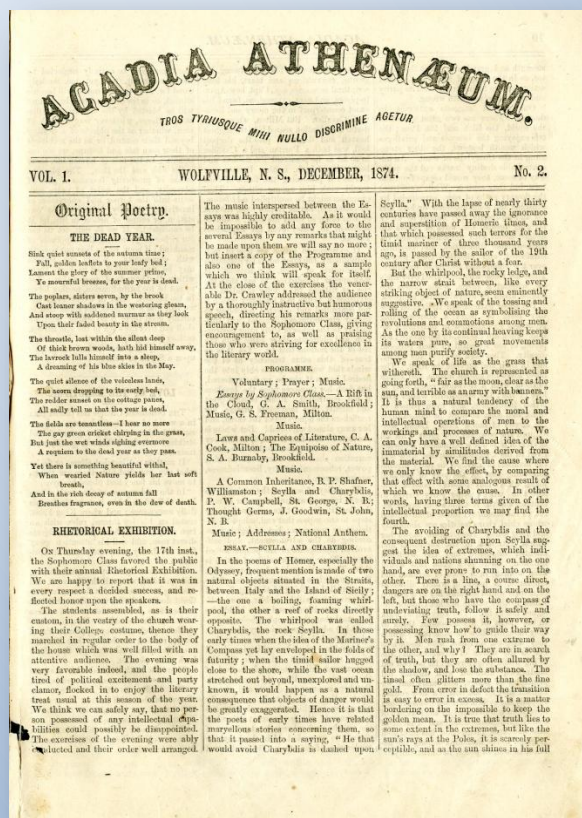


Acadia University.  
Athenaeum Society collection  
Accession 1900.020-ATH



Compiled by Bethany Jost  
July 2011

**Acadia University. Athenaeum Society collection. – [textual records]. – [18-?], [19-?], 1860-1977. – 24cm of textual records.**

## Table of Contents

(click on title to jump to that page)

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <a href="#">Scope and Content</a> .....      | 3 |
| <a href="#">Administrative History</a> ..... | 5 |
| <a href="#">Custodial History</a> .....      | 5 |
| <a href="#">Notes</a> .....                  | 5 |
| <a href="#">Citation Information:</a> .....  | 6 |
| <a href="#">Access Points</a> .....          | 6 |

## Scope and Content

The fonds consists of 31 folders of textual records. Items included are minute books, debating papers prepared by students, event information, and information relating to Acadia's involvement with the Maritime Intercollegiate Debating League and the National Federation of Canadian University Students Debating Association.

### Inventory:

- 1900.020-ATH/1 constitution and by-laws of the Athenaeum Society of Acadia University (1904-1924)
- 1900.020-ATH/2 minutes (1860-1873) includes constitution and list of members
- 1900.020-ATH/3 minutes (1905-1906)
- 1900.020-ATH/4 minutes (1906-1909)
- 1900.020-ATH/5 minutes (1909-1911)
- 1900.020-ATH/6 minutes (1911-1914)
- 1900.020-ATH/7 minutes (1944-1951)
- 1900.020-ATH/8 critic's book (1905-1906) includes minutes of meetings and debates
- 1900.020-ATH/9 critic's book (1910-1912) includes minutes of meetings and debates
- 1900.020-ATH/10 critic's book (1912-1914) includes minutes of meetings and debates
- 1900.020-ATH/11 critic's book (1914-1919) includes minutes of meetings and debates
- 1900.020-ATH/12 debating papers delivered (1904) Acadia vs. St. Francis Xavier at Wolfville, "Resolved, That Imperial Federation Would Benefit Canada"
- 1900.020-ATH/13 debating papers delivered (1906) Acadia vs. University of New Brunswick at Fredericton, "Resolved, That the Political Union of Canada and the United States Would be to the Best Interests of Canada"
- 1900.020-ATH/14 debating papers delivered (1908) Acadia vs. Dalhousie at Halifax, "Resolved, That the Admission of Japanese Into Canada Under Present Regulations is Better for Canada Than Their Exclusion"
- 1900.020-ATH/15 debating papers delivered (1909) Acadia vs. St. Francis Xavier at Antigonish, "Resolved, That Great Britain Should Make a Substantial Departure From Her Present Policy of Free Trade with Respect to Imports"
- 1900.020-ATH/16 debating papers delivered (1910) Acadia vs. Kings at Wolfville, "Resolved, That the Suffrage be Extended to Women"
- 1900.020-ATH/17 debating papers delivered (1911) Acadia vs. University of New Brunswick at Wolfville, "Resolved, That it Would be to the Best Interests of the Maritime Provinces to have the Intercolonial Railway Owned and Operated by a Private Company"

