

# Joshua N Haldeman, DC: the Canadian Years, 1926-1950

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*Born in 1902 to the earliest chiropractor known to practice in Canada, Joshua Norman Haldeman would develop national and international stature as a political economist, provincial and national professional leader, and sportsman/adventurer. A 1926 graduate of the Palmer School of Chiropractic, he would maintain a lifelong friendship with B.J. Palmer, and served in the late 1940s as Canada's representative to the Board of Control of the International Chiropractors' Association. Yet, he would also maintain strong alliances with broad-scope leaders in Canada and the United States, including the administrators of the National and Lincoln chiropractic schools. Haldeman, who would practice chiropractic in Regina for at least 15 years, was instrumental in obtaining, and is credited with composing the wording of, Saskatchewan's 1943 Chiropractic Act. He served on the province's first board of examiners and the provincial society's first executive board. The following year Dr. Haldeman represented Saskatchewan in the deliberations organized by Walter Sturdy, D.C. that gave rise to the Dominion Council of Canadian Chiropractors, forerunner of today's Canadian Chiropractic Association. As a member of the Dominion Council he fought for inclusion of chiropractors as commissioned officers during World War II, and participated in the formation of the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College, which he subsequently served as a member of the first board of directors. Dr. Haldeman also earned a place in the political history of Canada, owing to his service as research director for Technocracy, Inc. of Canada, his national chairmanship of the Social Credit Party during the second world war, and his unsuccessful bid for the national parliament. His vocal opposition to Communism during the war briefly landed him in jail. His 1950 relocation of his family and practice to Pretoria, South Africa would open a new page in his career: once again as professional pioneer, but also as aviator and explorer. Although he died in 1974, the values he instilled in his son, Scott Haldeman, D.C., Ph.D., M.D. continue to influence the profession. (JCCA 1995; 39(3):172-186)*

KEY WORDS: chiropractic, manipulation, Canada.

*Fils du premier chiropraticien connu au Canada, Joshua Haldeman est connu mondialement pour ses qualités de politicien économique, à l'échelle nationale pour son apport à la profession ainsi que pour son amour du plein-air et de l'aventure. Né en 1902 et diplômé du Collège Chiropratique Palmer en 1926, il se lie d'une amitié durable avec B.J. Palmer. Il fut le représentant canadien au conseil de réglementation de l'association internationale vers la fin des années 1940. Durant cette même période, il entretient aussi de très bonnes relations avec les dirigeants chiropratiques au Canada et aux États-Unis, dont les administrateurs des Collèges Lincoln et National. Le Docteur Haldeman, qui exerça pendant au moins quinze ans à Régina, fut aussi l'instigateur de l'adoption de la loi sur la chiropratique de Saskatchewan en 1945. On lui attribue même le contenu de cette loi. En chiropratique à l'échelle provinciale, il servit sur le premier comité d'examen et sur le premier conseil d'administration. L'année suivante, le Docteur Walter Sturdy, chiropraticien, organisa des réunions qui menèrent à la formation du Conseil chiropratique Canada Dominion, précurseur de l'Association chiropratique canadienne actuelle. Le Docteur Haldeman y participa en tant que représentant de la Saskatchewan. Étant membre du Conseil Canadien, il mit beaucoup d'énergie pour que les chiropraticiens soient reconnus comme officiers durant la deuxième guerre mondiale, puis à la formation du Collège chiropratique canadien (CMCC) où il siégea au premier conseil d'administration. Le Docteur Haldeman marqua aussi l'histoire politique du Canada grâce à son poste de directeur de recherche chez Technocracy Inc., à sa présidence nationale du parti Crédit Social et à son infructueuse tentative de se faire élire à Ottawa. Durant la guerre, son opposition au communisme lui valut aussi un court séjour en prison. En 1950, sa vie familiale et professionnelle prirent un nouveau tournant alors qu'ils déménagèrent à Prétoria, en Afrique du Sud. Là aussi, il fut pionnier de la chiropratique, mais aussi aviateur et explorateur. Malgré sa mort en 1974, ses valeurs continuent d'influencer la profession, tout particulièrement grâce à son fils Scott Haldeman, D.C. PhD. MD.*

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MOTS-CLÉS : chiropratique, manipulation, Canada

### The early years

Joshua Norman Haldeman was born in a log cabin in Pequot, Minnesota on November 25, 1902 to John Elon Haldeman and Almeda Jane (Norman) Haldeman.<sup>1</sup> His father developed diabetes when Joshua was age two, and was given no more than six months to live. The benefit that the senior Haldeman apparently received from chiropractic care enabled him to survive for several years. Nurse-schoolteacher Almeda Haldeman elected to study chiropractic in order to care for her husband, and earned her DC degree from E.W. Lynch, D.C.'s Chiropractic School and Cure in Minneapolis on January 20, 1905.<sup>2</sup> The family relocated to Herbert, Saskatchewan in 1906 or 1907, and Dr. Almeda Haldeman seems to be the earliest chiropractor known to practice in Canada.

Life on the prairie was very hard in those days, and tragedy was no stranger. Joshua's father died on August 9, 1909, and on March 2, 1915 Almeda married Mr. Heseltine Wilson, described as a "Yorkshire Englishman," who taught school, developed a very large farm and served as "Reeve of Excelsior Municipality" for over three decades.<sup>3</sup> Mrs. Haldeman-Wilson established a restaurant, and later attended the Normal School in Moose Jaw. She then taught the first classes in the Donnellyville School Division in 1910. Young Joshua Haldeman was raised on his step-father's "stock farm," and was always active in athletics, including bronco horseback riding, "boxing, wrestling, [and] exhibition rope spinning" (see Figure 1).<sup>3</sup> Joshua developed considerable self-reliance. He noted in later years that he had attended nine colleges and universities; he presumably included in this list the many postgraduate programs he would attend at several chiropractic schools (see Table 1). Relatively little is known of his pre-college studies, but they did include attendance at schools in Donnellyville, Spenst, Waldeck and Swift Current. With two teachers as parents, it is likely that he received a well rounded educational experience. At various times he later studied at Moose Jaw College, Regina College, Winnipeg Agricultural College and the University of Chicago,<sup>4,5</sup> but apparently did not earn an academic degree.

Josh grew up in a chiropractic home where medicine was all but non-existent, and healthy living was the norm. In an autobiographical sketch<sup>1</sup> he reported that:

During his college years the author's eyes failed him several times and he could get no relief except through Chiropractic, so he attended the Palmer School from 1922-1926. While obtaining his professional training his eye trouble cleared up so that even with intensive studying he did not require the use of glasses or other aids for over twenty years.

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**Figure 1** Joshua Haldeman spinning rope circa 1926 (Haldeman papers).

Haldeman commenced his chiropractic studies in Davenport, Iowa<sup>1</sup> during one of the Palmer School of Chiropractic's (PSC's) most turbulent periods. In the early 1920s B.J. Palmer had already antagonized a significant portion of the profession with his attempts to enforce straight standards of education, practice and legislation through the vehicle of the protective association he had co-founded in 1906, the Universal Chiropractors' Association.<sup>6</sup> When Palmer unveiled the neuro-calometer (NCM) and his 10-year, \$2,200 leasing plan for the heat-sensing, subluxation-detecting instrument,<sup>7</sup> many of his stalwart supporters fell away. Joshua Haldeman, D.C., however, would remain a lifelong Palmer supporter, and in his practice always made use of his NCM. However, he also maintained his ties with his major professors at the PSC, who formed the Lincoln Chiropractic College in Indianapolis in 1926,<sup>8</sup> the year that Haldeman earned his doctorate. Haldeman also established friendships with several prominent osteopaths, including J.V. McManis, D.O.,<sup>9</sup> inventor of the McManis table, and H.G. Swanson, A.M., D.O.,<sup>10</sup> Dean of the Kirksville College of Osteopathy and Surgery in Missouri.

