# Victoria University Archives

# Finding Aid - John D. Robins fonds (2155)

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# John D. Robins fonds

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# **Summary information**

**Repository:** Victoria University Archives

**Title:** John D. Robins fonds

**ID:** 2155

Category

Administrators / Faculty personal papers

[alternative]:

**Date:** 1909–1952 (date of creation)

**Physical description:** 60 cm of textual records

3 photographs

Dates of creation, revision and deletion:

# Administrative history / Biographical sketch

#### Note

John D. Robins was a professor, creative writer and editor of note who had a lengthy and distinguished teaching career at Victoria University. Born in Windsor, Ontario in 1884, to Thomas Brackhill Robins and Elizabeth Snelson Plant, he attended Albert College in Belleville before graduating with a B.A. (1913) and M.A. (1922) from Victoria University, and a Ph.d. from University of Chicago (1927). He began his teaching career at Victoria as a Lecturer in German in 1910, went on to become a Professor of English and Head of the Department, 1941–1952, while also serving as the Librarian, 1945–1952. In addition to his academic endeavors, he edited the highly regarded "A Pocketful of Canada" (1946), and wrote the popular non-fiction book "The Incomplete Anglers" (1944), as well as the novel "Cottage Cheese" (1951), and was also recognized for his knowledge of folklore. John D. Robins died suddenly in 1952.

# Scope and content

Fonds consists of the following series: Records relating to teaching, 1924–1952; Records relating to writing and editing, 1944–1951; and Student records, 1909–1913, [ca. 1926].

### **Notes**

#### Title notes

• **Source of title proper**: Title based on the contents of the fonds.

### **Immediate source of acquisition**

Gift 1990.093V

## Finding aids

Photographs are described in the photograph database: http://archival-photos.vicu.utoronto.ca/

### **Accruals**

No further accruals are expected.

#### Other notes

Publication status: Published

# **Access points**

- Textual records (documentary form)
- Photographs and art (documentary form)

## **Series descriptions**

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# Series 2155-1: Records relating to teaching

Date: 1924-1952 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of lectures and addresses, 1946-1952, and lectures (including drafts and plans), and research and teaching notes, 1924-1951.

Physical description: 24 cm of textual records

**Publication status:** 

Published					
File / item list					
Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container	
2155-1-1990.093V 1-1	File - Lectures/Addresses: Various	[between 1946- 1952]			
2155-1-1990.093V 1-2	File - Lectures/Addresses: "Angry and tolerant humour"	[between 1946- 1952]			
2155-1-1990.093V 1-3	File - Lectures/Addresses: "The author and his public in the Age before Caxton"	[between 1946- 1952]			
2155-1-1990.093V 1-4	File - Lectures/Addresses: "Ballad and broadside in America"	[between 1946- 1952]			
2155-1-1990.093V 1-5	File - Lectures/Addresses: "Ballad and broadside in English-speaking America"	[between 1946- 1952]			
2155-1-1990.093V 1-6	File - Lectures/Addresses: "Ballad authorship"	[between 1946- 1952]			
2155-1-1990.093V 1-7	File - Lectures/Addresses: "Ballads and broadsides II–Negro folk songs"	[between 1946- 1952]	_		
2155-1-1990.093V 1-8	File - Lectures/Addresses: "Ballads and broadsides III–Cowboy songs and sailor chanties"	[between 1946- 1952]			
2155-1-1990.093V 1-9	File - Lectures/Addresses: "Ballads and broadsides IV–Songs of the lumberjacks"	[between 1946- 1952]			
2155-1-1990.093V 1-10	File - Lectures/Addresses: "Ballads and folksongs"	[between 1946- 1952]			
2155-1-1990.093V 1-11	File - Lectures/Addresses: "Beowulf"	[between 1946- 1952]	,		
2155-1-1990.093V 1-12	File - Lectures/Addresses: "The broadside"	[between 1946- 1952]			
2155-1-1990.093V 1-13	File - Lectures/Addresses: "A few remarks about humour"	[between 1946- 1952]			
2155-1-1990.093V 1-14	File - Lectures/Addresses: "Folklore"	[between 1946- 1952]			
2155-1-1990.093V 1-15	File - Lectures/Addresses: "The folksong in Ontario"	[between 1946- 1952]			
2155-1-1990.093V 1-16	File - Lectures/Addresses: "Haliburton and Leacock"	[between 1946- 1952]			
2155-1-1990.093V 1-17	File - Lectures/Addresses: "Humour"	[between 1946- 1952]			
2155-1-1990.093V 1-18	File - Lectures/Addresses: "Humour in Canadian life and literature"	[between 1946- 1952]			
2155-1-1990.093V 1-19	File - Lectures/Addresses: "Humour of Dickens"	[between 1946- 1952]			
2155-1-1990.093V 1-20	File - Lectures/Addresses: "A literary Gallup Poll"	[between 1946- 1952]			
2155-1-1990.093V 1-21	File - Lectures/Addresses: "Scott and the ballad"	[between 1946- 1952]			
2155-1-1990.093V 1-22	File - Lectures/Addresses: "Some observations on Sir Walter Scott's use of the marvelous"	[between 1946- 1952]			
2155-1-1990.093V 1-23	File - Lectures/Addresses: "Stephen Leacock"	[between 1946- 1952]			