- 1900.020-ATH/18 debating papers delivered (1922) "Immigration". Includes Senior Essay by Harry Atkinson, class of 1922, which was used in the debate
- 1900.020-ATH/19 debating paper delivered – Girls Intercollegiate Debate (1923) "Trade Disputes"
- 1900.020-ATH/20 debating papers delivered (1924) St. Francis Xavier vs. Acadia (1924) "Resolved, That an Embargo on the Export of Pulp-wood Would be Advantageous to Canada"
- 1900.020-ATH/21 debating papers delivered (1925) Acadia vs. Mt. St. Bernard, "Resolved, That the Provincial and Federal Governments Should Cooperate to Promote a Large Influx of Agricultural Immigrants into the Maritime Provinces"
- 1900.020-ATH/22 debating papers delivered (1928) "Existing Agencies are Adequate for the Establishing of World Peace"
- 1900.020-ATH/23 debating papers delivered [19-?] "Fruit Growing in Canada", "Maritime Union", "Small and Large Universities in the Maritime Provinces"
- 1900.020-ATH/24 event programs and information ([18-?], [19-?], 1896-1914)
- 1900.020-ATH/25 posters ([19-?], 1977)
- 1900.020-ATH/26 Maritime Intercollegiate Debating League (1948-1956) includes programs, agendas, schedules and minutes
- 1900.020-ATH/27 Maritime Intercollegiate Debating League official judging forms ([195-?], 1953-1954) forms filled in for various debates
- 1900.020-ATH/28 debaters names and scores [195-?]
- 1900.020-ATH/29 treasurer's book (1908-1925) includes member's names
- 1900.020-ATH/30 National Federation of Canadian University Students Debating Association (1944-1955) NFCUSDA
- 1900.020-ATH/31 Maritime Intercollegiate Debating League constitution and by-laws ([195-?], 1951-1953)

## Administrative History

The Acadia University Athenaeum Society was established in 1860 by a group of students<sup>1</sup>. The founding Chair was Charles E. Harris. At the second meeting of the Society, the following officers were elected: Maynard Parker Freeman (President), Joseph Freeman Kempton (Vice President), Samuel Bradford Kempton (Critic), John. E. P. Hopper (Corresponding Secretary), James Melbourne Parker (Recording Secretary), H. Harding Bligh (Treasurer)<sup>2</sup>. As stated in various early copies of the Constitution<sup>3</sup>, “[t]he object of this Society shall be the improvement of its members in public speaking, in social advancement, and in general literature”. By 1895, the Society had added debating to their objective<sup>4</sup>, and was thereafter alternatively known as the Athenaeum Debating Society. The 1935 Calendar states that the Athenaeum Society sponsored all inter-class, intercollegiate and other debates.

In 1874 the Athenaeum Society issued the first issue of the student publication, the *Acadia Athenaeum*<sup>5</sup>.

The Athenaeum was predeceased by the Lyceum Society which was established in 1858 and dissolved in 1860<sup>6</sup>.

## Custodial History

The custodial history of these records is unknown.

## Notes

Supplied title based on contents of fonds.

Records subject to the *Copyright Act*. Written permission from the Copyright holder is required in order to publish any of these records.

For reasons of historic authenticity, all file titles provided by the author and captions provided by the photographer are transcribed unedited. The spelling of both peoples' and places'

---

<sup>1</sup> 1900.020-ATH/2 minutes

<sup>2</sup> 1900.020-ATH/2 minutes

<sup>3</sup> 1900.020-ATH/1 constitution and by-laws of the Athenaeum Society of Acadia University

<sup>4</sup> Calendar of Acadia University, 1895-96

<sup>5</sup> The Acadia Athenaeum, November, 1874, vol.1, no.1

<sup>6</sup> “The History of the College Societies” and “The History of Debating at Acadia”. The Acadia Athenaeum, May 1913, vol.XXXIX, no.7

names has changed with time, so inaccuracies and inconsistencies in the titles are unavoidable. Files and captions may also contain inaccuracies or terms that would now be considered offensive.

See also “The History of the College Societies” and “The History of Debating at Acadia”. The Acadia Athenaeum, May 1913, vol.XXXIX, no.7

See also Acadia University. Lyceum Society collection 1900.371

### Citation Information:

This finding aid should be cited as a website. Relevant information is as follows:

Title: Acadia University. Athenaeum Society

Date: 2011

Author: Esther Clark Wright Archives, Acadia University

### Access Points

Acadia University. Athenaeum Society

Acadia University. Athenaeum Debating Society

Acadia University—Students

Debates and debating--Societies, etc.

Student activities (Wolfville, NS)