

McGill University Archives

McGill University, Montreal Canada



M.G. 1057
Cyrus John MacMillan Fonds
Accession 336; 419

This is a guide to one of the collections held by the McGill University Archives, McGill University. Visit the McGill University Archives homepage (<http://www.mcgill.ca/archives>) for more information

M.G. 1057

Cyrus John MacMillan Fonds. – 1904-1953. – 68 cm of textual records.

Notice biographique / Biographical sketch :

English professor, author and politician, Cyrus Macmillan was born in Prince Edward Island and earned his B.A. (1900) and M.A. (1903) from McGill. After receiving his Ph.D. from Harvard in 1909, he returned to McGill as a Lecturer in English. Macmillan served in the First World War with the 7th Canadian Siege Battery, which he helped to organize. In 1919, he was promoted to Associate Professor, and in 1923 became Chairman of the English Department. From 1940 until 1947 he served as the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science. During this period, Macmillan pursued a second career as a politician. He was Federal Minister of Fisheries in 1930, and federal M.P. for Queen's (P.E.I.) from 1940 to 1945. A prolific writer, he published a history of McGill as well as volumes of Canadian folk-tales and studies of Canadian literature. After 1945 he was chief editorial writer for the Charlottetown *Patriot*. MacMillan passed away in 1953.

Portée et contenu / Scope and content :

Fonds consists of correspondence and literary manuscripts, documenting all aspects of MacMillan's career. Biographical background is provided by his own notes on his life and family history. From his student years come certificates and testimonials in support of his application for a Rhodes Scholarship (1904-1909). His war experience is recorded in letters from the front preserved by his family, and by a personal diary for 1917. There are also approximately twenty photographs of Macmillan and his family taken between about 1905 and 1940.

Macmillan's correspondence includes files of letters to his wife (1917-1936) on his war service and political affairs; personal and social letters (1923-1929); political correspondence, including several letters from McKenzie King (1926-1946); letters concerning McGill, including a number from Sir Arthur Currie and from Stephen Leacock (1920-1947); post-retirement correspondence on McGill and public affairs; and correspondence concerning his publications (1920-1960). There are also files of invitations to events at McGill and elsewhere.

The manuscripts fall into two categories: political speeches and literary manuscripts. Besides notes and texts for his own speeches, there are also texts of, and newspaper clippings about speeches written by Macmillan for Sir Arthur Currie and others (1920-1950). Drafts and typescripts of his literary works are supplemented by notes, clippings and correspondence.

Notes :

Source du titre propre / Source of title proper : Title based on contents of the fonds.

Langue des documents / Language : Material in English.

Accès de provenance / Provenance access point : MacMillan, Cyrus John, 1883-1953

M.G. 1057

Part I (red)

y, physiology, and
of Canada's first
as Professor of
Professor in 1929.
ouncil for Science
hed widely on the
ne localization of
sma, and physical

MacINTOSH, FRANK CAMPBELL, 1909-

A native of Baddeck, Nova Scotia, Frank MacIntosh was educated at Dalhousie University (B.A. 1930; M.A. 1932) and at McGill University (Ph.D. 1937). From 1938 to 1949, he was a member of the scientific staff of the Medical Research Council of Great Britain. In 1949, MacIntosh came to McGill as Drake Professor of Physiology and chairman of the department. He held the chairmanship until 1965 and retired as Emeritus Professor in 1980.

UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

Originals and Printed Material, 1960-1962, 1 cm (M.G. 1083)

MacIntosh's involvement with the Medical Research Council of Canada is documented by correspondence, agendas and minutes (1960-1962) concerning grant applications and administrative affairs, particularly the Advisory Committee on Policy.

