



Mennonite Library & Archives Fresno Pacific University

MB Mission work in India

An Inventory of Records

OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION

Creator: MB Mission

Title: Records of mission work in India

Inclusive dates: 1910-

Quantity: 18 linear ft.

Record Group No.: A250-6

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The first Mennonite Brethren missionaries to India, Abraham and Mary Friesen, came from Russia in 1889. They established a work at Nalgonda among the Telugu people under the American Baptist Missionary Union. In 1891 they organized the Mennonite Brethren Church of India. By the end of the nineteenth century seven couples and three single women from the Russian Mennonite Brethren Church were serving in India. In 1899 the Mennonite Brethren Church of North America sent its first missionaries to join those from Russia. The missionaries from Russia eventually separated themselves from the Baptist organization under whom they had originally served and joined the North American group. Over the years the Mennonite Brethren Church in India experienced significant growth: by 1970 there were almost 19,000 members in the Indian church. During the years 1889-1973 over 100 Mennonite Brethren missionaries from Russia, the United States and Canada served in India.

From the 1940s until the 1970s the Mennonite Brethren missionaries' role in the India gradually diminished until by 1973 all North American missionaries had withdrawn from the country. While a small number of missionaries have served in limited consultative roles since that time, there has been no formal ongoing missionary presence in India since 1973.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF THE COLLECTION

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

LANGUAGES APPEARING IN THE COLLECTION

Minutes and some correspondence before 1940 are in German. Some publications are in Telugu.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

Box 1

Series 1: Minutes and reports

- Mission Administrative Committee 1935-1959
- Bible Training Committee 1963-1979
- Bruton Committee 1952-1969
- Building Committee 1949-1968
- Christian Education Board 1968-1971
- Constitution Committee 1957-1958
- Education Board 1959-1976
- Evangelism Board 1964-1971
- Educational Committees 1946-1960
- Field Reports 1974-1987
- Field Council
- Governing Council 1955-1980
- Home Board 1951
- Household Furnishings Committee 1962-1966
- Language Committee 1947-1965
- Liaison Committee 1964-1971
- Literature Committee 1965-1968
- Literature and Radio Board 1973-1980
- Medical Committee 1955-1971
- Mission Administrative Committee 1960-1968
- Missionary Conference 1914-1939

Box 2

Series 1: Minutes and reports

- Missionary Conference Reference Committee
- Missionary Council
- Missionary Fellowship 1963-1978
- Policy Committee 1957
- Plain School Committee 1965
- Property Committee 1969-1972
- Publishing Committee 1940
- Reference Committee
- Relief Committee 1958
- Scholarship Committee 1959
- School Committee 1940
- Transportation Committee 1963-1965
- Board of Trustees 1965-1968
- Youth Camp Committee 1955
- Other Reports 1913-1978

Series 2: Individual files

- Arthur, D.J.
- Balzer, P.V. and Elizabeth 1923-1962
- Benjamin, K.G. 1979-1980

Bergthold, D.F. 1916-1945
Block, Peter 1961-1971
Devapriyam, K.B. 1957-1963
Dick, J.J. and Anna 1934-1974
Dueck, Helen 1957-1962
Dyck, David and Nancy 1985-1987

Box 3

Series 2: Individual files

Ediger, Anne 1965-1981
Enns, Margaret 1981-1987, 1989-1990
Enns, Mildred 1950-1954
Esau, Freda 1982-1983
Fast, Ted and Ester 1952-1982
Franz, Ken and Heidi 1986-1987
Friesen, David and Martha 1969-1972
Friesen, Jake 1952-1973
Froese, George 1956-1973
George, B.A. 1972-1974
Geides, Edna 1948-1960
Hamm, Peter and Betty 1958-1970
Hanneman, Anna 1915-1944
Haider, Helen 1946-1970
Hiebert, J.N.C. 1929-1951
Hiebert, Paul and Frances 1960-1973
Janzen, Frank A. and Elizabeth D. 1910-1946
John, M.B. 1960-1975
Kasper, Julius J. and Eva/Mary 1947-1963
Krahn, Henry and Alice 1956-1961
Kroeker, Warner and Elsie Ann 1993-2000
Lepp, Emma 1948-1979

