

MJ-1

Wilson MacDonald Poetry Society fonds. - [textual record]. - 1923-1938. - 5.50 cm of textual records.

Boxes V-1, H-1, OS-1

Source of title

The title is based on the content of the fonds. Some of the information was compiled from "Wilson MacDonald's Western Tour" assembled by Stan Dragland and a short synopsis of the poet's style in "Leading Canadian Poets" by W. P. Percival.

Biographical history

Wilson Pugsley MacDonald was the son of Alexander and Anna Marie (Pugsley) MacDonald, and born at Cheapside, Ontario on May 5, 1880. Educated at the public schools of Port Dover, at Woodstock College and at McMaster University. After graduating in 1902 he traveled to England, but returned to Canada as a bank clerk and was a advertising copywriter in the United States. He has made his home in Toronto, Ontario, but traveled greatly giving recital tours. During the time between 1923 and 1924 one of these recital tours took him to the western provinces. He married one Dorothy Ann Colomy of Vassalboro, Maine in [1935]. He died April 8, 1967.

MacDonald has written many poems, plays and a musical comedy, "In Sunny France." His poetry shows a marked versatility in theme and in treatment, but is unified by a quest for beauty. Titles of his books of poems include: "The Song of the Prairie Land" (1918, 1923); "The Miracle Songs of Jesus" (1921, 1923); "Out of the Wilderness" (1926); "Ode on the Diamond Jubilee of Confederation" (1927). Other works of his include: "Caw Caw Ballads" (1930); "A Flagon of Beauty" (1931); "Paul Marchand" (1933); "Song of the Undertow" (1935); "Comber Cove" (1937); "Greater Poems of the Bible" (1943); "The Way Out" (1947); and "The Lyric Year" (1952).

Custodial history

All the material contained in this fonds, was collected by friend and Chairperson of the Moose Jaw branch of the Wilson MacDonald Poetry Society, Mrs. Angus Graham.

Fonds level scope and content

This fonds contains five series: published articles, poems, original letters of the poet, various event programmes and a minute book from the Wilson MacDonald Poetry Society.

Conservation note

This fonds was re-folded, re-boxed and a portion was encapsulated in 2000.

Note of immediate source of acquisition

Accession Number: 1.BA donated to the archives by Mrs. Kathleen Graham Bamford.

Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

Series level scope and content

MJ-1.1 Correspondence. - [textual record]. - 1924-1935. - 1 cm. of textual records.

Box V-1

This series consists of correspondence from Wilson MacDonald.

MJ-1.1a - Correspondence with Mrs. Angus Graham. - [textual record]. - 1924-1935. - 1 cm. of textual records.

This file contains letters and poems sent to Mrs. Angus Graham.

MJ-1.2 Poetry. - [textual record]. - 1924-1934. - 1 cm. of textual records.

Box V-1

This series is of poems written by Wilson MacDonald between 1924 and 1934, others that are included are undated.

MJ-1.3 - Event Programmes. - [textual record]. - 1924 - 1938. - 1 cm. of textual records.

Box V-1

This series consists of Programmes of Events associated with Wilson MacDonald. Included is the programme of a Musical Comedy "In Sunny France" a Canadian Recital Tour programme and the Coronation Programme of the Wilson MacDonald Poetry Society.

MJ-1.4 - Published Articles. - [textual record]. - 1923-1930. - 1 cm. of textual records.

Box V-1, OS-1

This series contains newspaper and magazine articles collected by Mrs. Angus Graham about Wilson MacDonald. The articles are from the Saskatoon "Daily Star," "The Saskatchewan Teacher" and "Saturday Night" among others.

MJ-1.5 Minute Book. - [textual record]. - 1925-1932. - 1.5 cm of textual records.

Box H-1

This series consists of a book of minutes of the Wilson MacDonald Poetry Society, 1925 to 1932.