

HAMBLETON, RONALD, 1917-

Ronald Hambleton, free lance writer, donated his papers to the University of Toronto in November, 1978.

### SCOPE AND CONTENT

The papers cover the professional life of Hambleton. The <sup>40</sup>25 boxes contain typescripts of his novels, published and unpublished, general and business correspondence, various articles, radio scripts, unpublished essays, plays, music reviews and magazine appearances. Included in his collection are tapes, recording his interviews with various writers. There are four photographs of Hambleton which were taken during CBC interview. His published works are arranged chronologically.

### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Ronald Hambleton was born in Preston, Lancashire, England in 1917 of working class parents. His family emigrated to Canada in 1924, and he grew up in Vancouver, B.C. Pushed out to work at the age of 14, he worked briefly as an office boy until the age of school leaving was extended to 16. He then continued his schooling for a short time, getting a good grounding in English, French and Latin. From the age of 16, he worked at a number of jobs, continuing his education by reading widely, and by attending night classes, notably in Italian. He acquired a wide knowledge of music and also involved himself in the Little Theatre Group. By 1936 he was selling the occasional poem, and continued to write in his spare time.

Hambleton spent a year in England, between June '39 and June '40, enlarging his experience and education. On his return to Canada, he stopped off in Toronto and has been Toronto based ever since.

He earned his bread and butter at first by doing odd jobs, and eventually worked his way into radio work. This remained his main source of income throughout his working career. He became very well known as a CBC script writer and interviewer. His other freelance jobs included being a book reviewer and music critic.

Hambleton did considerable creative work. As a poet he contributed to the following periodicals: Reading, Preview, First Statement, The Penguin Anthology of Canadian Poetry, Contemporary Verse.

His published works include:

Unit of Five. Toronto, Ryerson, 1944, to which he contributed with four other writers.

Object and Event. Toronto, 1953.

Every man is an Island. London, Hutchinson, 1959.

There Goes MacGill. Toronto, McClelland & Stewart, 1962.

Mazo de la Roche of Jalna. Toronto, MacMillan, 1966.

The Secret of Jalna. Toronto [1972]

How I earned \$250,000 as a free lance writer. Toronto, Gen. Pub. 1977.

A Master Killing. Toronto, 1978.

The love and death of Orpheus. Toronto, 1979.

The Branding of America, Yankee Publishing, 1987.

Manuscript  
Collection  
Ronald Hambleton, 1917-

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Container List

- Box 1            Every man is an island. 1959. 1st draft.  
Wake at Sea. 1st & 2nd drafts.  
                  (Published as There Goes MacGill , 1962)
- Box 2            Mazo de la Roche of Jalna. 1966. (publisher's copy)  
  
                  Mazo de la Roche material for book and TV series.
- Box 3            The Secret of Jalna. c1972. 1st & 2nd drafts.
- Box 4            How I earned \$250,000 ... 1977 . Ts.
- Box 5            A Master Killing. 1978.  
  
                  Research material, Ts., Galley proofs, page proofs.
- Box 6            The Richmond Hill Murders. 1978. 1st draft.  
  
                  (published as A Master Killing ).
- Box 7            Orpheus. 1979. 1st draft & revised Ts.  
  
                  (published as The love and death of Orpheus ).
- Box 8            Orpheus. (final version). Ts.
- Box 9            So Where do I get Off [     ]. (1st draft).
- Box 10           The murder of Cain.  
  
                  (Attempt at novel, begun in 1970, abandoned 1972.)
- Box 11           The luck of Ginger Coffey.  
  
                  Libretto by Ronald Hambleton, music by Raymond Pannell;  
                  based on the novel by Brian Moore. Some correspondence  
                  re the production.  
                  Domage of the wise. Song.  
                  Seagull - CBC school broadcast. Words and music.
- Box 12           Music reviews for Toronto Star, 1968-1977:  
                  Music: transcriptions of Mozart by Hambleton.  
                  Fugue magazine with articles by Hambleton.

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Box 13

Short stories and essays:

Hexagon: Aberfan, Casino, Four in a bed, Lucifer,  
Mountebank, and Rimbaud.

Drafts on long essays on Leacock & E.J. Pratt.

