



# THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA ARCHIVES

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## **GENERAL COUNCIL ARCHIVES GUIDE TO HOLDINGS RELATING TO WEST CHINA MEDICAL MISSIONS (1800-1950): SUBJECT GUIDE**

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## INTRODUCTION

The United Church of Canada General Council Archives holds an extensive collection of documents relating to West China Medical Missions. This subject guide will provide an overview to the type of document, the media, and the subject matter in each collection. Records consist predominantly of minutes of church boards/divisions and mission councils; financial and administrative records; correspondence and reports; property deeds; photographs; print and near-print materials and audio-visual material. For more detailed descriptions, or a history of medical missions in West China, see also General Council Archives Guide to Holdings Related to West China Medical Missions, or individual finding aids located in the General Council Archives Reading Room (listed below).

Descriptions include name of fonds; list of relevant series; extent of holdings; inclusive dates of records followed by predominant dates in brackets; and the availability of a finding aid.

## *TEXTUAL RECORDS*

Textual records relate to all aspects of evangelical, educational, social and medical missions in West China. At times, items unrelated to medical missions have been omitted. In other instances, such records have been included to shed light on the situation in China at the time.

### **FONDS 502: UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA BOARD OF OVERSEAS MISSIONS FONDS. -- 1910-1965, predominant 1925-1961. -- 17 m of textual records; 890 photographs**

**Administrative History:** Organized in 1926, the Board of Foreign Missions was the continuation of the Canada Congregational Foreign Mission Society, the Missionary Society of the Methodist Church (Canada), and the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. It was renamed the Board of Overseas Missions in 1944. In 1962, its work was taken over by the newly constituted Board of World Mission.

**Finding Aid:** See series and subseries descriptions.

**Overview:** This fonds holds the largest and most detailed collection of records relating to West China. Series 4: Records relating to China (1910-1965) and Subseries 1, 2, and 3 relate to West China specifically. All aspects of missions are covered, from financial and administrative records (reports, minutes, updates) on all endeavors at each central station and outstation, to personal correspondence with many missionaries, and general information on missions and China. Much of the correspondence covers medical work, and included are reports of the many medical institutions run by the mission.

### **SERIES 4/ RECORDS RELATING TO CHINA. -- 1910-1965, predominant 1925-1952. -- 8.3 m of textual records**

**Administrative History:** The United Church of Canada took responsibility for Methodist and Presbyterian missions in China after 1925. The work was carried out with the cooperation of the Woman's Missionary Society and with the growing Church of Christ in China. The missions carried out educational, medical and evangelistic work throughout this period characterized by anti-foreign agitation, Japanese invasion and civil war. Missionary activity continued until 1952 when the last missionaries left after the establishment of the new Communist government in China.

*-SERIES 4/ Subseries 1: Papers of the Associate Secretary Relating to West China (1925-1935):* Subseries consists of correspondence, reports, and documents from the Board Secretaries and the missionaries dealing with medical, educational and evangelistic work and matters of finance, property, mission staffing and conditions and the Mission Press, 1925-1965. The entire finding aid has been included, as there are comments regarding Medical Work throughout. (Finding Aid: 158, Accession #: 1983.047C)

*-SERIES 4/Subseries 2: West China Union University (1925-1952):* Subseries consists of correspondence, reports and minutes of various committees of West China Union University, 1926-1954.

Some records unrelated to West China Medical Missions have been included to give context. Others have been omitted. (Finding Aid: 158, Accession #: 1983.047C)

-*SERIES 4/Subseries 3: Minutes of the Mission Council and West China Union University (1929-1950)*: Subseries consists of minutes of the Mission Councils, 1925-1949, and West China Union University bodies, 1910-1950. (Finding Aid: 158, Accession #: 1983.047C)

**FONDS 503: UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA BOARD OF WORLD MISSION FONDS. -- 1880-1976, predominant 1962-1971. -- 40 m of textual records**

**Administrative History:** The Board of World Mission was established by General Council in 1960 and became operational 1 January, 1962; the Board brought together the Board of Overseas Missions and the Overseas Missions Committee of the Woman's Missionary Society, thereby becoming the sole authority for mission work outside of Canada and Bermuda. The Board was superseded in 1972 by the Division of World Outreach.

**Finding Aid:** See Series Descriptions.

**Overview:** Fonds 503 is collection of textual documents relating to all missions of the United Church of Canada. Series 6: Pamphlets and Documents re: China (1888-1969) holds an atypical archival collection of pamphlets and documents closely connected with the mission work for which it was originally collected. Pamphlets relating to medical work have been noted.

