



## MG 749 – Margaret “Pearl” Hanning fonds

**Dates:** ca.1890s-1982 (inclusive); 1935-1982 (predominant)

**Extent:** .44 m textual material; 32 photographs; artifacts

**Biography:** Margaret “Pearl” Ruphina Hanning was born in Souris, P.E.I. and came west around 1902 with her mother and two aunts. She attended the University of Saskatchewan and attained a B.A. in 1915 (in the same graduating class as notable alums Nan KcKay and John Diefenbaker). After teaching for a while in the province she then obtained her Masters in French and Education from the University of Madison Wisconsin. She then joined the staff at Scott Collegiate in 1943, moving on to teach French at Marian High School, and then joined the Campion College at the University of Regina where she worked until she retired. She passed away July 11, 1982.

**Scope and content:** This fonds contains materials collected and created by Margaret “Pearl” Hanning throughout her life. Predominant are publications by R.W. Robins\*, a British collector and author she had a correspondence with. Some correspondence, poems, and pamphlets were found tucked inside these publications. Also are some artifacts relating to the British monarchy and her retirement. Other documents pertaining to her life are also present such as photographs, school work, and her burial certificate.

\*F.W. Robins, according to the British Museum “Dilettante, collector and author ('The Story of the Lamp', OUP, 1939); Fellow of the RGS, member of Museums Association and Egypt Exploration Society, etc. Bequeathed lamps to the BM.”

**Arrangement:** This fonds has been arranged alphabetically by subject.

**Custodial history:** This fonds was donated to the archives by Marcel & Debbie Nussbaum, who found the material while they were dealing with Norah Gilles Huland’s estate. Norah was a life-long friend of Pearl Hanning. Norah’s name is on the burial documents included in this fond, and is named in Pearl’s obituary.

**Restrictions:** There are no restrictions on access.

*Finding aid by Amy Putnam, March 2023.*

**Box 1**

1. *A Book of Verse* by F.W. Robbins. – nd, 1948. – 1 book, 2 photographs.  
Published hardcover copy annotated “FW Robbins August 1948”  
Tucked inside the book were two photographs:  
    “Barn at Boxley – formerly the brewhouse of Boxley Abbey” – 1 photograph.  
    “The West Gate, Canterbury” – 1 photograph.
2. Burial records. – 1982.  
    Burial certificate, City of Regina documents, clipping.
3. Candy Dish. – 1970. **See Box 2**  
    One metal candy dish inscribed “M.H.R. 1970 The Campion Staff”.
4. Clipping. – 1970.  
    “Principal holds farewell dinner”. Described the retirement event for Miss Hanning and mentions the engraved silver candy dish that is found in this fonds.
5. The Coronation of their Majesties King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Official Souvenir Program. – 1937.
6. Desk Clock and Pen Holder. – 1962. **See Box 2**  
    Inscribed “To Miss Hanning in Appreciation Class of 3B 1962”.
7. Dance card. – 1924.  
    Wynyard Lodge No.66, October 24<sup>th</sup>, 1924.
8. *From Mood to Mood* by F.W. Robins. – nd, 1941.  
    Tucked inside the book was  
        -“High Flight” by John Gillespie Magee Jr, age 19, American volunteer flier killed December 11, 1941 in Action with R.C.A.F.  
        -“Skye” by F.W. Robins.  
        -2 Christmas cards/poems from F.W. Robins.  
        -“Sight” by F.W. Robins.  
        -“A Western Canadian Sunset” by M.R. Hanning  
        -Election cards for Hewitt Helsing
9. *From Time to Time* by F.W. Robins.  
    With handwritten poems in front and back. Receipt from Hanning for STF fund (1944).
10. *Graeco roman lamps from Egypt* by F.W. Robins, 1939. Reprinted from *The Journal of Egyptian Archaeology* Vol.XXV, Part 7, 1939.
11. The Holy Bible, Murphy Edition. – nd, 1956. – 2 folders.

Folder 1: Bible, signed "Pearl Hanning".

Folder 2: Items found tucked inside the bible:

-clipping in French from the L'Action Catholique, 1956. "M Robert Menzies rend  
hommage a nos universities"

-Our Lady of Roc-Amadour pamphlet

12. *The Imitation of Christ* by Thomas À Kempis, 1940.

Annotated "To Pearl: Souvenir of your Madison Triumph Year, 1944. Irma"

13. *In Various Moods* by F.W. Robins.

14. King George V Silver Jubilee Medal. – 1935.

Medal and letter from Buckingham Palace to Miss Hanning directing her to wear the  
medal in commemoration of the Jubilee.

15. King George VI Coronation Plate. – 1937. **See Box 2.**

16. "Making Life Sweeter". – nd.

Handwritten note.

17. *Manual of Prayers for the use of Catholic Laity*, 1916.

With misc. prayer cards tucked inside, left where they were found. End papers are  
covered in handwritten notes (prayers?).

18. Notebook with handwritten poetry. – nd.

Unsigned, unattributed.

19. Photographs. – ca.1890s-1971. – 30 photographs.

Photographs mainly of Margaret "Pearl" Hanning. Notably featuring Pearl driving an  
ostrich cart, sitting on car, with horses, with dogs, staff photo, USask graduation photo  
(1915), formal portraits (especially Pearl with her parents as a child), school photo strip  
containing 8 copies of same image; etc. Also included is a handwritten name tag and a  
Canadian Federation of University Women membership card.

20. Schoolwork. – nd. – 2 folders.

English essays, French vocabulary, etc. done by Hanning.

## **Box 2**

21. *The Smith: The Traditions and Lore of an Ancient Craft* by F.W. Robbins, 1953.

Published hardcover copy. Annotated "with sincere regards, FW Robins, 1954"

Tucked inside the book was "Lectures, F.W. Robbins, F.R.G.S", a pamphlet containing a  
list of his lectures.

22. *The Story of the Lamp (and the Candle)* by F.W. Robins. – 1939-52. – 2 folders.

Folder 1: Copy of *The Story of the Lamp (and the Candle)* published 1939. Annotated “With sincere regards F.W. Robins”.

Folder 2: (Items found tucked inside this book)

- The Cross of Sacrifice (Brookwood, Dec 1952) [poem with photo of cemetery]
- Jersey Sunbonnets / Old Sufforlk [poems]
- Letter dated July 7, 1955 [Date really looks like 1935 at first glance but that doesn't make sense in context] to Miss Hanning from F.W. Robins. Letter discusses cruise in Norway, and giving Miss Hanning the book “The Lamp” and “Finger Points”. Signature looks like it could be the same person as the poems.
- Typed letter dated Dec 16, 1935 from F.W. Robins to Miss Hanning. Discusses the political climate of the time – thinks Britain should be friends with Germany, not France, sympathizes with Italy, thinks the war will blow over.
- Torn newspaper clipping with “The Lamp” short story, 1934.

23. *The Story of Water Supply* by F.W. Robins. – 1946-1947.

Published hardcover copy. “Pearl Hanning” written inside the front cover and on title page it is annotated “with kind regards FW Robins Jan 20, 1947.”

24. *Who's Who in Saskatchewan, 1969.*

Contains an entry for Margaret Hanning.

Tucked inside:

- “Who's who” card with congratulatory note and newspaper clipping about Miss Hanning being elected president of the Regina Business and Professional women's Club.