Collections of the Revd. R.B. Budgett of his service in Dornakal Diocese, India, including involvement in creation of the Church of South India

35 items, 1913-1958

Apparantly presented c.1996-2000, possibly through Ridley Hall or Centre for South Asian Studies (Acc. 19/23)

Catalogued as ‘South India’ by Jane Gregory, Librarian June 2000; re-named, introduction added and substantial amendment made to some descriptions (retaining arrangement but including IND 5/1-5 transferred from former MAPS collection) by Philip Saunders May 2017

Revd Robert Bradbury (Robin) Budgett read Mechanical Sciences at Christ’s College Cambridge, graduating MA in 1934 and afterwards trained for ministry at Ridley Hall, being ordained deacon 1936, priest 1937. He then went to India under Church Missionary Society, being based mainly at Bezwada in Dornakal Diocese [Crockford]. The fact that he reused the backs of some minor correspondence addressed to persons in a district centre at Bezwada and Madras suggests some involvement in administration at the former, but the Dornakal Diocesan Magazines show that he occupied the office of ‘chaplain’ (an office with a history going back in India to the era of East India Company rule) in Ellore and Masulipatam. This was a Telugu-speaking district, part of the Madras Presidency/Central Provinces within the British Raj, now Andhra Pradesh and Telangana states. The existence of well-used Telugu Bible and service sheets suggest he mastered the language and also that he had a particular interest in service forms, being responsible for reprinting in India a a form for a Litany of Remembrance for retreats (IND 3/2).

Dornakal was the most northerly bar Medak of the fourteen dioceses that became one of the constituents in 1947 of the ground-breaking ecumenical Church of South India (CSI), formed by the amalgamation of the Anglican with the Methodist church and the South India United Church (the last being a product of union in 1908 of the Congregational and Presbyterian missions). The city of Madras (now Chennai) lay to the south and was the venue for negotiations and final ceremonies for the formation of CSI. Budgett returned from India in 1950, becoming initially vicar of Hopton in rural Norfolk 1950-3, before being curate-in-charge at Bestwood, Nottingham, a mining village on edge of Nottingham conurbation, 1953-61, before returning to Norfolk, being rector of Overstrand 1961-73 and in retirement priest-in-charge of Salle. In these years he continued a supporter of the
Church of South India, of which he had been one of the founding clergy, as shown in the campaign pamphlet in the CCCW Library on *The Church of South India: its Orthodoxy in Faith and Order* (Pamphlet 296) produced by Norwich diocese colleagues that acknowledges his help, and a letter from the CMS West Asia secretary to his wife Myrtle (her only mention in the archive) in 1956 (IND 2/6). The CSI service books (IND 1/1-4) published 1954-58 are also evidence of Revd and Mrs Budgett’s continuing support from the U.K.

The collection here, though mainly of published material, including worship materials in Telugu, is also remarkable for covering the later years of the episcopate of *Vedanayagam Samuel Azariah* (Bishop of Dornakal 1912-45), the first and only native bishop of the Anglican church in India, credited with leading an important grass roots movement that transformed this comparatively small diocese into a diocese which has now probably as large, if not a larger number of Anglican Indian Christians than any other in India [see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Diocese_of_Dornakal_of_the_Church_of_South_India].

The arrangement adopted is evidently as found when catalogued in 2000, but it is an artificial one imposed since receipt, of three late 20th-century coloured folders labelled ‘Church of South India’, ‘India (misc)’ and ‘Dornakal Diocese’ (now discarded and acetate sleeves substituted) and three bound volumes, plus some maps that until this revision were catalogued within an artificial MAPS collection that is being eliminated. Some radical reorganisation is desirable but it is a low priority. At least three further substantial pamphlets from Mr Budgett’s collection, on the *Inauguration of the Church Union in South India* (CCCW classification: 287.94 INA1-2) and a centennial pamphlet, *The C.M.S. Telugu Mission* by F.F. Gledstone (a contemporary of the Budgetts in Dornakal; CCCW Library 266.11 GLE), have been placed in the Centre library.

**IND 1 Folder labelled “Church of South India”**

1/1-5 Booklets of orders of service of the Church of South India. Each has an introduction explaining the history of the service adopted

  1/1 *The Lord’s Supper*. 1954, repr.1957
  1/2 *Renewal of a Covenant with God*. 1956
  1/3 *Morning and Evening Prayer*. 1957
  1/4 *The Ordinal - Orders for Ordination of Deacons, Presbyters and the Consecration of Bishops*. 1958
  1/5 *Additional Bible Readings and Collects*. 1956

1/6 C.M.S. leaflet - *The Church of South India* [c.1952]

1/7 Small leaflet (bookmark type) *Praying for Unity* Edinburgh House Press n.d. after 1955 [[formerly IND 2/12]]
IND 2  Folder labelled “India (Misc)”

2/1  An Alternative Order of the Ministration of Public Baptism of Infants (authorised for experimental use in the Episcopal Synod). (?) Telugu. SPCK in India. Undated [c.1930s-1947]

2/2  An Alternative Order of the Ministration of Baptism to such as are of Riper years and able to answer for themselves (authorised for experimental use by the Episcopal Synod) (?) Telugu. SPCK in India. Undated [c.1930s-1947]

2/3  A Service of Anointing and Laying on of Hands by Bishop Pakenham-Walsh. Bookplate ‘Fieckert’, SPCK in India. Madras 1941


