W. W. Prescott Papers:
Gilbert Valentine Collection
(Collection 127)

Biography

William Warren Prescott (1855-1944) was one of the most influential leaders and educators of the Seventh-day Adventist church, serving as president of Battle Creek College (1885-1894). While president at Battle Creek College, Prescott helped found Union College, becoming its president in 1891, and also became president of newly established Walla Walla College in 1892, thereby overseeing three colleges as president all at one time in 1892.

Prescott also served the church as preacher, writer, editor, and administrator. His primary contribution was in the field of religious education, which shaped Adventist educational philosophy and institutions for years to come. He was also a leading voice at the 1919 Bible Conference.

Gilbert M. Valentine served as a teacher and senior administrator in Adventist higher education in Pakistan, England, Thailand, and Australia, as well as in his home country, New Zealand. He moved to the United States where he served as professor and chair of the Department of Administration and Leadership at La Sierra University in Riverside, California.

Valentine earned his PhD from Andrews University in 1982 with a dissertation entitled, William Warren Prescott, Seventh-day Adventist Educator. He wrote extensively in the area of Adventist history and authored books on Prescott, such as The Shaping of Adventism: The Case of W. W. Prescott (1992)–based on his PhD dissertation–and W. W. Prescott: Forgotten Giant of Adventism’s Second Generation (2005).

Scope and Content

This collection consists wholly of sources Valentine copied from the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventist Archives in the course of his dissertation research in the early 1980s. The papers were deposited in the Andrews University Adventist Heritage Center by arrangement between the Archives and Valentine’s dissertation committee chair, George Knight. Under the agreement, Valentine got the photocopies for no cost for his research, but was required to place the copies in the Adventist Heritage Center for future scholars. This collection consists only of copies from the GC Archives and no supplemental material Valentine may have found in his research.
Arrangement

This collection follows the General Conference Archives’ record group arrangement schema. The folders mostly contain correspondence to and from W. W. Prescott, but a substantial number of letters are to and from other individuals related to Prescott and his work.

Provenance

George Knight, Valentine’s dissertation committee chair, deposited the contents of this collection in the Andrews University Adventist Heritage Center in 1984. This was the result of an agreement with the General Conference Archives.

Extent

2 Hollinger Boxes [0.8 linear feet]

Use

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

Box ____, fld ____, W. W. Prescott Papers: Gilbert Valentine Collection (Collection 127), Center for Adventist Research, James White Library, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI.
# W. W. Prescott Papers:
## Gilbert Valentine Collection
### (Collection 127)

**Photocopies from the General Conference Archives**

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