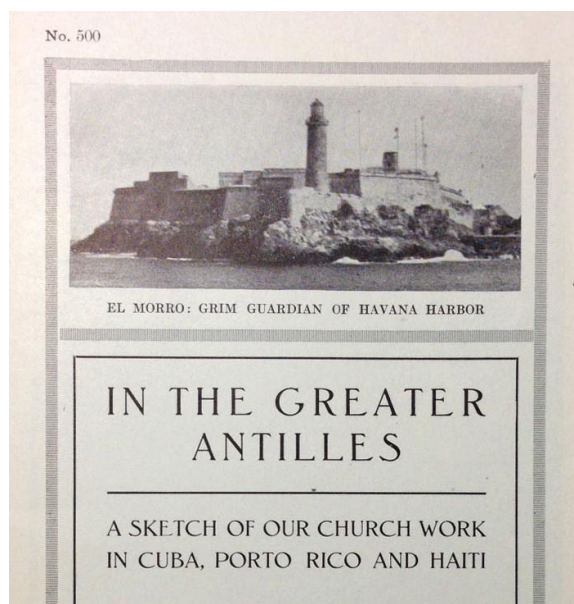


**The Burke Library Archives, Columbia University Libraries,
Union Theological Seminary, New York**

Missionary Research Library Archives: Section 9

Finding Aid for

Latin American General Records, 1911 – 1974



Pamphlet, "In the Greater Antilles: A Sketch of our Church Work in Cuba, Porto Rico and Haiti" by the Board of Missions, New York.
Credit to: MRL 9: Latin American General Records, 1911-1974, box 2, folder 17,
The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

Finding Aid prepared by Miguel Escobar, October 2006

Reviewed and Updated by Brigette C. Kamsler, October 2014 with financial support from the
Henry Luce Foundation

Summary Information

Creator: Missionary Research Library
Title: Latin American General Records
Inclusive dates: 1911-1974
Bulk dates: 1917-1935
Abstract: Collection of papers from Missionary Research Library subject files
pertaining to mission work in Latin America.
Size: 13 boxes, 7.75 linear ft.
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, under the direction of Charles H. Fahs, who was research assistant to John R. Mott and curator of the Missionary Research Library from its foundation in 1914 until 1948, 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. In 2014, the collection was updated as part of the Henry Luce Foundation Grant.
- 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.
- Preferred Citation:** Item description, MRL 9: Latin American General Records, 1911-1974, box #, folder #, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

History

The majority of Christians in Latin America identify as Catholic, as Catholicism arrived over five centuries ago. Protestant missions in Latin America began in the mid-1800s with missionaries arriving from North America and Europe. In 1910, the World Missionary Conference was held in Edinburgh, Scotland. Although the slogan for the 1910 meeting was, "the evangelization of the world is our generation," Latin America was not considered a mission field as the Catholics had already proclaimed the area Christian.

Others did not agree with this standpoint, and organized the Committee of Cooperation in Latin America, which supported a group of Protestants to hold a conference in Panama in 1916. It was after this conference that Protestant mission work in Latin America became more important. The spreading of the gospels in Latin America is also credited with the rise in social justice and other considerations. The 160,000 Protestants in 1916 has grown to over 50 million today.

Sources:

- Escobar, Samuel. *Changing Tides: Latin America & World Mission Today*. New York: Orbis Books, 2002.
- The New Latin American Mission History*. Edited by Erick Langer and Robert H. Jackson. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1995.

Collection Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of a wide variety of mission-related topics in Latin America, all collected by the Missionary Research Library. The Missionary Research Library (MRL) began after it was decided at the 1910 World Missionary Conference that there was a need for a central library, to serve as a depository for information on missions and as a reference and research tool for

mission boards. MRL officially opened in June 1914 and was intended for use by a variety of people and organizations: missionaries on furlough and in the field; those in missionary organizations or on mission boards; professors of missions and students studying the topic; scholars; anthropologists; the government; other libraries; and the general public. It is therefore not surprising that the MRL Archives contain not only specific collections for individuals and organizations, but on the general happenings of mission work in a specific geographic location.

The Latin American General Records are organized by topic, including Christianity, education, evangelism, education, Indians, organizations, conferences, geographic locations, imperialism and labor conditions. The materials show the wide variety of concerns related to mission work in Latin America. The two oversize boxes contain blueprints for the *Hospital Evangelico* in Buenos Aires, which was part of the Board of Christian Work. Some of the material could be source items for the Committee on Cooperation in Latin America, but the theory could not be proven.

Processing

Folded materials were flattened. Staples, rubber bands, and metal clips were removed and replaced with plastic clips. All materials were placed in acid-free folders and boxes.

In 2014, the collection was updated as part of the Henry Luce Foundation grant. During that time, materials were added from a group of unprocessed and unorganized material. The original selection of papers is now housed in box 1. Additional material is available in the subsequent boxes. In 2014, the collection was also renamed "Latin American General Records," originally called "Latin American Miscellaneous Papers." Future additions of material is possible.

Further Sources

The Burke Library offers other collections related to the topics and geographic locations covered in this collection. For more information, please see the [Burke Library Archives website](#).

