

# Port Weller Dry Docks Limited fonds

1948-1986, n.d. (non-inclusive)

RG 75-26

Brock University Archives

**Creator:** Ontario Editorial Bureau

**Extent:** 66 cm of textual materials (2 boxes)  
27 b&w photographs, 1 col. photograph, 4 contact sheets and 1 negative

**Abstract:** This archive contains materials relating to the Port Weller Dry Docks Limited. The bulk of the materials are correspondence. The collection also includes biographical information, photographs and media releases. The materials have been kept in original order, except where noted.

**Materials:** Typed and handwritten correspondence, reports, media releases, clippings, photographs.

**Repository:** Brock University Archives

**Processed by:** Jen Goul and Anne Adams

**Last updated:** April 2015

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**Terms of Use:** The Port Weller Dry Docks Limited fonds are open for research.

**Use Restrictions:** Current copyright applies. In some instances, researchers must obtain the written permission of the holder(s) of copyright and the Brock University Archives before publishing quotations from materials in the collection. Most papers may be copied in accordance with the Library's usual procedures unless otherwise specified.

**Preferred Citation:** RG 75-26 Port Weller Dry Docks Limited fonds, 1948-1986, n.d. (non-inclusive), Brock University Archives, Brock University.

**Acquisition Info.:** This archive is part of the Ontario Editorial Bureau fonds, donated by Lou Cahill in November 1997.

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**Scope and Content:** The fonds contains materials relating to Port Weller Dry Docks Limited. The materials included correspondence, photographs, media releases including clippings, photographs and some biographical information. Also included are brochures and programs from ship christenings.

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**Organization:** The records were arranged into two series:

Series I, Administrative, 1952-1954, 1957-1969, 1971, 1981, 1983-1985

Series II, Media, 1951, 1954, 1958-1969, 1976, 1978-1979, 1981, 1984-1986

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**Inventory:**

**Series I. Administrative, 1948-1985 (non-inclusive)**

- 1.1 Correspondence, 1948-1949
- 1.2 Correspondence, 1950-1951
- 1.3 Correspondence and advertising, 1952-1953; includes commissioning and christening of the S.S. John O. McKellar and the appointment of John F. Vaughan.
- 1.4 Correspondence, 1953
- 1.5 Correspondence and clippings, 1954; includes commissioning and christening of the S.S. Scott Misener
- 1.6 Correspondence, 1957; includes the construction of the Frank A. Sherman.
- 1.7 Correspondence, clippings and flyers, 1958; includes commissioning, christening and trials of the Frank A. Sherman.
- 1.8 Correspondence and flyers, 1958
- 1.9 Correspondence and flyers, 1959; includes commissioning and christening of the S.S. Seaway Queen, St. Catharines directory of manufacturers, 55 ton crane plan and history of the Port Weller Dry Docks.
- 1.10 Correspondence and flyers, 1959; includes the construction of the Imperial Edmonton now known as Hull 28, notes on the christening of the Seaway Queen and pamphlet and notes on the S.S. Shenango II.
- 1.11 Correspondence and flyers, 1959; includes information on the 20-story luffing crane, *Port of New York*; supplement from *The New York*

*Herald Tribune* and the conversion of the Imperial Edmonton.

