

J. B. CAIN ARCHIVES OF MISSISSIPPI METHODISM

M 108 GRAHAM, (John Harry) Papers: 1909-2004

Page 1

Biography

John Harry Graham (1915-2004) was an Elder in the Mississippi Conference, admitted on trial into the former Upper Mississippi Conference, MEC, in 1932. He received degrees from Clark University, Gammon Theological Seminary, and Drew University and did further study in the sociology of religion at Boston University. He was awarded an honorary Doctor of Divinity by Rust College in 1950. He served as pastor and District Superintendent in Mississippi and professor at Gammon Seminary in Atlanta, Georgia. He also served on the staff of The Methodist Church (UM) Board of Missions/Global Ministries, retiring in 1977. He was married to India Mae Gordon and had two children, James Arthur Graham and Patricia Graham Johnson.

Dr. Graham was a noted Methodist historian, authoring *Black Methodists: Retrospect and Prospect*, a history of black ministry in the Methodist Church, and *Mississippi Circuit Riders 1865-1965*, a history of early black ministers in Mississippi. He was trustee of Gulfside, Rust College, Paine College, and Huston-Tillotson College. He served as a delegate to eight general conferences and nine jurisdictional conferences. Dr. Graham died January 6, 1994.

His collection of Upper Mississippi Conference (1891-1972) and Mississippi Conference, MEC, former FCJ, (1867- 1907, incomplete) *Journals* were donated to the J.B. Cain Archives of Mississippi Methodism by his children in 1994.

Scope and Content

Materials in the Graham Papers were donated in 2013 and processed by student assistant Elizabeth Doyle. They include papers from his years of pastoral ministry in Mississippi (1941-1950), of service as Gulfside trustee (1950-60), as participant in the study of the dissolution of the Central Jurisdiction and black Methodists (1952-1975), as chairperson of Board of Ministry (1952-1957), in other church leadership positions, and as student and faculty member. There are significant papers and photographs on Gulfside Assembly and about Bishop Robert N. Brooks, who was presiding bishop of the Upper Mississippi Conference 1944-1952. Included in the papers are sermons, autobiographical writings, essays by preachers' wives, biographical sketches of several ministers, Graham's reflections on segregation of churches, a collection of programs from presentation and speeches given by Graham, and notes from a workshop on American Methodism led by Graham, sociological studies of churches, among other topics.

Inventory

Box 1 Gulfside Association Materials, 1940-2004

Folder:

- 1 Pastor's School Photos, 1950s
- 2 Buildings at Gulfside
Residence of Bishop and Mrs. Brooks (2)

J. B. CAIN ARCHIVES OF MISSISSIPPI METHODISM

M 108 GRAHAM, (John Harry) Papers: 1909-2004

Page 2

- Harry Hoosier Hall (2)
- 3 Address at Gulfside by Bishop Robert N. Brooks August 28-31, 1951
- 4 Miscellaneous Gulfside Materials
 - Copy of a Brochure, 1940s
 - News clipping copy
 - Brochure with Programs, dates, and photos, 1951
 - New Orleans and Nashville-Birmingham Areas of the Central Jurisdiction Joint Area Council at Gulfside August 23-26, 1960
 - Gulfside Reunion 1980
 - Gulfside Reunion 1986
 - Texas Annual Conference, Service of Renewal, August 1986
 - Gulfside Article in New World Outlook March-April 1993
 - Newsletter, Summer 2004
- 5 Gulfside Association Trustees Materials, 1952 and undated
- 6 Gulfside Association Trustees Materials, 1953
- 7 Gulfside Association Trustees Materials, 1954
- 8 Gulfside Association Trustees Materials, 1955
- 9 Gulfside Association Trustees Materials, 1956
- 10 Gulfside Association Trustees Materials, 1957
- 11 Gulfside Association Trustees Materials, 1958
- 12 Gulfside Association Trustees Materials, 1959-1960
- 13 Lectures for Pastor's Refresher School, June 27-30, 1967

Box 2 J.H. Graham Biographical Information and Sermons

Folder:

- 1 Biographical Information
 - 1994 Donation of Upper Mississippi and Mississippi Conference Journals
 - Memoir, copy from Mississippi Annual Conference Journal 1994
 - "My Most Thrilling Moment" c. 1977/1978
 - "My Call to Ministry" 1975
 - Autobiographical Statement June 1959
 - India Mae Gordon (wife) teaching license 1940
- 2-4 Sermons

Box 3 Miscellaneous Mississippi Church Materials

J. B. CAIN ARCHIVES OF MISSISSIPPI METHODISM

M 108 GRAHAM, (John Harry) Papers: 1909-2004

Page 3

Folder:

- 1 Rust College Materials
 - College Catalogue, May 1923
 - Dedication of McCoy Administration Building, May 3, 1949
 - 101st Founder's Day, 1967
- 2 Asbury Methodist Church, Holly Springs, MS 1944-1989
- 3 St. Paul UMC, Ripley, MS, membership 1981
- 4 List of Sermons Preached by Bishops (of the Upper Mississippi Conference) 1865-1985
- 5 Central Christian Advocate, February 19, 1953
- 6 Various notes about Mississippi

Box 4 Central Jurisdiction of the Methodist Church

Folder:

- 1 Study and Dissolution of the Central Jurisdiction
 - Alternative plan to the Central Jurisdiction, by J. H. Graham
 - "National Consultation of the Negro in the Christian Ministry" 1959
 - Paper, "The Black Dimension of American Methodism"
 - "The Negro in the Christian Ministry" 1959
 - "One Ministry"
 - "Negro Americans in the Methodist Church: Information Concerning the Central Jurisdiction" by Ernest T. Dixon, Jr.
 - Conference Voting Cards, 1936, 1952
 - New York Times Article "Methodist Bishops Defend Segregation" 1955
 - Correspondence with W. B. Clay, Sr., the only black minister in Delaware County, Indiana, 1959
 - Minutes from the Committee of the Commission to Study the Central Jurisdiction
 - Letter from Charles F. Golden (Board of Missions) to J.H. Graham, 1955
 - Resolution of the Upper Mississippi Conference, Central Jurisdiction 1966
 - Proposed Constitutional Amendment, Abolition of Central Jurisdiction
 - Closing Worship of the Upper Mississippi Conference 1973 Program
 - Closing Message (sermon) of the Upper Mississippi Conference 1973, by J.H. Graham
 - Central Jurisdiction Conference Journals, 1944, 1948, 1960

J. B. CAIN ARCHIVES OF MISSISSIPPI METHODISM

M 108 GRAHAM, (John Harry) Papers: 1909-2004

Page 4

- West Texas Conference Comes to Close, May 1957
- 2 Survey of the Tennessee Conference, Central Jurisdiction 1957
- 3 J. H. Graham Personal writings about segregation, integration of churches
- 4 Ministers' Reflections on ministry
 - "My Call to Preach" 1975
 - "My Call to Ministry" 1975
- 5 Draft of "The Beginnings of Methodism in the South Central Jurisdiction"
- 6 Various National Race Relations Publications

Box 5 Ministry Leadership Correspondence and Work

Folder:

- 1 Board of Ministry Chairperson Materials
 - "Bishop Willis Jefferson King: His Stand on Ministerial Training"
 - Role of Gammon in Ministerial Training, 1956
 - Election to the General and Jurisdictional Conferences, 1952
 - Correspondence about admission to the Conference
 - Study questions for Admission on Trial, Upper Mississippi Conference 1955
 - Report of the Committee on Rules, 1955
 - Pastor's School Correspondence, 1954-1957
 - Request forms for College Records
- 2 Programs and Bulletins of Graham's presentations, addresses, and conferences 1947-1986
- 3 Miscellaneous Business Correspondence 1909, 1954-1989
- 4 Holly Spring Ministerial Association Minutes, various 1983-1986
- 5 Workshop on American Methodism, taught by J.H. Graham

Box 6 Other

Folder:

- 1 Photos of Church Leaders
 - Camp Meeting
 - Upper Mississippi Mission Workshop Dec. 1-2, 1964
 - Rev. E.F. Scarborough
 - Group of City Institute Leaders
 - Church leaders in front of Gammon Library
 - Bishop Harris and church leaders, n.d.

