

Register of the
Rimmer Family Papers
Collection 197

Adventist Heritage Center
James White Library
Andrews University
Berrien Springs, Michigan
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Processed by Sabrina Riley

Rimmer Family Papers (Collection 197)

Scope and Content

James Gordon Rimmer, was born in England on May 12, 1886, and immigrated to the United States in 1911. Trained as a pharmacist, he served as head of the Madison College chemistry department for many years. In addition, Rimmer was an organist and inventor. This collection of papers includes his plans for an organ blower and grain grinding mill, the latter for which he obtained a patent. Rimmer married Laura Stout in 1923 with whom he had three children. He died in 1962 after a two year illness.

Laura Stout Rimmer was born May 17, 1886, in Commiskey, Indiana. She worked for both Madison College and the affiliated sanitarium. Laura Rimmer died November 13, 1976, at her daughter's home in Baroda, Michigan.

James Richard Rimmer was born January 7, 1926 in Madison, Tennessee. Graduating from both Madison College Academy and Southern Missionary College, he worked for Southern Publishing Association, the Madison College print shop, and Tennessee Christian Medical Center (Madison Hospital). He died January 9, 1998, in Madison, Tennessee.

Constance Helena Rimmer Tiffany was born September 11, 1927 in Madison, Tennessee.

Andrew Gordon Rimmer, third child of James Gordon and Laura Rimmer, was born December 14, 1928, in Madison, Tennessee. After attending various denominational and self-supporting academies, he finished his education with a degree in Industrial Arts from Southern Missionary College. After graduation in 1955, he helped found Harbert Hills Academy where he taught Bible and Industrial Arts. Andrew Rimmer unexpectedly died at his home in Savannah, Tennessee on August 29, 1993.

Arrangement

The arrangement of the collection was imposed by the Adventist Heritage Center with the exception of topical files belonging to James Richard Rimmer. These files have been left largely the way he arranged them. The family's papers have been integrated into the following series: personal documents, correspondence, writings, topical files, and photographs.

Provenance

This collection was donated to the Andrews University Adventist Heritage Center in 1998 by Constance Rimmer Tiffany, a member of the Rimmer family.

Use

All users of this collection will complete the "Application to Use Unpublished Records," and observe the regulation specified in the "Patron's Agreement" and "Researcher's Code of Conduct." All records in this collection are open and available for research. Suggested citation for this collection:

Box____, fld____, Rimmer Family Papers (Collection 197), Adventist Heritage Center, James White Library, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI.

Rimmer Family Papers

(Collection 197)

INVENTORY

I. Personal Documents

Documents

- Box 1 Fld 1 Birth certificate for Andrew Gordon Rimmer. Madison, Davidson County, Tennessee. December 14, 1928. Photocopy.
- Certificate of Naturalization for James Gordon Rimmer. United States of America, Middle District of Tennessee. April 15, 1941. Photocopy.
- Certified Copy of an Entry of Birth for James Gordon Rimmer. North Meols, Ormskirk, Lancaster. April 4, 1990. Photocopy.
- Diploma from George Peabody College for Teachers for James Gordon Rimmer. Master of Arts. August 22, 1936. Photocopy.
- Diploma from Madison College. Andrew Gordon Rimmer. Bachelor of Science. September 3, 1955. Photocopy.
- Diploma from Southern Missionary College. James Richard Rimmer. Bachelor of Arts in Theology. May 30, 1948. Photocopy.

Inventions

- Box 1 Fld 2 Partial copy of organ blower plans. Letterhead stationary for James G. Rimmer, Organ Blowing Machines.
- Box 1 Fld 3 Rimmer, James G. Portable Grinding Mill (U.S. Patent 2,959,363). 1960. Photocopy. This folder also includes original correspondence, photographs, brochures, and other material related to the portable grinding mill.

