

**University of Toronto Archives and
Records Management Services**



Charles Norris Cochrane fonds

B2003-0011
B2014-0011
B2019-0045

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Biographical Note

Professor Charles Norris Cochrane was born on August 21, 1889, the son of Charles Edward Cochrane, a physician and his wife Anne Charlotte Norris in Omemee Ontario. He graduated from University College with a B.A. in 1911, winning the McCaul Medal in Classics. After a two year fellowship at Corpus Christie College, Oxford, he returned to the University of Toronto as a lecturer in Classics in 1913. During the First World War, he was active in the C.O.T.C. and in 1918 went overseas with the 1st Tank Battalion. Upon returning in 1919, he received his M.A. and was appointed an assistant professor of Greek and Roman History. In 1929, he became a full professor and succeeded W.S. Milne as head of the Department of Greek and Roman History. In 1924, he was named Dean of Residence for University College. He held both positions until his death on November 23, 1945 at the age of 56. During the Second World War, he was on an advisory committee to the Minister of Justice that heard appeals of prisoners interned under the Defence of Canada Regulations. He was also active in evacuating the children of Oxford University faculty. The Cochrane family housed two children from 1940-1942.

At the time of his death, Cochrane was considered an international authority on ancient Rome and Greece. His first book written in this field was *Thucydides and the Science of History* (Oxford 1929). It was recognized by colleagues "as shedding entirely new light on the work of the Greek historian". Some ten years later in 1940, Cochrane received international acclaim for his book *Christianity and Classical Culture: A Study of Thought and Action from Augustus to Augustine*. The importance in this work is summarized best in the words of his contemporary, Harold Innis, "His concern not only with the role of thought in Greco-Roman civilization, but also with its reflection in the work of its great historians, enabled him to make the first major Canadian contribution to the intellectual history of the West." George Parkin Grant called Cochrane's magnum opus, "the most important book ever written by a Canadian." In February 2004, it was republished and a recent reviewer noted "*Christianity and Classical Culture* has survived the test of time to remain a pillar of philosophical, religious, and cultural analysis." --John Taylor, *The Midwest Book Review*, February 2004. In 1946, the Royal Society of Canada posthumously awarded Cochrane the Lorne Pierce Medal for original contribution to literature.

An excerpt below from the brief biography appearing in *The Canadian Encyclopedia* (2004) written by Arthur Kroker captures the essence of Cochrane's ideas and his place among Canadian intellectual thinkers

A classical historian by profession, but a deeply tragic thinker by heart, Cochrane devoted his life to an intellectual meditation on the failure of reason to secure a "permanent and enduring" basis for civilization. He was haunted by the insight that in the absence of a principle of "creative integration," Western civilization was doomed to oscillate between idealism (animal faith) and naturalism (the detritus of skepticism)... An unappreciated thinker, especially in his native Canada, Cochrane must be considered among the leading 20th-century philosophers of civilization.

Scope and Content

1903 – 199- (predominant dates 191- - 1945) 3.98 m textual; graphic

Records in this fonds document to a limited degree the two writings noted above. There are galley proofs, some correspondence and numerous reviews documenting *Christianity and Classical Culture*. While there is no draft of any form of *Thucydides*, there is one file containing correspondence, comments and reviews. It is possible however that notes found in Series 5 relate to the research done for both books as well and lectures and other writings. Series 5 is by far the most extensive series accounting for nearly half the volume of records in this fonds and include not only notes but a bibliographic card index and books from Cochrane's library that he had annotated.

Apart from his two major publications, Cochrane gave many lectures, wrote reviews and articles. A bibliography can be found in Appendix 1. At the time of his death, it was anticipated that his Yale lectures on St. Augustine would be published as a sequel to *Christianity and Classical Culture*. He was also doing research on historian Carl Becker and Greek jurisprudence. Early in his career, he wrote a report for the National Council of Education on the teaching of history and civics in Canadian schools (April 1923). He later teamed up with University of Toronto Librarian W.S. Wallace, to write a school textbook entitled *This Canada of Ours, an Introduction to Canadian Civics*, (Oxford University Press, 1924). Records relating to all of these works can be found in Series 3 and 4.

