

ERIC P. NICOL, 1919 –
AN INVENTORY OF HIS FONDS

IN

THE LIBRARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
RARE BOOKS AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

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June 1994

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April 2008

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Title: Eric Nicol fonds

Dates of creation: 1944-1992

Addendum: 1944-2005

Physical description: 6.65m of textual records, 133 photographs,

Addendum: 1.19m of textual records, 7 photographs, 1 audio cassette

Biographical sketch:

Eric Patrick Nicol was born on December 28, 1919 in Kingston, Ontario of English parents. He moved at an early age to Vancouver and attended the University of British Columbia, where he started his writing career as a contributor to the student newspaper, *The Ubyyssey*, with a humour column written under the pseudonym Jabez. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree with honours in French in 1941. From 1942 to 1945 he served with the ground crew of the Royal Canadian Air Force, contributing to service publications such as *Wings* and *Torch*. He returned to UBC after the war as an instructor in English and obtained a Master of Arts degree in French in 1948. After spending one year at the Sorbonne, he moved to London to write radio and television comedies for the British Broadcasting Corporation. He also wrote occasional columns for the *The Vancouver Province*. In 1948 his first book, *Sense and Nonsense* was published. He returned to Vancouver to become a columnist for *The Province* and to freelance in radio and television. His career covers a wide range of writings such as stage plays, radio and television plays, revues, radio and television variety shows, humour books, magazine articles, and historical books. He received the Leacock medal for humour three times for *The Roving I*, *Shall We Join the Ladies*, and *Girdle Me a Globe*. To many people, he is best known as a columnist for *The Vancouver Province*, 1951-1985. His columns included comments on many contentious issues such as capital punishment and fluoridation.

Scope and Content:

The fonds consists of Eric Nicol's business correspondence, drafts (handwritten notebooks and typescripts) for various writings, finished scripts for plays and shows, drafts and newspaper clippings of his columns, reference materials, reviews of his work, printed materials featuring his articles, photographs of Eric Nicol, and subject files. The fonds contains a file of his correspondence with *The Vancouver Sun*, which was kept by the *Sun* and later given to Nicol. His writings are categorized into radio scripts, television scripts, stage scripts, books, articles, short stories and other writings. Drafts and related materials of each category comprise a series.

A second accession was added in 2007, and described in 2008 (see Addendum description, page 13, for more information).

Source of supplied title proper: title based on contents of fonds.

Immediate source of acquisition: donated by Eric Nicol, April 26, 1994.

Arrangement:

Eric Nicol did not keep any filing systems except keeping his

correspondence in alphabetical order. Materials were sorted into categories he suggested at the time of transfer and arranged alphabetically by title in the Special Collections and University Archives Division.

Restrictions: no restrictions were placed on access.

Accruals: further accruals might be donated later.

Series descriptions

1. Correspondence series. - 1949-1970. - 36 cm.

Series consists of business correspondence. It was kept in three alphabetical folders (1949-54, 1954-62, 1962-70).

2. *Province* column series. - 1952-1988. - 1.71m.

Series consists of notebooks of handwritten drafts (1952-1988), typescript carbon copies (1972-1984, incomplete), and newspaper clippings (1952-86, incomplete). It also includes notebooks, listing columns from 1954 to 1965. Most of the clippings were kept by Pacific Press Limited (*The Province*) and transferred to Nicol after being microfilmed. Notebooks and clippings are arranged in chronological order, and typescripts are in reverse chronological order.

3. Radio series. - 1942-1989. - 92cm.

Series consists of five sub-series relating to his scripts for radio programmes: radio plays, radio revues, radio talks, radio variety shows in Canada, and radio variety shows in Great Britain for the British Broadcasting Corporation. The radio play sub-series is arranged alphabetically by title of plays. Other sub-series are arranged alphabetically by title of programmes. The radio play sub-series includes one cassette tape of a radio play recording.

4. Television series. - 1950-1988. - 55cm.

Series consists of six sub-series relating to his scripts for television programmes: television plays, television revues, television monologues, television music shows, television variety shows in Canada, and television variety shows for the British Broadcasting Corporation. The television play sub-series is arranged alphabetically by title of plays. Other sub-series are arranged alphabetically by title of programmes.

5. Stage series. - 1957-1991. - 77cm.

Series consists of three sub-series relating to his scripts for performances on stage: stage plays, stage revues, and a stage monologue. The stage play sub-series is arranged alphabetically by title of plays, and the stage revue sub-series is arranged alphabetically by title of shows.

6. Book series. - 1959-1989. - 95cm.

Series consists of typescripts of books. Some files contain reference materials, notebooks of handwritten drafts, correspondence and other related materials. The *Vancouver* file and *Dickens of the Mounted* file include photographs. The series is arranged alphabetically by title.

7. Short Story series. - ?-1991. - 3cm.

Series consists of typescripts of short stories, arranged by title.

8. Article series. - 1944-1989. - 28cm.

Series consists of two sub-series: drafts and printed articles for magazines and other publications. Each sub-series is arranged alphabetically by title of publications. Clippings are kept together in three folders as the creator kept them. Many drafts are not dated.

9. Other writings series. - 1964-1968. - 9 folders.

Series consists of typescripts of promotional materials and commercials for companies and events, and of unidentified materials.

10. Miscellaneous notebook series. - 1953-1992. - 47cm.

Series consists of notebooks of handwritten drafts for all kinds of writings except columns of *The Province*. It is arranged chronologically.

