Biographical Note

Andrew James Rhodes (1911 – 1995) was born and educated in Scotland graduating from the University of Edinburgh with an M.B. in 1934 and an M.D. in 1941. Following graduation he was appointed Lecturer in Bacteriology at the University of Edinburgh (1935-1941) and then, during the war, was pathologist at Emergency Medical Services, Shrewsbury, England. After the war, he taught for two years at the University of London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. While there he was persuaded by Dr. Robert Defries, Director of Connaught Medical Research Laboratories (CMRL) to accept an appointment in teaching and research in Toronto. The School of Hygiene at the University of Toronto was considered the academic wing of CMRL, and Dr. Rhodes, as Associate (1947) and then Associate Professor part-time (1948) taught courses to medical students in the Diploma programme in Public Health Administration as well as non-medical students. In 1951 he was appointed Professor of Virus Infections.

In 1953 he left the CMRL to join the Hospital for Sick Children as Director of the Research Institute. Three years later, he was persuaded to accept the position of Director, University of Toronto School of Hygiene, a position he held until 1970. During his tenure, Dr. Rhodes attempted to modernize the department with updated curricula in areas such as Public Health and establishing the Department of Microbiology. In his biography of Dr. Rhodes in *Within Reach of Everyone, Volume 2*, Dr. Paul Bator writes "...Rhodes' plans for the School showed much foresight by identifying and anticipating the need for greater specialization in the medical sciences like microbiology...Rhodes' plans were clearly to strengthen the academic and scientific resources of the School of Hygiene. However, in the end, the drive for bigger and better medical sciences came to overshadow the School's and Rhodes' commitment to the Public Health interdisciplinary model."¹

In 1970 Dr. Rhodes resigned from the University of Toronto to join the Laboratory Services Branch of the Ontario Ministry of Health. He continued as part-time Professor, Department of Microbiology, School of Hygiene. As Medical Director, Dr. Rhodes was active on various committees including an International Committee on Rabies. He also had a unique opportunity to visit all the medical officers of health in the province as the laboratory Services Branch conducted all laboratory work for the Health Units.

Following his retirement at the age of 65 in 1976 he continued as a Consultant for the Ministry of Health. But in 1977 he returned to the University of Toronto briefly to survey the virus diagnostic services at University teaching hospitals and to chair the U. of T. Biosafety Committee. This latter committee dealt with research in biohazardous agents, teaching, policies on biosafety containment and monitoring compliance within the University community. In 1979, the Ministry of Natural Resources persuaded him to take on the chairmanship of the Rabies Advisory Committee, a part-time position he held until

¹ Bator, Paul A. Within reach of everyone Volume II. A history of the University of Toronto School of Hygiene and Connaught Laboratories Limited. Ottawa: Canadian Public Health Association, 1995. p 37

1988. Throughout this period he continued to teach and lecture on virology, bacteriology and parasitology at the University of Toronto and other organizations.

During the 1980's Dr. Rhodes worked with Dr. Paul Bator on the first volume of the history of the School of Hygiene and Connaught Laboratories entitled *Within Reach of Everyone*. As well as co-authoring the book, Dr. Rhodes was largely responsible for lobbying for funding for research and writing of the book which was published in 1990. His involvement in the second volume of this history was minimal and was published after his death in 1995.

Throughout his life, Dr. Rhodes and his wife Harriet were actively involved in their community church, Church of St. Leonard (Anglican) in Toronto. During the 1980's Dr. Rhodes served as Vestry Clerk with his wife Harriet serving on church committees. Dr. Rhodes died in Toronto on February 11, 1995.

Scope and Content Note

Records [textual; graphic] 1935-1992; predominant 1970- 1992 1.57 metres

Access: Open

This accession consists of eleven series documenting in varying degrees the personal, professional and academic activities of Dr. Andrew James Rhodes, professor of microbiology and former Director, University of Toronto School of Hygiene. While there is some documentation relating to his life prior to and during his appointment as Director, University of Toronto School of Hygiene, the bulk of the records in this accession document his activities and employment after 1970. Series 6 and 9 document his employment with the Ontario provincial government, first as Medical Director, Laboratory Services Branch, Ministry of Health (1970-1977) and then as Chairman of the Rabies Advisory Committee, Ministry of Natural Resources (1979-1988). While he was employed outside the University of Toronto for nearly twenty years, he continued his teaching responsibilities and occasionally undertook special projects such as the University Teaching Hospitals survey (Series 8) and the U. of T. Biosafety Committee (Series 7).

While Dr. Rhodes was well known for his scholarly publications on bacteriology and virology, manuscripts of these publications are not contained in this accession.² However, Series 11 does contain records for *Within Reach of Everyone. A history of the University of Toronto School of Hygiene and the Connaught Laboratories* which he co-authored with Dr. Paul Bator. Two volumes of this history were published in 1990 and 1995 respectively. Correspondence, research materials, and page proofs for Volume 1 predominate, within only a few files regarding plans for Volume 2.

Related records: School of Hygiene A1975-0029, A1978-0009, A1978-0025, Paul Bator Personal records B1990-0035.

² In 1940 Dr. Rhodes, with Dr. C.E. van Rooyen published *Virus Diseases of Man.* In 1949, they again collaborated on *Textbook of virology for students and practicioners of medicine and other health sciences.* This book which was produced in 5 editions over the next few years established the University of Toronto School of Hygiene as the centre for medical virology in the world.

