

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF CANADA
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DIVISION DES MANUSCRITS

DRAINIE, John

MG 31, D 62

Finding Aid No. 695 / Instrument de recherche no 695

Prepared in 1976 by the
National Arts Archives
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DRAINIE, John (1916-1966). Actor.

Originals, 1916-1970. 25 cm.

John Drainie began his radio career as an actor and announcer in his home town, Vancouver, B.C. In 1943 he moved to Toronto where he played in numerous C.B.C. radio and television productions, including the "Stage" and "Festival" series, and had his own radio show,, "Stories With John Drainie". He edited Stories With John Drainie, published by Ryerson in 1963 and with his wife, Claire, he wrote a number of radio scripts. Drainie also acted in various stage productions and in film.

Presented in 1975 by Mrs. Claire Taylor, Toronto.

Finding Aid No. 695 is a detailed file list.

Correspondence and memoranda, n.d., 1942-1967. 7 cm. (volume 1).

Correspondence and memoranda received and sent by Drainie, n.d., 1942-1966. Correspondence relating to Drainie, 1966-1967.

Financial Papers, 1964-1966. .5 cm. (volume 1).

Miscellaneous financial records.

Manuscripts, n.d., 1954-1966. 5 cm. (volumes1-2).

Scripts, typescript drafts of foreword to Stories With John Drainie, and biographical and other notes.

Notebooks and diaries, n.d., 1929-1964. 5.5 cm. (volume 2).

Other Material, n.d., 1916-1966. 2 cm. (volume 2).

Birth and marriage certificates, wills, C.B.C. tribute to Drainie, and production notes for "Stories With John Drainie" and "Doctor of Living Laughter".

Printed Material, 1950-1970. 5 cm (volume 3).

Newspaper clippings, magazines and tributes to John Drainie.

John Drainie

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Title

CORRESPONDENCE AND MEMORANDA

1

Correspondence 1942-1943, 1946

- including reprint and from Ira Dilworth, C.B.C. Vancouver; Drainie's reply asking for transfer; two following letters from Dilworth leading to Drainie's replacement; letters from E. Bushnell transferring Drainie to Toronto; 3 letters from Dilworth concerning the release of Drainie from his Vancouver duties; letter from Tommy Tweed to Drainie.

Correspondence and Memoranda 1961-1962

- including note and correspondence on U.K. earnings and expenses; correspondence concerning "Stories With John Drainie" on C.B.C.; correspondence concerning Stories With John Drainie (Ryerson Press, 1963); programme Kind Lady directed by Drainie at the Stables Theatre in Toronto; correspondence and radiological reports concerning Drainie's hip trouble.

Correspondence and Memoranda 1963

- including correspondence concerning finances and setting up a Spanish company to avoid taxes; letter concerning hip trouble; some routine correspondence concerning a tape recorder (used to record "Stories With John Drainie") and camera film (used in his "short subject film" On his family in Spain); letter from wife Claire; some correspondence concerning trying to get work at the B.B.C.; medical notes concerning his son Michael; correspondence with Dorothy Jane Needles, James Kent, and Robert Weaver concerning "Stories With John Drainie".

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CORRESPONDENCE AND MEMORANDA (cont'd)

1
(cont'd)

Correspondence and Memoranda 1964

- including correspondence on "Stories etc."; contract, correspondence concerning "This Hour Has Seven Days"; letters from Drainie's father; letter from Fletcher Markle; B.B.C. letters.
- no work for Drainie; financial correspondence; letter to Bernard Braden from viewer; carbons of Drainie's letters to James Kent, Dorothy Needles, Robert Weaver, Fletcher Markle, and other C.B.C. people.

Correspondence and Memoranda 1964

- including correspondence with brother, Gordon on returning to Canada: correspalence with C.B.C. on "Stories etc."; financial correpondence, financial statements on earnings in U.K. 1963-1964; letter from Allan King; letter from Michael Langham, Stratford Festival; correspondence concerning the renting of a house.

