

Papers

of

THE BARRELMAN

Radio Program

COLL-028

Arranged and Described by

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Scope and Content

This collection contains the papers of *The Barrelman* radio program, the scripts of which were generated by Joseph R. Smallwood and Michael F. Harrington, the two announcers who served as the Barrelman in St. John's. The St. John's scripts were recycled for the Corner Brook series, which was entitled *O'Leary Newfoundland Program* and hosted by Stan O'Leary, brother of the program's sponsor, F.M. O'Leary. These vary somewhat from the St. John's scripts and are also included in the collection. In his essay, "*The Barrelman: Making Newfoundland Better Known to Newfoundlanders*," Leo Moakler, who served as the Barrelman's assistant throughout the lifetime of the program, describes how Smallwood produced his scripts:

Every workday he punched out 3,000 words of copy on anything and everything pertaining to Newfoundland: history, anecdotes, tall tales, listener mail, and so on....It never ceased to amaze me how he would get at that portable, and in his two-fingered system, without stopping apparently to think, punch out his five-page double-spaced script. And when finished, with never an erasure or cross-out, fold the manuscript, slip it in his inside pocket and that evening read it over the air just as it came out of the typewriter....He gathered material for his program from everywhere: intensive reading of the back files of newspapers; colonial records and other publications and documents in the Gosling Memorial Library; listener mail, which at times was quite heavy; stories told him by people on his rounds of the town; visitors to the office and other sources. While he was out, I would take the stories of visitors which Joe would lick into shape for broadcast.¹

This collection does not contain the scripts for the first week the program was on the air. It begins with the script for the first program under F.M. O'Leary sponsorship. *The Barrelman* and *O'Leary Newfoundland Program* scripts are contained in Series One.

¹ Leo Moakler, "*The Barrelman: Making Newfoundland Better Known to Newfoundlanders*," in *Call Me Joey* (St. John's: Harry Cuff Publications Ltd.) pp. 19-20.

While most of *The Barrelman* programs were stories derived by intense research, there were some 'special event' programs which can be classed as milestones in Newfoundland radio history. One such program was a special one-hour broadcast from 9:30 to 10:30 p.m. from the parish hall in North River, Conception Bay on October 19, 1940 to celebrate the 113th birthday of Mrs. Ellen Carroll (1827-1942). Smallwood built up to the event by sending cables to such world figures as King George VI, President F.D. Roosevelt and Pope Pius XII requesting congratulatory messages, and received responses from them all. He petitioned many businesses and individuals who donated gifts, including 113 one-dollar bills from the Commission of Government. An estimated 250,000 listeners heard the broadcast. "There wasn't a radio within range of the station that wasn't tuned into VONF that memorable day ... when Joe interviewed Mrs. Carroll in her home."²

Listener correspondence provided much grist for the Barrelman's mill, especially the simple question that one listener posed: 'How many sails are there on a full-rigged ship?' Replies were sent in from all over Newfoundland with every possible answer. "Joe got great mileage out of the controversy for weeks until he finally got bored with it."³ Much correspondence was generated when the program offered a prize of a pound of Lyons Tea to anyone who could stump the Barrelman with a question of general Newfoundland interest. Says Moakler:

His programs were easy to prepare when he had material like the foregoing. There were times, however, when the material cupboard was bare. One day he came into the office and announced that he didn't have a darn thing for that evening's program. Soon he was pumping away at his typewriter as if he had the finest of stories. That evening, in 3,000 well-chosen words, he apologized to his audience for not having a program.⁴

There were several listeners who wrote to *The Barrelman* on a regular basis, sending in stories and items. One of these was Fanny Ryan Fiander (1889-1962). She was born in Harbour Grace and educated there, in St. John's and at St. Pierre. She was an accountant and stenographer with Thomas Bond at Bay L'Argent before marrying and settling in Trinity, Trinity Bay. She moved to Harbour Grace in 1940.

She was a noted journalist in the 1930s and 1940s, contributing regularly to the *Evening Telegram*. In 1948 she received a certificate from the Newspaper Institute of America in New York for her excellent work. During World War II she composed "A Hymn for Peace," which was set to music by Paul Dyon of Montreal and was popular during the war. She also wrote other poetry and at the time of her death was preparing a book. She was also a public speaker of note and in the late 1940s made numerous speeches around Conception Bay and in St. John's in support of the Responsible Government League. She also made radio broadcasts and contributed letters to the papers supporting the cause.⁵

² Moakler, p. 22.

³ Moakler, p. 23.

⁴ Moakler, pp. 23-24.

⁵ *Encyclopedia of Newfoundland*, Vol. II, pp. 60-61.

All listener correspondence is contained in Series Two. There is no listener correspondence for the Corner Brook series and it is not known if such correspondence existed or how much of it there may have been.

A large source of mail during Harrington's tenure was the O'Leary Newfoundland Poetry Award Contest which ran from 1944 to 1955. It offered listeners an opportunity to submit original poetry for yearly cash prizes. This material is contained in Series Three of the collection. Submissions to the O'Leary Anniversary Essay Contest are not in the collection and it is not known what became of the 1000 or so entries.

First Smallwood, then Harrington edited *The Barrelman* (the name was later changed to *The Newfoundlander*), a 16-page tabloid-size monthly, the contents of which were mainly *The Barrelman* program material. Correspondence to this paper is interspersed with the program correspondence as, quite often, the information was used in both the program and the paper. 42,000 copies of the newspaper were mailed free every month to households outside St. John's. The paper was published by The Barrelman Publishing Company and later The Newfoundlander Publishing Company and contained F.M. O'Leary Limited advertising, along with advertising for other businesses, which Smallwood solicited himself when he was editor. The Centre for Newfoundland Studies has microfilm of the paper for June 1938 to September 1941 and June 1944 to December 1954. The Public Reference Library, Memorial University of Newfoundland Folklore and Language Archive and Provincial Archives each have some, but not all, original copies.

Smallwood also edited *The Express*, which was backed by Mr. O'Leary, Eric Cook, a prominent St. John's lawyer, and others who opposed the Commission of Government. Smallwood "had much pleasure for nine weeks in lambasting that body. Then, because it either cost too much money for the backers or Joe was too enthusiastic in giving the C. of G. up and down the banks, it was cancelled after the ninth issue."⁶ It did not publish hard news, but articles by prominent individuals opposing the Commission of Government and discussing the alternatives. The business records of *The Express*, which was published weekly from February 15 to April 12, 1941, are contained in Series Four of this collection.

