

JAMES WILSON (J. W.) STORER COLLECTION

AR 239



Prepared by: Dorothy A. Davis
Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives
July, 2008

Updated October, 2012

James Wilson (J. W.) Storer Collection

AR 239

Summary

Main Entry: James Wilson (J. W.) Storer Collection

Date Span: 1910 – 1969

Abstract: The collection documents the tenure of Dr. James Wilson Storer from 1953 to 1955 as President of the Southern Baptist Convention, with some additional material related to his work as Executive Secretary of the Southern Baptist Foundation. The majority of the collection is correspondence, photograph albums, and scrapbooks.

Size: 2.5 linear ft. (5 boxes)

Collection #: AR 239

Biographical Sketch

James Wilson Storer was born December 1, 1884 in Burlington, Kansas, and spent his childhood in Washington and Oklahoma. He attended Kansas University, graduated from William Jewell College in 1912, with a Bachelor of Science degree, and received an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Union University. He married Nora Isabel Wilbanks, a graduate of Liberty Ladies College, on December 31, 1912.

Dr. James Wilson (J. W.) Storer was pastor of First Baptist Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma, from 1931 to 1956. While pastor of First Baptist, Dr. Storer conducted a radio ministry as Sunday services were broadcast on station KOME. In addition to the Tulsa pastorate, Rev. Storer held pastorates in Tennessee, Mississippi, and Virginia. He was President of the Southern Baptist Convention, 1953 – 1955, and President of the Convention's Executive Committee, 1952 – 1953. Following his tenure at First Baptist, Tulsa, Dr. Storer was Executive Secretary for the Southern Baptist Foundation until his retirement in 1967.

Dr. Storer also worked with other denominational agencies as a member of the Relief and Annuity Board and the Foreign Mission Board. He served on the Board of Trustees for several institutions, including Oklahoma Baptist University, Shanghai, Tennessee Women's College, and Fork Union Military Academy. Storer was a member of the Southern Historical Society and the Sons of the American Revolution. As part of his history endeavors, Dr. Storer accumulated a large collection of Confederate related documents that were donated to Oklahoma Baptist University and form the University's J. W. Storer Collection. Dr. Storer died in Nashville, Tennessee, April 12, 1970.

Scope and Content Note

The James Wilson (J. W.) Storer Collection (1910 – 1969) contains 2.5 linear feet of material in five document boxes. The material is arranged alphabetically and includes correspondence, clippings, annuals, articles, books, photographs, programs, and two scrapbooks.

The collection documents Dr. Storer's tenure as President of the Southern Baptist Convention, with some additional material related to his work as Executive Secretary of the Southern Baptist Foundation. The majority of the collection is correspondence between Dr. Storer and other Baptist leaders, including Baker J. Cauthen, W. A. Criswell, Norman W. Cox, James T. Draper, E. D. Head, Herschel H. Hobbs, Kearnie Keegan, Albert McClellan, Louie D. Newton, Courts Redford, Porter Routh, James L. Sullivan, and A. V. Washburn.

There are four photograph albums and two scrapbooks that document the Southern Baptist Convention meetings in 1953, 1954, and 1955. The scrapbooks also include clippings and correspondence congratulating Dr. Storer on his election as President. Another photograph album contains images of a 1954 European trip that Dr. Storer conducted as part of his presidential duties.

Researchers should note that another J. W. Storer Collection exists at Oklahoma Baptist University and contains documents, related to Confederate history, that Dr. Storer accumulated.

Mrs. Nora Storer donated the collection to the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives (then Historical Commission) in 1970.

Arrangement

Arranged Alphabetically

Provenance

Donated to the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives (previously Historical Commission) in 1970 by Mrs. Nora Storer

Preferred Citation

James Wilson (J. W.) Storer Collection, Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, Nashville, Tennessee

Access Restrictions

None

Subject Terms

McClellan, Albert, 1912 – 2004
 Routh, Porter Wroe, 1911 – 1987
 Cauthen, Baker James, 1909 – 1985
 Hobbs, Herschel Harold, 1907 – 1995

Newton, Louis DeVotie, 1892 – 1986
 Sullivan, James Lenox, 1910 – 2005
 Criswell, Wallie Amos, 1909 – 2002
 Keegan, Gilbert Kearnie, 1907 – 1960
 Redford, Courts, 1898 – 1977
 Cox, Norman Wade, 1888 – 1968
 Southern Baptist Convention – History – 20th century
 Southern Baptist Convention. Southern Baptist Foundation

Related Materials

Southern Baptist Convention. Executive Committee. Administrative and Program Planning Files, AR 627. Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives.

