

COLLECTION 6: Aimee Semple McPherson Scrapbook, 1923-1976

Administrative Information

Title:

Aimee Semple McPherson Scrapbook, 1923-1976

Collection Identifier:

CFT00006

Creators:

Gage, Alice
McPherson, Aimee Semple (1890-1944)

Size:

1 Box, 0.5 linear feet

Repository:

David Allan Hubbard Library
Fuller Theological Seminary
135 N Oakland Ave
Pasadena, CA 91182
archives@fuller.edu

Provenance:

The gift of Alice Gage

Conditions Governing Access/Restrictions:

Scholarly use with parameters of copyright law

Language:

English

Processing:

Nancy Sanders Gower

Finding Aid Revisions:

Andrew Wong, June 2018

Biography

Aimee Semple McPherson (October 9, 1890 – September 27, 1944) was a Canadian-American Pentecostal evangelist, faith healer, and founder of the International Church of the Foursquare Gospel (known as the Foursquare Church). Her use of popular media forms for publicity and within weekly sermons made her the most publicized Protestant evangelist of her day. Aimee's popularity enabled her contribution to the construction of Angelus Temple in Los Angeles, CA.

Aimee and her husband Robert Semple (m. Aug 12, 1908) became part of William Durham's Full Gospel Assembly, where Durham taught and applied principles from the Azusa Street Revival. William Durham ordained Aimee in 1909. The couple traveled to China to participate in an evangelistic crusade. She returned to the United States with her daughter after Robert's death. In 1911, she married Harold McPherson; Harold became the advance man in organizing the evangelistic campaigns. The couple divorced in 1921. McPherson married David Hutton on September 13, 1931 and divorced on March 1, 1934.

In 1917, Aimee began to publish *The Bridal Call*, a magazine of her sermons that particularly discussed women's religious roles and Pentecostalism. She also published the weekly *Foursquare Crusader* and became the first woman to preach a sermon over the radio. By 1918-1919, Aimee settled in Los Angeles, CA and constructed the Angelus Temple, one of the first megachurches, to enable her national audience to come to her. The Angeles Temple became known for its capacity to serve the social welfare of the Los Angeles community with a "first serve, investigate second" philosophy. It also hosted one of the few long-lasting commissaries during the United States' Great Depression.

Scope and Content

The small collection consists of a scrapbook, full of clippings from magazines and newspapers on the celebrated comings and goings of Aimee Semple McPherson, as well as collected ephemera such as a postcard and a photo signed by Aimee.

The scrapbook emphasizes Aimee's use of the media, beginning with a clipping announcing her starring role in a "talky," and ending with a much publicized trip to the Holy Land by Aimee and her daughter. The scrapbook also includes the entire June 1930 issue of *Bridal Call* and a sacred opera written, *Regem Adorate* (Worship the King). Additional materials consist of McPherson's books, pamphlets, and other published works related to her ministry.

Subjects:

- Celebrities
- California Los Angeles Hollywood
- Evangelists
- International Church of the Foursquare Gospel
- Pentecostalism
- Social welfare
- Spiritual healings

Related Collections:

The David Allan Hubbard Library holds a number of fascicles of *The Bridal Call* and *The Foursquare Crusader*, as well as most of Aimee Semple McPherson's writings.

Box 1: Books

Item	Author	Title	Publisher	Date
1	Bogard, Ben & Aimee Semple McPherson Stenographer for the debate: J.E. Rhodes, 1934	<i>Bogard-McPherson Debate</i>	Dallas: Rock of Ages	1955
2	Aimee Semple McPherson	<i>Tabernacle Revivalist</i>	Los Angeles: Echo Park Evangelistic Association	c.1923
3	Aimee Semple McPherson	<i>The Personal Testimony of Aimee Semple McPherson</i>	Los Angeles: Starling Press reprint	1986 (1928)
4	Aimee Semple McPherson	<i>Lost & Restored</i>	Los Angeles: The Foursquare Bookshop	1976
5	Aimee Semple McPherson	<i>Correspondence Courses of the L.I.F.E. Bible College, volume III</i>	Los Angeles: L.I.F.E. Bible College	1928
6	Aimee Semple McPherson	<i>Correspondence Courses of the L.I.F.E. Bible College, volume V</i>	Los Angeles: L.I.F.E. Bible College	1928
7	Compiled by Aimee Semple McPherson	<i>This We Believe: Declaration of Faith</i>	International Church of the Foursquare Gospel	2 copies
8		<i>We Believe in Divine Healing</i>	Los Angeles: Foursquare Publications	
9		<i>We Believe in Salvation Through Jesus Christ</i>	Los Angeles: Foursquare Publications	
10		<i>We Believe in The Second Coming of Jesus Christ</i>	Los Angeles: Foursquare Publications	
11	Aimee Semple McPherson	<i>Fishers of Men</i>	Montrose, Cal. : Rusthoi Publications Inc., n.d.	Photocopy