



Archibald MacMechan fonds. – 1909-[193-], predominant 1917-1918 – . 34 m of textual records.

DC Harvey Correspondence		
Retrieval Code	Item	Date
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 1	A. MacMechan to "Mr. Harvey", London. Trying to arrange a suitable weekend when he and Harvey might meet in order that Harvey might show him about Oxford.	27 May 1911
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 2	A. MacMechan to "Dear Harvey", London. MacMechan writes to thank Harvey for a most enjoyable weekend. He enclosed a book entitled "Fireside and Sunshine" and marks an essay on tea for Harvey's attention. As well, MacMechan invites Harvey to dinner on the 16th.	13 June 1911
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 3	Friday (sometime in June 1911) A. MacMechan to "Dear Harvey", London. Harvey obviously could not make it to dinner on the 16th so MacMechan is writing to change the date.	June 1911
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 4	A. MacMechan, 72 Victoria Road, Halifax to "Dear Harvey", 21 Dec. 1911. Writes to thank Harvey for a recent letter and reminisces on by brief stay so memorable. The punting up the cher, the pink hawthorn, the measures pulse of racing oars, that dinner in hall, your luncheon and at the meadows in the glorious spring weather - all came back to me in the darkness and gloom of our northern winter". Mentions the probability of war also comments on G.K. Chesterton's latest poem on Alfred.	21 December 1911
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 5	Edith MacMechan, Halifax to (---), she is arranging a birthday celebration.	11 November 1901
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 5a	A. MacMechan, Halifax to "Dear Harvey", Harvey has written asking advice about his future - MacMechan writes; firstly he implores Harvey not to take a permanent position" ... but if you are really ambitious and have not the usual urgent reason for settling down soon you will not look for permanent post anywhere as soon as you get our Oxford degree". MacMechan suggests a small post, "a fellowship in the graduate school of Harvard, Columbia or John Hopkins". He suggests that Harvard would be his best bet, particularly since a Harvard connection could be important in the future. He stresses the importance of widening his experience", and suggests a course or two in Berlin, Leipsic or Paris.	10 Mach 1912

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	Secondly he stresses the importance of his getting a good degree and comments on the Rhodes Scholarships, as to a good area to enter. "A" to permanent billets, the demand is for students of Sociology; but I believe that there is a great chance for a teacher of History, pure and simple, a man with style, who is making his own contribution to the subject, who has enthusiasm and teaching power, and will give his pupils the narrow and not break there hearts with the drylomes. Such a man would speedily form a school". Comments on the possible Development in Canadian Universities over the next 10 years.	
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 6	A. MacMechan, Halifax to "Dear Harvey". Comments on Italy as Harvey is in Italy, "It is the land of lands. Those handsome thoroughbred Romans ought to have the mastery of the world again". He also tells of how the young businessmen of Halifax raised \$200,000 in one week for the University. He discussed the University and Harvey's entrance to Harvard.	27 June 1912
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 7	A. MacMechan, Halifax to "Dear Harvey". A thank you for money received from Harvey.	18 June 1912
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 8	A. MacMechan, Halifax to "Dear Harvey". Harvey has just informed MacMechan of his illness and recent operation. MacMechan sends a sympathy note.	10 August 1912
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 9	A. MacMechan, Halifax, to "Dear Harvey". A note which informed Harvey that MacMechan has passed in his article to the "Great MacPhail" is Professor Andrew MacPhail of McGill University, Montreal and Editor of the University Gazette in December 1912. He published Harvey's article "Canadian Ideal in Debate", see letters #18, 19, 20.	5 September 1912
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 10	A. MacMechan, Halifax to "Dear Harvey". Suggests Harvey get 20 or so reprints on his article so that he might use them in support of future applications.	4 October 1912
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 11	A. MacMechan, Halifax to "Dear Harvey". Coaches Harvey on his literary style. He suggests that when revising material to make sure that it flows, use your ear. He suggests trying Fisherunwin as a very potential publisher. He analysis the final standing of Rhodes Scholars over the past years noting that only 50% of Canadians of Americans got third class or lower or nothing. MacMechan is also keeping his	14 November 1912

