Title: James B. Webster papers
Date (inclusive): 1894-2003
Collection Number: 70027
Contributing Institution: Hoover Institution Archives
Language of Material: English
Physical Description: 43 manuscript boxes, 4 oversize boxes, 1 oversize folder, 1 envelope, slides (21.8 linear feet)
Abstract: The papers relate to theology, and to missionary activities and Christian education in China. They are comprised of diaries, correspondence, notebooks, writings, printed matter, photographs, and memorabilia.
Creator: Webster, James Benjamin, 1879-1929.
Access
The collection is open for research; materials must be requested at least two business days in advance of intended use.
Publication Rights
For copyright status, please contact the Hoover Institution Archives.
Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], James B. Webster papers, [Box no., Folder no. or title], Hoover Institution Archives.
Acquisition Information
Acquired by the Hoover Institution Archives in 1970.
Accruals
Materials may have been added to the collection since this finding aid was prepared. To determine if this has occurred, find the collection in Stanford University's online catalog at http://searchworks.stanford.edu/. Materials have been added to the collection if the number of boxes listed in the catalog is larger than the number of boxes listed in this finding aid.

Scope and Content of Collection
The collection documents J. B. Webster's work and life as a Christian missionary in China. The collection includes day books, correspondence, newspaper articles, writings, and other printed material from Webster's daily life. Webster lived in China for many years as a teacher and an administrator at Shanghai College. As a missionary and as an employee at the college, Webster worked to improve the Christian religious education movement, particularly in China, which included completing sociological studies of Chinese adolescents and writing on effective religious education techniques. The collection contains many examples of coursework and lesson plans for various classes at Shanghai colleges and other schools. Webster was interested in examining how sociological factors in the community and culture affected the acceptance and incorporation of religious education. The professional correspondence in the collection contains letters with fellow missionaries, superiors, coworkers at the Shanghai college, and students.

Apart from the documents and materials from Webster's professional life, the collection contains material from Webster's own education and personal life, such as documents from his time at seminary and family correspondence. The collection includes letters, writings, photographs, and biographical material of Alta Newby Webster, James B. Webster's wife, as well as family receipts from China, which reveal the day to day existence of the Webster family in China. Additionally, Webster kept diaries that describe his life and travels in China. Although Webster died in the United States in 1929, and there is material in the collection that was created after his death, including correspondence and memorial materials.
The collection includes a significant number of photographs depicting the Webster family and other missionary families in China, students and instructors at Shanghai College, and scenery from Webster’s travels around the country. Also included are black-and-white photographs taken by Webster that depict revolutionary troops attacking Qing Imperial forces. Webster had access to the battlefront on land and at sea.

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**

- China.
- Education--China.
- Education.
- Missionaries.
- Missions--China.

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Scope and Contents note
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Scope and Contents note
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Inventory to the James B. Webster papers

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Scope and Contents note
Includes condolences and memorial service pamphlets

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| Box 40-43        | Photographs and photo albums                                                                   |
| Box 40           | "Scenes from Chinese life"                                                                     |
| Box 40           | "Kuling"                                                                                        |
| Box 40           | "Scenery"                                                                                       |
| Box 40           | "Honolulu and other places"                                                                     |
| Box 41           | James B. Webster and Alta Newby family photos 1907-1908                                        |
| Box 41           | Mission work in China circa 1911                                                               |
| Box 42           | Negatives of family photographs, Sunday school, Alta Newby before and after her wedding, and others |
| Box 42           | Conference on Religious Education, Shanghai College, program and publications circa 1923       |
| Box 42           | "Student Ministry to Children: Manual for Teachers in Daily Vacation Bible Schools," 1919       |
| Box 42           | Outlines for Mothers’ Meetings 1924                                                            |
| Box 42           | Conference of Christian Colleges and Universities, Nanking, notes, programs, and other materials 1924 February |
| Box 43           | Photographs of mission work in Nanchang and Shanghai 1903-1920                                 |
| Box 44           | "Industrial and Natural Resources in China," hand drawn map with samples of resources glued to corresponding region undated |
| Box 44           | Hand painted Chinese poster undated                                                             |
| Box 44           | Cartoon sketches and statistical figures related to education in China undated                   |
| Map case         | Black and white panorama photograph of Shanghai College graduates, classes 1923-1928, with James B. Webster at the center circa 1928 |
| Map case         | Ink drawing by Walter G. Yip depicting an education race, with China and the Middle East in last place and the United States crossing the finish line 1919 |