

Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters/Regional Council 15 Archives

Finding Aid #C-1

Congregational Union of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick

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Reference Number: C/1

Title: Congregational Union of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick fonds

Dates: 1846-1925

Extent: 15 cm of textual records, 10 photographs, 10 artifacts, and 1 microfilm

Administrative History: Congregationalism was first introduced in Atlantic Canada by New England militiamen who conquered Louisburg, Nova Scotia in 1745. After the return of Louisburg to France, many Congregationalist New England businessmen moved to Halifax and Mather's Meeting House, founded by Rev. Aaron Cleveland, was established in 1750. After the Acadians were expelled from the Maritimes in 1755, larger numbers of Congregationlists came from the States and established more churches. Congregationlism was never a significant denomination in Prince Edward Island or Newfoundland.

By the time of the American Revolution, most Protestants in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick were Congregationalists. Since Congregationalist sentiment tended to be pro-American, many local congregations were divided during the war and many ministers returned to New England. New ministers were not able to be sent from England during the war so the church leadership was weakened in the Maritimes. Some Congregational churches became Presbyterian while others were eventually taken over by the Baptists, especially after 1780. For all of these above reasons, very few Congregational churches remained in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick after 1783.

The remaining Congregational churches united to form the Congregational Union of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick in 1846. This union joined the Congregational Union of Canada in 1908, functioning as a separate administrative unit until the formation of The United Church of Canada in 1925.

The Congregational Union of Canada and its affiliated bodies continued until 1925, when they entered the United Church of Canada.

Congregational Churches in NS and NB were at:

Nova Scotia:

Baddeck

Baker's Settlement

Beach Meadows (associated with Liverpool)

Brookfield

Brooklyn

Caledonia

Cheboque

Cornwallis

Economy

Falmouth

Halifax (Mathers)

Hemford (and Ohio)

Kingsport
Liverpool
Lower Selmah
Maitland
Manchester
Margaree
Milton
Moose Brook
Musquodoboit
Noel
Ohio
Pleasant River
Truro
Yarmouth

New Brunswick:

Cardigan
Douglas
Keswick Ridge
Lake Island (Keswick Ridge area)
Maugerville
Milltown
Queensbury (Keswick Ridge area)
Saint John
Sheffield

Source: Congregational Churches in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick 1749-1925 by E. Arthur Betts and The Congregational Churches of Canada: A Statistical and Historical Summary by Douglas Walkington.

Custodial History: Information about the custody of these records prior to acquisition is incomplete.

Scope and Content: Fonds consists of minutes, an act of incorporation, financial records, correspondence, artifacts, and publications from the Congregational Union of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Fonds consists of following series:

- Acts of Incorporation
- Minutes
- Records of Treasurer
- Records of Secretary
- Women's Board of Missions
- Missionary Publications
- Photographs
- Artifacts

Notes:

Source of Supplied Title Proper: Title based on contents of fonds.

Accruals: Further accruals are expected.

Immediate Source of Acquisition: It is unknown from where and when the majority of these records were received. The artifacts collected by Diadem Bell were received in January 1989 and April 1991. Records were also received in 2019 (accession 19-059) and 2020 (accession 20-026).

Related Records: See Brooklyn Pastoral Charge fonds, Caledonia Pastoral Charge fonds, Cobequid Pastoral Charge fonds, Cornwallis Pastoral Charge fonds, Keswick Ridge Pastoral Charge fonds, Liverpool Pastoral Charge fonds, Margaree Pastoral Charge fonds, Maitland Pastoral Charge fonds, Milltown Pastoral Charge fonds, Saint John Congregational Church Pastoral Charge, Sheffield Pastoral Charge, and Yarmouth Pastoral Charge for records of Congregational congregations. See also the fonds of David E. Coburn, Samuel Wilson, and John Wood, who were Congregational ministers in the Maritimes.

Associated Material: See the book Congregational Churches in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick 1749-1925 by E. Arthur Betts.

Microfilm Physical Description: Microfilm is 35 mm.