- Leadership meeting
- Consultation of the Rehabilitation of Alcoholics (Graham in middle, back), Sheraton-Gibson Hotel Cincinnati, Ohio 1955
- Training Conference Summer Workers in front of Old Gammon Pastor's School at Tennessee State
- Group in discussion, Cleveland City 1948, Graham back left
- Rev. J. H. Graham (front and middle) and Church leaders
 - Son, James Graham, behind to left
- Leadership meeting, Graham far left
- Black Bishops
- Church group, n.d., no description
- 2 Essays on Being a Preacher's Wife
 - Alice Virginia Turner Allen
 - Mrs. Susannah Jackson
 - Velma Brandon Rucker
 - Lizzie L. Rencher
 - Mrs. B. F. Harper, Sr.
- 3 Biographical Sketches
 - E.F. Scarborough
 - V. W. Henderson
 - Mrs. Chiney C. Russell
 - Dr. Charles B. Copher (Dean of Gammon)
- 4 Birthplace and date of Bishops of the Methodist Church 1784-1972
- 5 Various sermons/lectures given by others
- 6 Personal Notes
 - notes
 - Joe Louis' boxing record
 - Eugene Smith quote form 1957
 - Song Sheet
 - "Bridge Builder" Story
 - Quote by du Mussat
 - "Here's How" Booklet
- 7 Central Jurisdiction meeting of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity and the South Central Regional Conference of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority at Centenary Church April 7, 1950
- 8 Article: "Agribusiness and the War on Hunger"
- 9 Lecture III: Immortal Tidings

J. B. CAIN ARCHIVES OF MISSISSIPPI METHODISM

M 108 GRAHAM, (John Harry) Papers: 1909-2004

Page 6

10 Map of Mississippi

Box 7 Bishop Robert N. Brooks' and Mrs. Edith C. Brooks' Papers

Folder:

1 Sheet Music, 1947

“Wish You Godspeed” original hymn

by D. P. Kunene, dedicated to Bishop and Mrs. Brooks

“Nkosi Sikelel’i-Afrika” (African National Anthem)

2 Souvenir program of Liberian Centenary 1947

3 Mrs. Edith C. Brooks' Memoirs of Africa

Addresses/Presentation Notes

“An African Travelogue” Presentation/Worship Service at First Street
Methodist Church, November 23, 1947

Presentation notes from address to Methodist Woman's Club in Africa

Presentation notes from address to school children in Africa

Travel notes

Written notes

Modern proverb notes January 1948

Final copy of memoir presentation

4 Council of Bishops minutes and reports, 1948]

5 Gulfside Association Reports

Auditor's Report July 1948

Auditor's Report May 1950

Minutes of the Board of Trustees August 1953

Receipts and Disbursements January 1, 1953- September 30, 1953

Receipts and Disbursements January 2, 1953- October 6, 1953

6 Death of Bishop Robert N. Brooks, August 1953-January 1954

Memoir by Bishop A. Frank Smith at Council of Bishops meeting
December 1953

Newspaper obituary August 4, 1953, New Orleans Times-Picayune

Tribute to Bishop Robert N. Brooks by Bishop Robert E. Jones
to the Gulfside Association August 25, 1953

Memoir and condolences from Dillard University, January 6, 1954

Box 8 Bishop Robert N. Brooks' Sermons

J. B. CAIN ARCHIVES OF MISSISSIPPI METHODISM

M 108 GRAHAM, (John Harry) Papers: 1909-2004

Page 7

Box 9 Bishop Robert N. Brooks' and Mrs. Edith C. Brooks' travel photos and postcards
*All descriptions are original, written on the backs of photos

Folder:

1 Africa

Purple flower sticker

Chief, wife, and child at Colua, Dembos

African travel notes

2 Angola

Small portraits

A visitor with Agnes and Amos

Children and Janice

Chiwoneso and her doll, Tracy

Chiwoneso and her brother, Cecil

Women working

Group of women sewing

Sister Parmenter and some of the children, 1 and 2 are Sarah and Samuel

Maria dos Prazeres, photo and note 1941

Rev. Pinto do Ribeiro speaking to pastors at Quessoia 1946

Bibb School student

Portuguese mixed race couple, Angola

Portraits of older man (2)

