



## Austin Seminary Archives, Stitt Library

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### JOHNSON (EDSON AND SIDNEY) FAMILY PAPERS, 1919-2002

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#### Descriptive Summary

**Title:** Edson and Sidney Johnson Family papers

**Dates:** 1919-2002

**Accession Number(s):** 2007-008

**Extent:** 300 files

**Language:** Materials are written in English and Spanish.

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#### Biographical Note:

Edson and Sidney Johnson served as Presbyterian missionaries in Mexico from 1950-1974. Edson Johnson Jr. was born May 23, 1919 to Oley Edson Johnson and Ethel Anne Roach in Vancouver, WA. Sidney Lorraine Crandall was born February 25, 1926 to Hovey Colburn Crandall and Opal Levy in El Cajon, CA. Edson and Sidney Johnson were married May 6, 1945 and have seven children. Johnson spent twenty-three years serving the Mexican mission for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.) including nineteen years as the treasurer and business manager of the Mexican mission, two years as an administrator in the mission hospital Sanatorio La Luz in Morelia, Mexico, and two years as an administrator in the mission hospital Hospital La Amistad in Ometepe, Mexico. During these years, Johnson's duties included maintaining accounting and financial reports for the mission, obtaining immigration permits for new missionaries, managing church properties, and planning and supervising youth and adult caravans in Mexico.

#### Scope and Contents:

A digital collection, the Johnson papers include 300 electronic files arranged in fifteen series. The documents were not born digital, but are digital surrogates of papers documenting the 24 years (1950-1974) during which the Johnsons were missionaries for the Mexican Mission for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.). 285 files were created by Edson Johnson while 15 files are access copies that resulted from the merging of single page PDF files to create a single item, such as with the immigration packets and passports. Access copies can be identified by the appendage of "ACCESS" to the file name. With the exception of four JPEG files found in the Photograph series, all file types are PDF 1.4 or PDF 1.5. A detailed inventory prepared by Johnson is in the holding record and includes the file names and organizational structure created by Johnson at the creation of the documents. The original file names have been maintained as they are indicative of the form and content of the file, for example all

birth certificate documentation includes “bcer” within the file name while the passport documentation includes “uspa.”

**Series I: Biographical Materials** contains 11 files including “aaa2-introduction and information” which documents Edson Johnson’s purpose and methods in creating the digital surrogates. Also in this series are documents detailing the Johnson, Crandall and Roach family histories.

**Series II: Correspondence** contains 62 files including family letters dating from 1965-1985 and Johnson Missionary Correspondence Department letters sent out by the Board of World Missions dating from 1952-1971.

**Series III: Diaries** contains 31 files, with 2 files containing the diaries (1950-1951) of Edson Johnson and 27 containing the notes and diaries (1950-1965) of Sidney Johnson. The remaining 2 files contain travel logs of Johnson family trips made in 1968 and 1974.

**Series IV: Birth Certificates** contains 3 files including the original and a copy of Sidney’s birth certificate and the original of Edson’s birth certificate.

**Series V: Baptism Certificates** contains the certificates documenting Sidney’s baptism on April 6, 1934 and Edson’s baptism on January 3, 1922.

**Series VI: Education** contains 19 files including Sidney and Edson’s high school and college diplomas as well as certificates for Christian education courses and Edson’s transcripts from the Presbyterian School of Christian Education, University of California at Berkley, Union Theological Seminary, San Francisco Theological Seminary, and the University of Texas at Austin.

**Series VII: Identification** contains 70 files including driver’s licenses, ID cards, marriage licenses, passports, and vaccination reports. The materials in this series are restricted. Contact the archivist for details.

**Series VIII: Financial Materials** contains 33 files including the Johnson tax reports from 1949-1985, reports of Sidney’s teaching salary while working for the Los Fresnos CISD 1985-1991 and documentation of the Mexican income tax filed in 1967. The materials in this series are restricted. Contact the archivist for details.

**Series IX: Immigration Materials** contains 32 files including Mexican Immigration Booklet (FM-2) #3502 and #3503 which were issues on November 13, 1950 when the Johnsons moved to Mexico. This series also includes rental and

work contracts managed by Edson Johnson on behalf of the Mexican mission for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.).

**Series X: Legal Materials** contains 5 files including property deeds and powers of attorney and the documentation of a loan made to the Presbyterian Church "La Santisima Trinidad" of Chilpancingo, Guerrero, Mexico by the Mexican Mission of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.) in 1967.

**Series XI: Missionary Board Reports** contains 8 files including annual personal reports made by Edson and Sidney Johnson which were required by the Board of World Missions (1965-1972).

**Series XII: Printed Materials** contains 9 files including clippings church bulletins (1945-1972). An item of interest is a program from the celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of Presbyterian Mission work in Mexico.

**Series XIII: Photographs** contains 8 files including photographs of Edson and Sidney's wedding (1945), missionaries of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.) (1952-1965), and a Johnson family photograph taken at Edson and Sidney's 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary (2005).

**Series XIV: Bibles** contains 4 files including the initiation, matrimony, marriages and children, and deaths pages from the Edson and Sidney Johnson family bible which began on May 6, 1945 when they were wed.

**Processing Information:**

Processed by Whitney Hughes, Archives Assistant, August 2010.

**Technical Access:**

Files are stored on a CD in Box D020 and on the Seminary file server (H: drive).

**Restrictions:**

Materials are available by appointment only. Financial records and identification materials containing social security numbers are restricted. Contact the archivist for details.

**Index Terms:**

Johnson, Edson, 1919-  
Johnson, Sidney Lorraine Crandall, 1926-  
Christian education--Mexico.  
Missions--Mexico.

**Preferred Citation:** Edson and Sidney Johnson Family papers, 1919-2002, Austin Seminary Archives, Stitt Library, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary

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**Inventory:**

<u>Box</u>	<u>Contents</u>
D020/ Server	Series I: Biographical materials, 1974-2002 and undated Series II: Correspondence, 1952-1985: Johnson family letters, 1965-1985 Missionary correspondence department, 1952-1974 Series III: Diaries, 1950-1968: Edson Johnson, 1950-1952 Sidney Johnson, 1950-1965 Travel log, 1968-1974 Series IV: Birth certificates, 1919-1953 Series V: Baptism certificates, 1922-1934 Series VI: Education, 1925-1984: Diplomas and certificates, 1925-1980 Transcripts, 1970-1978 Series VII: Identification, 1949-2002: Drivers' licenses, 1969-1971 Identification cards, 1976 and undated Marriage licenses, 1945 Passports, 1950-1997 Vaccinations, 1950 Series VIII: Financial, 1949-1984 Series IX: Immigration materials, 1950-1979 and undated Series X: Legal, 1939-1984 and undated Series XI: Missionary board reports, 1961-2000 Series XII: Printed materials, 1945-1972 Series XIII: Photographs, 1945-1985 and undated Series XIV: Bibles, undated