File List:

Acts of Incorporation

File Number	File Title/Description	Dates
C/1/6	-“Declaration of Faith, Church Order, and Discipline and Covenant of the Congregationalists as set forth by the Congregational Union of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick at a meeting in St. John, NB” -“An Act for the Incorporation of Congregational Churches in Nova Scotia, and in Relation to Congregational Church Properties, Chapter 203, Victoria 56, Page 357. Passed the 28 th Day of April A.D., in the Nova Scotia Legislature”	October 9, 1846 April 28, 1893

Minutes

File Number	File Title/Description	Dates
C/1/1	Minutes of the Congregational Union of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick	July 11, 1846-September 4, 1868
C/1/2	Minutes of the Congregational Union of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick Also includes Nova Scotia Act of Incorporation (1862); New Brunswick Act of Incorporation (1856); Rules of Union; Members of Union; Personal members by vote of Union; Churches connected with Union; Officers of Union; Acts of Incorporation; Constitution and Rules of	September 13, 1869-July 4, 1895

	Order of the Congregational Union of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick	
MF/101 (microfilm only)	Minutes of the Congregational Union of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick	July 2, 1896-July 5, 1925
C/1/6	Programme of the 78 th and Final Annual Meeting of the Congregational Union of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick	July 1-5, 1925
C/1/10	Handwritten notes on the International Congregational Council meetings in Boston, 9 pp.	June 29-July 6, 1920

Records of Treasurer

File Number	File Title/Description	Dates
C/1/3	Treasurer's book	1867-1887
C/1/4	Treasurer's book	1887-1907

Records of Secretary

File Number	File Title/Description	Dates
C/1/5	Correspondence of J.W. Flewelling, Secretary of the Congregational Union of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick	1920-1926
C/1/7	Correspondence of J.W. Flewelling, Secretary to Congregational Union of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick re. the ordination of a A.T. King, the last individual to be ordained under the auspices of the Congregational Union	1925

Other

File Number	File Title/Description	Dates
C/1/13	Black Robert, K.-"Notes of a tour among the Congregational churches in the East of Nova Scotia and Cape Breton" by K. Black Robert	1867
C/1/11	"When Liverpool Was a College Town" by John Leefe, 3 pp.	1867-1887

Women's Board of Missions

File Number	File Title/Description	Dates
C/1/10	Canada Congregational Women's Board of Missions, Maritime Branch minutes	1898-1924

Missionary Publications

Diadem Bell was born in 1872 in Milton, Nova Scotia where she was a school teacher for ten years. In 1902, she went to Angola to take a post as missionary of the Congregational Church to the Ovimbundu. During her time in Angola, she had oversight of the out-station schools. She returned to Canada on furlough in 1922. She took ill during a visitation of Ontario churches and died in Coburg, Ontario in June 1923.

File Number	File Title/Description	Dates
C/1/8	- <u>A Life for Africa</u> by Diadem Bell. Toronto: Canada Congregational Women's Board of Missions - <u>What's What and Who's Who in the West Africa Mission of A.B.C.F.M. (Angola)</u> , 1919-1920 by Diadem Bell. Kamundongo: Sarah H. Bates Memorial Press. 16 pp.	n.d 1920
PUB/83/7	Congregational Church of Canada Woman's Board of Missions of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick Reports	1902-1914

Photographs

File Number	File Title/Description	Dates
V/48/77	[Congregation in front of church] Sepia toned photograph mounted on cardboard. 18 cm x 23 cm. Condition: Good; somewhat faded. Remarks: Pictured in this photo is the Rev. Churchill Moore who served the following churches between 1890 and 1929: Cornwallis; Ayer's Cliff; Quebec; Milton, Keswick Ridge. Most likely this photograph is from one of the above congregations.	[between 1890-1929]
V/48/78	51st Annual Meeting of the Congregational Union of N.S. and N.B. at Yarmouth, Nova Scotia Sepia toned photograph mounted on cardboard; 19 cm x 27 cm. Photographer: Parker, Yarmouth, N.S.	July 8, 1898
V/48/78a	Copy negative of above photograph	

