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Thomas A. Goudge fonds

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Biographical note

Thomas Anderson Goudge was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia on 19 January, 1910. His undergraduate years were spent at Dalhousie University, where he was president of the Arts Class of 1931, associate editor of the student newspaper, and full back of the Arts intramural football team. He was described in **Pharos**, the University yearbook, as a philosopher, litterateur, and artist; several of his articles were published in campus journals and his sketches illustrated the yearbook.

He took his MA at Dalhousie in 1932, and the following year entered his doctoral studies at the University of Toronto, majoring in modern philosophy under G. S. Brett. In 1934 he was appointed interim lecturer in philosophy at Waterloo College, University of Western Ontario. In 1935, he was a fellow and assistant in Philosophy at Queen's University. In 1936-1937 a fellowship from the Royal Society of Canada enabled him to spend a year at Harvard, where he continued his research on the theory of knowledge of the American philosopher, Charles Sanders Peirce, whose **Collected Papers** had just been published. His research paper, "The theory of knowledge in C. S. Peirce," written in the summer of 1936, became his doctoral thesis on his return to Toronto.

By the time Goudge received his doctorate in May of 1937, he had published three scholarly papers. He accepted an appointment at Queen's for the academic year 1937-38, when Professor Vlastos, with whom he had worked earlier, was on leave. In 1938 he was offered a lectureship in philosophy at the University of Toronto and never left, despite attempts by other institutions to lure him away. In 1964 he was appointed chair of the department. On his retirement in 1976, he was appointed professor emeritus. He remained actively involved in his discipline until the end of the 1980s, when Alzheimer's disease began to take its toll.

Professor Goudge became appreciated quickly for the clarity and probity of his writings and was soon recognized as an outstanding scholar. He made important contributions in two areas of philosophy -- the thought of C. S. Peirce and the philosophy of biology, on which he wrote numerous articles and two books, **The Thought of C. S. Peirce** (1950) and **The Ascent of Life** (1961). He was also much sought after as a speaker, both at academic events and more informal gatherings. Following Professor Goudge's retirement, his colleagues honoured him in a festschrift, **Pragmatism and Purpose: essays presented to Thomas A. Goudge** (1981).

Scope and content

Date range: 1873-1993

Extent: 2.51 m (11 boxes) of textual records

Correspondence, diaries, course notes, research and lecture notes, card indices, addresses, manuscripts and publications documenting the career of Thomas A. Goudge as professor in and former chair of the Department of Philosophy at the University of Toronto.

Note: The titles of the files are, for the most part, those used by the creator.

Access: Open

Boxes: B1996-0009/001 -/011

Series 1: Personal and education

Date range: 1930-1972

Extent: 0.13 m (boxes) of textual records

Scope and content: This series contains material relating to Professor Goudge's personal life and his education at Dalhousie, the University of Toronto, and Harvard.

It begins with his personal journals for 1949-1950 and 1960-1972 and his "scrapbook" of quotations and poetry that he assembled in 1933.

Next is a file of course notes from his undergraduate program at Dalhousie (1930-31) and a copy of **Pharos** for his graduating year (1931). They are followed by research papers (1935, 1936) from his doctoral program at the University of Toronto, including the one on C. S. Peirce (1936) that became his doctoral dissertation; and course notes from the spring term at Harvard (1937), where he studied aesthetics under Professors David W. Prall, metaphysics under W. E. Hocking and Aristotle under J. D. Wild. The notes he took from A. N. Whitehead on cosmology and the function of reason have not been located.

Access: Open

Boxes: B1996-009/001 (01)-(12)

Series 2: Correspondence

Date range: 1934-1992

Extent: 0.14 m (boxes) of textual records

Scope and content: This small series contains correspondence, largely of a professional nature and substantially relating to Professor Goudge's activities at the University of Toronto. The topics range from his employment and honours bestowed on him, to matters relating to his students and their academic work, to duties stemming from his sitting on the boards of academic journals. The arrangement is largely by these three groups.

The correspondence in the first files includes offers of employment generally (1934-1970), and employment at the University of Toronto along with annuities, academic leave, and honours, including Goudge's **festschrift** (1942-1981). Then come files on the supervision of students and the appraisal of doctoral theses (1946-1981) and letters of support for fellowships and scholarships (1967-1985). There is little correspondence relating to the development of administrative policies at the University, though there is a submission by Professor Goudge, in his capacity as chair of the Department of Philosophy, to the Macpherson Committee in 1966.

