

WILLIAN ASA HARRELL, JR.
COLLECTION, 1926-1970

AR. 795-306



Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives

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I. Biographical Sketch

William Asa Harrell, Jr. was born in Johnson County, Texas on March 14, 1903. He attended Baylor University and George Peabody College. He served as Director of the Baptist Young People's Union in the Alvarado Baptist Association in Texas for 1923-24 and as Associate Secretary for the Sunday School Department of the Baptist General Convention of Texas from 1924-1926.

In December of 1926 he was employed by the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention as Associate in the Sunday School Young People and Adult Department. From 1933 to 1940 he served, as Associate in the Training Union Department and from 1940 to 1971 was Secretary of the Church Architecture Department. Harrell was the first Secretary (head) of the Church Architecture Department. He died on February 28, 1971 just prior to his scheduled retirement from the Sunday School Board.

II. Scope and Content

The collection consists of material that reflected Harrell work in Texas and with the Sunday School Board. Most of the material is related to Sunday school, Baptist Young People's Union, Training Union and Church architecture. The collection includes 2.5 linear feet of material that cover the years, 1926-1970 and are mainly related to (1) Associational work in the 1930's and 1940's (2) Baptist Training Union and Baptist Young People's Union work in the 1930's and 1940's (3) Biographical information (4) Book reviews which illustrated his wide interest in reading (5) Church architecture department information and materials (6) Programs from church building dedications, conference center events, Baptist Young People's Union and Sunday school conferences, 1927-1936 and (7) Sunday school material. Photographs are also included in the collection.

The collection does includes some significant items such as:

- B. W. Spilman correspondence and copies of Spilman's "Teaching a Sunday School lesson"
- I. J. VanNess's "Fellowship"
- W. F. Powell's "The teacher and the Bible"
- Carter Helms Jones "Personality"

The collection is arranged in alphabetical order by folder title. The collection was donated to the Sunday School Board and the Dargan-Carver Library in 1971 and then transferred to the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives in 1993.

III. Container list

Box 1

- Folder
1. Age-group philosophy, Nursery Dept. 1962
 2. Age-group philosophy, Primary Dept. 1962
 3. Age-group philosophy, Junior Dept. 1962
 4. Age-group philosophy, Intermediate Dept. 1965
 5. Age-group philosophy, Young People's Dept. 1960, 1965
 6. Age-group philosophy, Adult Dept. 1960
 7. All-church training schools, including some in First Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn. 1940-44
 8. Articles, general
 9. Associational Baptist Training Union & Baptist Young People's Union.
 10. Associational Baptist Training Union & Baptist Young People's Union. Associational manual by Henry Rogers.
 11. Associational Baptist Training Union and BAPTIST YOUNG PEOPLE'S UNION
 12. Associational 4-year program for Baptist Training Union and Sunday School, 1942
 13. Baptist Training Service (Texas) standard of excellence and calendar of Activities 1934
 14. Baptist Training Union 5-year promotional program Jan.1, 1936 - Jan.1, 1941
 15. Baptist Training Union, especially Senior Baptist Young People's Union. Also some report forms ca. 1935.
 16. Baptist Training Union dept. program material

Box 2

- Folder
1. Baptist Young People's Union, First Baptist Church, Nashville, Tennessee, 1933-42
 2. Baptist Young People's Union and Baptist Training Union - 1st Southwide Conference materials 1930
 3. Baptist Young People's Union and Baptist Training Union - 1st Southwide Conference materials 1930
 4. Baptist Young People's Union and Baptist Training Union - Southwide Conference materials, 2nd, 3rd and 4th; 1932, 33, 36
 5. Baptist Young People's Union and Baptist Training Union report forms
 6. Baptist Young People's Union secretaries, conferences 1931, 1940, 1941-42. Includes a statement re: the literature of the SSB by C. J. Allen
 7. Biographical information including Harrell, P.E. Burroughs, Doherty.
 8. Book reviews
 9. Book reviews
 10. Book reviews - "The Broadman Network" of Broadman Press 1942-43
 11. Christmas and old furniture

Box 3

- Folder
1. Church architecture materials, including drawing of 1962 display for SBC. Sermon by H. E. Ingraham to a Conference 1960, Church Architecture issue of Church Administration magazine, Aug. 1968, questionnaires, etc.
 2. Church architecture, articles and booklets.
 3. Booklet revision of "how to furnish the Sunday School building" 1940
 4. Church architecture dept. architect's conference 1966
 5. Church architecture dept. bulletin inserts 1966-69
 6. Church architecture dept. channeling 1969-70

7. Church architecture dept. church buildings in the 70s with film strip and slides
8. Church architecture dept. churches served 1940-41
9. Church architecture dept. conference during Sunday School and Baptist Training Union assemblies, 1940-1941
10. Church architectural data sheets ca. 1965
11. Church architecture dept. staff minutes 196,j
12. Church architecture dept. forms and services 1965-66
13. Church architecture dept. conference at Glorieta 1967
14. Church architecture dept. long-range planning committee 1969 - Haywood Hills Bapt. Church, Nashville, TN
15. Church architecture dept. planning and survey committees suggested guide and reports of 2 church committees.

Box 4

- Folder
1. Church architecture research projects -reports and evaluation 1962-66
 2. Church architecture -Ridgecrest program 1967
 3. Church architecture seminar -Planning and leading a church building program. Jan. 1967
 4. Church architecture -Texas competition photos 1967
 5. Church buildings -addresses by W. A. Harrell for conferences
 6. Church buildings - addresses by Harrell and others. Also, 1941 Church architecture dept. report
 7. Church buildings -dedication programs
 8. "Hints and helps" of the old Educational dept. of Sunday School Board, scattered copies 1928-29. Also a copy of "Monthly bulletin" of the Dept. of Sunday School Administration June, 1940.
 9. "News and Views" of Sales and Advertising dept. of SSB, April and July, 1941
 10. Pastors' homes 1941

Box 5

- Folder
1. Personal - including clippings, poems, etc.
 2. Photographs
 3. Programs of Ridgecrest and State Sunday School and Training Union 1927-38 (scattered ones), report of Committee on order of business for SBC 1927, 1933, Field Workers' association 1930-38, etc.
 4. Quotations
 5. Schedule of engagements, 1929-35
 6. Southern Baptist Convention bulletins, 1929-36
 7. Sunday School Associational meetings 1941-43, etc.
 8. Sunday School conferences, Southern Baptist 1st-5th programs, 1927-35.
 9. Sunday School meetings 1933. Spilman correspondence and address re: teaching a Sunday school lesson and one by I. J. VanNess on "Fellowship", "The teacher and his Bible" by W. F. Powell and "Personality" by Carter Helm Jones are included.
 10. Training Union lab for general officers and pastors 1936-38,40 at Ridgecrest.
 11. Young People's and Adult dept. materials 1926-32