

Ms.
Coll.
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DEACON (WILLIAM ARTHUR)
Papers, 1893-1977.
104 boxes and items.

Collection of personal and business correspondence with authors, publishers, organizations, readers; minutes of the Canadian Authors' Association; manuscripts, typescripts of his writings and lectures as well as galleys and publicity for his books, and clippings and scrapbooks of his columns and articles in the Mail and Empire, the Globe and Mail, and Saturday Night; photographs of Canadian authors and biographical materials.

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Ms. DEACON, (WILLIAM ARTHUR) PAPERS
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Deacon, William Arthur, 1890-1977

Born in Pembroke, Ontario, in 1890, William Arthur Deacon grew up in Stanstead, Quebec. He received his early education in Stanstead, had a year at McGill University and two at Victoria College, University of Toronto and proceeded to the University of Manitoba where he received an LLB in 1918. He practiced law in Dauphin, Manitoba, until 1922. He had begun writing critical essays and book reviews in 1918-19, and in 1922 he gave up law, moved to Toronto and became literary editor of Saturday Night. In 1928 he became literary editor of the Mail and Empire, a position which he continued to hold when that paper amalgamated with the Globe to become the Globe and Mail in 1936. This position he held until his retirement in December, 1960.

Deacon was the first full-time literary critic in Canada and exercised great influence through his book page. He was also author of a number of books. A charter member of the Canadian Authors' Association, he held various offices in that organization. The C.A.A was of tremendous importance in the sparsely populated Canada of 1920-50. Of equal importance was Deacon's continuous battle for the recognition of Canadian writers at home and abroad. His influence was supreme for over 40 years.

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DEACON, WILLIAM ARTHUR PAPERS

CONTAINER LIST

CORRESPONDENCE BOXES 1-28

BOX Correspondence, ca 1920-60. Alphabetically arranged.

- | | |
|----|---------------------------|
| 1 | A - Aubry. |
| 2 | Baird - Bland. |
| 3 | Bolitho - Campbell. |
| 4 | Canada - Christie. |
| 5 | Clark - Cutts. |
| 6 | Dalhousie - De la Roche. |
| 7 | Denison - Dunton. |
| 8 | Earl - Ewart. |
| 9 | Fairley - Furlong. |
| 10 | Gage - Guthrie. |
| 11 | Hackett - Hyam. |
| 12 | Imperial - Kurth. |
| 13 | Laffont - Livesay. |
| 14 | Lloyd George - MacDonald. |
| 15 | MacDougall - MacMechan. |
| 16 | MacMillan - Mitchell. |
| 17 | Monaghan - Newton. |
| 18 | Nichols - Philp. |
| 19 | Pierce - Quast. |
| 20 | Raddall - Roberts. |
| 21 | Robins - Ryerson. |
| 22 | Sabatini - Sissons. |
| 23 | Skinner - Stubbs. |

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- Ms. DEACON, WILLIAM ARTHUR PAPERS
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- BOX CORRESPONDENCE CONT'D
- 24 Sugarman - Victoria.
- 25 Wape - Winter.
- 26 Women's - Ziegler.
- 27 Correspondence with Tom MacInnes. Includes
 clippings and articles.
- 28 Correspondence with Emily Murphy (Janey Canuck).
 Includes material collected by Deacon by and about
 her, and photographs.
- CANADIAN AUTHORS' ASSOCIATION, GOVERNOR GENERAL'S
 AWARDS, ASSOCIATION OF CANADIAN BOOKMEN BOXES 29-
 35.
- 29-34 Canadian Authors' Association material:
 correspondence, mimeographed material, minutes of
 meetings, lists of members. 1921-67.
- 35A Governor General's awards; Leacock awards;
 Canadian Poetry Magazine.
- 35B Association of Canadian Bookmen. Correspondence
 and printed matter.
- LITERARY WORKS BOXES 36-42 ITEM 42B
- 36 In Fame's Ante-chamber - mainly correspondence
 relating to it; Poteen.
- 37 Pens and Pirates. Manuscripts.
- 38 The Four Jameses. Correspondence and manuscripts.
- 39 Open House. Typescripts and correspondence.
- 40A Notes for a projected book on Canadian literature.
- 40B My Vision of Canada. Typescripts and
 correspondence.
- 41 My Vision of Canada. Manuscripts, advertisements,
 dust jacket designs.

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BOX LITERARY WORKS CONT'D

42A My Vision of Canada. Galley proofs, notes.

Item 42B Scrapbook of clippings relating to My Vision of Canada.

OTHER WRITINGS BOXES 43-76 ITEM 56

- 43 Deacon's files on Canadian nationalism, on pacificism in the 1930's. Accounts of the Lake Couchiching conference, 1936.
- 44 Correspondence relating to Deacon's writing career in the twenties; association with Saturday Night.
- 45 Deacon's association with the Globe and Mail; correspondence with R. A. Farquharson and others re the book page; letters to publishers and records of their advertisements for the book page.
- 46-54 Deacon's articles, essays, book reviews and speeches, ca. 1918-60.
- Item 55 Deacon's lectures on Canadian literature, delivered at Ryerson 1951-2, with correspondence. Pages 127-138 missing. One volume.
- 56 Notes for a projected book on Canadian literature. Some correspondence with George Nelson of Doubleday.
- 57 Notes and jottings, for projected essays, speeches.
- 58-65 Photographs, mainly of authors (boxes 64-65 are of Canadians). Card in picture file.
- 66-67 Offprints of other authors' works, keepsakes, ephemera.
- 68-69 Clippings.
& mapcase
- 70 Correspondence with readers (including fan mail); press releases and publishers' blurbs.
- 71-73 Business correspondence, chiefly concerned with payment of mortgages.