1st draft of children's book: The Golden Thimble.

Long essay Imprisonment , unpublished.

Various talks & articles.

Box 14

Three pieces of writing based on the life of Anna Jameson:

1. Anna Jameson joins the Indians.

2. The woman who came to stay. (Play)

3. Who was Anna Jameson? (for Anthology)

Items for the Bush and Salon series:

Into the deep freeze and back.

Police (old style) under fire.

The Richmond Hill murder.

The mute Milton of Lakefield.

The Lady and the Tiger.

Box 15

Radio:

Quiz Book, radio talks, music reviews.

Book reviews (Ts) many for 'Critically Speaking about  
books' (Not all reviews are complete).

Box 16

Radio scripts & Interviews:

Interviews:

Bath Assembly, Reg Butler, Benjamin Britten, Pablo  
Casals, 'The Experience of Age', Carl Jung, Iris  
Murdoch.

Radio Scripts and plays:

The evening of the Year; Friend of the Family (based  
on Hambleton's novel, Every Man is an Island); King  
of the Golden River (based on John Ruskin's story);  
The Clerk.

Ontario School Broadcasts:

Men of the Renaissance series: Da Vinci and Lorenzo  
the Magnificent.

Pioneer Settlements in Ontario Series: Lanark  
Settlement, Mennonite Settlements; Military settlement  
on the Ottawa

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Container List. Box 16 (cont.)

Box 16

Short Articles:

The Nature of Poetry; Shocking scandal at graveside,  
Italian Fashions; Inside Monte Carlo.

Hambleton's correspondence with CBC  
Four photographs of Hambleton - CBC

Box 17

Various typescripts: Steamship over Niagara; Untitled story  
British Justice; London Column in British Overseas Service;  
Canadian Writers; Colonel Talbot; That Old Devil Talbot;  
How to count Beaver (Home Service Children's Hour); Angmalik  
and the whale (Home Service); The Canada Company; The colony  
of ~~Maro~~ de La Roche.  
Marquis

Interview with Emmy Heim; Five variations for Corno di  
Bassetto, Shaw Festival, 1969.  
Sweeney Todd.

Box 18

Tapes

- Interviews between R. Hambleton and Kathleen Parlow  
(musician)
- Interview with Casals.
- Leacock show for "Venture".
- 2 boxes mfm - Ontario School Broadcast, short stories,  
interviews. (For list of contents, see addendum to  
this finding aid).

Box 19

Tapes

- recording of two programs in Now I ask you series of  
which Hambleton was moderator.
- Interview with Bertrand Russell.

Box 20

Magazines containing Ronald Hambleton works. *(incl. Reading)*

Box 21

Hambleton's writing contracts. 1951-1977.  
(Arranged by dates)

Box 22

Correspondence with Publishers (arranged alphabetically);  
Crawley Films; General Publishing Co. Ltd; Harold Ober Inc.;  
Hawthorn Books Ltd.; David Higham and Associates; Hutchinson.

Box 23

Correspondence with: McCarthy & McCarthy; McClelland &  
Stewart; Ryerson Press.

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Container List

Box 24 Business correspondence. General.  
(Arranged alphabetically)

Box 25 Business correspondence. General.  
(Arranged alphabetically)

Includes correspondence relating to Mazo de La Roche of Jalna and the Secret of Jalna.

Additional material relating to Mazo de La Roche of Jalna is in Boxes 1-4 of Ms. Coll. 120.

Additional material March 1986

Box 26 Photographs used in the book, The Secret of Jalna. Toronto, 1972.

Box 27 Music reviews for Toronto Star, 1978-1982. Clippings.

Box 28 Music reviews for Toronto Star, 1983-1984. Clippings.

Box 29 Incomplete typescript. Draft of autobiog. of Nicolas Goldsmith.

Box 30 Research material on the mayoralty of William Lyon Mackenzie. Typescripts, printed material & ms notes.

Box 31 Business correspondence. General. (Arranged alphabetically). Proof-read galleys of "Love and Death of Orpheus". Tor. 1979.

Boxes 32 & 33 Typescripts of article written for 'Marketing'. (Arranged alphabetically by titles)

Box 34 Magazines containing Hambleton's works:

Opera Canada magazine with an article entitled "1,000 Performance later" published in Winter 1980 edition.  
The Fiddlehead magazine with the poem "Birchleavings".

