

THE WEST TEXAS BAPTIST

VOLUME I.

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NUMBER 14

SOUTHERN BAPTISTS MAKE BIG ADVANCES

Large results in every department of Southern Baptist effort were reported at the recent session of the Southern Baptist Convention, although the Home and Foreign Mission Boards and some of the other agencies and institutions of the Convention were operating under greatly reduced budgets, due to falling off in the receipts from the churches.

Of outstanding interest was the report from the statistical department of the Baptist Sunday School Board, showing that during the past year Southern Baptist churches in the homeland had administered 209,676 baptisms, bringing the present membership of the 27,517 churches affiliated with the Convention to 3,763,862. A gain of 869 Sunday schools and 166,236 pupils was reported, bringing the present number of schools to 21,570, with an enrollment of 2,536,953 pupils. The number of B. Y. P. U.'s is given at 17,665, and their membership at 546,193, while the number of W. M. U. organizations is given at 18,415.

Gains for the year in the value of local church property exceeded \$14,000,000, while the contributions of the churches to local work amounted to \$27,496,460.86, and to missions and benevolences \$9,863,153.80.

Foreign Missions Shows Growth. American missionaries employed by the Foreign Mission Board have increased to 618 in number, while the

number of native workers employed is now 2,443. During the past year these workers reported 12,134 baptisms, bringing the membership of the foreign churches to 117,723.

During the year, 50,324 additions to the churches, including 30,027 by baptism, were reported by the 1,077 workers of the Home Mission Board, along with the erection or re-erecting of 355 church houses and the organization of 608 Sunday schools.

Assistance in the sum of \$126,961 was given by the Relief and Annuity Board to its more than 1,000 beneficiaries, including aged preachers and dependent members of their families.

Value of Baptist hospital property in the South increased by \$3,000,000 during the year, according to the report of the Hospital Commission, which shows there are now 24 Baptist hospitals in operation in the South and three others are under construction. These hospitals treated more than 100,000 patients last year and did more than \$1,000,000 in charity work.

According to the report of the Education Board, Southern Baptists have in the past 25 years increased the number of their educational institutions from 65 to 117 and their investments in these institutions from \$7,500,000 to \$48,000,000. In these Baptist schools there are now enrolled 38,000 students.

West Texas Baptists Making Great Preparation for Encampments

CHRISTOVAL ENCAMPMENT BEGINS FIFTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION ON JULY 6TH

The editor had the pleasure last week of making a visit to the Christoval encampment grounds. We left Abilene on Thursday, in company with Brother Jesse H. Garrett, secretary of the encampment, recently elected superintendent of the new Baptist hospital at San Angelo. On Friday we made the trip over to Christoval and took a look at the beautiful Christoval camp grounds. These pecan-covered grounds made a fitting climatic picture of the stirring West Texas scene we had witnessed in the past few hours. Never have we seen West Texas more beautiful and crop conditions more promising. The prairies are carpeted with a luxuriant growth of grass and the crops, although somewhat later than usual, are as promising as could be asked for.

The Christoval encampment will meet this year July 6 to 16. A splendid program has been arranged. Dr. Lincoln McConnell, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, will be the preacher for the encampment. Other outstanding speakers for the occasion will include President Sander of Simmons University, President Hardy of Baylor College, Dr. Grace of the Sunday School Board, Nashville, T. C. Gardner, Wm. P. Phillips, Dr. M. E. Davis of Howard Payne, Dr. W. F. Fry of Simmons, Pastor H. H. Stephens of Winters, Mrs. J. E. Leigh of Dallas, Miss Malory of Birmingham, Ala.

The music for the encampment will be directed by Lee A. Stulce of Abilene. W. B. Moore, pianist of the Fort Worth Seminary and Miss Lois McCall, violinist, of San Angelo. The athletic features will be ably cared for by E. Y. Kuhn of Simmons and T. B. Amis of Howard Payne.

DEATH ENDS NOTABLE CAREER OF FORT WORTH PREACHER

Rev. W. G. Caperton, pioneer Texas preacher, died Friday at the Fort Worth Baptist Sanitarium and the Star-Telegram gives the following interesting account of his life and his last illness. The editor of the West Texas Baptist remembers Brother Caperton as being the first preacher he ever heard preach. Over thirty years ago, when this country was rather thinly settled, this good man had a regular preaching appointment in our home: He was one of the most lovable characters we have ever known.

Prayers of a boy preacher to preach the gospel 75 years came within four years of being fulfilled Friday afternoon when Rev. W. G. Caperton, 89, veteran Baptist divine, died.

"I would like to live four more years so I could preach 75 years," Rev. Mr. Caperton told Miss Brooks Robertson, nurse at the Baptist Hospital, where he died. Then he told her of his prayers as an 18-year-old preacher in Mississippi for a ministerial life of 75 years.

The white-haired preacher had been ill in the hospital for seven weeks. He told Miss Robertson and relatives that he was going to die. He said he wanted "Saved by Grace" engraved on his tombstone. "Live forever" were the last words he uttered.