The young chiropractor apparently engaged in regular clini-

**Table 1**  
**Joshua N. Haldeman, D.C.'s**  
**professional and educational credits, as of 1950\***

Member of the Executive Board of the Saskatchewan Chiropractors' Association, set up by an Act of the Saskatchewan Legislature, 1943.  
Member of the Examining Board of the Saskatchewan Chiropractors' Association, 1943–1950.  
Director of the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College, Toronto, 1944–1950, one of the original sponsors.  
Saskatchewan representative on the Dominion Council of the Canadian Chiropractors' Association, 1942–1950.  
Vice-President of the Dominion Council, Canadian Chiropractors' Association, 1947.  
Canadian representative on the Board of Control of the International Chiropractors' Association, 1948–1950.  
Holds a license to practice in Saskatchewan under the Chiropractic Act.

*Has the following diplomas and certificates:*

1. Diploma – Palmer School of Chiropractic, Davenport, Iowa  
Degree – Doctor of Chiropractic, 1926.
2. Diploma – X-ray and Spinography, P.S.C., 1926.
3. Certificate – St. John's Ambulance, First Aid, 1927.
4. Post Graduate Certificate, P.S.C., 1935.
5. Post Graduate Certificate, National College of Chiropractic, Chicago, Illinois, 1935.
6. Post Graduate Certificate, National College of Chiropractic, Indianapolis, Indiana, 1936.
7. Post Graduate Certificate, P.S.C., 1937.
8. Post Graduate Certificate, N.C.C., 1938.
9. Post Graduate Certificate, P.S.C., 1938.
10. Certificate of Competency in Use of X-rays – Saskatchewan Chiropractors' Association, 1943.
11. Post Graduate Certificate, Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College, Toronto, Ontario, 1947.
12. Post Graduate Certificate, P.S.C., 1949.

\*from Haldeman (1950)

cal practice for only a few years following his graduation from the PSC, and then returned to farming in the Waldeck, Lienan and Ardill-Vantage areas for the next six years.<sup>5</sup> Since he sought licensure in Iowa,<sup>11</sup> he may have considered a return to the United States. In the dust bowl conditions of the 1920s and 1930s farming was difficult, and with the economic depression of the period Haldeman lost his farm when he was unable to maintain payments on equipment purchased on credit extended by local banks during more favorable times. He would remain leery of financial institutions and other bureaucracies throughout his life, a sentiment which would shape his political philosophy. He followed his family's lead and became active in

various "cooperative and farm movements",<sup>3</sup> including the Saskatchewan Farmer's Political Association and the United Farmers of Canada-Saskatchewan Section, Ltd. On December 28, 1927 Haldeman married Eve Peters. On December 12, 1934 the first Mrs. J.N. Haldeman would give birth to a son, Joshua Jerry Noel Haldeman, who later owned and operated his own local airline company. However, the marriage did not survive the financial difficulties of the depression and Joshua's intense political commitment, and the couple had separated by 1937.

Following loss of the farm circa 1934, Joshua worked at various jobs, including that of construction worker, cowboy and rodeo performer. A biographical sketch provided during his bid for the federal parliament in 1945 described a "Colorful Life":

He has traveled extensively in Canada; and during the depression by freight and passenger coal tender from Vancouver to Halifax.

He has lived with the homesteaders in the bush country, trappers in the lower Peace River, farmed in the heart of the dust bowl when it was 100% on relief, been a stowaway on an ocean-going boat, and lived in the hobo jungles outside of most of the cities of Canada.<sup>3</sup>

By the early 1930s Joshua Haldeman was settled once again in Saskatchewan, where he directed a "Research and Open Forum Debating Society" on political science and economics. During 1934–36, he located in Assiniboia<sup>12</sup> and served as chairman of the Assiniboia Federal Constituency for "the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation, which later became the Government of Saskatchewan".<sup>13, p.323</sup> In this period also he established a chiropractic office, first in Assiniboia during 1935–36, and then in Regina from 1936 to 1950.<sup>3,12</sup> In July and August 1935 Haldeman returned to the United States for post-graduate coursework at the National College of Chiropractic in Chicago and then at his alma mater. Although he was always a Palmer-straight chiropractor, he prided himself in maintaining a thorough knowledge of broad-scope chiropractic. His studies at National included "Principles and Practice of Chiropractic, Unitary Technique, Physio-Therapy, Colonic Therapy, Dissection, Laboratory Diagnosis, Physical Diagnosis, Gynecology, Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat, X-Ray and First Aid and Minor Surgery". In a one page letter to his patients in 1938, Haldeman related "NEWS CONCERNING MY TRIP THIS SUMMER":

In your interest it has always been my policy in practice to keep myself up to date and thoroughly acquainted with any new developments. With this purpose in mind, I attended the National Chiropractic Association convention in Toronto, the National College of Chiropractic in Chicago, and the Palmer School of Chiropractic in Davenport, Iowa.

The National Chiropractic Association, which is the largest organization of drugless practitioners in the world, held its convention this year in the Royal York Hotel, Toronto. The twelve hundred

delegates in attendance considered this to be one of their most successful meetings. Addresses were delivered by outstanding men in the profession. Faculty members from many of our leading schools taking part. Dr. Steinbach, Dean of the Universal College of Chiropractic at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, gave a report of their research in the field of body imbalance. In careful examinations on ten thousand people, they found that over forty percent had an anatomical short leg which made good body balance impossible, and often affected the individual's health. Dr. Dintenfass, Editor of *Science Sidelights*, gave the results of his investigation of Chiropractic in Infantile Paralysis cases. He had found that Chiropractors were obtaining complete recoveries in 76% of those that came to them in the early stages of this disease, and that some improvement was made in nearly every case. In spite of the outstanding results by Chiropractors in Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis (Infantile Paralysis), he gave the reasons why governmental agencies did not employ them. During the week, a trip was made to Port Perry, the birthplace of D.D. Palmer, the discoverer of Chiropractic. In conjunction with the village of Port Perry, the Chiropractors dedicated a park in honor of this great man.<sup>14</sup>

At this same 1938 convention in Toronto, Dr. Haldeman was awarded a certificate of membership in the National Chiropractic Association's (NCA's) National Council of Chiropractic Roentgenologists. In addition to the visit to D.D. Palmer's hometown of Port Perry, the conventioners also visited Niagara Falls (See Figure 2).

#### Depression-era political activist

During 1936–1941 J.N. Haldeman became involved with Technocracy, Inc., an international political group which advocated economic reform through changes in the monetary system. The young chiropractor became leader of the Canadian branch of Technocracy, in which capacity he functioned as Director of Research and as an "Authorized Instructor"; the program of instruction was considered equivalent to university training.<sup>4</sup> He apparently ran afoul of the authorities, as evidenced by the following signed statement from a Police Magistrate's Clerk:

The following is a true copy of the advertisement appearing in the Leader-Post, Regina, Wednesday, June 26, 1940, out of which the three charges against Joshua Norman Haldeman arose:

#### "STATEMENT OF PATRIOTISM BY THOSE WHO WERE TECHNOCRATS

"The political Government of Canada by Order-in-Council has declared Technocracy Inc. to be an illegal organization. This action was unjustified and unwarranted and can be classified as a tactical, political blunder. Technocracy Inc. from its inception has been unequivocally opposed to Nazism, Fascism, and Communism. On Sept. 5 1939, Technocrats all over Canada wired Prime Minister Mackenzie King that they stood ready to defend Canada from any alien attack. Following the issue of Technocracy's General Regulations on Home Defence on June 1, which was published in most

newspapers, Technocrats all over Canada contacted the R.C.M.P., the city police, and the military authorities offering their services in any capacity required for the Defence of Canada.

