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| Klein, A.M. (1909-1972) |
| Abraham Moses Klein |
| A.M. (Abraham Moses) Klein was a Canadian modernist best known for his poetry depicting Jewish and French Canadian experiences in the first half of the twentieth century. A central figure in Jewish-Canadian culture, many of his poems represent Jewish identity and heritage, themes he sought to reconcile with a modernist desire to break from history. Klein also wrote short stories, novels, and literary essays, including several on James Joyce's *Ulysses,* besides practicing as a lawyer.  Klein was born on February 14, 1909 in Ratno, Ukraine. As a young child his family immigrated to Montreal's working-class Jewish district, a setting that inspired much of his later poetry. From 1926 to 1930, Klein studied at McGill University, where he was influenced by the McGill Movement, a modernist literary circle founded by A.J.M Smith, F.R. Scott, and Leo Kennedy. While a student at McGill, Klein published works in several magazines and co-founded the literary magazine *McGilliad*. A lawyer by profession, Klein went on to study law at the Université de Montréal (1930-1933) after graduating from McGill. In 1928 Klein became involved with the Zionist organization Canadian Young Judaea as an educator and writer. Later he wrote for and edited the Zionist Organization of Canada's magazine, *The Canadian Zionist,* and *The* *Canadian Jewish Chronicle*. He also worked as a speechwriter for Samuel Bronfman, President of the Canadian Jewish Congress. |
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| Further reading:  (Caplan)  (Kattan)  (Kaufman)  (Marshall)  (Pollock, A.m. Klein: The Story of the Poet)  (Pollock, Caplan and Rozmovits, A.m. Klein: An Annotated Bibliography)  (Seymour and Klein) |