- 1.12 Correspondence and flyers, 1960; includes story on the Dry Dock prepared in response to a request from Thompson Newspapers *Why Build Ships in Canada*, an article entitled *We Salute the Navy*, and a list of films (naval and marine), a comparison of the Seaway Queen and Hull no. 28 and identification of the Murphy Collection.
- 1.13 Correspondence and flyers, 1960; includes a Port Weller broadcast prepared by Eric Curwain, the launching and trials of the S.S. Red Wing and *World Affairs* (March 1960)
- 1.14 Correspondence, 1961; includes christening and commissioning of the M.V. Federal Palm, story about the cabinet makers, joiners and carpenters at Port Weller Dry Docks and a biography of Captain James Norris (1819-1891).
- 1.15 Correspondence and flyers, 1961; includes press releases on the M.V. Federal Palm notes on the conversion the Wheat King from a tanker to a bulk carrier and controversy over the ceremonial use of a ship built under the Colombo Plan for The Federation of the British West Indies, 1 b&w photo
- 1.16 Correspondence and flyers, 1962; includes Port Weller Dry Dock revisions brochure and christening and commissioning of M.V. Sir John Crosbie.
- 1.17 Correspondence, 1962; includes christening and commissioning of M.V. Sir John Crosbie, a memorandum regarding a pending convention in St. Catharines proposed by The Naval Architect and Society of Marine Engineers, notes on the Federal Palm and Port Weller Dry Dock revisions.
- 1.18 Correspondence, flyers and clippings, 1963; includes christening and commissioning of the Imperial Verdun and Imperial Lachine, Port Weller Dry Dock brochure changes, story for *Ship-Shore News* entitled *Ocean Freighter Brings Increased Activity to Port Weller Dry Docks*, biography of John F. Vaughan and a history of Port Weller Dry Docks.
- 1.19 Correspondence, 1963; includes facts regarding the Imperial Lachine and the Imperial Verdun and a press release on the advance type flame cutting machine.
- 1.20 Correspondence, 1963; includes christening and commissioning of the diesel tug James E. McGrath, notes on the keel-laying ceremony and information on Hull 35.

- 1.21 Correspondence, 1964; includes christening and commissioning of The S.S. Cape Breton Miner information on Bulk Carrier yard no. 35, an article entitled *Luck Pieces in Ships*, a list of articles stored at Toronto Dry Dock Co., Ltd., an article entitled *The St. Lawrence Seaway Grows!* and a memorandum on Hull no. 35
- 1.22 Correspondence and flyers, 1964; includes christening, commissioning and facts about the M.V. Chesley A. Crosbie, the appointment of Jan Furst as vice-president and general manager of Port Weller Dry Docks, a notice from Shell Canada Limited entitled *New Steps to Control Oil Pollution of Seas and Beaches* and the resignation of John F. Vaughan as vice-president and general manager.
- 2.1 Correspondence, 1965; includes naming ceremony and christening of M.S. Imperial Arcadia, an article entitled *What Price Tradition in the Drawing Office?* and a story for *Toronto Dominion Bank Magazine*.
- 2.2 Correspondence, 1965; includes the christening and commissioning of the S.S. Ontario Power, fact sheets on M.V. Chesley A. Crosbie and Hull #37 and an announcement of managerial appointments.
- 2.3 Correspondence, 1966; includes observations of Mr. Jan Furst regarding the impact of the new Welland Canal
- 2.4 Correspondence, clipping and flyers, 1966; includes the naming, of the fishing trawler Grand Prince, the christening and commissioning of the E.E. Prince and job descriptions.
- 2.5 Correspondence and flyers, 1967; includes notes on Hull 47, the christening of 2 trawlers: Grand Count and Grand Knight, an address by The Honourable T. Alex Hickman, Q.C. Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Newfoundland, the naming of 2 fishing trawlers: Grand Prince and Grand Baron and the christening and commissioning the M.V. Canadian Century.
- 2.6 Correspondence and flyers, 1968; includes the christening of the Canadian Progress and the christening of Hull 48.
- 2.7 Correspondence, clipping and flyers, 1969; includes the christening and commissioning of the M.T. Atlantic and the bulk carriers Sault au Cochon and Betsiamites, and a *Port Weller Dry Docks limited* pamphlet.
- 2.8 Correspondence, clippings and pamphlets, 1971; includes *Baptême des traversiers Vacationland et Holiday Island* pamphlet, 3 b&w sketches of ships and a news release entitled *Canada's*