V/48/79	Photograph of church conference at Brooklyn/Milton Congregational Church B&W; 25.6 cm x 30.5 cm. Rev. Churchill Moore is in this photograph	[1899-1902]
V/48/80	Photograph of 68 th Annual Meeting of Congregational Union of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick Photographed by Isaac Erb & Son, Saint John, NB. B&W, 25.5 cm x 30.5 cm. Rev Jacob Cox, Dr. Gunn, and Rev. Flewelling are in photograph	1915
V/48/81	Photograph of congregation gathered in front of unidentified church B&W, 25.5 cm x 30.5 cm. Rev. Jacob Cox is in this photograph. He served in Cornwallis, Noel, Truro, Economy, and Maitland so it is likely that the photograph was taken at one of these locations	[1900-1919]
V/48/82	Photograph of Annual Meeting of Congregational Union of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, Yarmouth, Nova Scotia B&W, 25.5 cm x 35.5 cm	1921
V/48/83	Photograph of annual gathering of the Congregational Church of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick and the Maritime Branch of the Women's Board, Beach Meadows, NS Photographed by Harlow, Liverpool, NS. 25.5 cm x 30.5 cm	1923
V/48/84	Photograph of group in front of unidentified church Photographed by Harlow, Liverpool. B&W, 20.5 cm x 27 cm	[189-?]
V/48/85	Photograph of interior of Congregational Church on Union Street in Saint John, NB B&W, 7.5 cm x 12.5 cm (17.5 cm x 20.5 cm with matting)	[1890-1911]
V/48/86	The First Congregational Church at Beach	[between 1890-1911]

	Meadows, Nova Scotia B&W. 17.5 cm x 22.5 cm	
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Artifacts

These artifacts are presumed to have been brought to Canada from Angola by Diadem Bell.

File Number	File Title/Description	Dates
A/1/1	Wooden walking stick 80 cm in length	
A/1/2	Wooden walking stick 91 cm in length	
A/1/3	Wooden walking stick Large female figure on handle (cracked and arm is missing); 85 cm in length	
A/6/1	Wooden walking stick 86 cm in length	
A/6/2	Wooden walking stick Figure of bearded man on handle; 94 cm in Length	
A/6/3	Wooden walking stick Figure of man riding animal on handle; 1 m in length	
A/6/4	Wooden walking stick Figure of female head on handle; 63.5 cm in length	
A/6/5	Wooden walking stick Figure of female head on handle; 63.5 cm in length	
A/6/6	Wooden walking stick Figure of female head on handle; 66 cm in Length	
A/7/1	Spear with decorative plume in middle, shaft is made of copper 1.37 m in length	

Appendix 1: Canadian Congregational Church Publications

File Number	File Title/Description	Dates
PUB/81/1	The Canadian Independent Toronto: MacLear & Co.	1858-1864, 1866-1874
PUB/81/2	The Canadian Congregationalist Toronto: W. Edwin Mertens	1904-1912
PUB/82/1	The Canadian Congregationalist Toronto: W. Edwin Mertens	1912-1920
PUB/83/1	The Canadian Congregationalist Toronto: W. Edwin Mertens	1921-1925
PUB/83/2	The Congregationalist and Advance Boston: Pilgrim Press (Congregational Publishing Society), Vol. CV, No. 29	July 15, 1920
PUB/83/3	The Congregationalist Boston: Pilgrim Press (Congregational Publishing Society), Vol. CVIII, No. 42	October 18, 1923
PUB/83/4	Canada Congregational Missionary Society 20 th Annual Report	1873
PUB/83/5	The Congregationalist and Christian World Boston: Pilgrim Press (Congregational Publishing Society)	October 8, 22, and 29, 1910
PUB/83/6	Congregational Church of Canada Woman's Board of Missions Reports	1914, 1925
PUB/83/7	Congregational Church of Canada Woman's Board of Missions of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick Reports	1902-1914
PUB/83/8	Congregational Church Woman's Board of Missions Monthly Leaflet	1911-1918, 1920, 1922, 1924, 1925 (issues missing)