Those who were members of Technocracy Inc. as loyal Canadian citizens will continue to render full support to the defence program of the Dominion of Canada.

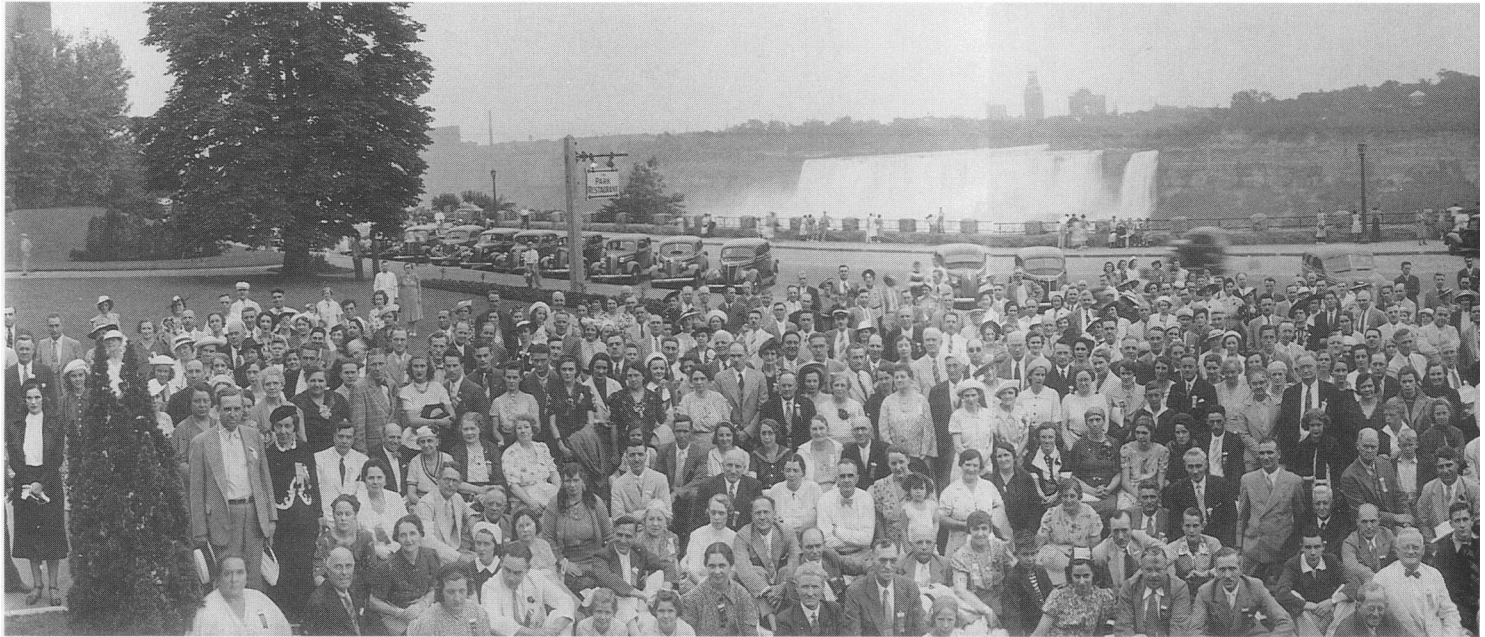
Technocracy Inc. was the outstanding patriotic organization in Canada, therefore those who were its members must view the present action of the political government as an attempt at subversive sabotage of a national patriotic organization, unless this action is immediately rescinded."

At this time, Haldeman may have toyed with the idea of returning to the country of his birth, as suggested by a letter from John F.L. Hughes, D.C. of Vancouver to the American Vice-Consul in British Columbia. The letter attested to the Saskatchewan chiropractor's education, character and likelihood of Dr. Haldeman's success in practice "in any place he judges to be a promising location".<sup>15</sup> However, nothing more seems to have come of it. Haldeman resigned from Technocracy, Inc. sometime in 1941, when its New York-based central office changed its policies from "unequivocally opposed to Communism, Fascism, Nazism and Socialism" to "complete economic and military collaboration with Soviet Russia" following Hitler's invasion of the USSR.<sup>4</sup> Always a man of strong convictions and principles, Joshua Haldeman could find no justification for any alliance with Stalin's godless dictatorship.

For a brief period (1941–1943) the iconoclastic chiropractor sought to establish his own political party within Saskatchewan, and to this end published a regular newsletter, *Total War & Defence*. This effort was less successful than hoped for,<sup>12</sup> and Dr. Haldeman redirected his loyalties to the Social Credit Party (SCP). The SCP had been in power in Alberta for several years, and was seeking to expand its influence in Saskatchewan. It would be recalled that Haldeman had been "a member of the original Douglas Social Credit League".<sup>3</sup> In 1944 he served as Provincial Co-ordinator of the Saskatchewan Social Credit League, and by May, 1945 was the Vice-President and Provincial Secretary of the party, at which time he ran unsuccessfully as the Social Credit Candidate For Prince Albert Federal Constituency.<sup>3</sup> The *Canadian Social Crediter* of Edmonton, Alberta (see Figure 3) suggested of Dr. Haldeman that:

Your Social Credit Candidate did not have to read about the deplorable conditions that have existed in Canada nor observe them from his private car; he actually lived under and experienced these conditions and vowed that he would spend the rest of his life with the main purpose in mind of correcting their causes. He has never wavered from that purpose ... He is entering the campaign with the sole purpose of carrying on the fight for the people of Canada for maximum freedom and maximum security in accordance with the Christian concept of life.<sup>3</sup>

Although not elected to public office, Haldeman would stay



**Figure 2** The annual convention of the National Chiropractic Association was held in Toronto in 1938. The conventioners made two side trips, one to Port Perry, and the other, depicted here, to Niagara Falls. The arrow indicates Joshua Haldeman, D.C.'s location in the group; photo from the collection of C.O. Watkins, D.C.

active in the Social Credit Association on the provincial and national levels until his departure for South Africa in 1950. It was recalled that he directed economic research for the national organization.<sup>4</sup> The International Chiropractors' Association's (ICA's) *International Review of Chiropractic* noted Dr. Haldeman's position as "Chairman of the National Council of the Canadian Social Credit Association" in its September, 1948 issue.

### Chiropractic politician

The war years also saw an intensification of Haldeman's activities on behalf of organized chiropractic in Saskatchewan and the nation. Chiropractors in the province had begun to organize as early as 1915, when a Chiropractic Association of Saskatchewan was organized at a meeting in Moose Jaw.<sup>16</sup> Efforts to obtain a licensing law in the province can be traced at least to 1917, when an apparently short-lived legislative recognition provided some degree of legal protection from prosecution for the province's few DCs.<sup>17</sup> A Drugless Practitioners' Act was passed in Saskatchewan circa 1929, which was recalled as "a complete fizzle but did protect the Chiropractors and Osteopaths from prosecution" for a time, but resulted in much contentiousness among the chiropractors, naturopaths and osteopaths in the province.<sup>18</sup>

By the middle of the Second World War and with some 30–43 chiropractors in practice in the province,<sup>19-21a</sup> Haldeman and others sought a chiropractic law. His colleagues in this effort included A.W. Johnstone, D.C. and J.J. Bramham, D.C. of Regina, and Cecil J. L'Amis, D.C.<sup>13,p.288</sup> and F.E. Roluf, D.C. from Saskatoon.<sup>21b</sup> A "vigorous campaign" to establish a chiropractic law ensued.<sup>18</sup> The PSC's monthly journal, *The Chiropractor*, mentioned Dr. Haldeman's regular Wednesday afternoon chiropractic talks over radio station CKCK in Regina,<sup>22</sup> which were presumably part of this campaign to promote the political cause of the profession. He is credited

with drafting the wording of the act approved by the provincial government in 1943,<sup>4</sup> although attorney John S. Burton of British Columbia also claimed credit for drafting the law, getting it through the provincial government and for organizing the Saskatchewan Association.<sup>23</sup> Josh Haldeman claimed only that he had "assisted" in obtaining the Saskatchewan Chiropractic Act.<sup>5</sup> He was appointed to the first Examining Board and the first Executive Board of the resulting Saskatchewan Chiropractors' Association, where he served until 1950.<sup>1</sup>