Smallwood's love of Newfoundland history and folklore is reflected in the fact that during 1939 he served as Secretary of the Newfoundland Historical Society. Series Four also contains minutes and correspondence of the society for that year. One of Smallwood's favourite subjects was collecting information about former Newfoundlanders who had made a name for themselves outside Newfoundland. Series Four also contains a list of such people along with a sample greeting or message which they were requested to record to be aired on *The Barrelman*.

⁶ Moakler, p. 24.

As a part of the agreement by which Memorial University received *The Barrelman* papers, two microfilm copies were made of the scripts (the St. John's series only), one was presented to F.J. O'Leary, son of F.M. O'Leary, and the other (contained in 10 reels) was deposited in the Centre for Newfoundland Studies of Memorial University Library. A copy of the correspondence (contained in two reels) was also deposited in the Centre. These comprise Series Five of this collection and are labelled to correspond with the appropriate file numbers assigned the scripts and correspondence in this finding aid. (Microfilm # 666).

In a paper on Smallwood's work as the Barrelman, folklorist Dr. Peter Narváez has stated: "The importance of *The Barrelman* scripts and correspondence for folklorists and students of Newfoundland culture is that they represent the results of a five year folklore and oral history project by a broadcaster who amassed a tremendous amount of primary documentation which deserves scholarly analysis. Furthermore, an understanding of the folkloric content of *The Barrelman* would enable folklorists to assess the degree to which the program's transmission of folklore in Newfoundland modified, revived or created new oral traditions."⁷

This collection will be of interest to historians and biographers researching Smallwood's and Harrington's early careers, especially the contrast in each one's style and approach to the program and its contents; those studying the lives of other prominent Newfoundlanders, especially those who made a name for themselves outside Newfoundland; folklorists, who will find a wealth of material on a wide range of folkloristic genres; those interested in early radio programming in Newfoundland, as well as diversions of the time; students of vernacular literature; and anyone seeking a sampling of Newfoundland's history, culture and social life. An ongoing project that has resulted from the organization of this collection is the compiling of placename and personal name indices. When these are completed they should prove of great interest to genealogists and those researching community histories.

⁷ Peter Narváez, "Joseph R. Smallwood, *The Barrelman*: The Broadcaster as Folklorist," *Canadian Folklore Canadien*, 5 (1-2): 76, 1983. Narváez was referring to Smallwood only. When Harrington took over the program, he concentrated more on documented history rather than the tall tales and folklore that Smallwood relished.

Historical Background

The Barrelman was a one-man show dedicated to “making Newfoundland better known to Newfoundlanders” through the presentation of personal stories, geographic and economic facts, historical information and folklore. It aired from 6:45 to 7:00 p.m., six nights a week (five starting Saturday, August 30, 1952), eleven months a year, from October 18, 1937 to December 30, 1955.⁸ At first it was broadcast by government-owned radio station VONF of the Dominion Broadcasting Company from studios on the third floor of the Newfoundland Hotel in St. John’s. On June 27, 1949 VOCM began broadcasting the program at 7:00 p.m. Joseph R. Smallwood was the original Barrelman from its beginning until November 27, 1943. Michael Harrington succeeded Smallwood and continued with the program until 1955. When he left to pursue other interests, the program went off the air. A similar broadcast, the *O’Leary Newfoundland Program*, also sponsored by F. M. O’Leary Ltd., was aired on radio station VOWN in Corner Brook from February 19, 1945 to April 16, 1949. The announcer, Stan O’Leary, who was a brother of Frank O’Leary, presented himself as “Newfie.” At the end of each week, the scripts of the St. John’s program were sent to O’Leary in Corner Brook, who would then read them for the west coast audience.

In 1937, Smallwood had just brought out the first two volumes of the *Book of Newfoundland* and, needing a job to support his young family, he procured a position with the St. John’s newspaper, *The Daily News*, at \$20 a week, writing a column entitled, “From the Masthead.” His by-line was “The Barrelman.” He explained why he chose this name:

The barrelman is the member of a ship’s crew who climbs to the masthead and, from the protection of a barrel-shaped enclosure, peers about to sight whales or seals or ice packs, and calls the information down to the bridge below. My column consisted of anecdotes about Newfoundland, bits and pieces and scraps of information about the country and its people, and in general was devoted to a sort of glorification of Newfoundland and everything good within it. Thomas H. O’Neill, father of Judge Hugh O’Neill, was the source of many excellent anecdotes, and Mrs. Genevieve Dolan sent me some lovely stories from the West Coast.⁹

The column led naturally to the radio program:

⁸ The first script in the collection bears the date October 25, 1937. This is the first program under the sponsorship of F.M. O’Leary Ltd. The program was broadcast for a week before O’Leary became the sponsor, thereby dating the first broadcast on or about October 18, 1937.

⁹ J.R. Smallwood, *I Chose Canada* (Toronto: Macmillan of Canada) 1973, p. 205.

The column attracted considerable attention, and when I concluded that the time was ripe, I went to see William F. Galgay, the general manager of radio station VONF and my friend.... I proposed that he allow me to go on for a week or two with an unsponsored program much along the lines of my daily column. For fifteen minutes each night, from a quarter to seven until seven o'clock, using a ship's bell to signal the start of the program and to separate its various items, I continued for about a week. Then I went to see Frank M. O'Leary, who had a successful commission agent's business on Water Street, and suggested that he listen for a night or two to my program and decide whether he would like to sponsor it. He told me that he had already listened to it and liked it very much. He agreed to pay me \$30 a week.... *The Barrelman* program was sensationally popular among the outport people, the most popular one on the air. It was a peculiar blend of Newfoundland history, geography, and economic information, with stories of courage, endurance, hardship, inventiveness, resourcefulness, physical strength and prowess, skill and courage in seamanship, and a hundred other aspects and distinctions of our Newfoundland story - all of them "making Newfoundland better known to Newfoundlanders" and intended to inspire them with faith in their country and in themselves, and to destroy what I continually denounced as our inferiority complex.... And so it went night after night, always with fresh evidence that Newfoundland was a fascinating place, populated by brave and resourceful men and women, who rarely failed to accomplish big things once they had the opportunity.... I took no offence when someone publicly called me a blind patriot.... The first tall tales I told in my program were three or four that I had heard from my grandfather David, and he had brought them with him from Prince Edward Island. Then an avalanche descended upon me! Newfoundlanders, especially outport people, loved my tall tales, and they wrote me hundreds of tales to tell.

