennison  
Lois Kennedy  
Lorna Prokaska  
Ferne Henderson  
Doreen Fedoruk  
Marg Leckie  
Freshie Parade  
Helen Batho  
Fred Calverly  
Jim Crawford  
Verda Peden  
Olga Evasko  
Betty Finch  
Fred Schwarok  
Jim Struthers  
Muriel Bedford  
John Brown

Freshie Royalty  
Booster Night  
Mary Jane Sexton  
Marilyn Rust  
Mildred McMurray  
Mary-Jane MacLachlan  
George Leask  
George Jakubowski  
Jack Purvis  
My Sister Eileen  
Edith Laycock  
Ivey Robbins  
Ken Campbell  
Mac Andrews  
Marion Simmons  
Arnold Minish  
Madeline Irving  
Ernie Criddle  
Don Dillistone  
Gordon Hunter  
Cathy Nelson  
Jim Kelleher  
Anne Kelleher  
Neil McKellar  
Ron Doupe  
Bruce Watson  
Neil MacKay  
Peter Prokaska  
Roger Ramsden  
Bill Bridgett  
Graham Hunt  
John Muirhead  
David Brodie  
Murray MacDonald  
Dr. Kidd  
Cam Finlay  
Blair MacRae  
Donna McPhail  
Louise Hoey  
Agnes Nicholson  
Jean Allan  
Joan Urie  
Royce Richardson  
Don Rousell  
Bill Black

Ken McNeeley  
Rosalie Prokopchuk  
Jean Morrison  
Jacice Forrest  
Fuzz Fedoruk  
Brian Davison  
Joan MacLachlan  
First International Relations Club Conference  
Minot Teachers' College  
International Peace Gardens  
Bruce McIlroy  
Jean Shingfield  
Campaign Week  
Sigma Mu Dance  
Arnold Wawruch  
Jack Meyers  
Jack Hilton  
Bev Francis  
Bert Gogol  
Dick McDonald  
Frank McKinnon  
Stuart Craig  
John Blackwood  
Norman Hedison  
Bob Hilton  
John Minions  
Kay Oliver  
Mary Jane MacLachlan  
Ben Ward  
Ken Gunning  
Trevor McNeely  
Hilton Stewart  
Jerry Graham  
Bette Mitchell  
Joan Curlock  
Faye Myers  
Jean Hannah  
Mary Babuick  
Mr. College Spirit  
John Augustus McGee  
Don Dillstone  
Flora Johnson  
Del Gusdal  
Color Night  
Don Burrows



Jim Casey Trophy  
Marj Kyles  
Prince Edward Hotel  
Class Day  
Dahl Harvey  
Shirley Mitchell  
Al Burton  
Irving Bateman  
Joyce Marie Thordarson  
Eileen McFadden  
Patricia Pope  
Louise Astle  
Ariel Genik  
Western Canada Student Teacher Conference  
Brandon College Glee Club  
Be Your Age  
Ike Prokaska  
Joan Hilton  
Fred Lynch  
Garth Kidd  
Ivy Robbins  
Joyce Dunham  
Shirley Popple  
Grand March  
Westley Wong  
Stewart Perdue  
H.V. Kidd  
J.E.M. Young  
Adelene Bailey  
Mrs. Evans  
Dennis Anderson  
Stanley Knowles  
Edward Schreyer  
Lou Visentin

Subject Access:        Student government  
                               initiations  
                               student activities  
                               dances  
                               basketball  
                               talent shows  
                               drama productions  
                               major productions  
                               Hockey  
                               graduations  
                               programs  
                               parades  
                               dorm rooms  
                               student housing  
                               literary "B's"  
                               college letters  
                               class flags  
                               banquets

Storage Location:     2013 accessions



## United Commercial Travelers Ladies Auxiliary #112 collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13614>

Part Of:                 RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level:    Collection

Accession Number:    1-2013

GMD:                   multiple media

Date Range:            October 30, 1937 – October 2006

Physical Description: 51cm of textual records  
                               141 photographs  
                               6 artifacts

History /

Biographical:

The Brandon Ladies Auxiliary #112 of the United Commercial Travelers of America received its charter on October 30, 1937 at their first meeting, which took place in the Rose Room of the Prince Edward Hotel in Brandon, Manitoba. At this time the membership of the Ladies Auxiliary #112 consisted of 27 Sisters. Brother Ernie Tatton, Grand Counselor at the time, presented the Ladies Auxiliary with their Bible in May 1938. Winnipeg Auxiliary #48 gave the Brandon Auxiliary their Bible Book Mark and Saskatoon Auxiliary #23 gave them their gavel.

