

SMITH, WILLIAM, 1902-1931. <sup>5</sup> feet, 8 inches.

These papers reflect the varied interests of a career civil servant, William Smith (1859-1932), who was born in Hamilton, Ontario in 1859. Educated at Hamilton Collegiate Institute and the University of Toronto, William Smith began his career in 1876 when he entered the Hamilton Post Office. In 1902 he was appointed secretary and archivist of the Post Office Department. In 1902 while assisting in the reorganization of Newfoundland's Post Office he made the acquaintance of Guglielmo Marconi, the renowned inventor. At Smith's instigation Marconi was invited to Ottawa where negotiations with the Canadian Government resulted in the establishment by Marconi of a station at Glace Bay and the eventual use of Marconi's system throughout Canada. In 1913 William Smith was transferred to the Public Archives where he was appointed Secretary, Board of Publications. Before his death in 1932 he rose to the rank of Assistant Keeper of Public Records. Among his published works are: The Evolution of Government in Canada. Montreal: Gazette, 1928; First Days of British Rule in Canada. Kingston: Jackson, 1922; The History of the Post Office in British North America, 1679-1870. Cambridge: University Press, 1920; Political Leaders of Upper Canada. Toronto: Nelson, 1931.

Received in part in 1932.

Correspondence, 1902-1931. (Vol. 1) 4 inches.

Consists mostly of letters received by William Smith and copies of letters sent. A few letters written by contemporaries of William Smith, but not

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addressed to him, are interfiled with these. The letters are arranged chronologically in folders corresponding to the subjects with which they deal.

Folder 1. Cables and Telegraph, 1902-1914.

Correspondence concerns the drive to promote speedy completion of cables in the British Empire and the movement to obtain a reduction in the charges of messages transmitted by cable across the Atlantic. Among the letters received by Smith are a few written by Sir Sandford Fleming.

Folder 2. Hudson's Bay Company, 1928-1929.

Some of the correspondence relates to the obtaining of information about Sir George Simpson, the Hudson's Bay Company, and various Indian tribes etc. A large number are addressed to or are written by officials of the Hudson's Bay Company and concern the publication of three volumes for that Company.

Folder 3. The Labrador Boundary, 1918, 1921-1924.

Correspondence is largely concerned with the collection by William Smith of documentary and map material to be used by the Department of Justice (Canada) in its case on the Labrador Boundary question.

Folder 4. Guglielmo Marconi, 1902, 1923, 1931.

Correspondence is principally concerned with Marconi and his first attempts at wireless telegraphy in Newfoundland. There is one copy

of a letter written by Smith to Marconi wishing him success in his experiments and a telegram from the latter acknowledging the congratulations.

Folder 5. Post Office Material, 1904, 1909, 1912-1914.

Most of the letters pertain to Smith's compilation of material for a history of the Canadian Post Office. A couple of letters are written by Marconi who furnished particulars of his transatlantic wireless business.

Folder 6. Miscellaneous, 1902, 1906, 1922-1925.

Of particular interest are two confidential letters on the subject of the union of Newfoundland with Canada and two letters outlining Sir Patrick Thomas McGrath's impressions of the various delegates, including Mackenzie King, George Graham, and O.D. Skelton, to the Economic Conference held in London in the autumn of 1923.

*1902-1913 and*

Notes and Transcripts, no date. (Vols. 2-15) 4 feet, 8 inches.

This series consists largely of notes and transcripts of material intended for use in projected publications and reports. Included with the notes and transcripts, however, are some newspaper clippings and printed matter.

Folders 7-10. Cables and Telegraph, 1902-1913.

Consists largely of typewritten memoranda. Among the topics dealt with by the latter are: "The Anglo-American Cable Company and its Relations

with the other Companies, which have laid Cables Across the Atlantic"; "The Imperial Conference and the Atlantic Cables" (1911); "Domestic Telegraph Rates in the Countries which adhere to the International Telegraph Convention"; "The Pacific Cable"; "Benefits to be Anticipated from a Reduction in the Telegraph Rates between Canada and Great Britain"; and "Cable Rates - Lessons from the Post Office". A handwritten memo, presumably drawn up by Smith for the British Government, relates to the acquisition by the Canadian Post Office of Canada's telegraph system. Interspersed with the memoranda are handwritten notes and covering letters plus a typewritten reprint of an article from the London Chamber of Commerce Journal (July, 1895). The latter deals with the Official Vocabulary of Code Words - compiled by the Berne International Telegraph Office - and the opposition of the London Chamber of Commerce to the adoption of the official vocabulary in its then form. The printed material includes a reprint from The Lone Hand (June 1, 1909) entitled "All Red. The Electric links of Empire"; a "Circular Letter from the Board of Trade of the City of Ottawa" respecting the movement to complete the cables of the British Empire (April 20, 1904) and papers (the Canadian Post Office, 1910 and the New Zealand Government, 1906) relating to telegraph rates, cables and wireless telegraphy.

