

WESTERN CANADA

PRAIRIE ARCHIVISTS' MEETING, 1974

The fifth annual meeting of the Prairie Archivists was held in Banff at the Archives of the Canadian Rockies on September 14, 1974. It had originally been intended that the archivists would gather at Regina in the Spring, but an airline strike cancelled this plan. Fifteen delegates representing archives in Alberta and Manitoba attended: regrettably, pressure of work precluded the presence of Saskatchewan archivists, but the meeting was pleased to welcome Hugh Taylor from Public Archives of Canada. Mr. Alan Ridge acted as chairman and Mrs. Georgeen Barras as secretary.

The main item on the agenda was the professional association for Canadian archivists. Gordon Dodds, Vice-Chairman of the Archives Section had forwarded a list of areas which he hoped the Prairie Archivists would consider and discuss in the absence of a tape-recording of the meeting, a verbatim transcript of this portion was supplied to Mr. Dodds, so that the constitutional committee might know the collective thoughts of the meeting on proposed title, objectives, membership, dues, organization, official languages and publications. The Prairie Archivists hope that it will be possible for representatives of the constitutional committee to meet with them next Spring when perhaps a draft constitution would be available for discussion.

Mrs. Maryalice Stewart presented an interesting report on a Canadian source for archival quality papers. All archivists present agreed to provide her with a list of annual requirements so that potential markets might be evaluated.

Disappointment was expressed that a regional meeting with representatives of the Canadian Conservation Institute had not been convened and that work on the prairies had not as yet been undertaken. Mr. Ridge was requested to write to Mr. Nathan Stolow inviting him to the next Prairie Archivists' meeting.

It was felt that there was a need for an official survey of archivists' salaries and that this should be recommended for placement on the list of enterprises to be undertaken by the Archives Section. Meantime, Ted Hart will undertake a survey of archivists' salaries and job descriptions in the prairie regions.

Each participating archives contributed a report on recent acquisitions and developments and Hugh Taylor spoke on Public Archives' diffusion programme. A further item considered was the archives training course given as a summer session at University of Alberta in 1973. The possibility of another course will be investigated and a follow-up undertaken on the absorption of graduates from the last course.

A vote of thanks was proposed to Maryalice Stewart for her hospitality for the second consecutive year. and an official invitation to meet at Winnipeg in the Spring of 1975 was tendered by Barry Hyman.

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1974

Professional Staff: The retirement of Dr. Willard E. Ireland early in 1974 terminated a career of thirty-five years as Provincial Archivist of British Columbia. Under his direction the Archives had expanded in staff five-fold, and it had outgrown its original quarters in the Parliament Building to occupy its present splendid building in neighboring Heritage Court. Dr. Ireland, who was also Provincial Librarian, had held many offices associated with his professional interests in libraries, archives, and museums. An accomplished speaker and noted historian, he had been a key figure in the organization and conduct of the several centennial celebrations in the province during his long tenure in office. Mr. Allan R. Turner, formerly Provincial Archivist of Saskatchewan, was appointed to succeed Dr. Ireland, effective July 15, 1974. During the year Miss Linda Webster and Mr. J.R. Davison were promoted to head the Cataloguing and Visual Records divisions, respectively. New appointments were Mr. Leonard DeLozier, Archivist 1, and Mr. David Chamberlin, Librarian 1. Miss Monica Sam, formerly head of Visual Records, resigned to accept employment elsewhere in the government service. A new undertaking was the establishment of an Oral/Aural History programme at the beginning of the fiscal year. Subsequently Mr. W.J. Langlois was appointed to direct it, with a staff comprised of Mr. Derek Reimer, assistant director and Dr. Janet Cauthers, research officer.

Research and Reference Service: A good deal of the time of the total staff of thirty-five employees was occupied in serving visitors and answering telephone enquiries and correspondence. The number of patrons who carried out research in the Archives or called in person for information averaged 675 per month for the first ten months of the year, or an estimated 8,000 for the year. Other indicators of the level of usage were the 350 written replies which involved research by archivists in the Manuscript Division, and the 1,020 enquiries handled by the Map Division which filled orders for 1,131 copies of maps. The Visual Records Division received approximately 1,350 orders, averaging sixteen photographic prints per order. Commencing in November the reference room was opened for four hours in the evening during the week and on Saturday and Sunday afternoons to admit researchers who arrange in advance for materials to be available for their use during these hours.

