



The United Church of Canada, British Columbia Conference

**The Bob Stewart Archives**

6000 Iona Drive, Vancouver, BC, Canada V6T 1L4

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Guide to Holdings  
Relating to First Nations of BC

December 2010

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## Introduction

One of the goals of the Archives and Historical Committee of BC Conference is to increase the representation First Nations people within its holdings, and to provide better access to those holdings.

This *Guide to Holdings Relating to First Nations of BC* is intended to assist researchers in gathering high-level information about the records that may be pertinent to their research, prior to visiting the Bob Stewart Archives. All of the fonds descriptions included in this document can be found on MemoryBC, a portal that provides access to descriptions of archival materials preserved in repositories throughout the province. This document simply groups together descriptions that pertain to First Nations people within BC Conference of The United Church of Canada and its antecedent bodies (primarily the Methodist Church).

Note that the list of fonds included in this document is not exhaustive. The *Guide* will continue to be added to, as more backlog is processed and more materials are received from the churches, presbyteries, BC Conference, and private sources.

### **Arrangement of the *Guide***

The *Guide* is arranged alphabetically by title of fonds. It includes date range of records within each fonds, extent, types of media, biographical or administrative information, descriptions of scope and content, and related notes regarding access.

### **Privacy**

Although the *Guide* is intended to promote accessibility of archival records, in no way does it affect the Archives' observance of provincial privacy legislation. Any records that contain personal information or are otherwise sensitive in nature are restricted in accordance with legal requirements.

*Blair Galston*  
*Conference Archivist*

**Alberni Indian Residential School fonds. — 1937-1976. — 5.5 cm textual records.**

The Alberni Indian Residential School was opened as a Day School by the Presbyterian Rev. J.A. MacDonald in 1891. MacDonald's sister was able to interest the Presbyterian Woman's Missionary Society in the need for a larger school, and the new school soon became a boarding school with 50 pupils under the Presbyterian W.M.S., with Miss Elizabeth Lister as its first matron and a Mr. McKee as the teacher. H.B. Currie was Principal when the school burned down in 1917, and continued in that post when the new building, paid for by the government, was opened in 1920. Management of the school was passed to the United Church Woman's Missionary Society with church union in 1925.

F.E. Pitts was appointed Principal in 1927, and remained with the school until after R.C. Scott was appointed Principal of the school in late 1939, succeeded by A.F. Caldwell in 1944. Either in 1944, two new classroom blocks and the senior residence, later Peake Hall, were built on the site, and responsibility for hiring teachers was passed to the federal government. Caldwell was succeeded by John Dennys in 1958, and J.A. Andrews in 1962. In 1969, the federal government took over full responsibility for the management of the school.

Fonds consists of a Scrapbook, 1962-1968; a Baptismal record, 1938-1969; a Civil marriage register, 1937-1976; and a Communion roll, 1941-1954.

The Communion roll was passed to a congregation, probably Tseshaht United Church, of which the students were members; and used as a record of those members of the congregation who were students at the School from 1954 to 1956.

The bulk of the School's records were passed to the federal government along with the responsibility for its management, and are likely to be found the later records at the National Archives of Canada.

The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act of B.C. applies to the Civil marriage register.

Control No.: ALB RS

**B.C. Freeman fonds. — 1889-1980; predominant 1890-1935. — 55 cm textual records and photographs.**

Barnabus Courtland Freeman was born in Frontenac County, Ontario in July 1869. He went to Saskatchewan as a missionary in 1891, was ordained by the Manitoba and Northwest Conference of the Methodist Church in 1892, and was married to Ida Lawson of Frontenac County the same year.

In 1893, he came West to British Columbia, serving among the Indians at Skidegate, Port Simpson, Port Essington and Cape Mudge. In 1910 he came South to serve pastorates in Cumberland, Revelstoke, Port Coquitlam and Vancouver; in 1920 he was elected President of B.C. Conference. He died at Cape Mudge in 1935.

Throughout most of his career, he wrote poetry, short stories and essays, his writings forming the bulk of his private papers. His poetry was published in *The New Outlook*, *The Christian Guardian*, and other church periodicals. In addition to the poetry, short stories and reminiscences, he worked on a play and an unfinished novel.

The records have been with the family until quite recently, the bulk being received in 1996 from Kenneth Freeman of Waverley, Nova Scotia, and George Freeman of Vancouver.

Fonds consists of the following series: Writings, correspondence, and other records, 1889-1980; Glass plate photographs; and Photograph albums of Ethel May Freeman, 1919 onwards.

Supplied title based on the provenance of the bulk of the records.

Series descriptions and folder list available.

Control No.: Priv 1

**Bella Coola General Hospital. Board of Trustees fonds. — 1908-1986. — 20 cm textual records.**

In 1908, the Bella Coola Hospital Committee was created and its members elected by a public meeting at the Hagensborg schoolhouse to raise funds for, and eventually to oversee the management of a hospital in Bella Coola. In 1909 the Bella Coola General Hospital was incorporated under the Benevolent Societies Act of B.C., and the hospital itself was at least briefly in operation by the end of 1910.

The founding members of the Committee were (Mr.) B. Brynildson as Chair, C. Carlson as Secretary-Treasurer, Rev. W.H. Gibson, J.B. Sylvester and T.H. Johnson. It eventually came to include the Medical Superintendent of the Hospital, and by the 1980's, the Hospital Administrator.

The United Church of Canada donated land for a new building, and took responsibility for the ongoing financial support of the Hospital in 1928. The Hospital is now financially independent of the United Church, and the Board reports first and foremost (as it did in 1928) to the Province of British Columbia under the Hospital Act. The association with the Church has continued to exist, in part because of the difficulty recruiting qualified personnel to work in isolated places.

The original building was replaced with a more adequate building in 1929, which was

eventually torn down and replaced with a third building in 1980.

Fonds consists of the following series: Bella Coola Hospital Committee minutes, 1908-1948; Minutes and reports of the Board, 1978-1986; and Board policy records, 1972-1986.

Series descriptions available.

Control No.: AffB 4

### **BC Conference, Native Ministries fonds. — 1984-1997 — 36 cm textual records.**

In January 1994, the BC Conference passed a resolution at its Annual General Meeting establishing a Division of Native Ministries. It was determined that over a period of five years the new Division's responsibilities would include: Recommending types of ministries to and with native peoples; Administration of funds and grants to native ministries of the BC Conference, and Building relations with the national church, the All Native Circle Conference, an administrative body governed by the First Nations people within the United Church, the Vancouver School of Theology and the TEE Centre, a ministry resource centre for communities in Northern BC. The first meeting of the new Division was held in Gitsegukla, in February 1995. Co-chairs at the first meeting were aboriginal leaders, Doreen Cullen and Jim Angus. Charlotte Sullivan was also present. Charlotte was a hereditary chief among the Gitksan. She had served as Conference Minister for Prince Rupert Presbytery since 1993 and was responsible for Native Ministries from 1994 until her death in 2006. Charlotte also advised the United Church's Residential Schools Steering Committee and provided leadership in Native Circles.

Fonds contains the following series: Minutes (1993-1997), Artwork by Children (1985), Native Ministries Consortium (1991-1997), Reference and Liaison (1984-1998), Healing Fund (1988-1986).

Title based on content of the fonds

Some files restricted; see file list

File list available

Control No.: ChUN 22

### **Burns Lake Hospital Society (B.C.) fonds. — 1930-1944. — 2 cm textual records.**

The Burns Lake Hospital was established by the Presbyterian Church in 1919, as a

hospital at Francois, B.C., moved to Burns Lake five years later. It was operated by the Woman's Missionary Society until 1962, at which time the Board of Home Missions assumed responsibility for its operation. Responsibility was transferred to the community in the early 1970's.

The Hospital Society was created in 1930 to work towards the construction of a new hospital, which took place in 1932. Thereafter, the Society concerned itself with equipment, furnishing and maintenance of the new hospital; it was dissolved in 1944.

Fonds consists of minutes of the Society for 1930-1944, including annual reports of the hospital, financial statements and some correspondence.

