

Esther Clark Wright Archives, Acadia University

# Francis H.P. Beals family fonds

Accession numbers: 1900.114-BLS and 1991.005-BLS

Compiled by Wendy G. Robicheau, Fall 2017

Francis H.P. Beals family fonds. – [textual records, graphic images]. – 1897-1983. – 22 folders of textual material. – 24 photographs : b&w ; 25 x 30 cm or smaller.

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## Scope and Content

Fonds consists of records created by members of the Rev. Francis H.P. Beals family, including his wife, Annie Florence Nightingale (Smith) Beals, and three of their children: Phillip Sydney, Helen Dorothy, and Carlyle Smith.

The records of this fonds extend from [ca. 1897] to 1983. They have been divided into four series:

**1. Annie F.N. Beals papers, [ca. 1897], in 1 folder. Includes:**

- an essay about the 1887 class from the Seminary.

See also: another essay by Mrs. F.H. Beals, *Mrs. J.W. Manning: A Tribute*, 1923, in Special Collections.

**2. Philip S. Beals papers, between 1916 and 1917, in 2 folders. Includes:**

- letters to his family from England and France, and
- photograph.

Note: Beals' story has been published by Bruce MacDonald.

**3. Helen D. Beals papers, between 1910 and 1983, in 6 folders and 9 photographs.**

Includes:

- correspondence regarding Philip and Carlyle,
- interview notes, and
- photographs.

Note: Collected by Helen Beals.

See also: See also the Maritime Art Association and Walter Abell material.

**4. Carlyle S. Beals papers, between 1919-1979, in 14 folders and 14 photographs.**

Includes:

- articles and manuscripts written by Beals,
- photographs, and
- information about awards received by Beals.

Note: Includes correspondence (1980) to Willis S. Beals from Peter M. Millman, President of the International Astronomical Union Working Group for Planetary System Nomenclature noting that Dr. Beals' name has been added to the list for future assignments to moon features. In 1982, lunar *Crater 110* was renamed to commemorate Carlyle S. Beals. File 1991.005-BLS/27

Note: Includes biographical information (1979-1983), being article off-prints and CVs. File 1900.114-BLS/12

Note: Some of Beals' publications are in Special Collections

## File List

### 1. Annie F.N. Beals files. – [1897?]. - 1 folder of textual records.

#### 1991.005-BLS/1 manuscript [1897?].

File contains handwritten manuscript entitled 'The Class of 1887'. 13 pages. An essay about the Acadia Ladies Seminary, class of 1887. Annie F.N. Beals describes the activities of alumni, including Nettie Fitch, Lillian Bishop, May Bishop, Ella Pudsey, Hattie M. Eaton, Minnie W. Long, and Lila P. Williams. FRAGILE: Paper is very brittle; great caution should be taken when viewing this folder

### 2. Philip S. Beals files. – 1916-1917. - 1 folder of textual records, 1 photograph.

#### 1991.005-BLS/2A Philip Sydney Beals [between 1916 and 1917].

Image is portrait of Beals in military uniform. b&w. Glued to cover of a binder; cover was cut from the binder for preservation purposes.

**Note:** Digital object available.

#### 1991.005-BLS/2B letters (1916 and 1917 ; typescript).

File contains correspondence. All letters except two are written by Philip S. Beals while he was serving in England and France during World War One. The final two letters are written by E.G.E. Higgins and Allison H. Borden, explaining the circumstances of Beals' death. A newspaper clipping of his obituary is included. All pages were removed from a binder for preservation purposes.

**Note:** Digital object available.

### 3. Helen D. Beals files. – 1910-1983. - 6 folders of textual records, 9 photographs.

#### 1991.005-BLS/3 letter (1973 ; typescript).

File contains letter to Helen Dorothy Beals from Harvey E. Crowell of Halifax. Crowell explains his role in the First World War, the conditions in France, and the memorial at the Army Museum at Citadel Hill in Halifax. Crowell did not know Philip Beals.

#### 1991.005-BLS/4 Acadia ribbon [19--].

A cardboard "A" stapled to red and blue ribbons.

#### 1991.005-BLS/5 correspondence (1989, 1990).

File contains correspondence. Card from 1989 is signed 'Robb' and contains brief Christmas wishes. Card from 1990 is signed Rachel and contains short greetings.

**1991.005-BLS/6 bulletins (1910).**

File contains bulletins for the Cornwallis Baptist Church, includes the Souvenir Programme of the Dedication of the Baptist Church edifice and Prayer Meeting Topics. Also includes a book insert of the portraits of five ministers; Rev. F.H. Beals is one of the portraits.

