Rufus Washington Weaver Papers

AR 99

Summary
Main Entry: Rufus Washington Weaver Papers

Date Span: 1903 – 1946

Abstract: Southern Baptist pastor, college president, writer, and denominational leader. Served as president of the Education Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, president of Mercer University, and numerous other Baptist leadership positions. The collection includes correspondence, sermons, bibliographies, biographical information, manuscripts, scrapbooks, clippings, photographs, and other files concerning American Christianity, Baptist history, Christian education, religious liberty, and the philosophy of religion. Also contains research material concerning Luther Rice.

Size: 6 linear ft. (17 boxes)

Collection #: AR 99

Biographical Sketch
Rufus Washington Weaver was born June 3, 1870, in Greensboro, North Carolina, the son of Preston DeKalb and Elizabeth Jane Weaver. Weaver received a B. A. in 1892 and an M. A. in 1993 from Wake Forest College. He was ordained Nov. 21, 1893 and served as pastor for the Salem St. Church in High Point, NC, 1893 – 1896, and for Forks of Elkhorn, KY, 1897 – 1899. Weaver received the Th.M. in 1898 and Th.D. in 1899 from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He also received the D. D. from Wake Forest College and Bethel College in 1912. Weaver was pastor of several churches in Ohio from 1899 to 1908, when he moved to Tennessee to pastor Immanuel Church in Nashville, 1908 – 1917.

Rufus Weaver was married to Charlotte Lewis Mason, Jan. 11, 1911. Mrs. Weaver was a widow with one son, but the Weavers had no children born to them.

In addition to being a Southern Baptist preacher, Dr. Weaver also served as a college president, writer, and denominational leader. He was president of the Education Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, president of Mercer University, and held numerous other Baptist and civic leadership positions.

Dr. Rufus Weaver died in Washington, D.C., Jan. 31, 1947

Scope and Content Note
The Rufus W. Weaver Papers, numbering approximately 1730 items, contains material in the area of Baptist history, Christian education, religious liberty, philosophy, psychology, science, and
politics, and their relationship to religion. In addition, there are six unpublished book manuscripts in the collection.


The papers of Rufus Washington Weaver (1870 – 1947), clergyman, college president, author, and religious statesman, were given to the Historical Commission (Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives) of the Southern Baptist Convention by the family of Dr. Weaver in 1954. They are arranged chronologically within subject headings. The sermons are arranged by books of the Bible. The collection contains 6 linear ft. of material in 17 boxes.

**Arrangement**
Arranged alphabetically by folder title and chronologically within subject headings

**Provenance**
The collection was donated to the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives (Historical Commission) by Dr. Weaver’s family in 1954.

**Preferred Citation**
Rufus Washington Weaver Papers, Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, Nashville, Tennessee

**Access Restrictions**
None

**Subject Terms**
Rice, Luther, 1783 – 1836
Mercer University (Macon, GA)
Baptists – History
Religious liberty
Sermons, American
Related Material
Books and brochures written by Rufus W. Weaver:
History of the Doctrine of Inspiration (1899); The Christian Conversationalist (1903); The Reconstruction of Religion (1904); The Religious Development of the Child (1913); The Christian Faith at the Nation’s Capitol (a volume of sermons) (1936); The Roumanian Crisis (brochure) (1938); The Vatican Envoy (brochure) (1940); The Forum of Freedom (1940); Revolt Against God (1944); Champions of Religious Liberty (1946); The Life and Work of Luther Rice (brochure); The Road to the Freedom of Religion (brochure); and “The Spiritual Apostolate, a Discipline for the Apostles of the Pew.” “The Reasonableness of the Christian Hope” is an unpublished book mentioned in his biography, “A Pilgrim’s Progress.”