Joshua Haldeman also participated in the creation of the Dominion Council of Canadian Chiropractors (DCCC; forerunner of the Canadian Chiropractic Association). Formation of this national body is generally credited to 1919 Palmer graduate Walter T. Sturdy, D.C. of British Columbia,<sup>21a</sup> although Herbert K. Lee, D.C., an early observer of and soon-to-be participant in these deliberations, recalls that the activities of John S. Clubine, D.C. of Ontario and others were no less instrumental in the DCCC's formation.<sup>24</sup> McNeil<sup>25,pp.24-7</sup> has recorded that the campaign to create the DCCC began with the efforts of John S. Burton, legal counsel for the British Columbia Chiropractors Association (BCCA), who in 1942:

... wrote the other provinces suggesting the formation of a Dominion Chiropractic Association and the response he received was most encouraging and enthusiastic. On September 30th, 1942 the B.C. Board went on record as adopting the form of Constitution submitted by Mr. Burton as a basis to negotiate with the other provinces before a definite and approved Constitution could be adopted.

As Saskatchewan's representative, Haldeman attended the inaugural meeting of the DCCC in Ottawa on January 10–11, 1943 (see Figure 4), along with BCCA past-president Walter T. Sturdy, D.C. and attorney Burton, John S. Clubine, D.C. of



Toronto, Jean M. Gaudet, D.C. of Montreal, F.B. McElrea, D.C. of Winnipeg, C.E. Messenger, D.C. of Calgary, John A. Schnick, D.C. of Hamilton, Ontario, and F.L. Wallace, DC. of Halifax.<sup>26,27</sup> Herbert K. Lee, D.C. credits Sturdy and Clubine as “the driving forces behind the creation of this national organization,” of which the primary goal was “to gain inclusion in Medicare, a national health scheme about to be introduced in Parliament”.<sup>28</sup> There would be additional motivations for the formation of the Council.

In March, 1943 Haldeman accompanied Sturdy and a delegation from the DCCC who met with military authorities to seek commissions for chiropractors in the armed forces; his discouraging report was published in the NCA’s *Journal*:

**CANADIAN ARMY SAYS NO CHIROS**

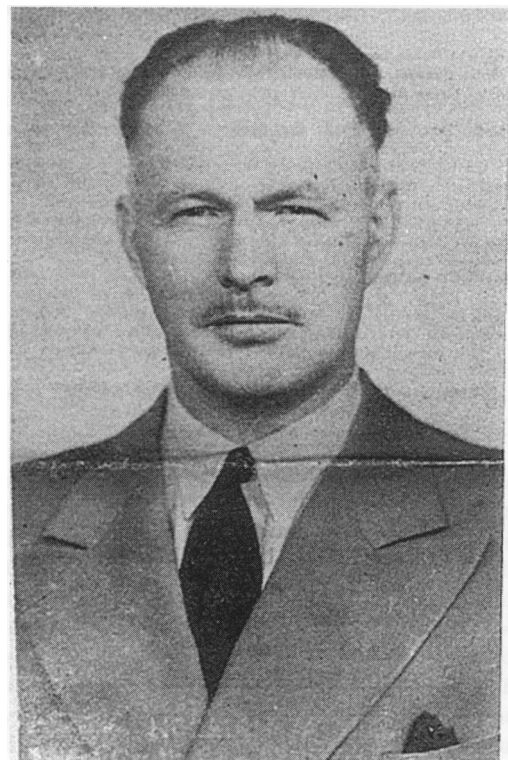
Canadian army authorities are not sympathetic towards the granting of Chiropractic attention to the armed services, according to Dr. J.N. Haldeman, Regina, who returned recently from Ottawa, where he had attended the first annual meeting of the Dominion Council of Canadian Chiropractors.

A delegation headed by Dr. Walter Sturdy, Vancouver, conferred with Hon. J.L. Ralston, minister of national defense, and Brigadier Meakins, assistant director general of medical services. Following the interview, Dr. Haldeman said Dr. Sturdy and his delegation reported that “chiropractors could not hope to be better than orderlies under the military medical organization.”

**Hardly Recognized**

Brig. Meakins told the delegation, Dr. Haldeman said, that in the South African war, even dentists were hardly recognized, but that in the last war they made a large contribution, which was followed by the formation of a dental corps in this war.

The idea was conveyed that in the next war chiropractors may have a separate classification, Dr. Haldeman said in his report on the interview with the brigadier and Col. Ralston.



**DR. JOSHUA N. HALDEMAN,**  
Social Credit Candidate  
For Prince Albert Federal Constituency

*Make This Man Your Representative  
In the Next Parliament*

**Figure 3** Cover of the *The Canadian Social Crediter* for May, 1945 depicts Joshua N. Haldeman, D.C., candidate for the federal Parliament (Haldeman papers).



**Figure 4** Photo taken on January 11, 1943 in Ottawa; from the *National Chiropractic Journal* 1943 (March); 12(3):27; original caption read: "Pictured above are Directors of the recently organized Dominion Chiropractic council, representing all Provinces in Canada. (Left to Right) Dr. Gaudet, Montreal; Dr. Haldeman, Regina; J.S. Burton, Vancouver; Dr. J.A. Schnick, Hamilton; Dr. Sturdy, Vancouver; Dr. J.S. Clubine, Toronto; Dr. McElrea, Winnipeg; Dr. Messenger, Calgary"; courtesy of the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College.

Dr. Haldeman said the chiropractors were despondent because this feeling on the part of military authorities would not allow them to enter the army in the post to which they were best suited. Instead, they had to enlist as combatants. This was particularly disappointing, the chiropractors stated, because the Dominion is short 300 doctors.

In Russia, it was pointed out, chiropractors and medical doctors are placed on a par.<sup>26</sup>

The DCCC's formation of the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College (CMCC) appears to have been an afterthought. Burton, who was Dr. Sturdy's son-in-law, would recall in later years that:

It is well known that the Canadian Chiropractic Association, and the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College, owe their joint organization to his wisdom. It was in October, 1943, that Dr. Sturdy roused from their lethargy, the leaders of the profession from British Columbia to Quebec, and in the space of four or five days, on October 10, 1943, all met under his leadership in Ottawa.

After two days of intensive conferences, the Chiropractors of Canada emerged with a newborn National Organization and consciousness. From this has stemmed, in large part, the unity, outlook, and purpose of Canadian Chiropractic as we now know it.

After long hours of strenuous meetings, Dr. Sturdy awakened me at 6:00 o'clock on the final morning with the startling announcement that we must start a college in Canada, and without delay. Now without delay means, in Dr. Sturdy's language, a matter of hours, and while I attempted to catch up on long lost sleep I was forced to listen for one hour or more while Dr. Sturdy outlined his plans for a future college.

