

**P220- Benjamin F and Mary Adelaide (née Stone) Avery fonds  
1912-1971(Predominant dates: 1930 -1966)**

**16,03cm of textual records, photographs and 3 cartographic documents.**

**Biographical sketch:** Biographical sketch: Benjamin Franklin Avery (1890-1965), third son and fifth child of William and Jane Avery (née Baldwin) was born October 21, 1890 at Aurora, New York. Avery graduated from Yale in 1914 and obtained his Master in Forestry in 1916. Very active in sports he played football and was the wrestling Team Captain. During WWI he served as Lieutenant with the U.S. Armed Forces (1917-1918) and returned to Canada. In 1921, in Sault-Ste-Marie, he married Mary Adelaide Stone (1897-1991), daughter of Frederick and Grace Laura Maude (née Taylor) Stone of Chatham, ON. The Averys had 4 children: Daniel Dudley (1923-1965), Deborah (1925-2018), Frederick 'Stone' (1927-2014) and Mary. In 1925, Benjamin Avery became a Canadian citizen. Involved in forestry, he first came to Canada in 1915, for a summer job in Sault Ste Marie for the Spanish River Pulp and Paper Company and returned after his graduation to work full time. He worked for the company from 1919-1937. The company merged with Abitibi Power Paper in 1929 [1928] . He later became assistant woods general manager [assistant general manager of woodlands] in 1934. In 1937 he accepted the post as woodlands manager for Great Lakes Paper Company, at Fort Williams. In 1946, until his retirement in 1959, Avery worked for KVP at Espanola, where he was elected a director of the company in 1946 and general manager and Vice President. Later, in 1951, Avery was elected President of KVP Company Ltd and General Manager of the Espanola plant. Avery originated the tree farms idea and was probably [not needed - he was one! he also practised what he preached - convinced Spanish River by 1921 to manage its woodlands on a sustained yield basis] one of the first to express the need for proper cutting and reforestation methods. He has been a senior executive of many Canadian forestry and related trade and professional organisations. To name a few: in 1957 he was elected Chairman of the Executive Board of the Canadian Pulp and Paper Association; he occupied the position of President of the Canadian Forestry Association (1959-1962); President of the Canadian Society of Forest Engineers; Chairman of the woodlands section of the Canadian Pulp and Paper Association; Vice president of the Ontario Forest Industry. After his retirement he became a member of the Laurentian University Board of Governors (1960-1965) and was the Chairman of the Founders' Fund. In 1964 the institution awarded him a Honourary Doctorate 'Doctor of Law'. As a member of the Espanola community he was also involved in many groups and associations. In 1972 Laurentian University named the Physical Education Centre building in his honour: the *Benjamin F. Avery Physical Education Centre*.

**Scope and content:** The Benjamin F and Mary (née Stone) Avery fonds contains textual records, photographs, maps and documentation mostly relating to Benjamin Avery's accomplishments as a Forester and administrator. While some of the photographs depict his stay at Yale and his participation in sports most are of meetings with administrators of different pulp and paper companies. The newspaper clippings and correspondence pay tribute and document his different roles and achievements in the sector of forestry.

Birth certificate, certificate of Naturalization, and US Army records with diaries documenting 5 years of Mr. Avery's daily life offer insight into his private life. The personal and public tributes after his death and the naming of the Benjamin F Avery Physical Education building at Laurentian University are also well documented and outline his role and the recognition of his significant contribution to Forestry and the population of Northern Ontario.

**Immediate source of acquisition:** Fonds was donated by Mrs. Rosemary Avery (née Carman), Benjamin Avery daughter-in-law in April 2018.

**Language(s) of material:** English

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**Accruals:** The fonds was received in one accrual in June 2018. No more accruals expected.

**Finding aid:** The fonds is not processed. No finding aid available