MacMILLAN, CYRUS JOHN, 1883-1953

English professor, author and politician, Cyrus Macmillan was born in Prince Edward Island and earned his B.A. (1900) and M.A. (1903) from McGill. After receiving his Ph.D. from Harvard in 1909, he returned to McGill as Lecturer in English. Macmillan served in the First World War with the 7th Canadian Siege Battery, which he helped to organize. In 1919, he was promoted to Associate Professor, and in 1923 became Chairman of the English Department. From 1940 until 1947 he served as the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science. During this period, Macmillan pursued a second career as a politician. He was Federal Minister of Fisheries in 1930, and federal M.P. for Queen's (P.E.I.) from 1940 to 1945. A prolific writer, he published a history of McGill as well as volumes of Canadian folk-tales and studies of Canadian literature. After 1945 he was chief editorial writer for the Charlottetown Patriot.

UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

Originals, Printed Materials and Photographs, 1904-1953, 68 cm (M.G. 1057)

Macmillan's papers, consisting largely of correspondence and literary manuscripts, document all aspects of his career. Biographical background is provided by his own notes on his life and family history. From his student years come certificates and testimonials in support of his application for a Rhodes Scholarship (1904-1909). His war experience is recorded in letters from the front preserved by his family, and by a personal diary for 1917. There are also approximately twenty photographs of Macmillan and his family taken between about 1905 and 1940.

Macmillan's correspondence includes files of letters to his wife (1917-1936) on his war service and political affairs; personal and social letters (1923-1929); political correspondence, including several letters from McKenzie King (1926-1946); letters concerning McGill, including a number from Sir Arthur Currie and from Stephen Leacock (1920-1947); post-retirement correspondence on McGill and public affairs; and correspondence concerning his publications (1920-1960). There are also files of invitations to events at McGill and elsewhere.

The manuscripts fall into two categories: political speeches and literary manuscripts. Besides notes and texts for his own speeches, there are also texts of, and newspaper clippings about speeches written by Macmillan for Sir Arthur Currie and others (1920-1950). Drafts and typescripts of his literary works are supplemented by notes, clippings and correspondence.

Degrees and certificates including an
M.A. from Harvard - 1905 and an honorary
LLD from McGill - 1944 will be found in
the Diploma Inventory.

uated in medicine
at McGill in 1856,
retired as Professor
from 1867

prise his inaugural
al Faculty, several
tion of the causes
tures "On women's

and M.Sc. degrees
rsity of Minnesota
the University of
ater for the United
sor of agricultural
e department from
e of his areas of
and he conducted

015)

hanization in Brazil
cial records.

Research Council, 1942-45; mem., Engr. Inst. of Can.; Inst. Radio Engrs.; Phi Kappa Pi; Presbyterian; recreation: golf; Club: Canadian; Home: 1529 Western Cres., Vancouver, B.C.

MacLEOD, Lester Campbell, B.A., F.C.I.C.; company executive; b. Bury, Que., 24 Sept. 1910 of Scotch-Can. parentage; e. Bishop's Univ., B.A. (Science) 1931; McGill Univ. (Organic Research, 2 yrs.); m. Aileen Eames Stalker, 9 Dec. 1939; children: Elizabeth Anne, Beverley Joan; SALES MANAGER, PLASTICS DIVN., MONSANTO (CANADA) LTD.; Pres., Soc. of the Plastics Industry (Can.) Inc.; mem., Que. Rubber and Plastics Group; Clubs: M.A.A.A. Hampstead Golf; Address: Monsanto (Can.) Ltd., P.O. Box 6103, Montreal, P.Q.

MacLEOD, Norman MacLeod, B.A.; journalist; b. Toronto, Ont., 26 Feb. 1899; s. John Thomas and Isabel Anne (Dawson) M.; e. Toronto Model Sch., St. Andrew's Coll., Queen's Univ.; McMaster Univ., B.A. 1927; m. Bertha Elizabeth, d. William Doran, Ottawa, 24 Oct. 1929; children: Flora; ASST. GEN. MGR., BRITISH UNITED PRESS, since 1946; began career as Staff Reporter, Toronto "News" 1917; Toronto "World" 1921; Resident Parly. and Pol. Corr., Toronto "Mail and Empire" 1927-30; Corr., Montreal "Daily Star" 1930-34; returned to "Mail and Empire" and continued as its Ottawa Pol. Corr. until merger with Toronto "Globe" in 1936; Resident Ottawa Corr., Windsor "Daily Star" 1936-40; Chief Corr. and Ottawa Mgr., United Press and Brit. Un. Press Assns. since 1940; Ottawa Corr., Halifax "Herald" and Victoria "Daily Times"; contrib. at various times to "Financial Post", Toronto "Saturday Night", and leading U.S. dailies; Conservative; Presbyterian; recreations: apple orcharding, breeding of Holstein cattle; Clubs: National Press (Wash.); University (Toronto); Rideau (Ottawa); Home: Dunvegan Acres, Kempville, Ont.; Office: Press Gallery, Ottawa, Ont.