Rev. Mr. Caperton mentioned his one regret as not having more un-saved people near him to talk to about Jesus. He admonished all who visited him to "live at the feet of Jesus."

Walked to First Appointment. Rev. Mr. Caperton walked from Houston to Cameron to preach his first sermon in this State. After that he was pastor of 20 churches in Texas and preached in practically every city and town in the State.

He was fairly active until his fatal illness. He held revivals in East Texas and Mississippi during the Summer of 1924. He was given a luncheon at Broadway Baptist Church in April, 1924, by the Tarrant County Baptist Pastors Conference in honor of his seventieth anniversary as a Baptist Preacher.

Rev. Mr. Caperton was a chaplain in the Confederate Army during the Civil War. He was a member of Masonic Lodge No. 146 at Albany, his old home. His residence here was at 521 Porter Street. He was a member of Broadway Baptist Church.

The West Texas Baptist and Baptist Standard, 1 year for \$2.00.

POST BAPTIST ASSEMBLY COMPLETE PROGRAM FOR GREAT OPENING SESSION

At a meeting of the Post Baptist Assembly committee, which met Monday morning at the Baptist Church, Post, Texas, the final details of the first meeting of the assembly was worked out. At this time a contract was signed between the committee and the chamber of commerce of Post. According to this contract the city of Post agrees to put up a large auditorium, place water and lights on the grounds and make other necessary improvements for the assembly. The town has already raised \$5,000 to complete the work which has already begun.

Post is one of the most progressive (Continued on page three)



COACH Y. P. KUHN Athletic Director of Simmons University will have charge of Post Assembly recreation activities.

STONEWALL COUNTY ASSOCIATION

The Fifth Sunday Meeting of the Stonewall Baptist Association was held with pastor W. T. Priddy and the Swenson Church. In spite of the fact that the services were rained out Saturday, the meeting was a success. The attendance was below normal, but a fine spirit was manifest in each service. The subject of Soul winning was the central theme of the program. We are endeavoring in our association, by the help of God, to put on the greatest Evangelistic campaign in our history. We feel the need of a Revival of the old time type and we are praying and laying plans to this effect, we covet the prayers of our brethren everywhere that through the leadership of the Holy Spirit that we may witness a harvest of souls.

Rev. D. Ruiz, a Mexican Baptist Evangelist, under the the Home Mission Board, was with us Sunday afternoon. Also several members of the Mexican Baptist Church. Brother Ruiz brought a real helpful and interesting message concerning his successful work among his people. He is leading a good church of 40 members in our association, and is baptizing new converts almost each visit he makes here. We thank the Lord for sending such a faithful preacher and leader among our Mexican people.

Rev. J. V. Billberry left this week for Forest, N. M., where he is to conduct a revival meeting.

Rev. W. T. Priddy and the missionary assisted Rev. E. H. Dickerson in a good meeting with the Mt. Olive church recently. The result of the meeting was 12 or 15 professions and 10 baptisms.

Rev. T. S. Kilpatrick filled the pulpit at Beulah in the absence of pastor C. A. Baskin on their last regular meeting day. Brother Kilpatrick preached at Louzon, a mission station in Kent County. He is a student of Simmons University. We have three students of Simmons pastoring churches in our association. E. D. Dunlap at Sweethome, C. A. Baskin at Beulah, Phinis McBeth, who is graduating this year is pastor at Brazos Valley. All of these young men are doing good work. I don't think a more co-operative group of pastors are to be found in the west than we have in Stonewall Association. We all enjoy reading the West Texas Baptist and consider it a great help to our work.

J. W. King.

The Lueders encampment programs are in the hands of the printers and will be distributed about June 20.

W. T. North, Missionary.

LARGE PAVILIONS BEING ERRECTED ON LUEDERS ENCAMPMENT GROUNDS

By the time this notice appears in the local press of West Texas over fifty thousand feet of lumber will be on the grounds of the Baptists of West Texas preparatory to erecting a large pavilion of a permanent nature and numerous teaching pavilions. An army of carpenters and workmen will be turned loose on the job and will have every building ready for the hosts of Religious and non-religious people of far and near that continue in increased numbers to gather there annually. Many private owners of encampment lots indicate that they will erect camp houses of a permanent nature.

The Grounds. Plenty of pure water for all purposes will be furnished by the Stamford and Lueders Chambers of Commerce. The entire grounds of 30 beautiful acres will be lighted, as if by day. The grounds will be safely and courteously policed by the Boy Scouts of Abilene and Stamford. Possibly other boy scouts will be detailed to function. A large eating house will be erected and plenty of wholesome eats served. Those camping will find groceries and vegetables right at their ground.

Such first aid as required will be in evidence to care for any possible injury. Though it is very significant that for the past two years such service has been little required.

Fishing, boating, all kinds of out of door games, etc. for those wanting such recreation. Carry your paraphernalia with you.

Spiritual. The whole world is in need of harking back to the Spiritual. The mighty Truett's preaching and teaching together with an army of others, noted and gifted in teaching and lecturing and singing will afford the most adamant an approach to the development of the Spiritual of man.

