Arthur C. McGiffert Jr. papers11918897

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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:	McGiffert, Arthur Cushman, Jr., 1892-1993
Creator:	McGiffert, Arthur Cushman, 1861-1933
Title:	Arthur C. McGiffert Jr. papers
ID:	11918897
Date [inclusive]:	1884 -- 1969
Physical Description:	7.5 linear feet 7.5 linear feet; 17 boxes
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	Arthur C. McGiffert, Jr. graduated from Union in 1917 and was the son of Arthur C. McGiffert, Sr. The collection contains Arthur C. McGiffert, Jr.'s UTS course notebooks, as well as correspondence, sermons, publications, date books, an urn, and other material relating to A. C. McGiffert, Sr.

Preferred Citation

Item description, UTS1: Arthur Cushman McGiffert, Jr. papers, series #, box #, folder #, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

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Biographical / Historical

Arthur Cushman McGiffert, Jr. was born in Cincinnati, Ohio on November 27, 1892. He received a bachelor's degree from Harvard in 1913, a B.D. from Union Theological Seminary in 1917, and an M.A. from Columbia at the same time. McGiffert taught briefly at UTS, then worked for the YMCA and for the U.S. Army as a chaplain. He served as pastor for several different congregations, including All Souls Church of Lowell, Massachusetts between 1920 and 1926. He taught American religious thought at Chicago Theological Seminary from 1926 until 1939, and served as president of the Pacific School of Religion, from 1939 until 1945.

He returned to Chicago Theological Seminary in 1946 to serve as its president and was also president of the local ACLU. He died in Cleremont, California on April 9, 1993.

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Scope and Contents

This collection contains Arthur C. McGiffert, Jr.'s UTS course notebooks, as well as correspondence, sermons, publications, date books and other material relating A. C. McGiffert, Sr., and other assorted materials including the McGiffert Urn presented to McGiffert, Sr. by UTS students and faculty when he was appointed as Union President in 1917.

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Arrangement

This collection is arranged in three series: Series 1: A.C. McGiffert, Jr.; Series 2: A.C. McGiffert, Sr.; and Series 3: General.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Revision Description

PDF converted to EAD and description updated by Leah Edelman. 2024-07-22

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is located offsite. Please note that requests for use of boxes held in offsite storage must be made three business days in advance.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

This collection was donated by Michael McGiffert in 1993. The McGiffert Urn was an additional donation from Michael McGiffert to Union Theological Seminary in 2007.

Processing Information

When The Burke Library acquired McGiffert's papers, an attempt was made to maintain the original order. All materials were placed in acid-free folders and boxes. The finding aid was created by Daniel Sokolow in 1995, revised by Ruth Tonkiss Cameron and Rebecca Nieto in 2017 with the support of the Henry Luce Foundation and the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation, and edited by Leah Edelman in 2024.

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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Related Materials

Related Materials

Arthur C. McGiffert, Sr. papers, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Theologians
- College teachers
- Theological seminary presidents
- McGiffert, Arthur Cushman, Jr., 1892-1993 -- : Archives
- McGiffert, Arthur Cushman, 1861-1933 -- : Archives

Burke Library record group:

Union Theological Seminary Archives: UTS 1, papers of faculty and students

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Collection Inventory

Series 1: Arthur C. McGiffert, Jr., circa 1913 -- 1917

Physical Description: 2 linear feet 2 linear feet; 4 boxes

Conditions Governing Access:

Conditions Governing Access

This series is open for research.

Arrangement

This series is arranged by course.

Scope and Contents

This series contains course notes taken by McGiffert during his course work at Union Theological Seminary.

Title/Description	Instances
Course notebooks, circa 1913 -- 1917 **Scope and Contents** May include Church History, English Church History, History, History of Reformation, History of Philosophy	box Series 1 Box 1A
Course notebooks, circa 1913 -- 1917	box Series 1 Box 1B

Scope and Contents

May include Church History, Ancient History, Reformation

Course notebooks, circa 1913 -- 1917

box Series 1
Box 2

Scope and Contents

May include New Testament 1 and 2, Old Testament 1 and 2, Practical Theology, Acts, Missions, Development of Christian Idea of God, Philosophy of Religion

Course notebooks and notes, circa 1913 -- 1917

box Series 1
Box 3

Scope and Contents

May include Bible School, Greek, and notes on book about Arthur C. McGiffert, Sr.

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Series 2: Arthur C. McGiffert, Sr., 1884 -- 1969

Physical Description: 5.5 linear feet 5.5 linear feet; 11 boxes

Conditions Governing Access:
Conditions Governing Access

This series is open for research.

Arrangement

This series is arranged in six subseries.

Scope and Contents

This series contains material related to A.C. McGiffert, Sr., including correspondence; sermons, lectures, and addresses; publications; material relating to the heresy trial; financial materials; and date books.

Subseries 2A: Correspondence , 1886 -- 1932

Physical Description: 0.5 linear feet 0.5 linear feet; 1 box

Conditions Governing Access:
Conditions Governing Access

This subseries is open for research.

Arrangement

This subseries is arranged alphabetically by last name of correspondent.

