

**BARTOW D. RAGSDALE COLLECTION**  
PP0102

**Descriptive Summary**

*Creator* Ragsdale, Bartow D. 1861-1944

*Title* Bartow D. Ragsdale Collection

*Accession Number* PP0104

*Physical Description* 2.92 linear feet in one records center box, 1 flat box, and 1 full Hollinger box

*Inclusive Dates* 1914-1928

*Language Note* English

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**Administrative Information**

*Repository*

Mercer University Library  
Archives and Digital Initiatives  
1501 Mercer University Dr.  
Macon, Georgia 31207  
478-301-2968  
archives@mercer.edu

*Citation*

[after identification of item(s)], Bartow D. Ragsdale Collection. Archives and Digital Initiatives, Mercer University Library, Macon, GA.

*Acquisition*

Gift of unknown

*Processing note*

Inventory prepared by Jahni Jules

*Restrictions on access*

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## Collection Description

### *Biographical Note*

Bartow Davis Ragsdale was born in DeKalb County on February 7, 1861. He earned both that A.B. (1886) and the A.M. (1892) from Mercer University and married Lois Cloud in 1889. The couple had two children. Ragsdale pastored Baptist churches in Albany, Quitman, Cairo, Decatur, Lithonia, Conyers, Canton, and Locust Grove. He conducted Bible Institutes across the state during the 1890s. President P. D. Pollock then tapped him to occupy the Chair of English Bible at Mercer, and Ragsdale went on to serve as treasurer of the university from 1914 to 1928. He also served as Recording Secretary of the Georgia Baptist Convention for 49 years. His most lasting contribution to Georgia Baptist life was his work, *The Story of Georgia Baptists*. He died on July 18, 1944, in Atlanta.

### *Scope and Content Note*

Box 1 contains correspondence, account papers, and Bursar records. Box 2 contains speeches, sermons, and other materials related to his work in the Baptist denomination. Box 3 contains copper plate lithographs used in the printing of *The Story of Georgia Baptists*.

### *Subjects*

Baptists—Georgia  
Mercer University

### *Related Material*

*The Story of Georgia Baptists* (BX6248.G4 R3)

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## Series Description

- Series 1: Accounts
- Series 2: Board of Trustees
- Series 3: Correspondence
- Series 4: Miscellaneous
- Series 5: Ledger Lecture Notes
- Series 6: Copper Plate Lithographs

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## Container List

### SERIES 1: ACCOUNTS

Folder 1/1: Accounts, 1914

- Folder 1/2: Accounts, 1915-1916
- Folder 1/3: Accounts, 1917
- Folder 1/4: Accounts, 1918
- Folder 1/5: Accounts, 1919
- Folder 1/6: Accounts, 1920; 1923; 1925-1926; 1928; 1930; No Date

SERIES 2: BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- Folder 1/7: Board of Trustees, 1921; 1924-1925
- Folder 1/8: Board of Trustees, 1926-1927
- Folder 1/9: Board of Trustees, No Date

SERIES 3: CORRESPONDENCE

- Folder 1/10: Correspondence, 1887; 1892; 1896; 1902-1903
- Folder 1/11: Correspondence, 1904
- Folder 1/12: Correspondence, 1905-1906; 1912-1913
- Folder 1/13: Correspondence, 1914
- Folder 1/14: Correspondence, 1915
- Folder 1/15: Correspondence, 1916
- Folder 1/16: Correspondence, 1917
- Folder 1/17: Correspondence, 1918
- Folder 1/18: Correspondence, 1918
- Folder 1/19: Correspondence, 1919-1922
- Folder 1/20: Correspondence, 1923-1924
- Folder 1/21: Correspondence, 1925
- Folder 1/22: Correspondence, 1926

- Folder 1/23: Correspondence, 1927
- Folder 1/24: Correspondence, 1928
- Folder 1/25: Correspondence, 1928
- Folder 1/26: Correspondence, 1929-1938; 1941; 1958
- Folder 1/27: Correspondence, Clegg/King
- Folder 1/28: Correspondence, No Date

SERIES 4: MISCELLANEOUS

- Folder 1/29: Datebook, 1910
- Folder 1/30: Dunson & Gay Mortgage Co. and Mercer Bursar, 1916-1917
- Folder 1/31: Dunson & Gay Mortgage Co. and Mercer Bursar, 1918
- Folder 1/32: Dunson & Gay Mortgage Co. and Mercer Bursar, 1919
- Folder 1/33: Financial Papers
- Folder 1/34: Georgia Baptist Convention, 1917-1918; 1921-1924; 1926
- Folder 1/35: Information Request (Military Training), 1918
- Folder 1/36: Information Request (Mercer University), 1918
- Folder 1/37: Mercer Bursar (Miscellaneous)
- Folder 2/1: 75 Million Campaign
- Folder 2/2: Ministerial Aid
- Folder 2/3: Miscellaneous
- Folder 2/4: News Clippings
- Folder 2/5: Picture of the Last Supper
- Folder 2/6: Speeches and Sermons

SERIES 5: LEDGER LECTURE NOTES

Folder 2/7: Lecture Notes: "Life of Jesus" Oct. 1886- Jan. 1887

SERIES 6: COPPER PLATE LITHOGRAPHS

Item 3/1: Ragsdale, I facing title page

Item 3/2: Ragsdale, I facing p. 52

Item 3/3: Ragsdale, I facing p. 100

Item 3/4: Ragsdale, I facing p. 244

Item 3/5: Unnamed