

University of British Columbia Library Rare Books and Special Collections

Finding Aid - E.M. Delafield fonds (RBSC-ARC-1164)

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E.M. Delafield fonds

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Summary information

Repository:	University of British Columbia Library Rare Books and Special Collections
Title:	E.M. Delafield fonds
ID:	RBSC-ARC-1164
Date:	[ca. 1910-1963] (date of creation)
Physical description:	38.5 cm of textual records; 38 photographs
Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	Description updated by Claire Williams in July 2018.

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

The British author E.M. Delafield, 1890-1943, was the pseudonym of Edmée Elizabeth Monica Dashwood, the daughter of the novelist Mrs. Henry de la Pasture. Her pseudonym is a variant on her maiden name. In 1919, she married Arthur Dashwood and had two children, a son killed in the Second World War and a daughter named Ros Truelove. In the First World War, she served as a Voluntary Aid Detachment (VAD) nurse in Exeter and later worked for the Ministry of National Service at Bristol. Delafield published about forty novels and three plays. From her first novel, *Zella Sees Herself* (1917), her books were consistently best sellers. Her most popular novel was *The Diary of a Provincial Lady* (1930). Women were featured prominently in her writing. Delafield was also a popular lecturer, travelled extensively in the United States and Russia, and wrote about both countries. She was a contributor to *Punch* for eleven years and was known for her satire and wit. In addition, Delafield wrote several studies in criminology and on the Bronte family, and participated in and wrote a number of radio talks and plays.

Custodial history

The fonds had been donated in the 1970s by Ros Truelove, E.M. Delafield's daughter.

Scope and content

Fonds reflects E.M. Delafield's career and interests as a writer and lecturer in the early decades of the twentieth century. Some of the items in the fonds were also made or received by persons related to E.M. Delafield. Textual records in the fonds consist of letters related to Delafield's research and writing on the British author Charlotte Yonge and unpublished manuscripts, plays, short articles, book reviews, and lectures written by Delafield pertaining to her interests in Charlotte Yonge, women, religion, the lives of the British upper class, and other subjects. The fonds also includes clippings, obituary notices,

photographs, and records related to the writings of Lorna Lewis. Fonds consists of seven series: Incoming letters; Manuscripts; Lecture notes; Newspaper clippings; Personal photographs; Records related to Lorna Lewis; and Outgoing letters.

Notes

Title notes

- **Source of title proper:** Title based on the provenance of the fonds.

Physical condition

Materials are in excellent condition.

Arrangement

Records in the fonds have been arranged by the archivist. An accrual made in 2018 was added to the fonds in the form of the Outgoing Correspondence series.

Alternative form available

Microfilm copy available at UBC Library, Rare Books and Special Collections division.

Finding aids

RBSC created the finding aid for the fonds in December 2009 based on an inventory completed in 1976. This finding aid was updated in July 2018 with an addendum to reflect the accrual.

Accruals

An accrual to the fonds made in 2018 was purchased by RBSC staff from a private collector.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** published
-

Access points

- Arts and culture (subject)

Series descriptions

Incoming letters

Date: [ca. 1936-1961] (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of incoming correspondence related to Delafield's interests in theatre, literature, and Charlotte Yonge. Series also includes a general box list of items in the Delafield fonds. The series is arranged alphabetically according to correspondent's last name.

Physical description: 0.5 cm of textual records

Publication status:

published

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
RBSC-ARC-1164-1-1	File - Incoming letters	ca. 1936-1961		

Manuscripts

Date: [ca.1925-1963] (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of handwritten and typed novellas, short stories, plays, and book reviews relating to the various interests of Delafield. Novellas and short stories include *The Favourite*, *Feats On The Fiord*, *Shop Window*, *Feats*, *Provincial Lay in Wartime*, and *Straw Without Bricks*. Short stories include *Soviet Without Comment*, *To Speak My Mind*, and *As Others Hear Us*, as well as other various articles. Plays include *No Fury*, *Thorny Diadem*, and *To See Ourselves*. Book reviews include *Men Have No Imagination*, *Anglo Francaise*, *Career*, and *Why Get Married?* and numerous other articles. The series is arranged according to genre. The series also includes a subject file on Charlotte Yonge.