*SERIES 6/PAMPHLETS AND DOCUMENTS RE CHINA. -- 1888-1969, predominant 1905-1949. -- 1.75 m of textual records*

**Administrative History:** This is an atypical archival collection of pamphlets and documents closely connected with the mission work for which it was originally collected.

**Finding Aid:** 321

**Accession #:** 1983.041C

**Scope and Content:** Series consists of a collection of pamphlets and documents written by Canadian missionaries and others, both in China and foreign countries, which documents issues of relevance to the China mission field. It covers evangelistic, medical, educational, political, social, economic and cultural issues. The collection is divided both geographically (West China, Honan, South China), and by topic. The pamphlets are arranged in numeric order within geographic and topical subseries. Records relating to West China Medical Missions are found under West China Mission (1892-1952); Education/Medicine, Medical/Educational Work and Mission Work/Christian Church in China.

**FONDS 505: UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY FONDS. -- 1886-1972, predominant 1925-1962. -- 35 m of textual records; photographs**

**Administrative History:** The United Church of Canada Woman's Missionary Society (WMS) brought together in October 1925 the Women's Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, the Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist Church (Canada) and the Canada Congregational Woman's Board of Missions. The new Society had its first annual meeting in 1926. Like the earlier societies, it brought the message of missions before the entire community of the Church, while offering financial support and personnel to its own wide mission programme. The Home and Overseas Missions were organized into separate Departments, and other Departments were devoted to Finance, Home Organization, Literature, Periodicals, and Scholarship and Candidates.

The foreign missions were under an Executive Secretary of the Foreign Mission Department (renamed Overseas Missions in 1945), with secretaries responsible for each foreign nation in which the Society served. The women's work encompassed the whole of the modern century's missionary ideal: medical service, including clinics and nursing, but also hospital building, financing and administration; education from the primary to the university level; evangelism, visitation and social service. By the 1950s, control of

many of these mission enterprises had been transferred to local leadership. The Society worked in cooperation with the United Church's Board of Overseas Missions in many of these missions.

The home missions were under an Executive Secretary of the Home Missions Department. The Department worked with immigrants and the poor, on Aboriginal reserves where they operated hospitals and schools, and in cities where they ran boarding schools and homes for out-of-town children. The Society originally established a number of schools and hospitals, predominantly in Western Canada, but these were gradually turned over to government administration.

In 1962 the Society's overseas missions work was merged with the new Board of World Mission; the home missions work was merged with the Board of Home Missions. Other work was incorporated into the Board of Women, established in 1962, and into the general work of United Church Boards in which women were achieving more equal participation.

**See Finding Aid:** 90

**Overview:** Fonds 503 is the largest collection of records relating to all United Church of Canada Woman's Missionary Society work, both home and abroad. Series 5: Records Relating to West China (1925-1952) includes minutes, correspondence, pamphlets and historical information on mission work.

***SERIES 5/RECORDS RELATING TO WEST CHINA. -- 1925-1952. -- 72 cm of textual records***

**Administrative History:** The Mission, originally opened by the Methodist Woman's Missionary Society in 1894, was engaged in evangelistic, medical (hospital) work, and educational work (schools and involvement with West China Union University). During World War II the influx of Honan missionaries and the transfer of the Christian Literature Society from Shanghai to Chengtu boosted the population. As with other China missions, work was difficult due to growing nationalism and wars. The last missionary left China in 1952.

**Finding Aid:** 90

**Accession #:** 1983.058C

**Scope and Content:** Series includes minutes of the Mission Council and Executive, 1925-1926 and 1930-1942; correspondence of the Executive Secretary with the field Secretary- treasurer, 1930-1943, 1951; correspondence of the field Secretary- treasurer, 1925-1951; correspondence of the missionaries; some pamphlet and historical material on the mission work; and material on the Women's College, West China Union University, 1939-1940. Not all records make mention of Medical Missions, however, such records have been left in to give context to the situation in West China.

**FONDS 500: UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA GENERAL COUNCIL FONDS. -- 1925-1990. -- 48.58 m of textual records**

**Administrative History:** The General Council is the highest Church court, meeting biennially, with full power to determine matters relating to: boundaries and number of Conferences; doctrine, worship, membership and government; the courses of study for and ordination to the Order of Ministry; property matters; missionary policy; colleges and Christian education; petitions, memorials and appeals; relationships with other churches; appointments to committees and Divisions and of officers for Departments; appointment of the Secretary of the General Council, its Executive and its standing committees, and appointment of the Moderator.