Box 4

Series 2: Individual files

Lohrenz, John H. and Maria 1926-1968
Lohrenz, Katharina 1911-1943
Murthy, R.R.K. 1963-1977
Neufeld, Frieda 1960-1972
Neufeld, Jerry and Nancy 1964-1967
Nickel, Dan and Helen 1966-1985
Pankratz, J.H. and Maria 1909-1943
Poetker, Henry and Amanda 1954-1987
Poetker, Alden and Katrina 1979-1984
Reimer, Catherine 1931-1939
Rufus, V.K. 1972-11973
Schellenburg, Katharina 1914-1945
Schmidt, Ernest E. and Evelyn 1951-1958
Seaman, Maynard and Dorothy 1960-1987
Siemens, Katie 1957-1973
Studebaker, Dilwyn and Mildred 1951-1954
Suderman, Anna 1938-1975
Suderman, Margaret 1929-1956
Suderman, Regina 1954-1971
Toews, Rosella 1948-1989
Unruh, A.A. and Annie 1939-1970

Unruh, Cornelius and Martha 1919-1931
Voth, John H. and Mary 1913-1942

Box 5

Series 2: Individual files

Wall, Mary C. 1919-1957
Wall, Ronald 1963-1964
Warkentin, Helen 1920-1958
Warkentin, Herman and Beatrice 1948-1952
Wiebe, John and Viola 1929-1967
Wiebe, David and Lorma 1966-1967
Willems, Margaret 1949-1961

Series 3: Subject files

Schools- General 1936-1976
Davarkonda 1958-1981
Gadwal
Hughestown 1962-1981
Ralwakworthy 1972
Mahbubnagar 1953-1977
Nogarksuool
Wanaparthi 1953-1973
Shamshabad 1940-1989
Bethany Bible Institute 1930-1966
Sathyaveda Correspondence School 1967-1979
Kodaikanal 1958-1967

Box 6

Series 3: Subject files

Kodaikanal School 1968-1976
Bethel Theological School 1953-1954
Ramapatham 1960-1965
Union Biblical Seminary Board of Governors 1953-1987
Union Biblical Seminary Cooperating Home Boards 1954-1982
Union Biblical Seminary Correspondence 1962-1987
Union Biblical Seminary Publications 1967-
Union Biblical Seminary News Release 1962-
Union Biblical Seminary Other Material 1953-1977

Box 7

Series 1: Minutes and reports

Field Visit Reports 1957-1987
Finance Reports 1929-1984
Local Station Annual Reports 1957

Series 3: Subject files

Medical Programs General 1960-1980
Deverakonda Hospital 1962-1968
Jadcherla Medical Center 1952-1980
Mahbubnager Hospital
Nagarkurnool Hospital 1936-1952
Wanapathy Hospital 1937-1976
All-India Mennonite Evangelism Conference 1975-1976
Christian Education 1975-1981

Church Planting 1975-1981
Clippings 1961-1969
Confessions of Faith 1958-1962
Constitutions
Correspondence General 1910-1981
Council of Mennonite and Associated Churches of India 1970
Court Documents 1961, 1976-1979
Evangelical Fellowship of India 1959-1981
Field Associations 1979
Historical Accounts
MB Central Youth Association 1978-1980
Jubilee Program 1948
Maps
Property Association 1976-1987

Box 8

Series 3: Subject files

Mennonite Christian Service Fellowship 1966-1980
MCSF Executive Committee 1964-1974
MCSF 1971-1972
MCSF Medical Board 1968-1974
MEDA Project 1978-1979
Ministers and Elders Retreat 1966
National Scholarships 1972-1978
New India Plan 1958-1961
News Release 1961-1975
Principles and Policies Statements
Property Records 1952-1976
Publications/Literature 1936-1980
Publications/ Booklets
"Unterdem Telugus"
Radio 1960-1981
Statistical Reports 1924-1979
Students 1971-1977
Teugu Village Mission 1952-1956
Misc. 1940-1973
John Wiebe on Property Negotiations 1952-1958
Village Elders Institute 1952-1953
Misc.

