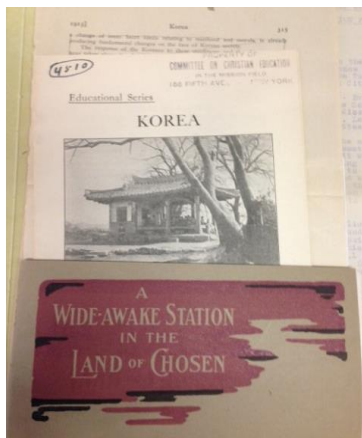


**The Burke Library Archives, Columbia University Libraries
Union Theological Seminary, New York**

Missionary Research Library Archives: Section 8

Finding Aid for

Chinese Church of Christ in Korea Records, 1908 – 1975



Pamphlets from the Board of Foreign Missions. MRL 8: Chinese Church of Christ in Korea Records, box 1, folder 4, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

Finding Aid prepared by: Aram Bae, Sept 2007

Updated by Elizabeth Willse, July 2014

With financial support from Henry Luce Foundation

Summary Information

Creator: Chinese Church of Christ, 1912 – 1961
Title: Chinese Church of Christ in Korea Records
Inclusive dates: 1908 – 1975
Bulk dates: 1912 – 1961
Abstract: Founded in 1912 by American missionary C.S. Deming, with Cheh Tao-hsin as one of the first elders of the Chinese Church in Seoul and Li Kwohfeng as one of its first pastors. Created to address the increasing population of the Chinese in Korea. Contains reports, letters, research on Christian Education Mission Schools, and fact sheets on human rights violations.
Size: 1 boxes, 0.25 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, 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 8: Chinese Church of Christ in Korea Records, box #, folder #, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

History

Conducting its first service at the Korean YMCA in May 1912, the Chinese Church of Christ was formed to meet the needs of the increasing population of the Chinese Christians living in Korea, which had reached about 18,000 by 1911. An American missionary born in China, Mrs. C.S. Deming organized meetings for the creation of the Chinese Church and was aided by Chinese Christians such as Cheh Tao-hsin and Li Kwohfeng. With its first church established in Seoul, the Chinese Church planted additional congregations in other areas such as Chemulpo, Pyengyang, Wonsan, Fusan, and Seishin.

Beginning with just a dozen people at its inception, in 1913 the Chinese Church had an average Sunday attendance of about 40, with 22 boys and girls enrolled in the day school. The numbers increased steadily on an annual basis: by 1916 the average Sunday attendance was 60, with 43 enrolled in the day school. In the fall of 1929, Mrs. C.S. Deming's efforts and commitment was succeeded by Ms. M.J. Quinn, a retired missionary from China. The Foreign Mission Boards of both the Presbyterian Council and Methodist Council worked together as a union mission to further the efforts of the Chinese Church of Christ in Korea and associated mission schools.

Collection Scope and Content Note

The collection is organized in a single series containing historical information on the formation of the Chinese Church in Korea from its creation in 1912. Fact sheets, pamphlets, and indices of school names and other demographic data place the Chinese Church of Christ in the larger context of Protestant missionary work in Korea. News articles, programs, informational pamphlets, statistics and graphs contain evidence related to the founding and operation of the Church and missionary-run schools along with more general resources on Korean missionary efforts, school demographics, and resources for newcomers to Korea.

Documents related to the foundation of the Church include the Constitution and minutes of the first meeting. Articles and reports, most of which are commissioned by the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, and research from the committee of Christian Education Mission Schools chronicle the establishment and administration of church centers and schools.

Correspondence excerpts include narrative history of the Church founding and operation and indices listing key members of the Church and missionary school community. A listing of Mission Stations in Korea dated 1915 includes Japanese spelling equivalents. More than thirty fact sheets on the socio-political condition of South Korea, specifically violation of human rights, are also found in this collection.

The work of the Chinese Church of Christ in Korea proceeded against a backdrop of larger historical context, including references to riots and unrest that interrupted missionary work in 1931, and later with the advent of World War II [see folder 1].

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 was updated in 2014 as part of the Henry Luce Foundation grant.

Further Sources

A number of fact sheets detailing the political situation in Korea of the 1970's make reference to the work and arrest of Presbyterian minister Reverend George E. Ogle [see Folder 7], and his work as an activist in South Korea. [The George E. Ogle Papers](#) are located at the Pitts Theology Library, Archives and Manuscripts Department [see Folder 7].

Excerpted correspondence from C.S. Deming [see Folder 1] refers to riots and unrest in Korea that led to interruptions in missionary work, including temporary closures of missions or mission schools during the 1930's. These documents may be referring to the Wanpaoshan riots. For more information: [Wanpaoshan Incident and the Anti-Chinese Riots in Korea](#) ed. by Whitehall Wang [1931] Columbia Law Library JX1393.M3 [See Folder 1]

Contents

Box	Folder	Contents
1	1	Constitution and Minutes of first meeting, transcribed in Chinese, gift of C.S.Deming, 1912
1	2	History :1912 – 1938
1	3	History: reports by E.A.Kraege, 1912 – 1961
1	4	Missionary records: 1908 – 1916
1	5	Christian Education Mission School: reports from committee, 1914-1915
1	6	General items: 1909 - 1969
1	7	Correspondence and fact sheets: violation of human rights in South Korea, 1973 – 1975