

**MACPHERSON**

**MS 50**

**MACPHERSON, John**

**FINDING AID**

**Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Library**

MS 50 MacPHERSON, John

A2;B2 Notes, correspondence, newspaper clippings and publications. [Sydney, 1899-1939]. 9 pts. Holograph, typescript and printed material.

9602 Contents:

- (1) Notebook: Ngarrabul and other tribes in New England. Contents include:
  - (a) Vocabularies in Enneewin, Ngarrabul, Yookumbul, Pikumbul (taken from Ridley), Queemba and Bundela, p. 3-18.
  - (b) Notes on physical characteristics, disposition, initiation ceremonies, family classes and marriage laws, making of fire, food, clothing, laws and government, intercourse between the tribes and warfare, religion and mythology, disposal of the dead, 23 l. inserted p. 19.
  - (c) The remnants of the tribes, 3 l. inserted at p. 21
  - (d) Pathology of the impure breeds, 2 l. inserted p. 23; with note on teeth written in an unidentified hand, 1 l.
  - (e) Stone implements and weapons, with illustrations, 11 l. inserted p. 27.
  - (f) Bogan River implements and illustration, 2 l. inserted p. 39.
  - (g) Cowan Creek, Port Jackson, Coogee, Cattai Creek - rock art, with illustrations, 7 l. inserted p. 41.
  - (h) La Perouse, 2 l. inserted p. 43.
  - (i) South Coast, Boorowa, Barrington River, Maitland, Singleton, 2 l. inserted p. 45.
- (2) Description of two skeletons from oven mounds at Mortlake, Vic. excavated by Rev. Peter MacPherson prior to 1871, with annotations and additional remarks by same unidentified hand, 14 l.
- (3) Dentition, 15 l.
- (4) On the 'Materia Medica' of the Australian Aborigines, 14 l.
- (5)
  - (a) Infanticide, childbirth, children, etc. - Narrinyeri, S.A. (Meyer); Port Lincoln (Schürmann); Dieyerie (Gason); North Australia (Grey); North West and Western Australia (Grey); Tasmania (West), 7 l.
  - (b) Infanticide (N.S.W. and S.A.) and note on skin colour at birth, by same unidentified hand, 2 l.
  - (c) Notes on childbirth, by another unidentified hand, 2 l.
- (6) Miscellaneous notes (some by MacPherson, others unidentified).
  - (a) Poisons, 2 l.
  - (b) Tribe locations, 1 l.
  - (c) Phonetics and vocabulary, 3 l.
  - (d) Wellington Vale Mission (notes from E.R. Gribble), 1 l.
  - (e) Bibliographical reference, 1 l.
- (7) Letters to J. MacPherson from:
  - (a) Secretary of the Royal Zoological Society, Sydney, 20 Aug. 1930, re acceptance of article on animal names for publication.
  - (b) F.E. Williams, Port Moresby, 2 May 1931; discusses Papuan cuckoo.
  - (c) A.J. Barrett, Bombala, 9 July 1931; mentions place names.
  - (d) Raymond Firth, Sydney, 10 July 1931; mentions poisoned spears in Melanesia with reference to Glen Innes tribe.
  - (e) W.J. Enright, West Maitland, 19 Mar. 1934; tribal boundaries, language names and spelling.
  - (f) R. Hamlyn Harris, Brisbane, 2 June 1936; mentions published article.
  - (g) Editor, 'Mankind', Sydney, 12 Sep. 1938; request for paper.
  - (h) R.L. Dawson, Luidfield, 4 June 1939; native medicines.
  - (i) ?, Sydney, 27 July?; replying to request for information about "King of Oswell".

(8) Newspaper clippings

- (a) Aboriginal pipes and smokers, by J. MacPherson, Glen Innes Examiner, 1 Sep. 1899.
- (b) Aboriginal customs and traditions: [summary of address by J. MacPherson], Glen Innes Examiner, 10 and 13 Oct. 1899.
- (c) The Australian Aboriginal: lecture by Dr. J. MacPherson, Glen Innes Guardian, [10 Oct. 1899].
- (d) Linnean Society: [exhibit of stone implements by J. MacPherson], Sydney Morning Herald, 2 May 1902.
- (e) [Report on lecture by Dr. J. MacPherson to St. George's Mutual Improvement Society, 22 Sep. 1902].
- (f) Our Aborigines sixty-five years ago [photo.], Sydney Morning Herald, 8 Dec. 1928.
- (g) Blacks and ants, by E.S. Sorenson, Australasian, 12 Jan. 1935.
- (h) Torres: in the Strait; fresh information about his passage, by Geo. Collingridge, Sydney Morning Herald, [n.d.]; mentions smoking by Aborigines.
- (i) Aboriginal names, by A. Meston.
- (j) Aboriginal names, by A. Meston.
- (k) Our own Aborigines, by Prof. Griffith Taylor.
- (l) Old tribes: Professor seeks them [work of A.R. Radcliffe-Brown in the Grafton area].
- (m) Native nomenclature.

(9) Publications

- (a) [Note on exhibition of stone implements from Ngarrabul and Yukumbul tribes of N.S.W.]. Linn. Soc. N.S.W. Abstract of Proc. 30 Apr. 1902: iv.
- (b) Ngarrabul and other Aboriginal tribes. 1: Medical and surgical practice; 2: Distribution of the tribes. Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W. 1902, 27(4): 637-47; 1904, 29(4): 677-84.
- (c) A dentigerous cyst and other abnormalities in an Aboriginal skull. Australas. med. Gaz. 20 Apr. 1903: 156-7.
- (d) Medical practice by Aboriginal tribes. Australas. Nurses' J. 15 Sep. 1919: 298-301.
- (e) The use of narcotics and intoxicants by the native tribes of Australia, New Guinea, and the Pacific. Sydney Univ. med. J. 1921, n.s. 16(1): 108-22.
- (f) The gum-tree and wattle in Australian Aboriginal medical practice. Australas. Nurses' J. 15 Dec. 1925: 588-96.
- (g) Some Aboriginal place names in northern New South Wales. Roy. Aust. hist. Soc. J. & Proc. 1930, 16(2): 120-31.
- (h) Some Aboriginal animal names. Aust. Zool. 1931, 6(4): 368-71.
- (i) Poisoned spears of the Australian Aborigines. Med. J. Aust. 1931, 1: 780-2.
- (j) Betel-nut cancer. Med. J. Aust. 1932, 1: 170-1; with attachment "Observations on tumours in New Britain natives", by Raymond G. Penington. Med. J. Aust. 1933, 2: 374-6.
- (k) The meaning of tirrikiba. Mankind, 1932, 1(5): 102.
- (l) Aboriginal fish and emu poisons. Mankind, 1933, 1(7): 157-61.
- (m) Some words from the New England vocabularies. Mankind, 1934, 1(10): 235-6.
- (n) More Aboriginal fish poisons. Mankind, 1935, 1(12): 9-12.
- (o) The eucalyptus in the daily life and medical practice of the Australian Aborigines. Mankind, 1939, 2(6): 175-80.

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VIC/S (SJ.54) 6/IA, 8A/2

Title. D.24,34. E. 11, 12-L.

- x. Williams Francis Edgar letter
- x. Barrett, A.J. letter
- x. Firth, Raymond William letter
- x. Dawson, Robert Leycester letter
- x. Harris, R. Hamlyn letter
- x. Enright, Walter John letter