One of Professor Goudge's long-time friends was A. G. Huntsman, Professor of Marine Biology, with whom he carried on a lengthy (1958-1970) correspondence on philosophical issues relating to science and evolution. This file is followed by one containing Goudge's recollections of his association with A. N. Whitehead at Harvard and the University of Toronto in the 1930s. Professor Huntsman's personal records, which are in the University Archives, complement this correspondence.

The remainder of this series contains correspondence relating to Goudge's involvement with the American Philosophical Association, the Charles S. Peirce Society, the 1979 "Philosophy in Canada" conference, the Royal Society of Canada, and the journals, **Dialogue**, **Encyclopedie Philosophique**, **Encyclopedia of Philosophy**, **The Monist**, and **Philosophy of the Social Sciences**.

Access: Open

Boxes: B1996-0009/001 (13)-(23)
B1996-0009/002 (01)-(12)

Series 3: Notes

Date range: ca. 1900-1991

Extent: 0.52 m (3 boxes) of textual records

Scope and content: This series consists of notes taken for research purposes, addresses, and lectures that are not clearly identified with a particular project or event. They were compiled from about 1932 to 1991, with an number of accompanying, heavily annotated, articles that date from 1900.

They begin with eight "philosophical notebooks" compiled in the 1940s and the 1950s that cover topics from naturalism and Kant to the philosophy of biology. The remaining files document issues and individuals that were of continuing interest to Professor Goudge, along with topics that are more narrowly focused. Charles Peirce is especially well documented and Kant is also prominent. Over the years, Goudge assembled material on other philosophers such as Henri Bergson, Ludwig von Bertalanffy, C. L. Lewis, Lloyd Morgan, Karl Popper, and A. N. Whitehead. Many of these individuals were to appear as biographical entries in the **Encyclopedia of Philosophy** (1967).

The majority of the files, however, document one of Professor Goudge's principal interests, Darwin and evolution and a part of the ongoing debate on the philosophy of biology. A selection of file titles demonstrates the wide ranging nature of the debate: "aspects of explanation", "causality", "evolutionary theory and ethics", and the "controversy over sociobiology".

Arrangement: Material that Professor Goudge wrote or assembled as a unit at a particular time was periodically broken up and redistributed to files he created for projects of the moment. For example, beginning about 1938 he wrote extensively about various aspects of philosophy for use in his lectures and research. Over the years, these notes became scattered throughout the several dozen files that form this series. The only material that has been removed to other series are clearly identified drafts of lectures, addresses, and articles.

Access: Open

Boxes: B1996-0009/002 (13)-(27)

B1996-0009/003 (01)-(22)

B1996-0009/004 (01)-(28)

Series 4: Lecture notes

Date range: 1934-1982

Extent: 0.16 m (2 boxes) of textual records

Scope and content: This series contains two types of lecture notes -- those delivered for regular philosophy courses in the Faculty of Arts and the School of Graduate Studies, and those delivered on occasion to students in other faculties such as Social Work and University Extension.

The principal courses represented from the Faculty of Arts are 243E -- The age of reason, 17th century thought, 3j -- The philosophy of Emmanuel Kant, 3p --Epistemology and the philosophy of reception, and 4e -- Post-Hegelian philosophy; there is also material for four graduate courses.

Arrangement: The arrangement is by course, beginning with regular program in the Faculty of Arts and the School of Graduate Studies. The special lectures delivered to other faculties and divisions follow.

Any file may contain lecture notes, course outlines and bibliographies, and examination questions, but few have all categories. While the outside dates on the files are often well-spaced, the lectures themselves usually cover only a short time frame. The greatest concentration of lectures is for the 1960s and the 1970s.

Access: Open

Boxes: B1996-0009/004 (29)

B1996-0009/005 (01)-(22)

Series 5: Addresses

Date range: 1934-1988

Extent: 0.10 m (1 box) of textual records

Scope and content: Professor Goudge was much in demand as a speaker, with invitations coming from student clubs and organizers of special lecture series, and conferences, and other academic gatherings. The notes for and drafts of addresses, some with covering correspondence, in this series are representative rather than a complete record of the formal and informal talks he gave over a period of more than fifty years.

The first two files consist of "philosophical papers" read to clubs and groups between 1934 and 1977. Except for the talks he gave at the Huntsman Royal Lunch Club at the

University of Toronto (1963-1988), the remaining addresses are filed in chronological order. Those that were delivered on several occasions are filed under the date of the earliest presentation. The most popular ones were on various aspects of evolution and include titles such as "ethics and evolution: a reappraisal" (1964-66), "genetic fallacy" (1965), and "on formalizing evolutionary theory" (1972). The papers presented at conferences were often published, the printed version of which may be found in Series V.