Scope and Contents

This subseries contains correspondence to and from McGiffert, Sr.

Title/Description	Instances
Correspondence B-W, 1886 -- 1932	box Subseries 2A Box 1

Subseries 2B: Sermons, lectures, and addresses, 1884 -- 1925

Physical Description: 1.5 linear feet 1.5 linear feet; 3 boxes

Conditions Governing Access:
Conditions Governing Access

This subseries is open for research.

Arrangement

This subseries is arranged roughly chronologically and then alphabetically.

Scope and Contents

This subseries contains sermons, lectures, and addresses made by McGiffert, Sr.

Title/Description	Instances
Titles beginning C-T, 1884 -- 1921	box Subseries 2B Box 1
Titles beginning C-T, including Commencement, 1893 -- 1925	box Subseries 2B Box 2
Lectures and sermons, circa 1884 -- 1925	box Subseries 2B Box 3

Subseries 2C: Publications, circa 1884 -- 1969

Physical Description: 1.5 linear feet 1.5 linear feet; 3 boxes

Conditions Governing Access:
Conditions Governing Access

This subseries is open for research.

Arrangement

This subseries is unarranged.

Scope and Contents

This subseries contains materials related to McGiffert's writings, including manuscripts, book reviews, and printed copies of works.

Title/Description	Instances
Articles and publications, 1884 -- 1969 **Scope and Contents** Includes Dialogue Between Christian and Jew; Teaching of the 12 Apostles; Studies in the Christian Religion (Japanese); Special Reading List of the Reformation; Union Seminary Quarterly Review; Semi-Centennial of Philip Schaff	box Subseries 2C Box 1
Scrapbook, MS, clippings, and reviews, circa 1884 -- 1969 **Scope and Contents** Includes scrapbook on Martin Luther and reviews by and of work by A.C. McGiffert, Sr.	box Subseries 2C Box 2
Notes and prayers, circa 1884 -- 1969 **Scope and Contents** Includes notes on Bellamy, Channing, Dwight, New England Theology, Protestant Theology, and Untitled Manuscript, as well as assorted prayers.	box Subseries 2C Box 3

Subseries 2D: Heresy Trial, circa 1897 -- 1900

Physical Description: 1 linear feet 1 linear foot; 2 boxes

Conditions Governing Access:
Conditions Governing Access

This subseries is open for research.

Arrangement

This subseries is arranged by format.

Scope and Contents

This subseries contains materials related to McGiffert's trial for heresy before the Presbyterian Church in 1898, including a scrapbook, news clippings, correspondence, pamphlets, and publications.

Title/Description	Instances
Scrapbook, correspondence, news clippings, and official documents, circa 1897 -- 1900	box Subseries 2D Box 1
Pamphlets and publications, circa 1897 -- 1900	

	box Subseries 2D Box 2

Subseries 2E: Finances, circa 1915 -- 1962

Physical Description: 0.5 linear feet 0.5 linear feet; 1 box

Conditions Governing Access:

Conditions Governing Access

This subseries is open for research.

Arrangement

This subseries is arranged by format.

Scope and Contents

This subseries contains account books, income taxes, and other information related to the estate of A.C. McGiffert, Sr.

Title/Description	Instances
Account book, income taxes, estate of A.C. McGiffert, Sr. , circa 1915 -- 1962	box Subseries 2E Box 1

Subseries 2F: Datebooks, 1911 -- 1933

Physical Description: 0.5 linear feet 0.5 linear feet; 1 box

Conditions Governing Access:

Conditions Governing Access

This subseries is open for research.

Arrangement

This subseries is arrranged chronologically.

Scope and Contents

This subseries contains A.C. McGiffert, Sr.'s datebooks from 1911-1933; set may be incomplete.

Title/Description	Instances
Datebooks (15), 1911 -- 1933	box Subseries 2F Box 1

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Series 3: General, circa 1892 -- 1993

Physical Description: 1.5 linear feet 1.5 linear feet; 2 boxes

Conditions Governing Access:

Conditions Governing Access

This series is open for research.

Arrangement

This series is arranged by format.

Scope and Contents

This series contains assorted materials including obituaries, news clippings, and a course notebook belonging to A.C. McGiffert Sr.'s father, J. N. McGiffert, as well as the McGiffert Urn presented to McGiffert, Sr. by UTS students and faculty when he was appointed as Union President in 1917.

Title/Description	Instances
Misc. notes, correspondence, and clippings, circa 1892 -- 1993 **Scope and Contents** Course Notes by J.N. McGiffert; "History of Christian Thought" by Paul Tillich, 1956; UTS Pamphlets, 1917 - 1925; Installation of H.A.M. Briggs; Correspondence, Michael McGiffert, 1993; News clippings; Memorial Bulletin, A.C. McGiffert, Sr. - 1933; Obituary, A.C. McGiffert, Jr., 1992; News Clippings - H.P. Smith Heresy Trial, 1892; UTS and Lane Theological Seminary; Europe - A.C. McGiffert Sr. – Travel Documents, Attendance at University of Marburg, 1920 - 1922	box Series 3 Box 1
Silver urn with engraving, 1917	box Series 3 Box 2

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