Accessions: Acquisitions during the year extended the holdings of the Provincial Archives to the point where they

now total 3,000 linear feet of manuscripts, 4,100 linear feet of government records, 28,000 volumes of books and periodicals, 17,100 pamphlets, nearly 15,000 maps, some 280,000 items in the visual records collection, including photographs, paintings and prints, and 6,300 hours of tape recorded interviews. Among the more significant accessions were records of the Department of the Provincial Secretary, 1871-1952, and of the Provincial Museum, 1912-1967, the papers of F.C. Bell, Dr. John Wilkinson, and the Royal Jubilee Hospital, forty F.M. Rattenbury plans of Victoria buildings, early photographs of coastal shipping and the lumbering industry, the Varley oil on canvas, "Church at Yale, B.C." and Emily Carr's "Kispiox", and the Imbert Orchard collection of some 1000 taped interviews.

Guides: Finding aids were prepared for records of the Department of the Attorney-General and the Provincial Secretary, Premier's correspondence, 1897-1910, and the papers of T.D. Pattullo and John Dean.

Publications: The Provincial Archives resumed publication of its memoir series in 1974. Lady Franklin Visits the Pacific Northwest, February to April 1861 and April to July 1870, Memoir No. XI is a volume of extracts from the letters of Miss Sophia Cracroft, Sir John Franklin's niece, edited with an introduction and notes by Dr. Dorothy Blakey Smith. In preparation is a series of volumes of the Journals of the Councils of Vancouver Island, edited by Dr. James Hendrickson, assisted by Mr. Kent Haworth of the Archives staff. Aural History published Sound Heritage on a quarterly basis.

Records Disposal: The Public Documents Committee, chaired by the Provincial Archivist, met three times to make recommendations under the provisions of the Public Documents Disposal Act. Pursuant to these recommendations orders for the disposal of records of sixteen departmental offices were approved at the spring session of the Legislature, and orders relating to forty-two departmental offices were approved by the Executive Council. In addition to the receipt and processing of records transferred to the Archives under these or previous disposal orders, substantial staff time was directed to appraising a large accumulation of records which had been held in government storage areas for many years.

Historic Houses: Attendance figures at the two historic houses administered by the Archives, Helmcken House and Craigflower Manor, showed a marked increase over 1973. In the first ten months of 1974 visitors to Helmcken House totalled 16,712 adults and 2,535 children, and at Craigflower Manor, 6,461 adults and 1,043 children.

Other Projects: The Aural History division, as co-sponsor, was responsible for much of the organization for the

first Canadian Aural/Oral History Conference, held at Vancouver in October, with 170 delegates in attendance.

Exhibits in the Archives gallery included recent acquisitions, Vancouver Island artists, Ron Hamilton, Native Artist, Canadian Nature Art '73 and the Sketches and Watercolours of Charles John Collings.

VANCOUVER CITY ARCHIVES

This has been a very active year at the Vancouver City Archives:

Legislation: After a survey of current Canadian municipal legislation, a draft By-law has been prepared and is now at the discussion stage.

Public Reference & Use: From 10,900 research requests in 1973, the anticipated total for 1974 has now been projected at in excess of 17,000 requests. This includes telephone, written and personal inquires.

On October 22, 1974, City Council approved extended hours at the archives on a six-month trial basis. This will allow the archives to be open from Tuesday to Friday each week until 9:00 p.m. and on Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., until the end of June 1975. At this time a further report on use will be made.

Education: Through the Centre for Continuing Education, UBC, two eight-week programmes of "Archival Research for the Amateur Local Historian" were offered and over-subscribed. This is a non-credit, no prerequisite course that introduces the public to the use of the archives.