Obituaries

- Box 1 Fld 4 Andrew Gordon Rimmer. Unpublished obituary by an unknown author.
- “Homegrown are Resting Also.” *Madison Survey* (March 1998): 11. (James Richard Rimmer obituary.)
- “James Gordon Rimmer: Musician, Inventor, Teacher.” *The Madison Survey* 44 no. 6 (June 1962): 8.

James Gordon Rimmer. Unpublished obituary by an unknown author.

"J. C. Rimmer Dies at Madison College." *ASI News* 12 no. 8 (September 1962): 6.

"J. C. Rimmer Dies at Madison College." *Southern Tidings*. (June 6, 1962): 6.

Madison College Seventh-day Adventist Church [bulletin with acknowledgment of J. G. Rimmer's death]. May 26, 1962.

"Mrs. Rimmer." *SPA Times* 3 no. 5 (December 28, 1976).

"Rimmer, Laura Stout." *Southern Tidings* (January 1977): 27.

"Rimmer." Newspaper clipping with no date, publication title, or author's name.

Miscellaneous

- Box 1 Fld 5 Elementary Education News: Pioneers Honored by T.O.T's." [clipping].
Letterhead stationary for American Guild of Organists, Central Tennessee Chapter, with James G. Rimmer listed as Dean.
The Madison College Social Committee Presents James G. Rimmer, Organist. Program, March 12, 1944. Photocopy.
Miss Laura Stout. Name card.
The Pulse 11 no. 11 (November 1972). Photocopy. Picture and caption about Laura A. Rimmer.
"Report on Madison's Pioneers." *The Madison Survey* 40 no. 3 (March 1958): 2-4.
Rimmer, James G. [Hand-written notes regarding the births of his children.]

II. Correspondence

1903

- Box 1 Fld 6 E. J. Halsatt to James Gordon Rimmer, May 29, 1903.

1939-1942

- Box 1 Fld 7 Most of these letters represent the adolescent correspondence of James Richard Rimmer with missionaries from whom he requested geographic and mission information about various countries in addition to postage stamps for his personal collection. This folder also contains some family correspondence. (33 letters).

1956-1975

- Box 1 Fld 8 Much of the correspondence during this period relates to Andrew Gordon Rimmer's situation at Harbert Hills Academy. Other letters include those of Richard Rimmer's correspondence with notable individuals. (14 letters).

1983-1989

Box 1 Fld 9 Richard Rimmer to editors, government officials, church entities and other organizations or people. Some responses (including some from notable individuals such as Roger Tory Peterson, Lamar Alexander, Charles L. Brooks, and Robert MacNeil) in addition to other letters from acquaintances. (17 letters).

1990-1992

Box 1 Fld 10 Richard Rimmer to editors, government officials, and various organizations and people. Items of interest include letters to and from Ken Burns and two letters in response to a letter Rimmer evidently wrote in support a former Japanese student who attended Madison College during World War II. (16 letters).

1993-1995

Box 1 Fld 11 Richard Rimmer to editors, radio and television stations, the National Rifle Association, and other people or organizations with some responses. This folder also includes a letter from both Richard and Constance Rimmer, addressed to "Cousins," upon the death of their brother, Andrew. (18 letters).

1996

Box 1 Fld 12 Richard Rimmer to editors, church officials, and other people or organizations with some responses (14 letters).

1997-1998

Box 1 Fld 13 Richard Rimmer to editors, and various other organizations and people. People of note in this group of correspondence are Stephen E. Ambrose and Jeris Bragan.

Jim Ford to Constance Rimmer Tiffany, July 28, 1998.

Adventist Review

Box 1 Fld 14 Richard Rimmer to editors at the *Adventist Review* (with some replies) written between 1988 and 1997 (17 letters).

Natural History

Box 1 Fld 15 Richard Rimmer to editor's of *Natural History* magazine (with some replies), written between 1994 and 1997 (12 letters).

Religious Liberty Issues

Box 1 Fld 16 Richard Rimmer to several senators and representatives discussing issues related to religious liberty (includes replies), written between 1971 and 1997 (14 letters).