11. Review series. - 1956-1992. - 14cm.

Series consists of clippings of reviews on books and plays. It is arranged alphabetically by title of works.

12. Subject file series. - 1952-1986. - 19cm.

Series consists of 16 subject files: capital punishment; genesis of the Society for Population Control; income tax return; lecture notes; letters from readers; memorabilia; miscellany - theatre, odds and ends; Okanagan Summer School of the Arts; progressive education; Reginerazione; royal visit to Fiji; UBC memorabilia; UBC research materials; Vancouver foundation battle; west coast writers.

13. Scrapbook series. - 1955-1968. - 3 volumes.

Series consists of three scrapbooks of newspaper clippings of articles concerning Nicol, reviews of his work, and his columns.

14. Photograph series. - n.d. - 66 prints and 4 negatives.

Series consists of photographic prints and negatives of Eric Nicol. Some photographs are also contained in two files of the book series: *Dickens of the Mounted* and *Vancouver*.

Sub-group

The Vancouver Sun sub-group. - 1949-1963. - 1 folder.

The sub-group consists of correspondence of the Vancouver Sun with Nicol. The

file was kept by the and later given to Nicol.

File List

Box - Folder

Correspondence series

1 - 1-19	1949-1954
1 - 20-37, 2-1	1954-1962
2 - 2-27	1962-1970

Province column series

Notebooks

3	1952-1958
4	1958-1964
5	1965-1973
6	1974-1979
7	1980-1988

Typescripts

8 - 1	Oct.3, 1983-Nov.4, 1984
8 - 2	Oct.15, 1982-Sept.30, 1983
8 - 3	Jan.1, 1982-Oct. 13, 1982
8 - 4	Feb.27, 1981-Dec.30, 1981
8 - 5	Jun.2, 1980-Feb.25,1981
8 - 6	Oct.22, 1974-Apr.22, 1975
8 - 7	Apr.25, 1974-Oct. 19, 1974
8 - 8	Nov.1, 1973-Apr.23,1974
8 - 9	Apr.19,1973-Oct.30,1973
9 - 1	Nov.23, 1972-Apr. 17, 1973
9 - 2	Sept.23, 1953 (retyped)

Clippings

9 - 3	1952-1953
9 - 4	1954
9 - 5	Aug. 1966-Dec. 1966
9 - 6	Jan. 1967-Jun. 1967
9 - 7	Jul. 1967-Dec.1967
9 - 8	Jan. 1968-May 1968
9 - 9	Jun. 1968-Aug. 1968
9 - 10	Sept. 1968-Dec. 1968

Box - Folder

Clippings (continued)

10- 1	Jan. 1969-Jun.1969
10 - 2	Jul. 1969-Dec. 1969
10 - 3	Jan. 1970-Jun. 1970
10 - 4	Jul. 1970-Dec. 1970
10 - 5	Jan. 1971-May 1971
10 - 6	May 1971-Dec.1971
10 - 7	Jan. 1972-Dec.1972
10 - 8	Jan. 1973-Dec. 1973
10 - 9	Jan. 1976-Dec. 1976
11 - 1	Jan. 1977-Dec.1977
11 - 2	Jan. 1978-Nov. 1978
11 - 3	Jan. 1979-Dec. 1979
11 - 4	Jan. 1980-Dec. 1980
11 - 5	Jan. 1981-Dec. 1981
11 - 6	Jan. 1982-Dec. 1982
11 - 7	Jan. 1983-Dec. 1983
11 - 8	Jan. 1984-Oct.1984
11 - 9	Nov. 1984-Dec. 1986

Radio Series

Radio Plays (finished scripts unless otherwise noted)

12 - 1	The Addict (1952) Includes typescript.
12 - 2	The Awkward Manna (1948)
12 - 3	Baker's Dozen (1942)
12 - 4	Bonds for Bombs! (1944)
12 - 5	Canadian Party (n.d.)
12 - 6	C.B.C. Christmas Day Show (1950)
12 - 7	The Common Touch (1962)
12 - 8	The Crabapple Queen (n.d.) Typescript.
12 - 9	The Fifteen Men (1947,1948,1952)
12 - 10	The Giant Beyond the Rockies (1966) Includes typescript.
12 - 11	The Gift (n.d.) Typescript.
12 - 12	Hail Fellow, Well Met (1946,1953,1956)
12 - 13	Hair of the Dog (1954) Includes typescript.
12 - 14	Hamburgers and Heraldry (1951)
12 - 15	Hell's Angel (1987) Draft for CBC radio literary competition.
12 - 16	I'm Just Wild About Hare Krishna (1974) Includes typescript, outline.
12 - 17	The Last Great Benefit Rock Concert (1978) Draft for CBC radio literary competition.
12 - 18	The Last Ride of S.Claus (1951)
12 - 19	Love is a Wanton (1952)

Box - Folder

Radio play (continued)

