



Mennonite Library & Archives Fresno Pacific University

MB Mission work in Brazil

An Inventory of Records

OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION

Creator: MB Mission

Title: Records of mission work in Brazil

Inclusive dates: 1942-2004

Quantity: 7 linear ft.

Record Group No.: A250-12

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Mennonite Brethren Board of Foreign Missions began work in Brazil in 1945, when it appointed Jacob D. and Anna Unruh to establish an orphanage near Curitiba. The Unruhs had already been working among homeless children in Brazil for several years before their appointment with the Board of Foreign Missions. Though the Unruhs stayed in Brazil only until 1948, they laid the foundation for an ongoing mission work in that country. Other missionaries followed them, working in close relationship with the German-language Mennonite Brethren Church in Brazil.

In addition to the orphanage, known as *Lar de Crianças*, the Mennonite Brethren mission program in Brazil was active in evangelistic work and church planting among the Portuguese-speaking people of that country, particularly in the areas of Curitiba and Sao Paulo. Various missionaries were also involved in hospital work (*Hospital Evangélico de Curitiba*), a high school (*Ginásio Erasmo Braga*), and two Bible institutes (*Instituto Teológico Evangélico* and *Instituto Bíblico Paranaense*). These two Bible institutes, the former for German-speaking students and the latter for Portuguese, merged in 1971 as the *Instituto e Seminário Bíblico Irmãos Menonitas*. Except for the orphanage, all these institutions were operated by or in conjunction with the Brazilian Mennonite Brethren Church or other organizations.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF THE COLLECTION

This subgroup includes minutes, reports, correspondence, other material relating to Mennonite Brethren mission work in Brazil.

LANGUAGES APPEARING IN THE COLLECTION

Some records are in German or Portuguese. Most records relating directly to interaction between Missions/Services and the Brazilian Mennonite Brethren Church are in German.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

Box 1

Series 1: Minutes and reports

Administrative Committee Minutes 1961-1968
Executive Committee Minutes 1968-1975
Missionary Fellowship 1962-1980
Untersuchungskomitee 1968
Other Reports 1954-1977
Field Visits Reports 1962-1986
Field Trips, Administrative (2 folders)
Field Trips
Trip Report
Correspondence 1948-1978, 1992
Leadership Correspondence (4 folders)
Budget Reports
Finances (7 folders)
Budget 1973-1977
Long Range Plans
Annual Worker Progress Reports
Evaluation
Evaluation- Don Peters

Series 2: Individual files

Arndt, Victor and Helena 1964-1970
Arthur, Jim and Gay 1989-2000
Banman, Linda 1949-1986
Boldt, John and Lydia 1967-1980
Born, Floyd and Bertha 1966-1974
Born, Matthew and Debbie 1997-2004
Dick, Peter and Lydia 1976-1977
Dueck, Jacob and Olga Pries 1954-1958

Box 2

Series 2: Individual files

Ekk, Otto and Marjorie 1980-1984, 1990
Epps, Mike and Cindy 1994-1997
Fast, Ken and Marilyn 1985-1999
Faul, Don and Marie 1962-2001
Fehr, John and Celia 1988-1994
Froese, Tim and Kami 1983-1985
Gerbrandt, Ken and Carol 1959-1966
Harms-Wiebe, Ray and Judy 1986-2004
Huebert, Peter and Maria 1954-1963
Janz, Willy 1967-1986
Janzen, Henry and Bertha 1987-1996
Janzen, Peter and Lydia 1980-1985
Janzen, Haroldo
Jost, Craig and Fabianna 1990-2000
Klassen, John and Pat 1959-1996
Kliwer, Paul and Rachel 1963-1971
Kuss Isle 1994
Lay, Robert 1977-1982

Box 3

Series 2: Individual files

Loewen, Darla and Harold 1975-1977
Loewen, Heinrich 1982-1985
Lomheim, James and Delores 1963-1966
Nightingale, David and Anne 1966-1979
Nightingale, Jim and Marilou 1994-1995
Ott, Henrique and Vickie 1997-2000
Pastre, Walter and Giovanna 1961-1962
Peters, Frank and Helen 1967-1994
Poetker, Alden and Katrina 1988-1991
Rempel, Walter 1971-1977
Thiesen, Edna 1962-1970
Thiesen, Erven and Lorene 1950-1988
Thiesen, Henry and Leona 1978-1980
Unruh, Jacob D. and Anna 1942-1948
Unruh, Shirley 1984-1986
Wagner, Bill and Marilyn 1967-1971
Wiebe, James and Lois 1962-1986

Box 4

Series 2: Individual files

Wiebe, James and Lois 1987-1992
Wiens, Edith 1965-1967
Wiens, Vic and Marty 1982-1998

Series 3: Subject files

Associacao das Igrejas Irmaes Menonitas do Brasil 1960-1982
Convencao Brasileira das Igrejas Irmaes Menonitas 1969-1983
Brazil Convention (5)
Brazil Association (6)
Brazil Construction (3)
Constitutions and Legal Documents 1948-1979
Visit of Jacob August to North America 1983-1984
Scrapbook (2/6)

Box 5

Series 3: Subject files

Scrapbook (4/6)
Campo Belo
Campo Grande
COBIM
Curitiba 1988 Conference
ISBIM
Jorge Perdonsin
Mundo Novo
News Release
San Paolo
San Paolo Church Plant
Maps 1958-1960
Scholarships 1975-1980

Box 5 (Cont.)**Series 3: Subject files**

Theological Education 1971
Thrust Evangelism 1970-1981
Urban Evangelism 1976
Publications
Film Scripts 1960
Hospitals 1961-1970

Box 6**Series 3: Subject files**

Short Term Program 1975-1979
Ministries
Prayer Letters
Core Plus Projects
Dourados Core Project
Brazil Charter
Instituto Teologico Evangelio 1961-1968
Instituto Biblico Paranaese 1960-1970
Instituto e Seminario Biblico Irmaos Menonitas 1971-1983
Bible Institute Merger 1968-1971
Ginasio Erasmo Braga 1956-1969
Orphanage 1948-1969
Pan American Christian Academy 1972
Brazil 1982-1988, 1999 (3)
Brazil General
Brazil Misc. (5)
Brazil (2)

Box 7**Series 4: Photographs**