Initial meetings were held in the Rose Room of the Prince Edward Hotel on Saturday evenings, when the Brothers would meet after their weekly travels. Meetings were then moved to the Kelly Block on 8th Street. Here the Sisters would meet downstairs and the Brothers upstairs. Meetings were usually followed by dancing, singing, and lunch downstairs. Meetings were held in the Masonic Temple, the Knights of Columbus Hall, the Orange Hall, the Oddfellows Hall, and eventually in the UCT Hall. Throughout all the location changes, a social hour was still held

with the Brothers.

The Brandon Auxiliary always performed the ritualistic and floor drill work. Originally, patrols only joined the Officers when Brandon Auxiliary was hosting a Grand Session. Patrols, with matching outfits, soon became a part of the floor work at every meeting. Officers were required to wear the proper attire. Capes were introduced in 1940 and white shoes, stockings, and dresses in 1941. Membership swelled over the years and 50 years after being inaugurated the Brandon Auxiliary could claim 136 Sisters.

The Brandon Ladies Auxiliary #112 was always very active within the larger community, especially with fundraising and charitable donation. Initially the Brandon Auxiliary supported the Red Cross by sewing and knitting. The Brandon Auxiliary also supported the Canadian Cancer Society at this time by making dressings. Rummage sales and teas were used to fundraise at the time. Teas were used in conjunction with the wives of the Steam Plant to purchase equipment for the first school in Brandon that taught developmentally delayed children. The Brandon Auxiliary also did fundraising teas, Walk-a-thons, bazaars, and raffles for the Camroc workshop, which was built for older handicapped students.

Bingo games were used to raise funds as well. Other projects of the Brandon Ladies Auxiliary include:

1. Builders of Women – provides help to needy girls and women and gives a scholarship out at the Festival of the Arts. In 1969 the Ladies Auxiliary refurnished the third floor of the YWCA.
2. Cancer – assistance with the annual canvas, ride and run events, putting on an event with a speaker and film, and a survey of sisters who had their annual pap test.
3. Handicapped Children – purchase of equipment for the handicapped classes at George Fitton School and the COR Enterprises (formerly Camroc) workshop. One sister was a volunteer for their swimming and bowling classes, among other things.
4. The Three Benevolent Funds
5. May E. Tisdale Educational Fund – donated to this fund every year, usually in memory of deceased sisters.
6. Brandon General Hospital Special Equipment Fund – every year a sum was included in the Ladies Auxiliary budget to purchase special equipment for the Brandon Hospital.

Civic Service donations included the Mental Health Centre Christmas gifts, three Christmas hampers for needy families, Canadian Diabetes Association, Manitoba Heart Fund, and Brandon Figure Skating Club.

In 1962, the Auxiliary's 25th birthday, their first Dessert Party and Bake Sale was held. This had the stated objectives of growing and working together as a group and raising money for the organization. This became an annual event. Sisters who had attended for 25 years were honoured at the Auxiliary's 36th birthday celebration. Every birthday after that, sisters who had attended for 25 years were guests at the dinner and presented with a corsage and a gift. Sick and bereaved were also remembered at these functions. In the 1980s the Ladies Auxiliary continued to support the UCT Brandon Council #448 in the Annual Travellers Day Parade, Grand Sessions, and other functions.

In the early 1990s the United Commercial Travelers voted to allow women to join the Councils. This marked the beginning of the end for the Auxiliaries. However, ladies who had no connection to a Council could join an Auxiliary now whereas before only a wife, sister, or granddaughter of a Council member could join.

The final Grand Auxiliary Sessions were held in Brandon in May 2003. By this point only three auxiliaries were still active across Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta and all had difficulty recruiting new members. Most of the membership at this time was elderly and unable to take office or work at teas and other such events. Calgary and Regina's Auxiliaries were down to less than twelve members. Brandon still had more than 90 on the membership roll but only about 20 attended meetings regularly and it was becoming difficult to fill Officer positions.

The final Dessert and Bake Sale was held in October 2002 and was the 40th such event. With the demise of the Grand Auxiliary in 2003, it was decided that Brandon would continue to operate; however, after a year it was decided that Brandon would no longer operate as a formal auxiliary. Monthly luncheons would now be held with December being a Christmas Party supper. The last formal meeting was held in the Parkview Seniors complex on March 22, 2004.

The money in the Grand Auxiliary's account was distributed to the three remaining auxiliaries based on how much had been contributed over the preceding ten years. Brandon received \$2,500 and had about \$5,000 in their account. When formal meetings were discontinued it was decided to donate \$5,000 to the "A Bed for You, A Bed for Me" campaign of the Brandon General Hospital. Approximately \$1,100 was given to their Chairs from Mentally Challenged and Builders of Women to use as they pleased.

