



Mennonite Library & Archives Fresno Pacific University

Henry K. Warkentin An Inventory of His Papers

OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION

Creator: Warkentin, Henry K. (Henry Koop), b. 1891.
Title: Papers.
Inclusive dates: 1951-1966
Quantity: 75 films (16 mm).
0.6 linear ft.
92 photo prints
18 photo negatives
20 slides
4 sound tape reels
6 digital video discs
Record Group No.: M35.

BIOGRAPHY OF HENRY K. WARKENTIN

Henry Koop Warkentin was born 10 December 1891 near Hillsboro, Kansas, to P. J. and Anna Koop Warkentin. In 1912 Warkentin moved to Los Angeles, California. Unable to find suitable work there, he eventually settled in Reedley, California. After marrying Margaretha Harms in 1916, Warkentin worked at a variety of occupations, including farming, trucking, managing a tractor and implement business. Following the Depression, Warkentin opened an electrical supply business.

In about 1941 Warkentin decided to enter full-time ministry. He and his family moved to Los Angeles where he enrolled in the Bible Institute of Los Angeles. In 1943 Warkentin purchased a church building in Pasadena and began holding services there. He was ordained by the Mennonite Brethren Church a short time later.

The Warkentins made numerous trips to various parts of the world, including Europe, Africa, the Holy Land, and South America. During most of those trips Warkentin filmed the work of Mennonite Brethren missionaries. He showed many of these films to audiences in North America. During one of their visits to Europe they helped establish a Mennonite Brethren Church in Steyr, Austria.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF THE COLLECTION

This record group consists of 75 16 mm. films, most depicting the work of Mennonite Brethren missionaries around the world; correspondence, 1951-1966; undated sermon notes and manuscripts; reports from international trips, 1952-1962; undated film scripts, undated handbills and broadsides announcing showings of films; a brief biography of H. K. and Margaretha Warkentin written by their daughter, Ruth Warkentin Ratzlaff; undated and mostly unidentified photographs from Warkentin's international trips; sound tape reels ; digital video discs of six films.

(Record Group M35: Henry K. Warkentin)

ORGANIZATION AND ARRANGEMENT OF THE COLLECTION

Correspondence and reports are arranged chronologically.

LANGUAGES APPEARING IN THE COLLECTION

Much of the material is in German, though all sound films are in English.

CITATION GUIDELINES

Cite as: Henry K. Warkentin Papers, Center for Mennonite Brethren Studies, Fresno, Calif.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

Box 1

Correspondence, 1951-1966
Sermon notes and manuscripts
reports from international trips, 1952-1962
handbills and broadsides
Biography by Ruth Warkentin Ratzlaff

Box 2

Photographs
Sound tape reels
Digital video discs
Chao
The church at the crossroads
Fishers of men
From darkness to light
Miracle of grace
Out of bondage: Japan

Films

- Reel 1: "Life of Christ" (sound, color).
Shows locations in the Holy Land relevant to the life of Jesus. Reel 14 is a duplicate copy.
- Reel 2: "From Darkness to Light" (sound, color).
Shows the life of the poor in Mexico, describes the change from early civilization and religion to Christianity, shows formation of Mennonite Brethren churches, the Bible school and the witness of its graduates.
- Reel 3: "Choco Mission Frontiers" (sound, color).
Shows mission work among the Choco Indians and descendants of African slaves.
- Reel 4: Translation work of Jacob A. Loewen (silent, color).
Shows Loewen at work translating among South American native tribes.
- Reel 5: "Miracles of Grace" (sound, color).
Depicts the work of Mennonite Brethren missionaries among the Lengua and Chulupi tribes of the Paraguayan Chaco, 1958. Reel 44 is a second copy.
- Reel 6: "Church at the Crossroads" (sound, color).
Describes Mennonite Brethren missionary work among the Choco tribe of Panama. Reel 11 is a second copy.
- Reel 7: Mennonite Brethren missionary work in Brazil (silent, color).

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Contains scenes from the Mennonite Brethren orphanage near Curitiba. Appears similar in content to reels 42 and 62.

Reel 8: Scenery and Missionary work in Europe (silent, color).

Mostly scenery. Also includes missionary work of H. H. Janzen and the Janz Team.

