Missionary Research Library collection on missions to Jews10380354

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Description is written in: English.
Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary

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New York, NY 10027
Telephone: (212) 851-5606
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URL: https://library.columbia.edu/locations/burke.html

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Summary Information

Repository:	Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary
Creator:	Missionary Research Library (New York, N.Y.)
Title:	Missionary Research Library collection on missions to Jews
ID:	10380354
Date [inclusive]:	1889 -- 1927
Physical Description:	0.75 linear feet 0.75 linear feet; 2 boxes
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	This collection contains documents, articles, and other materials compiled and transcribed by the Missionary Research Library between 1949 and 1952 to help explain the historical relationship between Jews and Christians, and potentially serve as a reference work of and resources for missions to Jews.

Preferred Citation

Item description, MRL 10: Missionary Research Library collection on missions to Jews, 1889-1927, box #, folder #, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

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Biographical / Historical

The Missionary Research Library was created by John R. Mott in 1914 after the World Missionary Conference, held in Edinburgh, Scotland in 1910. It was created in order to be both a resource for missionaries, and a means to document the missionary movement. With funding from John D. Rockefeller, Mott stated, "We are now ready to…secure the most complete and serviceable missionary library and archives in the world. I desire it to be thoroughly interdenominational, ecumenical and international. It should be made preeminently rich in source material." It was located at the Madison Avenue headquarters of the Foreign Missionary Conference of North America. By the 1920s, funding was becoming scarce; therefore it was moved to the Brown Tower of the Union Theological Seminary, New York City in 1929. The Library was an important center of information and research. Active missionaries would

consult the material of the Missionary Research Library while on furlough. Much of the Library's success was due to the director and librarian, Charles H. Fahs. Upon his retirement in 1948, the MRL's financial difficulties continued until it was integrated with the Burke Library's collections in 1976. In 2004, the Burke Library was fully integrated with the Columbia University Library system.

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Scope and Contents

This collection contains documents, articles, and other materials compiled and transcribed by the Missionary Research Library between 1949 and 1952 to help explain the historical relationship between Jews and Christians, and potentially serve as a reference work of and resources for missions to Jews. Gathered from many different sources, the material in this collection was perhaps a way to understand how the "Christian approach to the Jews" had been studied in recent times, specifically 1889-1927. The articles discuss the change in religion from Judaism to Christianity, evangelization, conversion, and difficulties that were faced by the Jewish people. The collection also contains English translations of anti-semitic articles and an in-depth bibliography.

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Arrangement

This collection is arranged numerically by book number.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Revision Description

PDF converted to EAD and description updated by Leah Edelman. 2021-04-13

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Onsite storage.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Formerly part of the independent Missionary Research Library (MRL), these records were accessioned by the Burke Library at the time of the MRL's closure in 1976.

Processing Information

Materials were placed in new acid-free folders and boxes. When possible, staples were removed from the documents. A note in the original box indicates that books 1-7 were missing. The finding aid was created by Fatoma Rad in 2013, edited by Brigette Kamsler in 2013 with the support of the Henry Luce Foundation, and edited by Leah Edelman in 2021.

Conditions Governing Use

Some material in this collection may be protected by copyright and other rights. Information concerning copyright, fair use, and reproduction requests can be consulted at Columbia's Copyright Advisory Office.

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Burke Library record group:

Missionary Research Library Archives: MRL10, North America

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Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Instances

Book 8: Movement toward Christianity, 1911 -- 1926	box 1	folder 1
Book 9: Changes in Jewish Attitude toward Jesus, 1919 -- 1926	box 1	folder 2
Book 10: The Defensive Measures of Judaism, 1911 -- 1926	box 1	folder 3
Book 11: The Christian Church in its Attitude to the Jews, 1895 -- 1926	box 1	folder 4
Book 12: Jewish Conversions, 1909 -- 1926	box 1	folder 5
Book 13: Difficulties Peculiar to the Work of Jewish Evangelization, 1889 -- 1926	box 1	folder 6-7
Book 14: Spiritual Assets in Judaism, 1917 -- 1926	box 1	folder 8
Book 15: What Christianity Has to Give, 1909 -- 1926	box 1	folder 9
Book 16: Methods I - Types, 1920 -- 1926	box 1	folder 10
Book 17: Methods II - Areas and Critiques, 1919 -- 1926	box 1	folder 11
Book 18: Workers, Converts, Literature, Including the Scriptures, Cooperation, Part 1, 1919 -- 1926	box 1	folder 12
Book 18: Workers, Converts, Literature, Including the Scriptures, Cooperation, Part 2, 1919 -- 1926	box 2	folder 1
Book 19: Supplement, 1925 -- 1927	box 2	folder 2-4