Signs of the Times

Box 1 Fld 17 Richard Rimmer's to the editors of *Signs of the Times*, written between 1993 and 1997. Some of these letters accompanied submissions to the magazine and include the editor's rejection remarks (7 letters).

Warning Labels on Alcoholic Beverages

Box 1 Fld 18 Thomas R. Neslund and Strom Thurmond to Richard Rimmer, 1989 (7 letters).

III. Writings

Articles (by James Richard Rimmer)

Box 1 Fld 19 "Be Kind to Your Web-Footed Friends."
"The Day Water Ran Uphill."
"Deceptions for the Very Elect: Two Paradoxes, One Solution."
"Prison Cells and Ethical Systems."
"Thanksgiving at Christmastime."
"Thoughts on an April Afternoon."
"'True' Education—and Sodium."

Box 1 Fld 20 "Missing Links: Evolution's Liability." 1996? An earlier version called "The Missing Links are Still Missing" (1993?) was apparently submitted to *The Adventist Review*.

Pamphlets (by James Gordon Rimmer)

Box 1 Fld 21 *Introduction to Dosage & Solutions for Student Nurses*. Madison, TN: author, 1944.
The Value of Whole-Grain Breads. Madison, TN: no publisher, no date.

Recipes (by Laura Rimmer)

All recipes attributed to Laura Rimmer based on information supplied by her daughter, Constance Rimmer Tiffany.

Box 1 Fld 22 *Basic Recipe Book for Whole Food Preparation*.
Madison, TN? : s.n., 1957?

Orange Loaf Cake and Whole Wheat Cake.
Whole Wheat Cake.

Box 2 Fld 1 Manuscript copies of recipes, recipes under development, and recipes collected from others.

Miscellaneous

Box 2 Fld 2 Hydrotherapy procedure sheets. Author unidentified although all sheets have Laura Rimmer's name written on them.

Rimmer, Laura. *How to Grow Celery in Southern Home Gardens*. Madison, TN: Madison College Press, 1943. [pamphlet].

IV. Topical Files (Collected by James Richard Rimmer unless otherwise noted.)

Christian Book Distributors

Box 2 Fld 3 Four letters to and from Richard Rimmer discussing the use of the term "cult" in Christian Book Distributors' catalogs, 1993 and 1996.

Two Christian Book Distributors catalogs.

Christian Coalition

Box 2 Fld 4 Three letters from Richard Rimmer to Pat Robertson, 1993. Mailings from the Christian Coalition.

Harold G. Coffin

Box 2 Fld 5 Harold Coffin to Richard Rimmer, December 22, 1989.
Coffin, Harold G. "Orientation of Trees in the Yellowstone Petrified Forests." *Journal of Paleontology* 50 no. 3 (May 1976): 539-543.
Coffin, Harold G. "Sonar and Scuba Survey of a Submerged Allochthonous 'Forest' in Spirit Lake, Washington." *PALAIOS* 2 (1987): 178-180.
Coffin, Harold G. "Vertical Flotation of Horsetails (*Equisetum*): Geological Implications." *Geological Society of America Bulletin* 82 (July 1971): 2019-2022.
Coffin, Harold G. "The Yellowstone Petrified Forests." (198?) [manuscript].

Creation

Box 2 Fld 6 Ham, Ken. "Dinosaurs and the Bible." 1993. [pamphlet].
Johnson, Phillip E. "The Religion of the Blind Watchmaker." (Publisher and date unidentified).
Marvin L. Lubenow to Richard Rimmer, June 7, 1996.
Richard Rimmer to Answers in Genesis, October 9, 1997.

Promotional material from Answers in Genesis and Creation Ex Nihilo

Richard Rimmer to Editors, *Natural History*, October 3, 1997.

Stephen Jay Gould

Box 2 Fld 7 Fifteen letters from Richard Rimmer addressed to the editors of *Natural History* regarding Stephen Jay Gould or addressed directly to Gould, 1989-1997.

