

Student Summer Missions Collection

AR 84



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Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives
February 2008

I. Historical Sketch

William Hall Preston served as Associate Secretary for the Student Department (later the National Student Ministries Department) of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board from 1927-1964. He helped develop and coordinate the Baptist Student Union's Student Summer Missions Program. Preston authored three books, *God Has Something Great for You*, *Church Loyalty*, and *Fathers are Special, Too*. Before working at the Sunday School Board, Preston was president of Hall-Moody Junior College (later the University of Tennessee-Martin), and was Training Union Secretary for the Tennessee Baptist Convention. Preston was born February 22, 1896 in Blackwood, New Jersey, and died October 20, 1987.

Preston helped coordinate the Sunday School Board's Student Summer Missions Program along with the Student Summer Missions Program (1942-1969) sponsored by the Home Mission Board's Department of Special Mission Ministries.¹ He also worked with the Foreign Mission Board for the Program. Student missionaries worked in states such as Washington, Oregon, Texas, and New Mexico, and countries including Italy, Jamaica, Ghana, and Cuba. The Sunday School Board's Program gave students practical experience on the mission field, and provided training for leading Vacation Bible School. The Missions Program continued through the 1960s under the Special Missions Ministries Department until it transitioned to the Christian Service Corps in 1970.

¹ For more information about Student Summer Missions, see Courts Redford, "Student Summer Missions," in *Encyclopedia of Southern Baptists* vol. 2 1971, ed., Lynn E. May and A. Ronald Tonks, *Southern Baptist Student Work: A History* (Nashville, TN: Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, 1961), and *SBC Student Work Studies* (Nashville, TN: SBC Executive Committee, 1969).

II. Scope and Content Note

The Student Summer Missions Collection contains William Hall Preston's papers, and documents the Summer Missions Program's development and implementation from 1947-1959 at the Sunday School Board's Student Department. The Collection has 6.5 linear feet of materials in 13 document boxes. Materials in the Collection include correspondence, applications with photographs, reports on the program, and questionnaires answered by both students and the missionaries with whom they worked.

The Collection is arranged chronologically and then alphabetically by folder title. Much of the correspondence are accounts from student missionaries sent to Preston. Some correspondence covers administrative matters, and relates primarily to coordination efforts between the Sunday School Board and the Home and Foreign Mission Boards. In their applications, students discussed why they want to serve, and some also included detailed autobiographies. While some students had ministry experience, many came with various backgrounds such as science and foreign language.

Other collections that might be useful for researchers are the Baptist Student Union Collection (AR 33), the Sunday School Department Collection (AR 565), and the Home Mission Board Executive Office Files (AR 631-3).

III. Folder Listing

Box 1

- 1.1 1947-1955 – Summer Service Projects
- 1.2 1947-1958 – Hawaii – Student Missionaries
- 1.3 1953 – Cuba
- 1.4 1953 – Mexico
- 1.5 1954 – Jamaica
- 1.6 1954 – Jamaica – Applications – A-O
- 1.7 1954 – Jamaica – Applications – S-Z
- 1.8 1954 – Jamaica – SC to VA

Box 2

- 2.1 1954 – Questionnaires – Summer Missionaries
- 2.2 1954 – Study of Summer Missions
- 2.3 1954 – Summer Missions – General
- 2.4 1954-1955 – Alaska
- 2.5 1955 – Glorieta (August)
- 2.6 1955 – Jamaica – Applications
- 2.7 1955 – Jamaica – Correspondence
- 2.8 1955 – Jamaica – “Especially for Young Men Going to Jamaica”
- 2.9 1955 – Ridgecrest (June)
- 2.10 1955 – Summer Missions Questionnaire

Box 3

- 3.1 1955-1956 – Correspondence – A
- 3.2 1955-1956 – Correspondence – B
- 3.3 1955-1956 – Correspondence – C
- 3.4 1955-1956 – Correspondence – D
- 3.5 1955-1956 – Correspondence – E
- 3.6 1955-1956 – Correspondence – F
- 3.7 1955-1956 – Correspondence – G
- 3.8 1955-1956 – Correspondence – H
- 3.9 1955-1956 – Correspondence – I-J

Box 4

- 4.1 1955-1956 – Correspondence – K
- 4.2 1955-1956 – Correspondence – L
- 4.3 1955-1956 – Correspondence – Mc
- 4.4 1955-1956 – Correspondence – M
- 4.5 1955-1956 – Correspondence – N
- 4.6 1955-1956 – Correspondence – P

