

RUFUS WASHINGTON WEAVER PAPERS

AR 99



Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives

Processed by: M.M.K.

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Rufus Washington Weaver Papers

AR 99

Summary

Main Entry: Rufus Washington Weaver Papers

Date Span: 1903 – 1946

Abstract: Southern Baptist pastor, college president, writer, and denominational leader. Served as president of the Education Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, president of Mercer University, and numerous other Baptist leadership positions. The collection includes correspondence, sermons, bibliographies, biographical information, manuscripts, scrapbooks, clippings, photographs, and other files concerning American Christianity, Baptist history, Christian education, religious liberty, and the philosophy of religion. Also contains research material concerning Luther Rice.

Size: 6 linear ft. (17 boxes)

Collection #: AR 99

Biographical Sketch

Rufus Washington Weaver was born June 3, 1870, in Greensboro, North Carolina, the son of Preston DeKalb and Elizabeth Jane Weaver. Weaver received a B. A. in 1892 and an M. A. in 1893 from Wake Forest College. He was ordained Nov. 21, 1893 and served as pastor for the Salem St. Church in High Point, NC, 1893 – 1896, and for Forks of Elkhorn, KY, 1897 – 1899. Weaver received the Th.M. in 1898 and Th.D. in 1899 from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He also received the D. D. from Wake Forest College and Bethel College in 1912. Weaver was pastor of several churches in Ohio from 1899 to 1908, when he moved to Tennessee to pastor Immanuel Church in Nashville, 1908 – 1917.

Rufus Weaver was married to Charlotte Lewis Mason, Jan. 11, 1911. Mrs. Weaver was a widow with one son, but the Weavers had no children born to them.

In addition to being a Southern Baptist preacher, Dr. Weaver also served as a college president, writer, and denominational leader. He was president of the Education Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, president of Mercer University, and held numerous other Baptist and civic leadership positions.

Dr. Rufus Weaver died in Washington, D.C., Jan. 31, 1947

Scope and Content Note

The Rufus W. Weaver Papers, numbering approximately 1730 items, contains material in the area of Baptist history, Christian education, religious liberty, philosophy, psychology, science, and

politics, and their relationship to religion. In addition, there are six unpublished book manuscripts in the collection.

The bulk of the material in the collection falls in the period of 1918 – 1946. The main subject headings are: (1) American Christianity, (2) Baptist history, (3) Baptistism, (4) bibliographies, (5) biographies, (6) book manuscripts, (7) Christian education, (8) correspondence, (9) Education Board of SBC, (10) Joint committee on public relations material, (11) Mercer University, (12) philosophy and psychology, (13) pictures, (14) quotations, (15) religious liberty, (16) Luther Rice, (17) sermons, (18) Washington, D.C. Church and Columbia association, and (19) world league of truth seekers.

Among Rufus Weaver's correspondents are: Clarence A. Barbour, M. L. Brittain, S. P. Brooks of Baylor Univ., Edward A. Bechtel, W. W. Barnes, W. O. Carver, W. T. Conner, W. L. Cross, J. M. Dawson, Gov. Hugh Dorsey, Spright Dowell, John D. Freeman, Francis P. Gaines, L. L. Gwaltney, Gov. Thomas Hardwick, J. H. Kirkland, Ryland Knight, W. H. McDaniel, W. J. McGlothlin, E. Y. Mullins, Gov. Clifford Walker, Ray Lyman Wilbur, Ray O. Wyland, Bert Young, and A. H. Newman.

The papers of Rufus Washington Weaver (1870 – 1947), clergyman, college president, author, and religious statesman, were given to the Historical Commission (Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives) of the Southern Baptist Convention by the family of Dr. Weaver in 1954. They are arranged chronologically within subject headings. The sermons are arranged by books of the Bible. The collection contains 6 linear ft. of material in 17 boxes.

Arrangement

Arranged alphabetically by folder title and chronologically within subject headings

Provenance

The collection was donated to the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives (Historical Commission) by Dr. Weaver's family in 1954.