Prepare to camp on the grounds of "THE LAND ON THE CLEAR FORK," close by Lueders, meet your friends, form new ones and with nature get right close up to the All-wise Maker of the Spiritual. Date July 14-23.

GARZA COUNTY ASSOCIATION

Our Fifth Sunday Meeting at Friendship Church on the plains beginning Friday night May 28th and closing Sunday night, May 30th was interesting and profitable. The untiring and resolute Chas. A. Jones is the faithful and loved pastor. Program was taken up in regular order and discussions of all topics participated in by Reverends Jones, Harmonson, King, Waldrop, and Hallman, and deacons Bowen, Brandon, Dalby, Davis, Arthur, Head, and Williams, and in the women's organization by Mesdames Kemp, Dalby, Kirkendall, Williams, Morgan and Miss Kemp with preaching at 11 a. m. Saturday and Sunday 11 a. m. by O. J. Harmonson and Sunday night by Young Hallman.

For their annual revival, Cap Rock, of which church this scribe is the humble but happy pastor has set the 2nd Sunday in August to begin and unanimously voted to invite Rev. H. M. Weldon of Post to do the preaching and he has indicated his acceptance of the invitation. In the regular service last Sunday this church was greatly recruited by the coming into its fellowship Brother and Sister Pullen frosh from East Texas (Franklin County).

The publicity committee of Post Baptist Encampment, which will begin at Two Draw Lake July 28th and continue to August 6th, has just met at Post and worked out final details and actual publicity work is to begin at once and rushed to completion. Meantime the Post Chamber of Commerce is carrying out its side of the proposition in erecting auditorium, extending the water mains and connecting up the lights to the grounds, etc. All of the Post and Plains counties are looking forward with sanguine hopes and expectations to the assembling of this "baby" encampment. May we not reasonably expect from three to four thousand at this initial assemblage?

J. W. King.

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W. T. North, Missionary.

DR. PENDER MAKES APPEAL FOR AID OF ORPHAN'S HOME

SIMMONS MINISTERIAL STUDENTS MAKE SPLENDID REPORT OF WORK

A partial report made by the Ministers Council of Simmons University, shows that this body of young men have been busy for the Lord during the past nine months they have been in school. This information was gathered by Brother John Riddell, and does not represent a full account of the work done, and does not include the work of the body during the past summer of evangelistic endeavor. The report follows:

Number of sermons preached	1097
Number of conversions	42
Number of those received into the church by letter	170
Number of those received into the church by baptism	35
Number of budgets installed in churches	6
Number of volunteers	12
Number of B. Y. P. U.s. organized	8
Number of deacons ordained	11
Number of special programs rendered	1
Number of Sunday Schools organized	2
Number of churches organized	1
Number of Training schools conducted	2
Number of family alters established	5
Number of hens sent to B. O. H.	154
Amount of money raised for the work	\$11,559.20

MIDLAND GIRL MAKES RECORD IN SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Sunday after next Miss Sadie Snyder will have completed 11 years attendance in the Sunday School of the First Baptist Church of Midland without having missed a Sunday save five Sundays when state laws compelled her to remain away from gatherings because she was a victim of contagious diseases.

Five years prior to coming to Midland Miss Snyder missed only two Sundays, making a total of only seven Sundays missed from Sunday school in 16 years. On each of the five Sundays she missed in Midland, her lesson was heard at home by the church pastor or by friends, so she has, in reality, not missed a Sunday School lesson in 11 years.

During the most of this period Miss Snyder has been a teacher, and she is now looked upon as a paragon of excellence and as a kind of superior being by the boys and girls in the Sunbeam and Cradle Roll department of the church, where she has labored so unselfishly for many years.

CALLAHAN ASSOCIATION HAS FINE MEETING AT CROSS PLAINS

The rainy spell of weather failed to slow up the Fifth Sunday Meeting of the Callahan Association. The meeting was held at Cross Plains, and the local paper of that thriving town in the oil belt has the following comment on the meeting:

Notwithstanding the fact that it rained here most of the day last Saturday, a large number of visitors from other churches over the county came through the mud, and enjoyed the Fifth Sunday Meeting program here Saturday night and Sunday. Probably fifty visitors were present, but most of them refused to tackle the mud and remained at home. The Review failed to get the names of all the visitors. Rev. Richardson of Scranton preached Saturday night to a large audience considering the weather.

Sunday morning after Sunday School Jeff Humphrey, Supt. of Clyde Sunday School, marched his delegation to the front and entertained the assembly for 30 minutes. Their song leader, Lee Poole, and other singers and musicians of much talent, rendered a number of readings, and vocal and instrumental selections, all of which were highly enjoyed. Some leading home talent was also on the morning program. At eleven o'clock Rev. Mayfield of Clyde, delivered a great message.

In the afternoon the ladies program was the principal feature and was appreciated very much. Rev. P. D. O'Brien of Baird delivered a forceful message at the night service. In fact the entire program was ably rendered. The church orchestra contributed in a great way to the musical program.

Rev. P. O. Heath of Munday was a visitor in the West Texas Baptist office Tuesday. He says the work is moving along nicely in that section of the state.