When the war broke out in 1939, Frank O'Leary wanted to use the program to do something to help the cause. Between us, we worked out the idea of The Fish Appeal. This was a plan by which each fisherman would donate a salt-dried codfish, and all the fish would be sold to the highest bidder; the proceeds would be used to buy cigarettes and comforts to be sent to our boys in the army, navy, and air force in Britain or wherever they were. I pushed this appeal vigorously every night for two or three years, and we raised thousands and thousands of dollars.

I received a staggering amount of fan mail. People wrote me from all parts of the country. [Newfoundland was a country at that time and not a province of Canada.] In the outports that had no electricity, and that was the overwhelming majority of them, there were only battery-operated radios. Batteries were expensive to keep up, and so not too many families could afford to have a radio. Those who did not would crowd the homes of those who did, but the owners were careful always to turn on their radios only, or mainly, for three programs: mine at a quarter to seven; Al Vardy's at seven o'clock; and the famous Gerald S. Doyle local news bulletin at a quarter to eight each night. In short, my program gave them entertainment and enlightenment about Newfoundland, Vardy's gave them the world news, and Doyle's gave them Newfoundland news.

I took the month of July off each year, and as I had acquired a second-hand car, I was able to spend that month poking about the country, wherever I could find a road to take me. In this way, I visited hundreds of Newfoundland fishing settlements and other places. In each settlement, I would talk with the oldest men and women and try, by probing, to reconstruct the history of the settlement: who was the first settler, where did he come from, how old was he, who was his wife, where did he meet her, how many children did they have, where exactly did he settle? And a hundred other questions. From this probing and my own intensive research, carried on six days a week through six years, I knew more, probably many times more, than any other person in Newfoundland about the history of the settlements. ... What fun it was! What happiness, to be close to the heart of our people and our outports! I used to carry a canvas tent in the back of the car, with tins of food, a tin kettle, and a few other tools for camp life. Half the fun for me was the camping.... Years afterward, as I campaigned for Confederation or for a General Election and drove around Trinity and other bays, I looked for the various spots where I had pitched my tent. I always notice particularly the spot just outside New Melbourne where, without bothering to pitch the tent, I slept in a sleeping bag in the dry ditch at the side of the road. I remember the youngsters who woke me up next morning and joined me as I boiled the kettle for tea and opened a can of beans for breakfast. At the end of a month of that kind of travel, I would go back to St. John's and resume my broadcast with as much zest as ever. I loved the outports, and still do, and never made any bones about it. Once, indeed, having spent the month in the outports, I began my resumed program with the words, "Ladies and gentlemen, good evening, I have just returned to St. John's from a month's visit to Newfoundland."

Throughout my years as Barrelman, I virtually lived at Gosling Memorial Library doing daily research for my radio program. And I read every word of the typewritten copies of the Colonial Records for the period 1749 onward. I read, too, every page of every newspaper back-file. In the vault of the Home Affairs Department, I came across a small hoard of historic documents. I found still more in the attic of the Supreme Court building. All of this intensive reading, carried on for five or six days a week throughout the year for five or six years, meant that I was the only Newfoundlander who had ever made his living, or at any rate a large part of it, out of Newfoundland history.¹⁰

¹⁰ Smallwood, pp. 205-211.

The Barrelman program led to the establishment of *The Barrelman* newspaper, which was published from June 1938 to 1954(?).¹¹ It was a 16-page tabloid-size monthly, and contained much material from *The Barrelman* program. The purpose of the paper was stated in its first edition:

There are many thousands of people in Newfoundland who hardly ever see a newspaper from one end of the year to the other. It is chiefly for them that this monthly paper is being published. The main purpose of *The Barrelman* is to bring entertainment to its readers.¹²

The article goes on to say that many people had written asking that the program be published in book form but, as this would be a very expensive proposition, a newspaper was an inexpensive way to serve the same purpose. Nearly every family in Newfoundland would have access to it because it was being distributed free to almost 42,000 households in 1,300 communities outside St. John's every month. Readers were asked to submit stories for publication. The paper was published by the Barrelman Publishing Company at first and then by the Newfoundlander Publishing Company. It contained advertising for F.M. O'Leary products along with advertising for other businesses, which Smallwood himself solicited when he was editor.

Smallwood later credited his *Barrelman* broadcasts with having two major results:

Frank O'Leary's name became a household word, his business expanded phenomenally, and I suspect that he became a millionaire; and my voice and personality became part of Newfoundland's very culture.¹³

While working as the Barrelman, Smallwood bought some land on Kenmount Road in St. John's and started raising poultry. When feed became scarce after the outbreak of World War II, he switched to raising hogs. In 1943, Group Captain David Anderson, Commanding Officer of the Royal Air Force Transport Command station at Gander Airport, came to Smallwood looking for advice on running a pig farm. "He had decided that it was a shameful waste of the King's money to be throwing away all the good waste food from the mess halls in Gander... instead of producing pork with it." Smallwood went to Gander to look at the situation and was persuaded to move there to run the operation. "I was astonished to learn, and he appeared to be sincerely surprised at my astonishment, that I was to stay full time in Gander to run the piggery venture. This would mean my giving up my Barrelman program and living in Gander without income. Andy was determined about it, so I had to give in."¹⁴

¹¹ The name of the newspaper was changed to *The Newfoundlander* sometime in the early 1940s. The last extant copy is the issue dated November/December 1954.

¹² *The Barrelman*, 1 (1): 3, June 1938.

¹³ Smallwood, p. 212.

¹⁴ Smallwood, pp. 216, 220.

On Wednesday, November 24, 1943, he announced, "Later this week... I'll be having a special statement to make. In a way it'll be the most important or the most unimportant statement, however you happen to look at it...made in this program since it began."

