Finding Aid prepared by: Leanora Lange, March 2012
With financial support from the Henry Luce Foundation

Summary Information
Creator: Howard W. Yoder, 1901 – 2003
Title: Howard W. Yoder Papers
Inclusive dates: October – November 1954
Abstract: Howard W. Yoder, Methodist missionary in Peru, Bolivia, and Panama; Executive Secretary of the Committee on Cooperation in Latin America of the Division of Foreign Missions of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA from 1954 – 1963. Collection contains a 1954 report by Yoder on the state of Protestant missions in Cuba, Jamaica, Haiti, the Dominican Republic, and Puerto Rico.
Size: 1 box, 0.25 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 9: Howard W. Yoder Papers, 1954, box #, folder #, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

Biography

Howard W. Yoder (1901 – 2003) was a Methodist minister and missionary to Latin America. He served as Executive Secretary of the Committee on Cooperation in Latin America (CCLA), part of the National Council of Churches in the USA, from 1954 – 1963.

Born on July 27, 1901 in Haven, Kansas, Yoder earned a Bachelor’s of Arts at Southwestern College in Winfield, Kansas and a Bachelor’s of Divinity at Drew University Theological Seminary in Madison, New Jersey. He married Helen Peter on July 13, 1925 and was ordained as a Methodist minister in 1927. Accompanied by his wife, he worked as a missionary in Bolivia, Peru, and Panama for twenty-five years. From 1954 – 1963, Yoder served as Executive Secretary of the CCLA, part of the Division of Foreign Missions of the National Council of Churches in the USA. He then served as the minister of the First Methodist Church in Aberdeen, Washington from 1963 – 1970.


In addition to his other work, Yoder wrote This is Latin America (1961) and co-translated The Mystical Philosophy of Ibn Masarra and His Followers (1978).

Sources:
Collection Scope and Content Note
The collection consists of an eight-page, typewritten report by Yoder on the state of the evangelical work in Cuba, Jamaica, Haiti, the Dominican Republic, and Puerto Rico with the purpose of demonstrating how the CCLA could best operate in these countries. The report was written after returning from a trip to the above countries during October and November of 1954.

Processing
Metal clips and staples were removed from materials and folded items were flattened. Materials were placed in new acid-free folders and boxes.

The collection is housed in the same box as MRL9: Ashbel Green Simonton Papers.

Further Resources
Further information on the NCCC-USA is available at the Burke Library in the William Adams Brown Ecumenical Archives series 2D: http://library.columbia.edu/content/dam/libraryweb/libraries/burke/fa/wab/ldpd_8631339.pdf. To see these items, please make an appointment by contacting staff: burkearchives@library.columbia.edu.


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