Glenn Patterson Collection
Collection 259

Scope and Content

Glenn E. Patterson (1910-2004) began his ministry for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the Oregon Conference in the mid-1930's. Early on he and his wife, Claris (a pianist), were involved in music ministry in the Portland area. He later went on to pastor elsewhere in Oregon, Montana and Washington.

In 1950, Patterson began to pastor in Olympia, Washington. It was here at the state capitol that he sensed an obligation to serve and minister to the elected officials. He made it his objective to became personally acquainted with them and their staffs, offering his friendship and his spiritual leadership. His role as a legislative liaison and religious liberty defender became a distinguishing feature throughout the remainder of his ministry.

Some of Patterson’s significant contributions include playing an instrumental role in having Sunday blue (closing) laws removed from law books in the state of Washington; obtaining a religious exemption–accepted as fair by all parties--for labor workers that maintained a religious objection to joining labor unions. Patterson also offered testimony before the Oregon State Legislature to ensure that schools offering non-traditional curriculum (like boarding academies with vocational training programs) would be permitted under state law.

The Glenn Patterson Collection consists of materials from his interest in religious liberty. The collection is comprised of personal materials, including a three-page life history, correspondence–with a significant amount of correspondence between Patterson and United States legislators; files containing notes and newspapers clippings related to religious liberty, photographs of law makers, and recognition awards.

Arrangement

The collection’s original order was respected as much as possible in the formation of its present arrangement. This can be seen in the use of Patterson’s subject headings in Section III, “Folders.” Although these headings are not always representative of the folders contents, they have been retained. Some minor adjustments were made for ease of use. In particular, various correspondence was grouped together in a separate section.
Provenance

The collection was donated to the Center for Adventist Research by Juanita Jean (Patterson) Robertson, Glenn Patterson’s daughter, in September 2006. It should be noted that Glenn Patterson directly donated some evangelistic materials (as is referenced in materials in Section II) to the Center, however those materials are not contained in this collection.

Use

All users of this collection are required to complete the “Application to Use Unpublished Records,” and to observe the regulations 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___, Glenn Patterson Collection (collection 259), Center for Adventist Research, James White Library, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI.
Glenn E. Patterson Collection
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Inventory

I. Personal Materials

Box 1 Fld 1 Obituary
Box 1 Fld 2 Life History
Box 1 Fld 3 Walla Walla College Financial Statements for Glenn and Claris Patterson (1932-1935)
Box 1 Fld 4 Sustentation Fund Application (1975)
Box 1 Fld 5 North Pacific Union Conference Gleaner. Gleaner articles related to Glenn Patterson.
Box 1 Fld 6 Miscellaneous Personal Items

II. Correspondence

Box 1 Fld 7 “Letters Written To” (personal letters written to Glenn Patterson)
Box 1 Fld 8 Legislative Correspondence
Box 1 Fld 9 Letters regarding donation of materials to Andrews University
Box 1 Fld 10 Letters regarding the Steens Mountains Packer’s Guide and Packing School
Box 1 Fld 11 North Pacific Union Conference

III. Topical Files

Folder 1: Sunday Law Material

Box 1 Fld 12 Various Pamphlets

Folder 2: Reports

Folder 2 contained reports and papers from Glenn Patterson’s work with the Montana and Oregon Conferences (1935-1941). Documents include reports from the Home Missionary Department, remittance forms, and official conference letters.

Box 1 Fld 13 “Biennial Reports 1939-1940, Montana Materials”
Box 1 Fld 14 “Reports to Conference” (Oregon Conference materials)
Folder 3: University
The contents of Folder 3 included correspondence and material related to educational institutions, not necessarily universities.

Box 1 Fld 9 Andrews University Correspondence (see above)
Box 1 Fld 10 Steens Mountains Packer’s Guide and Packing School, Material and Correspondence. (see above)

Folder 4: Liberty Sermons
Folder 4 consists of various newspaper clippings, notes, and quotations which were probably used in preparation for sermons; however it does not contain sermon manuscripts.

Box 1 Fld 15 “God’s Spirit Withdrawn”
Box 1 Fld 16 “Liberty Sermon Ideas”
Box 1 Fld 17 “Sunday Issue”
Box 1 Fld 18 Periodicals
Box 1 Fld 19 Sermons and sermon notes
Box 1 Fld 20 Newspaper Clippings
Box 1 Fld 21 Pamphlets
Box 1 Fld 22 Quotations
Box 1 Fld 23 Other Items

Folder 5
An untitled folder, Folder 5 contained materials relating to Glenn Patterson’s relationships with Sen. Mark Hatfield and Mrs. Dolores Atiyeh (former 1st lady of Oregon); also included correspondence with local and national legislators.

Box 1 Fld 24 Senator Mark Hatfield Materials
Box 1 Fld 25 Dolores Atiyeh Materials
Box 1 Fld 28 Legislative Correspondence (see above)

Folder 6: North Pacific Union Conference

Box 1 Fld 11 Correspondence (see above)

Folder 7: “Ready”

Box 1 Fld 26 Materials on the Law and the 7th day Sabbath
IV. Writings

Box 1 Fld 27 Sermon: Why So Many Different Churches?

V. Other

Box 1 Fld 28 The Freedom Collection (containing The United States Declaration of Independence, The United States Constitution, etc.)
Box 2 Fld 1 Holiday Greeting Cards from elected U.S. Officials
Box 2 Fld 2 Photographs featuring Glenn Patterson and elected U.S. Officials, part 1
Box 2 Fld 3 Photographs featuring Glenn Patterson and elected U.S. Officials, part 2
Box 2 Fld 4 Photographs featuring Glenn Patterson and elected U.S. Officials, part 3
Box 2 Fld 5 Photographs featuring Glenn Patterson and elected U.S. Officials, part 4
Box 2 Fld 6 Photographs featuring Glenn Patterson and elected U.S. Officials, part 5

VI. Awards

Box 3 Fld 1 Resolution of Gratitude, North Pacific Union Conference.
Box 3 Fld 2 Pictures & Frame. Walk of Honor, SDA Theological Seminary. (Frame broken)
Box 3 Fld 3 Plaque. Oregon Federation of Independent Schools.
Box 3 Fld 4 Plaque. Portland Adventist Medical Center.
Box 3 Fld 5 Plaque. 50 years of Service, Oregon Conference.
Box 3 Fld 6 Paper Weight. Seal of the US Supreme Court Historical Society, Religious Liberty Advisory.
Box 4 Fld 1 Plaque. GC and NAD Religious Liberty Leaders.

Items Removed From Collection

2. North Pacific Union Conference Gleaner, February 7, 1972

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