- 12 - 20 Mac and the Atom (1949)
- 12 - 21 The Machine (1952) Includes typescript.
- 12 - 22 The Miser (n.d.) Typescript
- 12 - 23 The Naked Audio (1970) Includes typescript, revisions.
- 12 - 24 A Nicol Makes Five (1969) (Includes: Rings on her Finger, A Tale Told by a Vidiot, Hail Fellow, Well Met, Some Birds Don't Fly, and The Common Touch)
- 12 - 25 Once More, From the Top (n.d.)
- 13 - 1 Once Upon a Moon (1947, 1961) Includes revised draft.
- 13 - 2 Ours is the Future (1958)
- 13 - 3 Ratzlaff vs. the Creator (1985) Includes reviews.
- 13 - 4 Rings on her Finger (1953, 1954) Includes typescript.
- 13 - 5 Single Gentlemen Preferred (1946)
- 13 - 6 Some Birds Don't Fly (1962) Includes typescript.
- (Not boxed) State of the Arts (1986) Recording of the broadcast.
(Cassette tape call #: Sp 66:1)
- 13 - 7 Strictly from Hunger (1952) Includes draft.
- 13 - 8 A Tale Told by a Vidiot (1962) Includes typescript.
- 13 - 9 Three Weeks at Wit's End (1969)
- 13 - 10 A Time to Speak (1958) Includes typescript.
- 13 - 11 Two Weeks at Wit's End (1969) Includes typescript.
- 13 - 12 Uncle Lush (1952) Includes typescript.
- 13 - 13 Your Placebo or Mine (1989) Draft for CBC literary competition.
- 13 - 14 Walk by Night (n.d.)

Radio Revue (typescripts unless otherwise noted)

- 14 - 1 CBC Pacific (n.d.)
- 14 - 2 CBC School Broadcast (n.d.)
- 13 - 15 Hotel Downbeat (n.d.)
- 14 - 3-8 Inside from the Outside (1970-1976)
- 14 - 9 P.R. Show (n.d.)
- 13 - 16 Third Victory Loan (n.d.)
- 13 - 17 Why Canadians Leave Home (1955) Includes finished script.
- 14 - 10 Worst of '63 (1963)
- 13 - 18 Others (1970,1971)

Box - Folder

Radio Talk (typescripts)

- 18 - 1 Authors' Choice (1989)
- 18 - 2 CBC International (n.d.)
- 18 - 3 CBC International Service (1977-1980)
- 18 - 4 CBC Talk (1948,1954)
- 18 - 5 Critically Speaking (1952,1953)
- 18 - 6 Dominion Magazine (n.d.)
- 18 - 7 The Frozen Smile (1970)
- 18 - 8 Miscellany (n.d.)
- 18 - 9 Public Affairs (n.d.)
- 18 - 10 Trans-Canada Matinee (1954-1965)
- 18 - 11 Others (show title unknown) (1963,1977)

Radio Variety Show

- 14 - 11 The Barney Potts Show (n.d.) Typescripts.
- 13 - 19 CBC Showcase (1953) Typescript, finished script.
- 14 - 12 Behind the Headlines (1954) Typescript.
- 14 - 13 Canadian Weekly Newspaper Assn. Show (1971) Typescript.
- 14 - 14 Comedy Cafe (1969) Typescript, outlines.
- 13 - 20-21 Command Performance (1943, 1944) Finished scripts.
- 13 - 22 Jubilee (1946) Finished scripts.
- 14 - 15 Music I Like (1962) Typescript.
- 13 - 23 Songs for the Boys (1945) Typescript, finished script.
- 13 - 24 Stag Party (1942) Finished script.
- 13 - 25 Stopwatch and Listen (1951) Finished script.

Radio - BBC (finished scripts unless otherwise noted)

- 15 - 1-9 Bedtime with Braden [co-scripted with Denis Norden and Frank Muir] (1950-1953)
- 15 - 10 Between Times with Braden [co-scripted with Denis Norden and Frank Muir] (1954)
- 15 - 11, Breakfast with Braden [co-scripted with Denis Norden and Frank Muir] (1950) Includes typescripts.
- 16 - 1-2
- 16 - 3 Britain on Show (1951)
- 16 - 4 Ca C'est Paris (1951)
- 16 - 5 Canada Calling (1950)
- 16 - 6 Land of the Young Son (1951) Includes typescript.
- 16 - 7-10 Leave Your Name and Number (n.d.)
- 16 - 11 Return to Paris (n.d.) Typescript. 4

Box - Folder

Television Series

Television Play

- 16 - 12 The Bathroom (1963) Typescript, finished script.
- 16 - 13 A Beginner's History of Canada (n.d.) Typescript.
- 16 - 14-15 Borderline (1968) Typescript, revisions, handwritten notes.
- 16 - 16 Christmas Show (1988) Includes a letter from a production company, comments on the script, the script, and design drafts.
- 16 - 17 The Good Canadian (1958) Finished script, typescript.
- 16 - 18 Hell of a Lover (1964) Typescript.
- 17 - 1 Instant Ivy (1966) Typescript, finished script.
- 17 - 2 The Island (1967) Outline.
- 17 - 3 Ma! (1982) Finished script, revisions, rehearsal schedule, and reference material (newspaper).
- 17 - 4-5 The Man From Inner Space (1973) Finished script, photocopy of publication, typescript.
- 17 - 6 Maple Leaf (1966, 1967) Typescript, finished script.
- 17 - 7 Moon Girl (n.d.) Typescript.
- 17 - 8 Scope for New Years (n.d.) Typescript.
- 17 - 9 Spud Murphy's Hill (1967) Outline, typescript, finished script.
- 17 - 10 Strictly from Hunger (1952) Finished script.
- 17 - 11 Take to the Woods (1955) Finished script.
- 17 - 12 This Other Eden (n.d.) Typescript.
- 17 - 13-14 To the Bastille (1988) Outline, typescript, reference materials, handwritten draft.

