

Hazel Chamberlain papers, 1922-1925

Overview of the Collection

Creator	Chamberlain, Hazel
Title	Hazel Chamberlain papers
Dates	1922-1925 (inclusive) 1922 1925
Quantity	0.75 linear feet, (3 containters)
Collection Number	A 195
Summary	Hazel Chamberlain was a Christian missionary stationed in Paraguay in the 1920s. The collection includes correspondence, an essay, and photographs that reflect Chamberlain's life as a missionary.
Repository	University of Oregon Libraries, Special Collections and University Archives. UO Libraries--SPC, 1299 University of Oregon Eugene OR 97403-1299 Telephone: 541-346-3068 Fax: 541-346-3485 spcarref@uoregon.edu
Access Restrictions	Collection is open to the public. Collection must be used in Special Collections & University Archives Reading Room.
Languages	English
Sponsor	Funding for encoding this finding aid was provided through a grant awarded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Historical Note

Hazel Chamberlain served as a missionary in Paraguay in the early 1920s. A native of New Jersey, Chamberlain immigrated to Villarrica, Paraguay, in May 1922. Chamberlain served as an educator and evangelist in this town and the surrounding countryside for the next two years. Paraguay grappled with internal violence and revolution during Chamberlain's first year of residency and she discusses how this impacted her, her missionary work, and the lives of locals. At some point during the 1920s, Chamberlain married fellow missionary W. J. Anderson, a Canadian, and she may have moved to Toronto. Little else is known about Chamberlain since the collection consists of only three years of letters.

Content Description

The Hazel Chamberlain Papers consist of several of Chamberlain's outgoing letters, some photographs, and an essay written about the Chamberlain Papers by E. G. Kirkpatrick. This collection

offers a brief glimpse into the first years of an American missionary's experiences in central South America.

Chamberlain's letters are appropriately filled with information on evangelical activities--either through the mission's school or visits to nearby villages or hospitals. Chamberlain appears to have been part of a mission that tried to convert Guarani Indians. Her letters discuss the missionaries' successes (primarily through the counting of converts or students) and some of the challenges they encountered (as when neighbors banished converts from their village). Moreover, this collection gives some indication of the impact Protestant missionary work had on central Paraguay; for example, Chamberlain observed that children in their schools had to pass a government exam--one administered by Catholics who were, according to Chamberlain, "very much opposed to the Gospel." Chamberlain offered observations on her students, local politics, and the 1922 revolution that disrupted her life (despite persistent claims to the contrary).

The novelty of Paraguayan life to Chamberlain is evident in her letters. Initially, she tried to describe everything--including houses, food, and furnishings as well as the poverty of local residents and Guarani Indians. Subsequent letters focus on day-to-day living. Aside from missionary work, Chamberlain described the weather, insects, domestic and wild animals, local markets, and her finances.

The six photographs shelved with this collection contain images of Chamberlain's acquaintances, a group of Guarani school children, and landscape photos. Other photos associated with this collection are stored separately with the Missionary Photographs under call number PH279_03. They include 30 images in the form of 42 prints and negatives from 1922-1925. The images are primarily of the women working at the mission; other images show members of the Hay family and a trip the missionaries took to Brazil.

The Kirkpatrick paper features excerpts from Chamberlain's letters on specific topics (such as "supplies" or "civics"). It includes several photographs.

History of the "Inland South American Missionary Union of New York":

In 1902 the Paraguayan Evangelistic and Medical Mission was started. The work rapidly spread to Brazil and Argentina, thus the name was changed to Inland South America Missionary Union. The Missionary was created by John Hay and Margaret Elizabeth Hay. (Several members of the Hay family are pictured in one of the images in this collection). The missionary work was not limited to just the Indians, soon mixed blood and descendants of white settlers were serviced also.

In 1932 Alex Hay took over the mission and renamed it the New Testament Missionary Union. This mission held the deep conviction that Biblical principles and methods of working should take preference over conventional ones. The workers were also no longer allowed to appeal for money. (Hazel would have been a member of the mission before this final name change, because she mentions money received from an individual in one of her postcards.)

Use of the Collection

Alternative Forms Available

Available in microfilm as part of: *Women's lives. Series 3, American women missionaries and pioneers collection* (MICROFILM BV3703 .W66 2006, reel 74); Primary Source Microfilm, 12 Lunar Dr., Woodbridge, Conn. 06525.

Restrictions on Use

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If a researcher finds sensitive personal information in a collection, please bring it to the attention of the reading room staff.