Even at this moment, the profession of Chiropractic, as a Canadian Institution, had barely opened its sleepy eyes. This was typical of Dr. Sturdy. Those present at this historic occasion caught the vision and worked with all their might towards the fulfillment of Dr. Sturdy's dream. For the most part, the profession was behind

him but there were those, even in high places, who disagreed with the whole scheme and thought that a college such as Dr. Sturdy planned was an impossibility...<sup>25, pp. 179-90</sup>

Haldeman served with Drs. Clubine and Gaudet on the first committee established by the DCCC to look into the creation of a Canadian school.<sup>20</sup> Kennedy<sup>29</sup> has noted that a delegation comprised of Drs. Sturdy, Messenger, McElrea and Haldeman "impressed the importance of founding a Canadian College at the Ontario Convention of 1943." The creation of a college was contentious, and disputes arose within the DCCC over the scope and length of the curriculum, the non-profit status of the institution, and the degree of control which the national organization should exert over the school. Haldeman expressed his views to the other members of the Council in a letter on January 20, 1944:

One of the solutions to Chiropractic problems would have been for every Chiropractor to have taken post graduate courses in colleges teaching opposing lines of thought. I have done so, and more than once, which gives me an advantage in seeing both sides.

I was unaware that anything happened at the convention last Fall that should produce any bad repercussions. Circular letters from Dr. Mullin and Dr. Clubine indicate the continuance of some friction over the set-up of the proposed college and also the matter of definitions. In Saskatchewan we have the same definition of Chiropractic as Ontario and we have had no particular fault to find with it although no doubt, it could be improved. The definition to be adopted by the Dominion Organization had better be left to the next Board meeting where it can be threshed out and decided by a majority vote.

In regard to the college – our troubles there can also be smoothed out quite easily if things are considered in their proper sphere. The control of the aim and policy of the college must be under the Dominion Council with a view to the best interests of Chiropractic and the public. Dr. Sturdy as president must set this out.

My views as stated in a previous letter include the teaching of Chiropractic in the broadest sense including diagnosis and laboratory work but that the teaching of any therapeutic method other than Chiropractic can not be our present concern. Our future recognition will lie in our ability to show that we can render an essential and special service which no one else can render and for which we are especially qualified. All members of the Board have equal right to express their views but should abide by the decision of the Board.

Dr. Clubine was selected as president of the school. He is especially qualified for this position. He, with the College Board, which for reasons of convenience should reside in Toronto, will be charged with the responsibility of administering the school in accordance with the policy and objectives as outlined by the Dominion Council of which, of course, Dr. Clubine is also a member. The school board is charged with the responsibility of getting the school started by September 1st and graduating a maximum number of Chiropractors until the Chiropractic field has been adequately covered. The methods used by the school board are their own concern and a school board should not be interfered with by the Dominion Council as long as they are carrying out the policy that has been laid down and are achieving results.

Dr. Clubine in his letter did not appear to think that there was sufficient work to keep students occupied for four years of eight months. If the school teaches all the Chiropractic technics that are taught in other schools as efficiently as they are taught in other schools; diagnosis and laboratory work and basic sciences as well as they are taught in the medical schools; there would be plenty of scope to keep students occupied. There is plenty of scope in Chiropractic to insure its future if it is properly covered.

The laws in the Provinces do not permit Chiropractors to practice Medicine. The Ontario law states:

"4. Nothing in this Act or the regulations shall authorize any person not being so expressly authorized under a general or special Act of this Legislature to prescribe or administer drugs for use internally or externally or to use or direct or prescribe the use of anesthetics for any purpose whatsoever or to practise surgery or midwifery."

Under the Drugless Practitioners Act in Ontario, Chiropractors as well as all other practitioners are licensed under this Act. This Act was forced on the Chiropractors over their opposition and desire for a separate act in the early days. A similar act under similar conditions was also introduced in Saskatchewan. I can find nothing in the Ontario Act or regulations that requires that a Chiropractor be trained as anything other than Chiropractor.

There is no disagreement over the matter of a Chiropractic College teaching Chiropractic. The difficulty apparently arises over things that are not Chiropractic and if it is not Chiropractic then it is really not the concern of the Dominion Council. The individual Chiropractor can practice anything else that he is trained and registered to practice. This is his business.

If students wish to take physio-therapy or medicine, facilities are available or would be available for this work, outside the school. But the school itself must be a Chiropractic school. The main thing at present is to get the school started. The problems that are now

being discussed with some heat would not arise for the first three years of the school's operation. In that time, who knows but conditions and outlook may change.

Without permitting any one school of thought to dominate another it would appear that the only basis for satisfactory agreement would be the teaching of Chiropractic in its broadest sense, but only Chiropractic. I have personally gone to a lot of trouble to get this point clarified. If there is any further difficulty then the only thing is an open and frank discussion. There is no avoiding differences. Dr. Sturdy should immediately go to the source of difficulty and get it straightened out.<sup>30</sup>

At a "special meeting" of the DCCC held at the Royal York Hotel in Toronto during the first week of March, 1944, several of the details of the College were ironed out. It was agreed that a curriculum of 4 years of 8 months each would be taught, and that initially physiotherapy would not be included in the regular curriculum. However, to accommodate the chiropractors of Ontario, who were licensed under a naturopathic/drugless healer act, the group unanimously approved a four-month post-graduate program in physiotherapy that would be offered to enable graduates to qualify for practice in that province.<sup>31</sup> Haldeman continued to press for control of the college by the Dominion Council, but Drs. Sturdy and Clubine insisted that "if the Council runs the College it will ruin it".<sup>31</sup> John A. Schnick, D.C. of Ontario, who had served as president of the Iowa-based NCA during 1940, emphasized the importance of non-profit status in order that the school be able to accept endowments.

At Dominion Council's October, 1944 meeting in Toronto, Dr. Haldeman continued to press for a strictly chiropractic course, without instruction in physiotherapeutic modalities.<sup>32</sup> Yet when C.E. Messenger read a reply to the telegram he had sent to B.J. Palmer requesting Palmer to influence Dr. Sturdy to insist upon a straight chiropractic curriculum, Haldeman vigorously objected to any "influence from the United States in running Chiropractic affairs in Canada." His reasoning on the matter of straight chiropractic instruction seemingly was not linked to his personal loyalty to B.J. Haldeman specifically noted his belief that any chiropractor or student should be free to study and use physiotherapeutic methods, but he did not wish to see such topics taught in the proposed institution. A vigorous debate ensued, in which Haldeman emphasized that straight chiropractors would not support a school which taught physiotherapy, and Clubine called upon the members of the Council to vote upon the question: "Are you in favor of the college teaching a course of Chiropractic only? It would mean a four years of months and Ontario students having to take their physio therapy elsewhere".<sup>32</sup> With Walter Sturdy abstaining as president, the western provinces could garner only three votes: Haldeman of Saskatchewan, Dr. Messenger of Alberta, and McElrea of Manitoba. The issue was settled in favor of the broad-scope curriculum by Clubine and Schick of Ontario, Gaudet of Quebec, and F.L. Wallace, D.C. of Nova Scotia.



Haldeman agreed to abide by the majority vote.

Brown<sup>28</sup> has reported that the DCCC “formed a separate body under the Corporations Act of the Province of Ontario, called the Canadian Association of Chiropractors, which later became the charter of CMCC,” and that “the first meeting of the Directors of this College Association” was held on January 3, 1945. Joshua Haldeman was appointed to this first board of governors,<sup>1</sup> and served until 1950 (see Figures 5 and 6 and Table 2a). The CMCC opened for enrollment on September 7,<sup>33</sup> and classes began on September 18, 1945. John J. Nugent, D.C., Director of Education for the NCA, offered the following in the *National Chiropractic Journal*:

A vigorous campaign to raise \$100,000 was initiated and the profession’s response was immediate and generous. The greater part of this sum is now raised and the balance will shortly be forthcoming. A \$50,000 building has been purchased in the heart of the University of Toronto district, and teaching equipment, school, dormitory and office furniture have been bought and paid for.

The school will operate as a non-profit, professionally owned institution under a charter obtained from the Ontario government, and under the direction of a Board of Directors elected by the Canadian Association of Chiropractors, Inc. The Board of Directors will appoint a Board of Governors, consisting of prominent chiropractors and laymen.