On Friday, November 26 he started the program with the statement:

This is my farewell broadcast on this Barrelman program. I hope tomorrow night to make the Fish Appeal acknowledgements, but tonight will be my real farewell. After this week I will no longer be the Barrelman.... I personally step down, but the program goes on: goes on to make Newfoundland better known to Newfoundlanders and to show Newfoundlanders ever and again why they should take deep and fierce pride in their native land.... The association [with O'Leary Ltd.] has been, so far as I'm concerned, unendingly pleasant, one of the nicest periods in my life. Especially and intimately associated with me has been my personal assistant [Leo Moakler] from the first day I went on the air up to this moment. He hates publicity so much that I'm scared to mention his name, but though I've never told him, I do so now, that for no man have I more respect and admiration: he's been a real friend and close associate from the beginning, and the new Barrelman will find in him a tower of strength and a mine of accurate information upon which he would be wise to call more than once.¹⁵

Smallwood went on to praise and thank each of his colleagues at the radio station and then his listeners:

There have been over 60,000 letters in the six years and a good many of them came from such steady and constant supporters as Tom Noseworthy of Markland, J.J. Peckford of Gander Bay, A.J. Hoffe of Change Islands, Max Forward of Carbonear, the late Walter Kennedy of Western Bay, and Mrs. Genevieve Dolan of O'Regan's on the west coast.... When I finish speaking tonight it'll mean that I have been on the air seventeen hundred and fifty-two nights. In those 1,700 nights I've related between nine and ten thousand stories and anecdotes and pieces of information, and to do so required around four and a half million words.... In the six years and more I've been on the program I've had about fifteen thousand telephone calls at the studios, or the office, or my house. In the same period I've had upwards of twelve thousand visitors, and having visited about seven hundred different Newfoundland settlements in that time I can't even begin to estimate the number of people I met in those travels - fifty thousand at least, I suppose. It's been an extraordinary experience, these past six, going on seven years, and some rather extraordinary things have happened.¹⁶

¹⁵ *The Barrelman* script, November 26, 1943, p. 1.

¹⁶ *The Barrelman* script, November 26, 1943, pp. 3-4.

Smallwood then listed some of these events, including Mrs. Carroll's 113th birthday, the Captain Bob Bartlett interview, the great amount of mail solicited by the question of how many sails on a full-rigged ship, the time when a local candy manufacturer began to sell a one-cent candy made in the supposed shape of the Barrelman, and the proposal of marriage from a widow who Smallwood said he would meet, on the steps of the General Post Office, carrying a teapot in one hand and a tin of Pet Milk in the other: "so many listeners thought I really meant it that next afternoon the whole of Water Street in that section was blocked by the crowds who turned up to witness the romantic meeting. The widow was too shy to turn up, and needless to say I kept a wide berth between the post office and myself."¹⁷ In describing the general tenor of the program he said:

Together we've delved pretty deeply and pretty frequently into our country's history, you and I ladies and gentlemen: we've turned the searchlight upon the past and discovered what a glorious past our country had and what a glorious tradition has come down to us. We discovered how many great and successful men and women our country had contributed to half the nations of the earth. We discovered between us thousands of very interesting and very useful bits of information about our country and people. I expect we all of us know more about our country than we did before, and we're all prouder of our country than ever before. And perhaps above all there's the Fish Appeal, that magnificent idea of Mr. O'Leary's that brought in...over fifty thousand dollars in the four years for our Newfoundland boys overseas.... For nearly seven years you have admitted me to your homes night after night for fifteen minutes, and we have had some enjoyable times together. It comes as a wrench indeed to have to drop out now. I know that I shall miss being on the air.... If I had one last word to say to you it would be to urge you to try to understand your country more: understand and love her more: be ever more fiercely resentful of injury to her, ever more anxious to seek her true welfare. She's the only country you've got - guard and protect her.¹⁸

Smallwood was on the air as the Barrelman for the last time on November 27, 1943 and spent most of the program reading responses to the Fish Appeal. He then made the announcement of who his successor as Barrelman would be and was profuse in his praise of O'Leary's choice of Michael Harrington. He finished by saying, "I wish Mr. Harrington the best luck in the world. Ladies and gentlemen, the Barrelman is dead: long live the Barrelman."¹⁹ In fact, Smallwood appeared briefly on the program the following Monday night to introduce Harrington to the audience and to wish him good luck.

¹⁷ *The Barrelman* script, November 26, 1943, p. 4.

¹⁸ *The Barrelman* script, November 26, 1943, p. 5.

¹⁹ *The Barrelman* script, November 27, 1943, p. 5.

Michael Harrington, using the pseudonym Ray Alexander, was one of Newfoundland's first "disc jockeys" having hosted a 15-minute musical variety show sponsored by Summers the Smart Shop for Men in 1937. It was aired on VONF and VOGY at 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. He then worked at Fort Pepperrell from 1941 to 1943 where, among other duties, he did some writing and broadcasting.²⁰ *The Barrelman* was his longest continuous stint as a broadcaster, lasting 12 years. In *I Chose Canada*, Smallwood states that while Harrington originated a lot of his own material for the program, "he made use of a good deal of the material that I had written and broadcast before."²¹ Harrington, however, takes exception to this and to Narváez's use of the phrase: "re-cycled scripts" in describing his approach to the program and says that he wrote most of his own material. While Smallwood had been delving more into tall tales in his later years as the Barrelman, Harrington preferred to concentrate on topics of documented history.²²

The O'Leary Newfoundland Poetry Award Contest, which was instituted by Harrington "with the intention of fostering the development of Newfoundland literature particularly in the field of poetry," ran from 1944 to 1955. This was the first permanent annual award instituted in Newfoundland for the encouragement of any branch of the arts and letters. In announcing the winners of the final contest in 1955, Harrington credited the contest with inspiring the government of the province to establish their own arts and letters competition, which continues to this day.²³ The judges were members of the English Department of Memorial University College under the chairmanship of Dr. A.C. Hunter. Harrington edited a volume of the prize-winning poems which included the years 1944 - 1952.²⁴

²⁰ Michael Harrington, "Personal Memories," in "The Golden Age of CBN St. John's 640, 1932-1982," supplement to the *Evening Telegram*, 29 Oct. 1982: 2A-3A.

²¹ Smallwood, p. 246.

²² Narváez, p. 61, and interview with Michael Harrington, March 30, 1992 by Gail Weir at CNS Archives.

²³ *The Barrelman* script, December 23, 1955.

²⁴ Michael Harrington, ed., *Poems of Newfoundland* (St. John's: F.M. O'Leary, Ltd.) 1953, see "Publisher's Note, p. v.

The year 1947 was the 450th anniversary of John Cabot's discovery of Newfoundland. It was also the 25th anniversary of the firm of F.M. O'Leary Limited which was founded April 1, 1922. The firm decided that since the year was such an important one in the country's history and was "so full of great expectations, [it] should be fittingly observed by this firm, whose monthly paper is called *The Newfoundlander* and whose radio program is devoted to making Newfoundland better known to Newfoundlanders." Thus, the O'Leary Anniversary Essay Contest was launched offering cash prizes in the hope that it "will stimulate greater interest in Newfoundland and in the achievements of Newfoundlanders, and open up new avenues of thought in relation to the things that Newfoundland and Newfoundlanders may yet accomplish if they have faith in themselves and their country, and their fellow countrymen."²⁵ Prizes totalling \$750 were awarded to entrants who had left school and prizes of \$250 were awarded to entrants who were still in school. The general subject areas of the essays were to be either "responsibilities of citizenship" or "biographies or outstanding incidents of the lives of Newfoundland statesmen and leaders generally since the year 1800, approximately the time of Dr. William Carson and down to 1934, the beginning of the Commission of Government era."²⁶ Contestants were permitted to submit one essay only of about 500 words on each subject but could combine the two subjects into one essay. The contest ran from January 16 to May 16, 1947, with the winners being announced on June 24, St. John's Day. Judges were the principals of the four St. John's colleges: St Bonaventure's, Bishop Field, Prince of Wales and the Salvation Army. Approximately 1,000 entries were received: about 400 in the adult division and 600 in the school division.