Television Revue (typescripts unless otherwise noted)

- 18 - 12 The Big Show (n.d.)
- 18 - 13 CBUT Revue (n.d.)
- 18 - 14 Comedy Crackers (1970)
- 18 - 15 The Don Harron Show (1984-85) Includes handwritten notes.
- 18 - 16 Emerson & Co. (1955)
- 18 - 17 If I'm A Milligan... (1972)
- 18 - 18 Item (1958)
- 18 - 19 The Little Show (1969)
- 18 - 20 Lotto Night (1987) Includes handwritten notes, a letter from the B.C. Lottery Corporation, and reference materials.
- 18 - 21 Market Place (1973)
- 18 - 22 The Mike Neun Show (1970)

Box - Folder

Television Revue (continued)

- 18 - 23 A Mirror Up (n.d.) Finished script.
- 18 - 14 Parade (n.d.)
- 18 - 25-29, Piffle & Co. (1971) Includes finished scripts.
- 19 - 1
- 19 - 2 Revue X (n.d.)
- 19 - 3 A Second Look (1968-1969)
- 19 - 4 What's a Nice Show (1979)
- 19 - 5 Others (1972,1984) (show titles unknown)

Television Monologue

- 19 - 6 Here & There (1956) Typescript, finished script.
- 19 - 7 Others (n.d.) Typescripts.

Television Music Show

- 19 - 8 Canada Sings (1979) Finished script, typescript, pamphlet.
- 17 - 15 Carols Anyone (1964) Finished script.
- 17 - 16-17 Chorus Anyone (n.d.) Finished script.

Television Variety Show

- 19 - 9 51 Skidoo (1968) Typescript.
- 19 - 10 Diary of a Funnyman (n.d.) Typescript.
- 19 - 11 Others (n.d.) Typescripts.

Television - BBC

- 19 - 12 Braden's Week (1971) Typescript, finished script.
- 17 - 18 Kaleidoscope (1950) Typescript, finished script.

Stage Series

Stage Play (date refers to materials, not production date) (typescripts unless otherwise noted)

- 19 - 14 24 Tadpoles (1970) Includes finished script.

Box – Folder

Stage Play (continued)

- 19 - 15 The Atom and Eve (1982) Includes publication of Theatre B.C.
23 - 1 Brass Tacks (n.d.)
23 - 2,3 Beware the Quickly Who (1967, 1971) Includes finished script.
23 - 4 The Big Dig (1961) Includes finished script.
19 - 16,17 The Centennial Play (1967) Includes finished script.
19 - 18,
20 - 21 The Citizens of Calais (1973,1974) Includes handwritten drafts.
23 - 5 The Clam Made a Face (1967) Includes a letter dated 1971.
20 - 2 Comedy of Eros (1957)
20 - 3 CrAzleS (1985) Includes handwritten drafts.
20 - 4 Creation 11(1990)
20 - 5 Eau Canada (1969)
20 - 6 The Fourth Monkey (n.d.)
20 - 7-10 Free At Last (1978,1980)
20 - 11 Got It Made (1989)
20 - 12 Hell of a Lover (1969)
23 - 6 Her Scienceman Lover (or) The Birth of a Nation (n.d.)
20 - 13,
21 - 1 Home to Roost (1983,1984)
21 - 2-6 Like Father, Like Fun (1966-1968) (Title for Broadway “Minor
Adjustment”)
21 - 7-8 Ma! (1981)
21 - 9,
22 - 1 Making the Point (1986). Includes handwritten drafts.
22 - 2 Man From Glad (1976) (Tentative title “An Almost Natural Death”)
22 - 3 Mask Island (1991)
22 - 4 Mixed Doubles (1986,1988) (Tentative title “As the Worm Turns”)
23 - 7-8 Mr. Swim (1985,1987) Includes handwritten drafts, a letter from the
Arts Club Theatre, photocopies of articles and newspaper
articles for reference.
22 - 5-6 Pilar of Sand (1971,1972)
22 - 7-10 Regulus (n.d.)
22 - 11 Salute to Theatre Under the Stars (1977) Includes press clippings
for references.
22 - 12 The Test Match (n.d.)
22 - 13 That’s Fer Damshur (Ma! the Musical) (1982)

Stage Revue (typescripts)

- 23 - 9 Made in Canada (1984)

Box - Folder

Stage Revue (continued)

- 23 - 10 Norm Young & Co. (1966)
- 23 - 11 Oh! Gastown! (1971)
- 23 - 12 Spring Thaw (1963)
- 23 - 13 UBC Revue (1965)
- 23 - 14 Others (1968,1975) (Titles of the shows are unknown)

Stage Monologue

- 23 - 15 The Bag Lady (1983) Typescript.

