

Manuscript  
Collection

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MCRUER (JAMES CHALMERS) COLLECTION

The collection contains two war diaries dated July 29, 1918 to Oct. 5, 1918 and Oct. 6, 1918 to Nov. 30, 1918 and notes for a trip to Europe and England. Chief Justice Mr. McRuer and Mrs. McRuer attended the Coronation of Elizabeth II. Memorabilia and slides of the Coronation are also in the collection.

Extent: 1 1/4 Boxes and 1 framed document.

Accession numbers: 87.009 and 89.004.

Gift of his children M.L. Gaby, J.D. McRuer, and K.R. McIntyre from the Estate of Chief Justice James C. McRuer

Edna Hajnal  
March 1990

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## MCRUER (JAMES CHALMERS) COLLECTION

## Chronology

- 1890 Born in Oxford County, Ontario on  
23 August
- 1914 Called to the Bar of Ontario after  
attending the University of Toronto  
and Osgoode Hall  
Served with Canadian Field  
Artillery and Anti-Aircraft  
Battery, rank of lieutenant during  
World War I
- 1919 Married Mary Dow
- 1921-1925 Assistant Crown Attorney, City of  
Toronto
- 1925 Resumed private law practice
- 1926 Called to the Bar of British  
Columbia
- 1929 Made King's Counsel (K.C.)
- 1930-1935 Lecturer at Law School, Osgoode  
Hall
- 1936 Elected Bencher, Law Society of  
Upper Canada; Appointed Chief  
Counsel to Royal Commission  
investigating the Penal System of  
Canada, and member of the Royal  
Commission
- 1941-1944 Honorary Consul for the  
Netherlands
- 1942 Called to the Bar of Alberta
- 1944 Appointed to the Court of Appeal of  
Ontario
- 1945-1964 Appointed Chief Justice of the High  
Court of Justice for Ontario
- 1946-1947 President of Canadian Bar  
Association
- 1946-1957 President of Canadian Save the  
Children's Fund
- 1955 Chairman of Royal Commission to  
report on insanity as a defence to  
crime, Chairman of Royal Commission  
to report on amendments to the law  
respecting sexual offenders
- 1956-1957 Chairman of Canadian Corrections  
Association
- 1957 Wrote The Evolution of the Judicial  
Process
- 1964 Appointed member of Royal  
Commission on Inquiry into Civil  
Rights in Ontario  
Wrote The Trial of Jesus
- 1964-1966 Chairman of Ontario Law Reform  
Committee and
- 1967-1977 Vicechairman of the Committee

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1969           Married Robbena Mary Dow  
1985           Died in Toronto on 10 October

Received many awards and honours: LL.D. from Laval University, University of Toronto, Osgoode Hall, Trent University, Queen's University; D.C.L., Windsor University; John Howard Society Medal; Officer Order of Canada; Civic Award of Merit, City of Toronto.

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- Box 1      War Diary. 1st C.A.A. Section.  
July 29-1918 to Oct. 5-1918.  
Holograph notes (carbon copies) in  
notebook with printed title: Field  
Message Book.  
Diary. Oct. 6-1918 to Nov. 30-  
1918. Holograph notes (carbon  
copies) in notebook with printed  
title: Field Message Book.
- Box 2      Correspondence about planned trip  
to England and Europe with  
tentative and draft itineraries.  
8 folders.  
Memoranda, notes and memorabilia  
for Coronation events include:  
Ontario House (London) Coronation  
Period Special Events, February  
1953; Notes and memoranda for  
Coronation file; Formal Day and  
Evening Wear; Receipts and cards  
from Mount Royal Hotel; Coronation  
Naval Review Dress Instructions;  
The Coronation Committee of Canada  
has been ... 1 folder.  
Official memorabilia: Earl  
Marshal's Office, By the Queen's  
Command ... to enclose an  
Invitation ... The Honourable Mr  
Justice James McRuer and Mrs James  
McRuer, with non-acceptance reply  
card, (invitation is framed and is  
separate); Coronation of ... admit  
the Honourable Mr Justice James  
McRuer (2 cards); Coronation of Her  
Majesty Queen Elizabeth II ...  
Dress regulations ...; Court dress;  
Coronation of Her Majesty Queen  
Elizabeth II ... Ladies ...;  
Metropolitan Police Special Notice  
to Guests attending ...; Coronation  
of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II  
... Instructions to Drive ...; Her  
Majesty's Garden Parties ... please  
fix this label ... (with label for  
car windscreen). 1 folder.

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Box 2

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Other Coronation memorabilia:  
Trooping of the Colour; Coronation  
Review of the Fleet; Invitations to  
other functions; London Coronation  
memorabilia; Trans Canada Airlines.  
6 folders.

Coronation photographs: 127 colour  
transparencies, with list; European  
memorabilia. 1 folder.

Other memorabilia: Law Society,  
Council Dinner, Thursday 4th July  
1963; The Right Honourable the Lord  
Mayor ... the Mansion House,  
London, 1964-1965, Dinner (with  
table plan and list of guests).  
1 folder.

Miscellaneous photographs, 17  
colour transparencies.

Framed

Coronation of Her Majesty Queen  
Elizabeth II ... The Honourable Mr  
Justice James McRuer and Mrs  
McRuer ... 2nd day of June 1953.