Control No.: AffB 1

### **Cape Mudge Indian Mission fonds. — 1919-1947. — 2.5 cm textual records.**

R.C. Scott opened the Indian Mission at Cape Mudge, with the Iwyll being brought to the coast for his use. Initially the Mission had responsibility for "Cape Mudge and Campbell River" and surrounding regions under the Methodist Church of Canada. The United Church continued the Mission after church union in 1925; in 1948 it had no minister, although in the 1950's it did continue to be served at least by a lay minister; it is no longer listed in 1960.

Ministers who served the Mission during the period covered by the records include R.C. Scott from 1919 to 1925, George Ridland, 1925 to 1928, George Knox, 1928-1933, Thomas Colwell 1936-1937, Manly Eby, 1937-1939, Herman McConnell, 1940-1943 and T. Thompson Moore, from 1943 to 1947.

Fonds consists of a Register of baptisms, marriages and burials, 1919-1947, and the log of the Iwyll, 1919-1925.

Control No.: ChUn 21

### **Comox-Nanaimo Presbytery fonds — 1959-1987 ; 2000-2002. — 85 cm textual records.**

The Comox-Nanaimo Presbytery was created in 1959 through a division of Victoria Presbytery.

Fonds consists of the following record series: Comox-Nanaimo Presbytery and Executive meeting minutes (official minutes, 1959-1985 and unofficial minutes, 1986-1987 ; 2000-2002); Correspondence of the Presbytery Secretary (1965-1994); Pastoral Relations files of the Presbytery Secretary (1967-1976); and Subject files of the Presbytery Secretary.

Title based on content of the fonds

Some files restricted; see file list

File list available

Control No.: ChUP 2

**Conference Minister, Prince Rupert Presbytery fonds. — 1972-2008 — 1.18 m of textual records.**

The position of Conference Minister for the Prince Rupert Presbytery was established in the early 1970s and still exists. This position continued the work of former Superintendents of Home Missions in providing support, leadership and administration, particularly in the areas of most concern for First Nations. The fonds covers the tenure of two individuals, Gordon Pokorny and Charlotte Sullivan, who occupied this position between 1986 and 2006. Between 1986 and 1992 Gordon Pokorny's responsibilities included acting as a consultant to the Presbytery and congregations and personnel within the Presbytery, program development and planning, pastoral relations, pastoral care to ministers, supporting the work of the Division of Mission in Canada through Mission Support Grants, and church development. In 1993, Charlotte Sullivan, who was a hereditary chief among the Gitksan, succeeded Gordon as Conference Minister, a position she would hold until her death in 2006. In addition to already established roles, Charlotte advised the United Church's national Residential Schools Steering Committee and provided leadership in native circles.

Fonds contains the following series: Native Ministries Consortium (1986-2004), Reference and Liaison (1988-2005), and Residential Schools Issues (1986; 1993-2008).

Title based on content of the fonds

Some files restricted; see file list

File list available

Control No.: ChUN 23

**Coqualeetza Institute fonds. — 1888-1941. — 10.0 cm textual records.**

The Coqualeetza Institute, also often known as the Coqualeetza Industrial Institute, was founded as a day school in 1884 by Charles M. Tate and his wife Caroline. Two years later, they took some of the students into the mission house, first at their own cost and later with a grant from the Methodist Woman's Missionary Society; in 1888, the W.M.S. built a residential school named the Coqualeetza Home, which continued to operate until it burned down in 1891.

With some help from the federal government of Canada, the school was rebuilt and opened as the Coqualeetza Institute in 1894. In 1900, the General Board of Missions took over from the W.M.S., and enrollment was increased from 110 to 165 students. In 1914, George H. Raley was appointed Principal of the school. It is unclear who may have occupied the post between Raley and Tate, who appears in records as late as 1909; two other ministers, Elihu Manuel and A.E. Roberts, also appear in the records as having some involvement with the school between 1909 and 1914.

In 1924 the federal government built a new building to accommodate 200 pupils, which opened in October. R.C. Scott was appointed Principal upon Raley's retirement in 1933, and served until the school was closed at the end of 1939, the building becoming the Coqualeetza Sanitorium under the management of the federal government, and the pupils and staff being moved to the Alberni Indian Residential School.

Fonds consists of 18 marriage certificate stubs, 1901-1932; a Register of baptisms, marriages, and deaths, 1887-1940; a Marriage register, 1900-1919; a register of visitors, 1896-1911; a Marriage register with one entry, Nov. 15, 1899; a Civil marriage register, 1923-1941; missionary subscription lists, 1914-1925; records of admissions and discharges, 1900-1905; and an Industrial school register, 1888-1891.

The missionary subscription lists include those of the Lower Fraser Circuit for the period 1914-1920, mainly listing subscriptions from the Coqualeetza Institute. Also, there are a few records of marriages in the civil register that took place in Alberni, B.C., most likely at the Alberni Indian Residential School.

The bulk of the School's records were transferred to the Alberni Indian Residential School, and likely were subsequently transferred to the federal government along with responsibility for the management of the school in Alberni.

The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act of B.C. applies to the Civil marriage register.

Control No.: AffB 5

### **George H. Raley fonds. — 1893-1954. — 3.0 cm textual records.**

George Henry Raley was born to George Jackson Raley and Ann Emsley Raley in Yorkshire, England in 1865. He came to Canada in the late 1870's, settling in Brockville, Ontario, and entered the Methodist ministry as a probationer in 1884, being ordained in 1889. In 1890 he married Maude Giles of Brockville.

He transferred to British Columbia in 1897 to set up a permanent mission at Kitimaat. He and Maude built the mission home, the school, later named the Elizabeth Long Memorial Home after its first matron, and a residence for the school while he was

stationed there; during this period he also began the printing of one of the first newspapers of Northern B.C., the Na-Na-Kwa, or The Dawn (of the Northwest Coast).

In 1906 he was transferred to Port Simpson, where he helped rebuild the historic church built there by Thomas Crosby and the local Indians, and the mission house which had recently been destroyed by fire. He was elected President of the B.C. Conference in 1912. He was appointed Principal of the Coqualeetza Institute in Sardis in 1914, and served there until his retirement in 1933, the same year in which he received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from Union College. Maude Raley died a few years later, in 1939.

Raley wrote and published prolifically after his retirement, on the history, culture and economic problems of British Columbia's indigenous peoples, and on the legal and moral responsibilities of government and Canadian society to the indigenous peoples. He was a Fellow of both the Royal Geographical Society and the Society of the Arts, and also wrote for the Art, Historical and Scientific Association of B.C. He lived in Vancouver with his daughter Judith Charleston from 1939 until his death in 1958; he was survived by Judith and a son, George E. Raley.

The records were probably passed on to Robert Scott at around the time of Raley's death, and were transferred to the archives as part of R.C. Scott's papers. Although Scott appears to have kept Raley's records separate from his own, they are physically arranged with the R.C. Scott fonds.

Fonds consists of two files: Baptismal and death records, 1893-1954, and Marriage records, 1893-1951. Some of the records are written on the reverse side of pages from a draft essay on Indian arts and industry.

The bulk of Raley's papers are currently at the British Columbia Archives and Records Service.

Control No.: Priv 3

### **Glad Tidings (Mission boat) fonds. — 1884-1990. — 1.2 cm textual records.**

The Glad Tidings was built in 1884 by William Oliver for the marine mission work of Thomas Crosby, who had travelled by canoe up to that point. For most of its existence it was stationed at Port Simpson, with either Thomas Crosby or William Oliver serving as master. Ministers who served on the ship with Oliver as master include C.M. Tate, when the ship was stationed in Nanaimo for a brief period in 1890, and W.H. Pierce from 1895 to 1897. Various ministers made use of the ship from 1899 until it sank in 1903.

Fonds consists of the ship's log from November, 1884 to May 1890.

Control No.: ChMe 4

**J. Edward Rendle fonds. — 1918-1930. — 26 cm textual records.**

J. Edward Rendle came to British Columbia from Prince Edward Island in 1905 to work among the native people of the West Coast. He served at Cape Mudge until 1918, then at Clo-oose Mission until 1925, when he was moved to Bella Coola. In Bella Coola, he led the community in completing the Mackenzie Church at the new town site, which he was proud to see dedicated in 1929 free of encumbrances and without cost to the Board of Home Missions. Rendle was transferred to Kitamaat in July 1930, but suffered a heart attack directly upon arrival, and died on August 19 at Rivers Inlet Hospital.

