

Robert Emory Beetham Diary

1901-1904



DREW

Robert Emory Beetham Diary

1901-1904

0.17 cubic feet

drew.ms.gc43184318

The purpose of this finding aid is to help you understand the nature of this collection and to assist you in the retrieval of material from this collection. The following pages contain a brief biographical history of the person, or persons, who created or collected these papers, followed by a general description of the collection in the scope and content note. If more detailed information is warranted then series descriptions also appear. The container listing appears last and is the listing of material in each box, or container, of this collection. To request material you need to turn to the container listing section. It is essentially a listing of file folders, or artifact items, in the collection. Each folder, or item, has a call number associated with it. Each folder also lists the inclusive dates of the material in the folder. On the material request form list both the call number and the folder, or item, title. Use a different line for each folder, or item, requested. When your request sheet is complete, or full, bring it to the archivist and the material will be retrieved.

Biographical Note

Robert Emory Beetham (1873-1947) was born in Bedford, Ohio, the son of a Methodist clergyman. Beetham was educated at Scio College, New York University, and Drew Theological Seminary. Bishop Hartzell recruited him upon his graduation from Drew to become a missionary educator in Old Umtali in Rhodesia. He served there for three years. He then served as president of Scio College in Harrison County, Ohio. Beetham was president until Scio's merger with Mt. Union College in 1910. At that time he became vice-president of Mt. Union. After this appointment he served as a chaplain in World War I. After his service as chaplain he was a pastor of churches in several conferences, and finally was pastor at Wesley Church, Salem, and Trinity, West Medford, in the New England Conference. After forty years in Ministry he retired to Daytona Beach, Florida where he died on December 4, 1947. He is buried in Cadiz, Ohio. His wife of forty-three years survived him.

Scope and Content Note

The Beetham collection is a diary covering the years 1900-1904. This diary is very carefully written and is very legible. It covers his years as a student at Drew Seminary and missionary work in Africa. The material from the Drew period is especially interesting in recalling his activities as a student and characterization of several of the prominent professors of that time. There are also some special notes describing his student activities. The diary also covers a number of his experiences and travels in Africa. Of particular note is the careful description he gives of sites on his journeys and of ancient ruins he explored. There are also a few letters, clippings, and a menu from his Drew Seminary senior banquet which carries the autographs of several of his professors. These documents were loose items from the diary.

Arrangement

Material has been arranged in the following manner. The materials are arranged by record type.

Related Material

Microfilm Edition of the Mission Biographical Reference Files

Microfilm Edition of the Missionary correspondence of the Board of Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church



Access Restrictions

There are no restrictions regarding this collection. Copyright still owned by Drew. Permissions to publish must be directed to Drew.

Use Access

Detailed use restrictions relating to our collections can be requested from the office of the archivist at the General Commission on Archives and History. Photocopying is handled by the staff and may be limited in certain instances. Before using any material for publication from this collection a formal request for permission to publish is expected and required.

Preferred Citation

When citing material from this collection please use the following format: Direct reference to the item or its file folder, Robert Emory Beetham Collection, Methodist Collection - Drew University, Madison, New Jersey. Do not make use of the item's call number as that is not a stable descriptor.

Index Terms

Subject Terms

Church colleges.
Missions-Africa
Theological seminaries, Methodist

Geographic Terms

Africa, East
Massachusetts
New Jersey
Ohio

Subject Names - Person

Subject Names - Corporate Bodies

Methodist Episcopal Church

Genre Terms

Clippings
Correspondence
Diaries

Occupation Terms

College President
Minister
Missionary
Teacher

Table of Contents

Container List

Call Number	Folder Title	Date(s)
2128-3-3:1	Diary	1901-1904
2128-3-3:2	Documents from Diary	1901-1904