Between meetings of the General Council, the Executive acts on its behalf. It takes a leadership role in articulating and translating the broad vision of the General Council, establishing mission directions, and setting priorities for the work of the General Council Office. The Executive reports on its proceedings to the General Council. The Executive of the General Council normally meets twice each year. A Sub-Executive is convened to consider matters which emerge between meetings and require action or decision.

**Finding Aid:** 17

**Overview:** Fonds 500 includes minutes, reports, briefs, and records relating to General Council, General Council Executive and Sub-Executive, and all committees of the General Council. Series 1: Records of the Meetings of General Council (1925-present) holds all official reports of the Board of Overseas Missions, and the Woman's Missionary Society. It documents all major decisions concerning missions in China. Series 2: Minutes of the Executive and Sub-Executive (1925-present) holds primarily records relating to the sale, transfer and purchase of land in mission fields.

***SERIES 1/RECORDS OF MEETINGS OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL. -- 1925-1982. -- 2.76 m of textual records***

**Administrative History:** The regular meeting of the General Council is most often held every second year. Its delegates are called Commissioners and are all members of the United Church. The Commissioners are the following: an equal number of members of the Order of Ministry and of the Laity, elected by Conferences, as well as Overseas Personnel; the immediate past and retiring Moderators; the Secretary of the General Council; the Chairperson of each Division; and three members from the General Council Secretaries.

**Finding Aid:** 17

**Scope and Content:** Series consists of an uneven collection of materials from several meetings of the General Council, including memorials and remits; scrapbooks and newspaper clippings re the meetings; correspondence, especially as it relates to the Nominations Committee; copies of the Moderators' addresses; and miscellaneous material. Records relating to West China Medical Missions are primarily found in the reports of the Board of Overseas Mission (Formerly Board of Foreign Mission), and of The Woman's Missionary Society. All General Council Record of Proceedings are indexed and bound, located in the United Church of Canada Archives Reading Room. Records from 1925-1974 are indexed and searchable through the Records of Proceedings database.

***SERIES 2/MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE AND SUB-EXECUTIVE. -- 1925-1990. -- 1.59 m of textual records***

**Administrative History:** The Executive of General Council consists of the Moderator and immediate past Moderator, the General Secretary and Secretaries of the Council, the General Secretaries of the Divisions, two members from each Conference, ten members elected at General Council who represent the various Divisions of General Council, and representatives of other constituencies in the church, attempting a balance between ordained and lay members. Its purpose is to carry out the decisions of the General Council, to receive annual reports from the Divisions and committees of General Council, to deal with the financial and property affairs of the Church between sittings of the General Council, and "to do any act or thing of a routine or emergency nature which the General Council has the power to do." The Sub-Executive operates between the meetings of the Executive.

**Finding Aid:** 17, Series 2  
**Accession #:** 82.001C

**Scope and Content:** Series consists of records documenting Executive, and Sub-Executive decisions relating West China through the Board of Foreign Missions and later, the Board of Overseas Missions. Records are primarily concerning the sale of Mission land; very few are related to medical work specifically. Records of the Executive and Sub-Executive are bound and located under various accession numbers in the Archives. Recent minutes that have yet to be transferred to the Archives (2007-present) can be found either on the United Church of Canada website (under General Council), or can be accessed by staff on a shared computer drive. Records from 1925-2006 are indexed and searchable Archives "General" database.

**FONDS 14: METHODIST CHURCH (CANADA) MISSIONARY SOCIETY FONDS. -- [ca. 1851]-1950, predominant 1884-1925. -- 15.41 m of textual records; photographs**

**Administrative History:** The Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church Canada Conference was established in 1824, and continued under the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada when it formed in 1828. When this Church joined with the British Wesleyans to form the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Canada in 1833, the Society evolved into an Auxiliary of the Wesleyan Missionary Society (Great Britain) to support the growth of Aboriginal and domestic missions. This union was disrupted in 1840, but resumed in 1847. In 1854, the British Hudson's Bay Territory missions were transferred to the Missionary Society in Canada which gradually took over the responsibility of all mission work from Britain beginning in Central Canada and the Northwest. The Society, with some changes in administrative structure, existed as part of the Methodist Church of Canada, formed in 1874, and the Methodist Church (Canada), formed in 1884. The object of the Society came to be the support of domestic, Aboriginal, immigrant, new Canadian, French Canadian, and other missions carried on under the direction of a central committee and board, and later also under the Conferences. In 1906, the missions were divided between two new Departments-- Foreign and Home. Missions to European immigrants and domestic missions fell under the care of the Home Department. Missions abroad and, until 1920, missions to Japanese, Chinese, and Aboriginal People in Canada came under the direction of the Foreign Department.

