

John L. Hill Collection

**INVENTORY TO THE
JOHN L. HILL PAPERS**

AR. 100



Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives

John Leonard Hill Papers
AR. 100

I. Biographical Sketch:

John Leonard Hill was born September 15, 1878 at Smither's Bottom, Owen County, Kentucky. He spent his childhood days in Kentucky, completing high school in Williamtown, Grant County, in 1894. He received his A.M. degree from Georgetown College in 1899 and another A.M. degree in 1912 from Columbia University.

Hill taught at Kentucky high schools from 1900 to 1909, was professor of history and political science at Georgetown from 1909 to 1922 and professor in religious education at George Peabody College for Teachers from 1923 to 1934. Dr. Hill served as book editor from 1923 to 1950. For the next three years he was director of promotion for Ridgecrest and Glorieta Baptist Assemblies.

Hill, a long time member of First Baptist Church in Nashville, was noted for his Sunday School lessons broadcast on WSM radio for more than 25 years. He became teacher of the Fidelis Bible class for women on October 7, 1923 and was still considered teacher of the class at the time of his death.

He served as president of the Tennessee Baptist Foundation, president of the board of trustees of Tennessee Baptist Orphanage and Tennessee College for Woman and vice-president of the American Bible Society. He authored numerous articles and books published by the Sunday School Board.

He died on November 15, 1964 in Nashville.

II. Scope and Content:

The John L. Hill papers include 1.25 linear ft. of material and cover the years 1922 to 1959. The collection includes articles (by and about Hill), clippings, correspondence, publications, programs and photographs. Correspondence and photographs make up about half of the collection. The correspondence is mostly personal with some semi-official letters. Included are letters concerning Hill's coming to the Sunday School Board as book editor in 1922 and a series of correspondence between Hill, W. O. Carver, Rufus W. Weaver and W. W. Barnes on the publication of a book on Baptist History.

John L. Hill Collection

The photographs cover the period from 1926 to the 1950's. They include individual photographs of Hill, Hill with groups and family photographs. The collection is arranged alphabetically by folder title.

After the death, the estate of John L. Hill placed the papers in the Dargan-Carver Library in 1965.

III. Manuscript Listing:

Box 1

- Folder 1. Alcohol/ Liquor
- 2. Articles (about Hill)
- 3. Articles (by Hill). Typescripts and pamphlets.
- 4. Books
- 5. Certificates and resolutions
- 6. Clippings
- 7. Correspondence, 1920's (concerns Hill's coming to BSSB as book editor).
- 8. Correspondence, 1930's
- 9. Correspondence, 1940's
- 10. Correspondence, 1950-1956
- 11. Correspondence, 1957
- 12. Correspondence, 1958-59
- 13. Correspondence, n.d. (ca. 1950's)
- 14. Correspondence -Baptist History, 1938-1941 (W. O. Carver, Rufus W. Weaver, W. W. Barnes)
- 15. Evaluations -Hebrews study course
- 16. Fellows, John B., Bible Readers' oasis, 1950
- 17. Fidelian, bulletin of the Fidelis Class, First Baptist Church, Nashville, 1931-1959 (scattered)
- 18. First Baptist Church and Fidelis Sunday School Class
- 19. Grey Eagle Yearbook - East Nashville High School - 1944

Box 2

Folder

- 1. Holt, A. J., "Pioneering in the Southwest" manuscript, 1923.
- 2. Lesson outlines, 1957
- 3. List of tracts, manuscripts, etc. published by BSSB
- 4. New Testament (given to Hill by Helen Conger)
- 5. Notebook- sermon and speech notes
- 6. Outline of Life of Christ in Mark
- 7. Pamphlets -
 - "Organization of SBC"
 - "B. H. Carroll and his books"
 - "Israel's inalienable possessions "

John L. Hill Collection

8. Photographs, 1923-1936
9. Photographs, 1937-1940

Box 3

Folder

1. Photographs, 1941-1944
2. Photographs, 1945
3. Photographs, n.d. (1945?)
4. Portrait (Hill)
5. Programs
6. Sermons and articles (not written by Hill)
7. Tennessee Baptist Children's Home
8. Tennessee College for Women (legal document, 1945-46)