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Greater Boston Federation of Churches records, 1910-1934. RG0765

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Congregational Library & Archives

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Summary Information

Repository:	Congregational Library & Archives
Creator:	Greater Boston Federation of Churches (Boston, Mass.)
Title:	Greater Boston Federation of Churches records, 1910-1934.
ID:	RG0765
Date [inclusive]:	1910-1934
Physical Description:	1.09 Cubic Feet (1 box)
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	The Federation of Churches and Religious Organizations in Greater Boston was founded in 1910. The goal of the federation was to inform and assist religious and civic organizations in Boston through intelligent and co-operative work on behalf of the spiritual, social, and economic interests of the community. In 1917, it would be renamed to simply The Greater Boston Federation of Churches. At its peak, the federation had membership from nine different denominations and various social groups. This collection contains board of directors records for the Greater Boston Federation of Churches. This includes meeting minutes, reports, and financial records. This collection also contains records from many committees of the Greater Boston Federation of churches. These include meeting minutes, correspondences, and additional administrative records.

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], in the Greater Boston Federation of Churches records, 1910-1934, RG0765. The Congregational Library & Archives, Boston, MA.

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Historical Note

The Federation of Churches and Religious Organizations in Greater Boston was founded in 1910. The goal of the federation was to inform and assist religious and civic organizations in Boston through intelligent and co-operative work on behalf of the spiritual, social, and economic interests of the community. Any church that wished to take part would be allowed representation in the form of its clergyman and two delegates. Each church would be allowed 1 vote. Any civic organizations that wished to associate with the federation would be recorded as associate members and was entitled to three representatives, but not given a vote in meetings.

The first Board of Directors elected included president Francis Rowley, four vice presidents and fifteen directors from a range of churches and organizations. This included Rev. Edward Cummings (1861-1962) of South Congregational Church in Boston, and Frank Wood (1842-1914) of Shawmut Congregational Church in Boston. Also included on the list was Rev. George L. Paine (1876-1969) of St. Mary's Church in Dorchester, who would later be elected to the executive secretary role from 1923-1934.

In 1917, the Federation of Churches and Religious Organization in Greater Boston would simplify its name to The Greater Boston Federation of Churches. The board of directors would conduct meetings in various locations such as Old South Church and the Trinity Church. The work of the federation extended into many facets of the community. They were involved in everything from international relations, to social welfare and various religious outreach programs. At its peak, the federation had membership from nine different denominations including Baptists, Congregationalists, Christian Scientists, and Presbyterians as well as engagement from multiple social organizations including the Salvation Army, the YMCA, and women's social groups.

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Scope and Contents

This collection contains board of directors records for the Greater Boston Federation of Churches. This includes meeting minutes, reports, and financial records. This collection also contains records from many committees of the Greater Boston Federation of churches. These include meeting minutes, correspondences, and additional administrative records.

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Arrangement

This collection is divided into two series. Records in each series have been arranged chronologically by start date.

Series 1: Board of directors records, 1910-1934

Series 1: Committee records, 1919-1934

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Restrictions on Access

Access to this collection is unrestricted and open to the public.

Restrictions on Use

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

No acquisition information is available for this collection.

Processing Information

Originally processed in June 1997. Re-processed by Katrina Kowalczyk, December 2024, using DACS Second Edition.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Charity -- Religious aspects.
- Evangelistic work.
- Finance.
- Greater Boston Federation of Churches (Boston, Mass.)

Collection Inventory

Board of directors records, 1910-1934

Scope and Contents

This series contains records from the board of directors of the Greater Boston Federation of Churches. This includes meeting minutes, reports, and financial records.

Title/Description	Instances	
Board of directors meeting minutes, 1910-1923	box 1	folder 1
Board of directors budget and financial reports, 1922-1934	box 1	folder 2
Board of directors minutes and reports, 1923-1934	box 1	folder 3
Board of directors meeting minutes, 1924-1932	box 1	folder 4
Board of directors minutes and reports, 1925	box 1	folder 5
Board of directors minutes and reports, 1926	box 1	folder 6
Board of directors minutes and reports, 1926-1927	box 1	folder 7
Board of directors minutes and reports, 1928	box 1	folder 8
Board of directors minutes and reports, 1929-1930	box 1	folder 9
Board of directors minutes and reports, 1931-1932	box 1	folder 10
Board of directors minutes and reports, 1934	box 1	folder 11

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Committee records, 1919-1934

Scope and Contents

This series contains records from the various committees that were run under the Greater Boston Federation of Churches. This includes meeting minutes, correspondence, and administrative records. Many of these committees were dedicated to social justice, community outreach or inter-church relations. This series also includes newsletters and thanksgiving day planning records.

Title/Description	Instances	
Industrial relations committee records, 1919-1933	box 1	folder 12
Committee on evangelism meeting minutes, 1920-1933	box 1	folder 13
Comity committee records, 1921-1930	box 1	folder 14
Finance committee minutes and correspondence, 1921,1934	box 1	folder 15
Interim committee meeting minutes , 1923-1924	box 1	folder 16
Membership committee meeting minutes, 1923-1924	box 1	folder 17
Religious education committee meeting minutes, 1923-1924	box 1	folder 18
Legislation committee records, 1923-1926	box 1	folder 19
Ministerial association meeting minutes, 1923-1927	box 1	folder 20
Religious works committee meeting minutes, 1923-1932	box 1	folder 21
Bulletin newsletters, 1923-1934	box 1	folder 22
Thanksgiving union service records, 1923-1934	box 1	folder 23
Drama committee meeting minutes, 1924	box 1	folder 24
United ministers meeting minutes, 1924	box 1	folder 25
Miscellaneous committee records, 1924-1930	box 1	folder 26
International relations committee records, 1924-1934	box 1	folder 27
Race relations committee records, 1924-1934	box 1	folder 28
Committee of ten meeting minutes, 1925	box 1	folder 29
Compulsory military training meeting minutes, 1925	box 1	folder 30
Social welfare committee meeting minutes, 1925-1926	box 1	folder 31
Nominations committee meeting minutes, 1925-1929	box 1	folder 32
Open air preaching committee meeting minutes, 1926	box 1	folder 33
Rutland chaplaincy committee meeting minutes, 1926-1933	box 1	folder 34
Central Bureau of Relief committee meeting minutes, 1927	box 1	folder 35

Social workers committee meeting minutes, 1927-1928	box 1	folder 36
Kernahan visitation evangelism records, 1928-1929	box 1	folder 37
Program committee meeting minutes, 1928-1929	box 1	folder 38
Ministers conference meeting minutes, 1928-1930	box 1	folder 39
Hospital chaplain's reports, 1928-1934	box 1	folder 40
Social hygiene committee meeting minutes, 1929	box 1	folder 41
Interchurch fellowship meeting minutes, 1930	box 1	folder 42
Executive committee meeting minutes, 1930-1932	box 1	folder 43
Publicity committee meeting minutes, 1931-1932	box 1	folder 44
Student work council committee meeting minutes, Undated	box 1	folder 45
Public institutions committee meeting minutes, Undated	box 1	folder 46

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