Robert Gray Hopkins was born on January 6, 1897 in Norwood, Ohio, to Lillie Hopkins and husband Walter Hopkins, a railroad conductor. He attended Hughes High School, graduating in 1916, and began attending the University of Cincinnati in the fall of the same year. Like many young men of his generation, World War I interrupted his education. On June 3, 1918, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and was sent with Section 508 to Pennsylvania’s Camp Crane on September 10. From Pennsylvania he was sent to France with the American Expeditionary Forces on September 21 and served with the division until his discharge on July 16, 1919. While in France he also attended the American Expeditionary Forces University at Beaune, taking law courses. Following his discharge, he returned to UC to complete his degree program. Along with his brother William (aka Foss), Hopkins was an active member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity and a member of the football team. He was a member of the Cincinnatian staff all four of his undergraduate years, serving as Associated Editor as a senior, and was active in the Academic Club and drama. He graduated from the McMicken College of Arts & Sciences with a degree in Liberal Arts in 1922 and from the UC School of Law in 1924. Following graduation, he passed the Ohio bar exam, went into a law practice with his brother, and remained a loyal member of the UC Alumnal Association.

From his last years at Hughes High School and through his participation in the UC Alumni Association, Hopkins compiled the two scrapbooks in this collection. Hopkins’ many affiliations provide for an excellent chronicle of student life at UC during the 1910s and 1920s. Highlights of the collection include memorabilia from Hughes High School, dance cards for UC dances, original illustrations by Hopkins during WWI, clippings of illustrations from local publications, and copies of Judge Magazine, in which illustrations appeared, material on the new ΣAE Memorial Lodge built in 1924 in memory of James Gamble Nippert, and programs from alumni functions for both UC and Hughes High School.

Box 1
E1 Photographs
E2 News clippings
E3 Ephemera

Scrapbook 1 1912-1925

Scrapbook 2 1923-1930