MacMAHON, Harold Edward, M.D., Sc.D.; college professor; see Vol. 1948.

MacMILLAN, Rev. Alexander, Mus.D., D.D.; (Un. Ch.); (retired); b. Edinburgh, Scotland, s. Thomas and Margaret Telfer (Henderson) M.; e. Univ. of Edinburgh and Un. Presby. Divinity Hall, Edinburgh; Montreal D.D.; Univ. of Toronto, Mus.D.; m. Wilhelmina Katherine, d. Rev. Alexander Ross, M.A., 6 May 1890; children: Sir Ernest, Margaret Dorothy (Mrs. Hill), Jean Ross, Winifred (Mrs. E. Mazzoleni); Ed. of "The Book of Praise" (Presb. Ch. in Can.) 1918; "The Hymnary of the United Church of Canada" 1931; author of "Hymns of the Church", 1934; Address: 46 Elgin Ave., Toronto, Ont.

MacMILLAN, Hon. Cyrus, P.C. (Can.) 1930; educationist; author; b. Wood Islands, P.E.I., 12 Sept. 1882; s. Hector C. and Isabel (Fraser) M.; e. McGill Univ., B.A., M.A.; Harvard Univ., M.A., Ph.D.; m. Margaret Neilson, d. J. L. Brower, Philadelphia, Pa.; formerly, until 1948 Dean, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, McGill Univ., and Prof. of Eng. Lang. and Lit. there; Prof. of Eng., Prince of Wales Coll., Charlottetown, P.E.I., 1905-07; Resident Fellow, Harvard Univ., 1907; mem., Roy. Comn. on Maritime Claims, 1926; Roy. Comn. on Atlantic Fisheries, 1927-28; Chrmn., Roy. Comn. on Educ. in P.E.I., 1929; served in World War, 1915-19;

Capt., 7th Batty., Candn. Siege Arty., 1916, and Maj. and O.C., 6th Batty., 1916-19; twice Mentioned in Despatches; sworn of the P.C., 17 June 1930; apptd. Min. of Fisheries in King Cabinet 1930; def., g.e. 1930; resigned with King Govt. Aug. 1930; author of "Canadian Wonder Isles"; "Canadian Fairy Tales"; "The Folk-Songs of Canada"; "Tales the Woodsman Told"; "McGill and Its Story, 1821-1921"; "Canadian Hero Stories"; in student days was a champion track athlete; Liberal; Presbyterian; Home: Montreal, P.Q.

MacMILLAN, Hon. Duncan Bruce; b. Norland, Ont., 27 Aug. 1887; s. Daniel and Annie (MacKay) H.; m. Margaret Mae, d. George Steele, Teeswater, Ont., 3 May 1922; children: Catherine Annie, Betty Jean; MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS & MINISTER OF RLYS. & TELEPHONES, ALBERTA; 1st el. to Alta. Leg. for Lacombe, g.e. 1935; re-el. g.e. 1940 and 1944; apptd. Min. of Agric. in Aberhart Cabinet 1940; re-apptd. in Manning Cabinet 1943-48; served in World War 1915-19 with C.E.F.; in France with 10th Candn. Inf. Bn.; mem. of Edmonton Sch. Bd. since 1941; mem., Candn. Legion; Candn. Corps Assn.; Social Credit; United Church; Home: 10758-83rd Ave., Edmonton, Alta.; Office: Legislative Bldgs., Edmonton, Alta.

