

**INVENTORY TO THE
BAPTIST WORLD ALLIANCE COLLECTION**

AR. 550



Baptist World Alliance Youth Committee and visitors, 1935

Southern Baptist Historical Library & Archives
2001

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I. Historical Note

The Baptist World Alliance, the official global fellowship of Baptists, uniting 201 Baptist conventions/unions was started in London, England, in 1905 at the first Baptist World Congress.

For more than a hundred years, Baptist leaders had written of the need of an organization to bring Baptists, a highly autonomous people, together. Ninety five years later, the BWA still exists to provide fellowship, meet human need, lead in evangelism and work for justice.

The Baptist World Alliance is best described as a fellowship of believers around the world. Because Baptists do not have one central authority they choose to work together in the BWA.

The BWA: (1) encourages our brothers and sisters as they struggle under very difficult circumstances to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ, (2) learns first-hand from believers around the world how God is working among them, (3) networks with Baptist leaders from six continents and become conduits of hope, (4) prays with Baptists who suffer from religious, government or economic injustice and work with them for religious freedom and justice, and (5) deepens and strengthens our Baptist roots and identity.

The BWA promotes fellowship: (1) by visits of the President, General Secretary and Directors to Baptist unions and conventions, (2) through the Communications Division which sends and receives information of Baptists around the world, (3) through the Baptist World Congresses which bring the Baptist family together to share the Christian experience and join in worship, and (4) through regional group meetings which encourages participation of all member bodies in regional meetings for the experience of sharing and exchanging of ideas and concerns and giving thanksgiving to God.

In order to encourage Baptists in a certain geographical location to come together for fellowship, evangelism and mission, and theological training the Baptist World Alliance has established six regional fellowships. They are the North American Baptist Fellowship, Asian Baptist Federation, All Africa Baptist Fellowship, Caribbean Baptist Fellowship, Union of Baptists in Latin America, and European Baptist Federation. Each region is served by an Executive Secretary who is also the BWA Regional Secretary.

The Baptist World Alliance defends the right of every man, woman and child to exercise their freedom of religion. From our early history Baptists have suffered, fought for, and defended religious freedom for all people. The BWA speaks to governments on behalf of Baptists in many parts of the world continually struggle to freely worship.

II. Scope and Content

The Baptist World Alliance Collection is an artificial collection gathered through the years from a variety of sources. It includes information on the meetings of the Congress of the BWA and other conferences sponsored by the Alliance. The collection also includes programs, brochures, world maps, minutes of the Executive Committee and General Council, publications, study papers, and files on departments within the Alliance. The collection is arranged in alphabetical order by folder title and consists of 3.75 linear ft. Additions to the collections are expected. The collection spans the years, 1905 to 2000. The official archival records of the Baptist World Alliance are housed at the American Baptist Historical Society.

III. File folder listing

Box 1

FF

1. Baptist Heritage Study Commission, 1988
2. Baptist Heritage Study Commission – Minutes, 1992
3. Baptist Heritage Study Commission – Paper – “Affirming Baptist identity in a world of religious pluralism” – Horace O. Russell, 1994
4. Baptist Heritage Study Commission – Paper – “Patterns of public worship amongst Baptists in Australia” by Ken Manley, 1993
5. Baptist World Aid
6. Baptist World Alliance Day
7. Baptist World Fellowship Convocation, 1967
8. Bible Study and Membership Training Workshop, 1965
9. Brochure, booklets
10. Calendar, 1989-1990
11. Congress, 1905 - London
12. Congress, 1923 – Stockholm, Sweden
13. Congress, 1928 – Toronto, Canada
14. Congress, 1934 – Berlin
15. Congress, 1939 – Atlanta, GA

16. Congress, 1947 – Denmark
17. Congress, 1955 – London
18. Congress, 1960 – Argentina
19. Congress, 1965 – Miami Beach, FL.
20. Congress, 1970 – Tokyo, Japan
21. Congress, 1975 – Stockholm, Sweden
22. Congress, 1980 – Toronto, Canada
23. Congress, 1985 – Los Angeles, CA
24. Congress, 2000 - Melbourne, Australia
25. Constitution – Amendments, 1980
26. Correspondence – General, 1961-2000
27. Crusade of the Americas – Promotion Report, 1966

Box 2

FF

1. Directory, 1926
2. Directory, 1927
3. Directory, 1928
4. Directory – Seminaries, Colleges and Schools, 1990
5. Evangelism and Education Committee Minutes, 1984
6. Evangelism and Education Division – Newsletters, 1983-84
7. Evangelism and Education Division – Study Papers, 1982
8. Financial Reports, 1966-67
9. Friend Letter, 1995
10. General Council – Meeting, 1981

11. General Council, 1982
12. General Council, 1986
13. Handbook, 1933
14. History
15. History – Mullins and Rushbrooke
16. Men's Conference, 1969
17. Men's Conference, 1987
18. Men's Department, 1992
19. Minutes – Executive Committee, Aug. 1966
20. Minutes – Executive Committee, 1967
21. Minutes – Executive Committee, 1969-70
22. Minutes – Executive Committee, 1971-72
23. Minutes – Executive Committee, 1973-74
24. Minutes – Executive Committee and General Council, 1975-76
25. Minutes – General Council, 1977
26. Minutes – Executive Committee, 1978-79 (and BWA Directory)
27. Minutes – Executive Committee, 1988-2000
28. Music – BWA Meeting – Jamaica, 1992

Box 3

FF

1. Newsletter
2. North American Baptist Fellowship – Fact Book, 1986
3. Press Releases
4. Relief Committee, 1947-1950

5. Religious Liberty Manifesto, 1960
6. Study Papers “Africa for Christ” 1982
7. Study and Research Division – Information
8. Study Commission Papers – “Doctrine of the Church” 1950
9. Study Commission Papers, 1974
10. Study Commission Papers, 1981-82
11. Women’s Division
12. Yearbook, 1982
13. Yearbook, 1983
14. Yearbook, 1984
15. Yearbook, 1986
16. Yearbook, 1987
17. Yearbook, 1988
18. Yearbook, 1990
19. Yearbook, 1994
20. Youth Conference, 1958, 1968
21. Youth Congress, 1949
22. Youth Congress, 1953
23. Youth Department