Editor of the West Texas Baptist: As Field Secretary of the Home, I making an earnest appeal to our people everywhere to rally at this time to the immediate support of our hundreds of dependent orphan children. It is well known to you, perhaps, that the four months: April, May, June and July are our hardest months to collect enough money to defray current expenses.

The following extracts is from the last heart appeal of dear Father Buckner:

"Contributions to the Home have fallen off to a degree alarming. Daily expenses are just now more than double all receipts. We rejoice every time the top is past over in and every canvas for education, missions, etc., but these orphans should not be neglected and allowed to go hungry in the valley on this side. When this work was started, I was young, but now I am old. Shall I see these children forsaken and begging bread? This is not like the cry in the fable of Wolf! Wolf! when no wolf was near. It really looks as if we shall have to borrow money to carry this family through until fall. Friends of the Home, in the name of our Savior, let this not be."

This was the last call by our great founder written the 3rd day of April 1919. He took sick on the 6th day of April, 1919, and died on the 8th. This appeal ought to touch every Baptist heart and open wide their substantial sympathy that they give liberally and cheerfully to relieve the immediate condition at the Home.

In last week's Baptist Standard, Brother Hal Buckner made a great appeal for help at this time. Among other things he said:

"Although, we need buildings and money with which to defray the expense of the artesian well, which has become an absolute necessity, this call for immediate relief to defray current expenses."

My Brethren and Sisters, I beg in the name of our Savior and in behalf of our hundreds of orphans, come to our rescue at this time. "Whoso stoppeth his ears at the cry of the poor, he also shall cry himself, but shall not be heard." Proverbs 21:13. Also Proverbs 19:17. "He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord, and that which he hath given will he pay him again." James 2:14

"What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works, can faith save him?" "If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, and one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?" James 1:27 "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father, is this, to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world." Matthew 25:31-37 "When the on of man shall come in his glory and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne, of his glory: And before him shall be gathered all nations; and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats; And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: For I was hungry, and ye gave me meat; I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink; I was a stranger, and ye took me in; Naked, and ye clothed me; I was sick, and ye visited me; I was in prison, and ye came unto me. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drinks?"

"Then shall the king answer and say, Inasmuch as ye did unto the least of these, my brethren, you did it unto me."

God help us to do our duty now. Yours for helping orphan children, R. C. Pender.

Rev. Scott W. Hickey attended commencement at Howard Payne College where he received his A. B. degree. At this commencement Howard Payne conferred the D. D. degree upon Pastor Geo. W. McCall of San Angelo and the L. L. D. degree upon President Brown of San Marcos Academy.

Dr. W. F. Fry of Simmons University was with Pastor E. D. Dunlap and the Shep church on a recent Sunday. This good church furnished a room for the Baptist Hospital.

NEWS NOTES

Rev. W. H. Sims of Mart is scheduled to do the preaching in a meeting with the First Church, Stamford, June 14-28. Singer R. O. Cowker of Fort Worth will have charge of the music.

One of the strongest Mexican Baptist churches in West Texas is located at Aspermont. It has a membership of 40 and has been organized only 13 months. The church is planning a Bible school to begin July 2. The Baptist brethren of Stonewall county are planning to furnish 200 Testaments to give these Mexicans to use in their work.

Pastor F. A. Tippen of the First Church, Aspermont delivered the commencement sermon for the Aspermont High School graduating class. There were eleven members for the class, eight girls and three boys. The exercises were held in the court house.

Missionary W. T. North of the Aspermont Association was in Abilene to attend the commencement exercises of Simmons University. He was accompanied by his two fine daughters. Brother North is one of our most efficient missionaries and he is always interested in all of our kindom work.

The daily papers report that a good sister of Plainview has given \$50,000 to Wayland College, the funds to be used in erecting a girl's dormitory. The friends of this fine junior college on the plains will rejoice that the institution is to receive the money to build this much needed building.

W. H. Wright, one of the prominent laymen of the First Church, Stamford filled the pulpit at the First Church, Anson, recently during the absence of the pastor, W. T. Hamor, who was in a revival meeting.

The revival meeting held with the Lamar Street church, Sweetwater, closed Tuesday, at which time about nineteen candidates were baptised. The meeting was conducted by Missionary John W. Newsom. During the revival money was raised to build a nice parsonage and pastor E. K. Dougherty is planning to move on the field just as soon as the building is completed.

Pastor D. D. Johnson of the Brownfield Association was in Abilene this week making arrangements to place his daughter in Simmons. Brother Johnson is pastoring two good churches in that association and residing at Brownfield. He states that the work is making fine progress in that section of the state.

Friends of Rev. and Mrs. B. N. Shepherd will be glad to learn that Mrs. Shepherd is recovering from a serious operation which was performed at a sanitarium in Lubbock. For a few days her condition was

considered serious, but she will probably be able to return home within a few days.

Pastor Millord A. Jenkins of the First Church, Abilene, has returned from Asheville, N. C., his boyhood home, where he conducted a very successful meeting. During this meeting Dr. Jenkins had the pleasure of visiting his mother. It was also his joy to be able to lead many of his boyhood friends, to Christ. There were over fifty additions to the church during the meeting.