- 4.7 1955-1956 – Correspondence – Q-R
- 4.8 1955-1956 – Correspondence – S
- 4.9 1955-1956 – Correspondence – T-U-V
- 4.10 1955-1956 – Correspondence – W
- 4.11 1955-1956 – Correspondence – X-Y-Z

Box 5

- 5.1 1956 – Alaska
- 5.2 1956 – Cuba
- 5.3 1956 – Foreign Mission Board – Correspondence
- 5.4 1956 – Glorieta
- 5.5 1956 – Hawaii – Applications (Alpha. By State)
- 5.6 1956 – Hawaii – Correspondence
- 5.7 1956 – Home Mission Board Correspondence Folder 1 of 2
- 5.8 1956 – Home Mission Board Correspondence Folder 2 of 2
- 5.9 1956 – Homeland (Alabama-Louisiana) – Applications
- 5.10 1956 – Homeland (Mississippi-Tennessee) – Applications
- 5.11 1956 – Inquiries
- 5.12 1956 – Jamaica – Applications
- 5.13 1956 – Jamaica – Bulletin
- 5.14 1956 – Jamaica – Correspondence

Box 6

- 6.1 1956 – Mexico – Applications
- 6.2 1956 – Mexico – Correspondence
- 6.3 1956 – Mission Congress (December)
- 6.4 1956 – Nigeria – Applications/Correspondence
- 6.5 1956 – Panama
- 6.6 1956 – Preston, William Hall – Past Engagements
- 6.7 1956 – Ridgecrest – Baptist Student Retreat
- 6.8 1956 – State Secretaries (Alabama-Louisiana) – Correspondence
- 6.9 1956 – State Secretaries (Mississippi-Virginia) – Correspondence
- 6.10 1956 – Summer Missions
- 6.11 1956 – Summers Missionaries Letters to Preston

Box 7

- 7.1 1956-1957 – Correspondence with Summer Missionaries
- 7.2 1957 – Agricultural Migrants
- 7.3 1957 – Alaska
- 7.4 1957 – Alaska – Applications
- 7.5 1957 – Alaska – Correspondence
- 7.6 1957 – Arizona
- 7.7 1957 – Colorado

- 7.8 1957 – Cuba
- 7.9 1957 – Cuba – Correspondence
- 7.10 1957 – Foreign Mission Board – Correspondence
- 7.11 1957 – French
- 7.12 1957 – General Information
- 7.13 1957 – Glorieta – Correspondence
- 7.14 1957 – Great Lakes
- 7.15 1957 – Hawaii
- 7.16 1957 – Hawaii – Applications
- 7.17 1957 – Hawaii – Correspondence
- 7.18 1957 – Home Mission Board
- 7.19 1957 – Home Mission Board – Correspondence

Box 8

- 8.1 1957 – Homeland – Applications
- 8.2 1957 – Homeland – Correspondence Folder 1 of 2
- 8.3 1957 – Homeland – Correspondence Folder 2 of 2
- 8.4 1957 – Indians – List
- 8.5 1957 – Mexico – Applications/Correspondence
- 8.6 1957 – Mexico – List
- 8.7 1957 – New Mexico – List
- 8.8 1957 – Nigeria – Applications
- 8.9 1957 – Nigeria – Bulletins & List
- 8.10 1957 – Nigeria – Correspondence
- 8.11 1957 – Ohio-Michigan – List
- 8.12 1957 – Oklahoma
- 8.13 1957 – Oregon – Washington (Northwest)
- 8.14 1957 – Panama

Box 9

- 9.1 1957 – Postcards from Summer Missionaries
- 9.2 1957 – Postcards from Summer Missionaries –
Alaska/California/Oregon/Washington
- 9.3 1957 – Postcards from Summer Missionaries – Hawaii
- 9.4 1957 – Postcards from Summer Missionaries – Idaho/Colorado
- 9.5 1957 – Postcards from Summer Missionaries – Mexico
- 9.6 1957 – Postcards from Summer Missionaries – New Mexico
- 9.7 1957 – Postcards from Summer Missionaries – Ohio/Michigan
- 9.8 1957 – Ridgecrest – Correspondence
- 9.9 1957 – Schedule/Itinerary
- 9.10 1957 – Special List
- 9.11 1957 – State Student Work Secretaries (Alabama-Missouri) – Correspondence
- 9.12 1957 – State Student Work Secretaries (New Mexico-Virginia) – Correspondence
- 9.13 1957 – West – List of Summer Missionaries

