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Philip Dansken Ross Fonds

MG30-D98

Finding Aid No. 1272 / Instrument de recherche no 1272

Prepared in 1981 by J. Kidd and revised in
1987 and 2005 by the personnel of the Social
Archives Section.

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Container	File	File Title	Date
SUBJECT FILES			
1	1	Family Tree Copies of church records (from Scotland) of births, marriages and deaths of Ross family and relatives, 1798 to 1896, 22 pp.	n.d.
1	2	Obituary, Tributes, Biographical Details Clippings, typed biographical entry of 8 pages	1949
1	3	Tributes to P.D. Ross Canadian Press typed tribute "Saturday Night", summaries of letters on 90 th birthday 1948 i.e. C.J. Mackenzie, President of National Research Council "It was difficult to believe that I had been just trimmed at golf by a man who had championed a champion rugby team ten years before I was born". Statement of Chancellor when Ross was given Honorary Doctor of Laws from McGill in 1935. An album of letters on the 50 th Anniversary of the "Journal" contains some 21 letters mostly from newspapermen. Some of the notable are J.W. Dafoe, J.J. Tate, E. Atkinson and George P. Grapham. A letter of Ellie Connie recalling a "Journal" strike of the period 1886 to 1896 when the men walked out while the women stayed, set the type and ran the press. There are a total of 24 letters in the 1925 album.	1925, 1935-1948

Container	File	File Title	Date
1	4	Correspondence to P.D. Ross on 90 th Birthday The originals are in the file except a few in the accompanying bound volume which have not yet fallen out. Some are: W.L. Mackenzie King (3 letters), Arthur Maughan, John Bracken, J.E. Atkinson (Owner "Toronto Star"), M.J. Coldwell, J.B. MacLean (of Maclean-Hunter Publications), Victor Sifton (Winnipeg Free Press), J.N. McConnell (Publisher and editor of the London "Free Press), E. McCulloch (Publisher of "Globe and Mail", Solon Low (Leader of the Social Credit Party), George Drew. Memoranda listing letters, photocopies of some the original letters.	
1	5	Early Journal Correspondence, clippings, judgement and other legal papers on McVeity Case against the "Journal", which was dismissed	1915-1925
1	6	P.D. Ross - Articles, Pamphlets of the "Journal" Clippings and manuscript memoranda re rules for editors, several anniversary pamphlets in the "Journal" and P.D. Ross	1906-1949
1	7	P.D. Ross - Early Journal financial Papers Correspondence, annual statements, agreement for sale of "Journal" to Ross in 1891, Employees wages, 1898-99 and list of employees, agreement of P.D. Ross with Charles Magee and George H. Perley	1887-1925
2	8	P.R. Ross -Editorials and articles Manuscript of his article on the value of the Journal comics (9 pages), clippings of his articles and one photocopied essay from book "A book of Canadian Essay"	1914-1954
2	9	P.D. Ross - Speeches on Journalism Manuscript copy of 1937 C.B.C. speech (9 pages), manuscript copy of speech on 100 th Anniversary of "Brockville Recorder" 1921 (7 pages). Speech on 66 th Anniversary of the "Kitchener Record" (15 pages). All manuscripts except for a few clippings	1921-1937