Access: Open

Boxes: B1996-0009/006 (01)-(15)

Series 6: Manuscripts and publications

Date range: 1938-1987

Extent: 0.30 m (2 boxes) of textual records

Scope and content: Professor Goudge's addresses and writings were noted for their lucidity, and he was frequently approached to write book reviews, which often appeared as review articles, and articles for scholarly journals. Some of his writings also appeared as chapters in books, and he wrote two books, **The Thought of C. S. Peirce** (1950), which was reissued in paperback 1969, and **The Ascent of Life: a philosophical study of the theory of evolution** (1961) which won him the 1961 Governor-General's Literary Award for non-fiction. In 1966, it appeared in Dutch as **De wijsgerige aspecten van de evolutie**.

The files in this series contain notes and covering correspondence relating to and drafts of articles and chapters of his books. Drafts of his books, except for a proof copy of **The Thought of C. S. Peirce**, are not to be found here, though there is correspondence relating to their publications, reviews, and files on royalties paid.

Arrangement: Files are arranged in chronological order.

Access: Open

Boxes: B1996-0009/006 (17)-(25)

B1996-0009/007 (01)-(27)

Series 7: Annotated books

Date range: 1873-1986

Extent: 0.13 m (boxes) of textual records

Scope and content: Professor Goudge habitually annotated his books, and a selection of these volumes were presented by Professor Goudge's family to the University Archives.

This series consists of a folder of photocopied annotations from books (1873-1986), where the annotations were largely confined to the boards, and four volumes that were annotated throughout: R. I. Aaron, **The Nature of Knowing** (1930), A. E. Taylor, **Plato** (n.d.), A. N. Whitehead, **Science and the Modern World** (1931), and J. L. Mackie, **Ethics** (1977).

Access: Open

Boxes: B1996-0009/008 (01)-(05)

Series 8: Card indices

Date range: n.d.

Extent: 0.96 m (11 boxes) of textual records

Scope and content: Professor Goudge compiled card indices of topics in which he was interested. Two separate indices are represented here.

The first index, in boxes 009 and 010, is comprised of notes on Charles S. Peirce that are grouped by subject and date. The index begins with a number of uncategorized entries. The first category, "Methods of inquiry: scientific method", covers Peirce's writings on that subject between 1877 and 1902. This is followed by "Abstractions", which addresses his writings on that topic between 1867 and 1906. Other topics in box 009 include "community reality and logic", "probability and inference", and "thought and thinking". The final entry for the box is "nature and method of philosophy". Box 010 begins with "phaneroscopy and the categories" and proceeds through "instincts" and "critical common-sensism" to "God and religion". The box ends with "autobiographical references".

The second index is a single box [box 011] with topics relating to evolution, the references being drawn from a wide variety of sources. There is not specific order to the arrangement. The first topic is "evolution and the mind". Others range from "genes" and "natural selection" to "trends and rates of evolution". The last topic in this index is "non-Darwinian interpretations".

Access: Open

Boxes: B1996-0009/009 - /011

Appendix

Series 6: Manuscripts and publications

File number	File title	Date range
B1996-0009/006 (17)	Correspondence -- requests for offprints and acknowledgement of receipt of same	1940-1974
B1996-0009/006 (18)	Review articles	1938-1962
B1996-0009/006 (19)	Review articles	1963-1986
B1996-0009/006 (20)	"The conflict of naturalism and transcendentalism in Charles S. Peirce." Correspondence re	1947
B1996-0009/006 (21)	The Thought of C. S. Peirce. Proofs, chapters 1-5	1950
B1996-0009/006 (22)	The Thought of C. S. Peirce. Proofs, chapters 6-11	1950
B1996-0009/006 (23)	The Thought of C. S. Peirce. Correspondence re publishing; reviews	1949-1951
B1996-0009/006 (24)	The Thought of C. S. Peirce. Correspondence with Dover Press re republication	1967-1972
B1996-0009/007 (01)	"What is population?," Philosophy of Science , 22, 4 (October, 1955), 272-279	1955
B1996-0009/007 (02)	"Progress and evolution," in Studia Varia (1957), 86-94. Notes, correspondence	1956-1957
B1996-0009/007 (03)	Letter of 11 April, 1957 re paper presented for publication	1957
B1996-0009/007 (04)	"The genetic fallacy," Synthese , 8 (1961). Correspondence, abstract, proofs	1959-1965
B1996-0009/007 (05)	The Ascent of Life: a philosophical study of the theory of evolution. Selected bibliography	1961-
B1996-0009/007 (06)	Th Ascent of Life: a philosophical study of the theory of evolution. Correspondence re Governor-General's Literary Award for non-fiction	1961-1962
B1996-0009/007 (07)	The Ascent of Life: a philosophical study of the theory of evolution. Reviews and notices	1962-1981