MacMILLAN, Elizabeth Heather, B.Sc., M.S.; university dean; b. Vernon River, P.E.I., 1 July 1910; of Scot. pioneer and U.E.L. stock; d. William Frederick and Priscilla (MacLeod) M.; e. Prince of Wales Coll.; Acadia Univ., B.Sc. 1931; Cornell Univ., M.S. 1943; unrra.; DEAN, OF HOME ECONOMICS, ACADIA UNIV., since 1943; Supt. of Women's Inst. Br., P.E.I. Dept. of Agric., 1931-36; Organ. Secy., Jubilee Guilds of Nfld. and Labrador, 1936-39; Demonstr.-Lect., Fed. Dept. of Fisheries, 1939-42; mem. of Senate, Acadia Univ.; Acadia Rep., Maritime Sch. of Social Work, Halifax, N.S.; mem., Candn. Home Econ. Assn.; Candn. Dietetic Assn. (Dir. and Chrmn., Univ. Educ. Comte.); N.S. Home Econ. Assn. (Pres.); Phi Lambda Theta; Baptist; Club: University Women's (Treas.); Address: Acadia Univ., Wolfville, N.S.

MacMILLAN, Sir Ernest Campbell, (cr. Kt. 1935), B.A., Mus.D., LL.D., Hon. R.A.M., F.R.C.M., F.R.C.O.; composer; conductor; b. Mimico, Ont., 18 Aug. 1893; s. Rev. Alexander, D.D., and Wilhelmina (Ross) M., both of Toronto; e. Rosedale Sch. and Jarvis Coll. Inst., Toronto; Viewpark Sch., Edinburgh, Scot.; Univ. of Toronto, B.A. (Hons. in Mod. Hist.) 1915; studied music in Edinburgh under late Prof. Frederick Niecks, Alfred Hollins, and Dr. W. B. Ross, and in Paris; Oxford Univ., Mus.D. 1918; Univ. of Brit. Columbia, Hon. LL.D. 1936; Queen's Univ., Hon. LL.D. 1941; m. Laura Elsie, d. Alexander Keith, Toronto, 31 Dec. 1919; children: Keith Campbell, Ross Alexander; CONDUCTOR, TORONTO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, since 1931; Conductor, Toronto Mendelssohn Choir since 1942; Dean, Faculty of Music, Univ. of Toronto, since 1927; Pres., Composers, Authors & Publishers Assn. of Can. Ltd.; Organist and Choirmaster, Knox Ch., Toronto, 1908-10; St. Paul's Ch., Hamilton, Ont., 1911-12; Univ. Services, Univ. of Toronto, 1912-14; Timothy Eaton Mem. Ch. 1920-25; Princ., Toronto Conservatory of Music 1926-42; at age of ten appeared as organist in Massey Music Hall, Toronto, before an audience of 4,000; at age of 13 became Assoc. of Roy. Coll.

of Organists and Lafontaine Prize f studying in Par Bayreuth, at wh and he was inte Prison Camp; d composed his do burnae's Ode, "Et performed in Can the Phila. Orche Sheffield Choir; Ruhlben, took a and operatic pr ticularly as cond ducted the "Mika Embassy; has p many arrangemr folksongs; well kn in the U.S. and maker Auditorium Assn. of Organis other large Am. larger cities of C cessful trans-cont of the Philadel (Ravina Park). (Hollywood Bowl) day Evening Hour Montreal (Les Co successive yrs.) a in 1945 as Guest the Aust. Broadca of concerts of the in Rio de Janeiro at the princ. comp and at the Nat. El in 1935 by His la services to music resident in the Br this honour. Fell (1st Candn. to College of Organ Roy. Acad. of M of Organists 1927 "England" (an ode "Four Chansons Voices"; "Three In "Twenty-one Chan others); "Two Can "Two Sketches for Song Book"; "Six (for voices, oboe, Song of Deliveranc also numerous so "Northland Songs" Berlin) include: " "Our Piano Class"; ing"; Presbyterian; versity; Home: 115

MacMILLAN, Hs Ms.F.; industrialist origin; b. Newmark Alfred and Joana Aurora, Ont.; Ont. B.S.A. 1906; Yale Charles Mulloy, 2 Jean; CHAIRMAN, LAN EXPORT CO. Candn. Rep. on the North Atlantic Tre March 1951; Pres.,



RESOLVED that this Senate record its appreciation of the services rendered by the late Cyrus Macmillan to this University and to the country at large. Born of Scottish ancestry in Prince Edward Island and first educated at the Prince of Wales College there, he never lost his love of the sea and the homely philosophy of his forbears.