Some of the other features during Harrington's 12 years as the Barrelman included: interviews with Newfoundlanders who served in the armed forces, with a globe-trotter, with the doctor and nurse who started the travelling dental clinic in St. Barbe, with the two Innu delegates to the first convention of the Federation of Fishermen; a broadcast from the broom factory of the Institute for the Blind; and special features on unusual occupations. Listeners were also invited to send in questions to try and "Beat the Barrelman" in a quiz show, and there was a "Give-Away" show with cash prizes for anyone who correctly guessed Newfoundland place names from clues given in a limerick.²⁷ Harrington also continued the Fish-A-Man Appeal which had been introduced by Smallwood. More than \$60,000 was raised for the Newfoundland Patriot Association over the six years of the war.

²⁵ *The Barrelman* script, January 2, 1947, p. 4.

²⁶ *The Barrelman* script, January 16, 1947, p. 2.

²⁷ Harrington, Michael F., "My Twelve Years In the 'Barrel,'" *Atlantic Guardian*, 13 (10): 26, Nov. - Dec. 1956.

In the December 16, 1955 broadcast, Harrington made the announcement that *The Barrelman* was coming to an end. The program had been on the air for over 18 years and Harrington had celebrated his 12th anniversary as the Barrelman just two weeks earlier. "There are many reasons for this decision, but the principle one is that I am now a very busy man with a number of projects in hand and in view, and 12 years has been a long time to sustain a daily quarter-hour program of this kind. I have enjoyed it, most of the time, but there were times when it was a bit of a strain, and perhaps, a holiday from a regular broadcast is in order for me at this time."²⁸ (From 1955 to 1959 Harrington was visiting lecturer in the English Department, Memorial University.) In closing the final program on December 30, 1955, Harrington said, "And now it's time to ring the last bells as the Barrelman climbs down from his perch, from which he has scanned the Newfoundland horizons for a dozen years."²⁹

Because of the limited range of radio waves at that time, a similar program to *The Barrelman*, the *O'Leary Newfoundland Program* (also sponsored by F. M. O'Leary Ltd.) was broadcast on radio station VOWN in Corner Brook from February 19, 1945 to April 16, 1949. The announcer, Stan O'Leary, who was a brother of Frank O'Leary, presented himself as "Newfie." This created a minor controversy shortly after the program went on the air. A listener, writing under the pseudonym "VOOY," sent a letter to the editor of the *Western Star* complaining about amateur local radio programming: "The amateur program has been replaced by another of somewhat similar calibre under the nauseating Americanadian appellation of 'Newfie.' In this program we are given such gems of information as 'Admiral Byrd discovered the South Pole,' and 'Lord Lister - the discoverer of Listerine;' such is fame!"³⁰ At the end of each week, the scripts of the St. John's program would be sent to O'Leary in Corner Brook, who would then read them for the west coast audience. Stan O'Leary was Port Superintendent for Bowater Newfoundland Pulp and Paper Mills Ltd. and broadcast the *O'Leary Newfoundland Program* as a sideline.³¹

²⁸ *The Barrelman* script, December 16, 1955, p. 3.

²⁹ *The Barrelman* script, December 30, 1955, p. 6.

³⁰ "Letters to the editor," *Western Star*, 10 March 1945.

³¹ Telephone conversation with Sean O'Leary, son of Stan O'Leary, April 1, 1992.

Custodial History

This material was acquired from Francis J. O'Leary in early 1963 following the death of his father, Frank M. O'Leary, as a bequest from his estate, and was officially transferred to the Centre for Newfoundland Studies in 1971. *The Barrelman* song sheets, which were received with this collection, have been transferred to the Centre for Newfoundland Studies. The Michael E. J. Condon papers have been removed from the collection and arranged as a separate collection, COLL-084.

Restrictions

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Extent

6.34 metres of textual material

Arrangement

A clue as to the original filing system of the Barrelman office comes from Smallwood's assistant, Leo Moakler, who says, "You might say that the top of Joe's desk was his filing system. Letters, documents, bills, books, what have you, were piled there in what to me was utter confusion. Mail received in 1938 could, I'm sure, be found there five years later."³² Most of the letters were thrown together without any order. Some sort of order becomes evident with the late 1940s correspondence. The correspondence during these years was probably alphabetically filed according to the surname of the writer. However, an artificial order had to be created for the first part of the correspondence and this was continued to keep the arrangement consistent. It was felt that more benefit would be obtained if the correspondence were filed as the radio scripts had been. The scripts were filed chronologically by date of broadcast. The correspondence can be divided into two different parts. As there were two Barrelmen, it is natural that there were two different ways of filing. Smallwood's correspondence is filed according to date of writing, while Harrington's by date of broadcast because Harrington noted on all his correspondence the date he mentioned the letter on the air. Letters found with no date, in a pile of letters of say 1938, were assumed also to have been written in 1938. There is a file at the end of each year's correspondence with the undated correspondence for that year. These are filed alphabetically by author.

Both the scripts and the correspondence have been divided up with a separate file for each month. (It is uncertain why, but there is no correspondence for May to December 1948 and only enough for one file each for the years 1949 to 1951 and 1955.)

The collection has been divided into four series as follows:

Series 1 contains scripts of *Barrelman* broadcasts, including the Corner Brook version, "The O'Leary Newfoundland Program." Scripts for the St. John's program run from October 25, 1937 to December 30, 1955. The Corner Brook program, which ran from February 19, 1945 to April 16, 1949, was based on the St. John's scripts. The Corner Brook scripts for the months of November and December 1948 were repeats of Corner Brook scripts from the beginning to April 21, 1945.

Series 2 contains correspondence related to broadcasts and to the monthly newspaper that resulted from the broadcasts.

³² Moakler, p. 26.