The course of study will consist of 4,200 to 4,600 hours over a period of four years of eight to nine months in each calendar year. The minimum entrance requirement is junior matriculation or its equivalent – high school graduation.

**Table 2a**  
**Members and Officers of the Board of Directors of the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College, 1947–1949\***

Walter T. Sturdy, D.C., <i>President</i>
S.F. Sommacal, D.C., <i>Vice-President</i>
Douglas Warden, D.C., <i>Secretary</i>
J.A. Henderson, D.C. <i>Registrar</i>
J.M. Anderson, D.C.
C.C. Clemmer, D.C.
John S. Clubine, D.C.
J.M. Gaudet, D.C.
Joshua N. Haldeman, D.C.
J.A. Hetherington, D.C.
H.A. Hill, D.C.
D.V. Hoskins, D.C.
F.B. McElrea, D.C.
C.E. Messenger, D.C.
F.L. Wallace
H.A. Yates, D.C.

\* from Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College, Catalogue for the Academic Year 1947–1948–1949

**Table 2b**  
**Faculty and Staff of the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College for 1947–1949\***

<i>Department of Chiropractic</i>
Rudy O. Muller, D.C., Ph.C., <i>Dean</i>
Herbert K. Lee, D.C., Ph.C.
James Ellison, D.C., Ph.C.
Richard S. Wynn, D.C., N.D.
Colin Greenshields, D.C.
<i>Department of Chemistry</i>
Major L.H. Colbeck, E.D., B.S.A., B.Paed. (Tor.), M.C.I.C., <i>Asst. Dean</i>
<i>Department of Histology and Embryology</i>
D.M. Allan B.S. (Pitt.), D.C.
<i>Department of Anatomy</i>
A. Earl Homewood, D.C., N.D., D.P.T.
<i>Department of Diagnosis and Pathology</i>
Crichton Alison, M.B., Ch.B. (Aberdeen)
<i>Department of Physiology</i>
A.L. Bailey, D.C., D.D.T.
<i>Department of Bacteriology and Public Health</i>
E.H. Grieg, B.A. (Queen’s)
<i>Clinical Laboratories</i>
Lynn Beazer
<i>Office Staff</i>
June Harris, <i>Secretary</i>
Cecile Conron, <i>Assistant</i>

\* from Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College, Catalogue for the Academic Year 1947–1948–1949.

The curriculum includes all of the basic science subjects and a thorough training in “straight” chiropractic. For those wishing to qualify under the Province of Ontario Drugless Theraputists Act, there will be a separate course in physiotherapy.

The tuition fee is \$300.00 per year....

The school has been accredited by the Department of Veterans Affairs and a number of Canadian veterans are enrolled.<sup>27</sup>

Although he never intruded upon the daily operations of the College, Haldeman’s strong opinions about school operations are reflected in the minutes of various executive meetings he attended in his multiple capacities as Saskatchewan’s representative to the Dominion Council and the College’s governing board. Attorney Burton’s notes for the Dominion Council’s annual meeting on September 16, 1946 indicate that:

Dr. Haldeman stressed the need of having instructors who have already made a success of their practice and that it would be a



**Figure 5** Photo depicting the members of the Board of Governors of the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College, 1946; standing (left to right): J.N. Haldeman of Saskatchewan, J.M. Gaudet of Quebec, R.O. Mueller (Dean), Douglas V. Hoskins of Ontario, F.B. McIlrea of Manitoba, John S. Clubine (President), Herbert A. Hill of Ontario; C.E. Messenger of Alberta, M. Anderson of Ontario and J.S. Burton, attorney; seated (left to right): J. Henderson (Registrar), Harry Yates of Ontario, Jack Heatherington of Ontario, Cecil Clemmer of Ontario, Samuel Sommacal of Ontario, Douglas Warden (Secretary) and Walter Sturdy (Vice-President); courtesy of the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College.



**Figure 6** Photo depicting convocation at the dedication ceremonies of the first campus of Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College at 252 Bloor Street, Toronto; seated second from the left in front is John A. Schnick, D.C., chiropractic leader from Ontario, and president of the National Chiropractic Association in 1940; Joshua N. Haldeman, D.C. is seated third from left in the front; courtesy of the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College.

handicap to the student body to have academic teachers only who had not made a success of their own practices and did not know the practical end of chiropractic.<sup>34</sup>

Haldeman's activities as Saskatchewan's representative to the DCCC culminated in his election on September 28, 1947 as Vice-President of the DCCC.<sup>1,35</sup> The following year, the national organization appointed him to serve as the society's representative to the ICA's Board of Control (see Figure 7).<sup>36</sup> Haldeman held this post until 1950, when a Canadian seat was made a permanent feature of the ICA Board.<sup>37,38</sup> However, the Dominion Council "made a critical political decision at its eighth annual meeting in Toronto in 1950",<sup>21,39</sup> and decided to discontinue affiliation with either of the two national professional associations in the United States.

Perhaps Dr. Haldeman's final major contribution to chiropractic in Canada was his 1949 role in replying to a Royal

Commission in Quebec which had investigated the profession preparatory to a decision to license chiropractors in that province. The ICA released the following:

August 29, 1949

The conclusions of Quebec's Royal commission to study the Chiropractic profession were labeled today an example of "either classic stupidity, willful misrepresentation of the facts, or both," by a spokesman for the International Chiropractors' Association.

Dr. J.N. Haldeman, Dominion council representative of the ICA said, "the dice were loaded against Chiropractic even before the commission began its so-called deliberations. It has even come to my attention that during the course of the hearings Magistrate Joseph Marier, head of the commission, regularly dined with the attorney representing the medical profession, which opposes the licensing of Chiropractors. This scandalous conduct is bound to give rise to certain embarrassing questions as to the real impartial-



**Figure 7** Photo from the *ICA International Review of Chiropractic* 1950 (March), p. 7; original caption read: "Intense concentration is evident during a candid camera study at the mid-year Board of Control meeting. Left to right: Roger E. Dunham, Public Relations Counsel; A.E. Lill, D.C., Belleville, Ill.; Walter O. Peterson, D.C. Pueblo, Colo.; J.N. Haldeman, D.C., Sask., Canada; E.S. Grandchamp, D.C., Holyoke, Mass.; Herbert R. Reaver, D.C., Third Vice-President, Cincinnati; George G. Rinier, General Counsel, Indianapolis, Ind.; Mary E. McDermott, Secretary-Treasurer; L.K. Griffin, D.C., Fort Worth; Elmer G. Green, D.C., Seattle; Walter Gingerich, D.C.,

Reseda, Calif; Charles Heiss, D.C., Fort Lauderdale, Fla.; R.W. Tyer, D.C., Jackson, Miss.; George P. Sheridan, Director Legislative Affairs, Tacoma, Wash.; G.M. O'Neil, D.C., O'Neil-Ross Chiropractic College, Fort Wayne, Ind.; and C.F. Aumann, D.C., Indianapolis, Ind.;" courtesy of the Los Angeles College of Chiropractic.

ity of the judgment given."

Dr. Haldeman was optimistic about the future, however, despite the commission's adverse decision. He said that experience has shown that despite "all attempts to stamp out Chiropractic, it has grown increasingly stronger, for the simple reason that it gets sick people well."

He also pointed to the fact that Chiropractic is licensed in five Canadian provinces and that the Chiropractic profession maintains a "grade A college in Toronto with 250 students, who must complete an intensive 4-year professional course before being graduated."