File number	File title	Date range
B1996-0009/007 (08)	The Ascent of Life: a philosophical study of the theory of evolution. Sales and royalties (1967-1980); correspondence re Dutch edition and Canadian paperback edition (1962-1981)	1962-1981
B1996-0009/007 (09)	The Ascent of Life: a philosophical study of the theory of evolution. Sales and royalties	1961-1981
B1996-0009/007 (10)	Studies in the Philosophy of Charles Sanders Peirce. Second Series (1964). Reviews of this volume which includes chapter by Goudge	1965
B1996-0009/007 (11)	"The origin of living things," Encyclopedia of the Philosophy of Art (1965). Notes for article	1952-196-
B1996-0009/007 (12)	"Another look at emergent evolutionism," Dialogue , IV, 3 (December, 1965), 273-285. Draft, correspondence, offprint	1965-1966
B1996-0009/007 (13)	Articles for The Encyclopedia of Philosophy (1967) on Henri Bergson, Ludwig von Bertalanffy; Samuel Butler; Charles Robert Darwin; Erasmus Darwin; "Emergent evolutionism"; Asa Gray; Thomas Henry Huxley; Chevalier de Lamarck; Pierre Andre, Lecomte du Nouy; "Origin of Life"; Jacques Loeb; C. Lloyd Morgan; George John Romanes; Jan Christian Smuts; Pierre, Teilhard de Chardin; Jakob Johann, Baron von Uexkull; Alfred Russel Wallace; and Joseph Henry Woodger	1967
B1996-0009/007 (14)	"A century of philosophy," Dalhousie Review , 47, 4 (1968), 537-49, with background material	1950-1968
B1996-0009/007 (15)	"Evolutionism: the history of a family of ideas," The Dictionary of the History of Ideas (1969). Notes	1967
B1996-0009/007 (16)	"Mental evolution: a philosophical enquiry." Chapters 1-3, longhand MS	1970-1971
B1996-0009/007 (17)	"Mental evolution: a philosophical enquiry." First draft of typescript	197-
B1996-0009/007 (18)	"Mental evolution: a philosophical enquiry." Preliminary draft copy of typescript [second draft]	197-

File number	File title	Date range
B1996-0009/007 (19)	"Ryle's collected papers," Dialogue , XI, 4 (1972), 596-601. Offprint, with draft, notes, and background material	1971-1972
B1996-0009/007 (20)	"Pragmatism's contribution to an evolutionary view of mind," The Monist , 57, 2 (April, 1973), 133-150. Offprint, correspondence	1973-1974
B1996-0009/007 (21)	"I:Descartes or Darwin? Mental evolution and the body-mind problem; II: Darwin's evolutionary theory of morals." Longhand MS. Also, typescript of "Descartes or Darwin?", with covering correspondence	1973-1974
B1996-0009/007 (22)	"Neodarwinism, mental evolution, and the mind-body problem," Basic Issues in the Philosophy of Science , ed. William R. Shea (1976), 91-105. Notes, draft, correspondence, offprint	1974-1976
B1996-0009/007 (23)	"Peirce and Rescher on scientific progress and economy of research," Dialogue (June, 1981). Notes, correspondence	1979-1981
B1996-0009/007 (24)	"Ryle's last thoughts on thinking," Dialogue , 21 (1982), 125-132. Draft, offprint, press clipping	1976-1982
B1996-0009/007 (25)	"History of philosophy and scholarship in Canada since 1950," article for New Canadian Encyclopedia . Correspondence, drafts, press clipping	1982-1983
B1996-0009/007 (26)	"Complex disguises: reason in Canadian philosophy," Dialogue , 22 (1983), 339-346. Correspondence, drafts, offprint	1982-1983
B1996-0009/007 (27)	Review of Peirce, Semiotic, and Pragmatism: Essays by Max H. Fisch . (1986). Drafts, correspondence	1985-1987