Gould, Stephen Jay. "Impeaching a Self-Appointed Judge." Review of Darwin on Trial by Phillip E. Johnson. *Scientific American* (July 1992): 118-120.

Transcript of an interview with Stephen Jay Gould, (possibly from National Public Radio).

Institute for Creation Research

Box 2 Fld 8 Two letters to and from Richard Rimmer, 1992.

Acts & Facts 21 no. 2 (February 1992).

Impact (February 1992).

Back to Genesis (February 1992).

Promotional brochures from the Institute of Creation Research.

Robert Johnson

Box 2 Fld 9 Contains three outlines and one article with not authors or dates identified. Richard Rimmer placed them in a folder labeled Robert Johnson. The documents are titled:

Confused Over the Basis of Salvation.

Fitness for Heaven—Sanctification.

Glorification.

No Condemnation—Justification.

David Mould

Box 2 Fld 10 Promotional material regarding *The (New, Illustrated) Great Controversy* and Laymen for Religious Liberty.

New Theology

Box 2 Fld 11 Bible Conference poster.

"Peace With God." (Two leaves torn from an unidentified Sabbath School Lesson Quarterly.)

"Some Observations on the Present Theology 'Crisis.'" *Columns*. (No date): 12-15. (Pages torn from unidentified issue.)

“What is the Seventh Day Adventist Reform Movement?”
[brochure].

Oil Well

Box 2 Fld 12 Correspondence and documents regarding an oil well in which Laura Rimmer apparently inherited an interest.

Our Firm Foundation

Box 2 Fld 13 Seven letters to and from Richard Rimmer regarding *Our Firm Foundation* and Hope International.

Miscellaneous promotional material from Hope International.

Thirteen issues of *Our Firm Foundation*, dating from 1987 to 1994 (following folder).

Southern Publishing Association

Box 2 Fld 14 Articles, letters, and other documents regarding the closing of the Southern Publishing Association including documents prepared for delegates on the merging of the Southern Publishing Association with the Review & Herald Publishing Association.

Ron Spear

Box 2 Fld 15 “A Matter of Balance, and Some Subtle Suggestions.” (Manuscript, no author or date).

“An Open Letter and Reply to Ron Spear.” (Manuscript, no author or date).

Ralph Larson to Richard Rimmer, January 23, 1988.

Universal Publishing Association

Box 2 Fld 16 Two letters to and from Richard Rimmer regarding The Universal Publishing Association’s *Indianapolis 1990*.

Indianapolis 1990. Exeter, MO: The Universal Publishing Association, 1991.

V. Photographs

Box 3 Fld 1 James Gordon Rimmer with group at the grave of Rachel Preston

James Gordon Rimmer & Laura Stout Rimmer (3 pictures)
Rimmer Family, 1943

James Richard Rimmer (3 pictures)

Rimmer Family trip to Florida, September 1938 (8 pictures)

Rimmer Home, Madison College
Constance Rimmer Tiffany (6 small pictures, 2 large pictures)
Rimmer Children (4 pictures)
Rimmer Children with Friends (3 pictures)
Rimmer Family Friends (5 pictures)

Box 3 Fld 2 Laura Stout Rimmer's photo album pages (41 pages).
Photos dating from 1914 to 1930 include family members as well as:
Washington Missionary College students
Cafeteria on 6th Ave. in Nashville
Harding Sanitarium
Senator Warren G. Harding in a group picture taken in Worthington, Ohio
Bird City, Kansas, Seventh-day Adventist Church
Family photos include George Datus and Frankie Raff and children, missionaries to Puerto Rico, South America, and Panama.

Items Removed

The following items were added to other Adventist Heritage Center Collections or discarded according to Center policies.

