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Western Theological Seminary

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Abstract

The Rev. Herbert E. Van Vranken graduated from Hope College in 1914 and from New Brunswick Theological Seminary in 1917. He and his wife, Nellie Smallegan, became RCA missionaries to Ranipet, India, in the North Arcot District. The collection contains correspondence and sermons of Rev. Van Vranken, together with articles and pamphlets referring to RCA missionary work in India. Photographic subjects include Dr. Ida B. Scudder, Nellie and Marjorie A. Van Vranken, Arcot Mission in Madanapalle, India (1920), the Wyckoff School and a teacher and family in Madras, South India. One folder contains Vellore Christian Medical College and Hospital publications. Also represented are books and travel documents belonging to Nellie Van Vranken and the Van Vrankens’ daughter, Marjorie A.

Accession No: W96-1210
Provenance: H. E. Van Vranken
Donor: John Smallegan
Photographs: 13 images
Processed by: David Andrews, October 2001

Biography

The Rev. Herbert E. Van Vranken was born in Schenectady, New York, in 1891. He graduated from Hope College in 1914 and from New Brunswick Theological Seminary in 1917. That same year, he was ordained and married Nellie Smallegan of Forest Grove. The Van Vrankens became RCA missionaries to Ranipet, India, where Rev. Van Vranken served as District Missionary and Evangelistic Leader to the North Arcot District. The Van Vrankens retired to Schenectady in 1960, and Herbert became interim pastor of the Second Reformed Church. Rev. Van Vranken died in 1972.

Scope and Content

The collection contains correspondence and sermons of Van Vranken, together with articles and pamphlets referring to RCA missionary work in India. Photographic subjects include Dr. Ida B. Scudder, Nellie and Marjorie A. Van Vranken, Arcot Mission in Madanapalle, India (1920), the Wyckoff School and a teacher and family in Madras, South India. One folder contains Vellore Christian Medical College and Hospital publications. Also represented are books and travel documents belonging to Nellie Van Vranken and the Van Vrankens’ daughter, Marjorie A.

Container List

Box 1

Articles
General, 1933, 1956, 1958, n.d.
On/By the Van Vrankens, 1920, n.d.

Bibles
Nelson’s Series, Annotated, n.d.
Revised Standard Version, Annotated, 1953

Books
Fosdick
The Meaning of Prayer, 1916
The Meaning of Success, 1920
Gordon, Quiet Talks on Prayer, 1904
Jones
Abundant Living, 1942
The Way, 1946
à Kempis, The Imitation of Christ, n.d.
Morgan, The Parable of the Father’s Heart, n.d.

Bulletins, 1991
Correspondence
Van Vranken, Mrs. Nellie, to Miss Esther N. Straight, 1917-1919
Van Vranken, Herbert E., 1919-1922, 1948, 1986
Diplomas, 1914, 1916-1917, 1924
Family Documents, 1917-1918, 1921, 1927, 1935, 1947
Family Documents Wallet and Inventory, n.d.
Farewell Address from Indian Pastorates, 1960
Hindu Proverb Translations, n.d.
Indian Christian Publications, 1930, 1956
Memorial Notice, 1972
Pamphlets, 1933, 1935, n.d.
Photographs
General, n.d. (4 images)
Madanapalle, India, Arcot Mission, 1920 (1 image)
Van Vranken, Marjorie, n.d., 1947 (2 images)
Van Vranken, Nellie, n.d. (1 image)
Wyckoff School Teacher and Family, Madras, South India, n.d. (1 image)
Recipes, n.d.
Sermons, n.d.
Travel Documents, 1917-1918, 1925, 1934, 1942, 1953
Van Vranken, Marjorie, Death Notice, 1995
Vellore Christian Medical College and Hospital
Calendars, 1951-1952, 1954 (3 items)
Pamphlet, “Meeting a Need,” n.d.

Box 2
Hope College Diploma (Marjorie Van Vranken), 1946
Hope College Pennant, 1946