*Shipbuilding Industry.*

- 2.9 Correspondence, 1981; includes the christening of the M.V. Canadian Pioneer
- 2.10 Correspondence and clippings, 1983; includes excerpts from a CKTB broadcast of December 23, 1983 dealing with the announcement of the Arctic contract, a CTV news report on shipbuilding on the east coast, a Minister of Transport report entitled *Coast Guard Vessels to be Replaced*, notes on the 700 employees on layoff, a news release entitled *Three Shipyards Share \$4 Million in Federal Aid* and *The Port Weller Workers Head-Up Rally for Jobs*.
- 2.11 Correspondence and clippings, 1984; includes the \$200 million Canada-Nova Scotia development fund agreement and approval of the first projects, new design for search and rescue ships, Hansard notes, notes on the HMCS Huron, news release regarding the federal government plan to assist Canadian shipbuilding and engineering, article about the lawsuit by Upper Lakes Shipping Ltd. of Toronto and a countersuit by Saint John Shipbuilding and Dry Docks Ltd. and an article entitled *Position Paper: Port Weller Dry Docks January – 1984*.
- 2.12 Correspondence and clippings, 1985; includes announcement of construction of a 130 passenger and cargo ferry and 1 b&w photograph
- 2.13 Invoices, 1966-1967
- Series II. Media, 1951, 1954, 1958-1969, 1976-1979, 1981, 1984-1986, n.d.**
- 2.14 Text of the remarks by the Honourable Ellen L. Fairclough, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration on the launching of the Federal Palm, 1961
- 2.15 Booklets and flyers, 1962; includes *Some Aspects of Current and Future Canadian Lake Ship Designs*, *Guide to Shipping* and *Saluting Canada's Newest Tanker the M/V W. Harold Rea*.
- 2.16 Christening and commissioning of the Imperial Lachine and Imperial Verdun, 1963
- 2.17 Information bulletin and Christmas card, 1964, includes 1 col. photograph.
- 2.18 Booklets, 1966

- 2.19 Booklets and clippings, 1984
- 2.20 Booklets and clippings, 1985; includes *Annual Statistical Report, Agreement between Port Weller Dry Docks and International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders, Blacksmiths, Forgers and Helpers of Local 680 and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers of Local 303, and House of Commons Debates*
- 2.21 Brochures and christening programs including the fishing trawler Grand Prince, Imperial Lachine, Imperial Verdun, M.V. Sir John Crosbie, S.S. Scott Misener, M.V. Federal Palm, S.S. Red Wing, fishing trawler Grand Baron, fishing trawler Grand Count, fishing trawler Grand Knight, S.S. Cape Breton Miner, C.G.S. E.E. Prince, M.V. Canadian Century, S.S. Frank A. Sherman MV Canadian Progress, M.T. Atlantic, bulk carrier Sault Au Cochon, bulk carrier Betsiamites, S.S. Ontario Power, M.V. Canadian Olympic, the Seaway Queen, M.V. Northern Ranger, M.V. Hon. Paul Martin, M.V. Arctic. M.V. Canadian Olympic the dedication ceremony of the Lewiston-Queenston Bridge and the ceremony for the unveiling of a historical plaque honouring Louis Shickluna, 1951, 1954, 1958-1969, 1976-1979, 1984, 1986, 3 b&w photos
- 2.22 Photographs, 1981; includes 4 b&w photographs, 4 contact sheets and 1 negative
- 2.23 Press releases, 1948-1957; includes labour dispute
- 2.24 Press releases, 1958; includes S.S. Frank A. Sherman announcement, retirement of Captain Robert Bruce Angus and biography of The Honourable Ellen Louks Fairclough
- 2.25 Press releases, 1959; includes information on the 55 ton level luffing crane, announcement of government contract to build a combined freight and passenger ship (one of two being traded by Canada to the West Indies Federation), notice of damage to the Alcoa Puritan, conversion of the Imperial Edmonton, scrapping of the Grovedale, the Parkdale and the Shelton Weed, and the christening and commissioning of the Seaway Queen.
- 2.26 Press releases, 1960; includes lake trials, christening and commissioning of the S.S. Red Wing, christening and commissioning of the S.S. Seaway Queen, information on the 55 ton luffing gantry crane and announcement that the Llandoff will be joining the Upper Great Lakes fleet.
- 2.27 Press releases, 1961; includes *Shipping and Shipbuilding*, Announcement of construction of a new 253-foot bulk cargo vessel for Crosbie and Co., building of a midship section into the MS. Chicago Tribune, notes on Port Weller, *Ship-Shore News* and christening of the Federal Palm, includes 1 b&w photograph