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	ears open to teaching posts in Canada and at Harvard.	
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 12	A. MacMechan, Halifax to "Dear Harvey". Christmas wishes and regards for the future. Reflections on Harvey's illness as a blessing which "Permitt(ed) you to concentrate upon the things of the intellect and the imagination". He also advised Harvey about filling out forms for Harvard and on the type of documentation he should send along. Notes that Canadian schools have no opening in the spring thus making the Harvard application imperative.	18 December 1912
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 13	A. MacMechan, Halifax to "Dear Harvey". The forms have been sent to Harvard and will receive careful consideration.	24 December 1912
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 14	Forwards a cheque for Harvey article published in 1912. Asks Harvey if he has yet applied for a fellowship.	21 January 1913
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 15	A. MacMechan, Halifax to "Dear Harvey". MacMechan has an article of Harvey's "Canadian Ideal in Debate" which is unpublished. He asks Harvey if he should try to get it published in "Queens Quarterly".	12 February 1913
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 16	A. MacMechan, Halifax to "Dear Harvey". MacMechan tells Harvey that the only two Universities that he has not checked for a position were Queen's and Alberta. He must, therefore, get more experience and so going to Harvard will be important.	24 February 1913
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 17	A. MacMechan, Halifax to "Dear D.C.H.". MacMechan has sent some clippings along to Harvey re. his first article (it seems to have had much success).	26 March 1913
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 18	A review of Harvey's article on the Rhodes Scholarship which appeared in Canada, March 8, 1913.	8 March 1913
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 19	Copy of #18.	
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 20	Copy of #18.	
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 21	A. MacMechan, Halifax to "Dear Harvey". Writes a short note hoping to cheer Harvey up and also passes on a letter from the "Great McPhail".	21 April 1913
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 22	A. MacMechan, Halifax to "Dear Harvey". Harvey's health is no better and he is feeling under the weather. MacMechan's letter is short and sympathetic, trying to raise his spirits.	5 June 1913

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MG 1 Vol 572a Item 23	A. MacMechan, Halifax to "Dear Harvey". Appears Harvey is going to be teaching at McGill and MacMechan writes to comment. "I shall watch your course at McGill with the deepest interest... You will find this your testing time: but you have great assets of enthusiasm and interest in your work. You have in addition the instinct to teach and all these things should lead to unqualified success. I like your epistolary style; it is clear, fluent and distinctive; and if you lecture as you write, I shall have great hopes for you. Oxford has taught you a great deal".	30 September 1913
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 24	A. M., Halifax to "Dear Harvey". MacMechan writes to tell Harvey that a young engineer named Gordon will be visiting him. It seems that he writes poetry and has had work appear in the "University Gazette". He knows few people in Montreal and MacMechan hopes that he and Harvey will get along. But of course people you expect to like each other, never do. You may loathe him, however, it is an interesting experiment". MacMechan also talks of Paul Morin a young man who has just been admitted to the bar but who also did a story of Longfellow's success.	26 October 1913
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 25	A.M., Halifax to "Dear Harvey". Harvey's wrist is slapped for calling Longfellow a "Plagiarist".	7 November 1913
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 26	Arch. MacMechan, Halifax to "Dear Harvey". Enclosed in the letter is a copy of the Prospectus which kept MacMechan so busy over the winter of 1914 while on a speaking tour at R.N.C., Halifax he comments on the prospect of a forth coming book - The Life of a Little College.	28 March 1914
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 27	Arch. MacMechan, Halifax to "Dear Harvey". MacMechan and Harvey have not had correspondence from each other for some time. Harvey has finally written and MacMechan replies, congratulating Harvey on his marriage and the birth of his first child. He reflects on his Christmas and comments on one of Harvey's wife's' brothers.	14 January 1916
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 28	A. MacMechan, Halifax to "Dear Harvey". MacMechan informs Harvey that he has not been well. "Sickness gives you leisure to think, opportunity for 'recollection', as the religious say, and the sick man in his full strength, busied in 'getting and spending'". MacMechan comments on a summer	27 January 1917

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	spent in Windsor and the significance of Canada's independence from the United States.	
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 29	A. MacMechan, Halifax to "Dear Harvey". MacMechan reflects on the number of friends who have died of late, he also comments on the teaching profession, "The teacher is the works paid, but the best rewarded profession, and to feel that one is really spreading a little light in the darkness is one of our great rewards".	23 February 1920
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 30	Arch. MacMechan, London, Ontario to "Dear Harvey". Gives a short account of his vacation in Montreal, Ottawa and Toronto, he spoke before the Royal Society in Montreal and received an honorary Doctorate at Toronto. Gives Harvey some information on Sir Adams Archibald and comments on Dalhousie's task in collecting more money for the university.	22 June 1920
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 31	A. MacMechan, Halifax to "Dear Harvey". A congratulatory letter to Harvey for his lecture on Howe (the value of local patriotism - seems to me wholly admirable...). MacMechan then goes on to give him impressions of Joseph Howe. "Howe's courage was above proof. He took a great risk when he wrote "The People" letter. Have you ever gone into the Wilkie case? He got two years with hard labour in the House of Corrections for writing a pamphlet charging the magistrates with malpractice, just as Howe did".	9 August 1921
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 32	A. MacMechan, Halifax to "Dear Harvey". MacMechan describes his recent trip to Boston and his toils at Halifax. He enjoys receiving mail from his old students and answering their many letters. His latest interest is Nova Scotia's shipbuilding and sailing history.	21 February 1923
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 33	A. MacMechan, Halifax to "Dear Harvey". Thanks Harvey for information on one Haddow who MacMechan is trying to get on the staff at Dalhousie. He also expresses some concern about the future of the University and the talk of University merger.	6 July 1922
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 34	A. MacMechan, Halifax to "Dear Harvey". A note to Harvey telling him that he thinks of the Manitoba Roll of Honor. "It is an admirable idea admirably carried out. Simple, exact, restrained, adequate. I wish Dalhousie could show something as good".	9 January 1924