Quoting from the commission's report, Dr. Haldeman pointed out what he called the "hand of the medical profession" in the decision. He quoted the commission as saying, "Our province possesses institutions highly qualified to give medical teaching ... and there appears to be no valid reason for permitting the healing arts to be taught in schools infinitely less qualified and situated outside the province..."<sup>40</sup>

In the late 1940s Dr. Haldeman's multiple responsibilities, including his political activities for the Social Credit Association, his activism within the DCCC and his role as a member of the Board of Directors of the CMCC began to take a toll on his practice. In the autumn of 1949 he tendered his resignation as chairman of the national council of the Social Credit Party, which was not at first accepted.<sup>41</sup> Haldeman's responsibilities as the Dominion Council's representative to the ICA added two additional annual trips to Davenport, Iowa to the heavy travel demands he already faced, this in an era when train travel from Regina to Davenport took 48 hours one way, and commercial airline travel, owing to poor connections, required almost as long. Accordingly, at the age of 45 Dr. Haldeman began what would eventually become another career, when on July 16, 1947 he took his first lessons as a pilot. His license to fly was awarded on March 15, 1948, and he soon purchased the first of several single-engine aircraft.<sup>42</sup> In the short-term this new mobility greatly decreased the time away from his practice; the Davenport trek was reduced to 6-8 hours in the air. Speaking engagements within the province no longer detracted from his time with his patients.

However, flying became more than a mere convenience for the Haldeman family (see Figures 8). The "Flying Haldemans," parents and children, became celebrities at the PSC Home-

comings and ICA meetings, and were regularly featured in the society's journal. Among the happiest and proudest moments of Joshua Haldeman's life were the times spent at the annual Palmer convocations. He would recall these occasions in a book on flying authored by he and his wife, including one particularly memorable event, wherein he was invited to address those assembled at his alma mater on the subject of "Freedom";<sup>43</sup> the presentation took place on Monday, August 29, 1949:

When they [twins] were three months old, we flew with them down to Davenport, Iowa, to attend the Palmer Chiropractic Lyceum. Before leaving for Davenport, we went to Edmonton. I had a conference with Premier Ernest Manning. The nine-hundred-mile return flight to Edmonton had to be made occasionally, as I was organizing Saskatchewan and was Chairman of the National Council of the Social Credit Association of Canada. We depended on Premier Manning and Alberta for assistance. This was generously given and Bob Jorgenson, later Minister of Welfare, and Ernest Manning always gave me as much of their time as was needed when we visited them. Pictures of the "Flying Twins" were in the Edmonton papers and in Davenport, Iowa, papers in the one week.

The following year we flew to Davenport in the Bellanca. I was a guest speaker at the Palmer Lyceum before five thousand of my colleagues. On the same program was Bernard McFadden [Macfadden]. It was most interesting to meet a man who I had heard about all my life and whose magazines were always to be found in my living quarters.

Visiting the Palmer Lyceum is like a "pilgrimage to Mecca". Here, from the original school and the Fountainhead of Chiropractic, is disclosed the latest scientific developments in chiropractic. Chiropractic, having been discovered only in 1895 by Dr. D.D. Palmer, is in a state of continual development. One of the great sources of interest is Dr. B.J. Palmer's (son of the Founder) million dollar private clinic, where the most advanced types of modern medical equipment are used to prove actual body conditions, and the proof of the relief of these conditions by chiropractic only – "the scientific adjusting of a bone in the spine to relieve nerve pressure to restore health."

At a year old, the flying twins were certainly "cute" and attracted a lot of attention. They had their first television appearance in Davenport over WHO-WOC (see Figure 9). The radio artists coined the word "telegenic" for the twins.<sup>42,p.22</sup>



**Figure 8** At the 1949 Lyceum of the Palmer School of Chiropractic (PSC) the Haldemans are shown meeting with Leonard K. Griffin, D.C., member of the ICA Board of Control, and David D. Palmer, D.C., then Vice-President of the PSC. Left to right: Dr. Griffin, Wyn Haldeman, Dr. Haldeman and his twin daughters, Kay and Maye, and Dr. Palmer (Haldeman papers).

During their final years of residence in Canada the Haldeman family became “flying enthusiasts” and toured North America in their airplane.<sup>1</sup> Their book, *The Flying Haldemans: Pity the Poor Private Pilot*, recounts a variety of chiropractically-related trips, including visits with Leo Spears, D.C. at the latter’s Denver hospital, a journey to Los Angeles, where they were guests of John S. Clubine, D.C., former president of the CMCC, for a tour of Hollywood, and stops at various chiropractic schools for post-graduate education.

#### Practitioner, husband and father

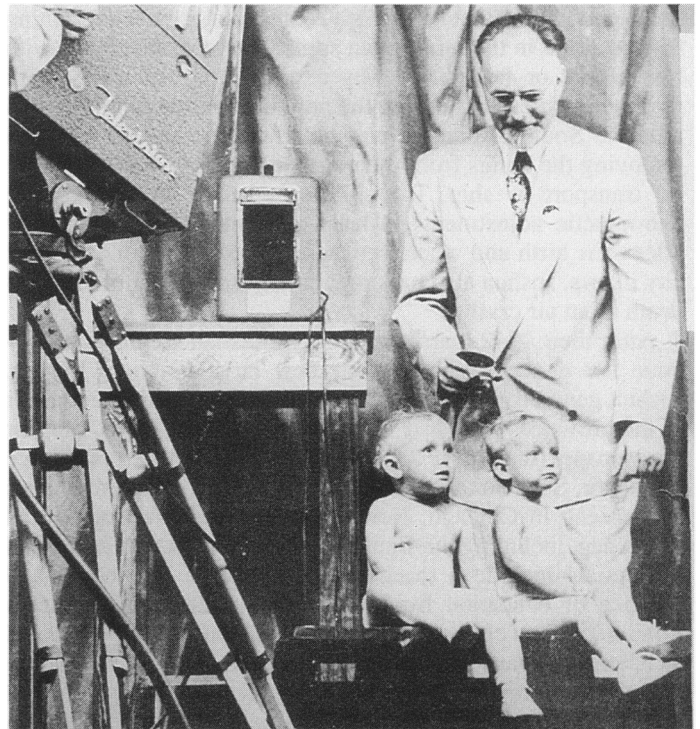
Dr. Haldeman is remembered as a very successful practitioner in several respects: as a clinician devoted to his patients, as developer of several large and financially rewarding practices, and as a respector of the professional responsibility to stay current with his field. Joshua was no less ardent a family man; he described his courtship and marriage to Wyn (Winnifred Josephine Fletcher) in 1942 as follows:

Life seemed to be a little dull, so I decided to take dancing lessons and phoned the local dance studio. The dance teacher said she was booked up until nine o’clock that evening. I told her, “That’s all right. I want to get started and will come back at nine o’clock.” Six months passed and in a weak moment I happened to say, “When will you marry me?” Without hesitation, “Tomorrow” she said.<sup>42</sup>

During the war, Dr. Haldeman was so busy with his political and economic research that he had little time for his practice and lived at the YMCA. After a honeymoon in a straw patch on his parent’s farm, they moved to Wyn’s six-by-eleven trailer. Their son Scott’s first bed was an apple box on the side of a wall. Once daughter Lynne arrived, however, Joshua’s com-

mitment to family took over and he built one of the most successful chiropractic practices in the province of Saskatchewan. He moved to a three-story, twenty-room house in which Wyn had her dance studio. Twin daughters, Maye and Kaye, arrived in 1948 following by another son, Angkor Lee, in 1955. Over the next 30 years until his death, Joshua and Wyn shared a commitment to each other, their children, political ideals and chiropractic. They did everything together and throughout their marriage the children never heard them argue or seriously disagree on any matter.

