Ernest P. Delaporte Collection
Collection 220

Scope and Content

Ernest P. Delaporte was born March 5, 1924 in Gaël, Brittany, France; died on November 20, 2002, at his home in Berrien Springs, Michigan. He grew up in a Catholic household. At the age of twelve, he entered a minor seminary, and in 1942 he received his baccalaureate. He then attended the major seminary in Rennes, France. With World War II going on around it was difficult for seminary students to complete their studies. Ernest did, however, and he received his tonsure making him an official cleric of the Catholic Church.

After the liberation of France from the Germans, there were two German soldiers who had surrendered to a farmer in Gaël and some French Resistance soldiers decided to kill them. Ernest went to the Tow Hall to try to save the two enemy soldiers. He placed himself between the two Germans and the guards, which delayed the execution long enough for the chief of the Resistance to arrive and reverse the guards’ decision to execute the men. The two German prisoners credited Ernest with saving their lives.

Ordained as a deacon in 1947 and a priest in 1948, Ernest still felt a need to satisfy his spiritual hunger. He joined the Trappist Order. A Trappist is a vegetarian, he never talks except by gesture, he has a variety of work instead of recreation, he sleeps fully dressed on a straw mattress, and lives in unheated quarters. Every Friday morning, to remember the scourging of Christ, each Trappist lashes his back with a knotted whip while reciting Psalm 51. Although the lifestyle was extreme, Ernest began, for the first time to read and understand the Bible for himself. In 1958, he left the Trappist Order and returned to the secular clergy.

In the summer of 1964, Ernest enrolled in a class offered by the Franco-American Institute of Rennes to improve his English. The discussion leader for the group was James Brown, a Seventh-day Adventist. The year after the class, the institute offered Ernest a traveling scholarship to the United States. Here, Ernest again met James. Through a series of events and discussions with James, Ernest was led to contemplate his ties to the Catholic Church. On November 28, 1967, he left France for New York. On February 3, 1968, he was baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Ernest began teaching French at Loma Linda University in 1969, and in 1971, earned his PhD degree. He also became a citizen of the United States in 1971. In 1976, he was ordained as a minister of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. In 1979, he began teaching French at Andrews University, a post he held for 14 years, retiring in 1993.

The Ernest P. Delaporte Collection consists of articles and sermons by Delaporte and others in English and French. There are also photocopies of documents about Emile Zola in English and French.
Arrangement

The Ernest P. Delaporte collection is divided into three sections:
I. Writings
II. Sermons
III. Photocopies
Within each section the folders are arranged in alphabetic order.

Provenance

Ernest Delaporte’s wife, Beverly, donated the collection to the Andrews University Center for Adventist Research in March 2003.

Use

All users of this collection are required to complete the “Application to Use Unpublished Records,” and to observe the regulation specified in the “Patron Agreement” and “Researcher’s Code of Conduct.” All records in this collection are open and available for research. Citation for this collection:

Box ___ Folder ___, Ernest P. Delaporte (coll 220), Center for Adventist Research, James White Library, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI.
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Inventory

I. Writings

Articles by Ernest P. Delaporte

In English and French

Bx 1 Fld 1 Address Yourself to my Brother-in-Law (2 copies in English and 2 copies in French).
Bx 1 Fld 2 The Bugatti of the Vicar of Le Bran (2 copies in English and 2 copies in French).
Bx 1 Fld 3 The Curlers of Mrs. The Pharmacist (2 copies in English and 1 copy in French).
Bx 1 Fld 4 Hope, That "Insignificant Little Girl" (1 copy in English and 1 in French).
Bx 1 Fld 5 My Testimony (1 copy in English and 2 in French).
Bx 1 Fld 6 On the Cross (2 copies en English and 1 copies in French).
Bx 1 Fld 7 The Poisoning of Mr. Mayor (2 copies in English and 2 copies in French).
Bx 1 Fld 8 The Roadmen’s Christmas (2 copies in English and 2 copies in French).
Bx 1 Fld 9 The Saints of Concoret don’t “Date” to Anything (2 copies in English and 2 copies in French).
Bx 1 Fld 10 The Vicar’s Five Loaves (2 copies in English and 1 copy in French).

In French

Bx 1 Fld 11 Arons Nous Encore Besoin de Dieu? (1 handwriting).
Bx 1 Fld 12 Au Pays des Bruyères et des Ajoncs D’or (2 copies).
Bx 1 Fld 13 Au Pays des Vikings (2 copies).
Bx 1 Fld 14 Aux Pays de Loire (2 copies).
Bx 1 Fld 15 Carcassonne Une Ville de Conte de Fees (2 copies).
Bx 1 Fld 16 Châteaux de la Loire (2 copies).
Bx 1 Fld 17 Education (handwriting)
Bx 1 Fld 18 En Parcourant le Sud-ouest de la France (2 copies).
Bx 1 Fld 19 En Parcourant Paris (2 copies).
Bx 1 Fld 20 Historie du Canon de L’Ancien Testament.
Bx 1 Fld 21 “Ils me Regardent” (2 copies).
Bx 1  Fld22  La Conception de l’ Amor Chez Emile Zola Dans Le Docteur Pascal (2 copies).
Bx 1  Fld23  La Conception de la Mort Chez Emile Zola Dans Le Docteur Pascal (2 copies).
Bx 1  Fld24  La Conception de Naturalisme Chez Emile Zola Dans Le Docteur Pascal (2 copies).
Bx 1  Fld25  La Conception de la Religion Chez Emile Zola Dans Le Docteur Pascal (2 copies).
Bx 1  Fld26  La Conception de la Vie Chez Emile Zola Dans Le Docteur Pascal (2 copies).
Bx 2  Fld 1  La Pyramide des Mers (2 copies).
Bx 2  Fld 2  La Venus du Cardinal (2 copies).
Bx 2  Fld 3  Ma Mere L’Eglise (2 copies).
Bx 2  Fld 4  Priere Sur le Monde (2 copies).
Bx 2  Fld 5  Obligations et Responsabilites du Chretien en 1981 (1 copy).
Bx 2  Fld 6  “Tout Commence en Mystique et Finit en Politique” (1 copy).
Bx 2  Fld 7  Quand Moise Rencontra L’eternel (2 copies).

Miscellaneous

Bx 2  Fld 8  Abstracts of Delaporte’s Articles.
Bx 2  Fld 9  Correspondence on publishing of articles.
Bx 2  Fld10  Poems written in French.
Bx 2  Fld11  Published Articles (magazines).

Articles by Others

Bx 2  Fld12  6 articles from magazines and 5 pamphlets in French and English.

II. Sermons

By Ernest P. Delaporte

In English
Bx 2  Fld13  53 handwritten Sermons.
Bx 2  Fld14  4 typed Sermons.

In French
Bx 2  Fld15  47 handwritten Sermons.
Bx 2  Fld16  11 typed Sermons.

By Others

Bx 2  Fld17  10 sermons in English.
III. Photocopies

Bx 3  Fld 1  Sources about Emile Zola in English.
   Emile Zola, by Anthony West.
   Emile Zola and Anatole France: The Lay Apostle and the Lay Saint, by Victor Brombert.
   Prophetic Myths in Zola, by Philip Walker.
   The Watcher Betrayed and the Fatal Woman: Some Recurring Patterns in Zola, by John C. Lapp, and other articles.

Bx 3  Fld 2  Sources about Emile Zola in French
   La doctrine et la Methode Naturalistes d’apres Emile Zola, by George Lote.
   Valeurs durables dans L’oeuvre de Zola, by M. Frandon.
   Zola et L’apostalat Humanitaire, by Micheline Tison, and other articles.

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