**1991.005-BLS/7 interview notes (1981).**

File contain interview notes. 2 pages. Paragraph at top reads: "Notes on an interview with Helen Beals in her home on October 30, 1981. Pat Townsend, Archivist for Acadia University and Fran Kruschen, Director of the Art Gallery at Acadia were present at the interview."

**1900.114-BLS/13 correspondence (1982, 1983 ; handwritten, typescript).**

File contains correspondence concerning a Carlyle S. Beals seminar room in Huggins Hall between Roy Bishop, Miriam Beals, and Helen Beals. Invitation to the opening of the room included.

**1991.005-BLS/8 Rev. F.H. Beals [19--].**

Image shows Rev. F.H. Beals standing in a garden. Print glued to a frame backing, b&w.

**1991.005-BLS/9 Rev. F.H. Beals [19--]**

Image shows Rev. F.H. Beals leaning on a table, standing in a garden. Print glued to a frame backing, b&w.

**1991.005-BLS/10 Acadia University Board of Governors [ca. 1920].**

Image shows F.H. Beals, G.B. Cutten, J.H. McDonald, Goucher, C.H. Starr, Manning, I.B. Oaks and four unidentified men, sitting and standing in this posed picture. Torn in half. Print glued to frame backing, b&w.

**1991.005-BLS/11 Annie Beals [19--].**

Image shows Annie Beals posing next to a chimney. Written on reverse in ink: "Annie F. Beals". Print, b&w.

**1991.005-BLS/12 Annie F. Beals [19--].**

Image shows Annie Beals posing next to a chimney. Print, b&w.

**1991.005-BLS/13 Annie Beals and two women [19--].**

Image shows three women. Written on reverse in ink: "A.F.B. Center with friends". Print, b&w.

**1991.005-BLS/14 unidentified child [18--].**

Image shows a child seated and posed. Written on backing in ink: "Young Aunt of H.B." No frame. Tintype; b&w.

**1991.005-BLS/15 Helen Beals [19--].**

Image is a portrait of Helen Beals. Print, b&w.

**1991.005-BLS/16 Helen Beals [19--].**

Image is a portrait of Helen Beals. Print, b&w.

**1991.005-BLS/17 Helen Beals, Marion Grant, and Esther Clark Wright [19--].**

Image shows Beals, Grant, and Wright in a garden. Print, col.

**1991.005-BLS/18 Marion Grant, Esther Clark Wright, and Helen Beals [19--].**

Image shows Grant, Wright, and Beals standing in a garden. Print, col.

**1991.005-BLS/19 Helen Beals, Marion Grant, a man, and a woman [19--].**

Image shows group seated in front of a window. Print, col.

**1991.005-BLS/20 one hazy morn (1984) by H. Stultz.**

Image is a photo of garden at 440 Main Street in Wolfville. col.

**1991.005-BLS/21 Hall's Harbour [194-?] by C.H. Echols, Jr.**

Image of the harbor, boats, and buildings when the tide is in. Print, b&w.

**1991.005-BLS/22 Harbourville [19--] by Bettune.**

Image shows three people in a row boat, rowing into the harbor. The wharf and buildings are visible. Print glued to frame backing, b&w.

**1991.005-BLS/23 harbour [19--].**

Image shows row boats tied to a wharf in an unknown harbor. Buildings are visible. Print, b&w.

**4. Carlyle S. Beals files. – 1919-1979. - 6 folders textual records, 9 photographs.**

**1991.005-BLS/24 manuscript (1919 ; handwritten).**

File contains manuscript entitled, "The New Atom." Written in pencil on top, right corner, 'graduation Thesis 1919'. 10 pages.

**1991.005-BLS/25 reference letters (1923, 1924, 1926).**

File contains letters from the Department of Physics at the University of Toronto indicating that Beals was a research student, Trinity College in Dublin indicating that Beals is a student, and from the Imperial College of Science and Technology giving some details about Beals' research.

**1991.005-BLS/26 newspaper clippings (19--?, 1952, 1957 ; photocopies 2012). Includes:**

- Observatory founder honored [19--]
- Man of the Week: Dominion Astronomer Dr. C.S. Beals, [19--]
- Beals' Birthday Kiss, Ottawa Journal, [19--]
- no title, The Financial Post, 1 March 1957
- Canada Awards Go to 35, The Ottawa Journal, [19--]
- Astronomer Won't Slow Down, [19--]
- See Space Dust Holding Secret of Earth's Origin, Globe and Mail, 19 January 1952
- Nova Scotia's I.O.D.E. Scholar, [19--]
- Dr. Carlyle Smith Beals, The Ottawa Journal, [19--]
- Award Presented, [19--]

**1991.005-BLS/28 graduation photo of Carlyle S. Beals (1919).**

Image shows Beals seated in academic robes. Print, b&w.