There were other aspects of his life that are, to a limited degree, documented in these records. As noted above, he was dean of University College residence – the first to hold this position since 1899. His appointment corresponded with the opening of the men's commons room in University College. Some routine correspondence relating to this can be found in Series 1. Cochrane's role as a teacher is somewhat better covered with several series of lecture notes as well as annotated exams. There are however no

records relating to his administration of the Department of Ancient History while he chaired the department after 1929.

Correspondence from 1911-1918 documents his time at Oxford and his activities during World War I (Series 1). There are two aspects of his life during the 2nd World War are fairly well documented. In Series 1, there is extensive correspondence and notes relating to the Oxford evacuees, especially regarding the children of family friend Kenneth Bell and more notably the two Clark children who stayed with the Cochranes. As well, there are extensive records documenting his position as advisor to the Minister of Justice on the committee hearing appeals from prisoners interned under the Defence of Canada Regulations, including case files on several notable communists such as Tim Buck, J B. Salsberg, Jacob Penner, Leslie Morris, Fred Rose, Bill Kashtin and Stanley Ryerson. Cochrane also co-authored a *Memorandum on the Communist Party in Canada* for the Ministry of Justice that discusses whether the Communist Party should continue to be illegal in view of the fact that the USSR was by now an ally. These records are found in Series 6.

Finally, some family photographs have been kept and mainly document Cochrane's two children, Mary Ann and Hugh David Cochrane.

Custodial History

C.N. Cochrane's papers were entrusted to his son, Hugh David Cochrane who had kept them until his death in 2002. They were then donated to the Archives via C.N. Cochrane's granddaughter, Margaret Phillips.

Access: Restricted. Series 6 – Case files relating to the Advisory Committee, Defence of Canada Regulations are restricted for 75 years. Consult University Archivist

All other records are open.

Accessions: B2003-0011, B2014-0011, B2019-0045

Series 1: Correspondence

1903, 1911-1946 0.2 m textual

In the first accrual of Cochrane fonds, B2003-0011, there is only a small amount of Cochrane's correspondence. There is very limited professional correspondence, some family correspondence from his wife and daughter and very routine correspondence relating to the University College men's residence. There is also some correspondence and related documents sent to Mrs. Cochrane upon the death of her husband.

Most of the correspondence relates to his family's involvement in the evacuation of children of Oxford University faculty to Canada during the 2nd World War. This was officially undertaken by the University of Toronto Women's War Services Committee but the correspondence relates directly to the care of the children of G.N. Clark, Patience and Martin, who lived with the Cochrane family from 1940-1942. There is also some correspondence with family friends, the Bells of Oxford, who sent their children and grandchildren to Canada. Cochrane finally helped them to be placed with relatives in the United States.

Of some interest, and included in this series, is a copy of W.S. Milne's letter to the President requesting an independent department for Ancient History, dated 1903 and attached is a copy of his lengthy justification. This item is filed at the end of the series.

An accrual of records in 2019 (B2019-0045) contained more correspondence especially during the Cochrane's time at Oxford (1911-1913) and during World War I (1914-1918). Letters are mainly to his mother and Aunt Grace from this time period. There are also incoming personal letters from friends including Frank Underhill 1913-1917.

Access: Open

Boxes:

- B2003-0011/001 (01) – (09)
- B2019-0045/001 (01)-(04)

Series 2: Teaching

1922-1941 0.33 m textual

Records in this series document Cochrane's role as an educator. Included are course outlines, exams annotated with Cochrane notes, assignments and reading lists.

The largest part of this series is made up of course lectures. Where identified, lectures for specific courses are arranged together. There are no complete runs of lectures but the courses represented include: 1st year Greek and Roman History, Constitutional and Political History of Rome, Interpretation of Greek History. There are a series of lectures on Roman history and another series on Roman law, religion and institutions, although no course was identified. Finally there are lectures for a course on Economics of Geography, clearly written by Cochrane, although it is uncertain when and where he would have taught this course.