Rev. G. W. Black has accepted an invitation to preach at Henry Chapel next Sunday. Brother Black has been preaching in the county nearly fifty years and nearly all his preaching has been done in the county. He has preached more sermons, baptized more people, married more couples, ridden and driven more miles on horseback and in buggies, eaten more chicken and buried more people than any preacher now living in the county.—Graham Leader.

The workers conference of the Rannels County Association in its meeting recently at Pumphrey appointed a committee to bring in a report at the meeting of the association in August, setting forth the association's attitude toward the question of evolution.

Rev. Geo. F. Brown, recently of Hobart, Oklahoma, is now located on his new field at Midland. The church has worked out its budget for the year and additions are being made to the church at almost every service. The new pastor preached the commencement sermon for the Midland High School on May 28.

LORAIN PASTOR ON FIELD

This morning finds us located on the field for the first time in five years. We reached here at 3:30 P. M. yesterday. Found the rooms of the pastor's home newly papered and one corner of the kitchen filled with all manner of good things to eat. To say that we are happy over this kind treatment and the many courtesies shown us is just simply stating facts.

We are to begin our training school next Monday night, the 8th, and will continue for five nights. Our good Missionary and Rev. George W. Parks of Roscoe will assist us in this work.

The people here are very optimistic over our work and we are expecting great things of the Lord.

The editor of the West Texas Baptist has a standing invitation to visit us at any time. However we should like to suggest that you come in the very near future if you plan to be in the pastor's home any during the visit here.

With best wishes for a great summer's work,

I am yours truly,
W. A. Foster.

The West Texas Baptist

SAM MALONE, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

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WEST TEXAS ENCAMPMENTS

Open season for West Texas encampments will soon be upon us. Last year this section supported two great encampments, which were attended by thousands of people. This year a new assembly will meet for the first time at Post, Texas. Several Associations are interested in the enterprise and the brethren are making preparation to make the first meeting of the encampment an outstanding success.

We believe there is room in this section for all three of these encampments. With the three, all meeting at different dates, it should be possible for every Baptist in West Texas to attend one of them. Every person needs a few days recreation each year. We cannot think of a more ideal vacation than to pack up a camping outfit and go to one of these great gatherings and spend ten days in combining spiritual and physical recreation. Every church, Sunday School, B. Y. P. U. and other church organizations should begin to plan now to visit one of these encampments. It will broaden the vision and outlook of the entire church life. The attendance at these meetings will depend largely on how the pastors and leaders of the different organizations work at the job during the next few days and weeks. Come on, folks, and let's make this the biggest encampment year that West Texas ever saw.

BAPTIST NEEDS.

The West Texas Baptist is again publishing in this issue an article by Brother J. O. Heath of Munday on the now familiar subject of "Some Texas Baptist Needs". These discussions are like a West Texas sandstorm, in some respects. They do not come often, but when they do, they are hard to stop. We hope our good secretary, Dr. Groner and our good friend, Brother Heath, will manage soon to find a good stopping place for their discussion. In the first place we do not feel that much progress is being made in the discussion. Then again, there is too much to be done to spend much time in discussions of the nature of the one now going on in the West Texas Baptist, that tend, almost invariably, to run into matters of personalities.

Arrangements are being made for a great legal battle in Tennessee over the matter of evolution in the public schools of the State. Those advocating the repeal of the law are wrangling over who shall champion their cause at the trial. Some are wanting Darrow and Malone, two noted lawyers to take the case. Others oppose because of their religious affiliation. They are afraid that Bryan will show them up in the trial. This is a trial in which every citizen of the United States will be interested, for it will determine whether or not the tax payers have a right to say what shall be taught the children in the public schools. Personally, we would rather have our children grow up in ignorance than to have a lot of unproven theories crammed down them that will make skeptics of them.

FISHER COUNTY ASSOCIATION

We had a great day at Sardinia, Fisher County Association First Sunday in June. We had an all day program. Morning service: Sunday School at ten; song service led by Brother Dewie Smith, a noble young man who is a student of Simmons and who is preparing to do gospel work. Eleven o'clock sermon by our much beloved pastor C. F. Bryant; Twelve o'clock dinner spread for every body; 1:30 song service led by Brother Butler of Hobbs, who is one of the best music directors in West Texas; 2 o'clock, graduating sermon was programed to be preached by Rev. Fred Clark of Rotan, but on account of sickness he could not be there so Pastor C. F. Bryant filled his place in a great way. At the close of the address A. B. Martin, Superintendent of Teachers' Training in the Association delivered Sixty-three Sunday School and B. Y. P. U. diplomas and seals as evidence of the work he is doing and the work is only begun. Special should be made of some of the graduates as all were members of Sardinia Church except Pastor Bryant and his noble wife who received a B. Y. P. U. diploma and several seals. Brother Bryant also received an Administration diploma and seal and has other seals to be

delivered soon when he will also receive the blue seal and the degree of blue seal Kings Teacher. Miss Lena Gruben of Royston Church has just finished the Norman course and received the blue seal, also the completed Administration diploma with the blue and gold seal which gives her the Master Workman's degree and the second completed Master Workman's degree delivered in our association, the writer holding the first one. Miss Lola Mae Jones of Darris Church is taking up the work and received a B. Y. P. U. diploma with several seals.