Box 9

Series 2: Individual files

Cressman, Douglas 2001-2003
Kroeker, Werner and Elsie Ann 1992-1998
Nickel, Gord and Gwen 1998-2002
Regier, Dane and Teresa 2005-2006

Box 10

Series 1: Minutes and reports

Field Visits 1998-2001 (4 folders)
Fraternal Visitors 2000/2001
Finances (6 folders)
Fraternal Workers
GC Minutes
Governing Council Correspondence (4 folders)

Box 11**Series 1: Minutes and reports**

GC Reports
Long Range Plans
Misc. Correspondence (2 folders)

Series 2: Individual files

Arnold, P.B.
Bergdahl, Tim
Daniel, J.G.
Ens, Harold 1995-1996
Fast, Ted
Friesen, Dr. Jake and Ruth 1972
Klassen, A.J.
Kroeker, Werner 1997
Martens, Elmer
Joel, Menno
Murthy, R.R.K.
Nickel, Dan
Rueben, K. Ch.
Samuel, Subashani
Solomon, E.D.
Solomon, M.A.
Rufus, V.K.
Wiebe, Paul
Wilson, K.L.

Box 12**Series 3: Subject files**

Agency Reports
1995 Agreement
Ashirwad Proposal
Bible Schools, Institutes (3 folders)
Board of Evangelism
Bruton Property Sale
Centennial
India Centenary Celebrations November 1999
Church Extension Workers 1995-1998
Churches in Urban Areas
Church Partnership Evangelism 1995-1999
Church Planting 1992-1995
Church Roofs
Colorado Springs 1994
Communications
India Core Plus Projects
Development 1990-1994
Dr. Margaret Visit to NA
CPE and Mediation 1994
MC Emmanuel
Projects 1989-1995

Box 13**Series 3: Subject files**

- Scholarships (3 folders)
- Subsidy Funding 1997-1998
- Special Projects
- Transfer of Property 1974-1975
- Union Biblical Seminary (2 folders)
- "India Matters" Werner Kroeker
- India Faculty Endowment Fund 2001-2002
- All India Mennonite Women's Conference
- Bombay Ministries 1984-1988
- Devarakonda Field Association
- Development Projects
- MB Medical Centre
- Publications
- Radio
- Schools
- Youth Ministry
- Church Planting 1984
- Islam
- GC Study
- India Constitution
- Requests and Complaints 1989-1995 (5 folders)

Box 14**Series 3: Subject files**

- Lohrenz Endowment Fund
- M.B. Women's Conference
- MCSFI
- India Medial
- India Medical Shipment Documents
- Muslim Ministries 1998-2001
- National Leaders
- National Workers
- News Release
- Office Contracts and Inventory
- India Pramer Group 1995
- Prayer 1996
- India Property 1974-1977
- Property Association
- Requests and Letters 1995-1998

Box 15**Series 3: Subject files**

- India (5 folders)
- India 1985-1987
- India 1997
- India Misc. (10 folders)
- General Information

Box 16

Series 4: Photographs

- Administrative Visits
- Agriculture
- Baptism
- Buildings
- Camp
- Christian Youth League
- Churches
- Conferences
- Congregations
- Disasters
- Evangelism
- Funerals
- India MB Archives
- People
- Institutes
- Labor/Industry
- Literary Works

Box 17

Series 4: Photographs

- Literary Distribution
- Medical
- Ministerial Meetings
- Missionaries
- Missionary Children
- Missionaries and Indian Groups
- Missionary Groups

Box 18

Series 4: Photographs

- Mission Station Buildings
- Missionary Residence
- Music
- Native Religion
- Ootacamund
- Office Staff
- Publishing
- Refugees
- Relief Work
- Rauipadu Prayer Hall
- Radio Work
- Scenery
- Schools
- Food
- Evangelism
- Transportation
- Village Life
- Womens Ministry
- Translation
- Silver Jubilee
- Weddings
- Short Term Missions
- Slides