Access: Open

Boxes:

- B2003-0011/001 (10) – (20)
- B2003-0011/002 - /003

Series 3: Publications

1924-1957 0.35 m. textual

Records in this series relate to Cochrane's publishing of books, articles and reviews. Included are manuscripts, correspondence, research notes, clippings, published reviews and off-prints. For his first major book, *Thucydides and the Science of History* (1929), there is only one file containing reviews, comments and some correspondence.

For his most renowned work, *Christianity and Classical Culture* (1940) there is no manuscript, although two sets of galley proofs have survived. There is some correspondence relating to the book and copies of numerous reviews, including some from important scholars such as George Grant, Arnaldo Momigliano, R.M. Henry, Shirley Jackson Case, W.H. Auden and Reinhold Niebuhr.

For B2003-0011, records are grouped by title and are arranged more or less chronologically by date of publication. All records relating to *Christianity and Classical Culture* are found in box /005. All other publications are in box /004. For B2019-0045 there are only 4 files. Two relate to publication issues and royalties for *Christianity and Classical Culture* as well as reviews. Two relate to *This Canada and Ours* (1924) which he wrote with W.S. Wallace including an annotated copy of the reader as well as a file containing publication agreements and related correspondence.

Access: Open

Boxes:

- B2003-0011/004 - /005
- B2019-0045/001(06)-(09)

Series 4: Talks, Essays and Lectures

192- 1945, 1968-199- 0.13m textual

This series includes manuscripts, draft notes, research notes of formal talks and lectures as well as related correspondence and newspaper clippings. Of particular note are files related to his work on historian Carl Becker. Two copies of his lecture and several files of notes are preserved. As well, there are manuscripts and typescripts of four lectures on St. Augustine that Cochrane delivered at Yale University prior to his death in 1945 and were expected to be published. There is also a rough draft of a paper entitled *Augustine's City of God* that may also have been part of this series.

Also filed at the end of this series is some correspondence and an annotated copy of the Yale lectures belonging to Hugh David Cochrane who had attempted to publish some of his father's works.

Records are grouped by title and are arranged chronologically.

Access: Open

Box: B2003-0011/006

Series 5: Notes

192- 194- 2.2 m textual

This series contains notes taken by Cochrane on secondary source readings, mainly monographs and encyclopedia as well as notes from primary documents such as the writings of early Greek and Roman philosophers and historians. While some notes are simply summaries of texts, others are annotated with Cochrane's own subjective comments and evaluations. These notes most certainly served as source material for lectures, addresses and publications. Since there are no early drafts of his two major books, *Thucydides and the Science of History* (1929), and *Christianity and Classical Culture* (1940), the notes give some sense of how Cochrane's theses developed and what contemporary and past works influenced his thinking.

This material is the most voluminous series and files are arranged in various ways. Firstly, there are notes grouped by subject as identified by Cochrane and arranged by author within. They include the following:

Boxes	Subject
B2003-0011/007	Political Science
B2003-0011/007	Marxism
B2003-0011/008	History and Philosophy of History
B2003-0011/008-009	Psychology, and, Mental and Moral Philosophy
B2003-0011/010-011	Christianity and the Philosophy of Religion
B2003-0011/012-013	Roman Religion, Law and Institutions
B2003-0011/014-015	Roman and Greek Antiquity

Secondly there are a series of notes on Roman History arranged by subject that often relate to subjects found in lectures (see Series 2) as well as a box of miscellaneous notes that may relate to the writing of *Christianity and Culture*. There are also 16 small notebooks on secondary source writings that relate to the broad subjects listed above, a bibliographic card index arranged by subject, as well as four files of bibliographic lists. Finally, a selection of annotated books from Cochrane's personal library has been preserved here for the value of the notes in the margins. A list of these titles can be found in Appendix 2.

