

S. J. McKee Archives



B.J. Hales fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4838>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 31-1998

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1925-1927

Physical Description: 8 cm textual records

3 books

History /

Biographical:

Benjamin J. Hales was born in Peterborough, Ontario on November 24, 1868. Hales lived in Peterborough until attending the University of Toronto, where he graduated in 1894. In 1897, Hales travelled west to teach at Broadview, North West Territories. He moved to McGregor, Manitoba in 1899, where he was Principal of the school, and in 1902, he moved to Hartney, Manitoba. Between 1907 and 1911, Hales devoted his time to working for the provincial Normal School that offered courses for prospective teachers in Portage La Prairie, Manitou, and Brandon. In 1911, the normal courses were established in Brandon and Hales moved to Brandon, where he resided for the rest of his life. Hales acted as the Principal of the Brandon Normal School from 1912 until his retirement in 1938. B.J. Hales married Elizabeth Lewis of Peterborough, who died in 1942. The couple had one daughter Marion Hales Doig. B.J. Hales was a well-known naturalist and author of several texts dealing with prairie flora and fauna. Hales also built a museum of Manitoban flora and fauna in the Normal School. Hales was an alderman on Brandon City Council from 1920 to 1923, and served as the chairman of the city's Parks Board from 1937 until his death in 1945. Hales was twice the president of the Western Manitoba Teacher's Association, and once the head of the Manitoba Educational Association. B.J. Hales was also a member of the First United Church and served on its board. He died on December 23, 1945 at his home in Brandon.

Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. Previous custodial history is unknown.

Scope and Content:

Fonds includes three books written by B.J. Hales, titled, "Selected Western Flora: Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta"(1925); "Prairie Birds"(1927); and "Forests and Trees"(1925), all published in Toronto by The MacMillan Company of Canada. The fonds also includes two books of field notes concerning specimens held in the Brandon Normal School Museum, as well as a list of birds in the Atkinson Collection also located at the Brandon Normal School Museum.

Notes: CAIN No. 202623

Subject Access:	B.J. Hales Brandon Normal School Museum Atkinson Collection flora prairie birds museums trees wild life naturalist
Storage Location:	1998 accessions
Storage Range:	1998 accessions



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



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