2/5  The National Christian Council Review, Vol. LXV No. 2 (February 1945), devoted mainly to appreciations of Bishop Azariah,

2/6  The Life And Work of Women in the Church - report on the Conference for Women Leaders of the Church in South India held in Madras 1,2 December 1948

2/7  The South India Gond Mission. History of the work of the mission to the Gond people of the Central Provinces of India, mainly around Mandla. Undated

2/8  Typescript notes (pp.1, 3 only), probably by Revd R.P. Budgett, on Andhra Christian Lyrics. Cf. IND 4/11. Undated but probably c.1940

2/9  Typescript letter of (?) Campbell Mitford, West Asia Secretary, CMS, to Mrs Myrtle Budgett, on remaining dissent towards unification of Church in South India, 31 October, 1956

2/10 Notes on the work of the missions in India [missing when this catalogue revised May 2017]

2/11 Manuscript notes, probably by Revd. R.P. Budgett, on Max Warren’s Strange Victory. A Study of the Holy Communion Service [1946, CCCW Library 264.36 WAR]. 4 folded sheets, numbered 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7& unnumbered, as follows: pp.1-2 on back of part of a begging letter written on ruled paper. pp.3-4. on back of letter of D.Y. Tucker, evangelist, to Col. Skinner (Indian Medical Service Retired), Bezwada, about consignment of tracts 31 July 1948 [formerly IND 2/14] pp.5-6. on back of same to same, chasing reply to previous and reporting on evangelical campaign. [formerly IND 2/12] pp.7& unnumbered. On back of letter of Richardson and Cruddas to The Hon Sec, Church of England Zenana Missionary Society, Madras (this presumably is the copy referred to as to Miss E.D. Knight, district secretary at Bezwada) about supply of refridgerator. 3 September 1947 [formerly by itself IND 2/11]
IND 3  Folder labelled ‘Dornakal Diocese’

Packet labelled “Service Sheets from Dornakal [South India]”:-

3/1  Compline. 1936 (Mission Press Dornakal) [originally 16 copies, now reduced to one]

3/2A George Ridding (Bishop of Southwell) with preface (1905) by E.A, Were (Bishop of Derby), A Litany of Remembrance for retreats and quiet days for His clergy. George Allen & Unwin 1935

3/2B The same reprinted by Mission Press Dornakal [originally 10 copies, now reduced to one, suggestive that Mr Budgett was responsible for getting this sent to him and reprinted]

3/3  Service of Intercession in time of War. Christian Literature Society, Madras 1939


Booklets:-

3/5  How to Prepare Catechumens for Holy Baptism. For use in the Diocese of Dornakal. [Telugu] 1913. With note by Revd Budgett on his letterhead at CMS Khammamett 194-

3/6  V.S. Azariah (Bishop of Dornakal), The Story of Dornakal Cathedral. (statement at opening service) 1939


3/9-15  Dornakal Diocesan Magazine. Each marked

9  Vol xv no. 3 March 1938 . Includes statistics of diocese

10  Vol xv no.7 July 1938

11  Vol xvi no 2-3 February/ March 1939 ‘Special Cathedral Double Number’, with photographs of new cathedral

12  Vol xviii no.1 January 1940. With list of clergy and dates of ordination, and reports of ‘South India Union’.

13  Vol xviii no.7 July 1940. With statistics of week of witness in Kistna District

14  March/April 1945. Reports on progress of vote for Church of South India

15  May 1945. Article on Bishop Azariah and memorial appeal leaflet.

3/16  Extracts from the Dornakal Diocesan Magazine [1930s]. Reprints of the following:

  Mr John Goldingham; the story of the origin of the Telugu Church

  Arabella; the History of the first Church in the Telugu Country

  The Story of the Masulipatam Cyclone, 1864
IND 4 Books

In addition to the books catalogued below this series formerly included as IND 4/3-5, 7-12, some other Indian publications or publications in an Indian language. These were copies of Platt’s Hindustani Grammar and Craven’s The New Royal Dictionary English-Hindustani (the latter presented to Library by May Ingram 1989); also a book and six pamphlets in Devanagari script presented to the Henry Martyn Library by an Indian visitor in 1994. There is no reason to suppose any connection with Revd Budgett’s archive and I have removed them back into library collection and modified the numbering of the remaining items.– PCS May 2017.


[Dr Krishnan, using these when visiting July 2017, comments that leather-workers, considered ‘unclean’ and of lowest caste, were numerous among those who converted to Christianity]


IND 5 Maps [formerly MAPS 3/1-5]

5/1 Hand-drawn sketch map of the Khammamett Area [Telengana State], probably by Revd. R.B. Budgett [1940s; cf IND 3/5]

5/2 Road Map of the Madras Presidency. Folded published map by Central Survey Office, Madras 1926, reprinted 1937. 1 inch to 20 miles. Ownership inscription ‘Robin Budgett’

5/3 Kistna District Map (without Hills) For the use of Touring Officers. 1 inch to 4 miles. Some manuscript annotation by Revd Budgett. Dissected and folded. Produced by the Central Survey Office, Madras. 1937

5/5 *Road Map of India* Survey of India, supplied by Automobile Association of Southern India (50 miles to the inch). Area south of Madras and Ootacamund annotated by R.B. Budgett with Protestant missions belonging to the various churches. 4th edition 1936. Mounted on linen and folded.