

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF CANADA  
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JOHN A. STEVENSON

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J.A. STEVENSON PAPERS

arranged and described  
by  
Anne MacDermaid

Queen's University Archives  
Kingston, Ontario  
March, 1973

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#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Mr. John A. Stevenson, noted Canadian Journalist, was born in 1883 in Ayrshire, Scotland and was educated at Fettes College in Edinburgh and Merton College, Oxford, receiving his B.A. in 1906. In his over fifty years in Canada, he gained a reputation as a journalist of skill and integrity. He wrote about Canada and Canadian Questions in "The Round Table" the "Grain Growers' Guide", the "Times" and the "Manchester Guardian" as well as the "Globe and Mail" and the "Queen's Quarterly". In 1910, Stevenson was called to the bar in Manitoba. He entered Journalism as an Editorial contributor to the Winnipeg Free Press. From 1918 he was in Ottawa, as a correspondent of the Toronto Star. From 1926 to 1940 he had the eminent position of chief Canadian Correspondent of the London Times. He was an editorial writer for the Toronto Globe and Mail from 1940 to 1946, and the Ottawa Editor for Saturday Night as well as the Canadian correspondent of the Manchester Guardian until his retirement in 1958.

In 1960, he received an Honorary L.L.D. from Queen's University, and he died in October 1970 at the age of 87.

RESTRICTIONS

These papers are completely open to responsible researchers.

PROVENANCE

These papers were donated by Mr. Stevenson's sons, Dr. Ian Stevenson and Dr. K.L. White.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PAPERS

The collection amounts to 15 inches of material spanning the period from the mid 1930's to Mr. Stevenson's death in 1970. During Mr. Stevenson's career as Chief Canadian correspondent for the London Times, he came into close contact with our national politicians over several decades and the relationships which he developed in this time are recorded in detail in the papers. The collection includes many letters from Prime Ministers Arthur Meighen and John Diefenbaker as well as from other well-known figures such as Senator Paul Martin and Dr. Wilder Penfield. For the most part these letters are frank and lengthy discussions of public policy, useful to the researcher and of value to the manuscript collector.

GENERAL OUTLINE OF THE PAPERS

~~Series 1~~ Correspondence 1940-1970

~~Series 2~~ Manuscripts

~~Series 3~~ Published Material

~~Series 4~~ Clubs and Associations *No copy made for PAC.*

DETAILED LISTING OF THE PAPERS

~~SERIES I~~ CORRESPONDENCE

~~BOX 1~~ CORRESPONDENCE

PAC  
Vol. 1.

- Folder 1 Correspondence - Incoming 1946-1970, n.d.
- 2 Correspondence - Outgoing 1940-1958, n.d.
- 3 Correspondence. Copies of letters to Goldwin Smith

~~SERIES 2~~ MANUSCRIPTS

- Folder 4. Autobiography (incomplete)
5. Biography of J.R. Booth of Ottawa  
Draft
  6. Biography of W.L.M. King
  7. Memoranda and Articles related to  
W.L.M. King
  8. "Scots in America" Complete typescript

~~BOX 2~~ MANUSCRIPTS

9. Some Notable Scots in America. Typescript.  
*No copy made for PAC. Original available at Queen's University, Kingston.*
10. Scots in America. Duplicate
11. Scots in America. Duplicate continued
12. Miscellaneous articles, essays
13. Miscellaneous articles, essays

~~BOX 3~~ MANUSCRIPTS

14. Miscellaneous articles, essays
15. Miscellaneous fragments of articles, essays *Vol. 2.*
16. Manuscripts by others - excerpt from  
Sir R. Greig's Memoirs
17. Manuscripts by others - article about  
W.L.M. King
18. Manuscripts by others - Miscellaneous

~~SERIES 3~~ PUBLISHED MATERIAL

19. Published articles by Stevenson
20. Published articles, speeches by others
21. Published article about Stevenson

~~SERIES 4 CLUBS AND ASSOCIATIONS~~

22. Guest book of the Dinner Club, with  
signatures of guests

*No copy made for P.A.C. Original available  
at Queen's University, Kingston.*