Container	File	File Title	Date
2	10	P.D. Ross - Speeches not on Journalism Manuscripts of speech on curling, n.d., (7 pages). Speech on reform of juvenile delinquents [1930], need for modern mental hospitals, speech on loyalty 1937 (4 pages), speech on the city of Ottawa at Montreal [1930] (4 pages). Speech in letter form on the issue of inherited Capital, 10 November 1933 not signed by P.D. Ross but it is his as he gives example of his borrowing money to buy the "Ottawa Journal" (portions in his own handwriting). Copies of published Ross Speeches: Some conditions in Britain (pamphlet) 1910, The Eight Hour Day from an Ottawa Labour Union Special Publication [1900], Carleton Convocation, 1948, Canadian poets and the Short Word, 1938, Address to life insurance officers, 1930 and 3 clippings of speeches, 1933 and n.d.	1910-1937
2	11	P.D. Ross Lawsuit, "Preston vs Ross" Correspondence re lawsuits against P.D. Ross by W.T.R. Preston over his book "Retrospects of a Newspaper person". Bill for professional services. Preston lost his case in Canada and it was dismissed by the Privy Council	1933-1934
2	12	"Retrospects of a Newspaper Person". Libel Suite Reports and royalty statements from Oxford Press, correspondence with lawyers and publishers. Letters from Meighen, Thorton	1931-1932
2	13	Ross Resigns from Ontario Hydro - Row with Premier Mitchell Hephburn All clippings, 35 pp.	n.d., 1934, 1938
2	14	Ross Sells His Journal Shares to Associates Memoranda, correspondence concerning the valuation and sale of the shares to Grattan O'Leary, Norman Smith and other employees, financial statements for paper, 55 pages. Pamphlet of Journal share offering to the public, 3 clippings	1945-1953
2	15	Ross, Miscellany on Poetry, Literature Pamphlet copies of speech "Canadian Poets and the Short Word" and "Personality in Newspaper"	n.d.
2	16	Perley Home (now Hospital) for Incurables Correspondence and memoranda consisting largely of typescript copies of the Perley Home minutes concerning P.D. Ross' bequest, 10 pp.	1949

Container	File	File Title	Date
2	17	Miscellany, Baptism and Science Degree Original copy of baptism, bills from 19 th century for clothes, hotels, meals, books, Toronto Fencing Club invitation, 1885 and other invitations, 1885, Toronto Press Lacrosse Club, 1883 invitation, McGill BSc. Degree in engineering 1878, 50 pages. Manuscript article "Ramble Around Glasgow", 29 pp.	1867-1892
2	18	Ontario Heritage Plaque Brochure on unveiling in 1975 of plaque in honour of Philip Dansken Ross at Journal Towers, Ottawa. Correspondence re plaque from Robert Welch, W. Fergus Lothian and John W. Grace (Historical Society of Ottawa), I. Norman Smith. Copies of "A.B.R. Lawrence" 1975 and "Robert Welch's" 1975 speeches at opening and memoranda and clippings	1973-1975
2	19	P.D. Ross Names to Hockey Hall of Fame Program and brochures, memoranda, correspondence of M.H. Reid (Director and Curator) and Lady McKie (P.D. Ross' niece)	1897-1907
2	20	Letters from P.S. Ross to P.D. Ross Ross was the father of P.D. Ross. He was the founder of one of Canada's oldest Chartered Accountant firms (see biography) and the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants	1879-1907
2	21	Letter to P.S. Ross from P.D. Ross Concerning sale of family property in Scotland on the Firth of Forth near [Dunbarton] and their visit to Scotland while Philip was a boy. P.S. Ross mentions that his share of the sale should go to his mother to whom he owes a great deal of money. Talks of amalgamation with "Ottawa Free Press" with Liberal party subsidies and calls himself a "Liberal (4 slides) 8 pp.	1904
2	22	Letters from family other than P.D. Ross Correspondence from brother-in-law, George Dansken C. Ross to mother, James, William and a sister to mother (Mrs. P.S. Ross) re family matters, settlement at Turtle Mountain, Manitoba, 1881 and business matters, 21 pp.	1859-1891
2	23	Letters from Mrs. P.S. Ross, Mrs. Ross' death Correspondence of Mrs. P.D. Ross to her son Philip re family matters. There are few mentions of her loan to buy the Journal. Condolences on her death in 1911, 35 pp.	1880-1894