Container List

Box 1
1.1 Addresses – Baccalaureate and Commencement (4)
   “The Baptist Principle”
   “The Blitzkrieg Against God”
   “The Christian Way in Meeting the World Emergency”
   “The Fundamentalism of Jesus,” “How May the Cities be Rescued”
1.2 Addresses
   “The Genius of Christianized Culture”
   “Historic Problems of Christianity”
   “Politics and Religion”
   “The Problems of Public Education in Georgia”
   “Re-Thinking Christianity”
   “What is Christianity”
1.3 American Christianity
1.4 Articles
   “The Story of Infant Baptism”
   “The Least”
   “An Evangelical Approach to Contemporary World Problems”
   “The Relation of Organized Christianity to Organized Society”
1.5 Articles – clippings
   “A Response,” April 13, 1939
   “Report of the Efficiency Committee to the Southern Baptist Convention,” Jan. 5, 1928
1.6 Baptist History
   “The Stearns Family”
   “The Invasion of the South by Sainted Yankees”
   “The Baptists and Roger Williams” and other writings
1.7 Baptist History
“The Co-operation of Baptist Churches in the 20th Century”
“The Reorganization of the SBC”
“Present Outlook for Southern Baptists”
“A Brief History of Baptist Cooperative Enterprises”
“Baptist Faith and Principles as Interpreted by our Baptist Fathers”
“Southern Baptists and the Post Apostolic Age”

1.8 Baptist History – Georgia
1.9 Baptist History – Georgia
Liberty County, Macon First Baptist Church, Buckhead Baptist Church, History of the
Christian Index, New Sunbury Assoc.
1.10 Baptisticism – clippings, article
1.11 Bibliographies

Box 2
2.1 Biographical materials – Rufus W. Weaver, his grandfather (Johnson)
Leland, Daniel Marshall, Jesse Mercer, Joshua Mercer, Thomas Meredith in (centennial
issue of Biblical Recorder), Jeremiah Moore, Samuel Judson Porter, Adiel Sherwood,
Charles Haddon Spurgeon, Edward A. Stevens, Wm. Melton Tryon, John L. Waller,
W. H. Whitsitt, R. J. Willingham, Wm. Kelly Wright.
(For materials on Albert Henry Newman see Mercer material)
2.3 Book manuscripts – Introduction to Christianity, Chap. 1-10
2.4 Book manuscripts – Introduction to Christianity, Chap. 11-20
2.5 Book manuscripts – Introduction to Christianity, Chap. 21-29
2.6 Book manuscripts – Introduction to Christianity, Chap. 30-36, 38-39
2.7 Book manuscripts – Introduction to Christianity, Chap. 40-44
2.8 Book manuscripts – Introduction to Christianity
2.9 Book manuscripts – Introduction to Christianity

Box 3
3.1 Book manuscripts – Introduction to Christianity
3.2 Book manuscripts – Introduction to Christianity
3.3 Book manuscripts – Introduction to Christianity
3.4 Book manuscripts – Introduction to Christianity
3.5 Book manuscripts – handwritten
3.6 Book manuscripts – handwritten
3.7 Book manuscripts – handwritten
3.8 Book manuscripts – handwritten

Box 4
4.1 Book Manuscripts – handwritten
4.2 Book Manuscripts – “History of the Southern Baptist Convention”
4.3 Book Manuscripts – “History of the Southern Baptist Convention”
4.4 Book Manuscripts – “History of the Southern Baptist Convention”
4.5 Book Manuscripts – “The Problems That Confront American Evangelical Christianity”
4.6 Book Manuscripts – “The Problems That Confront American Evangelical Christianity”
4.7 Book Manuscripts – “The Problems That Confront American Evangelical Christianity”
4.8 Book Manuscripts – “The Psychology of Religion”
4.9 Book Manuscripts – “The Origin and Growth of Religion”

Box 5
5.1 Book Manuscripts – “Religion, Its Reach and Its Reality”
5.2 Book Reviews
5.4 Chaplain’s Commission – Army and Navy
5.6 Christian education materials
5.7 Clippings – miscellaneous
5.8 Correspondence, Feb., 1921 – Feb., 1930 (ALS from A.H. Newman)
5.9 Correspondence, Mar., 1930 – April, 1930
5.10 Correspondence, May, 1930 – June, 1946

Box 6
6.1 Education Board of the SBC – “The Valedictory of the Education Board,” clippings, figures, booklets including proceedings of 1928 Southern Baptist Education Assoc.
6.2 Educational Secret for Tennessee
6.3 Georgia Public Schools
6.4 Illiteracy materials – booklets, papers, clippings, reports
6.5 Joint Conference Committee on Public Relations – booklets, correspondence, clippings
6.6 Lectures
6.7 Mercer – clippings
6.8 Mercer – correspondence, June 3, 1921 – Dec. 31, 1926
6.9 Mercer – correspondence, Jan. 1 – Jan. 7, 1927
6.10 Mercer – correspondence, Jan. 8 – 11, 1927
6.11 Mercer – correspondence, Jan. 12, 1927 – Mar. 10, 1931
6.12 Mercer – Historical materials