All members on the membership roll were contacted and asked if they wished to remain members. Several decided not to but 50 members remained. Each member under 80 paid a \$5 membership fee in April or October. Beginning in 2004, \$1 was collected from every member that attended a luncheon to pay for stamps and cards sent to those who were ill, lost a loved one, turned 80, etc. Fundraising is limited to selling Riverview Curling Club Lottery Calendars for which the Ladies Auxiliary #112 received \$4. In 2005 \$128 was collected and \$25 donated to five different charities.

In 2006, sisters of the Auxiliary still worked at the Fairview Daffodil Tea for Cancer, put on the January birthday party at Hillcrest Place, worked the Big Craft Sale at the Keystone Centre in October, worked with the Salvation Army Kettles at Christmas, and sold carnations for multiple sclerosis and daffodils for the Cancer Society. Luncheons held averaged about 20 members and 25 at Christmas.

#### Custodial History:

Records were created and collected by the members of the Brandon United Commercial Travelers Ladies Auxiliary #112. The collection was donated to the S.J. McKee Archives in March 2007.

#### Scope and Content:

Collection consists of records that document the origin, activities, and ultimately the disbandment of the Brandon Ladies Auxiliary #112 of the Order of the United Commercial Travelers of America. These records were created and accumulated during the nearly 70 year existence of the UCT Ladies Auxiliary #112.

The collection consists of the minutes of their meetings from November 1939 to November 1991, photographs of the members, and sign-in books from October 1937 to March 1991. It also contains the account ledger from April 1972 to March 1997. Several scrapbooks containing photographs and newspaper clippings related to the activities and members of the Ladies Auxiliary and the United Commercial Travelers, spanning the nearly 70 lifespan of the organization, are also included in the collection.

Both the United Commercial Travelers Council #448 and the United Commercial Travelers Ladies Auxiliary #112 were very active in raising funds for various charitable organizations. Money was raised for the Brandon General Hospital, as well as for George Fitton School to assist with their special education program. Organizations such as the Red Cross, the Canadian Cancer Society, special needs organizations, United Way, the Multiple Sclerosis Society, and several other organizations all received the benefits of UCT fundraising. Scholarships were also given out. Teas, dessert and bake sales, sewing and knitting, rummage sales, Walk-a-thons, bazaars, and raffles were all used to raise money for charitable donations.

Collection also contains various artifacts including a gavel, the original charter of the Ladies Auxiliary #112, nomination balls, officer's badges, a Bible, and the cloth used for the draping of a deceased member's charter. Also included is a handbook detailing the rituals carried out by the United Commercial Travelers of America.

Notes: History/biographical information provided by Sister Bernice Nerbas of the UCT Ladies Auxiliary #112. Copies of their history are found in the collection. Description by Joseph Dauphinais (October 2013).

Name Access: The Order of the United Commercial Travelers of America (UCT)  
The Order of the United Commercial Travelers of America (UCT) Ladies Auxiliary  
The Order of the United Commercial Travelers of America #448  
The Order of the United Commercial Travelers of America Ladies Auxiliary #112  
UCT  
UCT Ladies Auxiliary #112  
Jessie Tatton  
Florence Offer  
Bertha Baker  
Wilma Martin  
Hattie Moffat  
Isabelle Driver  
Belle Driver  
Rose Woodlock  
Kay Quinn  
Blanche Macleay  
Diane Finch  
Jean Williamson  
Anne Larkins

Doris Gromb  
Helen Cook  
Mae MacEdwards  
Heidi Cleuett  
Flora Francis  
Gladys Quinn  
Janet MacLeod  
Myrtle Cook  
Lillian Hare  
Margaret Geiler  
Alice Cosgrove  
Phyllis Clark  
Charlotte Kellie  
Dot MacKay  
Audrey Campbell  
Jean Chrisp  
Patricia Brooking  
Pat Brooking  
Patricia Scott  
Jaye Little  
Iva Brynson  
Marilyn Johnston  
Doris Stanzeleit  
Mildred Darvill  
Bernice Keown  
Myrtle Kardash  
Linda Koshowski  
Vonnice Coates  
Carole Mann  
Anne Dunwald  
Brenda Loll  
Aileen Smalley  
Phyllis Elliott  
Donna Thompson  
Elfriede Verstock  
Freddie Verstock  
Heather Bernhardt  
Linda Garson  
Kathleen Heppner  
Lois Osudar  
Ricki Woods  
Bernice Nerbas  
Cancer Society

Subject Access:

women's organizations  
charitable organizations

Storage Location: 2013 accessions

Related Material: The Order of the United Commercial Travelers of America (UCT) fonds (5-2008), 4 photographs in the CKX fonds (11-2010.U5, 11-2010.U6a, 11-2010.U6b, 11-2010.U6c), Jack Stothard collection (4-2013)