Container	File	File Title	Date
2	24	Letters from P.S. Ross to John Dansken Ross The correspondence concern P.S. Ross' business and family. In his letter of 12 June 1868 he talks of "the shameful assassination of D'Arcy McGee, he was up to Ottawa on business for one of the jailed Fenians... Trade is very dull, the number of bankruptcies are appalling. It is enough to make one sick of business here - If I was not so old and incumbered I would leave for some other place", 34 pp.	1859-1869
2	25	Letters from Jessie Dot and Daisie Largely personal correspondence, P.D. Ross correspondence does cover his work at the "Journal", sale of Huntingdon "Advocate", 1884, 25 pp.	1884-1948
2	26	Letters from brothers Alex, Willie and John They appear to concern largely family affairs. Letter of 1 November 1891 describes life at that time in the Okanagan Valley and the local hunting, 30 pp.	1891-1941
2	27	Letters from P.D. Ross and J.G. Ross Index to letters prepared by I.N. Smith. The correspondence concerns sports of all kind from 1879 on. (James Ross was the world champion snowshoer 1884), business i.e. sale of "Montreal Herald" 1892. Walrond ranch Alberta, 1892, meeting of Alberta ranchmen with the ranch lease-holders 1892, ranch dividends and paying land rents. Worry about settlers by ranchers and purchases of script to buy land. Purchase of land in Thousand Island 1893 (James Ross founded Ross Realty in Montreal). Note of fight in 1882 (boxing?) in which P.D. Ross challenged two men at once and was of course beaten, 45 pp.	1879-1924
2	28	Letters to and from nephew Howard Ross (Howard Ross was President of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants; see MG 31-B23, Howard Ross Papers). Correspondence re possibility of Howard's joining "Journal" staff 1939, P.D. Ross letter 1931 stating that there is such a closed newspaper combine in Canada that it is almost impossible to start a newspaper except in a small community where no daily exists as you can't join Canada Press unless you get the permission of the existing city papers which is never given, 7 pp.	1931-1939

Container	File	File Title	Date
2	29	Death of father of P.D. Ross Resolution of regrets by Association of Accountants of Montreal and 2 clippings, one from "Montreal Herald", 4 February 1907 which gives excellent biographical information possibly not available elsewhere	1907
2	30	P.D. Ross Sale of Scottish Property Correspondence with Scottish relatives and lawyers with legal papers. Of genealogical interest in locating where in Scotland the family came from and their circumstances and property in Scotland	1861-1903
2	31	Death of Mrs. Ross Letters of condolence from friends and family (Mary Ross has been an invalid much of her life, particularly the last ten years), 12 pp.	1944
2	32	Correspondence of Lady McKie Correspondence of Phillis Ross now Lady McKie who was Mrs. P.D. Ross' companion while they travelled in the 1920's. Letters written from Bahamas, n.d., to P.D. Ross addressed with his nickname "Fallie", 4 pp.	n.d.
2	33	Correspondence of Notables W.L. Mackenzie King 1934 re invitation to visit Ross cottage, George E. Foster 1911 re his objection to an article in the "Journal" on Laurier's position on the Imperial Conference, W.M. Southam 1911 re his regrets in having to oppose P.D. Ross in civic election campaign on takeover of private electrical companies in Ottawa to form Ottawa Hydro. Ross and the "Journal" won and Ottawa Hydro was created. Southam's unpopular stand seriously depressed the "Citizen's" circulation for many years after this campaign. M.M. MacOdrum correspondence of 1947 thanks Ross for his financial support and the strong support that the "Journal" is giving Carleton. Governor General Earl Grey's letter of 1906 congratulating Ross on improved relations with labour with his co-partnership arrangement with the Journal staff	1911-1947
2	34	Correspondence J.F. Willison letter A letter from Sir John Willison to P.D. Ross concerning articles in "The Journal" concerning Willison's biography of Sir Wilfred Laurier	1903
2	35	Letters with Mackenzie King and Charles Murphy They concern the Ottawa Centenary and the Byng-King incident	1926-1927

Container	File	File Title	Date
2	36	Letters to and from Meighen, Thornton et al and on War Comments on a "Journal" editorials, on Sir Henry Thornton and Mr. Meighen's Hamilton statement on the declaration of war 1925	1923-1927, 1973

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8	11	Diary	1947
8	12	Diary	1948

Container	File	File Title	Date
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DIARY CORRESPONDENCE and MEMORANDA