Series 3 contains entries, correspondence, biographical notes on contestants and news clippings related to contests that were sponsored by the program, the O'Leary Poetry Contest and the O'Leary Anniversary Essay Contest. Entries for the poetry contests are also scattered throughout the correspondence files of Series 2. Entries for the essay contest are not among the papers. The file on this contest contains only a list of winners, a newspaper clipping and some correspondence.

Series 4 contains miscellaneous notes, research and advertising used in the program, as well as non-program material, most of which was generated by J.R. Smallwood while he was the Barrelman.

Series 5 is the microfilm of *The Barrelman* correspondence for 1937-1939 and all the St. John's scripts. (The microfilm is located in the Centre for Newfoundland Studies, microfilm number 666.)

Description

SERIES

- 1.0 Scripts of *The Barrelmen* Broadcasts, 1937-1955
- 2.0 Correspondence, 1937-1955
- 3.0 Contests, 1944-1955
- 4.0 Miscellany, 1936-1954
- 5.0 Microfilm, 1937-1955 (located in CNS, Microfilm 666)

SUB-SERIES

1.0 Scripts of *The Barrelman* Broadcasts, 1937-1955

- 1.01 St. John's Scripts, 1937-1955
- 1.02 Corner Brook Scripts, 1945-1949
- 1.03 Undated Scripts

2.0 Correspondence, 1937-1955

- 2.01 Prolific Individual Correspondents, 1937-1944
- 2.02 Correspondence, 1937-1955 (filed chronologically except where noted otherwise)
- 2.03 Undated and Incomplete Correspondence

3.0 Contests, 1944-1955

- 3.01 O'Leary Poetry Contest, 1944-1955
- 3.02 O'Leary Anniversary Essay Contest, 1947

4.0 Miscellany, 1936-1954

- 4.01 Miscellaneous *Barrelman* Papers, c. 1940-1954

4.02 Miscellaneous Non-*Barrelman* Papers, 1936-1948

5.0 Microfilm, 1937-1955 (located in CNS, Microfilm 666)

5.01 St. John's Scripts, 1937-1955

5.02 Correspondence, 1937-1939

File List

1.0 Scripts of *The Barrelman* Broadcasts, 1937-1955

1.01 St. John's Scripts, 1937-1955

1.01.001	October 25-30, 1937
1.01.002	November 1937
1.01.003	December 1937
1.01.004	January 1938
1.01.005	February 1938
1.01.006	March 1938
1.01.007	April 1938
1.01.008	May 1938
1.01.009	June 1938
1.01.010	July-August 1, 1938 (On holiday Aug. 2-31)
1.01.011	September 1938
1.01.012	October 1938
1.01.013	November 1938
1.01.014	December 1938
1.01.015	January 1939
1.01.016	February 1939
1.01.017	March 1939
1.01.018	April 1939
1.01.019	May 1939
1.01.020	June 1939
1.01.021	July 1939
1.01.022	September 1939 (On holiday August)
1.01.023	October 1939
1.01.024	November 1939
1.01.025	December 1939
1.01.026	January 1940
1.01.027	February 1940
1.01.028	March 1940
1.01.029	April 1940
1.01.030	May 1940
1.01.031	June 1940
1.01.032	July 1940
1.01.033	September 1940 (On holiday August)
1.01.034	October 1940

1.01.035	November 1940
1.01.036	December 1940
1.01.037	January 1941
1.01.038	February 1941
1.01.039	March 1941
1.01.040	April 1941
1.01.041	May 1941
1.01.042	June 1941
1.01.043	July 1941
1.01.044	September 1941 (On holiday August)
1.01.045	October 1941
1.01.046	November 1941
1.01.047	December 1941
1.01.048	January 1942
1.01.049	February 1942
1.01.050	March 1942
1.01.051	April 1942
1.01.052	May 1942
1.01.053	June 1942
1.01.054	September 1942 (On holiday July & August)
1.01.055	October 1942
1.01.056	November 1942
1.01.057	December 1942
1.01.058	January 1943
1.01.059	February 1943
1.01.060	March 1943
1.01.061	April 1943
1.01.062	May 1943
1.01.063	June 1943
1.01.064	September 1943 (On holiday July & August)
1.01.065	October 1943
1.01.066	November 1943
1.01.067	December 1943
1.01.068	January 1944
1.01.069	February 1944
1.01.070	March 1944
1.01.071	April 1944
1.01.072	May 1944
1.01.073	June 1944
1.01.074	July 1944
1.01.075	September 1944 (On holiday August-Sept. 2)
1.01.076	October 1944
1.01.077	November 1944
1.01.078	December 1944
1.01.079	January 1945
1.01.080	February 1945
1.01.081	March 1945
1.01.082	April 1945
1.01.083	May 1945

1.01.084 June 1945
1.01.085 July 1945
1.01.086 September 1945 (On holiday July 30-Sept. 1)
1.01.087 October 1945
1.01.088 November 1945
1.01.089 December 1945
1.01.090 January 1946
1.01.091 February 1946
1.01.092 March 1946
1.01.093 April 1946
1.01.094 May 1946
1.01.095 June 1946
1.01.096 July 1946
1.01.097 August 1946 (On holiday August 4-18)
1.01.098 September 1946
1.01.099 October 1946
1.01.100 November 1946
1.01.101 December 1946
1.01.102 January 1947
1.01.103 February 1947
1.01.104 March 1947
1.01.105 April 1947
1.01.106 May 1947
1.01.107 June 1947
1.01.108 July 1947
1.01.109 August 1947 (On holiday August 3-17)
1.01.110 September 1947
1.01.111 October 1947
1.01.112 November 1947
1.01.113 December 1947
1.01.114 January 1948
1.01.115 February 1948
1.01.116 March 1948
1.01.117 April 1948
1.01.118 May 1948
1.01.119 June 1948
1.01.120 July 1948
1.01.121 August 1948 (On holiday August 1-15)
1.01.122 September 1948
1.01.123 October 1948
1.01.124 November 1948
1.01.125 December 1948
1.01.126 January 1949
1.01.127 February 1949
1.01.128 March 1949
1.01.129 April 1949
1.01.130 May 1949
1.01.131 June 1949
1.01.132 July 1949