- 2.28 Press releases, 1962; includes christening and fact sheet for the Sir John Crosbie
- 2.29 Press releases, 1963; includes naming, christening and commissioning of the James E. McGrath, announcement of 28 page booklet about the Port Weller shipyard, reinforcement of the bottom of the drydock at Port Weller, christening of the C.E. Ted Smith, beginning of construction of a 680 foot self unloading ship, christening of the Imperial Lachine and the Imperial Verdun, Hull 35 keel-laying ceremony, background on Schottel navigators, announcement of 670 foot coal carrier to be built, and announcement of a \$280,000,000 contract for Nova Scotia coal.
- 2.30 Press releases, 1964; includes one million dollar expansion of plant facilities, agreement between Port Weller Dry Docks and the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers and Shipbuilders, local 680; Port Weller Dry Docks is entering marine repair in the Port of Hamilton, the illegal wildcat strike, award for a \$1 million contract for a fisheries research vessel, naming of the Chesley A. Crosbie, the appointment of Jan Furst as vice-president and general manager of Port Weller Dry Docks, awarding of \$4,300,000 contract for construction of a coastal tanker, christening of the Miner, construction of a sister ship to the Cape Breton Miner, Dominion Steel and Coal Corporation, Limited New Coal Pier at Sydney, Nova Scotia; commissioning and christening of the S.S. Cape Breton Miner and the christening and commissioning of Hull #35, construction of a sister ship to the Sir John Crosbie, appointment of Kenneth D. McAlpine as sales representative for Port Weller Dry Docks and appointments of John F. Vaughan as vice-president and Frank H. Sherman as president and general manager of Dominion Foundries and Steel Ltd., Hamilton.
- 2.31 Press releases, 1965; includes contract for the construction of 3 steel-stern fishing trawlers, announcement of Hamilton Marine and Engineering opening of offices in Hamilton, naming ceremony for the M.S. Imperial Acadia, christening and commissioning of the S.S. Ontario Power, and announcement of a contract for a maximum size self-unloader.
- 2.32 Press releases, 1966; includes christening and commissioning of the C.G.S. E.E. Prince, and the three year agreement which was reached to end the month-long strike at Port Weller Dry Docks.
- 2.33 Press releases, 1967; includes christening and commissioning of the M.V. Canadian Century, announcement of the construction of a 730 foot self-unloading bulk carrier, and the christening and commissioning of Hull 41.
- 2.34 Press releases, 1968; includes announcement of contract to build 2 barges and a tug, christening of the M.V. Canadian Progress, the christening and commissioning of Hull 42, notice that the C.S.S. Limnos will be delivered to her owners.

- 2.35 Press releases, 1983; includes M.V. Arctic contract, statement by Brian Waring, vice president, job rally notices, notes on layoffs.
- 2.36 Press releases and clippings, 1983; includes statement by Brian Waring, vice president, public rally for jobs, ships built by Port Weller Dry Docks in the last 10 years, clippings, memorandum to editors regarding layoffs, review of talks held by Alex Elliott, Brian Johnson, Frank Florio and Brian Leyden; Coastguard contract awards, *Move for a Boost for Shipyards* by Carey French, Lapointe addresses shipbuilding symposium, 3 shipyards share \$4 million in federal aid and House of Commons debates.
- 2.37 Press releases, 1984; includes recalls of workers, \$2.7 million contract by the Government of Canada to Port Weller Dry Docks, and Ferguson Industries purchased.
- 2.38 Press releases, 1985; includes agreement to commence construction of a 130 passenger and cargo ferry.
- 2.39 Photographs and ship christening, 17 b&w photos, 1992, n.d.

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**Added Entries:** 610 Seaway Marine and Industrial Limited  
610 Port Weller Dry Docks Limited

**Subject Access:** 650 Dry docks -- Ontario -- St. Catharines  
650 Shipbuilding -- Ontario -- St. Catharines