Fonds consists of sermons, correspondence, essays and written presentations, newspaper clippings, and pamphlets.

Control No.: Priv 6

**Melvin Swartout II (Mission boat) fonds. — 1951-1961. — 6.5 cm textual records.**

The Melvin Swartout II was purchased by the Board of Home Missions in 1951 for use on the West coast of Vancouver Island. It was stationed in Alert Bay, under the Alert Bay Marine Mission until 1953, when it was moved to Bamfield, doing the same work. It remained stationed there until it was sold in 1963. Ministers who served on the ship include Roy Rodgers, 1951-1956, Bill Howie, 1956-1959, John Philip Romeril, 1959-1962, and Wayne Oliver Mackenzie, 1962-1963.

Fonds consists of log books from 1951-1961.

Control No.: ChUn 19

**Methodist Church of Canada. Bella Bella District fonds. — 1897-1900. — 2.0 cm textual records.**

Bella Bella District was created from part of the Port Simpson District in Northern B.C. in 1897, and existed until 1900 when it became part of Indian District.

Fonds includes minutes of the Annual District meetings and the Ministerial Session, 1898-1900, and minutes of the Financial District meetings, 1897-1898.

Control No.: ChMD 1

**Methodist Church of Canada. British Columbia Conference fonds. — 1887-1925. — 33 cm textual records.**

The British Columbia Conference was established in 1887 and remained in place until the union of the Methodist and Presbyterian Churches in Canada to form the United Church of Canada in 1925. Prior to 1887, the work of the Methodist Church in B.C. was carried out under the auspices of the Toronto Conference.

The Conference was an annual meeting with an equal number of lay and ministerial representatives from each District. Its functions were to elect representatives to the General Conference, to approve any sales of Church property within its jurisdiction, and to appoint and supervise the work of various Church committees and officers within its boundaries. In between sessions of the Annual Conference, a Special Committee of senior members reporting to the Conference was responsible for handling any business that could not be left until the next Annual Conference, with the exception of Church property, which remained the sole jurisdiction of the Conference.

Each Conference was immediately preceded by a Ministerial Session whose function was to examine and approve the ordination of ministers and probationers within the bounds of the Conference.

Fonds consists of minutes of the Annual Conference, including some minutes of the Ministerial Session, 1887-1925, and programs of the Conference meetings for 1902, 1909-1910, and 1914-1925.

Minutes for the period 1887-1898 are available only on microfilm.

Control No.: ChMe 1

**Methodist Church of Canada. British Columbia District fonds. — 1868-1880. — 1.0 cm textual records.**

The British Columbia District was created in 1868 as an administrative division of the Foreign Missions Board of the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Canada, and comprised most of the present-day British Columbia Conference. In 1874, B.C. became a mission district of the newly formed Toronto Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada, and in 1881 was divided into the Victoria-New Westminster District and the Port Simpson District, the latter consisting of the territory North of Prince Rupert.

Fonds consists of the minutes of the Financial District, 1868-1880.

Control No.: ChMD 2

**Methodist Church of Canada. Hazelton District fonds. — 1919-1925. — 3.0 cm textual records.**

The Prince George District, created from part of the Port Simpson District in 1914, was renamed Hazelton District in 1918.

Fonds consists of minutes of the Annual District and the Ministerial Session, 1919-1925.

Control No.: ChMD 3

**Methodist Church of Canada. Indian District fonds. — 1900-1907. — 5.0 cm textual records.**

The Indian District was created in 1900 through an amalgamation of Bella Bella District and Port Simpson District, and was renamed Port Simpson District again in 1907.

Fonds consists of minutes of the Annual District and the Ministerial Session, 1901-1907; minutes of the Financial District, 1900-1906; and the Circuit Schedule, 1903-1904.

Control No.: ChMD 4

**Methodist Church of Canada. Missionary Society. British Columbia Conference Branch fonds. — 1893-1925. — 25 cm textual records.**

The Methodist Church viewed missionary work, not limited to evangelism, as one of its primary purposes, and every member of the Church was deemed automatically to be a member of the Missionary Society. The management of the Society at the Conference level was through a Superintendent appointed by the General Board of Missions, whose responsibility it was to oversee all missionary work within the bounds of the Conference, a Missionary Committee appointed by the Annual Conference and the Districts for the purpose of examining grants to be made to individual missions, which reported to both the Superintendent and the Conference, and any other committees appointed by the Conference for the purpose of administering grants for missionary work.

In addition to the Missionary Committee, the British Columbia Conference had a Home Missions Committee and an Oriental Committee, formerly the Western Oriental Commission (1910-1913), and the Western Oriental Committee (1914-1916). The Conference also carried out a marine mission along the coast, which formally began in 1884 with the launch of the Glad Tidings.

Fonds consists of incoming correspondence accumulated by J.H. White as Superintendent of Missions between 1910 and 1919; accounts of the Missionary Committee from July 1908 to July 1909; and accounts of the Home Missions Committee from 1893-1925. The mission boat logs are described with the Marine Committee of the United Church.

A box list of White's papers is available.

Control No.: ChMe 2

**Methodist Church of Canada. Nanaimo District fonds. — 1915-1925. — 1.0 cm textual records.**

Nanaimo District was divided off from Victoria District in 1910.

Fonds includes minutes of the Annual District and the Ministerial Session, 1915-1918, 1921 and 1925.

Control No.: ChMD 5

**Methodist Church of Canada. Port Simpson District fonds. — 1881-1925. — 20 cm textual records.**

The Port Simpson District was created from part of the British Columbia District in 1881. Upon the creation of the B.C. Conference in 1887, Port Simpson became one of four districts in the Conference.

For the period 1897-1900, a portion of Port Simpson District was named Bella Bella District, and from 1900-1907, the entire area was known as Indian District. In 1914 a small portion of Port Simpson District became the new Prince George District, later the Hazelton District.

Fonds consists of minutes of the Annual District and Ministerial Session, 1881-1900 and 1908-1925; and minutes of the Financial District, 1882-1899 and 1907-1925.

Control No.: ChMD 6

**Methodist Church of Canada. Victoria District fonds. — 1886-1925. — 12 cm textual records.**

The Victoria District was divided off from the Victoria-New Westminster District in 1885, and became one of the four districts of the B.C. Conference in 1887. Nanaimo District was divided off from Victoria District in 1910.

Fonds includes minutes of the Annual District and the Ministerial Session, 1910-1918, 1922-1925; minutes of the Financial District, 1886-1925; and incoming correspondence of the District chair, 1905-1906.

Control No.: ChMD 7

**Methodist Church of Canada. Victoria-New Westminster District fonds. — 1882-1884. — 1 cm textual records.**

The Victoria-New Westminster District was created in 1881 through a division of the British Columbia District. Between 1885 and 1887 it was divided further into the Victoria, New Westminster and Kamloops districts, the latter being created as part of the new B.C. Conference in 1887.

Fonds consists of minutes of the Financial District, 1882-1884.

Control No.: ChMD 8

**Methodist Church of Canada. Westminster District fonds. — 1887-1925. — 14 cm textual records.**

The Westminster District, or New Westminster District prior to the 1887 B.C. Conference, was divided off from the Victoria-New Westminster District in 1885. After the creation of Kamloops District in 1887, Westminster District consisted of all of the lower mainland except for the interior. In 1896 Vancouver District was divided off from Westminster District.

Fonds includes minutes of the Annual District and the Ministerial Session, 1899-1911, 1913-1915, 1920-1921 and 1923-1925; minutes of the Financial District, 1887-1915; and an accounts book, correspondence and other papers of the District branch of the Missionary Society, 1893-1896.

Control No.: ChMD 9

**Methodist Church of Canada. Woman's Missionary Society. British Columbia Conference Branch fonds. — 1904-1923. — 5.0 cm textual records.**

The first branch in B.C. of the Methodist Woman's Missionary Society in British Columbia was organized at the old Pandora Avenue Church in Victoria in 1888. It soon became the auxiliary of Metropolitan Church, and its original purpose was to help in the setting up of a "rescue home" for Chinese women and girls who had been forced into prostitution. Other local auxiliaries soon appeared throughout the province, and in 1891 they were unified through the establishment of the B.C. Conference branch of the W.M.S. In 1904, District branches were created for Victoria, Vancouver, Westminster and Kamloops.

