

Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire (Lady Grey Chapter) fonds

1914-1979

57 cm of textual records

Administrative history

The Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire was founded in 1900 as a patriotic, non partisan and philanthropic Canadian women's organization. It was open to Canadian citizens or British subjects. It was organized into chapters in a hierarchy from the national to the local. Its goals were to stimulate patriotism through education (scholarships and grants, gifts of books and study materials), and community service, especially that relating to war memorials and studies conducted by relatives of war veterans. It also provided funding to institutions such as hospitals, nurseries, museums, clinics and senior citizen's homes. Overseas aid was provided as well. Other activities related to civil defence, immigration and citizenship, commonwealth relations and the production of printed and visual material designed to counteract subversive propaganda.

The Lady Grey Chapter was formed in November of 1909 in Fort William, first as a junior chapter, open to unmarried women (membership was retained if marriage took place at a later date). Two other chapters existed in Fort William, the John McIntyre Chapter formed also in November of 1909 and the Lake Superior Chapter, formed in 1947.

The Lady Grey Chapter was disbanded in June of 1979 and held its last meeting in February of 1980. Low membership and lack of interest were cited as the reasons for the disbanding of the group. The chapter had been at the point of disbanding in 1969 but efforts at the National chapter level were made to revitalize it primarily because it was the only chapter to own a military plot (at Mountain View Cemetery). The chapter maintained the plot.

Scope and Content

The Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire (Lady Grey Chapter) fonds is composed of minute books, correspondence files, scrapbooks, publications, manuscripts and other records regarding meetings that were held, activities undertaken by the group, and special group events.

Series E 16/1/1-7. - Minute books. - 21 cm. - 1914-1979

Seven minute books of the Lady Grey Chapter of the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire:

- 1) 1914-16 (22 fol).
- 2) 1916-18 (ca. 72 fol).
- 3) 1923-28 (202 p).
- 4) 1928-39 (300 p).
- 5) 1939-53 (500 p).
- 6) 1954-69 (370 p).
- 7) 1969-79 (ca. 240 p).

Series E 16/2/1. - Correspondence files. - 10 cm. - [1930-1975]

Files of correspondence, clippings and reports relating to the varied activities of the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire:

- 1) Yearly reports regarding services at home and abroad. 1960-1968.
- 2) Miscellaneous records, financial reports, clippings, reports, regarding oratorical contests during the 1930s to the 1970s.
- 3) Correspondence regarding the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire's Military Plot at Mountain View Cemetery, 1941-1943 (66 fol).
- 4) Correspondence regarding the cemetery plot, 1943-1944 (43 fol).
- 5) Correspondence regarding the cemetery plot, 1944-1947.
- 6) Correspondence regarding the cemetery plot, 1946.
- 7) Secretary's annual reports. 1953-1954, 1954-1955.

Series E 16/3/1-7. - Scrapbooks. - 11 cm. - 1931-1966

Seven scrapbooks of the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire, the Lady Grey Chapter, containing clippings and photographs.

- 1) Decoration Day Services at the Military Plot, 1931-1934.
- 2) Decoration Day Services at the Military Plot, 1935-1946.
- 3) Decoration Day Services at the Military Plot, 1950-1951.
- 4) Decoration Day Services at the Military Plot, 1955-1963.
- 5) Decoration Day Services at the Military Plot, 1964-1965.
- 6) 60th anniversary of the Lady Grey Chapter, Apr. 1969.
- 7) Miscellaneous activities, 1964-1966.

Series E 16/4/1. - Publications. - 8 cm. - 1939-1969

Various publications put out by the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire, or concerning the organization.

- 1) Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire minutes of the 42nd annual meeting of the Provincial Chapter, 1962.
- 2) As above, 1965.
- 3) As above, 1966.
- 4) As above, 1967.
- 5) Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire Annual Report, Provincial Chapter, 1968.
- 6) Constitution and By-laws, 1962 and 1950.
- 7) Constitution and By-laws, 1969.
- 8) "From kilt to kin", c.1940, to be given to British women settling in Canada.

Series E 16/5/1. - Miscellaneous records. - 7 cm. - 1938-1976

- 1) Minute book of "Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire Mini-Executive," formed to coordinate the Lakehead's five chapters. 1971-1976 (ca.150 fol).
- 2) Membership book, 1938-1953 (72 fol).
- 3) Scholarship winners book, 1947-1954.
- 4) File containing membership certificates, manuscripts of the history of the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire, 1900-1958, membership cards, invitations, plus flag etiquette.
- 5) Ledger, 1957-1968 (68 fol).

Notes

Formerly catalogued into the museum collection, 974.123.2,4,5,6,8; 979.95.4f,10; 979.95.3a,b,c1-c4,11; 979.95.8a,e,f,g,b,h; 979.95.4a-d; 978.60.2; 976.65.5u-z; 979.95.4e; 974.123.3; 979.95.2a-h; 979.95.14a-c; 974.123.7; 979.95.9.