

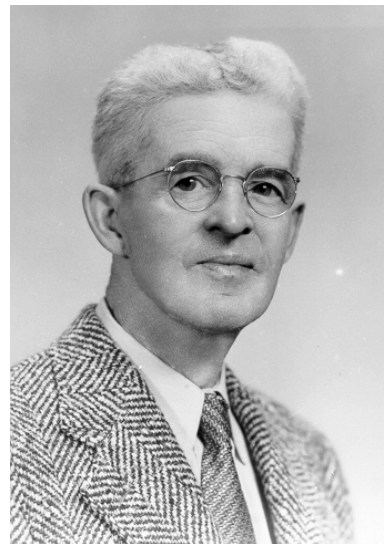
Professor John Moncrief Turnbull

John Moncrief "Jake" Turnbull was born in Montreal in 1877. He graduated from McGill University in 1897 and soon after came to British Columbia as a mining engineer. In 1915 he was asked by UBC President F.F. Wesbrook to advise the University on the establishment of a mining education program.



He was offered the post of Head of the Mining Department and in accepting became the second appointment to the University faculty. From that date until 1945 when he retired, Turnbull headed the Department of Mining and Metallurgy in the Faculty of Applied Science. He was a member of Senate for sixteen years, the first twelve of which were from 1915 to 1927.

Turnbull was active in his emeritus years, frequently coming to campus to give special lectures. His last visit to campus was in 1979, when at the age of 101 he lectured on the mining industry in British Columbia at the turn of the century. With Turnbull's death in 1982, the University lost the last of its original faculty members, the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy its oldest member, the Association of Professional Engineers of British Columbia its registrant number five.



As a distinguished Canadian who played a major role in developing the mining industry of British Columbia, who was responsible for guiding the education of Mining and Metallurgy students for a whole generation, John Turnbull will long be recognized as an outstanding figure in the history of the Province and the University.

(From Senate Tributes Committee - "Memorial Minute" (January 20, 1982)

Fonds consists primarily of undated course notes (metal mining, coal and placer mining, mining machinery and mine surveying); printed material; blueprints; and, photographic images. The photographs include class portraits from the Mining Short Courses (1917-1920) and the glass plate negatives include images of the mining industry from around the province in the early 1920s.