

St. Paul's Lodge, Society of United Fishermen (Trinity) fonds, 1875 - 1884, 1902 - 1976. - 26.8 cm textual records

Administrative history

The Society of United Fishermen (S.U.F) was established in 1873 by the Rev. George Gardener, then Rector of Heart's Content. In 1862, this gentlemen founded a Fisherman's Society to provide for sickness and for a payment to widows of members a sum of money on the death of their husbands. This Society built the first Fishermen's Hall in Heart's Content. The men met only once a year for reports, accounts, and procession to Church. The business throughout the year was managed by the officers. In 1873, in response to an expressed desire to enlarge its operations, the Society voluntarily dissolved and reorganized "upon an entirely new and more effective basis" under its present name.

A committee of twelve Brethren of the above Lodge was appointed to draft a Constitution and prepare rituals for the New Order. Scilly Cove, Hant's Harbour, Bay Roberts and St. John's were soon called into existence and in less than three years from the dissolution of the old Society, the new one had lodges in thirty-five places in the island.

The Grand Lodge was moved to St. John's in 1881. The certificates which have been very much admired for the emblems, appropriate to a fisherman's calling, were designed by Mr. Woodcock, a member of the Grand Lodge and were executed by Oppenheim, of London.

"The Order has for its objects the welfare of fishermen, the inculcation of temperance and morality, the preservation of peace and harmony, obedience to the laws and the lawfully constituted authorities and the development of the fisheries. It is also a mutual benefit Society, in which all paying members receive aid in time of sickness and other calamity."

The Society of United Fishermen came into being at Trinity in 1875. Its first President and Secretary were, respectively, the Rev. H. Dunfield and J. B. O'Donell, Schoolmaster. The S.U.F. had its first meeting at Brooking's Old Bell House which stood on the site of the present Parish Hall. The lodge name was St. Paul's No. 49 and it was closed in 1976.

Scope and Content

These fonds contain by-laws and annual reports, various minutes, membership, financial information, Certificates for Bro. Private William Geo. Tibbs and Bro. Pte. H.J.Rowe from the Newfoundland Regiment, Certificates of the SUF, as well as correspondence.

Notes

Supplied title based on provenance.

Originals were donated by Clarence Dewling in March of 2004.

Material has been photocopied from the SUF original material held at the Centre for Newfoundland Studies Archives Memorial University, St. John's in 2005-2006. All original documentation from the SUF in the Provinceis held at this institution.

Series 1: By-laws and Annual Reports. - 1915 - 1931, 1965. - 1 cm.

Series consists of three books of the by-laws of St. Paul's Lodge No. 49, two for 1915 and one for 1931 as well as a book of Annual Reports of the Supreme Grand Lodge and Ladies Superior Council for the year ending August 13, 1965 for St. John's, Newfoundland.

Series 2: Minutes. - 1876 - 1976. - 18.6 cm.

Series contains Minutes of the S.U.F. Lodge No. 49, from regular, emergency, red, white, and blue degree, as well as District Grand Lodge meetings.

The volumes are arranged in sub-series according to form and function.

Sub-series	2.01	Regular Minutes
	2.02	Emergency Meetings
	2.03	Red degree Minutes
	2.04	White degree Minutes
	2.05	Blue Degree Minutes
	2.06	District Grand Lodge

2.01 Regular Minutes. - 1876-1877, 1909-1914, 1916-1920, 1929-1958, 1967-1976. - 12 cm.

Sub-series consists of books of regular minutes from October 12, 1876 to August 30, 1877 and January 6, 1909 to January 22, 1976.

2.01.001	October 12, 1876 - August 30, 1877
2.01.002	January 6, 1909 - May 20, 1910
2.01.003	November 3, 1910 - January 15, 1914
2.01.004	January 27, 1916 - March 25, 1920
2.01.005	January 31, 1929 - October 6, 1932
2.01.006	October 27, 1932 - December 6, 1945
2.01.007	December 13, 1945 - March 20 1958
2.01.008	January 26, 1967 - March 20, 1969
2.01.009	February 8, 1968 - March 28, 1968
2.01.010	March 27, 1969 - March 19, 1972
2.01.011	April 2, 1970 - January 22, 1976

2.02 Emergency Meetings. 1967-1976. - 1 cm.

Sub-series consists of books of emergency meetings that were held between January 16, 1967 to March 5, 1976.

2.02.001	January 16, 1967 - March 7, 1969
2.02.002	March 7, 1969 - April 2, 1970
2.02.003	March 21, 1971 - March 14, 1973

2.02.004 March 28, 1973 - March 5, 1976

2.03 First (Red) Degree Minutes. - 1902-1905, 1920-1928. - 4 cm

Sub-series consists of the First Degree minute book for February 4, 1902 to January 9, 1909 and April 1, 1920 to December 27, 1928.