Boxes	Subject
B2003-0011/016-017	Roman History notes by subject
B2003-0011/018	Miscellaneous notes
B2003-0011/019	Notebooks
B2003-0011/020	Bibliographic Index Cards
B2003-0011/017	Bibliographic lists
B2003-0011/024-025	Annotated books from Cochrane's Library.

Series 6: Advisory Committee, Defence of Canada Regulations

ca. 1940-1943 0.47 textual

During the Second World War, Cochrane was a member of the Defence of Canada Regulations, Advisory Committee to the Minister of Justice. The committee heard appeals from people interned under the Defence of Canada Regulations and made recommendations on the terms of release or continued imprisonment of the internee. Records include some general correspondence, background papers and notes. Most of the series are case files for individual appeals.

There are some 170 case files that minimally contain a copy of the memo sent from the committee to the Minister of Justice with decision and justification. Some files also contain police or RCMP reports, background briefings, transcripts of the hearing and other interviews, correspondence of witnesses and Cochrane's notes.

Also included in this series are some documents and clippings about various communist and fascist groups such as the Communist Party of Canada and the German Bund of Canada. These groups were illegal in this period under the Defence of Canada Regulations and many of its members appeared before the Advisory Board. There is also an early manuscript and a typescript of the *Memorandum on the Communist Party of Canada*, co-authored by Cochrane and A.S. Simpson ca. 1942.

General files have been placed in box /023, followed by files on the *Memorandum*. Case files, found in boxes /021 and /022, were grouped in large brown envelopes, upon which Cochrane listed the names of the internees and recommended decision for each case. These groupings have been maintained and arranged chronologically. The front of each envelope has been preserved and filed at the beginning of each group. Case files within each group have been arranged alphabetically by surname.

Access: Restricted. Case files in boxes /021 and /022 are restricted for 75 years.
 Consult University Archivist.

Boxes:

- B2003-0011/021 – 022 [Case files – restricted]
- B2003-0011/023 and B2014-0011/001
 - See file list in Appendix 3.

Series 7: Graphic

192- 193- 0.07 61 photographs and 32 negatives

This series mainly contains photographs and negatives documenting the Cochrane family, especially the Cochrane children Mary Ann and Hugh David. Cochrane appears in a very few, however, there are photographs of Cochrane on a camping trip to Temagami with some other men as well as early photos of his sea voyage to England probably to attend Oxford.

Access: Open

Box: B2003-0011/001P

Series 8: Biographical

1911-1976 0.14 m

This small series consists of three files: One with clippings about Cochrane, another with obituaries and memorials and a third with correspondence documenting discussions around the disposition of his papers. Also included in this series are appointment books that outline his activities from 1919-1944.

Access: Open

Boxes:

- B2019-0045/001 (10)-(12)
- B2019-0045/002

Appendix 1: Cochrane Bibliography

Books and Articles

Cochrane, Charles Norris. *Observations on the Teachings of History and Civics in the Primary and Secondary Schools of Canada*. National Council of Education, April, 1923.

Cochrane, Charles Norris. *David Thompson, the Explorer*. Can. Men of Action Ser. MacMillan and Co., 1924.

Cochrane, Charles Norris and W.S. Wallace. *This Canada of Ours, an Introduction to Canadian Civics*. Oxford University Press, 1924. (p. 182, illustrated)

Cochrane, Charles Norris. *Thucydides and the Science of History*. Oxford University Press, August, 1929. (pp. 184 & indices.)

Cochrane, Charles Norris in collaboration. "Honour classics in the University of Toronto". *University of Toronto Press*, Aug 1929, pp. 68.

Cochrane, Charles Norris. "The Question of Commerce Courses in Universities". *Proceedings; Fifteenth National Conference of Canadian Universities*. Reprinted, *University of Toronto Monthly*, October 1932. Reprinted in the UofT Monthly Oct. 1932 p.13-23.

Cochrane, Charles Norris. "Thucydides" *The Encyclopedia of Social Sciences*. New York: 1934.