The Anti-Infidels Library:

- Egypt in History and Prophecy
- Friendly Hints to Candid Enquirers
- Who Made the New Testament?
- The Errors of Evolution Part I
- The Errors of Evolution Part III
- The Errors of Evolution Part IV
- Birmingham, AL evangelistic series, 1947. Nearly a complete set of fliers, mailings, and material used in the meetings.
- "The Board Speaks: A Report Published by the Board of Trustees of Southern College of Seventh-day Adventist." (March 1994).
- Christ in Song*, two sample copies.
- Crusade for Christ v. 1 no. 2 (March 21, 1947) to v. 1 no. 8 (May 2, 1947).
- Frazer, William D. *Out of the Cities*. [pamphlet].
- Harbert Hills Academy. Photocopies of 8 articles about the academy.
- Harbert Hills Academy constituency meeting documents, June 30, 1973.
- Haskell, Stephen N., et. al. *The Nashville Agricultural and Normal Institute*. Mountain View, CA: Pacific Press Publishing Co., 1908. [pamphlet].
- Haskell, Stephen N., et. al. *Ownership and Control of the Madison School*. Sanitarium, Napa Co., CA: The Elmshaven Press, 1914. [pamphlet].
- Health Leaflet, Nos. 12 and 14. Madison, TN: Medical Missionary Volunteer Society.

- Hegstad, Roland. "The Best of Roland Hegstad." [pamphlet]. (No publication information.)
- Introduction: The Work of the Spirit of Prophecy (pamphlet with missing cover).
- John Osborne seminar brochure, 1987.
- Kentucky Tennessee Junior Camp photographs (3 pictures).
- The Layworker* (September 20, 1990).
- "The Learn-How-to-be-Well Lectures" by Julius Gilbert White. [advertisement for book].
- Madison College and Hospital fund-raising letter, February 18, 1960.
- Madison College [slides and photographs].
- Madison Sanitarium and Hospital, 2 postcards.
- Madison College and Hospital-Sanitarium Telephone Directory.
- The Madison Survey*. (June 1955).
- The Madison Survey and Alumni News* (March 1964 - March 1967) - 6 issues, not consecutive.
- Medical Evangelistic Library, numbers 4 and 6.
- The Nashville Agricultural and Normal Institute and the Rural Sanitarium: a Hand Book. Nashville: Southern Publishing Association, n.d. (James Gordon Rimmer's name is handwritten it inside the front cover.)
- Our Firm Foundation*, five duplicate copies.
- Postcards of Stone Mountain (2)
- Prophecy Countdown Telecaster*. v. 1 no. 2 Summer 1987 (2 copies) and v. 1 no. 1 Spring 1987 (2 copies).
- Readers Digest* article excerpt: "Self-Supporting College." (May 1938). 3 copies.
- The Rural Schools of the South: A Symposium*. Nashville: Southern Publishing Association. [pamphlet].
- The Secret of Soul-Wining. Baton Rouge, LA: Medical Mission Press [brochure].
- Southern Accent* v. 3 no. 12 (March 5, 1948).
- Southern Publishing Association [3 photographs].
- Southern Publishing Association [slides]. (Note from donor suggests opening or dedication of new building.)
- "Tithe: Ellen G. White's Counsel and Practice." Supplement to the *Adventist Review*.
- Unidentified photographs (probably related to Madison College).
- Wallace, Marguerite and Harold A. Miller. "Madison." [school song]. 2 copies, new copy labeled "Our Song."
- White, Ellen G. An Appeal for the Madison School. May 25, 1908 [leaflet]. 5 copies.
- White, Ellen G. *A Call to Medical Evangelism*. Nashville: The Associated Lecturers' Bureau, 1933.
- White, Ellen G. *Country Living: An Aid to Moral and Social Security*. Washington, D. C.: Review and Herald, 1946.
- White, Ellen G. *The Madison School*. Mountain View, CA: Pacific Press Publishing Co., 1908. [pamphlet].
- Wiggam, Albert Edward. "The Most Remarkable Man I Have Ever Known." *The American Magazine* (1925?) [photocopy].
- Words of Encouragement to Self-Supporting Workers [pamphlet].

THE END