

UNIVERSITY OF REGINA ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

THE DR JOHN ARCHER LIBRARY

COLLECTION NUMBER: 2017-8

MARGOT OSBORN MATERIALS RELATING TO SCOTTY GOWER AND SUPER OILS SYNDICATE

FEBRUARY 2017

BY ELIZABETH SEITZ

MATERIALS RELATING TO SCOTTY GOWER AND SUPER OILS SYNDICATE

Biographical Sketch: In 1902 Edith Margot Osborn (Neé Camp) was born in Wainfleet, Lincolnshire, England and received her education at St. Mary Cray, Kent. She married Arthur George Osborn in Gillingham, becoming step-mother to his 10 year-old daughter Veronica. Margot, Arthur and Veronica sailed to Canada and opened a general store in Eldersley, Saskatchewan. After their home and store was destroyed by fire, the family (which now included two more children, Rosemary and Howard), moved to Regina. Their final two children, David and Laurel were born in Regina thereafter. Arthur died seven years after they moved to Regina, leaving Margot with four children under 12 years old.

Margot worked a number of jobs over the years to support her family including secretarial and accounting work. While living in Regina, Margot had begun to publish poetry and her play "Judas Incorporated" was produced by the Little Theatre Society there. Between 1946 and 1990 Margot published a total of 10 plays and poetry books.

Margot had a happy and active retirement in Victoria. She was a member and president of the local branch of the Canadian Authors' Association. She traveled in Canada and abroad and while on a visit to Egypt she undertook research for her pageant-play on the life of Moses, "The Man Who Might Have Been King". Margot's poetry has been published in *The Christian Science Monitor*, *Canadian Forum*, *Canadian Poetry Magazine*, *Regina Leader Post*, *National Home Monthly* and other periodicals.

Margot Osborn died on January 19, 2006, she was 104.

Margot met Scotty Gower, a Scottish chemist, in 1938 while he was researching the tar sands in Alberta. He, along with a few colleagues, initiated the Super Oil Syndicate. Margaret joined the group, attended meetings and for a short time (from 1939 to 1940) kept a diary related to her personal family life and to Gower, his personal life, the Syndicate's plans for the future. The diary later tells about Gower's trouble with having his research recognized by the oil industry.

Revised by Caitlin Mullan, November 8, 2010
Edited by Mark Vajcner, October 2016

Scope and Content: This small collection consists of nearly .05 centimeters of draft material written by Margot Osborn related to Scotty Gower and Super Oils Syndicate.

Custodial History: This collection was donated by Laurel Osborn, (Margot Osborn's daughter) in February 2017.

Legal Agreement: The donation agreement is pending.

Future Accruals: Future accruals are not expected.

Access Restrictions: There are no access restrictions.

MATERIALS RELATING TO SCOTTY GOWER AND SUPER OILS SYNDICATE

File 1

Writing by Margot Osborn

Draft of writing relating to Scotty Gower and Super Oils Syndicate