Reel 9: Geography of Holy Land (silent, color).

Depicts physical and human geography of Holy Land.

Reel 10: "Path to Duty" (sound, color).

Depicts Mennonites Brethren missionary work in the Hyderabad province of India.

Reel 11: See Reel 6.

Reel 12: Africa (silent, color).

Includes scenes from Krueger National Park, several unidentified missionaries, medical work, and a native school and church.

Reel 13: India (silent, color).

Includes out-takes from "Path to Glory," scenes from Mennonite Brethren mission stations, medical work with Martha Willems, and Herman Warkentin.

Reel 14: See Reel 1.

Reel 15: Fresno and Modesto Rescue Missions (silent, color).

Shows various facets of rescue mission work. Includes ground breaking, construction and dedication of new building in Fresno, California.

Reel 16: "Path to Glory" (silent, color).

In memory of their son, Herman Warkentin, a Mennonite Brethren missionary who died in India. Depicts scenes from his missionary work in India. Also includes scenes from leprosy and other medical work there.

Reel 17: Europe (silent, color).

Includes miscellaneous scenes.

Reel 18: Mission fields in India (silent, color).

Depicts conditions of people and missionary work in the following areas: Ongole, Bombay, Gadwal, Shamshabad, Wanaparty, Amarabad, Urganda, Hyderabad and Intava. Reel 20 is a duplicate copy.

Reel 19: Colombia (silent, color).

Depicts physical and human geography, LaCumbre mission station and school, various missionary activity, scenes from Cali.

Reel 20: See reel 18.

Reel 21: "The Call of Africa" (silent, color).

Depicts Mennonite Brethren mission work in Congo. Includes scenes from Matende, Kafumba, Kipungu, Lusemvu, Kajiji and Panzi.

Reel 22: Panama (silent, color).

Contains out-takes from reels 6 and 11.

Reel 23: European scenery (silent, color).

Includes Germany, England and southern Europe.

Reel 24: none.

Reel 25: South Texas? (silent, color).

Shows mission work in a Bible school.

Reel 26: South Americans Indians (silent, color).

Specific location is uncertain. Depicts rural and urban lifestyles.

Reel 27: Brazil and Paraguay (silent, color).

Mostly scenery. Also includes missionary Albert Ens, a hospital in Paraguay and Mennonite Brethren churches in Paraguay.

Reel 28: Mennonite Brethren Missions in Japan (silent, color).

Depicts the work of Mennonite Brethren missionaries Harry Friesen, Harold Gaede and Roland Wiens.

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Reel 29: Paraguayan Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches, 1961 (silent, color).

Reel 30: Washington, D.C. (silent, color).

Reel 31: India (silent, color).

Out-takes from reel 10.

Reel 32: "Around the World" (silent, color).

Mainly European scenery. Includes the following mission content: Youth for Christ work in Breitenberg, Switzerland; Bienenberg Bible School in Liestal, Switzerland; Mennonite relief workers in Basel, Switzerland; and relief worker Frank Wiens in Germany. Reel 67 is a duplicate.

Reel 33: See reel 47.

Reel 34: See reel 66.

Reel 35: Mennonite Brethren Missions in Japan (silent, color).

May be continued on reel 41.

Reel 36: Guatemalan scenery (silent, color).

Reel 37: Mennonite Brethren Missions in Colombia (silent, color).

Includes John and Daphne Savoia and the Mennonite Brethren Bible Institute.

Reel 38: Mexico? (silent, color).

Mostly scenery. John A. Toews appears in some scenes.

Reel 39: Colombia (silent, color).

Mostly scenery, with some scenes containing Ernest Friesen.

Reel 40: Mexico (silent, color).

Shows a Wycliffe translator working with native tribal people. Contains some out-takes from reel 2. May be continued on reel 69.

Reel 41: Mennonite Brethren Missions in Japan (silent, color).

Depicts seminary training in Japan and several Mennonite Brethren congregations. This may be a continuation of reel 35.

Reel 42: Mennonite Brethren Missions in Brazil (silent, color).

Includes work in villages and jungle, and Irvin Thiessen's work in orphanage near Curitiba.

Reel 43: Mennonite Brethren Missions in Congo (silent, color).