The writer undertook, as is his mission in life, to scatter some sunshine and flowers along the pathway of those who are doing this noble work of preparation for life of service for the Master and the flowers were handed back to me in a way that made my cup overflow with joy. After a splendid B. Y. P. U. program by Sadies' Intermediates on prayer, the writer was asked to give evidence of answered prayers in his personal experience which he did in several cases, and lastly the day's program as the result of years of personal work and prayer of himself and others. And in conclusion we suggested that we show our appreciation and scatter a few roses along the pathway of our beloved pastor and his noble wife who we all love.

The friends filed in the house and piled their gifts on the stand and gave them a real pounding, not by pounds, but by 25 and 50 pounds. There was so much that a truck volunteered to take it home for them. At 8 o'clock our Missionary, J. C. Parks gave a report of the Convention and at the close the church gave him a pounding which closed one of the greatest days in the history of Sardinia Church.

Our aim was to boost Teachers' Training and inspire others to take up the work and we believe we have succeeded as we have them in various parts of the Association and even in other Associations that are taking up the study courses under our instructors.

God has placed this work upon me and he is graciously pleasing our efforts and my prayer is that we may have many such days in the churches of our Association.

Yours fraternally,

A. B. Martin,
Rotan, Texas.

Open Forum

A SECOND REPLY TO DR. F. S. GRONER ON "SOME TEXAS BAPTIST NEEDS."

By J. O. Heath

In closing his article in The West Texas Baptist of May 28th, Brother Groner makes a lachrymose plea for the termination of this discussion. His "eloquent and tearful" request reminds me of the story of the two women who had a disagreement and after one had given the other a fearful tongue lashing, she said, "now I think it is time for this argument to close."

As I consider Brother Groner's humble, "eloquent and tearful" entreaty that this "parley" close, I am wondering if these tender words of brotherliness are due to the "self-entirety" that Brother Groner is so "copiously" bestowing on himself, or does he come with a peace offering because in his "caustic" article he exhausted his supply of mordant epithets?

Well, Brother Groner if you really and prayerfully desire this controversy to end, suppose then that you place your part of it upon that high and radiant ground where fairness and truth dwell. If you sincerely wish this "parley" to close, then eliminate your bitter personalities, eschew your withering scorn, and cast away that supercilious air of superiority with which you seem to be invested. If you will do as I have suggested and will come to a clear and direct discussion of the issues involved, we will make rapid progress toward the conclusion of the whole matter.

It seems that it is exceedingly difficult to please our good and affable Brother Groner. In one of his "labored," classical and "tearful" articles he intimated that I was "silly," "distracted," "ridiculous," "indignant," and "disloyal," and apparently he was greatly disturbed over my condition. Now to be so sorely afflicted and with infirmness so grievous and malefic, ought to be enough to dissolve Brother Groner's severity into "copious" compassion. But when I showed that I was yet clothed and in my right mind and that I was not disloyal to the Executive Board; but on the contrary, that I was a meek, lowly and submissive General, he became more excited and indignant. With our irenical Brother Groner his last state of mental perturbation is worse than the first. Why I had no idea that it would make Brother Groner angry for me to state that I had been loyal to the Baptist General Convention, but evidently the affirmation stirred fresh flames of righteous wrath in his soul. It is obvious that Brother Groner thinks that he can question my loyalty with impunity and if I defend my attitude, then he arrogates to himself the right to hold me up to derision. He attacked my loyalty, forced me to defend it, and then poured contempt upon me for so doing. I regret that Brother Groner is out of humor with me about this thing that we call loyalty. I am glad, of course, that he could not resist the force of my "eloquent and tearful" statements concerning my denominational loyalty. But when a man is overcome by "eloquent and tearful" utterances, it does not help him to get mad about it.

He should be able to recover from his mesmeric state without needing to object to such undemocratic methods? Some men have tried it and have left the platform under the painful confusion which their attempting to speak aroused. To me it is a wonderfully constituted democracy that will not allow an open, unfettered discussion in a Baptist Convention. But as Brother Groner says we have a free and open Convention, I am passing the matter to him. And in referring to Brother Groner for his frank and profound consideration, I am indulging the hope that he will elucidate it to the enlightenment of all of us, without "lending" himself to any "rancid strictures." "Rancid." My what a word! How can Brother Groner expect us to dwell together in pleasantness when he permits the word "rancid" to taint the atmosphere.