1.01.133 August 1949 (On holiday August 8-20)
1.01.134 September 1949
1.01.135 October 1949
1.01.136 November 1949
1.01.137 December 1949
1.01.138 January 1950
1.01.139 February 1950
1.01.140 March 1950
1.01.141 April 1950
1.01.142 May 1950
1.01.143 June 1950
1.01.144 July 1950
1.01.145 August 1950 (on holiday August 5-19)
1.01.146 September 1950
1.01.147 October 1950
1.01.148 November 1950
1.01.149 December 1950
1.01.150 January 1951
1.01.151 February 1951
1.01.152 March 1951
1.01.153 April 1951
1.01.154 May 1951
1.01.155 June 1951
1.01.156 July 1951
1.01.157 August 1951 (On holiday August 13-25)
1.01.158 September 1951
1.01.159 October 1951
1.01.160 November 1951
1.01.161 December 1951
1.01.162 January 1952
1.01.163 February 1952
1.01.164 March 1952
1.01.165 April 1952
1.01.166 May 1952
1.01.167 June 1952
1.01.168 July 1952
1.01.169 August 1952 (on holiday August 9-23)
1.01.170 September 1952
1.01.171 October 1952
1.01.172 November 1952
1.01.173 December 1952
1.01.174 January 1953
1.01.175 February 1953
1.01.176 March 1953
1.01.177 April 1953
1.01.178 May 1953
1.01.179 June 1953
1.01.180 July 1953
1.01.181 August 1953

1.01.182 September 1953 (On holiday Sept. 28-Oct. 17)
1.01.183 October 1953
1.01.184 November 1953
1.01.185 December 1953
1.01.186 January 1954
1.01.187 February 1954
1.01.188 March 1954
1.01.189 April 1954
1.01.190 May 1954
1.01.191 June 1954
1.01.192 July 1954 (On holiday July 12-23)
1.01.193 August 1954
1.01.194 September 1954
1.01.195 October 1954
1.01.196 November 1954
1.01.197 December 1954
1.01.198 January 1955
1.01.199 February 1955
1.01.200 March 1955
1.01.201 April 1955
1.01.202 May 1955
1.01.203 June 1955
1.01.204 July 1955
1.01.205 August 1955 (On holiday August 1-15)
1.01.206 September 1955
1.01.207 October 1955
1.01.208 November 1955
1.01.209 December 1955

1.02 Corner Brook Scripts, 1945-1949

1.02.001 February 1945
1.02.002 March 1945
1.02.003 April 1945
1.02.004 May 1945
1.02.005 June 1945
1.02.006 July 1945 (On holiday July 15-Aug. 17?)
1.02.007 August 1945
1.02.008 September 1945
1.02.009 October 1945
1.02.010 November 1945
1.02.011 December 1945
1.02.012 January 1946
1.02.013 February 1946
1.02.014 March 1946
1.02.015 April 1946
1.02.016 May 1946
1.02.017 June 1946
1.02.018 July 1946 (On holiday July 15-August 14?)

- 1.02.019 August 1946
- 1.02.020 September 1946
- 1.02.021 October 1946
- 1.02.022 November 1946
- 1.02.023 December 1946
- 1.02.024 January 1947
- 1.02.025 February 1947
- 1.02.026 March 1947
- 1.02.027 April 1947
- 1.02.028 May 1947
- 1.02.029 June 1947
- 1.02.030 July 1947 (On holiday July 16-August 14?)
- 1.02.031 August 1947
- 1.02.032 September 1947
- 1.02.033 October 1947
- 1.02.034 November 1947
- 1.02.035 December 1947
- 1.02.036 January 1948
- 1.02.037 February 1948
- 1.02.038 March 1948
- 1.02.039 April 1948
- 1.02.040 May 1948
- 1.02.041 June 1948
- 1.02.042 July 1948 (On holiday July 12 - August 14?)
- 1.02.043 August 1948
- 1.02.044 September 1948
- 1.02.045 October 1948
- 1.02.046 November 1948
- 1.02.047 December 1948
- 1.02.048 January 1949
- 1.02.049 February 1949
- 1.02.050 March 1949
- 1.02.051 April 1949

1.03 Undated Scripts

- 1.03.001 Scripts and parts of scripts with no date (may be from both St. John's and Corner Brook programs)

2.0 Correspondence, 1937-1955

2.01 Prolific Individual Correspondents, 1937-1944

- 2.01.001 Genevieve Dolan correspondence, 1937-1939
- 2.01.002 Fanny Ryan Fiander, undated
- 2.01.003 Thomas Noseworthy correspondence, 1938-1944
- 2.01.004 Thomas Noseworthy correspondence, 1938-1944, continued

2.02 Correspondence, 1937-1955 (filed chronologically except where noted otherwise)

2.02.001 1937
2.02.002 January 1938
2.02.003 February 1938
2.02.004 March 1938
2.02.005 April 1938
2.02.006 May 1938
2.02.007 June 1-19, 1938
2.02.008 June 20-30, 1938
2.02.009 July 1-15, 1938
2.02.010 July 16-31, 1938
2.02.011 August 1938
2.02.012 September 1938
2.02.013 October 1938
2.02.014 November 1938
2.02.015 December 1938
2.02.016 1938 (no dates, filed alphabetically)
2.02.017 January 1939
2.02.018 February 1939
2.02.019 March 1-15, 1939
2.02.020 March 16-31, 1939
2.02.021 April 1939
2.02.022 May 1939
2.02.023 June 1939
2.02.024 July 1939
2.02.025 August 1939
2.02.026 September 1939
2.02.027 October 1939
2.02.028 November 1939
2.02.029 December 1939
2.02.030 1939 (no dates, filed alphabetically)
2.02.031 January 1940
2.02.032 February 1940
2.02.033 March 1940
2.02.034 April 1940
2.02.035 May 1940
2.02.036 June 1940
2.02.037 July 1940
2.02.038 August 1940
2.02.039 September 1940
2.02.040 October 1940
2.02.041 November 1940
2.02.042 December 1940
2.02.043 1940 (no dates, filed alphabetically)
2.02.044 January 1941
2.02.045 February 1941
2.02.046 March 1941