Preferred Citation

Rufus Washington Weaver Papers, Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, Nashville, Tennessee

Access Restrictions

None

Subject Terms

Rice, Luther, 1783 – 1836
 Mercer University (Macon, GA)
 Baptists – History
 Religious liberty
 Sermons, American

Related Material

Books and brochures written by Rufus W. Weaver:

History of the Doctrine of Inspiration (1899); The Christian Conversationalist (1903); The Reconstruction of Religion (1904); The Religious Development of the Child (1913); The Christian Faith at the Nation's Capitol (a volume of sermons) (1936); The Roumanian Crisis (brochure) (1938); The Vatican Envoy (brochure) (1940); The Forum of Freedom (1940); Revolt Against God (1944); Champions of Religious Liberty (1946); The Life and Work of Luther Rice (brochure); The Road to the Freedom of Religion (brochure); and "The Spiritual Apostolate, a Discipline for the Apostles of the Pew." "The Reasonableness of the Christian Hope" is an unpublished book mentioned in his biography, "A Pilgrim's Progress."

Other unpublished manuscripts are: "An Introduction to Christianity," "Religion, Its Reach and Its Reality, a Consideration of the Christian Claim," "History of the Southern Baptist Convention," "The Problems That Confront American Evangelical Christianity," "The Psychology of Religion," and "The Origin and Growth of Religion."

Container List

Box 1

- 1.1 Addresses – Baccalaureate and Commencement (4)
 - "The Baptist Principle"
 - "The Blitzkrieg Against God"
 - "The Christian Way in Meeting the World Emergency"
 - "The Fundamentalism of Jesus," "How May the Cities be Rescued"
- 1.2 Addresses
 - "The Genius of Christianized Culture"
 - "Historic Problems of Christianity"
 - "Politics and Religion"
 - "The Problems of Public Education in Georgia"
 - "Re-Thinking Christianity"
 - "What is Christianity"
- 1.3 American Christianity
- 1.4 Articles
 - "The Story of Infant Baptism"
 - "The Least"
 - "An Evangelical Approach to Contemporary World Problems"
 - "The Relation of Organized Christianity to Organized Society"
- 1.5 Articles – clippings
 - "A Response," April 13, 1939
 - "The Three Most Urgent Problems Before Southern Baptists," Feb. 17, 1916
 - "Report of the Efficiency Committee to the Southern Baptist Convention," Jan. 5, 1928
- 1.6 Baptist History
 - "The Stearns Family"
 - "The Invasion of the South by Sainted Yankees"
 - "The Baptists and Roger Williams" and other writings
- 1.7 Baptist History

- “The Co-operation of Baptist Churches in the 20th Century”
- “The Reorganization of the SBC”
- “Present Outlook for Southern Baptists”
- “A Brief History of Baptist Cooperative Enterprises”
- “Baptist Faith and Principles as Interpreted by our Baptist Fathers”
- “Southern Baptists and the Post Apostolic Age”
- 1.8 Baptist History – Georgia
- 1.9 Baptist History – Georgia
Liberty County, Macon First Baptist Church, Buckhead Baptist Church, History of the Christian Index, New Sunbury Assoc.
- 1.10 Baptistism – clippings, article
- 1.11 Bibliographies

Box 2

- 2.1 Biographical materials – Rufus W. Weaver, his grandfather (Johnson)
- 2.2 Biographical materials – S. P. Brooks, David E. Butler, William Carey, W. E. Dodd, John Leland, Daniel Marshall, Jesse Mercer, Joshua Mercer, Thomas Meredith in (centennial issue of Biblical Recorder), Jeremiah Moore, Samuel Judson Porter, Adiel Sherwood, Charles Haddon Spurgeon, Edward A. Stevens, Wm. Melton Tryon, John L. Waller, W. H. Whitsitt, R. J. Willingham, Wm. Kelly Wright.
(For materials on Albert Henry Newman see Mercer material)
- 2.3 Book manuscripts – Introduction to Christianity, Chap. 1-10
- 2.4 Book manuscripts – Introduction to Christianity, Chap. 11-20
- 2.5 Book manuscripts – Introduction to Christianity, Chap. 21-29
- 2.6 Book manuscripts – Introduction to Christianity, Chap. 30-36, 38-39
- 2.7 Book manuscripts – Introduction to Christianity, Chap. 40-44
- 2.8 Book manuscripts – Introduction to Christianity
- 2.9 Book manuscripts – Introduction to Christianity

Box 3

- 3.1 Book manuscripts – Introduction to Christianity
- 3.2 Book manuscripts – Introduction to Christianity
- 3.3 Book manuscripts – Introduction to Christianity
- 3.4 Book manuscripts – Introduction to Christianity
- 3.5 Book manuscripts – handwritten
- 3.6 Book manuscripts – handwritten
- 3.7 Book manuscripts – handwritten
- 3.8 Book manuscripts – handwritten