2155-1-1990.093V	File - Lectures/Addresses: "Thirty-nine	[between 1946-
1-24	years at Victoria"	1952]
2155-1-1990.093V	File - Lectures/Addresses: "Troilus and	[between 1946-
1-25	Criseyde"	1952]
2155-1-1990.093V	File - Lectures/Addresses: "The	[between 1946-
1-26	uselessness of libraries"	1952]
2155-1-1990.093V	File - Lectures/Addresses: "What	[between 1946-
1-27	Canadians have laughed at"	1952]
2155-1-1990.093V	File - Lectures/Addresses: "Wild animals	[between 1946-
1-28	you may not have known"	1952]
2155-1-1990.093V	File - Lectures /research and teaching	[between
1-29	notes: Various	1924-1951]
2155-1-1990.093V	File - Lectures /research and teaching	[between
1-30	notes: Beowulf	1924-1951]
2155-1-1990.093V 2-1		[between
	I	1924-1951]
2155-1-1990.093V 2-2		[between
		1924-1951]
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2155-1-1990.093V 2-4		-
		1924-1951]
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1-30 2155-1-1990.093V 2-1 2155-1-1990.093V 2-2		1924-1951] [between 1924-1951] [between 1924-1951]

## Series 2155-2: Records relating to writing and editing

Date: 1944-1951 (date of creation)

### Scope and content:

Series consists of articles, fragments, notes, and correspondence regarding the editing of A Pocketful of Canada, published in 1946. Also includes drafts, typescripts, and other records regarding various fiction and non-fiction works, 1944-1951.

Physical description: 30 cm of textual records

2 photographs

## Publication status:

	Ela /:tamal	1± ~4		
	File / item l	ist		
Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
2155-2-1990.093V 3-1	File - [A Pocketful of Canada - Notes]	ca 1946	•	
2155-2-1990.093V 3-2	File - [A Pocketful of Canada - Articles]	ca 1946		
2155-2-1990.093V 3-3	File - [A Pocketful of Canada - Articles]	ca 1946		
2155-2-1990.093V 3-4	File - [A Pocketful of Canada - Articles]	ca 1946		
2155-2-1990.093V 3-5	File - [A Pocketful of Canada - Articles and Notes]	ca 1946		
2155-2-1990.093V 3-7	File - [A Pocketful of Canada - Correspondence]	1944-1946		
2155-2-1990.093V 3-8	File - Personal Correspondence	1946		
2155-2-1990.093V 3-9	File - [A Pocketful of Canada - Notes and Articles]	ca 1946		
2155-2-1990.093V	File - [A Pocketful of Canada -	1945		
3-10	Correspondence]			
2155-2-1990.093V	File - [A Pocketful of Canada - Notes,	ca 1945	·	
3-11	Articles, Correspondence]			
2155-2-1990.093V	File - [A Pockeful of Canada - Notes and	ca 1944		
3-12	Correspondence]			
2155-2-1990.093V 4-1	File - "A Pocketful of Canada" - Articles	1946	,	
to 28				
2155-2-1990.093V	File - "The Incomplete Anglers" - First	1941		
4-29	and second drafts and revision			
2155-2-1990.093V	File - "The Incomplete Anglers" - Final	1943		
4-30	draft and galley proofs			
2155-2-1990.093V	File - "The Incomplete Anglers" -	1943		
4-31	Memorandum of agreement	-		
2155-2-1990.093V	File - "The Incomplete Anglers" -	1944		
4-32	Review by J.D.R.			
2155-2-1990.093V	File - "Cottage Cheese" - Typescript Part	[195-]		
4-33	I CI II TO C	[107.]		
2155-2-1990.093V 5-1	File - "Cottage Cheese"- Typescript Parts	[195-]		
to 3	II–IV	[105]		
2155-2-1990.093V 5-4	File - "Cottage Cheese" - Memorandum of agreement	[195-]		
2155-2-1990.093V 5-5	File - Manuscript/typescript of untitled novel	[195?]		
2155-2-1990.093V 5-6	File - Article on Lawren Harris published in "Canadian Review"	1944		
2155-2-1990.093V 5-7	File - Review of "A Social Departure" for C.B.C.	1951		

## Series 2155-3: Student records

<u>Date</u>: [ca. 1926] (date of creation) <u>Date</u>: 1909-1913 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of class notebooks, 1909-1913; and notes for Ph.d. thesis, [ca. 1926].

Physical description: 6 cm of textual records

<u>Publication status</u>:

Published

File / item list					
Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container	
2155-3-1990.093V 5-8	File - Class notebooks: English/First	1909-1913Â			
	Year				
2155-3-1990.093V 5-9	File - Class notebooks: English-	1909-1913			
	Professors Stevenson and Wallace				
2155-3-1990.093V	File - Class notebooks: English-	1909-1913			
5-10	Professor Pelham Edgar				
2155-3-1990.093V	File - Class notebooks: Courses taken in	1909-1913			
5-11	Germany				
2155-3-1990.093V	File - Ph.D. Thesis - Rough notes	[ca. 1926]			
5-12					
2155-3-1990.093V	File - Ph.D. Thesis - Further notes	[ca. 1926]			
5-13					