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W16-1440. Rottschaefer Family. Records, 1919-2003. 4.50 linear ft.

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W16-1440. Rottschaefer Family.
Records, 1919-2003. 4.50 linear ft.

**One business day required for collection retrieval –
please contact archivist.**

Abstract

The Rottschaefer family collection focuses mainly on Rev. Dr. Bernard Rottschaefer, his wife, Bernice Rottschaefer, and his sister, Dr. Margaret Rottschaefer. They served in India through the Arcot Mission from 1909 to the 1950s, doing construction of medical buildings and schools and helping heal the bodies and souls of those with leprosy. Bernard was actively involved in the construction of many buildings in India, as well as the founder and first principal of the Katpadi Industrial Institute. Margaret's influence could be seen throughout India within the leprosy community.



Accession No.: W16-1440
Provenance: Rottschaefer family
Donor: Connie Vander Velde
Photographs: 1,126 images [59 slides]
Processed by: Laurel Post, November 2016

Biography

Bernard Rottschaefer, also known as Ben in some sources, was born in the Netherlands and was a graduate of Hope College and the Western Theological Seminary. On December 9, 1908, Bernard was selected as a missionary to India. He did not leave for India until September 25, 1909, and his wife, Bernice, followed shortly in 1910. Bernard and his wife stayed in India until 1955. While there, Bernard and Bernice had five children, who attended the Kodaikanal International School.

Bernard was a builder, architect, and engineer. He was also a financier, treasurer of the Arcot Coordinating Committee (A.C.C.), Indian Church Board (I.C.B), Arcot Assembly and the Mission. He was chairman of the Western Circle, director of several electric corporations, and minister of the church of South India. Bernard was also a member of the governing body of Voorhees College, Union Mission Medical School, Union Mission Sanatorium and the Scudder Memorial Hospital Committee. He was also the founder, manager, and principal of the Katpadi Industrial Institute in Katpadi, India. Bernard helped build many missionary residences and numerous buildings of the Church of South India, which included buildings at the Christian Medical College and Hospital in Vellore, South India. He was also the architect and builder of the Union Tuberculosis Sanatorium near Madanapalle. Bernard had a hand in building Voorhees College and the Scudder Memorial Hospital.

The one person who stood fast and strong by Bernard's side throughout the 45 years he lived in India was his wife, Bernice. Bernice was known as a welcoming woman. She was also known for her maternal ways, especially when it came to the welfare of the women in the villages. She visited their houses and was always willing to help them in times of hardship. Bernice played the organ in church and helped maintain the school for the children of the

employees who worked at the Institute. In 1955, Bernard and Bernice decided to retire and depart from India.

Dr. Margaret Rottschaefer served at seven centers throughout Wandiwash, India, treating those who had leprosy and administering the word of God. When Margaret first arrived in India with her brother in 1909, she was there as a teaching and preaching missionary. While there, she was moved by those she saw that had the “cancer of the jungle,” which consisted of feet and hands being eaten away by leprosy. She returned to the states when she was 30 to study medicine at the University of Michigan. After receiving her M.D., she went back to India in 1924. For two years, she was part of the staff at the Union Missionary Medical School at Vellore. She then spent three years in Bahrain as part of the Arabian Mission. Afterwards, she began doing pioneer work in the villages of India and set up shop in the village of Wandiwash in 1933, where her work was done almost entirely in the field. It is also important to note that Margaret was, at the time, the only missionary living in Wandiwash, South India. By the time Margaret retired, sometime after 1955 when she was well into her 70s, she had treated over 5,000 patients.

Scope and Content

The collection contains materials ranging from books and manuscripts about India and the missionaries to the diaries of Margaret Rottschaefer. In addition to newspaper clippings about Bernard, Bernice, and Margaret’s lives in India, it also includes farewell addresses to Bernard and Bernice, as well as Margaret. The collection also contains slides of India and film, as well as correspondence from the Rottschaefer family. There is also a partial record of the patients that Margaret treated. Approximately 1,126 photographs and slides are included that feature India, the missionaries in India, and the Rottschaefer family.

Container List

Box 1

Addresses

- Farewell presented to the Rev. Dr. & Mrs. B. Rottschaefer from the Workers of the American Arcot Mission Industrial Institute, Katpadi (South India), 1955
- Presented to the Rev. & Mrs. B. Rottschaefer by the Members of the S.I.U. Church and the Workers of the A.A.M. Industrial Institute, Katpadi, South India, 1941
- Farewell address presented to Dr. & Mrs. B. Rottschaefer from the staff of the Scudder Memorial Hospital, 1955
- Farewell address presented to the Rev. and Mrs. B. Rottschaefer, Katpadi from the Members of the S.I.U. Church, Katpadi, n.d.

Article about Dr. Ida Scudder of Vellore, 1962

Biographical information about Helena Charlotte Farrar Packard compiled by Nancy Packard Clinkenbeard, n.d.