**1991.005-BLS/29 Carlyle S. Beals (1948).**

Image shows Carlyle receiving an honorary degree at Acadia from President Watson Kirkconnell. Written on reverse in ink: "DSc conferred by Acadia" and in pencil: "date (?)". Print, b&w.

**1991.005-BLS/30 with Air Raid Precautions men [1939?].**

Image shows seven uniformed men, sitting and standing, in a posed photo. Written on reverse in pencil: "A.R.P. men in uniform". Print, b&w.

**1991.005-BLS/31 group of men [1939?].**

Image shows seven men, sitting and standing, in a posed photo. Written on reverse in pencil and ink: "A.R.P. men". They are in civilian clothes. Print, b&w.

**1991.005-BLS/32 observatory [1939?].**

Image shows a two-story observatory beyond a few trees. A car is parked outside. Written in reverse in ink: "The Observatory in its war paint". Print, b&w.

**1991.005-BLS/33 observatory [19--].**

Image shows a man, likely Beals, standing with a camera next to a lens showing a reflection of the scene twice. Written on reverse in ink: "Self portrait reflected in the telescope mirror. Note camera and secondary mirror". Dried glue on surface of the print. Print, b&w.

**1991.005-BLS/34 astronomers [19--].**

Image shows a group of eight men and one woman, standing for this posed photograph. Written on reverse in pencil: "Back row Left to right McKellar, Wright, Petrie, Blacket, Hutchison. Front Row L to R Pearce, Harper, Y.T. and Miss Blake". Dried glue on surface of the print. Print, b&w.

**1991.005-BLS/35 astronomers (1940).**

Image shows a group of five men, standing for this posed photograph. Written on reverse in ink: "Taken in 1940 with a group of astronomers in Seattle." Print, b&w.

**1991.005-BLS/36 C.S. Beals [19--].**

Image is portrait of Beals. Written on reverse in pencil: "Not much of a picture but sent with much love Carl". Print, b&w.

**1991.005-BLS/37 C.S. Beals [19--].**

Image is portrait of Beals, posed with a book. May be an official portrait. Print, b&w.

**1991.005-BLS/38 time room [19--].**

Image shows Dr. Beals and another man standing in a room with several devices. Written on image in ink: "Dr. Beals in the Time room." Image is torn and damaged on the front. Print, b&w.

**1991.005-BLS/39 astronomers in Victoria [19--].**

Image shows a large group of men and women posing. Written on reverse in pencil: "Meeting of Astronomers & Wives at Victoria Office building". Print, b&w.

**1991.005-BLS/40 Order of Canada [19--].**

Image shows Beals receiving an Order of Canada. Written on reverse in ink: "(no.1 C.S.B.)" Print, b&w.

**1991.005-BLS/41 Carlyle Beals [19--].**

Image is a portrait for Carlyle Beals. Print, col.

**1900.114-BLS/1 manuscript [1924? ; typescript].**

File contains a manuscript, entitled "An Astronomical Pilgrimage". 15 pages.

**1900.114-BLS/2 pamphlet [19--].**

File contains a pamphlet, entitled "The War Gases and Their Symptoms". Compiled by Dr. C.S. Beals.

**1900.114-BLS/3 newspaper clippings (1924-1979 ; photocopies).**

File contains two obituaries for C.S. Beals, likely inserted by a family member.

**1900.114-BLS/4 press release [1932? ; typescript].**

File contains a press release from the International Congress of Astrophysics, Paris, entitled "American Scientists Sail for Paris to Prove into Secrets of Novae and White Dwarfs". Some handwritten corrections. 5 pages.

**1900.114-BLS/5 convocation program for the University of New Brunswick (1956).**

File contains convocation program. A short write-up about Carlyle Smith Beals is included in the section on conferring of Honorary Degrees.

**1900.114-BLS/6 certificate (1958).**

File contains certificate designating Beals as a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Includes a memo (typescript) indicating that Beals has been elected to this position.

**1900.114-BLS/7 correspondence (1958 ; typescript).**

File contains correspondence informing Beals of his award of the Institute Gold Medal for pure and applied science. Beals' confirmation letter is included.

**1900.114-BLS/8 notes (1960 ; typescript).**

File contains notes for the presentation of an honorary degree for the Doctor of Science to Beals from Queen's University.