Book Series

- 23 - 16, 24 - 1-2 Canada Cancelled Because of Lack of Interest (1975,76,77)
Includes: typescript, promotional material, design draft of the cover, draft for promotional material, notebooks (handwritten draft), correspondence and handwritten notes.
- 24 - 3-7 Canadide (1981,1983) Handwritten notes, typescripts.
- 23 - 17-20, 24 - 8-13, 25 - 1-13 Dickens of the Mounted (1988-1989) Handwritten notebooks, typescript, reference materials.
(Photograph call #: BC 1947/131-133)
- 25 - 14-15 Don't Move! (1969-197 1) Handwritten draft, typescript, reference materials.
- 25 - 16 Golf - The Agony and the Ecstasy (1981) Typescript, reference materials.
- 25 - 17 How to... (1984) Typescripts, correspondence.
- 25 - 18 In Darkest Domestica (1959) Typescripts.
- 25 - 19 The Joy of Football (1980) Typescripts.
- 26 - 1-2 The Joy of Hockey (1978) Design drafts, typescripts, handwritten notes.
- 26 - 3-4 Letters to My Son (1974,1971) Correspondence, notebooks, typescripts, handwritten notes.
- 26 - 5-6 One Man's Media (1972,1973) Edited drafts, typescripts, notebooks.
- 26 - 7 Politics in Canada (1987) Typescript, newspaper clippings
- 26 - 8 Russia, Anyone? (n.d.) Typescript.
- 26 - 9-10 Sam's Cove (1989) Typescript.
- 26 - 11 Say, Uncle (1960) Typescript.
- 26 - 12 Tennis - It Serves You Right! (1983) Typescript, handwritten notes, reference materials, design draft.
- 27 - 1-2 There's a Lot of It Going Around (1975) Typescript, edited draft, design draft.

Box - Folder

Reviews (newspaper clippings unless otherwise noted)

- 30 - 10 100 Years of What? (1966)
- 30 - 11 Back Talk (1992-1993)
- 34 - 1 Canada Cancelled (1977)
- 30 - 12 Canadide (1983) Includes magazine clippings.
- 30 - 13 Dickens of the Mounted (1989-1992) Includes letters.
- 30 - 14 Don't Move (1971)
- 34 - 2 Free at Last (1979-1980)
- 30 - 15 Girdle Me a Globe, etc (1957-1963)
- 30 - 16 Golf: The Agony and the Ecstasy (1982)
- 30 - 17 How To...! (1985-1986)
- 30 - 18 The Joy of Football (1980-198 1)
- 30 - 19 The Joy of Hockey (1978)
- 30 - 20 Letters to My Son (1974-1975)
- 30 - 21 Ma! (1981-1983)
- 30 - 22 Like Father, Like Fun (1966-1976) Includes letter.
- 30 - 23 Pillar of Sand (1972) Includes pamphlets of the theatre.
- 30 - 24 A Scar is Born (1968-1969) 30 - 25 Space Age, Go Home! (1964)
- 30 - 26 Still a Nicol (1972-1973)
- 30 - 27 Tennis - It Serves You Right! (1984)
- 30 - 28 There's a Lot of It Going Around (1975-1976)
- 30 - 29 The U.S. or US (1986-1987)
- 30 - 30 Vancouver (1970-1971) Includes radio script.
- 30 - 31 Various (1956-1987)

Subject File Series

- 35 - 1 Capital Punishment (1959) Typescripts for articles, correspondence.
- 35 - 2 Genesis of the Society for Population Control (1960-1979)
Transcript of an interview, newsletters, and correspondence.
- 34 - 3 Income Tax returns (1953-1972)
- 35 - 3 Lecture notes (n.d.) Notes for unidentified courses.
- 35 - 4 Letters from readers (1956-1963) Letters of suggestions for Nicol's writings
- 35 - 5 Memorabilia (1964-1984) Clippings, correspondence, publications.
- 34 - 4 Miscellany - Theatre odds & ends (1963-1982) Newspaper clippings, publications of theatres.
- 34 - 5,6 Okanagan Summer School of the Arts (1970,1971) Lecture notes, related material, correspondence.
- 35 - 6 Progressive Education (1952,1954) Letters and related materials sent by readers.

Box - Folder

- 35 - 7 Reginerazione (1987) Photocopies of an Italian novel and its translation.
- 34 - 7 Royal Visit to Fiji (1953) Correspondence, reference materials.
- 35 - 8 UBC Memorabilia (1956-1979) Newspaper clippings, publications of UBC.
- 35 - 9 UBC research materials (1986) Notes concerning events at UBC.
- 35 - 10 Vancouver Flouridation Battle (1963-1969) Correspondence, clippings, reference materials.
- 35 - 11 West Coast Writers (1970) Newspaper clippings.

Scrapbook Series

36

Photograph series: Photographic prints available through the call #s BC 1947/1-54, BC 1947/115-126 (Negatives: BC 1947/127-130)

The Vancouver Sun sub-group

35 - 12

**Eric Nicol Fonds
(Addendum)**

An inventory of his fonds
In
The Library of University of British Columbia
Rare Books and Special Collections

Prepared by:
Nicole Maunsell
March 2008

Addendum Description

Dates of Creation: 1944-2005

Physical Description: 1.19 m of textual records, 7 photographs and 1 audio cassette

Scope and Content: Accession consists mainly of manuscripts for books, short stories, articles, stage plays and radio plays which were written by Nicol but never published. It also includes some early drafts of books that were eventually published. The accession also includes Nicol's business correspondence from 1971 to 1978.

Arrangement: Correspondence was kept by Nicol alphabetically in file folders by groups of years. This arrangement has been respected. His manuscripts were not kept in any particular order, so the categories of the first accession have been followed here.

Restrictions: There are no restrictions.

Immediate Source of Acquisition: Accession was donated by Eric Nicol on November 14, 2007.

Series Descriptions

Correspondence Series

Correspondence was kept in file folders, arranged alphabetically within a range of years. Unfiled correspondence also contains a marked up copy of Nicol's play *A Scar is Born*. Series contains 2 col. photographs at 37 – 25, 2 slides at 38 – 10, and 2 col. photographs at 38 – 22.