Books

50 Years: The Rev. Joseph John: Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the Ordination

- and the Ministry of The Reverend Joseph John*, 1985
About India, 1953
All Clear!: A Book of Verse Commemorative of the Great Peace by John Oxenham, 1919
Autobiography of John James De Valois: Agricultural Missionary, Church of South India, 1978
Bees in Amber: A Little Book of Thoughtful Verse by John Oxenham, 1921
In Celebration: Kodaikanal International School Centennial, 2000
Kodaikanal: 1845-1945 by Charlotte Chandler Wyckoff, 1945
Katpadi Industrial Institute-Katpadi, 1886-1986 Centenary Celebrations, 1986
Not Good If Detached by Corrie Ten Boom, 1962
One Hundred Years with Christ in the Arcot Area, 1853-1953, n.d.
One Hundred Years of Church Life, Katpadi, 1867-1967
On My Way to India... by Esther DeWeerd, 2002
Prayers New & Old, 1937
Rhymes & Ditties by Rev. William H. Farrar compiled and edited by Raymond A. Packard, [2000]
Tales from the Inns of Healing: Christian Medical Service in India, Burma and Ceylon by Rev. J. Z. Hodge, D.D., 1942
The Liturgy of the Reformed Church in America in Telugu, 1910
The Treasure Chest: Frontispieces, n.d.
To Serve with Joy: My Life Story by Mildred Leona Vander Wall De Vries, n.d.
- Book Manuscript, *God Guides* by Mary Geegh, n.d.
- Booklets
- A History of the Ranipet Hospital and a Survey of Work at the Scudder Memorial Hospital, Ranipet, North Arcot, India*, 1935
Beattie Memorial Senior Basic Training School for Women, Ranipet, Diamond Jubilee Celebration, 1891-1967
Christian Medical College & Hospital, Vellore, South India Souvenir, 1958
- Calendars
- Scenes Around The Christian Medical College Hospital, Vellore, South India, 1953*
The Christian Medical College Hospital, Vellore, South India, 1954
- Correspondence
- Dr. Margaret Rottschaefer, n.d., 1929-1948
Dr. Bernard Rottschaefer, 1954
Rev. Joseph John, 1989
Rottschaefer Memorial Church Building, India, 1958-2003
- Daily Scripture Book, 1882 (Dutch)
- Diaries
- 1918-1920
1918-1922
1929-1932

Diaries (cont.)

- Diary [Margaret Rottschaefer], 1933-1937
- Diary and Written Quotes [Margaret Rottschaefer], 1935
- Diary of Margaret Rottschaefer, 1938-1942
- Diary [Margaret Rottschaefer], 1943-1947
- Diary [Margaret Rottschaefer], 1948
- Diary [Margaret Rottschaefer], 1949-1953
- Diary [Margaret Rottschaefer], 1954-1957
- Dr. Margaret Rottschaefer article, 1956
- Film (16mm), n.d. (3 items)
- Greetings from Wandiwash Leprosy Centres* newsletter, n.d., 1959
- Golden Jubilee 1920-1970 Souvenir: The Agricultural Institute, Katpadi, 1970*
- International Shipping Coupons, 1949 (4 items)
- Katpadi Industrial Institute*, 1886-1987
- Magazine, *The P.C.K.'s* [Presentation Convent Kodaikanal High School] *Own*,
Kodaikanal, 1969
- Mary Lott Lyles Hospital, Madanpalle (Chittoor District), Golden Jubilee Souvenir,
1912-1962* booklet (2 copies)
- Mary Lott Lyles Hospital, Madanpalle, Chittoor District, A.P., Triannual Report, 1967-
1969*
- Medical Registration Certificate, 1952
- Newspaper Clippings, n.d.
- New Testament*, 1903 (Dutch)
- Notes
- Pamphlet, *Total Commitment to Christ: What Is It?*, n.d.

Box 3

Photographs

- Album, Holland and India, n.d. (75 images)
- Album, India, n.d. (174 images)
- Photographs (13 folders) (375 images)
- Kodaikanal, n.d. (2 folders) (45 images)
- Kodaikanal Tennis Tournament, 1915, 1936 (2 images)
- Lady Willingdon Leper Settlement. Post Graduate Course in Leprosy,
November 1938 (1 image)
- Rottschaefer Memorial Church, Katpadi, ca. 1996 (11 images)
- Poems and Scripture Clippings, n.d.
- Postcards, Kodaikanal Views, n.d. (4 items)
- Prayers on Olde Year's Day, Kodaikanal, India, 12/31/1951
- Records of Patients Visits, n.d., 1951-1952
- Report of Vishranthi Illam (Cheshire Home) Katpadi Township, North Arcot District,
April 1960-March 1961
- Scudder Memorial Hospital Centenary Report*, 1966
- Slides
- Deenabandupuram, 1956 (18 images)

India, ca. 1956 (27 images)
Seven Pagodas, n.d. (8 images)
Vellore Hill Side Building of Men's Dormitory, n.d. (6 images)
Statistics from Wandiwash Leprosy Mission, 1953-1954
Vellore, India history, 1934

Oversized (located in WTS Oversized Collections Drawer)

Address to Miss Margaret Rottschaefer, Manager American Arcot Mission Boys'
Boarding School, n.d.
A Farewell Address to Miss M. Rottschaefer, Manager of A.M. Hindu Girls School Polu,
1916
A Valedictory Address Presented to Miss M. Rottschaefer, Manager, A.A.M. Town
Elementary Boys School Suriyakolam, Anri North Arcot District, 1917
Map, India, 1965
Welcome Address to the Rottschaefer's by the People of Bernicepuram, Katpadi, North
Arcot, India, 1970