**Finding Aid:** See series descriptions.

**Overview:** Fonds includes all records of the Methodist Church (Canada) Missionary Society relating to all missions. Records relating to West China are part of Series 3: Records Re: Foreign Missions (1888-1950), and its subseries 1: West China Mission Collection (1891-1931). This subseries includes correspondence, reports, financial records, property registers, manuscripts of historical and biographical studies and other materials. Series 3/Subseries 2: West China Union University Collection (1896-1950) includes correspondence, reports, financial records, photographs, architectural drawings, maps, publications and printed material relating to West China Union University.

***SERIES 3/RECORDS RE FOREIGN MISSIONS. -- 1888-1950, predominant 1888-1925. -- 4.07 m of textual records; photographs***

*SERIES 3/Subseries 1: WEST CHINA MISSION COLLECTION. -- 1891-1931, predominant 1891-1925. -- 2.2 m of textual records*

**Administrative History:** The Canadian Methodist Mission in West China was established in 1891. The original party of missionaries consisted of Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Virgil C. Hart, veterans of missionary work in China under the Methodist Episcopal Church, U.S., their daughter, Miss Stella Hart (later Mrs. Hare), Dr. and Mrs. Omar L. Kilborn, Rev. and Mrs. G.E. Hartwell and Dr. and Mrs. David W. Stevenson. The group landed at Shanghai on November 3, 1891, remaining there throughout the winter. In mid-February they left for the interior, arriving at Chengtu, the capital of Szechwan, on May 21, 1892.

The first reinforcements, Rev. James Endicott and his wife and Dr. H.M. Hare, arrived in Chengtu in the spring of 1894. They were accompanied by Miss Sara C. Bracbill and Dr. Retta Gifford (later, the second Mrs. Kilborn) sent out by the Women's Missionary Society (W.M.S.). In 1896, Dr. and Mrs. W.E. Smith joined the group in Chengtu.

The mission grew slowly at first, by 1901 there were only 19 missionaries under the General Board and Woman's Missionary Society together. In 1917, however, the mission staff included 75 men (67 of whom were married), and 35 single women; by 1919, there were 155 under the General Board and 32 women under the W.M.S. At the time of Union in 1925, there were a total of 218 missionaries in the field of West China.

As the number of missionaries increased, the territory of the mission expanded. In 1894, Kiating, 100 miles south of Chengtu, was opened in addition to the capital city. In 1905, Junghsien and Jenshow were opened; in 1907, Penghsien and Tzeliutsing; in 1908, Luchow. In 1910, the mission inherited control of the London Missionary Society (L.M.S.).

**Medical Work:** While there was a primary emphasis laid on Evangelical and Educational work, emphasis within the mission was also laid on medical work, and two of the original four men sent out to China were doctors. During 1894, two hospital buildings were erected in Chengtu and medical work began

in 1895. However, these structures were completely destroyed in the riots of 1895. The year 1897 witnessed the second hospital built with a dispensary, waiting room, and two wards for 25 patients.

By 1917, there were 21 doctors, 15 men and 6 women, working in eleven hospitals in the then central stations. A medical college was created in 1914 in connection with the West China Union University, in an attempt to create native medical workers. Dental hospitals were opened in Chengtu and Chungking, and in 1920, a Faculty of Dentistry was established within the University.

**Finding Aid:** 19

**Accession #:** 78.096C

**Scope and Content:** Subseries includes correspondence of the General Secretaries of the Methodist Church (Canada) Missionary Society; copybook of W.J. Mortimore; minutes of the West China Mission Council; reports, financial records, property registers, manuscripts of historical and biographical studies, and other material relating to the evangelistic, pastoral, educational and medical work of the West China Mission. Some references to medical related work may be brief as emphasis was also placed on Education and Evangelical work.

