

BAPTIST HALL OF FAME MEMORIALS COLLECTION

AR 801



Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives

By Joshua Baxter, 2002

Updated October, 2011

BAPTIST HALL OF FAME MEMORIALS

COLLECTION

AR 801

Summary

Main Entry: Baptist Hall of Fame Memorials Collection

Date Span: 1876 – 1942

Abstract: The collection contains memorials made to the Church Building Loan Fund from 1913 – 1923. The memorials are divided within the publications by Woman’s Missionary Union, Sunday School Board, personal, and church memorials. Each memorial contains photographs of those being memorialized, as well as the amount of money placed in their memory and to what degree it would benefit the churches. The memorials include images of individuals and church buildings. In 1923, a large volume was compiled of all ten years with an index of all the names memorialized.

Size: .75 linear ft.

Collection #: AR 801

Biographical Sketch

In 1910, it was reported to the Southern Baptist Convention that there were approximately 4,500 congregations without their own buildings. In spite of various attempts throughout the second half of the nineteenth century to raise money for a building fund for churches, only \$4,100 had been raised by 1901. The Woman’s Missionary Union of the Southern Baptist Convention was asked to help raise funds for this endeavor and began work in 1903. The fund started by the Woman’s Missionary Union became known as the Tichenor Memorial Fund, in memory of the late corresponding secretary of the Home Mission Board, Isaac Taylor Tichenor. In 1912, the Southern Baptist Convention authorized the Home Mission Board to set a goal of gathering one million dollars for the Church Building Loan Fund. This task was placed under the direction of the superintendent of the newly formed Department of Church Extension, Dr. Louis B. Warren.

In 1913, Dr. Warren set forth two plans to aid in reaching the set goal of one million dollars for the Church Building Loan Fund – an annuity plan and a memorial fund. The first written record of the Baptist Hall of Fame was in the 1914 Annual of the Southern Baptist Convention. It was stated that a memorial could be made for a gift of \$500 dollars or more and that the pictures of the donor and those memorialized would be published in an annual. To help promote this idea, Dr. Warren published a pamphlet titled “Memorial Funds” in which he asked: “Which is the better monument – a dead stone bearing the words, “At Rest,” or a living Church voicing throughout the years, “At Work?” Warren stated further, “The Cost of the living Church is the cost of the dead stone (\$500).” The volumes were published annually from 1913 until 1923.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Memorial Baptist Hall of Fame collection contains memorials made to the Church Building Loan Fund from 1913 to 1923. The memorials are divided within the publications by Woman's Missionary Union, Sunday School Board, Personal, and Church memorials. Each memorial contains pictures of those being memorialized, as well as how much was placed in memory of them and to what degree it would benefit the churches. The memorials include images of individuals and church buildings. In 1923, a large volume was compiled of all ten years with an index of all the names that had been memorialized. The size of the collection is .75 linear feet. The collection is arranged in chronological order.

Some cameo images found in the memorial volumes are located in the Photograph Collection from the Home Mission Board.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged in chronological order

Provenance

Transferred from the Home Mission Board

Preferred Citation

Baptist Hall of Fame Memorials Collection, Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, Nashville, Tennessee

Access Restrictions

None

Subject Terms

Warren, Louis Bacon, 1876 – 1942

Southern Baptist Convention, Home Mission Board, Department of Church Extension

Church Architecture

Church Finance

Hall of Fame Memorials

Related Materials

Annual of the Southern Baptist Convention, 1913

Annual of the Southern Baptist Convention, 1914

Rutledge, Arthur B. Mission to America. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1969.

Warren, L. B. "Memorial Funds." Atlanta: Home Mission Board. (Pam. 741)

Container List

Box 1

- 1.1 Memorials – Baptist Hall of Fame, 1915 – 1916
- 1.2 Memorials – Baptist Hall of Fame, 1917 – 1918 (2 copies)
- 1.3 Memorials – Baptist Hall of Fame, 1920 – 1921 (1)
- 1.4 Memorials – Baptist Hall of Fame, 1920 – 1921 (2)

Box 2

- 2.1 Memorials – Baptist Hall of Fame, 1921 – 1922 (1)
- 2.2 Memorials – Baptist Hall of Fame, 1921 – 1922 (2)
- 2.3 Memorials – Baptist Hall of Fame, 1913 – 1923 (1)
- 2.4 Memorials – Baptist Hall of Fame, 1913 – 1923 (2)
- 2.5 Memorials – Baptist Hall of Fame, 1913 – 1923 (3)
- 2.6 Memorials – Baptist Hall of Fame, 1913 – 1923 (4)