Box 7
7.1 Mercer – Historical Materials
7.2 Mercer – Historical Materials
7.3 Mercer – Historical Materials
7.4 Mercer – Historical Materials
7.5 Mercer – Newman, A. H. 50th anniversary of teaching
7.7 Mercer – speeches to students
7.8 Miscellaneous – “Open Encounter,” by Katharine Hayden Salter, and a letter
Box 8
8.1 Miscellaneous – “Reply to Carlson,” by Katharine Hayden Salter – loose pages
8.2 Miscellaneous – Book galley proof of “Studies in Anabaptist and Mennonite History,” Vol. V
8.3 Missions – two addresses
8.4 Notes – varied subjects
8.5 Personal – clippings, memorabilia, including a clipping from 1903
8.6 Philosophy and Psychology – their relation to religion
8.7 Philosophy and Psychology – their relation to religion

Box 9
9.4 Pictures
9.5 Quotations
9.6 Religious Conditions in World – a survey

Box 10
10.2 Religious Liberty – booklets and a certificate
10.3 Religious Liberty – clippings
10.4 Rice, Luther materials – notebook and photocopy of certificate for R.B.C. Howell as agent of Columbian College, Luther Rice, treasurer.
10.5 Rice, Luther materials – notebook
10.6 Rice, Luther materials – Copy of journal of Luther Rice 1815 – Oct. 9, 1818.
10.7 Rice, Luther materials – Copy of journal of Luther Rice Oct. 9, 1818 – Feb. 11, 1819.

**Box 11**
11.1 Rice, Luther materials – Addresses, notes, minutes.
11.2 Rice, Luther materials – Addresses, notes
11.3 Rice, Luther materials – Clippings
11.4 Science and religion materials
11.5 Sermons – List of sermon subjects 1908 – 1915. Sermons with texts in Genesis, Exodus, Deuteronomy, Joshua, II Sam.
11.7 Sermons – Matt.
11.8 Sermons – Matt.

**Box 12**
12.1 Sermons – Mark
12.2 Sermons – Luke
12.3 Sermons – John
12.4 Sermons – Acts
12.5 Sermons – Romans
12.6 Sermons – I Corinthians
12.7 Sermons – II Corinthians
12.8 Sermons – Galatians, Ephesians
12.9 Sermons – Philippians, Colossians

**Box 13**
13.1 Sermons – I and II Tim., Philemon
13.2 Sermons – Hebrews
13.3 Sermons – I and II Peter, I John, Revelation
13.4 Sermons – no scripture text and miscellaneous notes
13.5 Sermons – no scripture text and miscellaneous notes
13.6 Short Story – “A Tale of Two Cities”
13.7 Washington, D. C. – First Baptist Church and Columbia Association & Convention – Booklets, speeches, clippings, minutes, reports including 125th anniversary historical sketch of the First Baptist Church.
13.8 World League of Truth Seekers – speeches
13.9 Book MSS – miscellaneous chapters, 2 outlines
13.10 Books MSS – miscellaneous chapters

**Box 14**
14.1 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Alabama
14.2 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Alabama
14.3 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Arizona
14.4 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Arkansas
14.5 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, District of Columbia
14.6 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Florida
14.7 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Georgia

Box 15
15.1 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Indiana
15.2 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Kansas
15.3 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Kentucky
15.4 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Kentucky
15.5 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Louisiana
15.6 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Mississippi

Box 16
16.1 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Missouri
16.2 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, New Mexico
16.4 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, North Carolina
16.5 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Oklahoma
16.6 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, South Carolina
16.7 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Tennessee
16.8 Religious freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Texas
Box 17

17.1 Religious Freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Texas
17.2 Religious Freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Texas
17.3 Religious Freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, Virginia
17.4 Religious Freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, West Virginia
17.5 Religious Freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, West Virginia
17.6 Religious Freedom – 83,000 signatures for 1945 United Nations Organization meeting in San Francisco on behalf of religious freedom, miscellaneous
17.7 Religious Liberty Petitions correspondence