Missionary Research Library collection on higher education institutions in China8516204

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Description is written in: English.

Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary

3041 Broadway
New York, NY 10027
Telephone: (212) 851-5606
burke@library.columbia.edu
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 higher education institutions in China
ID:	8516204
Date [inclusive]:	1857 -- 1957
Physical Description:	0.5 linear feet 0.5 linear feet; 1 box
Language of the Material:	EnglishChinese
Abstract:	This collection contains materials compiled by the Missionary Research Library on a variety of missionary higher education projects in China, including Christian Missionary education. Materials include publications, reports, clippings, correspondence, minutes, surveys, and book lists.

Preferred Citation

Item description, MRL6: Missionary Research Library collection on higher education institutions in China, 1857-1957, 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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Biographical / Historical

T.C. Chao, 1888 - 1979: Chao studied at Vanderbilt University and promoted an indigenous Chinese Christianity. United Board for Christian Colleges in China: Formed in 1945, by 1950 it had incorporated nearly every Christian higher education institution in China. After 1950, while prevented from operating within the People's Republic of China, it remained active in other Asian countries. Yale-in-China / Nurse-in-China: The Yale-in-China association was incorporated in 1934, and they established a college first in Changsha 長沙, Hunan province 湖南 and later in Wuhan 武漢, Hubei province 湖北. The Nurse-in-China program was centered on Xiangya Hospital 湘亞in Changsha. China Christian Educational Association: Organized in 1890, this association met once every three years to discuss education in China, and in 1912 organized an advisory council consisting of delegates from associated groups. Y.C. Yang (Yang Yongqing), 1892 - 1956: Yang studied at Soochow University (東吳大學) in China and George Washington University in the U.S. National Christian Conference of China: Held in Shanghai in May of 1922, with Myfanwy Wood, 1882-1967, Y.C. Cheng (Cheng Yingyi) and Edwin C. Lobenstine as chairpersons. The conference created the National Christian Council of China to continue the work of the China Continuation Committee. Bailey Willis, 1857 - 1949: A geological engineer and university lecturer, he led an expedition to China in 1904-1905, the findings of which were published in 1907 as Research in China, and he conducted a field study in East Asia in 1937. John Mott, 1865 - 1955: Mott was the chair of the 1910 World Missionary Conference in Edinburgh, Scotland. He was a leader of the World Student Christian Federation and received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1948. China Continuation Committee: This committee was formed in 1913 in Shanghai to connect the Edinburgh Committee (a legacy of the 1910 World Missionary Conference), mission boards in the West and missionaries in China. In 1922 the committee dissolved as the National Christian Council was formed and took over its mission.

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Scope and Contents

This collection contains materials compiled by the Missionary Research Library on a variety of missionary higher education projects in China, including Christian Missionary education. Materials include publications, reports, clippings, correspondence, minutes, surveys, and book lists.

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Arrangement

This collection is arranged alphabetically.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Revision Description

PDF converted to EAD and description updated by Leah Edelman. 2022-01-31

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Onsite storage.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

This collection was assembled from records in the Missionary Research Library before its 1976 closure. These records were accessioned by the Burke Library at the time of the MRL's closure in 1976. The papers in folder 10 were donated by the China Institute in America, founded in 1923 in New York City.

Processing Information

The contents of this collection have been retained as a specialist subject area source as established by MRL. Some papers will be seen to be marked as originating from other MRL collections. Metal clips and staples were removed from materials and folded items were flattened. Materials were placed in new acid-free folders and boxes. Acidic items were separated from one another by interleaving with acid-free paper as needed. Any items in an advanced state of deterioration were placed in Mylar envelopes. The finding aid was created by Gregory Adam Scott in 2009, reviewed and updated by Sarah Davis in 2014 with the support of the Henry Luce Foundation, and edited by Leah Edelman in 2022.

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

MRL6: National Christian Council of China Records, 1919 – 1950, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Missions -- Educational work -- China
- Christian education -- China

Burke Library record group:

Missionary Research Library Archives: MRL6, China

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Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Instances	
Administration of Education in West China Questionnaire, 1922	box 1	folder 1
American Efforts to Supply Book Needs of Chinese Universities, by Joy Hume, 1940	box 1	folder 2
Application of Woman's Medical College Report, 1925	box 1	folder 3
Article from The Life, 1922-03	box 1	folder 4
Articles on Education in China, 1940; "Four Thousand Years of Education in China and Japan", circa 1940	box 1	folder 5
China Christian Educational Association: Conference Report; Study Group on Hopei [Hebei] Province Findings , 1933 -- 1945	box 1	folder 6
China Christian Educational Association, Council on Higher Education: Minutes, Reports, Correspondence, 1925 -- 1948	box 1	folder 7
China Christian Educational Association - Book List of Theological Literature, circa 1930 -- 1939	box 1	folder 8
Chinese Education Clipping, 1922	box 1	folder 9
Christian Medical Council for Overseas Work: Regulations and Fellowships for Chinese Doctors in U.S., 1951 -- 1954	box 1	folder 10
Communism and Christian Higher Education in China, circa 1942 -- 1950	box 1	folder 11
Correlated Program for Christian Higher Education in China, 1928	box 1	folder 12
Correspondence of John Mott and John F. Goucher re Continuation Committee and Committee on Education, 1910 -- 1916	box 1	folder 13
Correspondence of Bailey Willis; Public Libraries for China , 1857 -- 1949	box 1	folder 14

East China Christian Colleges and Universities, East China Educational Union, Meeting Notes and Minutes, 1925 -- 1926	box 1	folder 15
Larger and Farther Opportunity of Christian Higher Education in China, Summary of Remarks by Y.C. Yang, circa 1900 -- 1957	box 1	folder 16
Meeting Minutes/Proposals for the Permanent Committee for the Coordination and Promotion of Christian Higher Education in China, 1925 -- 1928	box 1	folder 17
Memorandum on Literature for Mission Field, mimeograph, 1914	box 1	folder 18
Messages from China National Christian Conference, 1922	box 1	folder 19
National Committee for Christian Religious Education in China (NCCRE), Minutes and Pamphlet, 1931 -- 1936	box 1	folder 20
Permanent Committee for Coordination and Promotion of Christian Higher Education in China: Minutes, 1925 -- 1948	box 1	folder 21
Religion Situation in China by T.C. Chao, 1931	box 1	folder 22
Tainan Theological College Requests for Grants; Frank T. Cartwright Correspondence, 1956 -- 1957	box 1	folder 23
United Board for Christian Colleges in China Missives, 1949	box 1	folder 24
Yale-in-China and Nurse-in-China (Hsiang-ya School of Nursing) Correspondence, 1941 -- 1945	box 1	folder 25