

Guide to
William Franklin Burcaw Papers

1942-1993, bulk 1942-1952

.02 linear feet

Accession Number: 2005-02

Collection Number: CN 006

Prepared by Lolana Thompson
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Abstract: Pastor, evangelist, singer, teacher. Correspondence regarding ministry and personal life.

Preferred Citation:

[Identification of the Item], William Franklin Burcaw Papers, CN 006, Folder [number], Archives, Dallas Theological Seminary.

Archives, Dallas Theological Seminary, 3909 Swiss Ave., Dallas, TX 75204

Biographical Sketch: William Franklin Burcaw was born October 21, 1909 and died January 3, 1993. Although raised in a Christian home, he rejected church when he was twelve. He dropped out of school in the sixth grade, but continued his education through reading. Burcaw became a talented singer who performed in nightclubs, theaters, and on radio. He married a woman known as Wally. After accepting Christ as his savior, Burcaw changed his lifestyle and sang and shared his testimony in churches. He felt led to preach and traveled to Dallas Theological Seminary to study. Because he lacked a bachelor's degree, Burcaw was admitted as a special student. He made good grades and completed the four year program, earning his certificate in 1942. Burcaw served in churches in several states, including Oregon, Illinois, Montana, and Texas, and ministered with many significant individuals.

References:

Program for the Eighteenth Annual Commencement of the Dallas Theological Seminary and Graduate School of Theology, May 5, 1942.

William F. Burcaw Papers, CN 006, Archives, Dallas Theological Seminary.

System of Arrangement: Alphabetical by correspondent and chronological within each file.

Series Note: This collection of William F. Burcaw's papers is divided into two series.

Series I. Correspondence, 1942-1952 (45 leaves, 3 folders)

Consists of thirty-six letters.

Series II. Miscellaneous, 1948, 1993 (3 leaves, 1 folder)

Consists of two items: a newsletter and a memorial.

Scope and Content Note: This collection of William F. Burcaw's papers is housed in four folders. The correspondence consists of letters between William F. Burcaw and three of his former professors at Dallas Theological Seminary. The correspondence from H. A. Ironside primarily relates to details about arrangements to travel and speak at Burcaw's church. The correspondence between Burcaw and Lewis Sperry Chafer and Charles L. Feinberg includes a broader range of subjects and provides brief glimpses of each of their ministries and personal lives. Some of the collection relates to Burcaw's time in Houston, Texas, including his ministry at Berachah Church and the Houston Bible Institute. The miscellaneous material consists of two items, a newsletter from Dallas Theological Seminary and a memorial tribute written by Burcaw's children.

Selected Search Terms:

Burcaw, William Franklin

Chafer, Lewis Sperry

Feinberg, Charles Lee

Ironside, H. A. (Henry Allan)

Donor/Source: Donated by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas S. Rose in October, 2004. Mrs. Rose, Mary, is a daughter of William Franklin Burcaw.

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Container List**Series I. Correspondence 1942-1952**Folder# Title, Dates, Description

- 1 Chafer, Lewis Sperry, 1943-1949
Six letters from Burcaw to Chafer, and nine letters, one telegram, and one card from Chafer to Burcaw; topics include words of encouragement, Dallas Theological Seminary, Burcaw's family, Chafer's health, working together at an evangelistic meeting, printed memorial for Mrs. Chafer, arrangements for Chafer to speak at the dedication of a new building for Berachah Church, Burcaw's ministry preaching and teaching; [the baby mentioned in the letter to Chafer dated February 1, 1949 is Mary Burcaw Rose].
- 2 Feinberg, Charles Lee, 1942-1952
Two letters from Burcaw to Feinberg and twelve letters from Feinberg to Burcaw; topics include Burcaw continuing his education, Feinberg's studies, mutual friends, their families, arrangements for Feinberg to speak in Houston, and Burcaw's ministry.
- 3 Ironside, H. A. (Henry Allan), 1948
Six letters from Ironside regarding arrangements for him to speak in Houston, and Ironside's difficulties because of a broken arm.

Series II. Miscellaneous 1948, 1993Folder# Title, Dates, Description

- 4 Miscellaneous 1948, 1993
Bulletin of Dallas Theological Seminary, July-August, 1948, v. 24 no. 4; two page memorial testimony written by Burcaw's children.