Cochrane, Charles Norris. "Diabolism in Graeco-Roman Thought", *Journal of Hellenic Studies*, 1939 p.13-14.

Cochrane, Charles Norris. *Christianity and Classical Culture: A study of thought and action from Augustus to Augustine Vol. 8*. Oxford Clarendon Press, 1940. (pp. 516 & index)

Cochrane, Charles Norris. "The Mind of Edward Gibbon". *University of Toronto Quarterly*. Vol. 12. Oct. 1942. pp. 1-17; Jan. 1943. pp. 146-66.

Cochrane, Charles Norris. *Christianity and Classical Culture*. (A reprint, with the text revised and corrected, of the original Clarendon Press edition.) New York: Oxford University Press. 1944. (pp. 516)

Reviews

Cochrane, Charles Norris. Rev. of *Augustus* by John Buchan. *University of Toronto Quarterly*, VII, 2 January, 1938.

Cochrane, Charles Norris. Rev. of *Memory-hold-the-door and Canadian Occasions* by John Buchan. *University of Toronto Quarterly*. Vol. X, 1940. pp. 110-13.

Cochrane, Charles Norris. Rev. of *From the Stone Age to Christianity* by W.F. Albright. *Classical Weekly*. Vol. XXXIV, 5 May 1941.

Talks

"The Political Thought of H.G. Wells" lecture given at Victoria College, Dec. 14. 1921

"Machiavelli" talk at West Hall University College Nov. 28 1929

Appendix 2: Annotated Books from Cochrane's Library

Box: B2003-0011/024

Aeschylus. *Aeschyli Tragoediae cum fabularum deperditarum fragmentis poetae vita et operum atalogo, recensuit Arturus Sidgwick*. Oxonii: E Typographeo Clarendoniano, 1902.

Aristophanes. *Aristophanis Comodiae: recognovit brevique adnotatione critica instruxerunt F.W. Hall, W.M. Geldart*. Oxonii: E Typographeo Clarendoniano, 1906.

Aristotle. *Aristotelis Politica / Post Fr. Susemihlium Recognovit Otto Immisch*. Lipsiae: In Aedibus B.G. Teubneri, 1909.

Aristotle. *The Politics of Aristotle, with an introduction, two prefatory essays and notes critical and explanatory, by W.L. Newman*. Oxford: Oxford Clarendon Press, 1887.

Augustine, Saint. *The Confessions of St. Augustine / Translated by E.B. Pusey, D.D.*. London: J.M. Dent & Sons, 1909.

Augustine, Saint. *S. Aurelii Augustini episcopi Hipponensis De civitate dei contra paganos libri XXII / Edited by J.E.C. Welldon, D.D.* London: Society for Promoting Cristian Knowledge, 1924. 2 copies.

Caesar, Julius. *C. Luli Caesaris Commentariorum pars posterior... brevique adnotatione critica instruxit Renatus DuPontet. Vol 2*. Oxonii: E Typographeo Clarendoniano, 1900.

Cicero, Tullius. *Cicero's Second Philippic. Introd & Notes by Karl Halm, Ed. John E B Mayor*. London: MacMillan and Co.

Cicero, Tullius. *Cicero: Select Letters / with English introductions, notes, and appendices by Albert Watson, 4th ed.*. Oxford: Oxford Clarendon Press, 1891.

*Cicero, Tullius. *M. Tullii Ciceronis De Legibus Libri Tres / Recognovit Reinholdus Klotz*. 1872.

Euripides. *Euripidis Fabulae / recognovit brevique adnotatione critica instruxit Gilbertus Murray. t. 1*. Oxonii: E Typographeo Clarendoniano, 1902?

Euripides. *Euripidis Fabulae / recognovit brevique adnotatione critica instruxit Gilbertus Murray. t. 3.* Oxonii: E Typographeo Clarendoniano, 1902?

†Gibbon, Edward. *The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire / with notes by Rev. H.H. Milman. Vol. 3.* New York: Harper and Bros., 1860.