In the next place I ask that the "denomination be taken into confidence and that the windows of the Executive Board be opened." I am taking the last sentence first. What would the average reader understand the words "open the windows of the Executive Board" to signify? Brother Groner has sought to give it a literal meaning and has written as though I thought the Executive Board had windows that could be raised or lowered at pleasure. I am simple but I am not so glib as to believe that Brother Groner misunderstood the sentence, when others understood it to be a mild request for all the facts to be given out to the churches. Not all the churches can have representatives on the Executive Board, but the churches are entitled to know the pro and con of all the measures that are adopted by the Executive Board. To withhold this information is to practice secrecy in dealing with the churches. If the information as to why the policy was adopted is not imparted to the churches, then the policy will contain some elements that the churches will not understand, and its light will seem "distant and strange" to them. And it seems from the mortifying shrinkage in our offerings that many churches have "failed" or "refused" or "declined" to follow the light that has emanated from our denominational headquarters. This distressing shortage in contributions would indicate the need of opening the windows. By opening the windows of the Executive Board, I mean that the information as to why we have certain things and as to why we are where we are, is to be given out to the denomination. I mean precisely what the other brethren mean when they say that the leaders ought to take the denomination into their confidence.

This brings me to the closing sentence in the quotation from my first article. It has to do with the taking of the denomination into the confidence of the Executive Board. Our denominational leaders are members of the Executive Board and other brethren have asked the leaders to take the denomination into their confidence. Then why should Brother Groner rage and imagine what things, when I make a similar request? We are in debt and the churches do not know to what extent. Is that an open policy that keeps from the churches the amount of indebtedness that they are expected to pay? The churches will not give when the facts are hidden from them and this ever increasing debt is a striking demonstration of it. The churches feel that they have not been taken into the confidence of the leaders, they feel that we have not had an open denominational policy, and for the four first months of this year the collections fell one hundred and forty five thousand dollars short of the same period last year. It is to beg the question and to become pathetic in the midst of the heavy decline in giving, to say that the budget plan of financing the work is responsible for it. What truth is that we are making an inglorious failure and because of it, other writers have asked that the denomination be taken into the confidence of the leaders. Editor E. C. Routh has written on this very issue. He suggests that a conference be called and that all of our indebtedness be put down on the tables, no matter how many millions it may aggregate. He wants "all the people to know exactly where we stand," so he suggests that our ablest business men and our foremost preachers come to gether, that they may talk and pray and work out a plan for the payment of our debts. Brother Routh is on the right track for the plan to be devised contemplates the giving out of all the facts to all of

our people. When I asked that the "windows of the Executive Board be opened" and that the "denomination be taken into confidence," I meant precisely what Dr. Routh means where he says, "let all the people know exactly where we stand." But when I make a request that is identical with Brother Routh's in thought and purpose, our amiable and statesman-like secretary goes on a rampage and accuses me of making "flagrant and violent charges" against the Executive Board.

I have come again to those fifteen hundred churches. And I do agree with Brother Groner that it is time for him to say "a word about those 1500" non-contributing churches. The reader will keep in mind the fact that in his first reply Brother Groner denied all knowledge of those churches, basing his denial on the words "refused" and "declined" that I had used in my reference. He said he did not know of any number of churches that had "refused" to give; but he knew that he had written an article in which he said more than fifteen hundred churches "failed" to give. Brother Groner grows censorious in his "eloquence" when he says that I "misrepresented him;" that he did not say that they "refused" to give, but that they failed to give. The words "refused," "declined" and "failed" amount to the same thing in Brother Groner's receipts. But the grave part of it is that he led the readers to infer that no statement had ever been made about fifteen hundred churches not contributing. He "labored" in "strong cryings and tears" to make the impression that my reference was purely imaginary. "Who stated it? When? and Where?" he asked. Brother Groner knew then as well as he knows now that my reference concerned those 1500 churches that he said had "failed" to give. Then why did he write as he did about it? Was there ever more adroit quibbling than Brother Groner has shown in dealing with his own article? Was there ever a more skillful performance in the art of side-stepping? As Brother Groner claims that I have misrepresented his article which appeared in Facts and Tidings, I am calling on him to have the article reproduced in The West Texas Baptist. I am also calling his attention to the fact that in that article he placed the responsibility for these churches not giving on the pastors. I am calling his attention to the fact that he said there were more than 1500 non-con-

tributing churches and that they were located in every part of this state. I am calling his attention to the fact that in that article he said he could find no local cause for those churches failing to contribute.

But in his second reply, Brother Groner finds sufficient cause for those churches failing to give. He now finds that over one thousand were pastorless, but there is nothing in his article in Facts and Tidings to indicate that 1000 of those churches were pastorless. If one thousand of those churches were pastorless, then why did Brother Groner lay the "failure" of their not giving on the pastors? Did not those one thousand pastorless churches have an opportunity to give in what Brother Groner described as a vigorous campaign? With the splendid organization that is behind Brother Groner, with his

office force and his field secretaries, are we to conclude that one thousand churches "failed" to give because they were not solicited. Then I say frankly that we are worse off than I had supposed.