*SERIES 3/Subseries 2: WEST CHINA UNION UNIVERSITY COLLECTION. -- 1896-1950, predominant 1908-1925. -- 97 cm of textual records; photographs*

**Administrative History:** The University, located in Chengtu (Szechwan province) was founded cooperatively by the Friends Foreign Mission Association, Great Britain and Ireland, the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society, and Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church, U.S.A., and the General Board of Missions of the Methodist Church, Canada, Newfoundland, and Bermuda.

In 1910, classes in Arts and Science were inaugurated. A faculty of Medicine was added in 1914; a Faculty of Religion in 1915; Education in 1918; and Dentistry in 1920. In addition to these Faculties there was a Pharmacy Department, and Agricultural Department, the Union Middle School, the Union Normal School, the Union Bible Training School, the Union Training School for Missionaries, and Lower and Higher Primary School.

The University was controlled by a Board of Governors in the home-lands, and in 1922 it was incorporated under the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York. By 1925, the Campus of over 150 acres contained some 22 teaching buildings and dormitories and 34 teachers' residences. The University became co-educational in 1924. (Written by Bruce Lawrie, 1978).

**Finding Aid:** 13

**Accession #:** 1978.097C; 1995.096C; /TR; 2004.043C.

**Scope and Content:** Subseries includes correspondence of the General Secretaries, Foreign Department, 1907-1925, copybooks of outgoing correspondence of O.L. Kilborn, 1896-1906; minutes of West China Union University bodies, 1909-1938; also constitutions, reports, financial records, photographs, architectural drawings and maps, publications and printed ephemera, 1908-1950. As records are general in nature, references to Medical work may be brief.

**FONDS 15: METHODIST CHURCH (CANADA) WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY  
FONDS. -- 1880-1927. -- 1.37 m of textual records; ca. 80 sheets of building plans and sketches**

**Administrative History:** The General Conference of 1878 authorized Alexander Sutherland, General Secretary of the Methodist Church (Canada) Missionary Society, to organize a Woman's Missionary Society. In 1880, a society was formed in Hamilton, Ontario, followed by other auxiliaries. On 1881 April 29, a resolution for the establishment of a Dominion body was successfully moved, and in November of the same year, the General Board was created. In 1925, it joined with similar societies of the Presbyterian and Congregational Churches to form the Woman's Missionary Society of The United Church of Canada.

**Finding Aid:** 137

**Accession #:** 78.078C, 78.079C, 78.080C, 2004.025C

**Overview:** Fonds 15 includes records of the Methodist Church (Canada) Woman's Missionary Society work in missionary fields at home and abroad. Appendix B: Woman's Missionary Society, 2. West China Mission includes correspondence regarding between missionaries concerning primarily property and financial matters, with a few letters regarding furloughs and health of individual missionaries.

***APPENDIX B/Woman's Missionary Society, 2. West China Mission***

**Accession #:** 78.080C

**Scope and content:** Appendix includes correspondence of Secretary in Canada for West China Field, Treasurer of West China and correspondence of individual missionaries dealing almost exclusively with property and financial matters. There is some information about furloughs, health problems and so forth.

***PERSONAL PAPERS:***

Personal Papers included in this guide are a collection of small fonds relating to missionaries in the medical field of West China.

**FONDS 3133: CECIL MAGEE HOFFMAN FONDS. -- 1908-1979. -- 7 cm of textual records; photographs**

**Biographical Sketch:** Cecil Magee Hoffman (1904-1991) was a medical missionary to West China and a public health administrator. He was born in West China, studied arts at Victoria University, and earned his M.D. at the University of Toronto. He worked in West China as a medical missionary, 1932-1947; in public health units in Ontario, 1950-1960; and as a public health administrator in Ontario, 1960-1970. He died in 1991.

**Accession #:** 1986.142C

**See also:** Correspondence of Cecile Magee Hoffman will be found in the Board of Overseas Missions of the United Church of Canada in the West China Section (Fonds 502, Series 4: Records Relating to West China).

**Scope and Content:** Fonds consists of correspondence, reports and memoirs of Cecil B. Hoffman. There is some mention of Medical Facilities throughout.

**FONDS 3184: ERNEST BLACK STRUTHERS FONDS. -- 1912-1973. -- 87 cm of textual records**

**Biographical Sketch:** Ernest Black Struthers (1886-1977) was a medical missionary in China and Korea. He was born in Galt, Ontario, and studied arts and medicine at the University of Toronto. He served as a medical missionary in China, 1913-1950, with interruptions for military service and further studies. He taught at Cheeloo University (Shandong), serving as Dean of the Medical College, 1942-1948. He served in the field of tuberculosis control in Korea, 1953-1963, and worked for the Ontario Department of Health in the early 1950s and from 1963 to 1964. He was librarian at the Orthopaedic and Arthritic Hospital in Toronto, 1966-1973.