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BOX OTHER WRITINGS CONT'D

74 Deacon's literary column in the Mail and Empire
 Book Page and the Globe and Mail Book Page.
 Microfilm - 4 reels and negatives.
 Nov. 3, 1928 - April 17, 1937.
 April 17, 1937 - May 13, 1944.
 May 13, 1944 - Dec. 12, 1953.
 Dec. 12, 1953 - May 18, 1963.

75 Saturday Night, 1922-1928
 ovs "Bookshelf" articles and "Literary Section"

76 Reviews (contained in whole issues of periodicals)
 ovs and newspaper clippings of Deacon's
 articles, essays, and book reviews; map.
 Photographs.

BOUND TYPESCRIPTS ITEMS 77-84

Items 77- Essays and reviews. 1920-1926.
 83 7 volumes of typescript. (carbon copies)

1 volume for each of the years covered. Most
 items include note of where published.
 1923 volume includes typescript (carbon) of
Peter McArthur (Toronto: Ryerson, 1923).
 Drafts and some typescripts already in collection,
 but not all.

Item 84 In Fame's Antechamber. [1918-1919]
 1 bound volume. Typescript (carbon copy).

Unpublished book of literary criticism comprising
 four essays on John Cowper Powys, Lord Dunsany,
 Edgar Lee Masters, and James Branch Cabell.
 Typescript already in collection.

SCRAPBOOKS ITEMS 85-91 BOX 92

Items 85- Scrapbooks of clipped articles by Deacon published
 88 in Saturday Night. 1922-1928.
 4 volumes. Scrapbooks #1 - #4.

1928 volume includes Deacon's syndicated columns,
 and book reviews after he was no longer writing
 for Saturday Night, 1928-1932.

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SCRAPBOOKS CONT'D

- Item 89 Scrapbook of clipped columns in series:
Law and Common Sense, published in Saturday Night.
 Sept. 20, 1922 - Dec. 2, 1925.
 1 volume. Scrapbook #5.
- Item 90 Scrapbook of clippings collected by Deacon on
 Canadian literary topics and other subjects.
 1921-1933.
 1 volume. Scrapbook #6.
- Includes articles on Canadian Authors'
 Association.
- Item 91 Scrapbook of clippings by and about W. A. Deacon.
 1922-1929.
 1 volume. Scrapbook #7.

Includes reviews of Deacon's books.

BOX FOLDER

- 92 Newspaper clippings and notes laid in Scrapbooks
 #2, #4, #6, and #7.

BIOGRAPHICAL MATERIAL BOXES 93-96

- 93 & Biographical material.
 mapcase
- 94 Biographical notes and photographs. Retirement
 letters and tape recording of retirement speech.
 Memoirs.
- 95 1-7 Looseleaf notebook containing copies of extracts
 from Deacon's letters and other writings arranged
 under topics. Includes outline of contents.
- 8-11 Manuscript index to microfilm reels of Deacon's
 articles in Mail and Empire, and Globe and Mail.
 Reel #1 - Nov. 3, 1928 - April 17, 1937.
- 12-15 Manuscript index to microfilm reels of
 Deacon's articles in Mail and Empire and
Globe and Mail. Reel #2 - April 17, 1937 -
 May 13, 1944.
- 96 Biographical card file on Deacon.

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BOX FOLDER RESEARCH NOTES FOR WILLIAM ARTHUR DEACON: A
 CANADIAN LITERARY LIFE BY CLARA THOMAS AND JOHN
 LENNOX. BOXES 97-99 ITEMS 100-101

97 1-25 Research materials. Correspondence - A-I.

98 1-15 Correspondence - I-W.

99 Photographs and negatives used.

Items 100 Data tape for "Deakdex", a computerized index
 -101 to the William Arthur Deacon Collection with
 paper copy of tape description.

1992 ACCESSION

Collection of correspondence, mainly family papers, photographs and clippings of Deacon, 1890-1977. Includes biographical manuscripts by Gertrude Schulstad, his godmother; Sally Deacon, his wife; and Deidre Haines, his daughter; printed materials.

BOX
 102

Ce que j'écris, summer 1908. Holograph, notebook.

U.S. Canada, Aug. 4'36; George W. Brown. Holograph, notebook.

103

Correspondence, 1918-1970. 7 folders. Mainly family. Includes 1 TLS, 1922, and cc from Deacon to Edward Carpenter which is a 10-page autobiography.

Business papers and correspondence, 1893-1928. 10 folders. Include receipts, bank statements, contracts, royalty statements, income tax returns.

Biographical papers. Include Schulstad, Gertrude. "Stanstead Days, Will Deacon". Holograph, 13 leaves.

Deacon, Sally. "In which I intimately ...". Typescript, 34 leaves.

Haines, Deidre Deacon. [Biography of W.A.D.]. Typescript, 42 leaves. Holograph notes.

DEACON, WILLIAM ARTHUR PAPERS

BOX
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"In Honour of William Arthur Deacon"
With 1 TLS from Marsh Jeanneret, and others at
University of Toronto Press, and 3 black and white
photographs laid in. 1 album with blank leaves.

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"I want every Canadian man and woman to read this
book ... My Vision of Canada, William Arthur
Deacon". Broadside, framed.