Series 1 Personal/Family

1984-1990

1935-1993

Consists of family biographical information on the Rhodes ancestry, submissions to American and Canadian *Who's Who* volumes

Box 001 (01) - (02)

Series 2 Correspondence

This series contains general correspondence files arranged chronologically, and separate individual files arranged alphabetically by correspondent. General files include correspondence relating to his early education at the University of Edinburgh, appointments in Scotland and England, and appointment to the School of Hygiene, University of Toronto. Individual correspondents include, among others, faculty members at the University of Toronto such as Dr. Morris Goldner, Dr. John Hastings, Prof. Hannah Farkas-Himsley, Dr. W. Harding le Riche, former students, professional associates and personal friends.

Box 001 (03) to (23) Box 002 (01) to (04)

Series 3Church of St. Leonard, Toronto1980-1992

Dr. Rhodes was Vestry Clerk for Church of St. Leonard (Anglican Church of Canada) for ten years (1980 to 1990). His wife, Harriet, was a member of the Outreach Committee. The series consists of annual reports, budgets, minutes of meetings and some correspondence with the Reverend J. Taylor Pryce.

Box 004 (01) to (13)

Series 4Visit of Andrew Ian Sharp1990

This series consists of correspondence and itinerary regarding the visit of Dr. Rhodes' nephew, Ian Sharp to Canada in the spring of 1990. Mr. Sharp, a staff member in the Department of Music at the Liverpool Institute of Higher Education. Dr. Rhodes arranged for meetings with individuals at the University of Toronto, local Boards of education and Royal Conservatory of Music in order for his nephew to study of training of music teacher with particular reference to the role of consultants in primary schools and specialists in secondary schools.

Box 002 (05) to (13)

Series 5 Subject files

1966-1992

Files in this series contain correspondence, reports, notes, minutes of meetings, articles and other documents and relate to his personal and professional activities. Files include among others, Canadian College of Microbiologists, Canadian Public Health Association, College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, and Ontario Medical Association, University of Edinburgh.

Arranged alphabetically by title.

Box 002 (14) to (22) Box 003 (01) to (16)

Series 6 Laboratory Services Branch, Ministry of Health 1969-1977

This series documents Dr. Rhodes employment with the Ontario Ministry of Health as Associate Medical Director and later Medical Director of the Laboratory Services Branch, including appointment negotiations in 1969 to his retirement in 1977. Dr. Rhodes joined the Laboratory Services Branch following his resignation as Director of the School of Hygiene in 1970.

Files consistent of general correspondence and subject files relating to Autoclaving, Disinfectants in the TB Laboratory, Report of the Technical Advisory Committee on Laboratory Safety, Immunization and surveillance and Task force on care and transportation of communicable disease cases.

Box 005 (01) to (07)

Series 7 University of Toronto

1956-1992

Dr. Rhodes had a long association with the University of Toronto as administrator and as teacher. This series contains correspondence and reports relating to his period as director of the School of Hygiene and other activities on committees and task forces relating to community health and microbiology. Included are files relating to the U. of T. Biosafety Committee, Department of Microbiology and Parasitology, correspondence with the Faculty of Medicine, and Department of Bacteriology, and others.

Box 005 (08) to (12) Box 006 (01) to (10)

Series 8 University Teaching Hospitals 1977-1982

Following his retirement from the Ministry of Health, Dr. Rhodes returned to the University of Toronto from 1977-1979 to survey the virus diagnostic services in the University Teaching Hospitals. (He also held the position of Chair, U. of T. Biosafety Committee. See Series 7). His office was located at Mount Sinai Hospital. This series contains files relating mainly to this survey as well as other related committees and include correspondence, reports, and research data.

Box 007 (01) to (20) Box 008 (01) to (03)

Series 9 Ministry of Natural Resources. Rabies Advisory Committee 1979-1989

In 1979 Dr. Rhodes accepted an appointment as Chairman of the Rabies Advisory Committee within the Ministry of Natural Resources. This series documents some of the activities of this committee focussing primarily on immunization against rabies nationally and internationally. Included are general correspondence relating mainly to his appointment and reappointment to this committee and his retirement, and subject files relating to the World Health Organization conference in Essen, Germany, oral immunization of wildlife, safety standards and a seminar in Maple, Ontario on "Public, Intra- and Inter-Agency Relations in Rabies Control programs: a review"

Box 008 (04) to (12)

Series 10 Teaching

This series contains lecture notes, course outlines, examination questions, correspondence etc relating to courses taught at the University of Toronto and Toronto Institute of Medical Technology, as well as special lectures and seminars presented to professionals in the microbiology and parasotology fields such as Connaught Laboratories, and Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors. Specific courses include 3106F Public Health Virology (Graduate Dept. of Community Health), School of Graduate Studies 1131 Recent advances in microbiology: Persistent Infections, Course 1149, Virology Lectures, Dept. of Microbiology and Parasitology.

Box 009 (01) to (13) Box 010 (01) to (07)

1976-1982

Series 11 Within Reach of Everyone 1982-1992

Dr. Rhodes worked with Dr. Paul Bator on the production of a history of Connaught Laboratories and the School of Hygiene. This series contains files relating primarily to the production of the first volume and include correspondence with Dr. Bator and many other individuals and organizations, transcript of oral interview with Dr. Rhodes by Paul Bator, minutes of meetings relating to progress and funding applications, reports, page proofs and research materials.

Correspondence files are arranged alphabetically by correspondent.

Box 010 (08) to (12) Box 011 (01) to (19) Box 012 (01) to (12)

Series 12

Photographs

ca. 1950-1980

30 photoprints

Photographs of Dr. Rhodes at various professional meetings and functions. There are also several portraits of Dr. Rhodes in his office and at his desk as well as passport shots of himself and his wife Harriette.

Box 001P (01) - (08) Accompanying correspondence to image in File (06) can be found in Box 001 (24)