Box 4

- 4.1 Book Manuscripts – handwritten
- 4.2 Book Manuscripts – “History of the Southern Baptist Convention”
- 4.3 Book Manuscripts – “History of the Southern Baptist Convention”
- 4.4 Book Manuscripts – “History of the Southern Baptist Convention”
- 4.5 Book Manuscripts – “The Problems That Confront American Evangelical Christianity”
- 4.6 Book Manuscripts – “The Problems That Confront American Evangelical Christianity”

- 4.7 Book Manuscripts – “The Problems That Confront American Evangelical Christianity”
- 4.8 Book Manuscripts – “The Psychology of Religion”
- 4.9 Book Manuscripts – “The Origin and Growth of Religion”

Box 5

- 5.1 Book Manuscripts – “Religion, Its Reach and Its Reality”
- 5.2 Book Reviews
- 5.3 Booklets – “Our Mission as Baptists,” by J. H. Cuthbert, “How I Became a Baptist,” by G. B. Rieman, “The Essence of Protestantism,” by E. E. Richardson, The Bible as a law book in National University Law Review of May, 1929
- 5.4 Chaplain’s Commission – Army and Navy
- 5.5 Christian Education materials – Booklets – “The Emerging Issue,” “The Ministerial Crisis in the South,” “The Preservation of Christian Education in Tennessee,” 1916 – 1911, Report of the Education Board of Tennessee Baptist Convention, clippings and other materials
- 5.6 Christian education materials
- 5.7 Clippings –miscellaneous
- 5.8 Correspondence, Feb., 1921 – Feb., 1930 (ALS from A.H. Newman)
- 5.9 Correspondence, Mar., 1930 – April, 1930
- 5.10 Correspondence, May, 1930 – June, 1946

Box 6

- 6.1 Education Board of the SBC – “The Valedictory of the Education Board,” clippings, figures, booklets including proceedings of 1928 Southern Baptist Education Assoc.
- 6.2 Educational Secret for Tennessee
- 6.3 Georgia Public Schools
- 6.4 Illiteracy materials – booklets, papers, clippings, reports
- 6.5 Joint Conference Committee on Public Relations – booklets, correspondence, clippings
- 6.6 Lectures
- 6.7 Mercer – clippings
- 6.8 Mercer – correspondence, June 3, 1921 – Dec. 31, 1926
- 6.9 Mercer – correspondence, Jan. 1 – Jan. 7, 1927
- 6.10 Mercer – correspondence, Jan. 8 – 11, 1927
- 6.11 Mercer – correspondence, Jan.12, 1927 – Mar.10, 1931
- 6.12 Mercer – Historical materials

Box 7

- 7.1 Mercer – Historical Materials
- 7.2 Mercer – Historical Materials
- 7.3 Mercer – Historical Materials
- 7.4 Mercer – Historical Materials
- 7.5 Mercer – Newman, A. H. 50th anniversary of teaching
- 7.6 Mercer –speeches, “The Dutch Anabaptists,” “The Fundamentalism of Jesus,” “Mercer U. as an Evangelizing Agency,” “The Emerging Issue,” “The Spiritual Values of the 75 million Campaign,” and others
- 7.7 Mercer – speeches to students
- 7.8 Miscellaneous – “Open Encounter,” by Katharine Hayden Salter, and a letter

Box 8

- 8.1 Miscellaneous – “Reply to Carlson,” by Katharine Hayden Salter –loose pages
- 8.2 Miscellaneous – Book galley proof of “Studies in Anabaptist and Mennonite History,” Vol. V
- 8.3 Missions – two addresses
- 8.4 Notes – varied subjects
- 8.5 Personal – clippings, memorabilia, including a clipping from 1903
- 8.6 Philosophy and Psychology – their relation to religion
- 8.7 Philosophy and Psychology – their relation to religion

