

University of Toronto Archives



J. M. S. Careless
Personal Records
B1998-0034
B2001-0020

Accession No.

Provenance Heading

B1998-0034, B2001-00020

Careless, J. M. S.

Records: 1852 – 1997, pre-dominant 1964-1997; multimedia; 3.6 m.

Access: Open.

Biographical Note:

James Maurice Stockford Careless (1919 -) is one of Canada's most distinguished English speaking historians. A professor in the University of Toronto's Department of History since 1945, Dr. Careless has made significant contributions to Canadian historiography with his seminal works on George Brown, metropolitanism, and urban history.

Born in Toronto February 17, 1919, Professor Careless graduated from the University of Toronto Schools in 1936. He then attended Trinity College, University of Toronto, where he received a B.A. in 1940. Professor Careless went on to graduate studies in history at Harvard University. There, he acquired an A.M. in 1941 and Ph.D. in 1950.

During the Second World War, Dr. Careless served with the Canadian Naval Headquarters and the Department of External Affairs. In 1945, he joined the faculty of the University of Toronto as a Lecturer in the Department of History. Dr. Careless was appointed Assistant Professor in 1949, Associate Professor in 1954, full Professor in 1959 (Chairman of the History Department, 1959-1967), and University Professor in 1977. In this capacity, Dr. Careless taught graduate and undergraduate courses in Canadian, political, ethnic, urban and intellectual history. Dr. Careless was made University Professor Emeritus in 1984, Senior Fellow Emeritus of Massey College in 1985, Senior Research Associate at Victoria College in 1987, and Donald Creighton Lecturer at the University of Toronto in 1987.

In addition to his responsibilities at the University of Toronto, Professor Careless has traveled and lectured in Canada, United States, Great Britain, Australia, India and Japan. He received the Rockefeller Award to Cambridge University in 1955-1956, the Carnegie Award to Australian universities in 1958, a visiting professorship to the University of Victoria in 1968-1969, and a Senior Research Fellowship at the Australian National University in Canberra in 1978.

Dr. Careless is the author or co-author of numerous outstanding histories. Most notably, his work, Canada, A Story of Challenge, has been a standard one volume history of Canada for nearly four decades. In 1953, it won the Governor General's Award for non-fiction. Similarly, his two volume biography, Brown of the Globe, remains the definitive treatment of Upper Canadian politician and journalist, George Brown. The book won the Governor General's Award in 1963. Dr. Careless has also published many articles and reviews in both scholarly and popular journals.

His many public services include: Member, Ontario Historic Sites Board, 1954-1975; Director, Ontario Heritage Foundation, 1975-1981; Trustee, Ontario Science Center, 1965-1973; Member, Ontario Commission on Post Secondary Education, 1969-1973; Chairman, Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, 1980-1985; and Chairman, Multi-Cultural History Society of Ontario, 1978-1988. In addition, Professor Careless served as co-editor of the *Canadian Historical Review*, 1948-1958, and as President of the Canadian Historical Association, 1968-1969. He also acted as advisor to the National Film Board's historical series from 1961 to 1966 and to the National Museum of Man's urban historical series from 1976 to 1982. In addition, Dr. Careless has contributed to various radio and television projects for the CBC and TVO.

Professor Careless has received many honors and distinctions throughout his career. These include: the Governor General's Award in 1953 and 1963; the University of British Columbia Medal for Biography in 1960; the Tyrrell Medal, Royal Society of Canada, in 1962; the Cruikshank Medal, Ontario Historical

Society, in 1967; and the City of Toronto Awards in 1984 and 1985. He has also been made a Doctor of Laws or Letters from Laurentian University in 1979, Memorial University in 1981, University of Victoria in 1982, Royal Roads in 1983, McMaster University in 1983, University of New Brunswick in 1984 and University of Calgary in 1986. Professor Careless was made an Officer of the Order of Canada in 1981 and the Order of Ontario in 1987. He also received the National Heritage Award in 1987.

J. M. S. Careless married Elizabeth Isobel Robinson on December 31st 1940. The couple has five children.

Scope and Content:

This accession consists of the professional records of James Maurice Stockford Careless and documents his career as a student, teacher, writer, and historian at the University of Toronto. Unfortunately, many of Professor Careless' early records were destroyed or damaged in a flood at Sidney Smith Hall in 1958. As a result, this accession mainly documents Dr. Career's later career. Most of this accession pertains to his research and writing, most notably, his work on Brown of the Globe. However, Professor Careless' student, teaching, administrative, and professional activities are also documented. Types of records include student notes, professional correspondence, research notes, and draft manuscripts. No personal family records are contained herein.

The accession is arranged in the following six series:

- Series 1. University Education
- Series 2. World War II
- Series 3. Professional Correspondence
- Series 4. Teaching
- Series 5. Associations
- Series 6. Research and Writing

Custodial History:

Most of Professor Careless' early records were destroyed or damaged in a flood at Sidney Smith Hall in 1958. Also, the original George Brown materials found in this accession

Related Records:

For an oral history interview with Professor Careless conducted by Paul Bator in 1983, please see the University of Toronto, Oral History Project (B1986-0038).