Continuing to his baccalaureate and doctorate in English at McGill and at Harvard, his career was interrupted by World War I, during which he commanded a Siege Battery. On resumption of his academic life he progressed to a professorship and the chairmanship of the Department of English Language and Literature and to the Deanship of the Faculty of Arts and Science. These positions he held at his retirement in 1947.

In addition to his many duties as Dean and Member of this Senate he found time to serve his country as a Member from a constituency in his home province in the Federal Parliament. His wide knowledge of Canadian affairs led to many positions such as membership in the Duncan Commission, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister for Air and as Chairman of the Committee on rehabilitation of ex-service personnel.

Whereas he enjoyed a wide circle of friends, he yet contrived to live a quiet home life and was intimately known to but few. He showed a shrewd appraisal of people and events and his advice and help were at all times available for the asking.

Though not generally known, his intense love of children and, at times, uncanny understanding of youthful problems were evidenced in various ways—the children's plays in Movse Hall and his books for children, on one of which he was engaged just prior to his decease. His name will long be remembered by McGill's ex-service men and women who came to him for help and guidance during the troublous years of 1944 to 1947.

J. H. C. L. S.

McGill University
30th September 1953

Secretary of Senate

MacMillan's papers fall into several categories:

Correspondence consists of letters to his brother, sister and mother during World War I, and 10 years of letters to his wife written mainly between 1925 and 1940 when he was travelling with various Federal Fisheries Commissions in the Maritimes as well as opening the Prince of Wales College in P.E.I. in 1933. Incoming correspondence includes letters from Sir Arthur Currie, Andrew MacPhail, Stephen Leacock and MacKenzie King. There are thank-you letters from recipients of speeches written for them, and congratulatory messages from various correspondents. There are some letters involving MacMillan's tenure at McGill including one from Principal Cyril James re-appointing him as Dean of Arts and Science in 1944. MacMillan, himself, wrote letters of recommendation for students.

Notes and drafts of speeches are a large part of this collection. MacMillan was a prolific writer on political and social subjects. Much of his work was written to be delivered by Sir Arthur Currie, who, both as a veteran and as Principal of McGill, was frequently called on to address Founder's Day gatherings as well as Armistice Day ceremonies. MacMillan also spoke at many affairs for which he received laudable reviews. Many of his notes and drafts are untitled and undated so that it is not always possible to know if they were written for Sir Arthur or Dr. MacMillan, himself, as both men were veterans and connected with McGill. The detailed list of MacMillan's own notes in File 81 gives some idea of the wide range of subjects about which he wrote.

The third category deals with MacMillan's literary manuscripts. He wrote many books and articles including a history of McGill as well as several volumes of Canadian folk-tales. The collection has edited drafts of many of these works, correspondence with various publishers and press reviews. At least one work (Glooscap's Country) was published posthumously.

The remainder of the collection consists of his personal wartime diary (1917), his annotated copy of Hamlet, invitations, seating arrangements, menus and clippings of the visit of King George and Queen Elizabeth during their visit to Canada in May, 1939, notes for honorary degree presentations at McGill and notes for stage productions from his early years in the English Department.

Degrees and certificates including an M.A. from Harvard (1905) and an Honorary LL.D. from McGill (1947) will be found in the Diploma Inventory. There are as well some 20 photos of MacMillan and his family taken between c.1905 and 1940.

