

James Sinclair, 1908 - 1984

An inventory of his papers

in

The Library of the University of British Columbia
Special Collections Division

Prepared by

George Brandak

1984

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Display - British Columbia Archival Union List (BCAUL)

Provenance: Sinclair, James, 1908-1984
Title: James Sinclair fonds
Dates: 1928-1981
Physical desc.: 1.4 m of textual records ; 590 photographs
Bio/Admin History: Born in Banff, Scotland, James Sinclair moved to Vancouver with his family in 1911. He attended the University of British Columbia and was awarded a Rhodes scholarship in 1928. Sinclair was first elected to the House of Commons in 1940 and he represented North Vancouver as MP until 1958. From 1952 to 1957 he served as Minister of Fisheries for the Liberal government.
Scope/Content: The fonds consists of diaries, scrapbooks, correspondence, photographs, speeches, printed material, and memoirs pertaining to the university, military, business and political careers of James Sinclair. Also included are sous-fonds relating to the teaching career of his father James G. Sinclair and his wife Kathleen Sinclair.
Title source: Title based on the contents of the fonds.
Finding aids: Inventory available.
Repository: University of British Columbia Library Rare Books and Special Collections
Names: Sinclair, James, 1908-1984 ; Sinclair, Kathleen ; Sinclair, James G.

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THE HON. JAMES SINCLAIR, P.C.

Born Banff, Scotland, May 26, 1908
Came to Vancouver in 1911

Education: Vancouver Technical School
University of British Columbia (Engineering)
Oxford University (Mathematics)
Princeton University (Mathematical Physics)
Rhodes Scholar

Military Service: R.C.A.F. 1939 - 1945
Served with the Desert Air Force in
North Africa, Malta, Sicily

Government: Member of Parliament 1940 - 1958
Parliamentary Secretary to
the Minister of Finance 1948 - 1952
Minister of Fisheries 1952 - 1957
Opposition Financial Critic 1957 - 1958
Headed Canadian Mission
collecting European war debts 1950
Canadian Delegate to:
United Nations, Geneva 1951, New York 1952
General Agreement on Tariffs and
Trade, Geneva 1951
Colombo Plan, New Delhi 1953, Ottawa 1954
North Pacific Fisheries, Tokyo 1953
International Whaling Commission,
Moscow 1955
Economic Mission to France 1967

Former Member: B.C. Energy Board
B.C. Judicial Council

Business: President,
Fisheries Association of B.C. 1958 - 1960
President, and later Chairman,
Lafarge Cement of North
American Ltd. 1960 - 1970
Deputy Chairman,
Canada Cement Lafarge Ltd. 1970 - 1973

Former Directorships: Bank of Montreal (Vice-President)
Sun Life Assurance Co. of Canada (Life)
Halifax Insurance Co. (Casualty)
Royal Trust Advisory Board
Canada Cement Lafarge Ltd.
Alcan Aluminium Limited
Cominco Ltd. (Mining)
Columbia Cellulose Company, Limited
C-I-L (Chemicals and explosives)
I.C.I. of the Americas (Chemicals
and explosives)

Dec. 1974

<u>Box-folder</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Date</u>
1 - (1 - 14)	DIARIES Fourteen diaries pertaining to his career and various activities.	1928-71
Box 1A [1 - (1-4)	Re: his university career at Oxford and Princeton, including his travel, classes, and special interests such as rugby.	1928-34
1 - (5-9)	Re: military service career with the Royal Canadian Air Force, including his posting to Jericho Beach, Vancouver, B.C., Dauphin, Manitoba, England, Scotland, and Northern Africa.	1941-43
1 - 10	His visit to Europe to collect military relief owing Canada by Belgium, Luxembourg, France, Italy, Yugoslavia, Greece, Denmark, and Norway.	1950
1 - 11	Delegate to the Thirteenth meeting of the United Nation's Economic and Social Council at Geneva	1951
Box 1B [1 - 12	Trip to Colombo, Ceylon pertaining to the Colombo Plan	1953
1 - 13	Visit to the Soviet Union to attend an International Whaling Commission meeting.	1955
1 - 14	Visit to South Africa as guest of the South African Foundation	1971
boxes 2 - 4	SCRAPBOOKS Thirteen scrapbooks pertaining to his career and various activities. During his eighteen years in Parliament his two secretaries-- Marie Miller and Pearl Hunter-- kept files of press clippings, his speeches in Hansard, articles and letters and his mother collected press clippings in Vancouver. Later, they started putting the material in scrapbooks, but not in chronological order in all cases. James Sinclair made a short index to each scrapbook and placed a copy in each scrapbook.	
Box 2A [#1		1937-44
#2		1940-48
Box 2B [#3		1949-50
#4		1949-52
Box 3A [#5		1952-53
#6	Election	1953
#7		1953-57
Box 3B [#8	Soviet Union - China tour	1955
#9		1956
#10		1957
#11		1957-58
Box 4A [#12		1959-62 -1978
Box 4B [#13	Colombo Plan meeting	1953