Folders 11-14. The Hudson's Bay Company, no date.

Most of the transcripts and notes comprise material intended for use

in three Hudson's Bay Company publications. As Sir George Simpson was the principal subject of these volumes, the material relates largely to his life and work. Significant items are: "A Journal of a Voyage From Fort George Columbia River to Fraser River in the winter of 1824 and 1825" by Frances Annance; "George Simpson"; "John Work's First Journal, 1823-1824" by Walter N. Sage; "George Simpson's Remarks Connected With the Fur Trade etc. In the Course of A Voyage From York Factory Hudson's Bay to Fort George Columbia River and Back to York Factory 1824/25"; "Simpson's Movements, 1830-1860"; "Deed of Dissolution Between the Governor and Company of Adventurers of England Trading in Hudson's Bay and Messrs. McGillivrays and Ellice 15th September, 1824"; "Proceedings at General Court 7th September, 1824"; "The Governor & Company of Hudson's Bay and Certain Parties in the North West Company<sup>4</sup> Agreement for Carrying On the Fur Trade by the Hudson's Bay Company<sup>4</sup> exclusively under the Terms Within Mentioned" (Dated 26th March, 1821). Among the printed material are articles from various magazines and a copy of The Beaver (September, 1927).

Folders 15-16. Royal North West Mounted Police, n.d.

Typewritten and photostat copies of a report drawn up at Swan River Barracks, North West Territory Canada, and dated December, 1875. It covers the period May, 1875 to November 30, 1875.

Folder 17. Marconi, n.d.

A typewritten and manuscript copy of article entitled "How Marconi came

to Canada"; manuscript entitled "Marconi's Story as Told to Sir Patrick McGrath in Evening Herald"; memorandum on agreement concluded between Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Company and Canada. Printed matter includes copy of a letter from Dr. J.A. Fleming, F.R.S. which appeared in The Times, 4th October, 1900.

Folder 18. British Guiana-Venezuela Boundary Dispute, n.d.

Comprises typed summary and map.

Folders 19-26. The Labrador Boundary, n.d.

Material includes memoranda on Esquimaux Bay; The Watershed Doctrine; Canada and the Labrador Indians; a report on a survey of the Western and of Lake Melville, East Coast of Canada, 1921; and miscellaneous notes. Among the printed material are two pamphlets by the Hon. Patrick McGrath: "A Layman's View of the Privy Council" and "The Labrador Boundary Decision".

Folder 27. Notes on Early Canada.

One bound volume of notes and two folders of loose notes.

Folders 28-47. The Post Office, n.d.

These files consist largely of notes and transcripts of material depicting the development of the Post Office in British North America. Some of the material has been taken from the Q series and some from the C series. Included in the Post Office series is a "Sketch of Canadian Post Office History"; a memorandum regarding Yukon Mail Service and a memorandum entitled "Post Office Deficits - Their Justification". Among the printed

matter is material relating to postage rates, postal conferences and agreements.

Folder 48. Historical sketches, n.d.

Sketches include typewritten articles entitled "French Canadians and Responsible Government"; "The Canadian Diamond Jubilee"; "Brantford"; and "The Public Archives of Canada".

Folder 49. L.H. Lafontaine Correspondence, n.d.

Typed copies of correspondence (bound) covering period 1836-1843.

Folder 50. Manitoba and North West Territories, n.d.

Handwritten notes.

Folder 51. Addresses, n.d.

Manuscript and typed copies.

Folder 52. Book Reviews, n.d.

The Life of John Graves Simcoe, First Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Upper Canada, 1792-1796 by the Honourable William Fenwick Riddell;  
Old Post Bags. The Story of the Sending of a Letter In Ancient and Modern Times by ?

Folder 53. Miscellaneous, n.d.

Assorted notes and transcripts covering a wide variety of topics.

Manuscripts and Page Proofs, 1928. (Vol. 16), 4 inches.

Folder 54. Page proofs of The Evolution of Government in Canada which was issued as a memorial volume by the National Committee of the Diamond Jubilee of Confederation.

Miscellaneous, 1904-1908, (Vol. 17) 4 inches.

Folder 55. Bills, receipts, printed matter, 1866, 1904-1908.

Folder 56. Invitations, calling cards, 1908.

Folder 57. Manuscript material.

Chapter to book ?; list of papers.

Folder 58. Maps.

Map of Quebec Province, 1893. Photostat of map of British North America made in 1715.

Folder 59. Newspaper clippings, 1918-1928.