Physical description: 30 cm of textual records

Publication status:

published

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
RBSC-ARC-1164-1-2	File - The favourite	[193-?]		
RBSC-ARC-1164-1-3	File - Feats on the fiord; Shop window	[193-?]		
RBSC-ARC-1164-1-4	File - Feats on the fiord (radio adaptation for children)	Oct. 1943		

RBSC-ARC-1164-1-5	File - Gay life [correspondence and notes]	19 Sept. 1932
RBSC-ARC-1164-1-7	File - Gwen	[193-?]
RBSC-ARC-1164-1-8	File - Gwen	Feb. 1963
RBSC-ARC-1164-2-1	File - Never call retreat, Provincial lady in wartime, and other unidentified plays	[ca. 1963]
RBSC-ARC-1164-2-2	File - Shop window	[193-?]

RBSC-ARC-1164-2-3: Straw without bricks and other short stories

Date: 1936 (date of creation)

Publication status:

published

File / item list

RBSC-ARC-1164-2-4	File - Unidentified story	[ca. 1940]
RBSC-ARC-1164-2-5	File - No fury	[193-?]
RBSC-ARC-1164-1-6	File - Gay life	11 Feb. 1933
RBSC-ARC-1164-2-6	File - Thorny diadem	[193-?]
RBSC-ARC-1164-2-7	File - To see ourselves	[before 1930]
RBSC-ARC-1164-3-1	File - Book reviews and short articles	[193-?]
RBSC-ARC-1164-3-2	File - Book reviews and short articles	[193-?]
RBSC-ARC-1164-3-3	File - Book reviews and short articles	[193-?]
RBSC-ARC-1164-3-4	File - Book reviews and short articles	[193-?]
RBSC-ARC-1164-3-5	File - Book reviews and short articles	1935-1940
RBSC-ARC-1164-3-6	File - Subject file: Charlotte M. Yonge	1940

Lecture notes

Date: [194-?] (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of lecture notes on modern fiction, novel trends, writing techniques, books on war, Seattle Commune, minor Victorian novelists, children's literature and more. It also includes activity lists, itinerary notes and article clippings that are related to Delafield's lecture preparations.

Physical description: 1 cm of textual records

Publication status:

published

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
RBSC-ARC-1164-3-7	File - Lecture notes	[194-?]		

Newspaper clippings

Date: 1943-1961 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of newspaper clippings on various plays, short articles, book reviews written by or about Delafield. Also included are her obituaries. Memos accompany some clippings.

Physical description: 3.5 cm of textual records

Publication status:

published

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
RBSC-ARC-1164-3-8	File - Book reviews	1947-1961		
RBSC-ARC-1164-3-9	File - Obituary notices	1943		

Personal photographs

Date: [ca. 1910-1961] (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of black and white photographs and negatives of Delafield's family, home and pets.

Physical description: 26 photographs : b&w
12 photographs : nitrate negatives

Publication status:

published

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
RBSC-ARC-1164-3-10	File - Delafield family	[ca. 1910-1961]		

Records related to Lorna Lewis

Date: [ca. 1925-1947] (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of the typescript for Delafield's *Brides of Heaven* sent by Lorna Lewis to the Delafield family prior to the fonds' donation to UBC Library, and two news clippings pertaining to the writings of Lorna Lewis.

Physical description: 0.4 cm of textual records

Conditions governing use:

Rights to *Brides of Heaven* held by Peters, Fraser & Dunlop Group, Ltd.

<u>Publication status:</u> published				
File / item list				
Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
RBSC-ARC-1164-3-11	File - Brides of heaven	[before 1931]		
RBSC-ARC-1164-3-12	File - Book reviews on Mystery at lock house	Nov. 1947		
Outgoing letters				
<u>Date:</u> [ca. 1929-1943] (date of creation)				
<u>Scope and content:</u> Series consists of outgoing correspondence related to the publication of Delafield's works in Time & Tide magazine. Series includes six outgoing letters and two outgoing manuscript articles for publication. The letters are addressed to the staff of the magazine and to the editor. One of the manuscripts is entitled Notes on the Way, and the other is untitled.				
<u>Physical description:</u> Extent: .5 cm				
<u>Publication status:</u> published				
File / item list				
Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
RBSC-ARC-1164-3-13	File - [Letter to Lady Rhondda]	June 1929		
RBSC-ARC-1164-3-14	File - [Letter to Miss West]	December 1929		
RBSC-ARC-1164-3-15	File - [Letter to the editor]	April 20 [19-]		
RBSC-ARC-1164-3-16	File - [Letter to the editor]	February 1941		
RBSC-ARC-1164-3-17	File - [Letter to Miss Simmingham]	September 1943		
RBSC-ARC-1164-3-18	File - [Letter to Miss Simmingham]	October 1943		
RBSC-ARC-1164-3-19	File - [Draft of article]	[194-?]		
RBSC-ARC-1164-3-20	File - [Draft of article]	[194-?]		