Portrait of a young man

Graduation portrait of young man

Geraldo

Group of young men and women

Four women

Woman holding a baby

3 Postcards from Angola

Umtali Landscape (South Rhodesia, modern-day Zimbabwe)

Waterfall in Umtali

Mucheres da Huila

Angola- Costumes indigenas

Luanda- Palacio do Comercio

Luanda- Stadium Municipal

"The Old Spinner"

Young men playing
Island of Luanda, partial view
The Savior School, "one of the largest in the empire"
Luanda Island- Bathing Beach
Postcard foldable (8 postcards)- Senegal

- 4 South Rhodesia (modern-day Zimbabwe) village and hospital photos, 1947
- Chief Mutasa and his police officers
 - Back of main hospital building, customary approach and entrance
 - Looking at main building from line huts
 - Back of line huts
 - Bishop Booth and Chief Mutasa being entertained by the chief's musicians
 - Bishop Booth taking picture of Chief Mutasa at Nyakatsapa
near Old Umtali
 - View from back door of main building, with new grass roofs
 - New building at an out station
 - Ambulatory patients
 - Patients
 - Huts for waiting mothers. Roofs have been patched since picture taken
 - Other line hits for ambulatory patients and contagious diseases rooms in
distant brick building. Roof is of corrugated asbestos. Very durable
and of good appearance
 - Chief Nyajina- chief of the district. Badge shows his authority
 - Patient, notice scarification of forehead and cheeks
 - Ambulatory hut. Roof since replaced
 - Waiting mother's hut. Roof patched since
 - Carlos Alberto Domingos 1947
 - Portrait sent to Bishop and Mrs. Brooks 1947
 - Class of student nurses
 - 4 student nurses in from of dormitory
 - Kitchen and nursery in back, group of patients about a vendor of miserable
little catfish, dried
 - Students of third year in a classroom
 - First year students
 - Student nurses in front of main building of hospital
 - Envelope

J. B. CAIN ARCHIVES OF MISSISSIPPI METHODISM

M 108 GRAHAM, (John Harry) Papers: 1909-2004

Page 9

- 5 Photo of Alberta Brooks (daughter)
- 6 Sending off pictures
 - newsclipping, leaving for South America
 - "Bon Voyage" gathering around the Brooks
- 7 Mrs. Brooks in African clothing (11 photos) and 1 photo of Bishop Brooks
- 8 Photo printing negatives
- 4 Photo printing plates, 3 of Mrs. Brooks, 1 of the Bishop

Box 10 Bishop Robert N. Brooks' books, Bibles, and notebooks

- Holy Bible, name engraved on front
- New Testament (RSV), name on front
- Notebooks of sermons (3), name of front
- The Methodist Hymnal

Box 11 Sociological Studies of Individual Churches

Folder

- 1 A Study of Five College Towns
- 2 Wesley Church, York, SC May 1959 (3 copies, Graham)
- 3 Revel's Methodist Church, Greenville, MS March 1960, Graham
- 4 Congregation Christian Church, Oakland, CA 1953 Wesley Hotchkiss
- 5 Short History of the Nebo Church

Box 12 Boston University Notes and Letters

Folder:

- 1 Program Acceptance and financial Aid letters, 1956-1958
- 2 Doctoral Reading Lists in Sociology of Religion and Social Ethics
- 3 Community Organization, 1957
- 4 Sociology of Religion Examination books, 1957
- 5 Development of Social Christianity in America Home Exam, March 28, 1958
- 6 Statistics, 1959
- 7 Ecumenical Quest through the Ages, summer 1959

Box 13 Boston University Notebooks (3)

- Sociology of Religion
- Sociological Research Method

J. B. CAIN ARCHIVES OF MISSISSIPPI METHODISM

M 108 GRAHAM, (John Harry) Papers: 1909-2004

Page 10

Study of the Community, late 1950s

Box 14 Gammon Theological Seminary Notes, A

Folder:

- 1 Theology and Christian Ethics, c. 1943
- 2 Theology, c. 1953
- 3 The Christian Church to 1215 A.D., summer 1955
- 4 Sociology of Religion, 1954
- 5 Economic Ethics, 1954

Box 15 Gammon Theological Seminary Notes, B

Folder:

- 1 Faculty Fellowship Renewal Notice, Commencement Program 1960
- 2 Immortality
- 3 New Testament
- 4 Church and Its Community
- 5 Sociology of Religion
- 6 Professor materials
 - Recruitment Program 1956
 - “Quest for the Best” convocation speech
 - Clark-Gammon Night Program 1958
 - Workshop “The Problem of Recruitment”
 - Course correspondence (3)
 - Final Exam: Doctrine and Discipline of the Methodist Church

Box 16 Drew University Notes

Folder:

- 1 Rural Economics
- 2 Economic Theory
- 3 Church and Religious Education
- 4 Church History
- 5 More Church History

Box 17 Miscellaneous School Notes

Folder:

- 1 Examinations, various 1940s-1950s, as student and professor

J. B. CAIN ARCHIVES OF MISSISSIPPI METHODISM

M 108 GRAHAM, (John Harry) Papers: 1909-2004

Page 11

- 2 Notepad
- 3 Various school notes

Box 18 Upper Mississippi Annual Conference Assorted Journals

Folder:

- 1 Journals, various 1911-1967
 - 1911
 - 1932- J.H. Graham admitted on Trial, p. 7, 10
 - 1936
 - 1941- J. H. Graham received Elder's Orders and Full Connection, p.12, 13, 15
 - 1955- J.H. Graham listed under special appointments, p. 36
 - 1967- J. H. Graham elected to Jurisdictional and General Conferences
- 2 Programs from Annual Conference, various 1946-1968
- 3 Miscellaneous Conference Materials and Correspondence

Box 19 Mississippi Annual Conference Journals, Programs

Mississippi Annual Conference Journal 1988-1989
North Mississippi Annual Conference Journal 1979
Directory of the Mississippi Conference 1990
Directory of the Mississippi Conference 1993
Book of Reports 1989-1990
Agenda Workbook June 1990

Box 20 Mississippi Conference, various journals and materials

Mississippi Methodist-Episcopal Church Journal 1935
Journal of the Kentucky Conference of Evangelical United Brethren Church 1955
Episcopal Address of Bishops in General Conference 1960
Our Heritage- Historical Highlights of United Methodism in North Mississippi
Minister's Directory, North Mississippi Conference 1981-1982
South Eastern Jurisdiction Historical Society Meeting 1984-1985
Pastor's School (North Mississippi Conference) Brochure 1983
Mississippi Annual Conference Program 1990

J. B. CAIN ARCHIVES OF MISSISSIPPI METHODISM

M 108 GRAHAM, (John Harry) Papers: 1909-2004

Page 12

Journals bequeathed to J.B. Cain Archives upon the death of Dr. Graham, presented by children Patricia Graham Johnson and Rev. James Graham March, 1994.

Mississippi Mission Conference, (MEC) 1867

Mississippi Conference, (MEC) 1880-1884, 1885, 1887, 1889, 1901-1904, 1907

Upper Mississippi Conference 1891-1972 (MEC 1891-1937, MC CJ 1938-1972)

North Mississippi Conference 1972-1993 (UMC)

Central Jurisdictional Conference 1948-1967 (MC)

Box 21

Mississippi Mission Conference, (MEC) 1867

Mississippi Conference, (MEC) 1880-1884, 1885, 1887, 1889, 1901-1904, 1907

Box 22

Upper Mississippi Conference, (MEC) 1891-1914

Box 23

Upper Mississippi Conference, (MEC) 1915-1937

Box 24

Upper Mississippi Conference, (MEC) 1938-1957

Box 25

Upper Mississippi Conference, (MEC) 1958-1971

Box 26

Central Jurisdictional Conferences 1948, 1952, 1956, 1960, 1964, 1967

J. B. CAIN ARCHIVES OF MISSISSIPPI METHODISM

M 108 GRAHAM, (John Harry) Papers: 1909-2004

Page 13

Box 27

North Mississippi Conference 1974, 1976, 1981-1985, 1987
Mississippi Conference 1988-1989 supplement, 1989

Box 28

Mississippi Conference 1990, 1991, 1992 Part I
Appreciation Plaque, news clipping about 1994 gift to Cain Archives