

**Title:** Commission on Missions/Missions Council Records

**Creator:** Congregational Christian Churches of the United States

**Dates:** 1928-1943, 1956-1961

**Physical Description:** 4 clamshell boxes, 3 lantern slide boxes; 1.3 linear feet

**Collection number:** RG 0056

**Access Restrictions:** none

**Copyright:** Requests for permission to publish material from this collection should be discussed with the archivist or librarian

--If use is restricted differently at the series level, see below.

**Language:** English

**Repository:** Congregational Library and Archive

14 Beacon Street

Boston, MA 02108

617-523-0470

<http://www.congregationallibrary.org>

*Collection processed by: Sandra Sudak May 1992; Revised September 2010 by Jessica Steytler*

**Acquisition Information:** Materials acquired at unknown date

**Organizational History:** The Commission on Missions was created by the National Council of Congregational Churches in 1913 and consisted of the Prudential Committee of the American Board and the Board of Directors of the Home Boards. Additional members consisted of members-at-large and the Moderator and Secretary of the National Council. Union with the Christian Convention (1931) added the President and General Secretary of the Christian Convention, plus members at-large. The Commission's function was raising funds for missionary and educational activities as well as promoting interest in the general work and in specific projects.

The Commission on Missions was terminated in 1936 by the General Council and its work was taken over jointly by the American Board and the Home Boards under the name of the Missions Council. The Missions Council ceased to exist in 1961 when its responsibilities were assumed by the Stewardship Council of the United Church of Christ (formed by the union of the Congregational Christian Churches and the Evangelical & Reformed Church).

*Source: General Council of the Congregational Christian Church of the United States Digest of the-Minutes of Meetings, 1931-1965.*

**Scope of Collection:** The records are partial, covering incompletely the period of 1928-1943 out the agency's life from 1913-1961. In addition to usual annual reports, committee reports and minutes are short stories meant for inclusion into the promotional Guest Book (folder 12) 1 25th anniversary reflections of the Laymen's Missionary Movement (f.16) 1 evaluation of men's work (f. 17); correspondence – especially concerning Women's work -- of Ruth Seabury (Herne Department, Boston) with Mantie Brown (Mrs. D.E.) (f. 17), Charles Merrill, John Scotford, Lucy Seidler of the New York Missions Council office (f. 18h - with Helen Ranney, Howell Davies, Lucy Wallace of the Chicago Missions Council office (f. 19)

Final 3 boxes are undocumented lantern slides

**Arrangement:**

- I. Commission on Missions committee minutes & annual reports, some by-laws and plans, stories to be entered into the commission's Guest Book.
- II. Fund raising reports, minutes, plans, excerpts of letters of response,
- III. Men's & Women's groups anniversary reflections and correspondence, 1928-1936. Arranged by committee, then chronologically.
- IV. Lantern Slides

**Related Material:** (TBD)**Access Terms:**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| ABCFM  | General Council                             |
| American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions | Missions Council                            |
| Board of Home Missions                               | National Council of Congregational Churches |
| Mantie Brown   | Prudential Committee                        |
| Commission on Mission                                | Ruth Seabury                                |
|  | Stewardship Council                         |

**Detailed Description and Container List:**

## Box 1

**SERIES I:** Commission on Missions committee minutes & annual reports, some by-laws and plans, stories to be entered into the commission's Guest Book. 1930-1943, 1956-1962. Arranged by committee, then chronologically. Friendly Service Committee was after added the fact and are essentially 4b, c, c and d.

1. Executive Committee Minutes and reports 1930-1934  
Council Rules; Charter n.d. ;1931
2. Committees (Annual Meeting) Minutes and reports 1932,1934
3. Committees (Annual Meeting) Minutes and reports 1937-1938
4. Committees (Annual Meeting) Minutes and reports 1939-1942  
4b. Friendly Service Committee

## Box 2

- 4c. Friendly Service Committee Requests from ABCFM and CCSC representatives 1961-1962
- 4d. Friendly Service Quota Requests from ABCFM 1956-1960
5. Joint Staff Meeting Minutes and reports 1937-1942

## Box 3

(The Cooperative Council formed in 1930 by uniting the committee on Mission Education and the Promotional Council)

6. Promotional Council Reports, by-laws, plans 1926-1928
7. Promotional/Cooperative Council ·Minutes, minutes 1929-1931
8. Promotional/Cooperative Council ·Minutes, 1932-1933
9. Promotional/Cooperative Council ·Minutes 1934-1936
10. Cooperative Council Reports, promotional plans, correspondence, bulletins 1932-1936
11. Promotional Plans & Policies Conference Minutes 1943

Cooperative Council. Guest Book Stories, correspondence 1935

Box 4

**SERIES II:** Fund raising reports, minutes, plans, excerpts of letters of response, 1930-1939. Arranged by committee.

12. Plan Of Advance (National) Reports, Plan Book of 1930. 1930-1939,gaps
13. Plan Of Advance (Massachusetts ) Reports; Dollar Plan 1930;1932
14. Committee on Special Appeals Minutes, letter excerpts 1931-1932

**SERIES III:** Men's & Women's groups anniversary reflections and correspondence, 1928-1936. Arranged by committee, then chronologically.

15. Laymen's Missionary Movement 25th Anniversary reflections 1931
16. Promotional material Correspondence 1930-1931
17. Ruth Seabury, Mantie Brown Report 1928-1936, gaps
18. Study of Women's Work Report 1933
19. Ruth Seabury & NY Office Lucy Seidler, John scotford, Chas. Merrill Correspondence 1931-1935
20. Ruth Seabury & Chicago Office Helen Ranney, Howell Davies, Lucy Wallace Correspondence 1930-1936

**Series IV:** Lantern Slides: Undocumented

Boxes 5-7