Besides the rescue home in Victoria, the Methodist W.M.S. in B.C. supported such institutions as the Crosby Girls' Home in Port Simpson, the Coqualeetza Institute in

Chilliwack, the Elizabeth Long Memorial Home in Kitamaat, the Turner Institute in Vancouver, and Methodist Hospitals at Port Simpson, Bella Bella and Hazelton.

Fonds includes minutes of the Advisory Committee of the Japanese Mission, later called the Oriental Mission, 1908-1923; minutes of the Victoria District meetings, 1904-1911; and minutes of the Westminster District meetings, 1905-1923.

Control No.: ChMe 3

**Metropolitan Council of the United Church of Canada in the Lower Mainland fonds. — 1969-1974. — 8.3 m textual records.**

The Metropolitan Council in the Lower Mainland was established in 1969 for the purpose of oversight, support and administration of rural and urban missions, institutional work, and social services in the lower mainland, in cooperation with the Conference, the four presbyteries concerned, and the national church, represented by the Board of Home Missions before 1972 and the Division of Mission in Canada thereafter. The Council had twenty-two members, ten of whom constituted the Board of Directors, and much of its work was carried out through three standing committees - Finance (with Property as a sub-committee), Programme, and Strategy. There were numerous ad hoc committees as well.

In 1974 the Council was dissolved as an administrative entity, although it did continue to exist for legal purposes. Its staff was merged with that of the B.C. Conference; the responsibility for church property in the lower mainland was transferred to the new Property Development Committee, and James Chisolm, formerly Administrative Officer of the Council, became the first Conference Administrator.

Fonds consists of subject files - correspondence, minutes, internal reports, memoranda and publications, including records of dealings with the Conference, Conference committees, divisions and officers, and the Board of Home Missions in Toronto; records of business related to specific church properties and missions in the lower mainland; and records of the Council's Home Placement Committee.

The Home Placement Committee records and Board of Home Missions records are physically separate from the other files, as is a run of subject files covering 1974 only.

Some files dealing with personnel have been restricted at the discretion of the archivist.

Inventory available.

Control No.: ChUn 10

**Oliver Howard fonds — [1982?]-1984. — 37 cm textual records. — 12 audio cassette tapes. — 45 photographs.**

Oliver Howard was born in 1927, and ordained by the British Columbia Conference of the United Church in 1953. His first station was with the Prince Rupert Presbytery in Albert Bay; he subsequently served the Marine Mission in Ocean Falls, the Campbell River Pastoral Charge, the Friendship House in Prince Rupert and the Board of Home Missions in Toronto before taking over as Minister of the Thomas Crosby V for the Central Mainland Marine Mission, where he was stationed when he wrote *The Uttermost parts of the sea*, subsequently published under the title *Godships* (Toronto: United Church of Canada, 1984).

Fonds consists of a fair copy in four volumes and the second and third drafts (each in one volume) of the *Uttermost parts of the sea*, completed in 1984 or late in 1983; seven ink drawings of mission boats, labelled copies of which appear in the fourth volume of the fair copy, ca. 1980-1983; correspondence with Joan Homewood regarding corrections to the manuscript, November 1983; an index to the fair copy above, in three card files; photographs gathered in the preparation of the book; and twelve audio cassette tapes of interviews conducted in preparation for the book. Most of the material in the fourth volume of the fair copy was not published; this includes indexes with point form notes on missionaries who served on the Indian and marine mission fields for the Methodist, Presbyterian and United churches in B.C., on mission stations of the United Church in B.C., of the mission boats in B.C. and two church aircraft.

Item-level descriptions of the photographs are available in another database.

Control No.: Priv 4

**Photographs collection. — 1925- . — ca. 1850 photographic prints : b&w, some col. — ca. 300 glass plate slides.**

Photographs, together with minutes and deeds, were among the materials that the British Columbia Synod of the Presbyterian Church in Canada asked congregations to keep for historical purposes in 1915. It is very likely that the archives' collection of glass plate slides began under the respective Historical Committees of the Presbyterian and Methodist Churches prior to church union in 1925, and kept by members of the United Church Archives and Historical Committee until the Conference Archives was granted a modest space of its own at Union College in the late 1930's.

The bulk of the photographic prints joined the collection in the 1980's when they were removed from the Vertical files collection (Coll 1) for preservation purposes, and arranged by their various subjects.

Collection consists of photographic prints and glass plate slides; the prints are arranged into the following classifications: Biographical photographs, of clergy and prominent

figures in the life of the church; Congregation photographs, of churches and congregational activities; and also Conference, Colleges and schools, Women's groups, Youth groups, Presbytery meetings, Hospitals, Marine missions, the Oriental Home in Victoria, and Church Courts and other bodies outside of B.C.

A collection known as the Stephenson slides, being of uncertain authorship and history, have been arranged with the glass plate slides in this collection.

Item-level descriptions of most prints are available.

Control No.: Coll 2

**Presbyterian Church in Canada. British Columbia Synod. Foreign Mission Committee fonds. — 1907. — 11 pp. textual records.**

The Foreign Missions Committee provided support to the General Assembly's Foreign Missions Committee, Western Section - later the Western Division, or the Western Section of the Board of Foreign Missions - in its work in Formosa (Taiwan), China, India and North Korea, as well as among the Chinese and indigenous peoples of British Columbia.

Fonds consists of one Annual Report to Synod.

Control No.: ChPr 2

**Presbyterian Church in Canada. British Columbia Synod. Home Missions Committee fonds. — 1902-1919. — 5.0 cm textual records.**

The Home Missions Committee supported the Western Section of the General Assembly's Home Missions Board in its supervision of all mission work in Western Canada with the exception of work among the Chinese, and until 1912 work among the Native Indians. The primary business of the Committee was the transfer of funds from the Board to the local missions in the field.

Fonds consists of minutes and summaries of grants given by the Committee.

Control No.: ChPr 3

**Presbyterian Church in Canada. Victoria Presbytery fonds. — 1904-1925. — 7.0 cm textual records.**

The Victoria Presbytery was one of four presbyteries created in 1892 with the replacement of the Prebytery of Columbia with the new Synod of British Columbia. It was originally called Vancouver Island Presbytery, and was renamed Victoria Presbytery

in 1895.

Fonds consists of minutes of the Presbytery, 1904-1925.

Control No.: ChPP 1

**Presbyterian Church in Canada. Westminster Presbytery fonds. — 1892-1925. — 11 cm textual records.**

Westminster Presbytery came into being with the creation of the new British Columbia Synod in 1892.

Fonds includes minutes of presbytery meetings, 1892-1905 and 1921-1925, the latter including regular reports of the Home and Foreign Missions Committees, 1922-1925; minutes of the Church Extension Committee, 1910-1912; and minutes and correspondence of the Historical Committee, 1914-1924.

Control No.: ChPP 2

**Prince Rupert Presbytery fonds — 1925-2005. — 1.34 m textual records.**

The Prince Rupert Presbytery is one of the eight Presbyteries created by church union in 1925.

Fonds consists of the following record series: Prince Rupert Presbytery and Executive meeting minutes (official minutes, 1925-1956, 1981-1991, 1997-2003; and unofficial minutes, 1973-1975, 1978-1981); Correspondence of the Presbytery Secretary (1933-1995); Subject files of the Presbytery Secretary (1951-1984); Correspondence and subject files of the Chair of Presbytery (1971-1976, 2005); Financial records (1947-1977); and Division and committee records (1960-1983).

Title based on contents of the fonds

Some files restricted; see file list

File list available

Control No.: ChUP 6

**R.C. Scott fonds. — 1897-1978; predominant 1917-1960. — 40 cm textual records. — ca. 300 photographs.**

Robert Clyde Scott was born in Paisley, Bruce County, Ontario on November 15, 1879,

the eldest son of Robert Scott and Euphemia McTaggart. He went to Alberta at around 1900, and worked for the C.P.R. as a brakeman and as a lay supply for the Methodist Missionaries in Red Deer. In 1907 he entered Victoria College, Toronto, and in 1911 graduated with a B.A.; he was received into full connexion at the Alberta Conference in 1912.

