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### W88-0011. Blekkink, Evert J. (1858-1948). Papers, 1895-1948. 1.25 linear ft.

Western Theological Seminary

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**W88-0011.** Blekkink, Evert J. (1858-1948).  
Papers, 1895-1948. 1.25 linear ft.



### Abstract

Hope class of 1883; NBTS, 1886; RCA minister, 1886-1912; Western Theological Seminary professor, 1912-1928; WTS president, 1923-1924; president of General Synod, 1918. Materials include class lectures, sermons, photographs, testimonials, articles and correspondence. Most materials relate to his years at Western Theological Seminary. Subjects include systematic theology, World War I, and Western Theological Seminary building photographs.

Accession No: W88-0011  
Provenance: Evert John Blekkink  
Donor: Dr. Victor and Miss Ruth Blekkink  
Photographs: 90 images (Boxes 2 and 3)  
Processed by: Carolyn Nienhuis, January 1993  
Michael Douma, May 2001

### Biography

Evert John Blekkink was born in Oostburg, Wisconsin, on May 26, 1858. He graduated from Hope College in 1883 and from New Brunswick Theological Seminary in 1886. He married Henrietta (Hattie) Edna Meerdink the same year. Blekkink served three churches in New York from 1886 to 1899, and two churches in Kalamazoo from 1889 to 1912. He taught at Western Theological Seminary as Professor of Systematic Theology from 1912-1928. He was awarded an honorary doctorate from Hope College in 1909 and another from Rutgers University in 1920. He was president of the General Synod in 1918.

Many friends and students sent testimonials of appreciation to Blekkink on his ninetieth birthday. He passed away two months later on July 17, 1948, and ten days later, on July 27, 1948, his wife, Hattie, died.

### Scope and Content

This collection consists of class lectures, sermons, photographs, testimonials, articles and correspondence. Most materials relate to Blekkink's years at Western Theological Seminary. Subjects include systematic theology, World War I, and Western Theological Seminary. Also includes signed Herbert Hoover letter. The material includes Mrs. Blekkink's college diploma and funeral notice. Includes an album of photographs of Western Theological Seminary buildings.

### Container List

Box 1

Articles

Blekkink, n.d., 1914-1938

*The Leader*, 1908-1912

Biographical, n.d. 1908-1948

Blekkink, Mrs. Evert John (Henrietta Edna Meerdink)

Book of Appreciation by Friends of Dr. E. J. Blekkink, 1948

Bound Volume, News Clippings, 1888-1903

Class Lecture notes in Systematic Theology

I, n.d.

II, n.d.

III, Christology, n.d.

Box 2

Class Lectures and Outlines, n.d.

Correspondence, 1921-1948

Lectures

“Away with the Creeds,” n.d.

“The Battle is the Lord,” delivered at Charleston, Four Corners, N.Y., Sept. 1895  
before the Women’s Christian Temperance Union, “Gold and Goblets”

“Creative Forces in American History,” n.d.

“Daniel and Revelation in English Bible,” n.d.

“Denominational Cooperation in Church Work,” n.d.

“Edinburgh,” 1913

“The European War,” Aug. 18, 1914

“Gold and Goblets,” n.d.

“Holland and its People,” n.d.

“Henry Ward Beecher,” n.d.

“Infallible Authority” delivered at the opening of WTS, 1922

“Is the Community Church Desirable?” Read before the Western Social  
Conference, Oct. 23, 1922

“Our Neighbor,” given at Calvin Sem., 1927

“Our Educational Institutions and the Growth of the Church,” n.d.

“A Progressive Christian Theology and the Supernatural,” n.d.

“Rambling in Europe,” n.d.

“Religious Instruction,” n.d.

“The Tercenary of the Reformed Church in America,” 1928

“The Theology of the Twentieth Century,” n.d.

Ninetieth Birthday Tribute

Photographs

Group, 1921-1925, n.d. (8 images)

Individual, 1897, n.d. (6 images)

WTS Groundbreaking and Parade Float, 1912, 1922, n.d. (4 images)

Box 3

Sermons

2 Pet. 1:16, When he left the 2nd Ref. Church of Kalamazoo, 1905

“Charge to the Prof. James F. Zwemer at the time of his installation,” Nov. 1907

Luke 10:19, Matt. 24:6, Isa.26:20-21

I Cor.3:11, I Cor. 12:31, Psa.35:18

WTS Photo Album, 1912-1932 (72 images)