**Finding Aid:** 173

**Accession #:** 1986.193C

**See also:** Correspondence of Ernest Black Struthers will be found in the Board of Overseas Missions of the United Church of Canada in the West China Section (Fonds 502, Series 4: Records Relating to West China). See also files under his name as missionary and also West China Union University Files.

**Scope and Content:** Fonds consists of diaries, correspondence; articles, notes, reports and other material re medical matters in Korea. Certain files have been omitted as they do not relate to Medical Missions in China.

**FONDS 3190: CHARLES W. SERVICE FONDS. -- 1930. -- 1 cm of textual records**

**Biographical Sketch:** Charles Winfield Service (1872-1930) was a Methodist/United Church minister active in mission work in British Columbia and China. He was the son of a Methodist minister, Reverend William Service. He was born at Tamworth, Ontario, in 1872. He was educated at Victoria University and Trinity Medical College. He was ordained in 1906. While he was at Victoria University, he was one of a committee which helped to lay the foundation of the Young People's Forward Movement for Missions. He was prepared to go to China, but the Boxer Rebellion intervened and he served at Clayoquot in British Columbia. In 1889 he married Robina Morgan, a nursing graduate of Brockville General Hospital. In 1902, Dr. and Mrs. Service went to China. He served there until his death.

**Accession #:** 86.362C/TR

**See also:** Correspondence of Charles W. Service will be found in the Board of Overseas Missions of the United Church of Canada in the West China Section (Fonds 502, Series 4: Records Relating to West China).

**Scope and Content:** Fonds consists of copies of Dr. Service's last letters to his family before his death in China, 1930 March 10.

**FONDS 3200: WILLIAM JOHN SHERIDAN FONDS. -- 1912-1935. -- 12 cm of textual records**

**Biographical Sketch:** William John Sheridan (1873-1955) was a medical missionary to China and Alberta. He was born in Palermo, Ontario and studied at the University of Toronto. He served the Methodist then United Church of Canada as hospital superintendent and surgeon in West China, 1907-1944. After he retired in 1945, he served briefly as a hospital superintendent in Battle River, Alberta. He wrote the book Watching the Chinese Curtain Fall at the time of the Chinese revolution.

**Accession #:** 1986.209C

**See also:** Correspondence of William John Sheridan will be found in the Board of Overseas Missions of the United Church of Canada in the West China Section (Fonds 502, Series 4: Records Relating to West China). See also files under his name as missionary.

**Scope and Content:** Fonds consists of correspondence and work reports re missionary work in West China.

**FONDS 3256: EDWIN NELSON MEUSER FONDS. -- 1917-1950. -- 7 cm of textual records**

**Biographical Sketch:** Edwin Nelson Meuser (1880-1970) was a pharmacist and medical missionary to China. Born June 24, 1880 in Elmwood, Ontario, Dr. Edwin Nelson Meuser graduated from the Toronto School of Pharmacy in the University of Toronto in 1904. Meuser arrived in China in 1909 under the sponsorship of the Methodist Episcopal Mission (MEM) U.S. and was placed in charge of the dispensary in the American Hospital at Chungking. One year later, he joined the Canadian Methodist Mission (CMM) in Chengtu, Szechwan where he organized and directed the Medical College of the West China Union University. At this time Meuser was the only representative of modern pharmacy in China west of Nanking (an area of approximately 250 million people).

Meuser was the prime motivator behind the opening of the West China School of Pharmacy in September, 1918. Subsequently, in September, 1932 this school became officially linked to the West China Union University (WCUU) as the Department of Pharmacy.

Meuser continued his work in China until 1950, at which time he was forced to leave the country in the wake of the 1949 revolution. Upon leaving China, Meuser retired and lived in Willowdale, Ontario, from 1950 until 1969. Meuser was residing in Kitchener, at the time of his death on February 9, 1970.

**Finding Aid:** 131

**Accession #:** 1986.265C

**See also:** Correspondence of Edwin Nelson Meuser will be found in the Board of Overseas Missions of the United Church of Canada in the West China Section (Fonds 502, Series 4: Records Relating to West China). See also files under his name as missionary and also West China Union University Files. Also consult Biographical Files of the United Church of Canada.