In 1913 Scott came to British Columbia and began marine mission work on Howe Sound, with headquarters at Gibson's Landing. This work involved ministering to the physical as well as spiritual needs of those in the logging camps, Indian villages, fishing villages and lighthouses along the coast. He met Amelia Wakefield while he was stationed at Gibson's Landing, and they married on May 26, 1915. She gave birth to their only child, Robert Wakefield Scott on November 17, 1916. Amelia died in 1950.

In 1917 Scott's headquarters were moved to Hazelton, and in 1919 he reopened the Indian Mission at Cape Mudge, the mission boat Iwyll being brought to the coast for his use, and he remained there until 1925. From that point until 1933 he was stationed at Ocean Falls, with the mission boats Thomas Crosby II and Thomas Crosby IV; During the years 1933-1934 Scott was stationed on the West coast of Vancouver Island, with the mission boat Melvin Swartout.

He left marine work in 1933, when he was appointed principal of the Coqualeetza Residential School (previously the Coqualeetza Institute), succeeding George H. Raley in that post. The following year, he was elected President of the B.C. Conference of the United Church. When the Coqualeetza school closed, and the Alberni Indian Residential School was opened, Scott moved to the new school as principal, and remained until 1944.

For the next four years Scott was on disability leave due to a severe throat condition. In May of 1947, he completed his book *My Captain Oliver* (United Church Publishing House, 1947), about Captain William Oliver, who built and skippered the Thomas Crosby III.

In 1948 Scott retired and took over the position of visiting chaplain to patients in the Coqualeetza Sanitarium, and then to patients in the Hospital for Indians in Nanaimo; later that year, the United Church honored him with the addition of the Robert C. Scott to its fleet, and he was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity by Union College of British Columbia in 1950. On October 5, 1951, Scott married his second wife, Eunice Phillips of Richmond, B.C. He continued his hospital visits until his death in Vancouver on June 4, 1960.

The bulk of the records likely were received from Eunice Scott prior to her death in 1980; the smaller 1984 accession was passed on to Lawrence Sieber by Eunice' executor Grace Schutz in 1983, for transfer to the archives.

Fonds consists of the following series: Vital records, 1930-1960; Marine mission

records, 1919-1948; Committee and institutional records, 1897-1958; Financial records and fundraising, 1923-1957; Correspondence files, 1917-1960; Manuscripts and writings, 1919-1951; Published and collected materials, 1918-1959; and Photographs.

Some records of George H. Raley, probably received by Scott around the time of Raley's death in 1958 and kept separately, are physically arranged with these records, but are described separately under Raley's name.

Series descriptions and folder list available.

Control No.: Priv 2

**R.C. Scott II (Mission boat) fonds. — 1953-1957. — 21 cm textual records.**

The Robert C. Scott II was purchased in 1955 for the Alert Bay Marine Mission. It served the West coast of Vancouver Island from Alert Bay, and later Tahsis before being moved to Butedale in 1963. Missionaries who served on board include Oliver Howard, from 1955 to 1957, Bob Scales, 1957 to 1958, W.O. Mackenzie, 1958-1960, W.L. Howie, 1961-1962, Virgil Plager, 1962-1963, and Ken Benner, from 1963 to 1964 or later.

Fonds consists of the ship's log, 1953-1967.

Control No.: ChUn 20

**Udal (Mission boat) fonds. — 1908-1909. — 3.0 cm textual records.**

The Udal was built in 1908 by William Oliver, and sailed, under Oliver's ownership, as a mission boat for the Methodist Church until it sank in July, 1909. During its brief period of use, the ship provided transport for missionaries and emergency medical transport on the mainland coast, much as the Thomas Crosby did in the same region in later years. A lay missionary, C.W. Webber, sailed with the ship, and may have been part of a mission reporting to the Bella Bella District of the Methodist Church.

Fonds consists of the ship's log from December 1908 to July 1909.

Please use the preservation copy if possible.

Control No.: ChMe 5

**United Church of Canada. British Columbia Conference. Associate Secretary of Evangelism and Social Service fonds. — 1912-1951. — 15 m textual records.**

The Evangelism and Social Service Associate Secretaries were officers of the national Board of Evangelism and Social Services at work in the Conferences. The duties of the Board were to provide leadership in the promotion of evangelism and the development of the spiritual life and work of the Church, and to oversee redemptive and child welfare institutions, and homes for the aged. Hugh Dobson was a Field Secretary under the Methodist Board of Evangelism and Social Service from 1913-1925, and Associate Secretary of Evangelism and Social Service in the B.C. Conference from 1925-1951.

Fonds includes subject files, general business correspondence, personal correspondence, and publications accumulated by Hugh Dobson while he was with the Board.

Inventory available.

Control No.: ChUn 4

**United Church of Canada. British Columbia Conference. Central Mainland Marine Mission fonds. — 1924-1990; predominant 1975-1989. — 1.5 m textual and other records.**

The first of the Thomas Crosby mission boats was launched in 1912, replacing the Homespun, a small gasoline launch that had been in use since the Udal was lost in 1909. The Thomas Crosby I, II and III served on the mainland for the Port Simpson District of the Methodist Church up to church union in 1925, being known at that time as the Crosby Mission. Under the United Church, the Mission became a pastoral charge, first called the Queen Charlotte (Marine) Pastoral Charge and then renamed Central Mainland Marine Mission in 1929.

The Thomas Crosby III, built in 1923, was replaced with the more seaworthy Thomas Crosby IV in 1938, which in turn was replaced by the Thomas Crosby V in 1967, the Sea Island II being chartered for a brief period while the Thomas Crosby V was being built. Missionaries who served on the Crosby include R.C. Scott, Peter Kelley, R.H. McColl, John Towers, Bob Scales, Oliver Howard, Jack Gosse serving as a lay minister, Bob Faris and Gordon Taylor.

In the 1970's, the Presbytery created an Oversight Committee to act as board for the Mission, and eventually most of the responsibility for the Mission's funding was transferred from the Presbytery to the Division of Mission (B.C.). Through the 1970's and 1980's, the Mission reported to both the Presbytery and D.M.C. (B.C.) through the Committee; during this period the staff was fairly large as well, with separate positions for the Master and the Missionary, as well as an engineer, deckhands and a nurse.

Although the Thomas Crosby V was the only marine mission operating in the region in

the 1980's, the cost of operating the Mission was becoming more and more of a concern to those involved, and several studies were conducted into the possibility of finding more cost-effective ways to conduct its work. Late in 1990, Prince Rupert Presbytery voted to recommend that the ship be sold, with a view to finding more cost effective ways of reaching the same constituency, although the 1992 report to Conference describes it as having had a ship in 1991 as well. Since then the Mission has relied on air travel to reach its points of call.

The records have come to the archives in two accessions, the first consisting mainly of log books and vital records, the second, in 1993 or 1994, consisting mainly of unbound files.

Fonds consists of the following series: Ships' logs, 1924-1967; Vital records and rolls, 1949-1985; Mission oversight records, 1978-1990; Ship operations records, 1975-1990; Donations, fundraising and grant applications, 1966-1988; Pamphlets and publications, 1983-1989; Presbytery visitations and place name files, 1975-1989; Correspondence, 1982-1989; Native work and Native Indian studies, 1962-1990; Publication of the Log, 1977-1989; Projects and other files, 1975-1988; the Card file, 1974-1988; and a Display kit.

The arrangement of the files in the second accession is largely an imposed order, with files pertaining to the same business, or filed in the same manner, arranged together as series. The bulk of the files were kept in an alphabetical subject system, details of which changed over time, and from which inactive folders were pulled on a regular basis; where there has been any doubt as to the correct classification of a file, the classification involving the least physical rearrangement possible has been favoured.

A few files are restricted at the discretion of the archivist.

Series descriptions and folder list available.

Control No.: ChUn 18

**United Church of Canada. British Columbia Conference. Church Property Committee fonds. — 1859-1956. — 60 cm textual records + property records inventory.**

The Church Property Committee existed to oversee all purchases and sales of church property within the bounds of the Conference, and to correspond with the presbyteries concerned with such transactions.

In 1953 this function was assigned for the Vancouver area to the Vancouver-Westminster Metropolitan Council for Church Extension, and in 1961 the B.C. Conference Council for Church Extension was created to serve this function for the remainder of the Conference.