J. W. Storer. Oral history interview, 1967. R95t Sto
 Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives.

Container List

Box 1

- 1.1 Annuals – Southern Baptist Convention, 1884
- 1.2 Annuals – Southern Baptist Convention, 1953
- 1.3 Annuals – Southern Baptist Convention, 1954
- 1.4 Annuals – Southern Baptist Convention, 1955
- 1.5 Articles – Barrett, Gladys M. – “A Brief History of Fuller Church, Kettering, 1696 – 1946”
- 1.6 Articles – Storer, J. W. – “The Annals of Mankind,” 1966

Box 2

- 2.1 Bible – Presented to J. W. Storer by Kansas City Baptist Association, 1954
- 2.2 Books – Hurt, John Jeter – *This is my Story*, 1957
- 2.3 Clippings, 1910 – 1956
- 2.4 Correspondence, 1925 – 1939
- 2.5 Correspondence, 1940 – 1949
- 2.6 Correspondence, 1950 – 1959
- 2.7 Correspondence, 1960 – 1969
- 2.8 Correspondence – Allen, Clifton J., 1967
- 2.9 Correspondence – Byrd, Harry F. (Senator – Virginia), 1958
- 2.10 Correspondence – Cauthen, Baker J., 1964
- 2.11 Correspondence – Criswell, W. A., 1945 – 1968
- 2.12 Correspondence – Crouch, Austin, 1941 – 1946
- 2.13 Correspondence – Dillard, J. E., 1945
- 2.14 Correspondence – Fields, W. C., 1967
- 2.15 Correspondence – Freeman, John D., 1931
- 2.16 Correspondence – Fuller, Ellis A., 1946
- 2.17 Correspondence – Gardner, David M. (*Baptist Standard* Editor), 1952
- 2.18 Correspondence – Graves, Harold K., 1957
- 2.19 Correspondence – Head, E. D., 1945

- 2.20 Correspondence – Hobbs, Herschel, 1969
- 2.21 Correspondence – Jenkins, L. Howard, 1943 – 1967
- 2.22 Correspondence – Kerr, Robert S. (Senator – Oklahoma), 1950
- 2.23 Correspondence – Lackey, T. B., 1956
- 2.24 Correspondence – Leavell, Frank H., 1928
- 2.25 Correspondence – Leavell, Roland, 1956
- 2.26 Correspondence – Lin, Henry H., 1946
- 2.27 Correspondence – Lord, F. Townley (Baptist World Alliance President), 1950
- 2.28 Correspondence – Mathis, Mrs. R. L., 1963
- 2.29 Correspondence – McClellan, Albert, 1952
- 2.30 Correspondence – Merritt, James W., 1957
- 2.31 Correspondence – Moore, Merrill D., 1967
- 2.32 Correspondence – Newton, Jim, 1966
- 2.33 Correspondence – Newton, Louie D., 1946
- 2.34 Correspondence – Response to First Baptist Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma – Resignation, 1956
- 2.35 Correspondence – Reynolds, William J., 1964
- 2.36 Correspondence – Robertson, A. T., 1930
- 2.37 Correspondence – Routh, E. C., 1947
- 2.38 Correspondence – Sims, W. Hines, 1964
- 2.39 Correspondence – Spilman, B. W., 1931
- 2.40 Correspondence – Southern Baptist Foundation Congratulations, 1956
- 2.41 Correspondence – Teague, Cpl. Joe, 1944
- 2.42 Correspondence – Truett, George W., 1930
- 2.43 Correspondence – Warren, C. C., 1950
- 2.44 Correspondence – White, R. Kelly, 1956
- 2.45 Correspondence – Wicker, John J., 1945
- 2.46 History – First Baptist Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma, 1897, 1972
- 2.47 Photographs
- 2.48 Programs, 1960, 1964

Box 3

- 3.1 Photograph Album – Southern Baptist Convention, 1953
- 3.2 Photograph Album – Southern Baptist Convention, 1954
- 3.3 Photograph Album – European Tour, 1954
- 3.4 Photograph Album – Southern Baptist Convention, 1955

Box 4

- 4.1 Scrapbooks – Southern Baptist Convention, 1953

Box 5

- 5.1 Scrapbooks – Southern Baptist Convention, 1954 and 1955