4 reels of microfilm, Troy Daily Times, Jan. 1854 - Oct. 1856.

Research material for article on Valhalla Inn.

HAMBLETON PAPERS

199 Additional material August 1987

(Material relating mostly to Hambleton's recently published book, The Branding of America, 1987. 3 drafts and 2 boxes of correspondence).

Box 35 Typescripts of The Branding of America, published by Yankee Publishing, 1987. Drafts 1 & 2. (Draft 2 with revisions).

Box 36 Typescripts of The Branding of America. Draft 3 with revisions.

Box 37 Correspondence:

Business correspondence. Jan. 1986-Oct. 1986. (Arranged chronologically).  
Editorial correspondence. (Arranged alphabetically).  
Correspondence re queries for photos for book. (Arranged alphabetically)  
Correspondence re replies to queries for photos for book. (Arranged alphabet.)

Box 38 General correspondence. (Arranged alphabetically).

Correspondence re 'Marketing' magazine comments. (Arranged alphabetically by brand names).

Mapcase material Western morning news. Plymouth. November 20 and December 4, 1939. Contains his first two music reviews, signed R.H.

Jennifer Ramlochan

May 1988

Radio adaptation of "The Arabian Nights" in six episodes:

1. The Young man with cream tarts
2. The Physician and the Saratoga Trunk
3. The adventure of the Hansom Cab
4. The story of the Bandbox
5. The House with the Green Blinds
6. The Adventure of Prince Florizel and the Detective

Broadcast on Stephen Leacock

TransCanada Matinee: New Homes for Old

Kingston: ordered by Maclean's but not published (4600 words)

Conversation between Hambleton and Sir Allen Lane

Toronto First Election (CJBC Local) Dec. 30, 1949

The Piper who was pulled two ways

CBC Wednesday Night - Intermission talk for "The Messiah" Dec. 27, 1950

Play - Love at the Office

Music- Five Variations for Corno di Bassetto

An original play to be called SON IN LAW

Script for Where I live by Hambleton

ISW Broadcast for United Kingdom Section, Dec. 27, 1946 (Miss Jane Sharples)

" " " " " AUG. 21, 1947 Discovery of Canada

" " " " " Toronto at Night

" " " " " The Lively Arts: The Midway

" " " " " The Lively Arts; Oddities

ISW Broadcast for CZECH Section:

Transportation in Canada - I - The Bateau

" " " - II - The Prairie

" " " - III - The Schooner

" " " -IV - The Stage Coach

" " " - V - The Sailing Ship

" " " - VI - The Early Steamship

" " " - VII - The Canals

" " " - VIII - The early railroads

IX - Bush Pilots

X - The Railway Coast to Coast

XI - Modern Steamships

XII - Modern Railway

XIII - Automotive

XIV - Modern Aircraft

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Hambleton  
Papers

Box. 18

ISW Broadcast for United Kingdom Section, Dec. 15, 1947 short story  
entitled: Christmas Trees

Short articles; Inside Monte Carlo and Italian Fashions.

Poems, Anthology; Ronald Hambleton speaking personally "Friday my Feet".

Play entitled "One eye for Robin".

ISW Script for Canadian story programme: William Weller Wager.

ISW Script for United Kingdom Section, Canada Story programme: Anna  
Jamieson joins the Indians and Tom Sheppard, Rebel, 1950

ISW Broadcast for U.K. Section for Tales of Two Cities programme have  
a series of articles on different cities of Ontario: Bala, Ontario,  
Brighton, Preston, Windsor, Malvern, Hamilton, Whitby, Woodstock,  
Stratford, Brampton and Chatham, Ontario.

Ontario School Broadcasts.