Fonds consists of deeds and other legal documents, 1861-1937; surveys of and applications to dispose of church properties, 1892-1933; registers of legal documents, descriptions of property and property rents, 1930-1956; correspondence and other files of the Committee chair, 1930-1935; correspondence and cash records of the Committee, 1883-1898; and other correspondence and documents to do with Methodist Church property, 1859-1916.

The property records inventory was done for administrative purposes in 1932.

Control No.: ChUn 3

**United Church of Canada. British Columbia Conference. Comox-Nanaimo-Victoria Presbytery Officer fonds. — 1956-1979. — 1.4 m textual records.**

The presbytery officers were introduced between 1969 and 1973, with the aim of dividing up the work of the two Superintendents of Home Missions in the Conference, and of improving communication between the Conference and the presbyteries. They were conceived of as a resource for the presbytery, providing coordination, consultation and counselling for all levels of the church within the presbytery, as well as serving ecumenical functions at the local level.

George Affleck was appointed Comox-Nanaimo-Victoria Presbytery Officer in 1973, and served in that capacity until 1976, succeeded by Les Clark, who held the office until 1980.

Fonds consists of the following series: General records, 1959-1973; Annual reports of congregations and pastoral charges, 1974-1976; Comox-Nanaimo Presbytery, 1957-1979; Victoria Presbytery, 1969-1976; Financial records, 1971-1974; and Subject files, 1956-1976.

The records include records inherited from the Home Missions Superintendents.

Inventory available.

Control No.: ChUn 13

**United Church of Canada. British Columbia Conference. Conference Administrator fonds. — 1979-1983. — 70cm textual records.**

The office of Conference Administrator was created in 1979 for the management of the Conference finances, oversight of the Conference office, and consultation with the Divisions, Presbyteries, congregations and individuals concerning budget planning,

stewardship and property matters. The Conference Administrator from 1979 to 1983 was J.A. Chisolm, formerly Administrative Officer for the Metropolitan Council in the Lower Mainland.

Fonds consists of outgoing correspondence and subject files generated by Chisolm during his tenure.

Files generated following the change in file classifications in 1981 have been interfiled alphabetically, as have unnumbered files.

Confidential correspondence and pensions files have been restricted at the discretion of the archivist.

A file list is available.

Control No.: ChUn 2

**United Church of Canada. British Columbia Conference. Executive Secretary fonds. — 1961-1983. — 2.4 m textual records.**

The office of Executive Secretary was introduced in the British Columbia Conference on the initiative of the General Council, with the responsibility of coordinating the work of the various Conference committees and facilitating communication with the General Council and the Presbyteries.

The Executive Secretary has also had responsibility for the the Conference rolls and proceedings, the custody of all Conference records not transferred to the Archives, and some personnel matters. Between 1961 and 1983, there were four Executive Secretaries: Robert Henderson, 1963-1966, Edward Nichols, 1967-1972, Arthur M. Anderson, 1973-1980, and Ivan Cumming, 1981-1986.

Fonds consists of the following series: Major administrative files, 1961-1978; Major administrative files pertaining to General Council, 1965-1983; Major administrative files pertaining to B.C. Conference, 1971-1983; Secondary subject files, 1964-1977; and Secondary subject files, 1967-1983.

The series are arranged physically into two separate accessions, according to a system of alphabetical subject files.

Inventory available.

Control No.: ChUn 5

**United Church of Canada. British Columbia Conference. First United Church Institutional Mission fonds. — 1885-1984. — 3.7 m textual and other records.**

Although First United Church serves the functions of a congregation, its primary function since its inception in 1925 has been mission work in the downtown Eastside area of Vancouver. It has two predecessors in this function, First Presbyterian Church, 1885-1925, and the Turner Institute, previously the Princess Street Methodist Church, 1889-1925. Both First Presbyterian and the Turner Institute started their social work programs in 1915; the Turner Institute became a mission under the Methodist General Board of Missions in 1917, and First Presbyterian was moved and renamed Vancouver Community House under the Presbyterian Board of Home Missions in 1918.

The scope of the mission has included a wide range of inner-city community and social work. J. Richmond Craig, minister at First Presbyterian from 1921-1925, served as minister at First United from 1925-1929. During this period First Presbyterian and Vancouver Community House were reintegrated into an institutional church under the United Church Board of Home Missions, and the radio broadcasts from First United were initiated. His successor Andrew Roddan, who served from 1929 until his death in 1948, drew large audiences with his Sunday broadcasts in the 1930's.

Other programs included the First Church Welfare Department, later Welfare Industries, established to salvage discarded goods for distribution to the needy and to provide employment for a number of men and women, and Camp Fircom, a church leadership camp. Since World War II, the institutional functions have become a larger portion of First Church's mandate relative to its congregational functions; by the 1960's, it had gradually become a major institutional centre for mission work of the United Church in Vancouver.

In the 1960's and 1970's, the mission came under the general direction of the Vancouver-Westminster Regional Council for Institutional Work, and later the Metropolitan Council of the United Church in the Lower Mainland. In 1974, the First United Church Oversight Committee was established to oversee the mission; it is made up of members of the Church's staff team and Official Board, representatives of the presbyteries of the Lower Mainland, and representatives of the Conference. While the mission work is very prominent, First United still has a congregation which, like other congregations, has its own Official Board.

Fonds consists of the following series: Records of the Turner Institute, 1893-1927; Management records of the congregation, 1886-1984; Vital records, 1885-1980; Records of the Superintendent, 1946-1978; Mission administration records, 1920-1972; Records of affiliated groups, 1898-1972; Camp Fircom records, 1948-1978; and Radio and television broadcasts, 1960-1965.

The work of the congregation and that of the mission have often been intermingled to

some degree; as a result, the records of the two also have not always been kept separate.

Series descriptions and inventory available.

Control No.: ChUn 6

**United Church of Canada. British Columbia Conference fonds. — 1925-2003. — 82 cm textual records + signature book of delegates to the 1925 Conference.**

The British Columbia Conference of the United Church came into being with the union in 1925 of the Methodist, Presbyterian and Congregational churches, to form The United Church of Canada. The Conference is responsible in general for the oversight of the religious life of the Church within its boundaries and has specific responsibility for the ordination and settlement of ministers, the reception of ministers from other churches, oversight of the work of its presbyteries including review of presbyterial records, and other matters referred to it by the General Council, to which it elects representatives. Since its inception, the Conference has had an executive, including a President, a Secretary, a Treasurer and other officers, which meets throughout the year in between sessions of the Conference itself, and reports to the Conference. For roughly the first forty years of its existence, the Conference also had other officers, such as the Home Missions Superintendent or the Superintendent of Hospitals, who together with Conference committees had authority to carry out the work of the Church within precisely defined jurisdictions.

In 1963, on the initiative of the General Council, the position of Executive Secretary was introduced in an effort to streamline the administration of the Conference's work and to improve communication with the General Council, and the Conference committees were grouped into six Divisions: Communications, Missions, Congregational Life and Work, Finance and Stewardship, Ministry and Education, and the Division of the Executive.

Although there has been substantial administrative change since that date, the basic structure - Divisions reporting to an Executive Secretary, who reports in turn to the Conference and its Executive - has remained intact, although by 1984 committees that were part of the Division of the Executive were listed as reporting directly to the Executive, without an intervening division.

Fonds consists of minutes of the annual Conference meetings, 1925-1968 and 1995-2003, including complete annual reports of the committees, divisions and other bodies and offices that reported to the Conference; minutes of the Conference Executive from 1930 onward; and the Digest of Minutes for 1925-1990 and 1994-2003.

Control No.: ChUn 1

**United Church of Canada. British Columbia Conference. Home Missions Committee fonds. — 1926-1972. — 18 cm textual records.**

From the outset, each conference of the United Church was required to have a Home Missions Committee, whose function was to facilitate communication between the presbyteries' committees and the Board of Home Missions, to deliberate and make recommendations on grants, and to provide support for other Home Missions work within the Conference.

The Committee was composed of the Superintendents of Home Missions in the Conference, the conveners of presbyterial Home Missions committees, any members of the Board of Home Missions currently resident in the Conference, and eventually a representation of women. It had an annual meeting prior to the annual meeting of the Board of Home Missions, and submitted an annual report to the Conference.

