



Mennonite Library & Archives Fresno Pacific University

MB Mission work in Mexico

An Inventory of Records

OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION

Creator: MB Mission

Title: Records of mission work in Mexico

Inclusive dates: 1950-2001

Quantity: 7 linear ft.

Record Group No.: A250-15

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Mennonite Brethren mission work among the Old Colony Mennonites of Mexico began in 1950. The Board of Foreign Missions purchased a farm, on which it placed David and Elereeca Toews. The Toewses were to work as farmers in the area and serve as witnesses to the Old Colony Mennonites in that context. The board also purchased a medical clinic to serve the Mennonite community of the area. With time, the board hoped that these initial contacts would allow for more direct missionary work.

The early mission work among these Mennonites met with little success, and work shifted to Spanish-speaking people in the region. The first Mexican Mennonite Brethren church was established in Nuevo Ideal in 1955. Other congregations arose with time in surrounding villages. The board also became involved in work along the Texas border when Rev. I. M. Alaniz, who had earlier established a church in Piedras Negras, joined the Mennonite Brethren Church. In more recent years the mission board has approved additional projects in some of the larger population centers of Mexico.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF THE COLLECTION

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

LANGUAGES APPEARING IN THE COLLECTION

Some material is in Spanish.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

Box 1

Series 1: Minutes and reports

Missionary Council 1955-1959
Missionary Administrative Committee 1963-1964
Missionary Fellowship 1963-1967
Mexico Commission 1968-1969
National Administrative Committee 1963-1969
"Historiography of MB Mission Endeavors in Mexico" 1950-1969
Field Visits 1955-1986
Minutes and Reports: Other 1950-1977

Series 2: Individual files

Alaniz, I.M. 1953-1981
Arjona, Juan and Debbie 1982-1985
Barnhart, Timothy 1986
Brown, Dean and Freda 1981-1983
Colon, Luis
Contreras, Teresa 1958-1962
Cooper, David and Grace 1954-1956
Diaz, Miguel 2003-2004
Doerksen, P.J and Tina 1952
Freyre, Carlos and Celia 1992-1993
Friesen, Mabel 1964-1967
Gerbrandt, D.J and Linda 1955-1957
Goertz, Isaac P. 1950-1952
Guenther, John B. and Tina 1962-1964
Harrison, Jim 1990-1996
Heinrichs, Willie and Betty 1964-1969
Hunter, Willie and Kathy 1989-1991
Isaak, Gordon and Dora 1993-2001

Box 2

Series 2: Individual files

Janzen, Eugene and Lillian 1964-1967
Karthe, Federico 1950-1958
Klassen, Ruth 1994-1998
Kroeker, Elsie 1965-1970
Lomheim, James and Darlene 1951, 1960
Mark, Leslie and Erlene 1974-1981
Martens, Mary 1957-1958
Niessen, David and Mary 1978-1980
Penner, Rob and Fran 1993-1998
Petker, Dan and Eleanor 1957-1967
Pizarre, Irma 1957-1974
Preza, Walter and Amalia 1983-1992
Quiring, Wilmer and Eugenie 1958
Reimer, Hedy 191975-1985
Savoia, John and Loola 1990-1992
Schultz, Maria 1956-1980
Thiessen, Edna 1950-1960
Thiessen, William and Kay 1973-1983
Toews, David and Elereeca 1950-1959

Box 3

Series 2: Individual files

Villarreal, Alfredo and Raquel 1957-1961
Vogt, J.W. and Martha 1971-1974
Wall, Hans and Tina 1981-
Walter, Joseph and Janette 1989-1991
Wedel, Ben and Fran 1987-1998
Wiens, Richard and Delores 1962-1978
Willems, Reg and Ivy 1977-1978
Wirsche, Daniel and Elsie 1956-1970
Individual Files Correspondence 1950-1982

Series 3: Subject files

Constitutions 1955-
Finances 1951-1971
Legal Documents 1950-1971
Statement of Agreement with Mexican MB Church 1965
Conference Programs 1956-1967
National Administrative Committee Correspondence 1965-1980
Bible School 1953-1959, 1976
Church Planting and Evangelism 1974-1982
Missions Seminar 1981-1982
Inter Mennonite Projects 1971-1982
Mexican Missionary Ministries Inc. 1959-1978
News Releases 1968-1975
Leaflets
Maps, Planning Drawings

Box 4

Series 1: Minutes and reports

Annual Worker Progress Report
CAMM Evaluation
Mexico Evaluation
Border Church Reports
Leadership Correspondence
Mexico Misc. Correspondence
Finance Reports
Field Trips
Trip Reports
Legal Documents
Mexico Charter
Long Range Plans
Mexico
General
Mexico 1979-1988
Mexico File-Assembly

Series 2: Individual files

Dave Dyck Letter
Freyre, Carlos and Celia
Harrison Jim 1994-1998
Funk, Loyal
Thiesen, Ted

Box 5**Series 2: Subject files**

Chiapas Relief Project
Mexico Core plus Project
Conference Papers
Conferencias Hermanos Menonitas
CUMA
FPC-BAJA Team
History of MB Missions in Mexico
Incorporation Documents
Leon Church
Magueyes
Mexico MB Conference
Mexico Ministries
Mexico City
National Church
National Workers
News Release
Northview
Mexico Ministry Task Force
Nuevo Ideal (2)
Prayer Letters
Reynosa
RMBC College in Mexico
Tijuana Church Building Project
Tijuana Church Legal Issues
General Information
Mexico
Guadalajara Work

Box 6**Series 4: Photographs**

Photos- Publications
Baptism
Bible Studies
Bookstore
Buildings
Cemetery
Children's Ministry
Guadalajara
Leon
Mexico City
Churches- Misc.
Nuevo Ideal
Piedras Negros
Pihás Alfas
San Miguel
San Simon
Tijuana
Evangelism
Medical
Mennonite Disaster Service
Misc.
Missionaries
Alaniz, I.M.
Arjona, Juan and Debbie

Barnhart, Tim and Debbie
Brown, Dean and Freda
Gerbrandt, Linda
Harrison, Jim
Issak, Gorgon and Dora
Penner, Ron and Fran
Pritchard, Jon and Juana
Thiessen, William and Kay
Wall, Hans and Tina
Wiens, Richard and Delores
National Leaders

Box 7

Series 4: Photographs (Continued)

Nuevo Ideal Bible Institute
Old Colony- Farming
Old Colony- Children
Old Colony-Church
Old Colony-Buildings
Old Colony-People
Old Colony-School
People
Group Pictures
People (unidentifiable)
Scrapbook
Short Term Missions (2)
Tiera Buena School
Women's Retreat
Worship
Slides (3)
Negatives