John B. Chapple fonds

Original, 81 cm of textual records, 1935-1990

Scope and Content:

The John B. Chapple fonds includes six series covering Chapple's life and interests, including his political careers, his farm and the Chapples store.

Series A 61/1/1-7 - Scrapbooks - 20 cm. - ca.1935-ca.1979

Seven scrapbooks containing clippings and advertisements:

- 1) 1935 federal election in Fort William, in which C.E. Chapple was a candidate.
- 2) Ibid.
- 3) World War II war bond campaign
- 4) Chapple's Store, C.E. Chapple and J.B. Chapple, 1946-1950
- 5) Chapple's Store, mostly 1948-1949
- 6) Chapple family, business, farm, and politics, 1950-1954
- 7) Chapple family, 1930s, and store, 1970s.

Series A 61/2/1-5 - Farm records - 14 cm. - 1939-1978

- 1) Pedigree certificates for cattle bought for or bred on Chapple's farm, ca.1939-1958
- 2) Genealogical charts for cattle bought for or bred on Chapple's farm including breeding records and milk production records. 1939-1978
- 3) Information on various cattle, breeding and milk production records, ca.1940-1960
- 4) Farm expense account book, 1945-1949
- 5) Farm diary, a record of J.B. Chapple's thoughts and plans regarding the breeding cattle on his farm, 1962-1972

Series A61/3/1-2 - Diaries - 5 cm. - 1978-1990

- 1) Diary of daily activities, 1978, 1985-1990, including farm activities such as maple syrup and honey production
- 2) Ibid., 1979-1985

Series A 61/4/1-2 - Minutes - 6 cm. - 1949-1950

Minutes of various committees of Fort William's City Council for the years Chapple was alderman:

- 1) 1949
- 2) 1950

Series A 61/5/1 - Correspondence - 20 cm. - ca.1960-1970

Organized by Chapple into 29 files, and arranged alphabetically by subject. Much relate to his personal and family interests and to his years as M.P.P. for Fort William, 1959-1963. Subjects include: agriculture, Bay Scouts, his estate, the Ontario Farmer's Union, and the Provincial government among others.

Series A 61/6/1-11 - Records of Associations - 16 cm. - 1959-1963

Records associated with various societies, departments, and associations that John Chapple belonged to or had an interest in. Contains clippings, correspondence, reports, memos, etc. Files were created by Chapple and kept separate from the files contained in A 61/5, some of which are similar. File names:

1) Dept. of Highways

- 2) Fort William Chamber of Commerce
- 3) Fort William Ratepayers' Association
- 4-5) Liberal Associations
- 6) Liberal-C.D. Howe Day
- 7) N.W.O. Development Association
- 8) Old Fort William Restoration Committee
- 9) Pigeon River Bridge
- 10) Provincial Government
- 11) Quetico Centre

Biographical Sketch:

John B. Chapple (1909-1990) was the son of C.E. Chapple, the founder of Chapples Ltd. in 1909. John was raised in Fort William and educated there. He worked in his father's store in Fort William and in Geraldton until the late 1940s when he took up farming, an activity he pursued until the early 1960s. He was a leader in the field of cattle breeding in Northwestern Ontario. Upon retirement, he pursued political office, being elected as a Liberal M.P.P. in June 1959, and holding office until 1963. He also served as an alderman for Fort William in 1949 and 1950 and as chairman of the Utilities Department. His interests included the Boy Scouts movement and the Male Voice Choir. Married Joan in 1936. C.E. Chapple ran for Federal Office in the 1935 election in Fort William.

Additional Information:

Custodial History - The fonds was acquired from Mrs. Joan Chapple following her husband's death. *Associated Material* - See 991.8 for photographs and artifacts.