With the creation of the Division of Missions, the Committee was an autonomous part of the Division, and later of the Division of Mission in Canada. It continues to play an important part in mission work within the Conference, although the Board of Home Missions was dissolved in the 1970's, and the Committee is now part of the Division of Finance within the Conference.

Fonds consists of minutes of the Committee and its executive, 1926-1972, and an accounts book and record of appropriations, 1940-1946.

Control No.: ChUn 7

**United Church of Canada. British Columbia Conference. Marine Committee fonds. — 1884-1978. — 1.9 m textual records.**

In 1929 the Marine Committee was established as a subcommittee of the B.C. Conference Home Missions Committee, to oversee the existing marine missions, which had been in operation since their initiation by the Methodist Church in 1874. The marine missions provided religious service, access to medical care, and other support to isolated communities along the coast.

Fonds consists of minutes of the Committee, 1929-1966.

The records of the mission boats are described under the boats themselves, or of the missions and charges that employed them. There are also mission boat records with the papers of R.C. Scott and B.C. Freeman.

Inventory available.

Control No.: ChUn 8

**United Church of Canada. British Columbia Conference. Native Affairs Consultant fonds. — 1963-1973; predominant 1969-1972. — 45 cm textual records.**

In 1969 the Board of Home Missions appointed John Cashore to the position of Native Affairs Consultant in B.C. Conference, to coordinate the work of the Native Indian Committee of the Conference Home Missions Committee, and facilitate communication between the Native Indian Committee and the Board in Toronto. (Later the Consultant was responsible for communication between the Committee and the Division of Mission in Canada.) When Cashore's term expired in 1972, the new Native Affairs Consultant was hired in joint sponsorship with the local dioceses of the Anglican and Roman Catholic Churches.

Fonds consists of the following series: Internal matters, 1963-1973; Records pertaining to Darby Lodge, 1967-1973; Records pertaining to the Metropolitan Council in the Lower Mainland, 1969-1973; Lay workers, 1969-1973; Dealings with B.C. Conference, 1965-1973; Dealings with the national Church, 1967-1973; Dealings with presbyteries, 1968-1973; Ecumenical business, 1969-1973; Governments, 1967-1972; Indian councils and organizations, 1967-1973; Conferences and consultations, 1964-1973; Students, 1970-1973; and Other matters, 1968-1973.

Series titles have been supplied, but identification of series has been on the basis of the original file numbering system.

File list available.

Control No.: ChUn 11

**United Church of Canada. British Columbia Conference. Superintendent of Home Missions fonds. — 1928-1973. — 3.1 m textual records.**

The Superintendents were representatives of the national Board of Home Missions and worked in the various conferences across Canada. Their duties, in cooperation with the presbyteries, included supervision of all aid-receiving missions and charges, the oversight of an annual fund-raising campaign, and the organization of new pastoral charges and mission fields. The emphasis in British Columbia was on Japanese and Native Indian missions, the coastal marine missions, and hospital work.

For the period immediately following church union, British Columbia missions received a large share of all Home Missions grants, and the British Columbia Conference had a correspondingly large staff, with three Superintendents at the time of union. There were severe cutbacks during the depression, and this number was reduced to one by 1939, William Percy Bunt. He served from 1939 until his retirement in 1958, and was succeeded by Robert W. Henderson in 1959, with R.M. Warne serving part-time as a Superintendent as well. Lawrence G. Sieber succeeded Henderson in 1963, and served

until the dissolution of the post, together with the Board of Home Missions, in 1972.

In 1953 the responsibility for church extension in the metropolitan area was transferred to the Metropolitan Council for Church Extension. In the 1960's and 1970's a number of other administrative changes affecting the Superintendency also took place. In 1969 the new Metropolitan Council for the United Church of Canada in the Lower Mainland assumed responsibility for mission work in that area, and in the same year the first Native Affairs Consultant was appointed, and the first Presbytery Officer was appointed to serve the Kamloops-Okanagan and Kootenay Presbyteries.

The Board of Home Missions and the Home Missions Superintendents were succeeded by the Division of Mission in Canada in 1972.

Fonds consists of records accumulated by William Percy Bunt as Superintendent, 1939-1958; records of Robert W. Henderson, 1958-1963; and records of Lawrence G. Sieber, 1963-1972.

Although the records of each Superintendent are physically separate, records were commonly inherited by the incoming Superintendent.

Box lists available.

Control No.: ChUn 9

**United Church of Canada. British Columbia Conference U.C.W. fonds. — 1961-1990; predominant 1962-1984. — 75 cm textual records.**

In 1962, the Woman's Missionary Society and the Woman's Association were amalgamated to form the United Church Women, whose focus was to be women's role in the total mission of the Church.

Fonds consists of the following series: Minutes and other records of the Conference branch, 1961-1984, and records of presbyterial branches: Minutes, correspondence and miscellaneous papers of the Cariboo Presbyterial U.C.W., 1962-1972; Minutes of the Kamloops-Okanagan Presbyterial, 1962-1972; Minutes, accounts and other records of the Kootenay Presbyterial, 1962-1973; Minutes of the Prince Rupert Presbyterial, 1962-1971; Minutes of the Vancouver Burrard Presbyterial, 1962-1990; Minutes and other records of the Vancouver South Presbyterial, 1962-1982; and Minutes and other records of the Victoria Presbyterial, 1962-1984.

Series descriptions available.

Control No.: ChUn 14

**United Church of Canada. Division of Mission in Canada (B.C.) fonds. — 1955-1986; predominant 1970-1982. — 46 m textual records.**

The Division of Mission In Canada (B.C.), or D.M.C. (B.C.) was established in 1981, as an amalgamation of the Division of Congregational Life and Work and the Division of Missions at the Conference level. The Division of C.L.&W. was established in 1964 to coordinate the work of the Christian Education Committee, the Evangelism and Social Service Committee, the United Church Men, and the United Church Women. In 1969, the Christian Education and Evangelism and Social Service Committees were replaced by three departments - Research and Resources, Leadership Development, and Outreach. The former two were combined the next year to form the Resources Development Department.

In 1971, the General Council brought together the Boards of Christian Education, Evangelism and Social Service, Home Missions, U.C. Men, U.C. Women and the Committee on Leadership Development, to form the Division of Mission in Canada. It consisted of two departments, Christian Development and Church in Society. In 1977, the national Division was reorganized into working units that combined the nurturing and social action functions of the original departments. In B.C., some attempt was made to achieve closer cooperation with the national bodies, but throughout the 1970's, the Resources Development and Outreach Departments continued to function within the Division of C.L.&W., and the Home Missions Committee as a separate body; the three groups dealt separately and independently with the national D.M.C.

Upon its creation in 1981, D.M.C. (B.C.) had working units similar to those of the national Division. Working units set up in 1981 were Congregational Planning and Growth; Evangelism and Worship; Ministry with Children; Ministry with Youth; Ministry with Adults; Health, Housing and Social Services; Socio-Economic Development; and Recreation and Leisure. Provision was made for the establishment of additional working units and task forces, project teams, or ad hoc groups as the need arose.

Fonds consists of the following series: Minutes and internal reports of the national Division of Congregational Life and Work, 1964-1965; Minutes, correspondence and other records of the C.L.&W. Executive, 1977-1981; Records of the Resources Development Department, 1977-1981; Records of the Children's Section, 1975-1982; Records and publications of the Youth Section, 1978-1981; Records of youth summer work projects, 1955-1979; Minutes and correspondence of the Camp Committee; Other C.L.&W. records; Conference staff correspondence of D.M.C. (B.C.), 1980-1986; Division files, 1982-1984; and Publications, 1980-1984.

Some student files are restricted.

File list available.

Control No.: ChUn 16

**United Church of Canada. Naramata Centre fonds. — 1947-1986; predominant 1947-1980. — 6.0 m textual and other records.**

In 1947, the Christian Leadership Training School, later known as the Naramata Centre, was established at Naramata, B.C. to provide training for lay leadership training programs for lay people and ministers. Winter session students lived at the school for a period of several months, the curriculum consisting of short courses on subjects such as bible study and teaching methods, taught by the principal, other staff members, or visiting lecturers. In later years, the curriculum became oriented more towards personal growth and development rather than leadership. There were also short summer courses to equip Sunday School teachers, musicians, and others for work in their congregations. Short courses are now offered throughout the year.