Joshua’s family life was dominated by his ethical and chiropractic principles. He repeatedly expressed the view that the body had the innate ability to heal itself if it was not abused and received chiropractic adjustments on a regular basis. He did not smoke, nor would he permit smoking in his family. The children were not allowed to drink coffee nor take alcohol until they were adults. Dr. Haldeman would allow only whole wheat breads and cereals, and insisted that unrefined flour and sugar be used at home. He would go so far as to collect ground wheat directly from farmers to avoid contamination. It was not even perceived possible that a member of his family would



**Figure 9** Photo from the *ICA International Review of Chiropractic* 1949 (Oct); 4(4):13; original caption reads: “Television Plays a Part Too! Kaye and Maye Haldeman (or is it Maye and Kay), twin daughters of Dr. J.N. Haldeman, Regina, Saskatchewan, are shown with their father, as he demonstrates nerve pressure reading during special pre-Lyceum classes”; courtesy of the Los Angeles College of Chiropractic.

have psychological problems or be unhappy. Joshua rarely, if ever, punished his children, but instead dominated the household by his personal behavior and strong beliefs in a high moral code. There was a strong belief that the children would inherently do the right thing if left to their own resources. He was never heard to swear beyond an occasional "darn," and did not tolerate swearing by the children. Although an avid student of the bible and believer in Christianity, he rarely went to church, believing instead that he had a personal ability to interpret the teachings and morals of the bible at least as well or better than most ministers. The children, however, were required to go to Sunday School in order to assure that they were familiar with Christian standards.

Stories told to the children about Joshua's youth tended to focus on his years in the rodeos, where he would ride wild horses and steers and do rope spinning. He would entertain the children at parties by doing rope tricks. He claimed to have fractured multiple bones while breaking horses for farmers and to have organized one of the earliest rodeos in Canada, probably in Swift Current in the 1930s. His most common piece of advice was that, "If you always enjoy everything you do, you will never do anything that you don't enjoy." Son Scott remembers that he was given an equal say on everything that occurred in the family, but somehow never disagreed with his mother or father. He was required to participate in all family activities, and during the period when the family was to move to South Africa, he was delighted to help his father in removing the wings from their airplane and in crating the craft for transport by ship. The children's health was assured by chiropractic adjustments at least once monthly from shortly after their birth and whenever there was a symptom or sign of any illness. Joshua also took regular adjustments until his 1974 death in an air crash.

After their 1942 marriage, Wyn Haldeman continued to operate her dance studio in their new large home in Regina. Joshua generally assumed that she was the best dance teacher in the province. Wyn had worked since the age of 16, first for a newspaper (the *Moose Jaw Times Herald*), and then as a dance instructor. She had taken extensive training in dance, dramatics and speech in Chicago, New York, Toronto, Vancouver and Winnipeg, including the Banff School of Fine Arts. Her formal credentials include a teacher's certificate in the theory and practice of education from the Trinity College of Music in London, and an elementary certificate in ballet from the Royal Academy of Dance in England. Following World War II the Royal Academy of Winnipeg conducted classes at Wyn Haldeman's studios in Regina, and in 1947 Mrs. Haldeman founded a small ballet company. She is proud of her company's productions, including "Peter and the Wolf," "Sleeping Beauty," "The Fire Bird," the "Nutmcracker Suite," and "La Boutique Fantastique," among others. Joshua never doubted for a moment that Wyn could operate her dance studio, bring up four children, support his chiropractic and political activities, and travel around the continent in a single-engine airplane with the children in

the back seat.

Joshua Haldeman had a particular aversion to Coca-Cola. Before the second World War, Coca-Cola included cocaine as an additive, which produced many addictions. Joshua often described a friend who drank 20 Cokes per day, had deteriorated mentally and physically, and who eventually committed suicide. Dr. Haldeman conducted a campaign against Coca-Cola in Regina and refused to let his children purchase or drink Coca-Cola at any time. He reported that he had been threatened by individuals who claimed to represent Coca-Cola, and on one occasion another supporter of the campaign against Coca-Cola apparently fell out of a window. Although this was declared to be suicide, Joshua always believed there was foul play, especially since he was warned that this could happen to him as well.

Over the years, Joshua gave a number of reasons why he decided to leave Canada and travel to South Africa in 1950. He had never been to South Africa, and did not know anyone who lived there, although he had corresponded with John Blackbourn, a chiropractor in Cape Town. Haldeman felt that the political system in Canada had deteriorated with a rapid growth in the power of government to control the lives of individuals; he also perceived a drop in the moral standards of the country. However, the primary reason for the relocation to South Africa may have been his adventurous spirit and the desire for a more pleasant climate in which to raise his family. Joshua and Wyn agreed that they could live on a quarter of their Canadian income, if necessary. Within six months of their decision to relocate, they had sold their home, the studio and the chiropractic practice, had crated the Bellanca aeroplane, packed up the family and boarded a freighter for a 30 day voyage to Cape Town.

### **Beyond the Canadian years**

On November 21, 1950 the Haldeman Chiropractic Clinic opened in Pretoria, South Africa.<sup>44</sup> Joshua would soon report in the ICA's *International Review of Chiropractic* that his practice had grown to 25 patients by mid-January, 1951 and 37 patients by early February.<sup>45</sup> Eventually, Haldeman would build one of the largest chiropractic clinics in the country, and would treat one of the country's presidents, whose hillside home overlooked the Haldeman clinic, as well as a number of cabinet ministers. He and his associates reputedly cared for as many as 175 patients in a day.<sup>46</sup>

Following the family's relocation to South Africa, they commenced a number of inter-continental aerial tours which caught the attention of the international press. These included flights throughout Africa, Europe and Australia. Haldeman's enhanced mobility enabled him to accommodate a number of international speaking engagements, including a 1952 address to the European Chiropractic Convention<sup>47</sup> and a 1954 presentation at an Australian convention of chiropractors. The round-trip voyage in 1954 extended thirty thousand miles: up the coast of Africa, over parts of Asia, across the open sea to

Australia and back; Joshua Haldeman is thought to be the only private pilot to make such a trek in a single-engine plane. He is also remembered as a co-founder of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association of South Africa, which he served as president for four years and as a member of the society's national council for eight or more years.

The chiropractor's wings also encouraged his career as an explorer. Haldeman became intrigued with the legend of a lost city in the desert of South Africa and made numerous trips by air and ground over extremely hostile terrain. Rehm<sup>13,pp.322-3</sup> has noted that Haldeman was:

Also an explorer, sportsman and political activist, Dr. Haldeman perhaps became best known in South Africa for his expertise in the 'Lost City of the Kalahari Desert.' His first expedition into the Kalahari desert was in 1953 to look for the Lost City described by Farini in 1885. The second was an 8,400-mile aerial search at 200 feet off the ground in uncharted desert. Altogether, he made 12 expeditions searching for the Lost City. On every occasion he was accompanied by Mrs. Haldeman and those of his children who were home. Two books on the Lost City (by F. Goldie and A.J. Clement) devoted large sections to his travels. Though he found no evidence, Dr. Haldeman remained convinced there was indeed a Lost City in the Kalahari desert.

Soon after his arrival in South Africa the veteran chiropractic politician would also become involved in professional affairs in his new country. From 1952 to 1959 he served as secretary of the South African Chiropractors Association (SACA), and during 1959 through 1969 as president of the organization. During his tenure, the SACA maintained monthly educational meetings, invited neurosurgeons and professors from the medical schools as speakers at the annual conventions and formed a South African Chiropractic Research Foundation which briefly had a small animal laboratory. It was typical of Joshua Haldeman's vision for the science and art of chiropractic.

### Conclusion

Doctor, politician, economist, family man, author, pilot, adventurer, college founder .... Joshua N. Haldeman (see Figure 10) did it all and did it well. For the profession in Canada, J.N.'s legacy is still quite visible in the form of the Canadian Chiropractic Association and the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College. His role in the profession's middle years exemplified a commitment to straight chiropractic principles, high standards of education, and integrity in professional matters.

### Acknowledgements

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**Figure 10** Dr. Joshua Norman Haldeman, circa 1945; photo from the Haldeman papers.

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