



Allen Britten Cooper Papers (CG0033)

Collection Number: CG0033

Collection Title: Allen Britten Cooper Papers

Dates: 1934-1955, undated

Creator: Cooper, A.B. (Allen Britten), 1898-1965

Abstract: The Allen Britten Cooper Papers contain 527 sermon notes from 1934 to 1955. The majority have no year associated with them. Also included is a manuscript of Old Testament sermon notes transcribed by May Lawrence Cooper.

Collection Size: 0.4 cubic foot
(5 folders)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Cape Girardeau](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at capegirardeau@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: The Donor has given, assigned, and transferred to the Society all copyrights, and associated rights the Donor may possess in the materials.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Allen Britten Cooper Papers* (CG0033); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Cape Girardeau [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Cape Girardeau].

Donor Information: The collection was donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Mary Anne Pemberton on January 8, 2019 (Accession No. CGA0032).

Processed by: Processed by Garret B. Kremer-Wright, January 15, 2019

Historical Note:

Allen Britten (A.B.) Cooper was born on July 19, 1898, in Melbourne, Arkansas, to James Franklin Cooper and Mary Edna Clem. He graduated high school in Mountain Home, Arkansas.

Cooper began preaching at the age of 19 and received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Ouachita College in 1927. During his time in college, he was the pastor of Kingland Baptist Church. His first pastorate was in Brinkley, Arkansas, where he served from 1928 to 1933. He moved to Charleston, Missouri, in 1933, to serve as pastor at First Baptist Church until 1940. Other pastorates included New Bethel Church (1941-1950) in Jackson, Missouri and Wyatt Baptist Church (1951-1965) in Charleston. In 1939, he was instrumental in founding the Baptist Student Union on the campus of Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau, Missouri. In his memory, the A.B. Cooper Memorial Meals and A.B. Cooper Student Recreation Room were named in his honor in the building. Throughout his career, he established and built fourteen churches in southeast Missouri, most of them in Mississippi County. He was also a member of the Masons, Charleston Rotary Club, Mississippi County American Red Cross chairman in 1937, and served on the State Board of Training Schools under Governor Phil M. Donnelly.

Cooper married Janie May Lawrence on February 8, 1918, and had eight children: six daughters and two sons. Beginning in 1953, Cooper served as postmaster of Charleston until his death. He died on February 19, 1965, at the Methodist Hospital in Houston, Texas. His remains were removed to Charleston, where he was buried in the International Order of Odd Fellows Cemetery in the city.

Arrangement:

The collection is arranged in one series.

Scope and Content Note:

This collection contains nearly 527 sermon notes of Reverend Allen Britten Cooper from 1934 to 1955. The majority have no year associated with them. The notes are in an outline format and comprise 327 sermon notes taken from New Testament scripture. Approximately, 200 sermons are also included in a typed manuscript that was transcribed by May Lawrence Cooper discussing Old Testament scripture verses.

Container List:

Box 001	f. 1-3	Sermon outlines, 1934-1955, no date
	f. 4-5	Sermons manuscript by May Lawrence Cooper, no date

Index:

Index Term	Folder
Baptists--Missouri--Clergy	f. 1-5
Baptists--Sermons	f. 1-5
Cooper, A.B. (Allen Britten), 1898-1965	f. 1-2
Cooper, Janie May Lawrence, 1898-1994	f. 2
First Baptist Church (Brinkley, Ark.)	f. 1-3
New Bethel Baptist Church (Jackson, Mo.)	f. 1-5
Wyatt Baptist Church (Charleston, Mo.)	f. 1-5