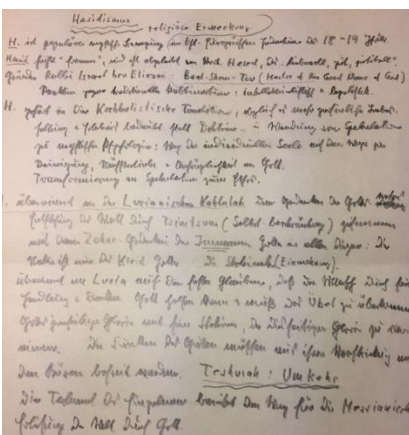


The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary,
Columbia University in the City of New York

Union Theological Seminary Archives 1

Finding Aid for

Eitel Frederick Proelss, 1953-1984



Handwritten note, Eitel Frederick Proelss Papers, series 1, box 1, folder 2, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

Finding Aid prepared by: Paul Paulson, November 2016

With financial support from the Henry Luce Foundation and the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation

Summary Information

- Creator: Eitel Frederick Proelss, 1906-1997
- Title: Eitel Frederick Proelss Papers, 1953-1984
- Inclusive dates: 1953-1984
- Bulk dates: 1958-1968
- Abstract: UTS class of 1953 (Bachelor of Divinity), ordained Episcopal priest in the Diocese of NY, 1955. Riker's Island chaplain. Materials include essays, handwritten notes, newspaper clippings, historical, ecclesiastical and personal notes.
- Size: 1 box, 0.5 linear feet
- Storage: Onsite storage
- Repository: The Burke Library
Union Theological Seminary
3041 Broadway
New York, NY 10027
Email: burkespecial@library.columbia.edu

Administrative Information

- Provenance: The Proelss collection was donated in 2016 by Rev. Peter Elvin of St. John's Episcopal Church on behalf of the heirs of E. Frederick Proelss, Delphine Proelss Lowe and Sibylee Proelss Baughan.
- 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, UTS: Charles E. Bronson Papers, series #, box #, and folder #, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

Biography

Reverend Dr. Eitel Frederick Proelss was born in Posen, Germany on May 27, 1906. Educated as a lawyer, he received his degree from the Friedrich Wilhem University in Breslau in 1933. While in Germany, he joined the WWII-era Confessing Church, whose best known member was Dietrich Bonhoeffer, and which resisted the Nazi regime. Because of his views, Proelss was sentenced to hard labor by the Nazi regime. After the war, Proelss left Germany and attended Union Theological Seminary where he received his Bachelor of Divinity in 1953. He was ordained in the Episcopal Diocese of New York in 1955. He became a member of the Episcopal Missionary Society in New York City, and was senior chaplain of Rikers Island during this period. As a clinical associate of Union Theological Seminary from 1951 to 1971, Proelss helped in developing academic programs in psychiatry and religion. Proelss's interests were centered on pastoral counseling, and his papers and research arranged here suggest that he sought to gain an understanding of criminality so to better assist incarcerated people whom he served. Proelss retired from Union Theological Seminary in 1971 and died on February 16, 1997.

Collection Scope and Content Note

The Eitel Frederick Proelss Papers consists of 10 files containing written materials authored by Proelss in typed and handwritten form as well as written materials created by others. Inclusive are newspaper clippings, note cards, jottings and one annotated manuscript.

Processing

Materials were placed in new acid-free folders. Acidic items were separated from one another by interleaving with acid-free paper as needed. Materials that were folded within the manuscript were removed and flattened and attempts were made to safely flatten other materials before refolding.

Contents list

Series 1: Writings, 1953-1984

Series	Box	Folder	Contents
1	1	1	Gnosticism, Manuscript, notes, newspaper clips, 1980-1984
1	1	2	Martin Buber 'For the Sake of Heaven', Kilin, 1969
1	1	3	J.W. Goethe's 'Faust', Kilin, 1967
1	1	4	S. Freud, Kilin, 1963
1	1	5	Rudolph Bultmann, 1957
1	1	6	Erik H. Erikson 'Ghandi's Truth', Kilin, 1971
1	1	7	'Reflections on the Nature of Crime and the Criminal', 1958-1968
1	1	8	Essay on St. Augustine, 1958
1	1	9	Freud (Fred Wood), 1951-1962
1	1	10	Drew lectures, psychology and pastoral care, 1959-1961