- 9.14 1958 – Alaska – Applications
- 9.15 1958 – Alaska – Correspondence
- 9.16 1958 – Arizona – List
- 9.17 1958 – Baptist World Alliance Youth Congress – Toronto
- 9.18 1958 – California – List
- 9.19 1958 – Chicago – Correspondence
- 9.20 1958 – Colorado – List
- 9.21 1958 – Foreign Mission Board – Correspondence
- 9.22 1958 – French
- 9.23 1958 – Ghana – Applications

Box 10

- 10.1 1958 – Ghana – Correspondence
- 10.2 1958 – Glorieta
- 10.3 1958 – Good Will Centers List
- 10.4 1958 – Hawaii – Applications
- 10.5 1958 – Hawaii – Correspondence
- 10.6 1958 – Hawaii – List
- 10.7 1958 – Home Mission Board – Correspondence
- 10.8 1958 – Homeland – Applications
- 10.9 1958 – Idaho – List
- 10.10 1958 – Indians – List
- 10.11 1958 – New Mexico
- 10.12 1958 – New York – List and Correspondence
- 10.13 1958 – Nigeria – Correspondence
- 10.14 1958 – Nigeria – List and Applications
- 10.15 1958 – Ohio, Michigan, Indiana – List
- 10.16 1958 – Oregon/Washington – List
- 10.17 1958 – Paraguay – List/Correspondence
- 10.18 1958 – Philippines – Applications/List
- 10.19 1958 – Philippines – Correspondence
- 10.20 1958 – Procedures – State Student Summer Missions Committees

Box 11

- 11.1 1958 – Reports on Study of 1958 Summer Mission Program
- 11.2 1958 – Ridgecrest
- 11.3 1958 – State Secretaries – Correspondence
- 11.4 1958 – State Secretaries – Meeting
- 11.5 1958 – Summer Services – General
- 11.6 1958 – Talent Sheets
- 11.7 1958 – Youth Revival Team
- 11.8 1959 – Alaska – Applications
- 11.9 1959 – Alaska – Correspondence
- 11.10 1959 – Alaska – Evaluations

- 11.11 1959 – Alaska – List
- 11.12 1959 – Arizona – List
- 11.13 1959 – Cancelled Summer Missionaries
- 11.14 1959 – Colorado – List
- 11.15 1959 – Foreign Mission Board – Correspondence
- 11.16 1959 – Ghana – Applications
- 11.17 1959 – Ghana – Correspondence
- 11.18 1959 – Glorieta

Box 12

- 12.1 1959 – Good Will Centers – List
- 12.2 1959 – Hawaii – Applications and List
- 12.3 1959 – Hawaii – Correspondence
- 12.4 1959 – Hawaii – Evaluations
- 12.5 1959 – Hawaii – Orientation
- 12.6 1959 – Home Mission Board – Correspondence
- 12.7 1959 – Homeland (USA) – Applications
- 12.8 1959 – Homeland (USA) – Correspondence
- 12.9 1959 – Homeland (USA) – Evaluations
- 12.10 1959 – Language Groups – List
- 12.11 1959 – Michigan – List
- 12.12 1959 – Missionaries – Rome, Italy
- 12.13 1959 – New York City – List
- 12.14 1959 – Nigeria – Correspondence
- 12.15 1959 – Nigeria – List, Applications
- 12.16 1959 – Ohio – List

Box 13

- 13.1 1959 – Oregon-Washington – List
- 13.2 1959 – Paraguay – Applications and List
- 13.3 1959 – Paraguay – Correspondence
- 13.4 1959 – Philippines – Applications and List
- 13.5 1959 – Philippines – Correspondence
- 13.6 1959 – Printed Material
- 13.7 1959 – Ridgecrest
- 13.8 1959 – Special Missions
- 13.9 1959 – State Secretaries – Correspondence Folder 1 of 2
- 13.10 1959 – State Secretaries – Correspondence Folder 2 of 2
- 13.11 1959 – Summer Missionary Selections for State Secretaries
- 13.12 1959 – Summer Missions
- 13.13 1959 – Summer Services – General
- 13.14 1959 – Talent Sheets
- 13.15 1959 – Travel, Inc.
- 13.16 1959 – West Virginia – List

- 13.17 1959 – Wisconsin – Minnesota – List
- 13.18 1960 – Baptist Student Union – Convention Theme
- 13.19 1961 – Ottawa University – Gospel Team Project – “These Sixteen Without”