Through the Community Education Services, Vancouver City College, two four-week programmes were offered especially for genealogists in cooperation with the 200-member B.C. Genealogical Society. As well, one eight-week "Introduction to Archives" was offered to those in local museums, private collections and elsewhere who are responsible for archival material. It was a non-credit, non-certificate programme.

The School of Librarianship, UBC, and City Archives have completed arrangements for a joint one-semester programme in 1975, at City Archives for librarians interested in special collections and archives.

The Junior League of Vancouver, the Pioneer's Civic Booster Club and the Vancouver Pioneer's Associations have all begun to assist City Archives in a community consciousness-raising programme of "what is archival".

Records Management: A general overview report has been drafted for submission in early 1975 to City Council.

As well, all departments have been contacted and inactive records are now being scheduled and transferred on a regular basis by each department records coordinator. Well over 100 tons of material has been received since the beginning of the programme. In order to improve records-keeping systems, a joint research team has begun the establishment of a central registry system in the Engineering department. It is the first of a number of departmental requests received for such services.

With the assistance of four students this summer, the records centre was converted to a random-access aisle-bay-shelf-box retrieval system, and all records converted to standard size boxes. A daily delivery and pick-up service is provided to City Hall.

Conservation: Initially under an LIP grant, then under a (private) Vancouver Foundation grant of \$10,000., and now on a permanent basis, the City Archives has been able to appoint a full time "Conservator/Paper and Documents Repair".

The Canadian Conservation Institute requested and received the first four paintings from the City Archives for treatment, repair and restoration. The Pacific Regional laboratory has also provided helpful outside support and advice for the purchase of a number of pieces of equipment including hydrothermographs, psychrometers, Verd-a-ray fluorescent tubes, and a lamination press.

Publications: The second in the series of publications entitled: Preliminary Inventory: Additional Manuscripts was off the press by December, 1974. It is edited by Mrs. Sheelagh Draper.

Seven research assistants were hired under the Student Temporary Employment Program (STEP) and were able to complete part one of the manuscript for An Administrative Guide to the City of Vancouver, 1886-1950. It documents administrative change, policies, issues and, appointments to civic posts from 1886 to 1950. It is arranged chronologically and cross referenced alphabetically by name, position and event. Part Two will complete the project to the present.

Acquisitions: As a result of an active acquisitions programme, there are now over 350 private collections - "additional manuscript collections," of which approximately 100 were acquired in 1974.

With the exception of the Library Board, historical

records have been received, or transfer arrangements made, with all civic departments, boards and agencies. Except in the assessment department, the records are virtually complete for each donor agency.

During the summer two students prepared a complete inventory in draft of the paintings, drawings and prints holdings - in excess of 800 items - and 30 items were added to the collection in 1974.

Historical photographs continued to arrive; one large collection from the Police Department and one large collection from the Parks Board. Twenty-three smaller collections were received either separately or as part of manuscript units.

Twelve new titles were added to the newspaper collection on microfilm; a further series of Goad's Atlases, eight pre-1860 maps, and very large collections of maps from the Greater Vancouver Regional District and the Vancouver School Board. The Mawson Plans for Stanley Park were donated by Thomas Mawson's grandson, also a landscape architect.

Finally, the American Archivist was acquired on microfilm and some 250 to 275 new titles added to the staff/public reference library on local history and archival matters. During the summer, five students processed in excess of 5,000 pamphlets and other ephemeral material.

By invitation, Mr. R. Lynn Ogden acted in an advisory capacity to the Jewish Historical Society, Vancouver City College, New Westminster Public Library, North Shore Museum and Archives Committee, Canadian Forest Products, Douglas College, Capilano College, Vancouver School of Theology among others.

Total staff complement stands at 8 permanent full-time positions, two temporary(6 month) part-time positions. Twenty-seven students worked at the archives over a four-month period during the summer: two students on a Library Development Commission programme and twenty-five under the STEP programme.

UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA LIBRARY

Special Collections Division: The processing of the University Archives photograph collection and additions to holdings on various economic, social, political, and literary aspects of B.C. life have highlighted the past year. Recent acquisitions of particular interest relating to the fishing industry are records collected by the International Pacific Salmon Fisheries Commission,

1900-1945, 65 feet, and a letterbook of Thomas E. Ladner, 1892-96, 1 inch, pertaining to his activities as manager of the Wellington Packing Company at Canoe Pass. The records and papers of the Vagabond Club, a Vancouver-based literary society, included the Lionel Haweis Papers, 1861-1942, 8-1/2 feet, and scrapbooks relating to the activities of A.M. Stephen, 1892-1942, 6 inches. Also, additions to the Japanese-Canadian photograph collection provide a greater insight to conditions within the Interior Housing Centres, 1942-45, after resettlement from the West Coast of British Columbia. On non-Canadian material, the library has acquired the Leathart Collection - letters pertaining to the activities of the Pre-Raphaelites, 1 foot.

Laurenda Daniells, University Archivist, has obtained a year's leave of absence and her duties for 1975 will be handled by Miriam McTernan. For further information on the Division's holdings contact Anne Yandle, Head, Frances Woodward, Map and Reference librarian, or George Brandak, manuscripts curator.

ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA ARCHIVISTS

The Association has a paid membership of over fifty persons engaged in archives work in the province and the Yukon. Activities for the past year have been the publication of two newsletters and three general meetings that have included a seminar on conservation, a discussion of the Association's constitution, and an address by Hugh Taylor on Canadian archival activity as well as discussion with the Constitutional Committee of the Archives Section, CHA, on the formation of a national association. For any further information on the Association, please write Terry Eastwood, Secretary-Treasurer, c/o Provincial Archives of British Columbia or George Brandak, President, c/o University of British Columbia Library, Special Collections Division.

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES OF ALBERTA, 1974

As a result of the passing of The Alberta Heritage Act 1973, the Provincial Archives and Records Management Branch comprises four areas: (1) the Provincial Archives, (2) the Records Management Section, (3) the Heritage Resource Library, and (4) the Heritage Historian. The year 1974 witnessed several changes and developments in all sections.

Provincial Archives: Not only were there several changes within the archives staff but a new position was also created, that of Chief Archivist. Mrs. Ermeline Ference was the successful candidate, and her former position as Archivist I is to be filled shortly. Several openings were offered to university students and qualified people via wages and the P.E.P. and S.T.E.P. programmes to help in organizing collections, to prepare inventories and

indexes, to make tape-recordings and to provide indexes and synopses of them, to write governmental departmental histories, to assist the photo clerk and archives technicians in the printing and indexing of photo collections, and to assist in clerical duties.

2606 linear feet of material were received in 524 accessions, of which 223 were from government departments and agencies; 467 microfilms and 241 phonotapes were acquired as well as some 6000 maps, most of which were township plans transferred from the Department of Lands and Forests.

Significant deposits included:

A. MacKinzie MSS History of Peace River Region c.1905
Fort Chipewyan factor's journals 1825-1829
Midland Coal Co. records
County and M.D. records of Vulcan, Stettler, Claresholm, etc.
Files of the Hon. A.O. Aalborg, former Provincial Treasurer and Minister of Education
Records and photographs of Miss Gladys Reeves
Township registers and indexes from Department of Lands and Forests
Early municipal and county files from Department of Municipal Affairs

The archives reference room register showed 1572 users and 52 applications for the use of research facilities. 1052 prints from the Brown, Pollard and Blyth photo collections were placed in subject files and in new numerical order. Four exhibits of recent accessions were held in the Archives Gallery as well as feature displays on Government House and the Blyth collection.

Staff members have participated in professional and learned conferences in Toronto, Calgary, Regina, Winnipeg, Vancouver, Ottawa, Banff, Edmonton and Lethbridge. Talks and lectures have been given to the YMCA, to a school, to University Extension classes on Genealogy, to the Jewish Community Council and to the Western Canadian Studies Colloquium at the University of Alberta.

Records Management Section: Mr. Robert Morin, formerly Records Manager for the Public Archives of Canada and the National Library, was recently appointed Records Manager. He will be responsible for operating an interdepartmental records management programme in conformity with the policy of the Public Records Committee. At present his staff consists of a Steno II, a Clerk III, and a Junior Clerk; but the new year should see the appointment of a Records Keeper II.