Radio Series

Series consists of typescripts of plays intended for radio. These are arranged alphabetically by title. It also contains a cassette recording of the CBC recording of the History of Canada.

Television Series

Series consists of two television show scripts, arranged alphabetically by title.

Stage Play Series

Series consists of manuscripts and drafts of stage plays, arranged alphabetically by title. The play "Re Generation," was an adaptation of the Italian work by Italo Svevo "La Rigenerazione" requested by Malcolm Black at Theatre Plus, and had the alternate titles of "Regenerator," "Twice Upon A Time," "Old Is Someone Else," "Off With the New," "His Old Self" and "Youth is a Local." One black and white photograph is included at 39-15.

Books Series

Series consists of drafts and manuscripts of books, arranged alphabetically by title.

Short Story Series

Series consists of typescripts of short stories, arranged alphabetically by title.

Article Series

Series includes typescripts of articles written for miscellaneous publications, arranged alphabetically by title. It also contains notebooks consisting of articles written for *The Vancouver Sun* and *The Province* and photocopies of published articles from 1944-1948, some of which are written under Nicol's pen name, Jabez.

Other Writings Series

Series consists of poems, book reviews written by Nicol, and other uncategorized writing, arranged alphabetically by title.

Miscellaneous Notebooks Series

Series consists of Nicol's notebooks from 1989-1994, arranged chronologically.

Box – Folder		Dates
Correspondence series		
37 – 1-18		1971-1976
37 – 19-28		1977-1982
38 – 1-17	(includes 2 col. photographs at 37-25)	1983-1987
38 – 18-19	(includes 2 slides at 38-10)	1988-1991
38 – 20-33		1996-2003
38 – 34	(includes 2 col. photographs at 38-22)	1978-2006
38 – 35	miscellaneous unfiled correspondence	1995-1998
Radio series (typescripts)		
39 – 1-4	The Growing of Adam Green first draft	September 1989
39 – 2	Older Persons	n.d.
39 – 3	The Painted Lady	July 1992
39 – 4	The Weather Guy	January 29, 1998
[Not boxed]	Recording of History of Canada Cassette tape call #Sp 106:1	September 14, 2003
Television Series		
39 – 5	Cars and Effects (synopsis)	January 27, 1992
39 – 6	The Hanging Judge (outline, reference material, notes)	(n.d.)
Stage Play Series		
39 – 7	Fables For Fun (typescript, handwritten draft)	1995
39 – 8	Into the Blender (typescript)	(n.d.)
39 – 9	Ma! A Celebration of Margaret Murray (typescript of production draft)	May 1981
39 – 10	Only Male Birds Sing (typescript)	August 21, 1992
39 – 11	Re Generation (typescript of revised draft)	November 1994
39 – 12	Regenerator (typescript draft)	December 1991
39 – 13	Theatre Plus correspondence	n.d.
39 – 14	Twice Upon A Time (typescript of third draft)	January 1988
39 - 15	Re Generation (typescript of draft) (includes one b&w photograph)	c. 1988
39 – 16	Twice Upon A Time (typescript of second draft)	September 1987
39 – 17	Twice Upon A Time (marked up typescript of second draft)	September 1987

Box – Folder		Dates
39 – 18	Old Is Someone Else (typescript of first draft)	July 1987
39 – 19	Regulus (marked up production copy)	n.d.
40 – 1	Walking Mr. Mac (revised typescript)	1994

Books Series

40 – 2-5	Anything For a Laugh handwritten draft, notes, research material, addenda	1988, 1989, 1996
40 – 6	Audie the Ostronaut typewritten draft	January 1990
40 – 7	Doughnut Danny and The Flying Sorcerer typescript	
40 – 8	Felix the Brattypescript, handwriting notes	n.d.
40 – 9-11, 41 - 1	For Men's Eyes Only (originally titled "Are You Decent? A Gentleman's Survival Guide to Women") research material, handwritten draft, typescript	1994
41 – 2	Freddy the Geek outline	n.d.
41 – 3-4	Jesse James Slept Here typescript	June 2000
41 – 5	Ginger's Magic Mouse typescript	n.d.
41 – 6	Friday's Grandma	March 1991
41 – 7-8	So What's Old?: A Guide for Aging Boomers (later published as "Old is In" handwritten draft, typescript	n.d.
41 – 9	Sam's Cove typescript	c. 1995
41 – 10-11	Skiing is Believing (later published as Skiing) research material, typescript, correspondence	c. 1995
42 – 1-2	When Nature Calls (originally titled Cottage Essays) handwritten draft	1997
42 – 3-4	The Write Stuff: An Author's Handbook typescripts	c. 2005

Short Story Series (typescripts)

42 – 5	Aesop and the Fabulous Stone	n.d.
42 – 6	First Date	c. 1998
42 – 7	Louie, the Dog Who Played Right Field	January 2000
42 – 8	My Dad, the Monster	November 1991
42 – 9	The Mystery of Mars	n.d.
42 – 10	Vera's Ghost	n.d.