The original constitution provided for a Board of Directors responsible for the general policy and management of the School; a Board of Trustees to supervise investments and finances; and a Board of Managers responsible for budgeting and fund-raising. In 1977 the Board of Managers became a committee of the Board of Directors and its name was changed to the Management Committee; two more standing committees, Program and Personnel, were added at this time.

The first Principal of the school was Robert A. McLaren, also minister at the local United Church. The first students lived in a rented building and attended classes in the basement of the church, but over the years a number of buildings were built for the school. McLaren was succeeded by Frank Patterson in 1964, Ivan Everett Cumming in 1968, and John Robertson in 1981. (The title changed from Principal to Director in 1968.) Staff members have included Jack Best, Development Officer from 1976 on, Roy Stobie, and Dr. William Rose following his retirement from UBC.

At various times in its existence the school has reported to the Board of Home Missions and the Division of Mission in Canada.

Fonds consists of the following series: Constitution and bylaws of the school and the Society, 1949-1979; Minutes of the Society, the Board of Directors, the Board of Trustees, the Board of Managers, committees and staff meetings, 1947-1983; Correspondence and other records of Robert McLaren and Frank Patterson, 1946-1968; Staff circulating files, 1972-1985; Development records, 1955-1983; Programs records, 1947-1986; Church courts and organizations, 1950-1985; Financial records, 1947-1974; General administrative records, 1947-1985; Publications, 1947-1983; Audio-Visual Materials, 1955-1960; and Papers of William John Rose, 1961-1968.

The papers of William John Rose include both records created as an instructor at Naramata and personal papers generated over the same period.

File list available.

Control No.: ChUn 15

**United Church of Canada. Superintendent of Hospitals and Medical Missionary Work fonds. — 1957-1980. — 90 cm textual records.**

In 1959 George E. Darby was appointed Hospital Coordinator for all United Church Hospitals in Canada after 43 years of service at the R.W. Large Memorial Hospital in Bella Bella. It was a part-time position reporting to the Board of Home Missions in Toronto. After Darby's death in 1962, he was succeeded by W.D. Watt, previously superintendent of Bella Coola's General Hospital. Watt's title was changed to Superintendent of Hospitals and Medical Missionary Work, and the position became full time, reporting first to the Board of Home Missions, and to the Division of Mission in Canada (at the national level) after 1972.

Fonds consists of the following series: Correspondence of George E. Darby, 1958-1962; Records pertaining to the Burns Lake and District Hospital, 1960-1975; Records pertaining to the Queen Charlotte Islands General Hospital, 1960-1979; and General files, 1957-1980.

Some records of George Darby have been interfiled with those of W.D. Watt.

Records of the Queen Charlotte Islands General Hospital, no longer run by the United Church, are also held at Queen Charlotte Islands Museum.

Inventory available.

Control No.: ChUn 12

**United Church of Canada. West Coast Mission fonds. — 1962-1977; predominant 1970-1976. — 17 cm textual records.**

The West Coast Mission was created as an amalgamation of the Ahousat, Bamfield, Alberni Valley Indian and Long Beach Pastoral Charges in 1969 by the Comox-Nanaimo Presbytery, although the names West Coast Mission and West Coast Marine had been used as early as the 1930's to refer to mission work in the area. It began operation in January of the following year, its initial status being that of a "Pastoral Charge (Experimental)," apparently changed to that of a regular pastoral charge in 1974, the same time that its responsibilities were expanded to include the Pacific Rim Marine Project the new Port Alberni Project and the Franklin River congregation.

The Mission had a Council and an executive elected by the Council, with the Mission's full-time clergy sitting on both. Although it was constituted as a pastoral charge, the Mission was involved in rural and urban native ministry in the area, and regarded

missionary work as one of its core responsibilities, in the Alberni Valley area succeeding the Advisory Committee to Indian Work in the Alberni Valley (previously the Advisory Board to the Alberni Indian Residential School) in this function.

Full-time clergy who were active in the Mission included D.M. Hoops, Bob Baird, Terry Whyte and Bill Dixon. The first chair of the Committee was Mary Myrfield, who remained prominent within the Mission throughout the period covered by the records. By October of 1976 the Mission was no longer listed as a pastoral charge of the presbytery, but it did continue to hold monies and operate as a coordinating body until 1977 or later. If Rev. Bill Dixon's 1977 Study and Plan was adopted, the Mission may have ceased to be a United Church body, but remained in operation.

Fonds consists of the following series: Minutes and reports, 1962-1977; Finances and accounts, 1970-1976; Organization and staffing, 1970-1976; Property management, 1970-1976; Correspondence, 1970-1972; Projects and strategic planning, 1971-1977; Resident students' and band members' lists, 1962-1974; and Tseshaht United Church, 1971-1975.

Minutes from 1962-1969, and possibly other records of the Advisory Committee to Indian Work in the Alberni Valley, were inherited by the Mission and are with the records.

Folder list available.

Control No.: ChUn 17

### **Vertical files collection. — 1925- . — 9.7 m textual records.**

The archives' reference files were started by John C. Goodfellow as part of the Conference Historical Committee's task of preserving the sources of, and recording the history of the Church in B.C. They were maintained as library vertical files, although many of the documents that went into them would today be arranged and described as records.

Goodfellow continued the maintenance of the files at his home in Princeton, B.C. until his death in 1968, when they were transferred to the Conference Archives at Union College in Vancouver. They have been maintained as library vertical files up to the present date, serving to house published documents, copies of unpublished works, and records whose provenance has been lost.

Collection consists of two series: Biography files, on prominent members (mainly ministers) of the United Church of Canada in B.C., as well as its Methodist and Presbyterian predecessors; these contain writings, obituaries, and biographies of their subjects, newsclippings, and records authored by or concerning the work and lives of their subjects. The Presbytery and congregation files, arranged alphabetically by

presbytery and then by name of congregation or pastoral charge, contain histories of churches, missions and towns, reports, newsclippings, and records authored by or concerning the relevant church bodies. Both, but the presbytery files especially also contain more general information about the surrounding regions, and mission work within each region.

Control No.: Coll 1

### **Victoria Presbytery fonds — 1925-2002. — 96 cm of textual records.**

Victoria Presbytery was one of the eight created by church union in 1925; the Comox-Nanaimo Presbytery was divided off in 1959.

Fonds consists of the following record series: Victoria Presbytery and Executive meeting minutes (1925-2002); Subject files of the Presbytery Secretary (1955-1986); Correspondence of the Presbytery Secretary (1957-1972); Presbytery committees (1931-1936; 1964-1992); and Financial records (1938-1959).

Title based on contents of the fonds

File list available

Control No.: ChUP 12

### **Workers Among Indians (B.C.) fonds. — 1923-1927. — 1.5 cm textual records.**

The Workers Among Indians started meeting at each Annual Conference of the Methodist Church in 1923, to share ideas and for mutual support. By 1927, when the group appears to have dissolved, it was generally called the Conference of Indian Workers of B.C., and occasionally gave a report at the Conference.

Fonds consists of minutes of the gathering from 1923 to 1927, together with a copy of a Special Report of the Superintendent of Missions written in December 1922.

Control No.: AffB 2

### **Wrinch Memorial Hospital (Hazelton, B.C.) fonds. — 1935-1961. — 45 cm textual records.**

Wrinch Memorial Hospital, originally known as Hazelton Hospital, was founded by Dr. Horace Wrinch, a Methodist missionary from Ontario. Wrinch set up a temporary facility at Kispiox upon his arrival in 1900, but decided that Hazelton would be a more appropriate site for the hospital, which opened with twenty beds in 1904, sponsored by

the Methodist Church.

The hospital was renamed in Wrinch's honour upon his death in 1939; today it is sponsored by the United Church with funding from the provincial and federal governments. The original building was replaced in 1931, and the current structure was built in 1977.

Fonds consists of subject files of the Hospital Administrator, including correspondence, annual reports and financial statements of the Hospital, and minutes of the Board.

Control No.: AffB 3