Classics 1. Latin words in Everyday English

Short stories: Mad Capreol and the Murderers

Interview:

All about the town

The Toronto Purchase

Broadcast:

Alexander Muir

Steamship over Niag~~ra~~ Falls



S: School  
D: Documentary  
A: Adaptation  
O: Original

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Collection

Mfm Box. 2

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Hambleton  
Papers

Ronald Hambleton  
Radio & T.V. Scripts  
IN INVERSE CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER

Box. 18

- 68.2.5 (S) Civics
- 68.1.22 (S) Language
- 62.12.9 (A) A Friend of the Family  
(From Every Man is an Island)
- 61.3.15 (D) Architecture for Recreation
- 61.3.7 " " Learning
- 61.3.11 " " Worship
- 60.4.15 (D) Face of God
- 60.12.24 (D) Full of Grace
- 58.12.16 (O) The Lady and the Tiger (TV)
- 58.1.26 (A) A Boy in the House
- 57.4.7 (O) The Lady and The Tiger (Radio)
- 56.1.11 (D) Who was Anna Jamieson?
- 55.4.10 (O) The Colonel and the Lady
- 55.2.23 (A) Rip Van Winkle
- 55.2.20 (A) Braking Strain
- 55.2.15 (D) Leonardo Da Vinci (S)
- 54.2.9 (D) Wilberforce (S)
- 50.12.12 (D) (S) Military Settlement Ottawa
- 50.12.19 Lanark Settlement
- 50.12.5 Mennonite Settlement II
- 50.11.28 Mennonite Settlement I
- 50.11.5 (A) Main Street
- 50.6.14 A Tour of the City
- 50.4.5 Red Cross Outpost Nurse
- 50.3.8 (A) The King of the Golden River
- 50.1.8 (A) The Man Who Was Thursday
- 50.1.1 (O) Whip Hand (not produced)
- 49.12.1 (S) Bird Friends
- 48.10.11 Bill Johnson, Pirate (O)
- 48.9.13 Witch of Inky Dell (A)

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Mfm Box. 2

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48.9.6

Bushel for Bushel

48.9.6

Labor Day

Box. 18

47.5.4

(A) Three Daughters of M. Dupont

47.1.29

(D) Letter to Ottawa

Supplement:

Anna Jameson

The Experience of Age

Interview: Benjamin Britten

Carl Jung

Iris Murdoch

Pablo Casals

Reg Butler

The Bath Assembly (D)

Da Vinci (D) (S)

The Living Past (Pilot Script)

Sweeney Todd

The Woman who came to stay

Whiteoaks

The Nature of Poetry

MS. HAMBLETON (RONALD) PAPERS  
 COLL. CONTAINER LIST  
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Box Correspondence and papers  
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- Folder Casals, Pablo to Ronald Hambleton, London. 1951-  
 1 1956. 2 A.L.S., 1 T.L.S., 5 A.N.S. With 2 envelopes and 1 photograph (black and white) Writes that he can only speak about Spain and his own situation in an interview; that he has heard the broadcast of the interview and is happy with it; would like to get copies of the transcription or to have copies sent to friends in London; thanks him for the recording of the interview; is pleased that the BBC will be repeating it on the occasion of his 80th birthday in September.
- Folder Casals, Pablo. [About living in exile. 1952?]  
 2 Typescript.
- Folder "Did You Hear That? Pablo Casals in Exile" in The  
 3 Listener, June 5, 1952.
- Folder De La Mare, Walter to Ronald Hambleton, London.  
 4 Twickenham, Middlesex, and Penn, Bucks, 1952. 10 T.L.S.  
 Suggests a place and time for the interview; thanks him for telling him about the broadcast which is too late for him to hear but he would like to have a copy of the interview with Casals; thanks him for the copies of the scripts; is sending his answers to the questions which he would like to see after Hambleton has put it into interview form; thanks him for the script and is enclosing the new draft of the interview.
- Folder De la Mare, Walter. Broadcast on old age.  
 5 Answers to R.H.'s questions of October 21, '52. Typescript.
- Folder Housman, Laurence to Ronald Hambleton, London.  
 6 Somerset, 1952. 6 A.L.S.  
 Thanks him for the invitation to take part in a broadcast on old age with three other such illustrious people and asks about the form of the debate; confirms the date, time, and place of their meeting; suggests changes in the text of their conversation; arranges for another appointment and hopes that the script will be satisfactory asks for copies to send to friends in America and comments again about his best work

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Box 39  
 Folder 6 (Cont'd)

being written after he was fifty; thanks him for the typescript and copy, and confirms the appointment.

