

CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE. BOARD OF MANAGERS FONDS

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The Christian and Missionary Alliance. Board of Managers fonds. --30 cm of textual records.

The Christian and Missionary Alliance came into being in 1897, with the merger of the Christian Alliance and the International Missionary Alliance.

The International Missionary Alliance was founded in 1887 by Rev. Albert Benjamin Simpson, as the Evangelical Missionary Alliance, its major object being "to carry the Gospel 'to all nations', with special reference to the need of the destitute and unoccupied fields," seeking "to unite all Christians of evangelical denominations in its work." The EMA was governed by a board of managers, which was comprised of a president, seven vice-presidents, four other executive officers and 22 members-at-large from seven states. The Board was responsible to appoint foreign missionaries and to exercise general supervision over all the interests of the Alliance. A smaller executive committee, consisting of 13 officers, was charged with carrying out the Board's business between meetings. The organization's name was changed to the IMA, coinciding with its incorporation in November 1887 (*Alliance Yearbook 1888*, p. 52-55).

The Christian Alliance was also founded in 1887 as a "fraternal union of believers in cordial harmony with evangelical Christians of every name." It was responsible to hold annual conventions and in conjunction with the districts, form local branches. These were seen as fellowships, not as churches, with the purpose of bearing testimony to the Four-fold Gospel, promoting diffusion of these truths, providing community for those who believe them, and praying for the evangelization of the world. The Christian Alliance was governed by an executive committee, consisting of a president, 29 vice-presidents, four other executive officers and 41 members-at-large (*Alliance Yearbook 1888*, p. 48-51).

On Mar 31, 1897, the two respective boards authorized the merger; it was made law on Apr 1, 1897 by a special act of the New York legislature and ratified by a special convention held Apr 14-18 at the Gospel Tabernacle in New York. The aims of the new organization combined those of the original bodies: (as stated by the Fraternal Letter that resulted from the 1898 annual convention) the C&MA was "to preach a full Gospel at home and send missionaries; to carry the same glad tidings to the unevangelized regions beyond; to preserve our non-sectarian and interdenominational attitude; to study to confine the [administrative] machinery to that which is necessary...." (Pardington, George P. *Twenty-five Wonderful Years*, p. 74, 75).

The C&MA is governed by a Board of Managers, elected by the annual convention, consisting of 21 persons, in 3 groups of rotating 3-year terms. The Board first met on Apr 17, 1897, with 18 members present. At this meeting it adopted a constitution and approved the sending of a number of missionaries.

Between monthly meetings the Board's business was carried out by the smaller Executive Committee, which met weekly. It met for the first time on Apr 20, 1897, with five members present.

The materials in this fonds were photocopied in April 2000 at the A. B. Simpson Historical Library (Colorado Springs, Col.) by H. D. (Sandy) Ayer, with the permission of Dr. Joseph Wenninger, Archivist, the Christian and Missionary Alliance, from typescripts of the original handwritten documents.

The fonds consists of photocopied images of the minutes of the Board of Managers of the Christian and Missionary Alliance from 1897 to 1924 and of the Executive Committee of the Alliance's Board of Managers from 1897 to 1914.

Title based on the contents of the fonds.

An inventory to the records is available.

There are no restrictions on access to the fonds.

	THE CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	
Box 1	1. Minutes, 1897-1909	2000
	2. Minutes, 1910-1913	2000
	3. Minutes, 1914	2000
	THE CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE. BOARD OF MANAGERS	
	4. Minutes, 1897-1905	2000
	5. Minutes, 1906-1912	2000
	6. Minutes, 1913	2000
Box 2	7. Minutes, 1914-1915	2000
	8. Minutes, 1916	2000
	9. Minutes, 1917	2000
	10. Minutes, 1918-1919	2000
	11. Minutes, 1920	2000
Box 3	12. Minutes, 1921	2000
	13. Minutes, 1922	2000
	14. Minutes, 1923	2000
	15. Minutes, 1924	2000