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MG 1 Vol 572a Item 35	A. MacMechan, Halifax to "Dear Harvey". MacMechan is in the midst of trying to get a set of sagas through the press.	15 February 1924
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 36	MacMechan has sent Harvey a draft of his latest work for his comment. It is a study of a mutiny which took place at Iloilo, Philippine Islands, March 23, 1895. The cousin of that captain of the ship involved is in Winnipeg and MacMechan wonders if Harvey could go and speak with him as he was on the ship at the time.	26 February 1925
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 37	Al. MacMechan, Halifax to "Dear Harvey". Harvey has done what MacMechan requested and MacMechan is pleased with the results. He comments on academic research. "Is there any game humanity ever invented more absorbing than research? Getting at the facts of these sagas I find simply fascinating".	23 March 1925
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 38	Easter Sunday. A. MacMechan to "Dear Harvey". In a previous letter MacMechan asked Harvey to have a look at V.L.O. Chittick's volume on Thomas Chandler Haliburton. MacMechan has not particular interest in Chittick except that he does sympathize with a scholar who must spend his own money selling his book. "I never found the personality of Haliburton sympathetic. He never attracted me as Howe does... Haliburton's course streak repels me, not so much by its coarseness as its vulgarity. His jobs are the sort of thing you hear in the blacksmith's shop at the corners... One criticism of Chittick's work I have no patience with, is that Haliburton faults should be slurred over, because he was such a great man".	1925
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 39	A. MacMechan, Halifax to "Dear Harvey". Note which acknowledges the receipt of a telegram from Harvey. MacMechan is doing his best to assemble the material requested.	19 January 1926
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 40	A. MacMechan, Halifax to "Dear Harvey". Harvey's Book The French Regime on Prince Edward Island was just been published and MacMechan was little irked at the fact that the Dalhousie Review has received a copy before he. MacMechan informs Harvey that he has written three reviews for local papers and the Dalhousie Review. 'MacMechan's review of the book is to be found in the Dalhousie Review, Volume VI, #1, April 1926 p. 131).	30 March 1926

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MG 1 Vol 572a Item 41	A. MacMechan, Halifax to "Dear Harvey". A short note thanking Harvey for a inscribed copy of his book.	1 May 1926
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 42	A. MacMechan, Cambridge, Mass., to "Dear Harvey". MacMechan begins his letter with Accolades to the effect that Harvey is "the Complete Letter Writer - informing, leisurely, polished". MacMechan is teaching summer school at Harvard. "My course here is Victorian Literature, in the Dalhousie calendar, English 5. It is an old song which I am singing once more".	27 July 1926
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 43	A. MacMechan, Halifax to "Dear Harvey". Do you read the magazines. I have found much food for thought in Harper's Magazine. The February number has two articles, on the ignorance of doctors and the rascality of lawyers, which are clever but depressing".	30 January 1927
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 44	A. MacMechan, Halifax to "Dear Harvey". A note to Harvey, congratulating him on his election to the Royal society.	20 December 1928
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 45	A. MacMechan, Halifax to "Dear Harvey". MacMechan has only heard sketch accounts of what Harvey has been up to lately. Though Harvey has apparently been ill, MacMechan asks Harvey if he has run across the name of Samuel Cunard in his latest research on P.E.I. The last part of the letter tells of MacMechan and his latest doings.	28 July 1929
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 46	"A. M." Halifax to Dear D.C.H.". A short note enclosed with paper on information for Harvey.	20 January 1930
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 47	Arch. MacMechan. MacMechan has not heard from Harvey for some time and is giving him "an excuse for writing". Another mention of Samuel Cumard this time MacMechan is able to give Harvey some information on the result of his own investigations.	16 September 1930
MG 1 Vol 572a Item 37	Al. MacMechan, Halifax to "Dear Harvey". Harvey has done what MacMechan requested and MacMechan is pleased with the results. He comments on academic research. "Is there any game humanity ever invented more absorbing than research? Getting at the facts of these sagas I find simply fascinating".	23 March 1925
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