March 2014


Hope College

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.hope.edu/collection_registers

Part of the Archival Science Commons

Recommended Citation

http://digitalcommons.hope.edu/collection_registers/873

This Register is brought to you for free and open access by the Archives and College History at Digital Commons @ Hope College. It has been accepted for inclusion in Collection Registers and Abstracts by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Hope College. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@hope.edu.
Adrian Zwemer (1823-1910) moved his family to Holland, Michigan, in 1856. He was ordained by the Classis of Holland, Reformed Church in America, in 1858. He graduated from Hope College in 1887 and from New Brunswick Theological Seminary in 1890. That same year, Samuel Zwemer traveled to Arabia to become a missionary for the Reformed Church in America. In 1929, Samuel, his wife (Amy Wilkes), and their four surviving children (two died) moved back to the United States as Samuel had accepted a position at Princeton Theological Seminary from 1929-1937. Raymund Lull Zwemer was born in 1902 to Samuel and Amy Zwemer. He became a professor at Harvard Medical School, a science advisor at the United States Department of State, and the chief of the science division at the Library of Congress. The collection includes clippings, journal articles, addresses, correspondence, a photograph, and genealogical information about Adrian, Samuel, and Raymund Lull Zwemer.

Adrian Zwemer was born February 12, 1823, in Oostkapelle, Netherlands. His parents were Jacob and Neeltje Janse Zwemer. He was the youngest of seven children. Early in 1849, he left the Netherlands and settled in Rochester, New York. There he married Catherine Boon (December 19, 1826-1886), who had traveled in the group with him on September 23, 1849. Their first four children were born there. In 1856, the family moved to Holland. He was ordained through the Classis of Holland, Reformed Church in America in 1858. His first church was at Vriesland, Michigan. He retired from his last church at Spring Lake in 1898. He died on March 17, 1910, in Holland. Adrian and Catherine had fifteen children, among them was Samuel.

Samuel Marinus Zwemer was born April 12, 1867, to Adrian and Catherine Zwemer in Vriesland, Michigan. He graduated from Hope College in 1887 and from New Brunswick Theological Seminary in 1890. Within the same year, he traveled to Arabia to become a missionary for the RCA. Samuel married Amy Wilkes, a missionary nurse on May 18, 1896, in Baghdad. The couple had six children, two of whom died in Arabia. In 1929, the family returned to the United States when Samuel accepted a position Princeton Theological Seminary from 1929-1937; however, he was allowed to teach for another year. Amy died in 1937 and Samuel married a second time to Margaret Clarke, who died in 1950. Samuel died April 2, 1952, in New York City.

Raymund Lull Zwemer was born in 1902 to Amy Wilkes and Samuel Zwemer. He married Dorothy Bornn and they had four children. He was a professor at Harvard University Medical School and Columbia University, received a Guggenheim Fellowship to research in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in 1941, was a science advisor at the U.S. Department of State, and chief of the science division at the Library of Congress and U.S. State Department, and executive secretary of the
National Academy of Science and the Federation of American Biological Studies. He also served abroad with UNESCO and the Pan American Health Organization. All four of his children—Raymund Wilkes, Suzanne Margaret, Theodore Lestrup, and Jane Karen—attended Hope College, but only the daughters graduated from there. Raymund Lull Zwemer died in 1981.

Scope and Content

The collection consists of papers from 1881-1970. Includes clippings, journal articles, addresses, correspondence, a photograph, and genealogical information. The folders are arranged alphabetically by provenance with the exception of the genealogical information, which is placed at the front. The Samuel Zwemer papers are arranged alphabetically by topic.

The strength of this collection is the series of reminiscences by Adrian Zwemer that are included with the genealogical information. They give an almost complete autobiography of his life and are filled with many interesting facts. A drawback of the collection is the lack of biographical information for Raymund L. Zwemer.

Container List

Adrian Zwemer, Herinneringen and Hope College, 1886 (Dutch)
Genealogy, 1899, 1969
Raymund Lull Zwemer, Articles, 1928-1938
Samuel Zwemer
  Articles and Addresses, n.d., 1920-1950
  Biographical, 1907-1982
  Correspondence, 1881-1887
  Photograph, n.d. (1 image)