Article Series

42 – 11-31	Articles filed by title, typescripts and handwritten drafts	1991-1991
42 – 32	Untitled articles, typescripts	1995

Box – Folder		Dates
43 – 1	Articles Notebook	April 1995
43 – 2	Photocopies of published articles	1944-1949
43 – 3-4	Notebooks of articles for the <i>Vancouver Sun</i> and <i>The Province</i>	1989, 1992
 Other Writings Series (typescripts)		
43 – 5	Intro, "A Certain Age [for Almanac] Don't Ask! Growing Up Green Book reviews The Market Investor's Soliloquy Red is For Road Rage Tyrannosaurus Wrecks O Ye Gods	November 1998 May 1992 n.d. October 1993 April 1993 n.d. n.d. September 1990 June 1992
 Miscellaneous Notebooks Series		
43 – 6-18		December 1989-December 1994

Eric P. Nicol fonds

RBSC-ARC- 1403

Finding aid

Shamin Malmas, September 2010

Rare Books and Special Collections
University of British Columbia Library



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The Library

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Fonds description

Eric P. Nicol fonds

1948-2010.

1 m of textual and other materials.

Biographical sketch: Since 1985 Nicol has continued to be an important contributor to the Canadian literary community publishing novels, writing screen plays and contributing to newspapers. Notable publications include, *Brining up Grandpa* (1989), *Back Talk: A Book for Bad Back Sufferers and Those Who Love (Put Up With) Them* (1992), *Your turn of the century – a review of the twentieth century* (1998) co-authored by Eric Nicol and Dave Moore, *The Casanova Sexicon: A Manual for Liberated Men* (2001), *Canadian Politics Unplugged* (2003), and *Old Is In: A Guide for Aging Boomers* (2004). For other relevant information please see earlier finding aids.

Scope and content: Fonds consists of incoming and outgoing correspondence, copies of published and unpublished manuscripts for various literary works including books, screen plays and newspaper articles, contracts, royalty statements and other financial records regarding the publication of Nicol's books, as well as posters, newspaper clippings, awards, photographs and other ephemera which document Nicol's career as a writer.

Fonds is arranged into the following series: Correspondence (1949-2009); Manuscripts (1979-2010); Financial records (1959-2006); and Ephemera and memorabilia (1965-2005). For other relevant records from previous accruals see earlier finding aids.

Source of title proper: Title based on the provenances of the fonds.

Immediate source of acquisition note: Transferred to RBSC by Mary Nicol (Eric Nicol's wife) July 2010.

Physical description note: Fonds includes ca.60 photographs, 3 audio cassettes, 1 CD, 1 DVD, 1 VHS, and 1 film.

Accruals note: Further accruals expected.

Series descriptions

Correspondence

1948-2009.

10 cm of textual records.

3 photographs.

Scope and content: Series consists of letters sent from Eric Nicol to his family while he was living and traveling in Europe between 1948 and 1955, postcards, and incoming letters from family and friends. For other relevant records from previous accruals see earlier finding aids.

Source of title proper: Title based on the content of the series.

Manuscripts

1979-2010.

65 cm of textual records.

Scope and content: Series consists of draft copies, annotated copies with editorial marks, proof copies, of various published and unpublished manuscripts for books including, but not limited to the following: *The Book of Naughty Birds*, *Shaggy Doggerel*, *Canadian Politics Unplugged*, *Old Is In: A Guide for Aging Boomers*, *Doughnut Danny and the flying Sorcerer*, *The Write Stuff*, *Driver follow that Dream*, *Felix the Brat*, *Back Talk: A Book for Bad Back Sufferers and Those Who Love (Put Up With) Them*, *The Casanova Sexicon*, *A Consumers Guide to Men*, and *Your Turn of the Century*.

The series also includes manuscripts for the following screen plays: *Ma: A Celebration of Margaret Murry* (includes both copies for television and stage), *Bringing up Grandpa* and *Bear with Me* as well as draft and final copies of newspaper articles.

In addition the series also includes several notebooks, and the original illustrations for *Canadian Politics Unplugged*. For other relevant records from previous accruals see earlier finding aids.

Source of title proper: Title based on the content of the series.

Financial records

1959-2006.

15 cm of textual records.

Scope and content: Series consists of writers contracts and licences between Nicol and various publication houses and media groups including, but not limited to the following: the Canadian Broadcasting; Doubleday Canada Limited; Harper and Brothers; Holt,

Rinehart and Winston of Canada Limited; Hurting Publishing; MacMillian Company of Canada; and Simon and Pierre Publishing Company.

The series also consists of royalty statements, correspondence between Nicol and various publishing houses, records related to Nicol's involvement with the Public Lending Right (PLR) Commission of Canada, and other financial records regarding the publication of Nicol's books.

Source of title proper: Title based on the content of the series.

Ephemera and memorabilia

1965-2005.

10 cm of textual records and other materials.

Scope and content: Series consists of posters, newspaper clippings, family genealogical records, various awards including the *UBC Alumni Award* and the *Order of Canada*, as well as records related to various court cases Nicol was involved in. For other relevant records from previous accruals see earlier finding aids.

Source of title proper: Title based on the content of the series.

Physical description note: Series includes ca. 60 photographs, 3 audio cassettes, 1 CD, 1 DVD, 1 VHS and 1 film.