Correspondence and Memoranda 1965

- including correspondence with Robert Weaver and Dorothy Needles on "Stories etc."; financial correpondence; correspondence on "Laugh with Leacock" at Charlottetown Festival and elsewhere; typescript by Drainie on the subject of himself; correspondence on renting a house; contracts; 2 letters from Don Harron.

Correspondence and Memoranda 1966

- including correspondence with brother Gordon concerning finances; contracts; Record of Earnings - "The World of Stephen Leacock"; correspondence with Robert Weaver and Dorothy Needles concerning "Stories etc."; correspondence concerning B.B.C. job offer; correspondence on Leacock play; correspondence with McClelland and Stewart on royalties on Leacock material; correspondence with C.B.C.; letter from Pierre Berton.

Correspondence and Memoranda n.d.

- including letters between John and Claire Drainie largely concerning finances

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CORRESPONDENCE AND MEMORANDA (cont'd)

1 Other Correspondence:
(cont'd) Letters of Consolation 1966.

- including letter from George Ryga; mostly from listeners.

Correspondence 1966-1967

- including letter from Robert Weaver to Claire Drainie; correspondence on the Province of Ontario Council for the Arts "John Drainie Award of Merit"; correspondence concerning Leacock recordings by Drainie.

FINANCIAL RECORDS

Financial 1964-1966

- including notice of re-assessment from the Dept. of National Revenue; insurance records.

MANUSCRIPTS

Scripts

- The Casting Away of Mrs. Lecks and Mrs. Aleshine - unannotated; adapted by John and Claire Drainie; C.B.C., 1956; with duplicate copy.
- Flow Gently Sweet Limbo - unannotated; [C.B.C.]; [by John and Claire Drainie].
- Flying a Red Kite - by Hugh Hood; one page Drainie manuscript with stress marks; part of "Stories With John Drainie" series C.B.C.

2 - The Kids and the Castle - film by John Drainie; titles & sub-titles; 1 page script.

- King of All the Country - part of "Jake and the Kid" series, C.B.C. 1954; with Drainie's annotations.
- Mrs. Gerge - by Barbara Grantmyre; 2 page typescript with Drainie's stress marks; list of stories [for "Stories etc."] on back.

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MANUSCRIPTS (cont'd)

2
(cont'd)

- Two Holiday Sketches - by John and Claire Drainie;
edited version; C.B.C. 1966

- "The Voices of John Drainie" - with Drainie's annotations;
C.B.C.

Prose

- Foreword to Stories with John Drainie (Ryerson Press, 1963)
(2 page typescript with annotations).

- Biographical and other Notes.

NOTEBOOKS AND DIARIES

Diary 1929

- at age 13 - references to pastimes e.g. drawing, games.

Diary 1943

- 2nd year of marriage - references to radio work in Vancouver,
Andrew Allan, Ira Dilworth - just before moving to
Toronto - the diary only covers the period from 30 January
to 5 February.

Notebook 1962

- rehearsal schedules, notes - not a recording of daily events.

Notebook 1964

- like the notebook described above.

Diary [Late 1930's]

- while in California - references to Hollywood.
performances, notes on own aspirations, on
acting etc.

Notebook n.d.

- notes on political thought, acting.

Notebook n.d.

- [From Leacock on education].

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OTHER MATERIAL

2
(cont'd)

Copy of birth certificate of John Drainie 1916.

Copy of marriage certificate of John Drainie and Claire Murray 1942.

Last Will and Testament of John Drainie 1965.

Last Will and Testament of John Drainie, Senior 1964.

Tribute to John Drainie read by Percy Saltzman of C.B.C. -
manuscripts [1966].

"Stories With John Drainie" - production schedules 1965-1966;
list of stories.

"Doctor of Living Laughter" - production notes.

PRINTED MATERIAL

- 3 - includes newspaper clippings and magazine reviews of
Drainie's performances and tributes to John Drainie.