Contents list

Box	Folder	Contents
1	1-4	Congreso de Montevideo, Brazil, 1925: reports
1	5	Evangelical Religious Education in Cuba, March-April 1928, tps, 23p.
1	6	Documents re founding of El Colegio Internacional, 1929: Pamphlets; clippings; speech: Conference on the Pattern of Protestant Progress, 1956, tps. 10p.
1	7	Religious Education in South America: Report by Wade Crawford Barclay, [19??], 39p.
1	8	American Baptist Home Mission Board information on Evangelical Training Schools and Seminaries in Latin America, 1956: Completed questionnaires.
1	9	Maps of Latin America, 1916-1941
1	10	Survey Graphic: Mexico, a Promise, May 1924
1	11	List of current Latin American Periodicals relating to Economic Subjects in the Library of the Pan American Union, Washington, D.C. July 1, 1938.
1	12	Theological Education in the Younger Churches, prepared for the Committee on Cooperation in Latin America, by R. Pierce Beaver, 1953

Source Material**Christianity, Religion, Evangelism**

2	1	Catholic Church in Mexican Politics, 1926-1931
2	2	Christianity in Colombia, Bangalore, Mexico, 1969
2	3	Montevideo Seminary, 1918-1927
2	4	Missionary Survey of Central America, Detweiler, 1933
2	5	Mission Boards and Missionaries, 1914-1928
2	6	Mission Work, 1965; 1974
2	7	Survey, Types of Missionary Work in Latin America, 1933
2	8	Relations between National Churches and Mission Boards, 1929-1931
2	9	Protestant Statistics, 1916-1930
2	10	Church and Educational Surveys
2	11	Evangelism
2	12	Evangelism, 1930-1931
2	13	Evangelism in Puerto Rico, 1931
2	14	Religious Liberty, 1930
2	15	Religious Liberty, Clippings re Work of George P. Howard
2	16	Religious Liberty, Mexico, Costa Rica, Peru [19??]
2	17	The Church and Promoting Prayer, 1914-1915
3	1	Christianity and Religion in South America
3	2-3	Religious Education

Education

3	4	Latin American Schools, 1920-1928
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Box	Folder	Contents
		Source Material (Cont'd)
		Education (cont'd)
3	5	Puerto Rico – Public Education
3	6	Puerto Rico - Women's Training School, 1919-1929
3	7	Cuba
3	8	Brazil
3	9	Mexico, Evangelical Seminary of Mexico, 1917-1939
3	10	Mexico, [192?] – [193?]
3	11	Minutes, Evangelical Seminary of Puerto Rico, Board of Trustees, 1919-1931
3	12	Constitution, Evangelical School for Young Women in Puerto Rico
3	13	Minutes, Puerto Rico Seminary, 1921-1924
		Indians
4	1	Highland Indians of Peru [19??]
4	2	Surveys in South America, 1918-1930
4	3	Mexico, Chile, Colombia, 1916-1924
4	4	Peru, 1915
4	5	Guatemala, 1920-1924
4	6	1917-1926
		Organizations and Conferences
5	1	Pan American Union [193?]
5	2	Memo, Secretaries of the Boards at Work in Puerto Rico, 1934
5	3	Central America Regional Conference, March 1920
5	4	Inter-American Commission of Women, 1922-1932
5	5-7	Feminism and Inter-American Relations, 1922-1927
6	1	Central America, papers of regional conference, 1920
6	2	Pan-American Conference, Newspaper Clippings, 1927-1928
6	3	Report, Conference on Inter-American Relations and Education, 1939
		Geographic Locations
7	1	Buenos Aires and Puerto Rico, 1925-1946
7	2	Brazil, Christian Workers Rest Home, 1922-1923
7	3	Survey of Brazil, 1922
7	4	Dominican Republic, 1919
7	5	Mexico, 1946
7	6	Nicaragua, 1927
7	7	Panama, 1922-1928
7	8	Puerto Rico, 1935
7	9-12	Santo Domingo, 1920-1946
7	13	West Indies, Board Statistics, 1932-1935
7	14	Venezuela and Brazil, Photographs and Maps
7	15	River Plate Countries [Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay], 5 Year Budget

Box	Folder	Contents
		Source Material (Cont'd)
		Geographic Locations (cont'd)
7	16	Occupied Territories, 1916-1920
7	17	Unrest in Latin America, Newspaper Clippings, 1928
		Imperialism and Labor Conditions
8	1	Social Movements in Latin America, Montevideo Congress, 1925
8	2	Imperialism and International Relations, 1927-1929
8	3	Imperialism, Colombia and Nicaragua
8	4	Labor Conditions, Newspaper Clippings
		General
9	1	Articles and Reports, 1911-1932
9	2	Photographs, W. H. Bowers, Bilbao, Spain [25 pictures]
9	3	Health, Medical Work and Hospital Planning
9	4	Three Essays: From Marginal to Significant Change in Latin America, Orlando Fals Borda, 1968
9	5	Women's Activities in Argentina, Peru, Mexico, Paraguay, Uruguay, 1920-1923
9	6-7	Surveys, 1917-1928
9	8-9	Newspaper Clippings, 1928
		Oversize
10OS-11OS	Roll	Blueprints, Hospital Evangelico, Board of Christian Work, Buenos Aires, 1924
		Additional Material
12	1	Cuba and Bermuda
12	2	Latin America and Spain
12	3	Panama
12	4-5	Reports to Panama Congress, 1915-1916
12	6	Paraguay – Mission Work and General Description
12	7	Committee on Friendly Relations among Foreign Students – reports of secretary for the Latin-American Students, 1944-1945
12	8	Education in Latin America
13	1	Mexico and Presbyterian Church
13	2	Mexico and Relations with the United States, 1924-1928
13	3-4	Mexico and International Relations, 1920-1921; 1927
13	5	Mexico – Kellogg-Seanz Notes, 1926-1927
13	6-7	Religious Persecution in Mexico, 1925-1933