The Public Records Committee has met regularly and held meetings with Departmental Records Officers and

Deputy Ministers as well as a three-day Departmental Records Officers' Orientation Course. A six-year plan has been formulated for operation, pending a study and report on our records management needs to be effected by consultant experts from the Public Archives of Canada. Regulations have been drafted and some 130 recommendations for disposition have been approved. The Branch has also assumed responsibilities for the Alberta Disaster Services Agency's essential records programme.

Heritage Resource Library: The Librarian, Mrs. Jo Toon, was granted educational leave on 1st August to obtain her B.L.S., and Ms. Eva Carlson has ably taken her place. The library has assumed an important role with historical researchers following a redirection of the Legislature Library's role into practical administrative subjects. Nearly 400 important and rare books on Western Canadian concerns have been transferred to the library from the Legislature Library. Because of the expanding nature of the library, it has been necessary to hire additional temporary staff.

Heritage Historian: Mr. Eric Holmgren, former Legislature Librarian, has joined the Branch's staff as Heritage Historian. A start in a publications programme has been made by issuing a Christmas card, two leaflets (on Alfred Blyth, photographer, and generally on the Provincial Archives' scope) and by preparing two illustrated booklets on Government House and Alberta at the Turn of the Century.

GLENBOW-ALBERTA INSTITUTE - ARCHIVES

During the past year a structural change in the Archives has been established. Because of greatly increased use of our photographs, it was found advisable to streamline our operations by treating photographs and manuscripts as separate sections. Georgeen Barrass, who is also Assistant Archivist, is in charge of photographs and involved full time in this work. Vicky Williams, next archivist in seniority, assumes responsibility for the manuscript section. Douglas Cass who joined the staff in March, 1974, as our newest recruit in the archives field, also works mainly with manuscript material.

Glenbow's new building, financed by the Alberta Government and designed to house all departments of Glenbow, is now nearing completion. The institute expects to take possession during the winter of 1975; however, official opening of the building, which will await the installation of three floors of Museum and Art Gallery exhibits and the moving in of all divisions, is not expected to take place until the Spring of 1976.

Acquisitions of interest obtained during 1974 include the following:

- Minutes, correspondence and financial statements of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen of America, Calgary, and the Calgary Trades and Labour Council, 1911-1958, 9 lin. ft., a valuable addition to our Labour material.
- Correspondence, notes re Admiral R.E. Byrd's expeditions, and general papers of Allan Innes-Taylor re Yukon and Arctic regions, c. 1890's-1970.
- Papers of Wood's Christian Home, Olds and Calgary, 1915-1974.
- A small group of letters written by William Scollen, brother of Fr. C. Scollen, Our Lady of Peace Mission, Calgary area, 1877-1888.
- Papers and survey notes of George Z. Pinder, Alberta surveyor, early 1900's to 1950's.
- Journal and letters of Dugald Macdonald Sinclair re trip to and experiences in Red River area, 1870-1901.
- Papers of N.W.M.P. Supt. J.V. Begin and family, southern Alberta, 1882-1920.
- Complete records of the School of Nursing of the Calgary General Hospital (this school stopped operating in 1974).
- A number of collections of photographs originating with businesses and services in Calgary, including that of the Calgary Herald.

The City of Calgary has appointed Glenbow Archives as official repository for the City's historical records. The transfer of these papers is expected to commence in 1975.

Glenbow's new publication programme is well underway. Before the end of the year, McClelland and Stewart West brought out three books, The Mountains and the Sky, featuring a number of Glenbow's works of art and written by Art Director, Lorne Render; A Winter at Fort Macleod, diary of Asst. Surgeon, N.B. Nevitt, N.W.M.P., edited by Hugh A. Dempsey; Calgary, Alberta, by Burns and Elliott, a reprint of a little promotional booklet written in 1885. The Peter Erasmus manuscript edited by Mrs. Irene Spry is scheduled to appear shortly.