Includes scenes from Leopoldville, Kikwit, Kafumba, Kapunga, Kalumba and Matende.

Reel 44: See Reel 5.

Reel 45: Mennonite Brethren Missions in Europe (silent, color).

Depicts the work of Mennonite Brethren missionaries J. W. Vogt, Abe Neufeld and Elizabeth Wiebe.

Reel 46: Hawaiian scenery (silent, color).

Depicts orchids, pineapple and sugar industries, sea life and volcanoes.

Reel 47: Mennonites in Paraguay (silent, color).

Mennonite Brethren churches in Filadelfia and Friesland. Contains material appearing on reels 58 and 33.

Reel 48: Hawaiian and Japanese scenery (silent, color).

Mostly Hawaii.

Reel 49: Peru (silent, color).

Most of this reel is a duplicate of reel 53. Additional footage shows airplane repair work on mission field.

Reel 50: See reel 59.

Reel 51: Paraguay (silent, color).

Gerhard Hein, Albert Ens, Orie O. Miller. Includes out-takes from "The Moros Must Hear."

Reel 52: none.

Reel 53: Peru (silent, color).

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Includes geography, scenery, Mennonite Brethren mission work in villages. Some duplication on reel 49.

Reel 54: "The Moros Must Hear" (silent, color).

Shows Mennonite missionary work among the Moro Indians of the Paraguayan Chaco. Specifically includes G. B. Giesbrecht and Kornelius Isaak. Also includes scenes from Isaak's funeral.

Reel 55: Brazil (silent, color).

Mostly scenery, but includes some mission work with G. B. Giesbrecht.

Reel 56: Paraguay and Brazil (silent, color).

Neuland and Menno colonies in Paraguay; church groups and scenery from Brazil.

Reel 57: Mennonite Brethren Missions in Paraguay (silent, color).

Shows work of G. B. Giesbrecht, Hans Wiens, David Hein and Ann Klassen. Also shows scenes from Mennonite villages and the Yalva Sanga Indian colony.

Reel 58: Paraguay (silent, color).

Depicts G. B. Giesbrecht and H. C. Born at work in the Chaco. Also shows hospital and high school in Filadelfia. Some duplication with reel 47.

Reel 59: Colegio los Andes, Cali, Colombia (silent, color).

Reel 50 is a duplicate.

Reel 60: California (silent, color).

Includes P. A. Enns' packing plant in Dinuba, Hume Lake, Grant's Grove in the Sierra Nevada and the Rose Bowl Parade in Pasadena.

Reel 61: none.

Reel 62: Mennonite Brethren Missions in Brazil (silent, color).

Work of Irvin Thiessen in orphanage near Curitiba. Also shows Kenneth Gerbrandt.

Reel 63: The Ugandan equator (silent, color).

Other scenes are unidentified.

Reel 64: Colombia? (silent, color).

Includes a wedding and a Spanish-language Bible school. Wilmer Quiring may appear in some scenes.

Reel 65: Holy Land, Greece and Egypt (silent, color).

Includes out-takes from "Life of Christ."

Reel 66: Mexico and Central America (silent, color).

Mainly scenes that appear to be of Mexico and El Salvador. Shows some Old Colony Mennonites, most likely in Mexico. Reel 34 is a duplicate copy.

Reel 67: See reel 32.

Reel 68: "Out of Bondage" (sound, color).

Depicts Mennonite Brethren missionary witness in Japan through tract distribution, home visitation and tent evangelism. Shows Mennonite Brethren camp and Bible school.

Reel 69: Mexico (silent, color).

Includes out-takes from "From Darkness to Light." Parts of this reel may be a continuation of reel 40.

Reel 70: United States (silent, color).

Includes Mennonite Brethren churches in Fairview and Corn, Oklahoma; Niagara Falls; Hume Lake, California; farming in Midwest; Rose Bowl Parade in Pasadena, California; Bethany Mennonite Brethren Church, Fresno, Calif.

Reel 71: Latin America (silent, color).

Reel 72: Austria (silent, color).

Reel 73: South America? (silent, color).

Reel 74: Mennonite Brethren Missions at Istmina, Colombia (silent, color).

This material also appears on reel 3.

Reel 75: Mennonite Brethren Missions at LaCumbre, Colombia (silent, color).