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Hazel Chamberlain papers, A 195, Special Collections & University Archives, University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon.

Administrative Information

Arrangement

Collection is organized into the following series:

Series I: Correspondence

Series II: Essay

Series III: Photographs

Series IV: Photographs (PH279_03)

Processing Note

Photographs processed by Megan Dazey.

This finding aid may be updated periodically to account for new acquisitions to the collection and/or revisions in arrangement and description.

Detailed Description of the Collection

Series I: Correspondence

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
1	1	Letters	April 1922- September 1922
1	2	Letters	October 1922- January 1923
1	3	Letters	February 1923- May 1923
1	4	Letters	June 1923- September 1924
1	5	Letters	February 1925; Undated

Series II: Essay

Container(s)		Description
Box	Folder	
1	6	"Booklet of Paraguay," by E. G. Kirkpatrick

Series III: Photographs

Container(s)		Description
Box	Folder	
2	1	"Rio de Janerro [sic] Harbor"
2	2	"Some of the mission kids..."
2	3	"Some Paraguay Homes"
2	4	"Rapid Transit"
2	5	Conception and Patrona shopping

Series IV: Photographs (PH279_03), 1920-1929

0.25 linear feet

Chamberlain, Hazel

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box		
1	PH279_03_01: A bunch of us on a breakfast hike at the estancia of the couple standing in the center. [Five women and one man standing in open field, women are wearing dresses.] 1.0 photographic print 3.5 x 4.5 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_01n: A bunch of us on a breakfast hike at the estancia of the couple standing in the center. [Five women and one man standing in open field, women are wearing dresses.] 1.0 negative 3.5 x 4.5 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_02: Buddy and Bobby Allen taken just outside our fence [Two young children with building in background.] 1.0 photographic print 2.25 x 3.25 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_03: [Several boats in harbor.] 1.0 photographic print 2.5 x 3.5 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_03n: [Several boats in harbor.] 1.0 negative 2 x 3 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_04: [Large boat and small boat on water, shoreline in background.] 1.0 photographic print 2.5 x 3.5 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_05: [Hills on shoreline.] 1.0 photographic print 2.5 x 3.5 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_05n: [Hills on shoreline.] 1.0 negative 2 x 3 inches	1922-1925

Container(s)	Description	Dates
1	PH279_03_06: [Eight women in dresses or skirts standing next to railing of ship.] 1.0 photographic print 2.5 x 3.5 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_06n: [Eight women in dresses or skirts standing next to railing of ship.] 1.0 negative 2 x 3 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_07: [Trees standing in water.] 1.0 photographic print 2.5 x 3.5 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_07n: [Trees standing in water.] 1.0 negative 2 x 3 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_08: [Trees standing in water with a boat between them.] 1.0 photographic print 2.5 x 3.5 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_08n: [Trees standing in water with a boat between them.] 1.0 negative 2 x 3 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_09: [Three women standing near each other, two are wearing Western style dresses, tall palm tree in the background.] 1.0 photographic print 3.5 x 2.5 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_09n: [Three women standing near each other, two are wearing Western style dresses, tall palm tree in the background.] 1.0 negative 3 x 2 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_10: [Five women standing in front of doorway, the tallest woman has her arms on the shoulders of two of the other women.] 1.0 photographic print 2.5 x 3.5 inches	1922-1925

Container(s)	Description	Dates
1	PH279_03_10n: [Five women standing in front of doorway, the tallest woman has her arms on the shoulders of two of the other women.] 1.0 negative 2 x 3 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_11: [Five women standing in front of doorway, the tallest woman has her arms on the shoulders of two of the other women.] 1.0 photographic print 2.5 x 3.4 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_11n: [Five women standing in front of doorway, the tallest woman has her arms on the shoulders of two of the other women.] 1.0 negative 2 x 3 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_12: [Man and two women in separate lounge chairs on deck of ship, all are wearing long heavy coats and hats.] 1.0 photographic print 2.5 x 3.5 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_12n: [Man and two women in separate lounge chairs on deck of ship, all are wearing long heavy coats and hats.] 1.0 negative 2.5 x 3.5 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_13: [Woman standing behind 10 children with dark clothes and dark hair, except one of the boys who is blonde and wearing light colored clothing.] 1.0 photographic print 2.5 x 3.5 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_13n: [Woman standing behind 10 children with dark clothes and dark hair, except one of the boys who is blonde and wearing light colored clothing.] 1.0 negative 1.75 x 2.5 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_14: Our happy family in Sillarrica. [Man standing between four women, all are behind three women sitting on ground, all are wearing light colored clothing, standing on cut grass with building and fence in background.] 1.0 photographic print	1922-1925