MacMillan, Cyrus John - 1883-1953

M.G. 1057

1

C1

Outgoing correspondence:

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| 1. James A. MacMillan (brother) | 1907-1919 |
| 2. Helen M. Macmillan (mother) | 1916-1918 |
| Christina MacMillan (sister) | 1917-1919 |
| 3. Recomendations for Rhodes Scholarship - | 1901-1909 |
| Harvard ranks list- | 1904/05 |
| 4. War service | |
| 5-10 - Margaret MacMillan (wife) | 1916-1936 |
| 11. short notes | 1920s |

Incoming correspondence:

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| 12.- 13. - Political affairs | 1926-1946 |
| 14.- McGill University | 1944-1947 |
| 15.- Speech writing - Arthur Currie, Andrew MacPhail, J.W.C. Taylor | 1923-1933 |
| 16.- Creation of Moyse Hall | 1925 |
| 17.- Stephen Leacock | 1928-1939 |
| 18.- Bliss Carmen to Dr. Bovey | 1925 |
| 19.- Thank-you letters - various writers | 1952-1952 |
| 20.- Printed invitations from McGill | 1931-34 |
| 21.- Notes for <u>International Who's Who</u> | 1950 |
| 22.- Notes on relatives | n.d. |
| 23.- Notes for a political speech | n.d. |
| 24.- Printed speech plus congratulations | 1942 |
| 25.- Drafts of speeches for Currie or C.M. | 1920-1950 |
| 26.- Clippings of speeches by Currie | 1920-1933 |
| 27.- Printed reports of Royal Commissions | 1926-1949 |
| 28.- Drafts - honorary presentations | n.d. |
| 29.- Board of Governors resolutions | n d |
| 30.- Newspaper clippings: | 1918-1953 |
| 31,32 - Drafts for Currie speeches | 1920-1930 |
| 33,34.- " " MacMillan speeches | " " |
| 35.- Founders' Day speeches | " " |

C2

36. Typed copies of:

n.d.

C 2

36. Typed copies of: n.d.
The Legend of Gowan Brae
The Heart of Canada
The Land of Winter Sports
37. Drafts and typed copies of: 1952/53
The Phantom Soldier
Atlantic Isle of Mysteries
plus correspondence from publisher.
38. Edited drafts of: 1952
The Phantom Soldier at Ticonderoga
Enchanted Sable Island
39. Edited draft and typed copy of
Carlyle's Canadian Romance published
posthumously 1964
40. Edited originals of stories for:
Canadian Fairy Tales n.d.
41. Invitations, telegrams, greeting cards - 1930-52
42. Royal Visit May, 1939
43. Hand written drafts of: n.d.
Captain George Vancouver - Explorer
The Literature of Canada
plus notes on Lord Selkirk and A. MacKenzie
44. Handwritten original verse by MacMillan - n.d.
45. Correspondence and copy of: 1956-60
Glooscap's Country
46. Correspondence and reviews of: 1955-1960
Glooscap's Country
Canadian Wonder Tales
47. Correspondence, clippings, published writings 1920/50
48. Clippings McGill and Its Story 1922-1951
49. Copy - Canadian Club News regarding
Sir Arthur Currie 1920
50. Notes for stage production c. 1921
51. Letter of sympathy and Senate resolution 1953/54
52. Letter and clipping on presentation of
MacMillan's portrait to McGill 1958
53. Publications containing articles by
MacMillan: 1907-1953
Canadian Magazine
Canada Monthly
University Magazine
Presbyterian Standard
Rod and Gun
Weird tales
2 copies of Canadian Courier

MacMillan, Cyrus John - 1883-1953

M.G. 1057

3

54. Anotated edition of Hamlet inscribed:
"Harvard-07-08"

Personal diary, Western front - Mar.11-Aug.15, 1917

55. Notebooks for political speeches - 1930s

56. Notebook of stage directions n.d.

Scrap book c.1920

57. Photocopy from Illustrated London News 1864

58-80 - Typed and edited notes, prepared by MacMillan,
of speeches written for himself and others. Many
are incomplete and not dated.

A detailed list is in File 81.

81. List of subjects in Files 58 - 80

Some photos may be found in Files 2, 36 and 41.