Box-folderSubjectDates

boxes 5-6

PHOTOGRAPHS

Five albums pertaining to his career and activities as well as prints not placed in albums.

Box 5A	#1	<i>photocopy of F</i>	Family album that also includes newsclippings, speeches, and personal documents for James Sinclair, his father, James G. Sinclair and other family members	1869-81
	#2		Album pertaining to his university career at Oxford and Princeton as well as his military and Parliamentary career during World War II.	1929-45
	#3		Album relating to his visit to Colombo, Ceylon to discuss the Colombo Plan	1953
Box 5B	#4		Photographic record of the visit to Canada of Alexander A. Ishkov, Minister of Fisheries of U.S.S.R.	Aug.-Sept. 1956
Box 5A	#5		Album pertaining to personal activities-- rugby, university, surveying, and skiing	1930's
Box 6	6 - 1		Prints of family and friends	n.d.
	6 - 2		Prints of activities and people	n.d.
	6 - 3		Snapshots and a print of Soviet tour by Alexander Ishkov.	1956
			MEMOIRS	
	7 - 1		A typescript of the memoirs of James Sinclair that included much information from his diaries and scrapbooks, 275 pages.	May, 1983
			CORRESPONDENCE	
	7 - (2-9)		Outgoing letters to his wife, Kathleen Sinclair, during his military service.	1940-43
Box 7	7 - (10-14)		Incoming letters from his wife, Kathleen Sinclair.	1940-46 1950
	7 - 15		Incoming and outgoing letters from and about various persons-- S.A. Ruocco re: James G. Sinclair, Dimitri Chuvahin, Ambassador of the USSR to Canada re: Alexander Ishkov, Justin Trudeau, Stanley Knowles, Milton Gregg, William Lyon Mackenzie King, and Nat Davis, Chairman, Alcan Aluminum Limited.	1949, 1957, 1978 1981
	7 - 16		Incoming and outgoing letters relating to the activities of LaFarge Cement of North America Ltd. including letters with Olivier Lecerf, President, Lafarge Coppee and J.C. Lofficier, Ciments Lafarge, Paris, France.	196 19 197 198

Box-folder

Subject

Dates

Box 7

7 - 17	Incoming letters to Mr. and Mrs. James Sinclair from family and friends	1953
7 - 18	Incoming letters(2), unidentified	1960, n.d.

SPEECHES

8 - (1-2)	Speeches by James Sinclair, including those printed in Hansard.	1940-58
8 - (3-4)	Notes to his speeches	1956-58, n.d.
8 - 5	Notes for his speech honouring H.R. MacMillan at the Vancouver Aquarium.	n.d.
8 - 6	Compilation of jokes to be used in speeches.	n.d.

PRINTED MATERIAL

8 - 7	Tribute to the late Hon. James Sinclair in the House of Commons Debates.	Feb. 8, 1984
8 - 8	The Totem, a U.B.C. yearbook, has certain students underlined or circled.	1928
8 - 9	Election campaign literature, including a typescript of campaign itinerary.	1940-57

Box 8

8 - 10	Clippings	n.d., 1976
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SUBGROUPS:

MRS. KATHERIN SINCLAIR

DAIRY

8 - 11	Trip to Colombo, Ceylon	1953
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8 - 12	Letters enclosed in diary pertaining to the Colombo trip	1953
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CORRESPONDENCE sa: letters to her husband, box 7-(10-14)

8 - 13	Outgoing letters to her family	1969
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8 - 14	Incoming letter to her about the death of her husband	1984
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JAMES G. SINCLAIR

9 - 1	BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION	
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9 - 2	LOGBOOK re: teaching	1903-09
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9 - 3	TESTIMONIALS	1900-10
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9 - 4	CERTIFICATES	1900-04
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9 - 5	ARTICLE AND SPEECH	n.d., 1941
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9 - 6	PHOTOGRAPHS (5) <i>photocopies</i>	n.d.
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Box 9