2.03.001 February 4, 1902 - April 2, 1903

2.03.002 April 16, 1903 - January 9, 1905

2.03.003 April 1, 1920 - December 27, 1928

2.04 Second (White) Degree Minutes. - 1907-1925, 1942-1974, 1976. - 1 cm.

Sub-series consists of the Second Degree minute books for December 12, 1907 to March 5, 1976.

2.04.001 December 12, 1907 - December 29, 1925

2.04.002 November 20, 1942 - January 17, 1974

2.04.003 May 11, 1973, February 1, 1974, and March 5, 1976

2.05 Third (Blue) Degree Minutes. - 1902-1916, 1942-1968. - 0.5 cm.

Sub-series consists of the Third Degree minute books for March 20, 1902 to March 23, 1916 and November 20, 1942 to February 22, 1968.

2.05.001 March 20, 1902 - March 23, 1916

2.05.002 November 20, 1942 - February 22, 1968

2.06 District Grand Lodge. - 1915. - 0.1 cm.

Sub-series contains minutes for 1915 for the Trinity Bay North District Grand Lodge, a copy of the first annual report, and a letter from A. White, Secretary, of St Paul's Lodge, No. 49.

Series 3: Membership. - 1875 - 1885. - 3.4 cm.

Series consists of the proposition of members from 1875 - 1885 which included the person's name, residence, occupation, date of ballot, result of ballot, and when initiated, as well as members from 1875 - 1885 which included the person's name, residence, degree held and pledges made. It also contains a list of members not in good standing, deceased, and honorary members.

The series is arranged in sub-series according to form and function

Sub-series 3.01 Index of Members

- 3.02 Roll Call
- 3.03 Specialized Members

3.01 Index of Members. - 1964. -0.2 cm.

Sub-series consists of an index of members for 1964.

3.02 Roll Call. - 1875-1885, 1946-1976. - 3 cm

Sub-series consists of the names of members along with their fees that were either due or paid.

- 3.02.001 1875 - 1885
- 3.02.002 1946 - 1966
- 3.02.003 1963 - 1966
- 3.02.004 1972 - 1976

3.03 Specialized Members - 1909 - 1968. - 0.2 cm.

Sub-series consists of members that were either suspended, in bad standing, deceased, honorary, or had withdrawn from the S.U.F from 1909 - 1968.

Series 4: Financial Records. - 1902-1910, 1923-1938, 1942, 1966, 1972-1974. - 3.3cm.

Series consists of general and personal accounts, income and expenditure books, financial statements and receipts.

The volumes are arranged in sub-series according to form and function.

- Sub-series 4.01 General and Personal Accounts
- 4.02 Income and Expenditures
- 4.03 Financial Statements
- 4.04 Receipts

4.01 General and Personal Accounts. - 1902-1910, 1923-1938. - 3 cm.

Sub-series consists of general and personal account books for January 1902 to December 1910 as well as for 1923 to 1938.

- 4.01.001 January 1902 - March 1906
- 4.01.002 January 1906 - December 1910
- 4.01.003 January 1923 - November 1938

4.02 Income and Expenditures. - 1972-1974. - 0.1 cm.

Sub-series consists of income and expenditures from April 12, 1972 - January 8, 1974

4.03 Financial Statements. - 1909, 1966. - 0.1 cm.

Sub-series consists of financial statements for the St. Paul=s S.U.F. Lodge, No. 49.

4.04 Receipts. - 1928, 1942. - 0.1 cm.

Sub-series consists of various receipts from the S.U.F. Lodge.

Series 5: Newfoundland Regiment Certificates. - 1916, 1919. - 0.1 cm.

Series contains a copy of the certificates presented to Bro. Private William Geo. Tibbs in 1916 and Bro. Pte. H. J. Rowe in 1919 from the Society of United Fishermen on their return from the First World War.

Location: St. Paul's Lodge, Society of United Fishermen Fonds.

Series 6: Society of United Fishermen Certificates. - 1877, 1906, 1910. - 0.1 cm.

Series contains the certificates from the Society of United Fishermen for getting invited to the third degree, of Alonzo William Earle, 1877; Frederick John Morris, 1906; and Walter John Toop, 1910

Location: Magazine and Newspaper Collection Box 2

Series 7: Miscellaneous.- 0.3 cm.

Series contains pieces of correspondence and a report of the Literary Committee meeting.

Location: St. Paul's Lodge, Society of United Fisherman Fonds.