**1900.114-BLS/9 notes (1963 ; typescript).**

File contains notes for the presentation speech for an honorary degree for the Doctor of Science to Beals from the University of Pittsburgh.

**1900.114-BLS/10 material relating to the Leonard Award (1966-1967). Includes:**

- article off-print from The Journal of The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, Vol. 61, 1967, entitled "Award of the Leonard Medal to Dr. C.S. Beals" by Peter M. Millman. 3 pages
- photograph of Peter M. Millman, Miriam Beals, and Carlyle S. Beals at the presentation of the Leonard Medal by the Meteoritical Society, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. on 4 November 1966
- certificate presented to Beals with The Leonard Medal from The Meteoritical Society in recognition of innovative research in meteoritics and closely allied sciences resulting in contributions of fundamental importance to our knowledge of the origin and history of the solar system. Presented on 4 November 1966. Removed from frame
- sheet of information about The Leonard Medal and the recipients. The Medal was established by the Society in 1962 in memory of Frederick Charles Leonard (1896-1960). Beals was the first recipient

**1900.114-BLS/11 article (1945 ; photocopy 2017).**

File contains article authored by Beals and published in the Canadian Geographical Journal, entitled "The Practical and Commercial Value of Astronomy". 12 pages.



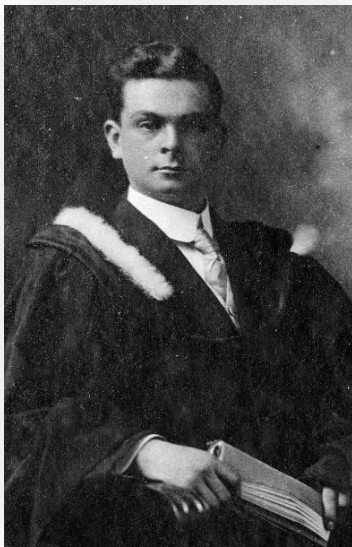
## Biographical Sketches

### Annie F.N. (Smith) Beals



Annie Florence Nightingale Smith, of Albert, N.B., graduated from the Acadia Ladies Seminary in 1887. That same year, she married Francis Harris Parker Beals (1856-1927).<sup>1</sup> They had four children: Philip Sydney, Paul Smith (1891-1894)<sup>2</sup>, Helen Dorothy, and Carlyle Smith.<sup>3</sup>

### Philip Sydney Beals, 1888-1917



Philip Sydney Beals was the first child born to Annie F.N. Smith Beals and Rev. Francis H.P. Beals in Billtown, Kings County, NS. He had three younger siblings, Paul Smith, Helen Dorothy and Carlyle Smith.

Philip graduated with Acadia's Class of 1909.

After graduation, he settled on a farm at Morrystown in Kings County, NS. Beals married Mabel Barteaux Easson<sup>4</sup> on 30 June 1914 at Factorydale, Kings County. They had no children.

Beals<sup>5</sup> enlisted at Berwick with the 219<sup>th</sup> Overseas Battalion in March 1916 and drilled at Aldershot Camp over the summer. In October, he sailed for England with the rest of the 219<sup>th</sup>, 246<sup>th</sup>, and the 85<sup>th</sup> Battalions. He gave up his rank of Sergeant to go over to France with the 85<sup>th</sup> in February 1917. Beals was part of a Lewis Machine Gun Section and fought during the Vimy campaign in April 1917. He was killed in action on 19 June 1917 and is buried in the Cabaret-Rouge British Cemetery.

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<sup>1</sup> F.H.P. Beals' obituary is included in the *Baptist Year Book*, 1928, p. 174.

<sup>2</sup> See accession file for sources and further information relating to Paul Smith Beals

<sup>3</sup> Three of the children have records in the Acadia Archives.

<sup>4</sup> Mabel Easson, born on 29 April 1889 in Factorydale, Kings Co., NS, entered Acadia University in 1917. She is included in the *Acadia Record* as Ex. '21.

<sup>5</sup> P.S. Beals' story is published in a book by Bruce MacDonald.

## Helen Dorothy Beals, 1898-1991



Helen Dorothy Beals<sup>6</sup> was the third child born to Annie F.N. Smith Beals and Rev. Francis H.P. Beals in Canso, N.S. She had three brothers, Philip Sydney, Paul Smith, and Carlyle Smith.