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

SERIES 1. University Education

[1936?] – 1950; textual; .13 m

Dr. Careless earned his B.A. in 1940 from the University of Toronto and his A.M. in 1941 and Ph.D. in 1950 from Harvard University. The records in this series pertain to Dr. Careless' undergraduate and graduate education. Records consist of Dr. Careless' undergraduate student notebook [1936?], three undergraduate history term papers (1939-1940) and his B.A. diploma (1940). Also included is his 1950 Harvard Ph. D. diploma and a draft of his doctoral dissertation, "Mid Victorian Liberalism in Canada: George Brown and the Toronto Globe, 1850-1867".

See box B1998-0034/001.

For B.A. and Ph. D. diplomas, see B1998-0034/015 (01) – (02).

SERIES 2. World War II

1943 – 1945; textual; .04 m

From 1942 to 1943, Professor Careless was Assistant to the Naval Historian with the Naval Service Headquarters in Ottawa. He then served as a Special Wartime Assistant with the Department of External Affairs in Ottawa between 1943 and 1945. In this capacity, he travelled to Spain and Sweden on the diplomatic ship "Gripsholm", in 1944, to exchange Allied and German prisoners of war. The records in this series pertain to Dr. Careless' wartime service and consist of copies of Department of External Affairs press conferences, 1943-1945, and a manuscript, "The Prince Ships", 1943.

See box B1998-0034/002(01)-(02).

SERIES 3. Professional Correspondence

1954-1997, predominant 1964-1997; textual; .32 m

This series consists of professional correspondence arranged chronologically. Most of the material dates from 1964. A flood in Sidney Smith Hall in 1958 destroyed or damaged much of Professor Careless' early records. The correspondence in this series provides an overview of J. M. S. Careless' activities as an historian, teacher, administrator, and researcher from 1954 to 1997. Topics include: the Canadian Historical Association, conferences, George Brown, Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, the Multi-Cultural Historical Society of Ontario, professional associations, publications, references, research, sabbaticals, and scholarly support.

See box B1998-0034/002(03) - /004.

SERIES 4. Teaching

1945 – 1992; multimedia; .26 m

The records in this series relate to Professor Careless' teaching activities at the University of Toronto. Between 1945 and 1992, Professor Careless taught various undergraduate and graduate courses on historiography, early Canadian history, urban history, and metropolitanism. The records in this series predominantly consist of mark books, 1945 to 1992. Also included are some course outlines and lecture notes. This series also includes an NFB film *The Inquiring Mind* (1959) in which Careless discusses the changing study of history and his philosophy on the study of history.

See box B1998-0034/005.

For film see B1998-0034/001M

SERIES 5. Associations

1953 – 1987; textual; .13 m

This series documents Professor Careless' involvement in various associations. The records consist of correspondence, research notes, and reports relating to the following associations: CBC Television Projects; Canadian Historical Association; Ontario Archaeological and Historic Sites Board; Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada; and the Multi-Cultural Historical Society of Ontario.

See boxes B1998-0034/006 and B1998-0034/015 (03) - (04).

SERIES 6. Research and Writings

1852 – 1996, predominant 1972-1996; multimedia; 2.53 m

The records in this series pertain to J. M. S. Careless' research and publishing activities. His research interests are broad, spanning political, urban, ethnic and intellectual history. His most seminal works, however, have concerned George Brown, the metropolitan model of national development, and urban history. Dr. Careless' books include: Canada, A Story of Challenge (1953); Brown of the Globe (2 volumes 1959, 1963); Union of the Canadas (1967); Colonists and Canadians (1971); Rise of Cities in Canada (1978); Pre-Confederation Premiers (1980); Toronto to 1918 (1984); Frontier and Metropolis (1989); Careless at Work (1990); and ONTARIO: A Celebration of Our Heritage (1991). In addition, Dr. Careless has contributed hundreds of articles and reviews to various professional journals.

This series contains research notes, manuscripts, and correspondence related to these publications. Most of the records in this series have been arranged chronologically according to year rather than publication. Series also contains research notes for an uncompleted study of Canadian urban development. Also included are records concerning Brown of the Globe such as research notes, card files, and correspondence. Further, there are some original George Brown records such as personal letters to his wife, Anne Brown; political correspondence with Alexander Mackenzie and Lord Monk; and Reform Party political posters.

Also included are original artwork for the cover of Brown of the Globe, original photographs of George Brown and his family, as well as copies and original photographs for Toronto to 1918.

Series also includes all records in accession B2001-0020: Typescripts for various publications written by J.M.S. Careless including Canadian Heritage, Ontario Frontier and Metropolis, Toronto to 1918, and Brown of the Globe.

See B1998-0034/007 – /014 and /015 (05) – (09).
 B2001-0020/001 – /003

For photographs and artwork, see B1998-0034/001P.

For original Brown records, see B1998-0034/009 (07) – (13) and B1998-0034/015 (04) – (09).