Folder 7 Housman, Laurence. The experience of age. Holograph manuscript.

Folder 8 Murray, Gilbert to Ronald Hambleton, London. Oxford, 1952. 3 T.N.S.  
 Gives the date after which he would be able to see Hambleton; confirms the day and time for the interview; refers to his immoderate use of "my blue pencil" and suggests he be left out of interview, or that Hambleton try to fit together the corrections.

Folder 9 Russell, Bertrand to Ronald Hambleton, London. Richmond, Surrey, 1952. 2 T.N.S., A.N.S.  
 Apologizes for late reply to Hambleton's letter and suggests that one meeting will be enough; agrees to postponement of interview; and encloses typescript with corrections.  
 With carbon copy of Hambleton's letter, November 14, 1968, to Russell with printed reply on postcard, not signed.

Folder 10 Russell, Bertrand. Advice to those who want to attain eighty. Typescript. Published in New York Times Magazine, March 18, 1952.

Folder 11 Russell, Bertrand. Changing beliefs & unchanging hope. 1952. Typescript.

Folder 12 Russell, Bertrand. Meanderings of an octogenarian. Typescript. Published in Star, May 19, 1952.

Folder 13 Russell, Bertrand. An Octogenarian's retrospect and prospect. Typescript. Published in the Saturday Review of Literature, August 9, 1952, as "The next eighty years"

Other Correspondents:

Folder 14 Kingsley Amis  
 Max Beerbohm

MS..           HAMBLETON (RONALD) PAPERS  
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Folder       Isaac Deutscher  
 15           Ronald Duncan

Folder       T.S. Eliot  
 16           Max Frisch  
              Rumer Godden  
              William Golding

Folder       Rider Haggard  
 17           Carl Jung

Folder       Arthur Koestler  
 18           P.A. Larkin

Folder       Colin MacInnes  
 19           Edward Marsh  
              Nicholas Nabokov  
              George Plimpton  
              William Plower  
              Anthony Powell

Folder       Peter Quennell  
 20           Henry Reed  
              Nathalie Sarraute  
              Alan Sillitoe

Folder       Osbert Sitwell  
 21           C.P. Snow

Folder       J.R.R. Tolkien  
 22           R. Vaughan Williams  
              P.G. Wodehouse  
              John Wyndham

Folder       "The Experience of Age" in Radio Times, Nov.  
 23           14, 1952.

Folder       "English as She is Spoke" in London Calling,  
 24           Sept. 20, 1956.

**ADDITIONAL ACCESSION: 89.062**

Collection of poems, articles, and review articles by Ronald Hambleton, that appeared in newspapers and periodicals as well as reviews and comments about his books and radio programmes. 1939-1987. Some typescripts and correspondence are included.

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The correspondence is usually filed with the review mentioned in the letter.

Extent: 1 Box & Mapcase

- Box 40  
 Folder Correspondence, 1952?-1978  
 1  
 Folder "One to One; A Visit to Osbert Sitwell."  
 2 Broadcast on CBC [after 1964]  
 Typescript
- Folder "A Tour of the City." Script. Broadcast, CBL-Est  
 3 & CBW, June 14, 1950. Mimeograph.
- Folder Review articles in Western Morning News ((Exeter,  
 4 Devon) December 1939 and February 1940 and  
Townsmen [1939?]
- Folder Articles and reviews in The Canadian Forum and The  
 5 Providence Sunday Journal, 1939-1941
- Folder Poems, articles and reviews in The Canadian  
 6-9 Forum, Canadian Review, Canada's Weekly, Mayfair,  
Saturday Night, 1940-1949.  
 The review for the Polish Art Theatre's  
 performance in Toronto and Hamilton in 1944 with a  
 broadside for the performance with holograph  
 notes
- Folders Articles and interviews in CBC Times, Chatelaine,  
 10-11 The Globe and Mail, Maclean's, National Home  
 Mapcase Monthly, Radio Times, and The Strad, 1950-1971.
- Folders "Letters to the Editor" in The Globe and Mail,  
 13 1965-1973
- Folders Review articles in Toronto Star, 1985-1987  
 14-23
- Folders Review articles and reviews about Hambleton's  
 24-38 writings, 1943-1980  
 Mapcase