File list

Series: Correspondence

Location (Box-file)	File title	Date
44-1	Letters from Eric Nicol to his family Incl: 3 photographs ; b&w (BC-1947/134-136)	Oct.1948- Nov.1948
44-2	Letters from Eric Nicol to his family (2)	Dec. 1948- May 1949
44-3	Letters from Eric Nicol to his family (3)	June 1949- Sept. 1949
44-4	Letters from Eric Nicol to his family (4)	Oct. 1949- Jan.1950
44-5	Letters from Eric Nicol to his family (5)	Feb. 1950-June 1950
44-6	Letters from Eric Nicol to his family (6)	July 1950- Nov.1955
44-7	Letters from Eric Nicol to his family (7)	Nov. 1955- Feb.1956
44-8	Letters from Eric Nicol to his family (8)	1956-1959
49-3	Miscellaneous correspondence	1950-2009

Series: Manuscripts

Location (Box-file)	File title	Date
44-9	The Book of Naughty Birds	1998
44-10	Shaggy Doggerel (1)	[198-?]
44-11	Shaggy Doggerel (2)	[198-?]
44-12	Saturna Island notes Incl: 1 photograph ; b&w (BC-1947/137)	2003
44-13	Eric's latest writings	[after 2005]
44-14	Ma: a celebration of Margaret Murry (a script for television)	1981
44-15	Ma: a celebration of Margaret Murry (a script for television) (2)	1981
44-16	Memories	1998
44-17	Notebook	Sept. 1994
44-18	What's so Old? A guide for aging boomers	2001

45-1	Canadian Politics Unplugged	2003
45-2	Old is in (proof copy)	2004
45-3	Canadian Politics Unplugged (proof copy)	2003
45-4	Doughnut Danny and the flying Sorcerer	[198-?]
45-5	Bear with me: a screen play (unfinished copy)	[198-?]
45-6	The write stuff	[198-?]
45-7	Notebook	May 1986
45-8	Notebook	Mar. 2001
50-1	Driver, Follow that dream	[198-?]
45-9	Writings for newspaper columns	ca.1980
46-1	Writings for newspaper columns (2)	ca.1980
46-2	Writings for newspaper columns (3)	ca.1980
46-3	Writings for newspaper columns (4)	1984-1989
46-4	Felix the Brat	1993-1997
46-5	Back Talk – annotated version with editorial marks	1992
46-6	Back Talk – draft with editorial marks	1992
46-7	Talking Back, a documentary (first draft)	1990
46-8	What’s so old? A guide for aging boomers – draft with editorial marks	[199-?]
47-1	Ma, the stage version	1979-1981
47-2	French notes	1950-1951
47-3	Jesse James slept here – research and drafts	1996
47-4	Brining up Grandpa, cuts and changes, intro and script (draft copy)	1989
47-5	Casanova	[199-?]
47-6	The Casanova option	[199-?]
47-7	The Casanova option (2)	[199-?]
47-8	Miscellaneous writings and notes	[199-?]
47-9	Rough sketches for Canadian Politics unplugged	[199-?]
47-10	Your turn of the century – a review of the twentieth century by Eric Nicol and Dave Moore	1998-2000
47-11	A Consumer’s guide to Men	1992
47-12	Norm Young screenplay	1996
50-4	Book illustrations	2010

Series: Financial records

Location (Box-file)	File title	Date
48-1	Contracts, royalty statements and other financial records	1978-2006
48-2	Contracts	1959-1974
48-3	Contracts, royalty statements and other financial records (2)	1971-1986
48-4	Contracts, royalty statements and other financial records (3)	1983-1986
48-5	Contracts, royalty statements and other financial records (4)	1982-1994
48-6	Contracts, royalty statements and other financial records (5)	1989-2002
48-7	Contracts, royalty statements and other financial records (6)	1995-2003
49-4	Harbour publishing correspondence	1999

Series: Ephemera and memorabilia

Location (Box-file)	File title	Date
48-8	Awards	1967-2002
48-9	Miscellaneous newspaper clippings and correspondence	1970-1995
48-10	Court case	1955-2005
49-1	York theatre journal	1975
49-2	Family genealogy	2003
49-5	Photographs	Ca.1920-2009
49-6	Alumni Award	1969
O/S	Posters	[197-? - 198-?]
50-2	Posters (2)	1960-1990
50-3	Western Canadian theatre company	1981

Photograph list

Series: Ephemera and Memorabilia

Identifier	File (Box-file)	Title	Date
BC-1947/ 138-141	49-5	Order of Canada	2000
BC-1947/ 142-150	49-5	Eric Nicol at home gardening	2000
BC-1947/ 151-155	49-5	Eric Nicol	2000
BC-1947/ 156-163	49-5	Eric Nicol head shots	1970-2000
BC-1947/ 164-165	49-5	Miscellaneous Nicol photographs	[196-? – 200-?]
BC-1947/ 166-172	49-5	Miscellaneous Nicol photographs	[196-? – 200-?]
BC-1947/ 173	49-5	Head shot negative	[196-? – 200-?]
BC-1947/ 174	49-5	Baby picture of Eric Nicol	[ca.1922]
BC-1947/ 175-176	49-5	Contact sheets	[196-? – 199-?]
BC-1947/ 177-200	49-5	Eric Nicol head shots	[196-? – 199-?]

Audio visual materials list

Cassette tapes

Series: Ephemera and Memorabilia

Identifier	Title	Date
SP 106-2	Radio interview with Rafe Mair show	October 2004
SP 106-3	Lecture d: the revolutionary terrorist	[198-?]
SP 106-4	Unidentified show	[198-?]

Video tapes

Identifier	Title	Date
SP VT 106-1	CTV: Looking back in humour	1995

CD/DVDs

Identifier	Title	Date
SP CD 106-1	Eric Nicol with Peter Olsen	2004
SP DVD 106-1	National schools writer (CBC Vancouver archives)	1961

Film

Identifier	Title	Date
SP Film 106-1	Unidentified film	[197-?]