2.02.047 April 1941
2.02.048 May 1941
2.02.049 June 1941
2.02.050 July 1941
2.02.051 August 1941
2.02.052 September 1941
2.02.053 October 1941
2.02.054 November 1941
2.02.055 December 1941
2.02.056 1941 (no dates, filed alphabetically)
2.02.057 January 1942
2.02.058 February 1-6, 1942
2.02.059 February 7-28, 1942
2.02.060 March 1942
2.02.061 April 1942
2.02.062 May 1942
2.02.063 June 1942
2.02.064 July 1942
2.02.065 August 1942
2.02.066 September 1942
2.02.067 October 1942
2.02.068 November 1942
2.02.069 December 1942
2.02.070 1942 (no dates, filed alphabetically)
2.02.071 January 1943
2.02.072 February 1-15, 1943
2.02.073 February 16-28, 1943
2.02.074 March 1-15, 1943
2.02.075 March 16-31, 1943
2.02.076 April 1943
2.02.077 May 1943
2.02.078 June 1943
2.02.079 July 1943
2.02.080 August 1943
2.02.081 September 1943
2.02.082 October 1943
2.02.083 November 1943
2.02.084 December 1943
2.02.085 1943 (no dates, filed alphabetically)
2.02.086 January 1944
2.02.087 February 1944
2.02.088 March 1944
2.02.089 April 1944
2.02.090 May 1944
2.02.091 June 1944
2.02.092 July 1944
2.02.093 August 1944
2.02.094 September 1944
2.02.095 October 1944

2.02.096	November 1944
2.02.097	December 1944
2.02.098	January 1945
2.02.099	February 1945
2.02.100	March 1945
2.02.101	April 1945
2.02.102	May 1945
2.02.103	June 1945
2.02.104	July 1945
2.02.105	August 1945
2.02.106	September 1945
2.02.107	October 1945
2.02.108	November 1945
2.02.109	December 1945
2.02.110	January 1946
2.02.111	February 1946
2.02.112	March 1946
2.02.113	April 1946
2.02.114	May 1946
2.02.115	June 1946
2.02.116	July 1946
2.02.117	August 1946
2.02.118	September 1946
2.02.119	October 1946
2.02.120	November 1946
2.02.121	December 1946
2.02.122	January 1947
2.02.123	February 1947
2.02.124	March 1947
2.02.125	April 1947
2.02.126	May 1947
2.02.127	June 1947
2.02.128	July 1947
2.02.129	August 1947
2.02.130	September 1947
2.02.131	October 1947
2.02.132	November 1947
2.02.133	December 1947
2.02.134	January 1948
2.02.135	February 1948
2.02.136	March 1948
2.02.137	April, 1948
2.02.138	1949
2.02.139	1950
2.02.140	1951
2.02.141	January 1952
2.02.142	February 1952
2.02.143	March 1952
2.02.144	April 1952

2.02.145	May 1952
2.02.146	June 1952
2.02.147	July 1952
2.02.148	August 1952
2.02.149	September 1952
2.02.150	October 1952
2.02.151	November 1952
2.02.152	December 1952
2.02.153	January 1953
2.02.154	February 1953
2.02.155	March 1953
2.02.156	April 1953
2.02.157	May 1953
2.02.158	June 1953
2.02.159	July 1953
2.02.160	August 1953
2.02.161	September 1953
2.02.162	October 1953
2.02.163	November 1953
2.02.164	December 1953
2.02.165	January 1954
2.02.166	February 1954
2.02.167	March 1954
2.02.168	April 1954
2.02.169	May 1954
2.02.170	June 1954
2.02.171	July 1954
2.02.172	August 1954
2.02.173	September 1954
2.02.174	October 1954
2.02.175	November 1954
2.02.176	December 1954
2.02.177	1955

2.03 Undated and Incomplete Correspondence

2.03.001	Questions for Barrelman, undated (filed alphabetically by author)
2.03.002	Suggestions for title of a book, undated (filed alphabetically by author)
2.03.003	Incomplete letters
2.03.004	Undated correspondence
2.03.005	Undated correspondence continued

3.0 Contests, 1944-1955

3.01 O'Leary Poetry Contest, 1944-1955

3.01.001	Sponsors
3.01.002	Biographical notes on contestants
3.01.003	Correspondence, 1944-1945

- 3.01.004 Correspondence and news clippings, 1946
- 3.01.005 Correspondence and news clippings, 1947-1948
- 3.01.006 Correspondence and news clippings, 1949-1950
- 3.01.007 Correspondence, news clippings, award prize list, list of donors, 1951
- 3.01.008 Correspondence, memo for judges, 1952
- 3.01.009 Correspondence, memo for judges, "poets in volume", news clipping, 1953
- 3.01.010 List of winners, correspondence, news clipping, 1954
- 3.01.011 Correspondence, press release, news clippings, 1955
- 3.01.012 Poetry submissions

3.02 O'Leary Anniversary Essay Contest, 1947

- 3.02.001 List of prize winners, news clipping, correspondence, July 1947

4.0 Miscellany, 1936-1954

4.01 Miscellaneous *Barrelman* Papers, c. 1940-1954

- 4.01.001 Notes
- 4.01.002 List of former Newfoundlanders who made a name for themselves outside Newfoundland, with a sample of greeting or message requested for them to record
- 4.01.003 Newspaper clippings on denominational education, 1954
- 4.01.004 Advertising used in *Barrelman* programs
- 4.01.005 Advertising used in *Barrelman* programs cont'd
- 4.01.006 Advertising used in *Barrelman* programs cont'd
- 4.01.007 Notebook used by J.R. Smallwood, c. 1940-1942, for notes from various sources while travelling throughout Newfoundland, used for *Barrelman* programs

4.02 Miscellaneous Non-*Barrelman* Papers, 1936-1948

- 4.02.001 "Profile of Frank M. O'Leary," in *Newfoundland Profile*, New V.2, No. 41, Autumn issue, 1948, pp. 3-5.
- 4.02.002 Business records of *The Express* newspaper, St. John's, 1941
- 4.02.003 Newfoundland Historical Society minutes and correspondence, J.R. Smallwood, Secretary, 1939
- 4.02.004 J.R. Smallwood correspondence, 1936

5.0 Microfilm, 1937-1955 (located in CNS, Microfilm 666)

5.01 St. John's Scripts, 1937-1955

- 5.01.001 Reel 1, Oct. 25, 1937 - Dec. 30, 1939
- 5.01.002 Reel 2, Jan. 2, 1940 - Sept. 30, 1941

- 5.01.005 Reel 5, Sept. 3, 1945 - May 27, 1947
- 5.01.006 Reel 6, May 28, 1947 - Feb. 28, 1949
- 5.01.007 Reel 7, Mar. 1, 1949 - Feb. 28, 1951
- 5.01.008 Reel 8, Mar. 1, 1951 - May 29, 1953
- 5.01.009 Reel 9, June 1, 1953 - Sept. 19, 1955
- 5.01.010 Reel 10, Sept. 19, 1955 - Dec. 30, 1955 plus undated scripts

5.02 Correspondence, 1937-1939

- 5.02.001 Reel 1, 1937-1938
- 5.02.002 Reel 2, 1939