During the past year the sixth in the Archives Series, an inventory of the Arnold Lupson Photographic Collection, featuring Indians of Southern Alberta, 1926-1947, was produced and distributed widely.

Staff members participated in professional conferences held in Ottawa, Toronto and Banff. A number of speaking engagements in Calgary and area were undertaken

by Archives staff and requests have already been received for speakers to lecture on Calgary's history during 1975, the City's Centennial year.

The Archives has already provided assistance in many of Calgary's Centennial projects, most particularly in the preparation of a series of booklets on various aspects of the City's history. Involvement will intensify during 1975 and a very busy year is anticipated.

SASKATCHEWAN ARCHIVES

The most important staff change during the past year has unquestionably been the resignation of Allan R. Turner as Provincial Archivist. Mr. Turner joined the Saskatchewan Archives staff on July 1, 1953; he was appointed Acting Provincial Archivist on September 1, 1961 and Provincial Archivist on July 1, 1962. Mr. Turner resigned on July 31, 1974 to take up new duties as Provincial Archivist of British Columbia.

Pending the naming of a permanent successor to Mr. Turner, the Assistant Provincial Archivist, Mr. D.H. Bocking, was named Acting Provincial Archivist effective August 1, 1974.

Mr. D'Arcy Hande joined the staff of the Saskatoon office as an Archivist on June 1, 1974.

As a result of a major change in University organization in Saskatchewan the Archives Act required a number of changes. Amendments to the Act were passed in the most recent session of the Legislature. Amendments leave the main structure of the Act unchanged but there are a number of changes in details on such points as the appointment of Board members and the procedure to be followed in appointing staff.

Since the last report in this journal there have been a large number of new accessions. A detailed listing of these accessions has been included in the Sixteenth Report of the Saskatchewan Archives Board covering the years 1972-1974. The combined holdings of the two offices include 4,900 linear feet of manuscripts and 11,000 linear feet of public records.

Some recent notable accessions of private papers include the following: papers of A.P. Gleave, Member of Parliament for Saskatoon-Biggar, 1968-1974, papers of Darrel Heald, Attorney General for Saskatchewan, 1964-1971, papers of George Hara Williams, who was Provincial leader of the C.C.F., 1935-1941 and Minister of Agriculture, 1944-1945, papers of R.L. Hanbidge, Member of the Legislative Assembly, 1929-1934 and

Lieutenant Governor, 1963-1970 and the manuscript poems of Mrs. Edna Jaques. There have also been a number of accessions of records of organizations including the following: Saskatchewan Progressive Conservative Party, Anglican Dioceses of Qu'Appelle and Saskatoon, and the records of Radio-Gravelbourg and Radio-Prairies-Nord Limitée.

Use of the archives offices has continued at a fairly high level. There has been a marked increase in recent months in the number of genealogical inquiries being received and some decline in the number of researchers working on theses.

ONTARIO

McMASTER UNIVERSITY

THE BERTRAND RUSSELL ARCHIVES

The usual activities continued during 1973/74 but several special projects may be mentioned briefly. In July a major collection of documents, known as Archives II, arrived from the Bertrand Russell Estate. These papers contain personal family correspondence and material generated by Russell during the last five years of his life, or withheld from the original purchase. More than 20,000 pages were sorted and microfilmed.

Much work was devoted to many publication projects centered on the Russell Archives. Professor J.G. Slater and Kenneth Blackwell, Russell Archivist, published a Prospectus for The Collected Essays of Bertrand Russell in number 12 of Russell: the journal of the Bertrand Russell Archives. This quarterly was expanded to 32 pages during the year and had a 15% increase in total subscriptions. Recent acquisitions are reported regularly in it. Professor John E. Thomas and Blackwell edited a collection of the papers given during the Bertrand Russell Centenary Celebrations at McMaster. This volume is to be published by A.M. Hakkert Ltd. as Russell in Review.

OTTAWA CITY ARCHIVES

The City of Ottawa has appointed Dr. Edwin Welch, F.S.A., as its first City Archivist. Dr. Welch was formerly City Archivist of Plymouth and Southampton (England) and has more recently been teaching at Ottawa