



**FINDING AID 3058**

FONDS 3058  
COATES FAMILY FONDS

Accession Number 1986.067C

Prepared by Neil Semple, 1984  
Revised by Amanda Tomé, December 2017

**COATES FAMILY FONDS. – 1886-1977. – 1.03 m of textual records.**

Harper Havelock Coates (1865-1934) and Agnes Wintemute Coates (1864-1945) were missionaries to Japan in the late nineteenth and earlier twentieth century. Agnes Wintemute Coates was born near St. Thomas, Ontario, in 1864. She studied at Normal School and Alma College (Mistress of Arts). She was sent by the Women's Missionary Society (Methodist) to Japan in 1886. She taught school until 1893, when she married Harper H. Coates and resigned from the Women's Missionary Society. She raised a family, and continued to teach school. She also studied and taught nutrition. She had many Japanese friends, converted to Ba'hai, and remained in Japan after her husband's death. She died in 1945. Harper Havelock Coates was born near Prescott, Ontario, in 1865. He studied at Victoria University (M.A., D.D.), and was ordained in 1888. He went to Japan (ca. 1890) as part of Dr. Eby's "Self-Support Band" and taught English in government schools until 1892. He was a missionary at Central Tabernacle, Tokyo, until 1902, Professor of Theology at Aoyama College until ca. 1914, and an evangelist at Hamamatsu and Kanazawa until his death in 1934. He was an expert in Japanese language and customs. He had a special interest in Buddhism, and he co-authored a major study of Honen, a Buddhist reformer. He also wrote poetry and music.

Fonds consists of correspondence of Agnes Coates, 1891-1943; addresses and diaries of Agnes Coates, 1886-1887, 1935; annotated copy of Agnes Coates' book, "The Sure Road to Health; or "What Can Be Learned From The Nutrition Laboratory"; correspondence, diaries and addresses of Harper H. Coates, 1892-1913; family correspondence, 1910-1977; biographical and genealogical notes; two scrapbooks; three boxes of unsorted notes of Wilson Coates for planned biography.

| <b>Acc.</b> | <b>Box-File</b> | <b>Title</b>  | <b>Date(s)</b> |
|-------------|-----------------|---|----------------|
| 86.067C     | 1-1             | Correspondence  | 1891-1900      |
|             | 1-2             | ---   | 1900-1913      |
|             | 1-3             | ---   | 1914-1917      |
|             | 1-4             | ---   | 1918           |
|             | 1-5             | ---   | 1919           |
|             | 1-6             | ---   | 1920-1922      |
|             | 1-7             | ---   | 1923-1927      |
|             | 1-8             | ---   | 1928-1929      |
|             | 1-9             | ---   | 1930-1931      |
|             | 1-10            | ---   | 1932-1934      |
|             | 1-11            | ---   | 1935-1936      |
|             | 1-12            | ---   | 1937-1938      |
|             | 1-13            | ---   | 1939           |
|             | 1-14            | ---   | 1940-1941      |
|             | 1-15            | ---   | 1942-1943      |
|             | 1-16            | ---   | n.d.           |
|             | 1-17            | ---   | n.d.           |
|             | 2-18            | Articles and speeches   |                |
|             | 2-19            | Miscellaneous   |                |
|             | 2-20            | Diary   | 1886           |
|             | 2-21            | ---   | 1886           |
|             | 2-22            | ---   | 1886-1887      |
|             | 2-23            | ---   | 1887           |
|             | 2-24            | ---. Japanese impressions   | 1935           |
|             | 2-25            | The Sure Road to Health. Or What can be learned from the Nutrition Laboratory |                |
|             | 3-1             | Correspondence  | 1892-1914      |
|             | 3-2             | ---   | 1915-1916      |
|             | 3-3             | ---   | 1917-1918      |
|             | 3-4             | ---   | 1919-1920      |

| <b>Acc.</b> | <b>Box-File</b> | <b>Title</b>   | <b>Date(s)</b> |
|-------------|-----------------|--|----------------|
|             | 3-5             | ---  | 1921-1934      |
|             | 3-6             | ---. re death and tributes   | 1934           |
|             | 3-7             | ---. death and tributes  | 1935           |
|             | 3-8             | Miscellaneous cars, letters, clippings   |                |
|             | 3-9             | ---. in Japanese   |                |
|             | 3-10            | Harper and Agnes Coates' degree parchments   |                |
|             | 3-11            | Poetry and songs and miscellaneous   |                |
|             | 3-12            | Diary trip to Europe   | 1913           |
|             | 3-13            | ---. trip to Europe  | 1913           |
|             | 3-14            | ---  | 1912-1915      |
|             | 3-15            | Address deliver to fellow passengers on S.S. Cleveland   | 1913           |
|             | 1-1             | Bertha Coates correspondence   | 1924-1968      |
|             | 1-2             | ---  | 1969-1975      |
|             | 1-3             | Carol Coates correspondence  | 1914-1931      |
|             | 1-4             | ---  | 1951-1970      |
|             | 1-5             | ---  | 1971-1977      |
|             | 1-6             | ---  | 1971-1977      |
|             | 1-7             | Laura Coates correspondence  | 1940           |
|             | 1-8             | ---  | 1958-1975      |
|             | 1-9             | Lila Coates correspondence   | 1916-1948      |
|             | 1-10            | ---  | 1949-1955      |
|             | 1-11            | ---  | 1967-1971      |
|             | 1-12            | ---  | 1972-1977      |
|             | 1-13            | Mary Coates correspondence   | 1914-1946      |
|             | 1-14            | Wells Coates correspondence  | 1910-1918      |
|             | 1-15            | ---  | 1918-1930      |
|             | 1-16            | ---  | 1931-1946      |
|             | 1-17            | Wilson Coates correspondence   | 1914-1920      |
|             | 1-18            | ---  | 1921-1930      |
|             | 1-19            | ---  | 1923-1939      |
|             | #1              | Scrapbook – photos and writing about Wintemute, Cotes and other families and about Japan                 |                |
|             | #2              | Scrapbook – pictures and newspaper clippings, especially about World War II, from a Japanese perspective |                |
|             | 5-1             | Wells Coates' Address to 1957 architecture graduation class, Univ. of British Columbia                   | 1957           |
|             | 5-2             | Wilson H. Coates – trip to Japan   |                |
|             | 5-3             | ---  | 1971           |
|             | 5-4             | Correspondence re biography of parents   | 1971           |
|             | 5-5             | ---  |                |
|             | 5-6             | Coates family historical information   |                |
|             | 5-7             | Coates' genealogical and biographic information  |                |
|             | 5-8             | Hilda Coates' draft of history of husbands parents   |                |
|             | 5-9             | Notes re Agnes Coates for biography  |                |
|             | 6               | Unsorted material for biography  |                |
|             | 7               | Unsorted material for biography  |                |
|             | 8               | Unsorted material for biography  |                |