

John B. Macdonald fonds

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THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



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Fonds Description

John B. Macdonald fonds. - 1962-1967.

13 cm of textual records.

Biographical Sketch

The University of British Columbia's fourth president, John Barfoot Macdonald, was born in Toronto on February 23, 1918. Graduating with a degree of doctor of dental surgery from the University of Toronto in 1942, he served as captain in the Canadian Dental Corps during World War II. Following the war Macdonald studied biology at the University of Illinois and Columbia. He returned to the University of Toronto in 1949 where he accepted a teaching appointment and later became founding director of the Division of Dental Research. His growing reputation as a researcher and educator led to an invitation from Harvard University in 1956 where he became a professor of microbiology and director of the Forsythe Infirmary.

In 1962 Macdonald accepted the University of British Columbia's offer to become president. In announcing the appointment Chancellor Phyllis Ross indicated that the Board of Governors felt that the institution had secured an administrator of ability, a scholar of repute, and a leader of distinction. Macdonald provided leadership for the institution during very difficult times in the 1960s. During his time at UBC Macdonald not only influenced the development of the institution but also higher education throughout the province with his study and published report, *Higher Education in British Columbia and a Plan for the Future* (1962). His recommendations laid the foundation for the establishment of Simon Fraser University and the University of Victoria and allowed UBC to concentrate on the development and expansion of graduation education and research.

Macdonald's career as UBC president lasted from 1962 to 1967. Following his years at UBC he led a major study of the role of the federal government in supporting research at universities. The recommendations in the ensuing report led to the establishment of the National Sciences and Engineering Council, Humanities and Social Sciences Council and the Medical Research Council - all major funding sources for university research activities. During the 1970s Macdonald served as CEO for the Council of Ontario Universities. For his contributions as a scientist and academic leader Macdonald received honorary degrees from Harvard University, University of Manitoba, Simon Fraser University, University of British Columbia, Wilfred Laurier University, Brock University, University of Western Ontario, University of Windsor and the University of Toronto. He was also named to the Order of Canada.

Scope and Content

The fonds consists primarily of speeches delivered by John B. Macdonald (1962-1967), biographical material and miscellaneous records.

Notes

File list available.

For additional biographical information see John B. Macdonald, *Chances and Choices: A Memoir* (2001).

Series Descriptions

Speeches series. - 1962-1967.

10 cm of textual records.

Series consists of copies of speeches delivered by John B. Macdonald (1962-1967).

Biographical series. - 196-.

2 files of textual records.

Series consists of copies of Macdonald's CVs and biographical notes as well as a copy of the transcript of Macdonald's news conference announcing his resignation as UBC president (October 28, 1966).

Miscellaneous series. - 1963-1967.

3 cm of textual records.

Series consists of miscellaneous material by or relating to J.B. Macdonald (1963-1967).

File List

SPEECHES SERIES

- 1-1 "Excellence and Responsibility" -- Inaugural address by J.B. Macdonald (October 25, 1962)
- 1-2 Forsyth Graduation Address (1962)
- 1-3 "Human Resources and the National Economy" -- Vancouver Board of Trade (January 14, 1963)
- 1-4 "Science, Society and Subsidy" (January 21, 1963)
- 1-5 "Higher Education: The Way Ahead" (March 30, 1963)
- 1-6 Radio and Television addresses (1963)
- 1-7 "Integrity in a University" (April 9, 1963)
- 1-8 "Reflections on the Meaning of Discovery" -- University of Victoria congregation (May 27, 1963)
- 1-8a Canadian Men's Club and Alumni Dinner (May 1953)
- 1-9 "New Horizons in Canadian Education" -- B.C. School Trustees (October 7, 1963)
- 1-10 "Human Capital and National Interest" -- Vancouver Medical Association (November 4, 1963)
- 1-11 "Opening of the Physics Building" (November 10, 1963)
- 1-12 Friends of the University (June 1, 1964)
- 1-13 Cairn Ceremony (September 30, 1964)
- 1-14 Board of Trade (October 19, 1964)
- 1-15 Forsyth Anniversary Address (November 24, 1964)
- 1-16 Address to Joint Faculties (March 31, 1965)
- 1-17 "Problems and Prospects in Science Education: (June 1965)
- 1-18 "Moment of Decision" (June 1, 1965)
- 1-19 Welcoming address to UBC students (September 23, 1965)
- 1-20 Alumni Association (May 12, 1965)
- 1-21 University Ball - Ottawa (1965)
- 1-22 Elphinstone (1965)
- 1-23 Education Conference (January 22, 1966)
- 1-24 "What a President Expects of His Alumni Association" -- Alumni Association Board of Management (April 14, 1966)
- 1-25 Joint Faculties (May 11, 1966)
- 1-26 University of Alberta -- Calgary Convocation (April 16, 1966)
- 1-27 Health Sciences Centre -- Tree Planting Ceremony (June 30, 1966)
- 1-28 Conservative Thoughts on a Liberal Education -- University of Puget Sound (August 12, 1966)

- 1-29 Welcoming address to Students (September 30, 1966)
- 1-30 "Where the Action is" -- A.U.C.C. Conference, Ottawa (October 27, 1966)
- 1-31 "An Administrator's Viewpoint on University Administration" (October 1966)
- 1-32 "Interaction of Universities, Professions and Industry" -- New York Academy of Science Conference (January 9, 1967)
- 1-33 Student-Alumni Banquet (March 14, 1967)
- 1-34 "Head in the Clouds, Ear to the Ground" -- Women's Canadian Club (May 31, 1967)
- 1-35 "Academic Freedom and Academic Discipline" (June 2, 1967)
- 1-36 "Universities and the Changing Scene" (196-)
- 1-37 "Science and a Liberal Education" (196-)
- 1-38 "A Proposal for a Canada University Research Council" (196-)
- 1-39 "The Bustling Groves of Academe -- Patterns of Higher Education in Canada: The West" (196-)
- 1-40 Miscellaneous Addresses
 - "The President Greets the Freshmen" (July 31, 1963)
 - Memorial Service for John F. Kennedy (November 26, 1963)
 - [Russian Education] (September 17, 1964)
 - "Tribute to Sir Winston Churchill" (January 29, 1965)
 - [Memorial for Kaspar Naegele] (February 9, 1965)
 - [Memorial for George Cunningham] (March 1965)
 - Notes for Occasion of Bartlett's Research Award (January 1966)

BIOGRAPHICAL SERIES

- 1-41 Copies of CVs and biographical notes (196-)
- 1-42 Typescript transcript of news conference announcing John Macdonald's resignation as UBC president (October 28, 1966)

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES

- 1-43 "The Financial Position of the University of British Columbia" -- Alumni Chronicle article (August 1963)
- 1-44 "Education Mainspring of Economic Expansion" Province article (November 9, 1966)
- 1-45 "Universities: Its Up to Victoria" Vancouver Sun (December 27, 1966)
- 1-46 "Canadian Higher Education" The Times (February 28, 1967)

- 1-47 Statement Issue by JBM (March 12, 1963)
"President's Message for Graduate Totem" (November 1964)
- 1-48 Christmas card list (1966)
- 1-49 List of files sent to Macdonald (1966/67)