Container(s)	Description	Dates
	3.25 x 4.75 inches	
1	PH279_03_15: Some market women, they come in for miles with great loads on their heads. Sell their stuff and walk back again in the heat. [Two women walking down dirt road with baskets on heads, younger female child walking with them.] 1.0 photographic print 4.5 x 3.5 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_15n: Some market women, they come in for miles with great loads on their heads. Sell their stuff and walk back again in the heat. [Two women walking down dirt road with baskets on heads, younger female child walking with them.] 1.0 negative 4.5 x 3.5 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_16: This isn't three little maids home from school, but three little maids from markets, with enough fruit and vegetables to last over the week end for nine hungry missionaries. We had chicken every Sunday. We can get one for \$8 (11 cents U.S.). 1.0 photographic print Three women standing in yard with building and fence in background. One woman holds a dark wicker basket, the next holds two chickens by their feet, the third holds an open topped wicker basket and wears a hat 3.5 x 4.75 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_17: A bunch of us at B.A. [11 women stand on paved area in Buenos Aires, with sailors and other men in background.] 1.0 photographic print 3.5 x 5.5 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_18: Harbor at Buenos Aires. [Three-masted ship in harbor, shoreline with piers and buildings in background.] 1.0 photographic print 3.5 x 5.5 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_19: Edith, Margaret, Hazel, Hazel, Ethel, Alma, Marie. [7 women standing in a line together on deck of ship.] 1.0 photographic print 3.5 x 5.5 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_20: Harbor at Rio. [Harbor with ships, piers and buildings on shoreline.] 1.0 photographic print	1922-1925

Container(s)	Description	Dates
	3.5 x 5.5 inches	
1	PH279_03_21: Ycua Pyta Villarrica. [Large stone fountain with woman holding child and young boy with pail near base, fence and trees in background.] 1.0 photographic print 3.5 x 5.5 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_22: Rancho Campestre. [Two men and woman with four children standing in front of thatched roof buildings with trees and chickens in background.] 1.0 photographic print 3.5 x 5.5 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_23: The bunch on board ship. [8 women and three men on ship deck, railings in background.] 1.0 photographic print 3.5 x 5.5 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_24: The bunch again. [Several men and women in wooden lounge chairs on deck of ship.] 1.0 photographic print 3.5 x 5.5 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_25: [Hills on shoreline.] 1.0 negative 2 x 3 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_26: [Three women standing outside home, with horse partially visible next to them.] 1.0 negative 2 x 3 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_27: [Illegible] 1.0 negative 2 x 3 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_28: Rapid transit on the boulevards of Paraguay. [Man on cart being pulled by oxen, in brushy area.] 1.0 negative 4.5 x 3.5 inches	1922-1925
1	PH279_03_29: A woman washing in a water hole. This is the place when we had out picnic, notice the mts in the background. [Woman standing in water mostly covered by leaves, under a tree, open area in background.]	1922-1925

Container(s)	Description	Dates
	1.0 negative 4.5 x 3.5 inches	
1	PH279_03_30: Some Paraguayan homes. [Two small homes with thatched roofing, trees behind them, open cut grass area in foreground.] 1.0 negative 4.5 x 3.5 inches	1922-1925

Names and Subjects

Subject Terms :

Evangelistic work--Paraguay--Villarrica
 Guarani Indians--Missions--Paraguay--Villarrica
 Guarani Indians--Paraguay--Villarrica
 Missions, American--Paraguay
 Teachers--Paraguay--Cillarrica--Correspondence
 Women Christian educators--Paraguay--Villarrica--Correspondence
 Women evangelists--Paraguay--Villarrica--Correspondence
 Women missionaries--Paraguay--Villarrica--Correspondence
 Women missionaries--Paraguay--Villarrica--Photographs

Personal Names :

Chamberlain, Hazel--Correspondence
 Kirkpatrick, E.G.

Geographical Names :

Paraguay--Description and travel
 Paraguay--Economic conditions--1918-1954
 Paraguay--History--Revolution, 1922-1923
 Paraguay--Politics and government--1870-1938
 Paraguay--Social conditions--20th century
 Paraguay--Social life and customs--20th century

Form or Genre Terms :

Negatives
 Photographic prints
 Postcards
 Safety film negatives
 Silver gelatin prints

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