

S. J. McKee Archives



John E. Robbins

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4244>

Part Of: RG 1 Brandon College fonds

Description Level: Sub-series

Series Number: 2.6

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1960-1967

History /

Biographical:

Dr. John Everett Robbins was born 9 October 1903 in Hampton, Ontario the son of John and Gertrude (Brown) Robbins. He married Catherine St. Denis on 11 June 1934 in Ogdens, New York. John Robbins was raised in Darlingford, Manitoba. He attended the University of Manitoba graduating with a B.A. Hon 1928 and M.A. in 1929. Dr. Robbins completed a Ph.D at the University of Ottawa in 1935. From 1936-1951 he was Director of the Education Division, Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Dr. Robbins helped to found the Canadian Association for Adult Education, the Social Science Research Council of Canada, the Humanities Research Council of Canada, the United Nations Association in Canada, and the Canadian Citizenship Council. In 1942 he became a member of the Board of Directors of Carlton University. Dr. Robbins was active in UNESCO work: he was a member of Canadian Government delegations to foreign conferences, and, in 1951-52, he spent a year as Director of an educational project for Palestinian Refugees in the Middle East.

In 1960, while editor-in-chief of the newly compiled "Encyclopedia Canadiana," Dr. Robbins was asked to become President of Brandon College. From 1960 to 1967, he oversaw construction of the Arts and Library Building and Lecture Theatre, a Men's Residence, a Dining Hall, a Heating Plant, a Ladies' Residence, a Music Building, a Physical Education Building and an Education Building. After the university charter was granted in 1967, Dr. Robbins was installed as the first President of Brandon University.

After his retirement from Brandon University Dr. Robbins was appointed Canadian Ambassador to the Vatican 1970-73. In the years after his departure from Brandon, he held many positions including President of World Federalists of Canada 1977-79 and President of the Canadian Writers Foundation 1976-78. Dr. Robbins served as Executive Chairman and Treasurer of Amnesty International in Canada 1973-75.

He was the recipient of an honorary LLD from the University of Manitoba (1967), Carleton University (1969) and Brandon University (1974). In 1994, the title President Emeritus of Brandon University was conferred on John Robbins by the Board of Governors of the University. Dr. Robbins died in 1995, at the age of 91.

Scope and Content:

Dr. Robbins' administrative records are located in the Brandon University fonds.

Notes:	Dr. John E. Robbins archival papers are held at the Library and Archives Canada.
Name Access:	John E. Robbins
Storage Location:	RG 1 Brandon College fonds Series 2: Office of the Principal/President
Related Material:	See RG 6, series 3 (Office of the President) for additional records regarding John E. Robbins.



Esther Magdalene Moore collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4299>

Part Of:	RG 1 Brandon College fonds
Description Level:	Sub-series
Series Number:	MG 1 1.5
Accession Number:	4-2016
GMD:	textual records
Date Range:	1911?-1960?
Physical Description:	8 cm

History /

Biographical:

Esther Moore was born in Norfolk, Nebraska and moved to Canada at age 3. There is a vague reference to her being related to the composer Dvorak in *The Quill* of 1913. She registered as a music student at Brandon College in 1909. In 1910, Miss Moore received a medal for sight-reading and accompanying in Edmonton. She took her examinations of the Toronto Conservatory of Music in 1910, and her Senior examinations in 1911. She completed her theory work in 1913, as well as finishing the academic requirements. In 1913, Esther Moore became the first graduate of the Music department at Brandon College. After graduation, Miss Moore taught music in Unity, as well as being the choirleader and organist. She returned to her home in Olds, Alberta for a rest from teaching. However, she was not idle for long. She took up teaching again, and she was the organist and choirleader at church. She also began a Glee Club. Between these responsibilities Miss Moore finished a course in the Household Science Department at the Olds Agricultural College. She returned to Brandon College to take postgraduate work, becoming the first Brandon College student to receive her L.T.C.M. in 1916. In 1922 Miss Moore began to teach piano at Brandon College. She received her Bachelor of Music in 1925, and her Master of Music in 1926.

Custodial History:

Records were accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. Prior custodial history is unknown.

Scope and Content:

Esther Moore's records consist of newspaper clippings, recital programmes, concert programmes, and commencement programmes. As well, there are dance cards, invitations, tickets, and the programme for the annual Graduation Banquet for several years. There are Track and Field programmes and a ribbon. There are also Alumni Luncheon programmes for a few years. There is an issue of *The Western Baptist* from 1926, and the programmes for the installation of Dr. Robbins as President and the opening of the Arts and Library building and the J.R.C. Evans Lecture Theatre in 1960. There is also a letter from William L. Wright, director of the music department at Brandon College.

Name Access:	Esther Moore W.L. Wright J.R.C. Evans Lecture Theatre John E. Robbins
Subject Access:	School of Music rectials concerts commencement graduation banquet programmes arts and library building
Storage Location:	2016 accessions