Box 9

- 9.1 Philosophy and Psychology – their relation to religion and life –“The Basic Theses for A Christianized Philosophy,” “The War of Ideologies and the Christian Faith,” “Are Being and Naught the Same?” “The Search for Truth,” “Psychology of Religion,” “The Psychology of Sin,” “Consciousness,” “The Basal Issue in Religion”
- 9.2 Philosophy and Psychology, their relation to religion and life – “The Reconstruction of Theology,” “The Philosophies of the American Revolution,” “The Psychology of the Atonement,” “The Contact Point of Vital Christianity,” “Psychology of Religion,” “Summary”
- 9.3 Philosophy of History –“Current Problems in the Philosophy of History,” a booklet, “The Logic of Christianity”
- 9.4 Pictures
- 9.5 Quotations
- 9.6 Religious Conditions in World – a survey
- 9.7 Religious Liberty materials – “What is Christianity?” “Freedom of Religion,” “The Blitzkrieg Against God,” “How International Liberty was Lost in 1919,” “The Regaining of Our Lost Inheritance”
- 9.8 Religious Liberty materials –“An Evangelical Approach to Contemporary World Problems,” “What Lies Behind the Constitution?” “The Road to the Freedom of Religion”
- 9.9 Religious Liberty materials –“A Tentative Ten Year Campaign for Religious Freedom,” “The Vatican Envoy,” “Baptist Watchmen and the New World Order”
- 9.10 Religious Liberty materials – Constitution of C.U.R.E. – Citizens United for Religious Emancipation, “The Closing of the American Legation at Rome in 1867,” “Baptist Youth and International Religious Liberty,” “Religious Liberty in Italy,” other papers and reports.

Box 10

- 10.1 Religious Liberty materials – “The World Crisis and Religious Liberty,” “Religion and the Federal Congress,” “Politics and Religion,” and others
- 10.2 Religious Liberty – booklets and a certificate
- 10.3 Religious Liberty – clippings
- 10.4 Rice, Luther materials – notebook and photocopy of certificate for R.B.C. Howell as agent of Columbian College, Luther Rice, treasurer.

- 10.5 Rice, Luther materials – notebook
- 10.6 Rice, Luther materials – Copy of journal of Luther Rice 1815 – Oct. 9, 1818.
- 10.7 Rice, Luther materials – Copy of journal of Luther Rice Oct. 9, 1818 – Feb. 11, 1819.

Box 11

- 11.1 Rice, Luther materials – Addresses, notes, minutes.
- 11.2 Rice, Luther materials – Addresses, notes
- 11.3 Rice, Luther materials – Clippings
- 11.4 Science and religion materials
- 11.5 Sermons – List of sermon subjects 1908 – 1915. Sermons with texts in Genesis, Exodus, Deuteronomy, Joshua, II Sam.
- 11.6 Sermons – Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Micah, Habakuk.
- 11.7 Sermons – Matt.
- 11.8 Sermons – Matt.

Box 12

- 12.1 Sermons – Mark
- 12.2 Sermons – Luke
- 12.3 Sermons – John
- 12.4 Sermons – Acts
- 12.5 Sermons – Romans
- 12.6 Sermons – I Corinthians
- 12.7 Sermons – II Corinthians
- 12.8 Sermons – Galatians, Ephesians
- 12.9 Sermons – Philippians, Colossians

Box 13

- 13.1 Sermons – I and II Tim., Philemon
- 13.2 Sermons – Hebrews
- 13.3 Sermons – I and II Peter, I John, Revelation
- 13.4 Sermons – no scripture text and miscellaneous notes
- 13.5 Sermons – no scripture text and miscellaneous notes
- 13.6 Short Story – “A Tale of Two Cities”
- 13.7 Washington, D. C. – First Baptist Church and Columbia Association & Convention – Booklets, speeches, clippings, minutes, reports including 125th anniversary historical sketch of the First Baptist Church.
- 13.8 World League of Truth Seekers – speeches
- 13.9 Book MSS – miscellaneous chapters, 2 outlines
- 13.10 Books MSS – miscellaneous chapters

Box 14

- 14.1 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Alabama
- 14.2 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Alabama

- 14.3 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Arizona
- 14.4 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Arkansas
- 14.5 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, District of Columbia
- 14.6 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Florida
- 14.7 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Georgia
- 14.8 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Illinois
- 14.9 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Illinois

Box 15

- 15.1 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Indiana
- 15.2 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Kansas
- 15.3 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Kentucky
- 15.4 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Kentucky
- 15.5 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Louisiana
- 15.6 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Mississippi

Box 16

- 16.1 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Missouri
- 16.2 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, New Mexico
- 16.3 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, New York
- 16.4 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, North Carolina
- 16.5 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Oklahoma
- 16.6 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, South Carolina
- 16.7 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Tennessee
- 16.8 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Texas

Box 17

- 17.1 Religious Freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Texas
- 17.2 Religious Freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Texas
- 17.3 Religious Freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Virginia
- 17.4 Religious Freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, West Virginia
- 17.5 Religious Freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, West Virginia
- 17.6 Religious Freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, miscellaneous
- 17.7 Religious Liberty Petitions correspondence