Title: San Diego County Christian Endeavor Collection
Identifier/Call Number: MS 293
Contributing Institution: San Diego History Center Document Collection
Language of Material: English
Physical Description: 4.5 Linear feet (8 boxes)
Date (inclusive): 1890-1967
Abstract: This collection contains administrative materials, convention documents, and publications by Christian Endeavor organizations in San Diego County from the late-1800s to mid-1900s.
creator: San Diego Christian Endeavor Society.
creator: San Diego County Christian Endeavor Union.
Biographical / Historical Notes
The Christian Endeavor Society was an international Protestant youth organization. It was formed in 1881 in Portland, Maine, when a local minister, Francis E. Clark, decided to form a group for the young people of his congregation. The object of this group was to “promote an earnest Christian life among its members, to increase their mutual acquaintance, and to make them more useful in the service of God.” As the number of regional societies increased, the United Society was formed in 1885 with headquarters in Boston. Each Christian Endeavor Society was tied to a local church, which determined theology and activities for the group. Individual societies were linked by County Unions, and County and District Unions were in turn linked by State, International, and World Unions. The Christian Endeavor Society was referred to as an “Inter-racial, Inter-denominational and Inter-national fellowship.” There is evidence in these records of the earliest Christian Endeavor group in San Diego in 1891 at the First Congregational Church of San Diego at Fourth and Date Streets.
Scope and Content
This collection contains administrative materials, convention documents, and publications by Christian Endeavor organizations in San Diego County from the late-1800s to mid-1900s. Administrative materials include minutes, attendance records, and reports, and pertain to both the Christian Endeavor Society based at the First Congregational Church of San Diego and the San Diego County Christian Endeavor Union covering all societies in the county. Convention documents include programs for annual county conventions between 1894 and 1967 as well as planning documents for the California State convention held in San Diego in 1939. Finally, publications include the “Breezes” newsletter, pamphlets, and books.
Arrangement
This collection is arranged in four series:
Series I: Administration: San Diego Christian Endeavor Society;
Series II: Administration: San Diego County Christian Endeavor Union;
Series III: Conventions and Activities;
Series IV: Publications.
Preferred Citation
San Diego County Christian Endeavor Society Collection, MS 293, San Diego History Center Document Archives, San Diego, CA.
Conditions Governing Access
This collection is open for research.
Conditions Governing Use
The San Diego History Center (SDHC) holds the copyright to any unpublished materials. SDHC Library regulations do apply.
Processing Information
Collection processed by Frank Sweeney in December 2011.
Subjects and Indexing Terms
First Congregational Church of San Diego..
United Society of Christian Endeavor .
Christian youth
Christianity
San Diego (Calif.)
San Diego (Calif.) -- Church history
San Diego County (Calif.)
San Diego County (Calif.) -- Church history

Series I: **Administration: San Diego Christian Endeavor Society**

**Box-folder 1:1**  
**Secretary Book, 1891-1892**  
Scope and Content  
Small ledger including meeting minutes, attendance, membership, and constitution.

**Box-folder 1:2**  
**Attendance Book, 1892-1898**  
Scope and Content  
Small ledger including constitution, membership list, attendance records.

**Box-folder 1:3**  
**Secretary Book, 1894**  
Scope and Content  
Small ledger including meeting minutes, membership list, attendance records.

**Box-folder 1:4**  
**Attendance Book, 1895-1897**

Series II: **Administration: San Diego County Christian Endeavor Union**

**Box-folder 1:5**  
**Meeting Minutes, 1896-1897**

**Box-folder 1:6**  
**Executive Committee Minutes, 1931-1932**

**Box-folder 1:7**  
**Meeting Minutes, 1932-1933**

**Box-folder 1:8**  
**Meeting Minutes, 1948-1962**  
Includes:  
Monthly and executive minutes. Attachments include correspondence, meeting notices,  
constitution and by-laws, in memoriam notices.

