

FREDERICK WALTER LEE

an inventory of his papers held by the  
CHILLIWACK MUSEUM AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

(Add.MSS. 21)

compiled by

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Frederick Walter Lee was born in England in 1863. He studied art at the South Kensington Art School and at the Royal Academy. In 1894 his work came to the attention of the royal family, and this resulted in several commissions from notable persons. His work was exhibited at the Royal Academy and at several provincial exhibitions.

In 1899 Lee came to Canada, initially settling at Qu'Appelle, Saskatchewan. After losing virtually all of his possessions in a fire, he set out on a journey across the western United States, supporting himself as an itinerant artist and photographer. He settled in Chilliwack about 1904, and, except for a brief relocation to the Vancouver area, remained there for the rest of his life. Plagued by ill health and various misfortunes, Lee never achieved the success that his early career would have indicated. He was barely able to support himself as an artist and art teacher in Chilliwack, and died in 1948.

Lee's papers held by the Chilliwack Museum and Historical Society include some of his prose and poetry writings; musical works arranged for guitar; photographs; financial records; and his address book. Several of his paintings are also held by the Chilliwack Museum.

File no.:

Biographical material

- 1 Clipping, the Daily Province, Sept. 21, 1921  
Photocopy from Lee's account book, 1894, indicating sale  
of paintings to the Royal Family  
Biographical sketch, signed "R.G."  
Biographical sketch, author unknown.

Manuscripts: prose

- 2 "Some loose leaves from an artist's note book (2  
versions). Anecdote from Lee's travels in Montana, 1900.  
(4) pages.
- 3 Account of Lee's travels in Yellowstone Park, Idaho, and  
Washington state. Pages 37-(94).
- 4 Photocopies, partial transcript of prose writings.

Manuscripts: poetry

- 5 Poems (arranged alphabetically)  
Chilliwick sports shooting lesson 1909  
The Easter morn  
"Foot it lightly. Foot it gaily"  
"I dream of those who once loved me"  
"I sat beside a shady stream"  
"Into the woods my master went"  
"I've wondered far my native land"  
"Man goeth forth unto his work" (2 versions)  
"My love is like a withered rose"  
"My soul in early youth ere innocence was lost"  
"One little kiss one meeting of the lips" and "A snowflake  
fallen upon the earth"  
"One little kiss sweet touching of the lips" and "Smile  
sweetheart part your pretty lips"  
The prairie  
The prairie (clipping)  
The river of life  
Wishing you a happy Xmas
- 6 Photocopies of poems.

## Music

over-size file *box no. 1* Music, arranged for guitar (arranged alphabetically)"  
"Adeste filelis" and "From Bach's passion - St. Matthew"  
"Love song" and "The Campbells are coming"  
"Pastoral symphony," "Bach's passion of St. Matthew," and  
"In happy moments"  
"Rousseau's dream"  
"Rousseau's dream," "God save the King," and "Lochaber no  
more"  
"The sunset gates were open'd for"  
"When the roses bloom"

## Photographs

- 7 (Photographs of Lee and photographs taken by Lee have been transferred to the photograph collection, P5330 to P5354.)  
3 receipts from Clara G. Lee for pictures sold, 1945-1946.  
From same file folder as photographs.

*oversize box no. 1 Album of photographs taken during Lee's travels, 1899-1904*

## Financial records

- 8 Account book: records of paintings sold, 1891-1907; exhibitions, 1894-1898; income, 1934-1938; 2 receipts from Clara G. Lee, 1945.
- 9 Record of household expenditures (2 books), 1941-1948.

## Address book

- 10 Address book, 1893-1948; addresses on slips of paper; receipts; statement of items (paintings) sold, July 10th 1945.

## Printed materials

- 11 Clippings: articles by or about Lee; poems.
- 12 Clippings: from British, Canadian, and U.S. newspapers, 1920-1938; excerpts from the Times Calendar, 1942; piano keyboard chart.
- 13 Clippings: from newspapers, ca. 1937.
- 14 Advertising card with calendar for November 1907, Cawley & Paisley, Chilliwack, B.C.  
Postcards from Carmel and San Jose, California.

## Correspondence about the collection

- 16 Correspondence with Uno Langmann Gallery, 1978.  
Rough notes on Lee's biographical details.