After graduating from Acadia with the Class of 1919 along with her brother Carlyle, Helen Beals taught at a school in Lawrencetown, N.S. (1920). She furthered her education at Simmons College in Boston in 1921. Between 1922 and 1926, Beals was a Librarian at the Wright Memorial Library for the Episcopal Theological College in Cambridge, Mass. She became the Assistant Librarian at Acadia in 1926 and continued in that position until 1944. The next year, she took an Assistant Professorship in Art at Acadia and retired from that position in 1963.

Helen Beals was the Secretary of the Maritime Art Association<sup>7</sup> between 1948 and 1950. She was their director of exhibitions for 1946 and 1947. She played a prominent role in the establishment of their publication, *Maritime Art Magazine*. Her art work was exhibited with the Canadian Society of Painters in Water Colour and in many regional exhibitions.

## Carlyle Smith Beals, 1899-1979



Carlyle Smith Beals<sup>8</sup> was the fourth child born to Annie F.H. Smith Beals and Rev. Francis H.P. Beals in Canso, N.S. He had three older siblings, Philip Sydney, Paul Smith, and Helen Dorothy.

Beals married Miriam White Bancroft of Round Hill, Annapolis County, N.S. in 1931.<sup>9</sup> They had one child.

Carlyle was rejected by the Canadian Expeditionary Force and so his education was not interrupted by the First World War. He studied physics and mathematics with Dr. Frank Wheelock and Dr. Francis Haley, graduating with Acadia's Class of 1919. Beals was at Yale in 1920, and graduated

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<sup>6</sup> Information for this biography taken from Helen Beals' entry in the *Acadia Record*.

<sup>7</sup> Records of the Maritime Art Association, available in Acadia's Archives, include documents and works by Helen D. Beals. Records of Walter Abell are also located in the Archives.

<sup>8</sup> Information for this biography provided from file 1900.114-BLS/12.

<sup>9</sup> Miriam Bancroft was a graduate in music of Acadia University, the Toronto Conservatory of Music, and the Chicago College of Music.

from the University of Toronto with an M.A. in 1923. He attended the Royal College of Science of London University on an I.O.D.E. scholarship, graduating with the Diploma of the Imperial College in 1925, and his PhD. From London University in 1926. He was awarded several honorary degrees: from London University in 1934, Acadia University in 1948, the University of New Brunswick in 1956, Queens University in 1960, and Pittsburg University in 1963.

Dr. Beals held an Assistant Professorship in Physics at Acadia University between 1926 and 1927 before being named the Assistant Astronomer at the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory in Victoria, B.C. – a post he held between 1927 and 1940. He became the Assistant Director of the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory in Victoria for the years of 1940 to 1946. Between 1946 and 1964, Dr. Carlyle S. Beals was the Dominion Astronomer of Canada. He retired and lived in Ottawa for the rest of his life.

Dr. Beals was honoured with many awards, including: an Order of Canada (1969), Leonard Medal (1966), Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, and Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society of Great Britain. Carlyle S. Beals, like his father Rev. F.H.P. Beals, was a member of the Board of Governors for Acadia University.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> Additional notes from file 1900.114-BLS/12:

“Carlyle Beals possessed a warm and gracious personality. He showed great interest in the work of others and was particularly interested in young people. His interests were encyclopaedic and his scientific talent prodigious. He had a great administrative ability and was noted for quiet determination and persistence.” RLB 1983

“CARLYLE SMITH BEALS, a Fellow of the Society since 1933, a former Dominion Astronomer, and one of Canada’s most distinguished and honoured scientists, died on 2 July 1979 after an illness of several months’ duration. His active scientific career spanned sixty years, and almost to the end he continued to work modestly in his beloved science, supported by the great respect of his colleagues and the love of his close-knit family.

In 1975 he broke his leg during a fall from a bicycle in Cambridge, England, characteristically he subsequently unveiled an official plaque in honour of Dr W.F. King, the first Dominion Astronomer, using a staff as a crutch. In recent months he suffered from cancer and finally had to give up the work in which he gained so much pleasure. Typically, however, he was determined to live to eighty, dying quietly three days after his birthday.

Beals was a man of strong presence and authority, very determined and with single-minded devotion to his family and to science. He was shy and reserved but always courteous in relations with his colleagues. He died greatly respected by his scientific colleagues for his qualities of mind and character, and immensely loved as a husband and father by his grieving family.”

– Kenneth Whitham, Proceedings of the Royal Society of Canada

## Notes

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## Access Points

Beals, Annie F.N.,

Beals, Phillip Sydney, 1888-1917

Beals, Helen Dorothy, 1898-1991

Beals, Carlyle Smith, 1899-1979

World War One

First World War

astronomy