Appendix 2: Congregational Union of Canada Records on Microfilm

File Number	File Title/Description	Dates
MF/92	-Minutes of Annual Meetings of the Congregational Union of Canada -Minutes of Annual Meetings of the Congregational Union of Quebec and Ontario -Annual Report of the Canadian Congregational Theological Institute -Annual Report of the Canadian Congregational Missionary Society in Connection with the Colonial Missionary Society -Annual Report of the Congregational College of British North America -Statistical Table of Congregational Churches -Canadian Congregational Yearbooks	1859-1860, 1862-1868 1869-1870 1860 1861-1869 1861-1869 1872 1873-1875
MF/93	-Canadian Congregational Yearbooks	1874-1881
MF/94	-Canadian Congregational Yearbooks	1881-1888
MF/95	-Canadian Congregational Yearbooks	1888-1896
MF/96	-Canadian Congregational Yearbooks	1896-1905
MF/97	-Canadian Congregational Yearbooks	1905-1911
MF/98	-Canadian Congregational Yearbooks	1911-1922
MF/99	-Canadian Congregational Yearbooks	1924-1925
MF/100	-Minutes/Proceedings of the Congregational Union of Eastern Canada -Reports: Canadian Congregational Missionary Society in Connection with the Colonial Missionary Society -Canadian Congregational College of British North America at Toronto -Provisional Board for the Removal of the Congregational College of British North America to Montreal	1849-1965 1854-1866 1861-1865 1875 1855-1859

	-Canadian Congregational Theological Institute -Statistical Table of Congregational Churches in Canada	n.d.
MF/101	-Minutes of Congregational Union of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia	July 2, 1896-July 5, 1925
MF/102	-Annual Reports of the Colonial Missionary Society in Connection with the Congregational Union of England and Wales	1837-1866
MF/103	-Annual Reports of the Colonial Missionary Society in Connection with the Congregational Union of England and Wales	1874-1925

Appendix 3: Chairs of the Congregational Union of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick

1846: Rev. J.C. Gallaway
1847: Rev. James Porter
1848: Rev. S.S. Murkland
1849: Rev. Frederick Tompkins
1850: Mr. Thomas Hilton (earliest laymen chairperson)
1851: Rev. Charles Mackay
1852: Rev. Joseph Peart
1853: Rev. Jacob Whitman
1854: No meeting held this year
1855: Rev. F. Tompkins
1856: Rev. Robert Wilson
1857: Rev. George Cornish
1858: G. Stirling
1859: Rev. H. Lancashire
1860: Rev. James Howell
1861: Rev. George Ritchie
1862: Rev. T.B. Smith
1863: Rev. J.R. Kean
1864: Rev. Archibald Burpee
1865: Rev. Robert K. Black
1866: Rev. Enoch Barker
1867: Rev. Fred Hastings
1868: Rev. Simeon Sykes
1869: Rev. Charles Duff
1870: Rev. Joseph Elliott
1871: Rev. Stephen G. Dodd
1872: Rev. William Williams
1873: Rev. C. Duff
1874: Rev. Alexander MacGregor
1875: Rev. Duncan MacGregor
1876: Rev. C.B. Woodcock
1877: Rev. S. Sykes
1878: Rev. James Shipperley
1879: Rev. Joseph Barker
1880: Rev. Jacob W. Cox
1881: Rev. A. MacGregor
1882: Rev. J. Shipperley
1883: Rev. Irving Beman
1884: Rev. D.W. Cameron
1885: Rev. W. McIntosh
1886: Rev. J.B. Saer
1887: Rev. J.B. Hawes

1888: Rev. T. Hall
1889: Rev. W.H. Watson
1890: Rev. S. Sykes
1891: Rev. J.W. Cox
1892: Rev. David Howie
1893: Mr. Andrew K. Moore
1894: Rev. John Wood
1895: Rev. D.W. Purdon
1896: Rev. William B. Forbush
1897: Mr. James Dennis
1898: Rev. W.J. Minchin
1899: Rev. E.E. Braithwaite
1900: Rev. J.M. Austin
1901: Rev. George W. Ball
1902: Rev. Churchill Moore
1903: Rev. Robert Pegrum
1904: Rev. Arthur W. Main
1905: Rev. George M. Whyte
1906: Rev. W.S. Pritchard
1907-1908: Rev. S.W. Anthony
1909: Rev. Isaac A. Rose
1910: Rev. A.R. Shrag
1911: Rev. William J.D. Gibson
1912: Rev. A.J. Thompson
1913: Rev. Robert C. Claris
1914: Rev. J. Middleton
1915: Rev. J.W. Cox
1916: Rev. W.J. Bevis
1917: Rev. J.H. Sulston
1918: Rev. H.G. Wright
1919: Captain George Doty
1920: Rev. F.G. Purnell
1921: Mr. J.W. Flewwling
1922-1923: Rev. C. Tavenor
1924: Rev. G.W. Ball
1925: Rev. Churchill Moore