9	1	Diary Index Rough notes prepared by I. Norman Smith, 50 pp.	1879-1948
9	2	Diary Correspondence re Arts, Literature and Education Correspondence of Albert Payson Terhune (best selling author of books on dogs) autograph, J.W. Dafoe, H.S. Southam re painting, Doc Snyder's House donated to National Gallery by P.D. Ross, Charles G.D. Roberts 21 Dec. 1933 requesting appointment, 4 letters of Audrey Alexander Brown, 1938-1941. Many letters of thanks for donations largely from McGill but also from Carleton, Ottawa U. and such organizations as the Boy Scouts	1900-1948
9	3	Diary Correspondence - General Arranged chronologically. Correspondence from family and concerning the "Journal". There are copies of original P.D. Ross letters as well as incoming letters. Much correspondence with "Journal" employees re salaries and pensions. Also correspondence concerning his investments and loans	1884-1936
9	4	Diary Correspondence - General Correspondence of "Journal" employees re pensions, raises, severation pay, Hydro-Electric Commission, family, donations	1936-1948

Container	File	File Title	Date
9	5	Diary - Correspondence of Political and Official Figures Correspondence of members of parliament, J.L. Chabot, 1919, Lord Grey, 1907 re co-operatives Peter Larkin 1928, William H. Price, 1929, Lord Willingdon re V.O.N. 1920's, L. Duff 1932 re work of Beauharnois Commission, George H. Perley 1933, F.R. Latchford re Journal Articles 1933 (Ont. Cabinet Minister and Judge). Edgar Rhodes, Bennett's Finance Minister, M. Grattan O'Leary re R.B. Bennett's health 1935, Charlotte Whitton 1935, J.E. Lewis (Ottawa Mayor), Gladstone Murray, 1937, Arthur Meighen 1926-1944, W.L.M. King 1934-1946, R.L. Borden 1934-1935, R.B. Bennett 1928-1935, George P. Graham, 1938, George A. Drew, 1944, T. Hogg, 1945 (Ont. Hydro Chairman) re Ottawa Hydro appointment, Charles Lynch 1946, Lord Athlone 1946, T.A. Crerar n.d., Sir Joseph Chisholm 1947, T.L. Church 1948, T.F. Fallon (R.C. Bishop of London) 1915 and others	1893-1948
9	6	Diary - Correspondence re Sports Chronological. They concern many of the sports that he was involved in especially those such as hockey that he was involved in before 1900 during his youth. Also covered are golf after 1930. There is a letter of 1907 in which W. Foran agrees to be one of the trustees of the Stanley Cup, 50 pp.	1884-1947
9	7	Diary - Hotel Bills Assortment of bills from Ottawa in Russell Hotel and from Europe in 1907, 25 pp.	n.d., 1907
9	8	Diary - Legal and Financial Papers Theatre contracts for performers in Ottawa, sports bills, cancelled cheques for 1925 Conservative campaign, Hospital bill for P.D. 1948	1890-1948
9	9	Diary - Ottawa Journal Circulation - Financial Reports and Related Papers - Correspondence Correspondence re Journal stock, circulation, statement on circulation, allowance of Harry Flatters, annual report, "Journal" income taxes, Reports comparing "Journal" and "Citizen" circulation 1945, 1947. Offering of "Journal" Common shares, Miscellaneous records, "Journal" salaries, financial statements and early circulation figures, 50 pp	1895-1947

Container	File	File Title	Date
9	10	Diary Memoranda Some subjects are inheritances, holiday canoe trip 1899, sports events memoranda i.e. Henley Regatta 1910, reprint from the "Journal" on stipends of Protestant Ministers 1948, 50 pp.	n.d., 1884-1948
9	11	Diary - Pamphlets, clippings Clippings on a wide variety of subjects that involved Ross. Most of these are credited as to source and were written by P.D. Ross as the entries in the diary indicate	1901-1948
9	12	Diary - Programs, Menus Souvenir theatre programs and menus for special dinners Ross attended	1886-1920
9	13	P.D. Ross Biographical Clippings	n.d., 1919-1948
9	14	Sport Clippings	n.d., 1918-1933