**Box-folder 1:9**  
**President’s Reports, 1932-1936**

**Box-folder 1:10**  
**Officer Lists, 1936-1953**

**Box-folder 1:11**  
**Bills, 1950**

**Box-folder 2:1**  
**Congregational and Presbyterian Intermediate Societies: Meeting Minutes, 1900-1903**

Series III: **Conventions and Activities**

**Box-folder 2:2**  
**Annual County Convention: Programs, 1894-1929**

**Box-folder 2:3**  
**Annual County Convention: Programs, 1925-1943**

**Box-folder 2:4**  
**Annual County Convention: Programs, 1930-1941**

**Box-folder 2:5**  
**Annual County Convention: Programs, 1942-1952**

**Box-folder 3:1**  
**Annual County Convention: Programs, 1953-1967**

**Box-folder 3:2**  
**Annual County Convention: Committee Report (East San Diego Presbyterian Church), 1938**

**Box-folder 8:1**  
**Annual County Convention: Poster (48th Annual County Convention), 1941**

**Box-folder 3:3**  
**California State Christian Endeavor Convention: Committee Records, 1939**

**Box-folder 3:4**  
**California State Christian Endeavor Convention: Committee Records, 1939**

**Box-folder 3:5**  
**California State Christian Endeavor Convention: Committee Records, 1939**

**Box-folder 4:1**  
**California State Christian Endeavor Convention: Committee Records, 1939**

**Box-folder 4:2**  
**California State Christian Endeavor Convention (wooden binder cover), 1939**

**Box-folder 4:3**  
**International Convention on Christian Education, 1938**

**Box-folder 8:2**  
**Scrapbook, 1944-1946**  
Includes:  
Flyers, programs, photographs, clippings, and other documentation of Christian Endeavor  
activities.
| Box-folder 4:4 | Christian Endeavor Activities, 1948-1949 |
| Box-folder 4:5 | Miscellanea, 1937-1945 and undated |
|               | Includes: |
|               | 57th anniversary program, event calendar, decals, membership/pledge cards, and a report on the Wartime Union Leaders’ Conference. |

Series IV: Publications

| Box-folder 4:6 | Pamphlets and Publication List, 1890-1931 |
|               | Includes: |
|               | Informational pamphlets and handbooks to aid in starting a society, running it, and answering common questions. |

| Box-folder 4:7 | Pamphlets, 1894-1957 |
|               | Includes: |
|               | Informational pamphlets, especially focusing on committee work and recommendations for programming. |

| Box-folder 4:8 | Pamphlets, 1899-1951 |
|               | Includes: |
|               | Informational pamphlets on recommendations for meetings and song collections. |

| Box-folder 5:1 | Book 1892 |
|               | Includes: |
|               | “Bible Readings for the Home” |

| Box-folder 5:2 | Books, 1891-1896 |
|               | Includes: |

| Box-folder 5:3 | Books, 1896-1903 |
|               | Includes: |

| Box-folder 6:1 | Books, 1911-1913 |
|               | Includes: |

| Box-folder 6:2 | Book, 1924 |
|               | Includes: |
|               | “The Evolution of an Endeavorer, an autobiography by William Shaw” |

| Box-folder 6:3 | Books, 1921-1925 |
|               | Includes: |
|               | “Methods with Beginners” by Frances Weld Danielson; “Bible Autobiographies” by Mrs. Francis E. Clark; “Progressive Endeavor” by Amos R. Wells. |
### Box-folder 7:1  
**Books, 1925-1931**
Includes:
“Progressive Endeavor” by Amos R. Wells; “Successful C.E. Prayer-Meetings” by James DeForest Murch; “Leadership through Christian Endeavor” by Bert H. Davis.

### Box-folders 7:2
- “San Diego Christian Endeavor Breezes” Newsletter, 1925-1932

### Box-folders 7:3
- “San Diego Christian Endeavor Breezes” Newsletter, 1932-1949

### Box-folders 7:4
- “San Diego Christian Endeavor Breezes” Newsletter, 1949-1952

### Box-folders 7:5
- “San Diego Christian Endeavor Breezes” Newsletter, 1953-1956

### Box-folders 7:6