

Register of the
Christian Edwardson Papers
Collection 27

**Adventist Heritage Center
James White Library
Andrews University
Berrien Springs, Michigan 49104-1400
May 1998**

Christian Edwardson Papers Collection 27

Scope and Content

This collection consists primarily of correspondence of Christian Edwardson, 1873-1944) along with some documents related to the history of Seventh-day Adventist work among the Danish and Norwegian people of Minnesota and Wisconsin around the 1920s. A second part of the collection consists of portions of financial records for several churches in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Christian Edwardson was born in Modum, Norway, November 22, 1873. When he was ten years old he immigrated with his parents to America where they settled on a farm in southern Minnesota.

As a young man Christian became interested in learning more about the Bible, but the only portion available to him was a New Testament. By himself, under a cluster of trees in the woods near his home he gave his heart to God. It was through the encouragement of a colporteur, Ole Engen, that he accepted the Seventh-day Adventist faith. He attended college at Battle Creek College, Emmanuel Missionary College, and Union College in Lincoln, Nebraska.

In 1907 he married Dora Elmira Rasmussen from Harlan, Iowa (b. January 19, 1880). She labored with him for 26 years until her untimely death in Hutchinson, Minnesota, on April 13, 1933. Following Dora's death he married Anna D. of Boelus, Nebraska (b. February 25, 1895).

Christian labored ten years as a colporteur, and during part of this time he served also as the field secretary for the Illinois Conference. In 1903 he began ministerial work in Chicago, and later he moved to Wisconsin where he established several churches. In 1918 he moved to Minnesota where he organized and became the first pastor of the Scandinavian Tabernacle in Minneapolis. He also served churches in Willmar, Gilchrist, Artichoke, Granite Falls, Anoka, Hinckley, and Litchfield.

The last years of his life were spent at Hutchinson, Minnesota, where he engaged in writing and research. His library numbered about 3,000 books, many of which were donated to the Adventist Heritage Center and may be found on our shelves, though not specifically identified except by the presence of Edwardson's bookplate. He authored several books: *Bible Facts Concerning the Sanctuary and the Judgment*, *Experience of an Evangelist Among Scandinavians in America* (Swedish), *Facts of Faith*, *History of the Sabbath* (Danish-Norwegian), and *Life's Mysteries Solved* (Danish-Norwegian).

Arrangement

The correspondence is arranged chronologically by year, and within a year by month and day. Care should be exercised not to disturb the arrangement, and also to ensure one sees the entire letter. In some cases, Edwardson duplicated a second letter on the reverse side of the first, probably as an economy measure. During processing, a photocopy was made of these "duplicated" letters and they are filed in chronological order.

The arrangement of the remainder of the collection is easily ascertained from the Inventory.

Provenance

The provenance of this collection cannot be determined.

Use

All users of this collection will be 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 _____, Christian Edwardson (collection 27), Adventist Heritage Center, James White Library, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI

Christian Edwardson Papers

INVENTORY

Part 1 Christian Edwardson Papers

A. Biographical and general information

Bx 1 Fld 1

B. Correspondence

Bx 1	Fld 2	no date	12	letters
Bx 1	Fld 3	1909	1	"
Bx 1	Fld 4	1910	1	"
Bx 1	Fld 5	1914	1	"
Bx 1	Fld 6	1915	2	"
Bx 1	Fld 7	1916	8	"
Bx 1	Fld 8	1920	2	"
Bx 1	Fld 9	1921	2	"
Bx 1	Fld 10	1922	1	"
Bx 1	Fld 11	1925	2	"
Bx 1	Fld 12	1926	2	"
Bx 1	Fld 13	1928	2	"
Bx 1	Fld 14	1929	6	"
Bx 1	Fld 15	1930	7	"
Bx 1	Fld 16	1931	8	"
Bx 1	Fld 17	1932	7	"
Bx 1	Fld 18	1933	19	"
Bx 1	Fld 19	1934	51	"
Bx 1	Fld 20	1935	64	"
Bx 1	Fld 21	1936	110	"
Bx 1	Fld 22	1937	138	"
Bx 1	Fld 23	1938	84	"
Bx 1	Fld 24	1939	85	"
Bx 2	Fld 1	1940	80	"
Bx 2	Fld 2	1941	61	"
Bx 2	Fld 3	1941	68	"
Bx 2	Fld 4	1942	103	"
Bx 2	Fld 5	1942	124	"
Bx 2	Fld 6	1943	114	"
Bx 2	Fld 7	1943	153	"
Bx 2	Fld 8	1944	22	"
Bx 2	Fld 9	Miscellaneous correspondence with bookstores and magazine publishers, 1926-1943		

- C. Laborer's Reports
 - Bx 3 Fld 1 Laborer's Monthly Report (1933-1943)

- D. Topical Files
 - Bx 3 Fld 2 "A friendly Reply" to I. J. Bjerke and related documents
 - Bx 3 Fld 3 Notes on the Sabbath & other topics
 - Bx 3 Fld 4 Documents related to W. W. (William Whigham) Fletcher
 - Bx 3 Fld 5 Sister Jensen's case
 - Bx 3 Fld 6 Danish-Norwegian work in Minnesota

Part 2 Local Church Financial Records

- Bx 3 Fld 7 Minnesota Conference, Districts 9 and 10 (1929-1932).
- Bx 3 Fld 8 Minneapolis, Minnesota SDA Church (1921-1922)
- Bx 3 Fld 9 Superior, Wisconsin, Church (1916)
- Bx 3 Fld 10 Willmar, Minnesota (1927-1928)

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