**Scope and Content:** Fonds consists of historical material re: Pharmacy Department at West China Union University, and addresses, 1917, 1947-1950.

**FONDS 3295: ASHLEY WOODWARD LINDSAY FONDS. -- 1939-1950. -- 7 cm of textual records**

**Biographical Sketch:** Ashley Woodward Lindsay (1884-1968) was a medical missionary to China. He was born in Magog, Quebec, and graduated from the Royal College of Dental Surgeons in Toronto. He was appointed the first missionary solely for dental work to West China, in 1907. Appointed to the Faculty of Medicine of West China Union University in 1918, he organized the Faculty of Dentistry the following year. He was Dean of Dentistry for thirty years, left China in 1950, and retired in 1952.

**Finding Aid:** 119

**Accession #:** 1986.304C

**See also:** Correspondence of Dr. Ashley W. Lindsay will be found in the Board of Overseas Missions of the United Church of Canada in the West China Section (Fonds 502, Series 4: Records Relating to West China). See also files under his name as missionary and also West China Union University Files.

**Scope and Content:** Fonds consists of addresses and notes re: church, education and customs in China; and, primarily, articles by various authors re religion, science and social philosophy.

**FONDS 3304: LESLIE AND JEAN KILBORN FONDS. -- 1911-1967, predominant 1943-1952. -- 12 cm of textual records**

**Biographical Sketch:** Leslie Gifford Kilborn, (1895-1967) was a missionary to China. The son of missionaries, he was born in China in 1895. He studied at the University of Toronto (M.A., M.D., Ph.D.), and taught at West China Union University. He was appointed Dean of Medicine in 1936 and Director of the College of Medicine and Dentistry in 1939. He married Jean Millar in 1947. He was forced to leave China, for Hong Kong, in 1952. While he was there he taught at Hong Kong University and was appointed Vice President of Chung Chi University. He returned to Canada in 1963, and died in 1967.

**Finding Aid:** 126

**Accession #:** 1986.313C

**See also:** Correspondence of Leslie Gifford Kilborn will be found in the Board of Overseas Missions of the United Church of Canada in the West China Section (Fonds 502, Series 4: Records Relating to West China). See also files under his name as missionary and also West China Union University Files. Records relating to Jean Millar may be also found in Fonds 505: United Church of Canada Woman's Missionary Society Fonds.

**Scope and Content:** Fonds consists of correspondence, 1943-1952; and reports and other material re United Church medical missions and West China Union University, 1911-1967.

**FONDS 3323: S. MABEL MCKINLEY FONDS. -- 1910-1937, predominant 1910-1917. -- 36 cm of textual records; photographs**

**Biographical Sketch:** S. Mabel McKinley (1881-1974) was a Methodist missionary to West China with her husband, Dr. D. Fuller McKinley.

**Finding Aid:** 329

**Accession #:** 1987.232C; 1990.180C.

**Scope and Content:** Fonds consists of letters written by McKinley to her parents regarding her experiences and those of her husband, Dr. D. Fuller McKinley as Methodist missionaries in West China, 1910-1917; correspondence received by McKinley, 1920-1937; articles and fiction, 1926-1929; clippings, 1922-1930; photographs.

**FONDS 3381: RALPH HAYWARD FONDS. -- 1933-1949. -- 1 microfilm reel : positive and negative**

**Biographical Sketch:** Ralph Hayward (1908-1973) was a medical missionary to China. He was born in Toronto, studied medicine at the University of Toronto and interned at Toronto Western Hospital. He worked as a missionary in Szechwan province, China, from 1933 to 1940. Because of the war, he was unable to return to China until 1947, only to be forced to leave by the Communists in 1949. During World War II and after 1949, he worked for Indian Health Services in the Northwest Territories, Manitoba and Ontario.

**Finding Aid:** 175

**Accession #:** 1986.356C/MR

**Scope and Content:** Fonds consists of diary and correspondence: letters to family from China giving a detailed account of Dr. Hayward's medical work and description of life in Szechwan, circular letters addressed to "Dear Friends", 1933-1940, and 1947-1949.

**FONDS 3468: HARRISON J. MULLETT FONDS. -- 1927-1955. -- 1 cm of textual records**

**Biographical Sketch:** Harrison J. Mullett (1892-1972) taught dentistry and served as a missionary in China. He attended the Regina Normal School and the Royal College of Dental Surgeons, Toronto. He was appointed to China in 1917 to serve on the staff of the West China Union University. He was interned in a prisoner-of-war camp in from 1941 to 1943. He returned to China from 1945 to 1950. Upon his return to Canada, he joined the Faculty of Dentistry at the University of Toronto.

