

**The Burke Library Archives, Columbia University Libraries,
Union Theological Seminary, New York**

Missionary Research Library Archives: Section 10

Finding Aid for

Jewish Christian Relations Records, 1889-1927

Finding Aid prepared by: Fatoma Rad, February 2013. Edits by Brigette C. Kamsler, June 2013
With financial support from the Henry Luce Foundation

Summary Information

Creator: Missionary Research Library
Title: Jewish Christian Relations Records
Inclusive dates: 1889-1927
Bulk dates: 1911-1927
Abstract: Documents and articles compiled by the Missionary Research Library by category to help explain the relationship between Jews and Christians. The collection ranges from 1889-1927; materials gathered 1949-1951.
Size: 2 boxes, 0.75 linear feet
Storage: Onsite storage
Repository: The Burke Library
Union Theological Seminary
3041 Broadway
New York, NY 10027
Email: burkearchives@library.columbia.edu

Administrative Information

- Provenance:** Originally part of the independent Missionary Research Library, these records were moved with the MRL to the Brown Memorial Tower of Union Theological Seminary in 1929. In 1976 the records were accessioned to the Burke Library archives with the closure of the MRL.
- Access:** Archival papers are available to registered readers for consultation by appointment only. Please contact archives staff by email to burkearchives@library.columbia.edu, or by postal mail to The Burke Library address on page 1, as far in advance as possible. Burke Library staff is available for inquiries or to request a consultation on archival or special collections research.
- Access Restrictions:** The collection is unrestricted to readers. Certain materials, however, are in a fragile condition, and this may necessitate restriction in handling and copying.
- Preferred Citation:** Item description, MRL 10: Jewish Christian Relations Records, box #, and folder #, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

History

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 not only a resource for missionaries, but 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 scarcer; 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 finally integrated as one with the Burke Library's collections in 1967. In 2004, the Burke Library was fully integrated with the Columbia University Library System.

Sources:

- Anderson, Gerald H. “To The Ends of the Earth: American Protestants in Pursuit of Mission.” *A Century of Church History: The Legacy of Philip Schaff*, edited by Henry W. Bowden, 168-215. Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press, 1988.
- Anderson, Gerald H. “Research Libraries in New York City Specializing in Christian Missions.” *The Journal of Asian Studies*, Vol. 25, No. 4 (Aug. 1966), 733-736.

Frame, Cynthia. "Missionary Research Library Collection: From Idea to Special Collection," *Union News*, Summer 1998.

Price, Frank W. "Specialized Research Libraries in Missions." *Library Trends* 9 (2) 1960: Current Trends in Theological Libraries: 175-185.

Collection Scope and Content Note

The Missionary Research Library compiled and transcribed this collection, gathering information from many different sources. The collection is comprised of typed transcriptions of articles and chapters of books. The collection is organized numerically according to the book number stated in the collection.

The articles appear to have been compiled and transcribed between 1949 and 1952. The articles were perhaps a way to understand how the "Christian approach to the Jews" had been studied in recent time, specifically 1889-1927. The articles discuss the change in religion from Judaism to Christianity, evangelization, conversion, and about difficulties that were faced by the Jewish people. The collection also contains English translations of anti-semitic articles and an in depth bibliography is also available at the end of the collection.

Processing

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 dates provided in brackets indicate the year it is believed the articles were transcribed.

Contents list

Box	Folder	Contents
1	1	Book 8: Movement toward Christianity, 1911-1926 [1949]
1	2	Book 9: Changes in Jewish Attitude toward Jesus, 1919-1926 [1951]
1	3	Book 10: The Defensive Measures of Judaism, 1911-1926 [1952]
1	4	Book 11: The Christian Church in its Attitude to the Jews, 1895-1926
1	5	Book 12: Jewish Conversions, 1909-1926
1	6-7	Book 13: Difficulties Peculiar to the Work of Jewish Evangelization, 1889-1926
1	8	Book: 14 Spiritual Assets in Judaism, 1917-1926
1	9	Book 15: What Christianity Has to Give, 1909-1926
1	10	Book 16: Methods I - Types, 1920-1926
1	11	Book 17: Methods II - Areas and Critiques, 1919-1926
1	12	Book 18: Workers, Converts, Literature, Including the Scriptures, Cooperation, 1919-1926, Part 1
2	1	Book 18: Workers, Converts, Literature, Including the Scriptures, Cooperation, 1919-1926, Part 2
2	2-4	Book 19: Supplement, 1925-1927