

A Guide to the

Dr. Augustus T. Rowe *fonds*

COLL - 022

Arranged & Described by

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Dr. Augustus T. Rowe

(COLL-022)

Title: Dr. Augustus T. Rowe *fonds*

Dates: 2001

Extent: 2 cm of textual material

Biographical sketch:

Augustus Taylor Rowe (1920-), physician, professor and former Provincial Minister of Health, was born in Hearts Content, Newfoundland, on 2 August 1920, the son of Joseph Allen Rowe and Eugenie Fogwell Rowe (nee Taylor). Dr. Rowe married Beatrice Alice Rowe (nee Adams) and they have two children: David and Sarah Jane.

Dr. Rowe completed grade XI at Hearts Content High School, after which he attended one year of Pre Med at Memorial College before the start of World War II. At the onset of that war, Dr. Rowe enlisted in the army and reached the rank of Warrant Officer. Following his military service, Dr. Rowe studied at the University of London's medical school (St. Mary's Hospital), graduating in 1953. In the same year Dr. Rowe qualified as a member of the Royal College of Surgeons and served his internship at St. John's General Hospital. He later continued his education with post-graduate studies in obstetrics, gynecology, completing one year in England and another year in Toronto.

Dr. Rowe was a founding member of the Carbonear Community Hospital, which opened in 1957. He held the position of its Medical Director from 1957 until becoming a Member of the House of Assembly for Carbonear on 28 October 1971 when the Progressive Conservative cabinet defeated the Liberal government of former Premier Joseph Smallwood. Dr. Rowe was appointed Minister of Health for Newfoundland in January 1972 and was re-elected in March 1972. He held the position until 1975 when he resigned at age 55 from Premier Frank Moores' Progressive Conservative cabinet.

After 20 years of family practice in Carbonear (beginning in 1954), Memorial University officials invited Dr. Rowe to do postgraduate work in geriatrics; and thus he entered Memorial University in 1975 and was eventually named Professor and Chairman of Family Practice. Dr. Rowe was the head of Family Practice from 1978 to 1985. He spent his time at Memorial lecturing, supervising the Family Practice residents and researching the needs of the elderly in Newfoundland. On retirement in 1985, Dr. Rowe and his wife moved to Toronto and for the next four years he worked as a surveyor for the Accreditation Council, visiting and surveying hospitals and nursing homes in various provinces throughout Canada.

Over the years, Dr. Rowe has held a variety of academic and professional positions. He has served as the president of the Newfoundland Medical Association (NMA), now called Newfoundland and Labrador Medical Association, and was the NMA's provincial representative to the Canadian Medical Association (CMA). Moreover, he was elected to senior membership of the CMA, an award given to physicians that have been members of the CMA for ten years and are at least 65 years of age. Not only do nominees need to be unanimously voted in by the CMA

board of directors, but they must also have distinguished themselves in their medical careers by making significant contributions to their community and profession. In addition, Dr. Rowe was a Regional Director of the Newfoundland Tuberculosis Association, a president of the Carbonear branches of the Kiwanis Club and the Canadian Red Cross, is an honorary member of the national organization of the Red Cross and has received his 30 blood-donor pin. From 1980 to 1981 he was a member of the Royal Commission of Forest Protection and Management.

Dr. Rowe's studies were paralleled by academic publications throughout his career, such as his studies on the needs of the elderly: *Assessment of needs of the elderly in the province of Newfoundland: summation of research project of Department of Family Practice, Faculty of Medicine, Memorial University, Newfoundland, 1977*. After Dr. Rowe retired, the Faculty of Medicine established the Gus Rowe Teaching Award, awarded annually, is given for excellence in the teaching of examination, assessment and treatment of the whole patient.

Dr. Rowe currently resides with his wife, Beatrice, in Don Mills, Toronto.

Custodial history:

Dr. Rowe donated his personal papers to the Faculty of Medicine Founders' Archive in 2002.

Source of title:

Supplied title is based on the contents of the *fonds*.

Acquisition:

Dr. Rowe donated his papers to the Faculty of Medicine Founders' Archive in 2002.

Arrangement:

When the papers of Dr. Rowe arrived at the Founders' Archive, there was some degree of order present. This formed the framework for further arrangement and description of the collection.

Scope and content:

Fonds consists of material relating to Dr. Augustus T. Rowe.

Restrictions:

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Accruals:

Further accruals are not expected.

Location:

COLL-022, Faculty of Medicine Founders' Archive

Related material:

Dr. Ian Rusted *fonds*, COLL-001, 4.02.030

Faculty of Medicine Scrapbook Collection, COLL-005, 3.01.053, 3.01.074, 3.01.081

Founders' Archive Oral History Project, COLL-017, Interviewee # 12

Dr. John Martin *fonds*, COLL-014, 2.01.111

Finding aid available:

Faculty of Medicine Founders' Archive finding aid # 22. File level control

Series and Sub-series Description

1.0 Speech, 10 November 2001

1.01 “Reflections,” 10 November 2001

2.0 “Oral History Questionnaire,” 2002

Scope and Content Dr. Rowe’s “Oral History Questionnaire” is located in **COLL-017**, location number **12.0**.

See COLL-017, 12.0 Dr. Augustus T. Rowe, 9 May 2002