Homer. *Iliad, Books 13-24. With Notes by D.B. Monro. 4th ed. rev..* Oxford: Oxford Clarendon Press, 1903.

Herodotus. *Herodoti Historiae / recognovit brevique adnotatione critica instruxit Carolus Hude.* Oxonii: E Typographeo Clarendoniano, 1909.

Livy. *Titi Livi Ab Urbe Condita / t. 1. Libri I-V / recognoverunt Robertus Seymour Conway et Carolus Flamstead Walters.* Oxonii: E Typographeo Clarendoniano, 1914.

†Plato. *The Apology of Plato / with introduction and notes by St. George Stock.* Oxford: Oxford Clarendon Press, 1899.

Plato. *Platonis Opera / brevique adnotatione critica instruxit Ionnes Burnet / t. 2.* Oxonii: E Typographeo Clarendoniano, 19--.

Plato. *Platonis Opera / brevique adnotatione critica instruxit Ionnes Burnet / t. 5. part 1 /* Oxonii: E Typographeo Clarendoniano, 19--.

Plato. *Platonis Opera / brevique adnotatione critica instruxit Ionnes Burnet / t. 5. part 2 /* Oxonii: E Typographeo Clarendoniano, 19--.

Plato. *Platonis Res Publica / recognovit brevique adnotatione critica instruxit Ioannes Burnet.* Oxonii: E Typographeo Clarendoniano, 1902.

Sallust. C. *Sallusti Crispi / De Conturbatione Catilinae Liber De Bello Iugurthino Liber / Edited with Introduction and Notes by W.W. Capes.* Oxford: Oxford Clarendon Press, 1897.

*Sophocles. *Sophocles: The Text of the Seven Plays / Edited by Sir Richard Jebb.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1906.

Tacitus, Cornelius. *The Annals of Tacitus / edited with introduction and notes by Henry Furneaux. 2nd ed. Vol. 1.* Oxford: Oxford Clarendon Press, 1896

Thucydides. *Thucydidis Historiae / recognovit brevique adnotatione critica instruxit Henricus Stuart Jones.* Oxonii: E Typographeo Clarendoniano, 1902. 2 copies.

Xenophon. *Xenophontis Opera Omnia / recognovit brevique adnotatione critica instruxit E.C. Marchant. Vol 1.* Oxonii: E Typographeo Clarendoniano, 1900-20.

Xenophon. *Xenophontis Opera Omnia / recognovit brevique adnotatione critica instruxit E.C. Marchant. Vol 5.* Oxonii: E Typographeo Clarendoniano, 1900-20.

Appendix 3: File list – Series 6

File number	File title
B2003-0011/023(01)	Guidelines re regulations 21 & 22 of the Defence of Canada Act
B2003-0011/023(02)	Defence of Canada regulations – correspondence & expense accounting.
B2003-0011/023(03)	Memorandum: To Major Anderson from Judge Rolland Millar's committee re conditions in camps.
B2003-0011/023(04)	Preliminary report of the advisory committee re release of communists, Oct 1942.
B2003-0011/023(05)	Communist Party of Canada: leaders and structure
B2003-0011/023(06)	Memo: most likely by communist party re socialism and left labour movement.
B2003-0011/023(07)	Clippings re communists
B2003-0011/023(08)	Documents re German Bund
B2003-0011/023(09)	"Thoughts of a German in Canada" – Pankow?
B2003-0011/023(10)	Fascist (?) publication, Anti-Semite publication.
B2003-0011/023(11)	Memo on Jehovah's Witnesses.
B2003-0011/023(12)	Memorandum on the Communist Party of Canada – Explanatory Note – Part I
B2003-0011/023(13)	Memorandum on the Communist Party of Canada. – Part II
B2003-0011/023(14)	Memorandum on the Communist Party of Canada. – Part III
B2003-0011/023(15)	Original Manuscript: Memorandum. Title ? – On Marxism & USSR
B2014-0011/001	The Communist Party of Canada, 1943 (copy)