Farnsworth Family Diaries

(Collection 182)

Center for Adventist Research
Andrews University
Berrien Springs, Michigan
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Processed by Theodore Levterov

Farnsworth Family Diaries (Collection 182)

Scope and Content:

The roots of the Farnsworth family are in Washington, New Hampshire. They belonged to the Washington Christian Church, which became known as the first church where a group of adventists observed the seventh-day Sabbath beginning about 1844. Thus the family is famous for being the first of the Sabbatarian adventist believers that kept the seventh-day Sabbath.

There were at least two sets of Farnsworth families in Washington, N.H., brothers William and Cyrus. The writers of these diaries are all descendants of Cyrus Farnsworth, except Elgin Glenn who came from a different Farnsworth family (not William). This lineage is confirmed by a Farnsworth family genealogist, Ruth Ann (Woodruff) Farnsworth. One of the accompanying books was owned at one time by Cyrus. Alternatively, these could be diaries written by children or grandchildren of William Farnsworth. However, from a list of his children, none of the names represented in these diaries were his children.

The Farnsworth family diaries collection consist of two kinds of materials: 1.) annual diaries of different members of the Farnsworth family and 2.) several other materials belonging to the Farnsworth family. The diaries extend from 1867 to 1923 and represent the life of several generations of the Farnsworth family. The family members who have a diary represented in this collection are:

Elgin G. Farnsworth (Ida's husband, from a different Farnsworth family) Ida D. Farnsworth
Roy E. Farnsworth
Solon A. Farnsworth
Vieva S.(?) Farnsworth
Waldo Farnsworth

Arrangement:

The arrangement was imposed by the Adventist Heritage Center. The diaries are in order by the writers name.

Provenance:

William C. Gillaspy of Peoria, Arizona donated the collection to the Arizona Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in November 1986. In December 1995, the Arizona Conference donated the Farnsworth's collection to the Adventist Heritage Center at Andrews University.

Extent:

1 Hollinger box (5 inches/0.40 linear feet – 13 cm/0.12 linear meter)

Use:

All users of this collection will be required to complete the "Application to Use Unpublished Record," and to observe the regulation specified in the "Patron's Agreement" and "Researcher's Code of Conduct."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. Citation for this collection:

Envelope ____, Farnsworth Family Diaries (Collection 182), Center for Adventist Research, James White Library, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI.

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INVENTORY

I. Diaries from varies members of the Farnsworth family (alphabetically arranged).

Elgin Glenn Farnsworth

Envelope 1 1922 Envelope 2 1923

Elgin Glenn Farnsworth

Envelope 3 1873 Envelope 4 1876

Ida D. Farnsworth

Envelope 5 1871

Envelope 13 1881 [Likely Ida D. Farnsworth]

Roy E. Farnsworth

Envelope 6 1902 Envelope 7 1903 Envelope 8 1904

Solon A. Farnsworth

Envelope 9 1867

Vieva S. Farnsworth

Envelope 10 1902 Envelope 11 1905

Waldo Farnsworth

Envelope 12 1906

No name

Envelope 14 1903 Envelope 15 1909

II. Other Materials (belonging to members of the Farnsworth family)

- Envelope 16 "A Prayer notebook," (Dated from 1907 to 1920). It is uncertain to whom it belonged. (The names of Henry Bumford, Croll and Waldo Farnsworth appear in the beginning of the notebook). There is a personal letter found in the pocket of the notebook.
- Envelope 17 The Christian Psalmist: Being a Collection of Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs Compiled from the Most Approved Authors, and Designed as a Standard Hymn Book, for Public and Social Worship (Philadelphia: James Kay, Jun & Brothers, 1840).

This hymn-book belonged to Cyrus K. Farnsworth.

Envelope 18 *The New Testament* (and the book of Psalms). NY: American Bible Society, 1855.