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| Birney, (Alfred) Earle (1904-1995) |
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| Earle Birney was a Canadian poet, novelist, dramatist, and professor. He was born in Calgary, and spent his childhood in rural Alberta and British Columbia. His adult life was primarily spent in Canada, the United States, and the United Kingdom. He died in Toronto. Birney’s poetics were shaped by his academic training in Old English and Middle English, and were distinctive in their avant-garde experimentations with typography, orthography, dialect, and sound media. Following training at the University of British Columbia, the University of Toronto, the University of California-Berkeley, and the University of London, he accepted a professorship in the Department of English at the University of British Columbia in 1946. His teaching led to the founding of the Department of Creative Writing at the University of British Columbia in 1965; in the same year, he departed to the University of Toronto to serve as the first writer in residence. In the decades that followed, he served as a writer in residence at many institutions. |
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| Further reading:  (Cameron)  Read an annotated version of ‘David’ here <http://rpo.library.utoronto.ca/poems/david>. [Poem copyright of the Estate of Earle Birney; *RPO: Representative Poetry Online* website copyright of the Editors and the University of Toronto.]  Read ‘Vancouver Lights’ here <http://www.library.utoronto.ca/canpoetry/birney/poem1.htm>. [Poem copyright of the Estate of Earle Birney; *Canadian Poetry Online* website copyright of the University of Toronto and the University of Toronto Libraries, 2000.] |