**Accession #:** 1993.085C/ TR

**See also:** Correspondence of Harrison J. Mullett will be found in the Board of Overseas Missions of the United Church of Canada in the West China Section (Fonds 502, Series 4: Records Relating to West China). See also files under his name as missionary and also West China Union University Files.

**Scope and Content:** Fonds consists of clippings and correspondence about China.

**FONDS 3598: SIMPSON FAMILY FONDS. -- 1911-1959. -- 25 cm of textual records; 14 photographs**

**Biographical Sketch:** Edward Kyle Simpson M.D. was a Missionary to West China for the Methodist Church from 1912-1926. While in China he met and married Alice Lessing Estabrook in Chengtu Feb 17, 1916. Dr. Simpson was ordained in London Conference and left for China in 1912. In 1919 he took charge of the hospital at Junghsien for two years, and then moved to Fowchow for medical work. Alice L. Estabrook was appointed by the W.M.M to West China in 1910. Alice became first Principal of the Union Normal School until 1916 when she resigned to be married to Dr. E.K. Simpson.

Both E.K. and Alice left China in 1926; they had two children Alice Janet (born 1917) and Wilda Pauline (born 1923).

**Finding Aid: 1**

**Accession #:** 2010.109C; 2011.012C

**Scope and Content:** Fonds consists of two accessions, which are, at the time of this the creation of this guide (August, 2011), unprocessed. Contents of accession number 2010.109C include: correspondence (1911); Diary of Edward K. Simpson, Missionary to Chungking (1915); Diaries of Alice Simpson, Missionary to Chungking (1912, 1914, 1916); (1911-1926). Contents of accession number 2011.012C include a Chinese scroll with translation; a cloth map of Szechwan province, and textual records. Photos relating to Medical Missions in China include: 2011.012P/4 [W.M.S. party of missionaries arrived in Shanghai, November 1910] and [2 pictures of the 1910 Missionary Party (C.M.M.) General Board Missionaries and W.M.S. New party with Miss Brooks].

***BIOGRAPHICAL FILES***

The United Church has an extensive collection of Biographical Files, which are searchable in the Biographical Files database. Records can be searched by surname, first name, year born, year died, mission field, and faculty (for Victoria University). As there are too many biographical files to be included in this guide, they have been omitted.

***PHOTOGRAPHS***

The United Church of Canada Archives has an extensive photograph collection which can be searched online through the United Church of Canada website ([www.united-church.ca](http://www.united-church.ca)) or at the General Council Archives in the Graphics Database.

Photos relating to Medical Missions in West China are primarily located in the Portraits Collection, and Foreign Missions Photograph Collection. For more detailed descriptions (including physical descriptions, subject headings, and notes), please see also the Graphics Database.

***AUDIO-VISUAL MATERIALS***

***Berkeley Studio Collection***

**Administrative History:** Berkeley Studio opened in 1956 under the Board of Information and Stewardship of The United Church of Canada. Berkeley produced the photographs, film and filmstrips, recordings, and radio/television productions that promoted the work of the United Church. The Board was disbanded in 1968; most of its responsibilities and staff were transferred to the new Division of Communication. Berkeley Studio remained with the Division of Communication under the Department of Media Resources and later the Audio Visual Unit. In the 2003 General Council Office reorganization, Berkeley Studio became a part of the newly created Resources, Production and Distribution (RPD). The studio closed in 2008 and the collection was transferred to the United Church Archives. The collection is currently unprocessed but individual productions are available for viewing, and searchable through the Berkeley Studios database.

**Scope and Content:** Series includes records in Master Database, and Film Database. There are very few records relating to West China or West China Medical missions in particular.

***NEAR-PRINT AND PRINT PUBLICATIONS: COLLECTION IN GENERAL COUNCIL ARCHIVES READING ROOM***

The United Church of Canada General Council Archives Reading Room has an extensive library on a wide array of subjects. Books related to medical missions in West China are listed below. Some books relating to medical missions in China in general have also been listed. Near-Print and Print Publications are listed

in the United Church of Canada Archives catalogue; hosted by the University of Toronto Libraries Catalogue. Records relating to West China and West China Missions in general have been included. Also, a listing of Periodicals in the library relating to Missions is listed in the guide.