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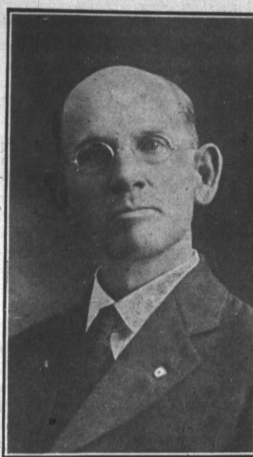
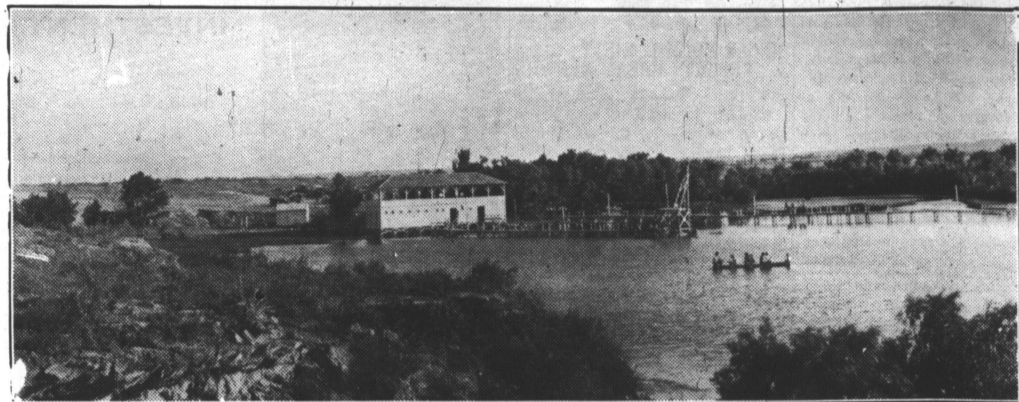


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POST, TEXAS

PROGRAM

Post Baptist Assembly
Post, Texas, July 28th
to August 6th

TUESDAY

July 28

7:30 P. M.—Song and Praise Service L. E. Payne

8:00 P. M.—Introductory Sermon Dr. W. D. Powell

WEDNESDAY

July 29

6:30 A. M.—Sunrise Prayermeeting, Conducted by Rev. B. N. Shepherd.

7:00 A. M.—Breakfast.

8:00 to 10:00 A. M.—Class Work.

10:00 to 10:15 A. M.—Song and Praise Service.

10:15 to 11:15 A. M.—Conference on Sunday School Work W. P. Phillips.

11:15 to 11:30 A. M.—Song and Praise Service.

12:30—Noon. W. D. Powell.

3:00 to 5:00 P. M.—Recreation.

8:15 P. M.—Song and Praise Service.

8:30 P. M.—Sermon Dr. W. D. Powell.

THURSDAY

July 30

6:30 A. M.—Sunrise Prayermeeting, Conducted by Rev. B. N. Shepherd.

7:00 A. M.—Breakfast.

8:00 to 10:00 A. M.—Class Work.

10:00 to 10:15 A. M.—Song and Praise Service.

10:15 to 11:15 A. M.—Conference—B. Y. P. U. Work T. C. Gardner.

11:15 to 11:30 A. M.—Song and Praise Service.

11:30 to 12:30—Sermon W. D. Powell.

12:30—Noon.

3:00 to 5:00 P. M.—Recreation.

8:15 P. M.—Song and Praise Service.

8:30 P. M.—Sermon Dr. W. D. Powell.

FRIDAY

July 31

6:30 A. M.—Sunrise Prayermeeting, Conducted by Rev. B. N. Shepherd.

7:00 A. M.—Breakfast.

8:00 to 10:00 A. M.—Class Work.

10:00 to 10:15 A. M.—Song and Praise Service.

10:15 to 11:15 A. M.—Conference—W. M. U. Work Mrs. Leigh.

11:15 to 11:30 A. M.—Song and Praise Service.

11:30 to 12:30—Sermon W. D. Powell.

12:30—Noon.

3:00 to 5:00 P. M.—Recreation.

8:15 P. M.—Song and Praise Service.

8:30 P. M.—Sermon Dr. W. D. Powell.

SATURDAY

August 1

6:30 A. M.—Sunrise Prayermeeting, Conducted by Rev. B. N. Shepherd.

7:00 A. M.—Breakfast.

8:00 to 10:00 A. M.—Class Work.

10:00 to 10:15 A. M.—Song and Praise Service.

10:15 to 11:15 A. M.—Conference—Orphans' Home

11:15 to 11:30 A. M.—Song and Praise Service.

11:30 to 12:30—Sermon W. D. Powell.

12:30—Noon.

3:00 to 5:00 P. M.—Recreation.

8:15 P. M.—Song and Praise Service.

8:30 P. M.—Sermon Dr. W. D. Powell.

SUNDAY

August 2

6:30 A. M.—Sunrise Prayermeeting, Conducted by Rev. B. N. Shepherd.

7:00 A. M.—Breakfast.

9:45 A. M.—Sunday School Superintendent.

10:45 A. M.—Sermon Dr. W. D. Powell.

NOON.

5:30 P. M.—Christian Education Dr. J. D. Sanderfer

8:30 P. M.—Sermon Dr. W. D. Powell.

MONDAY

August 3

6:30 A. M.—Sunrise Prayermeeting, Conducted by Rev. B. N. Shepherd.

7:00 A. M.—Breakfast.

8:00 to 10:00 A. M.—Class Work.

10:00 to 10:15 A. M.—Song and Praise Service.

10:15 to 11:15 A. M.—Baptist Hospitals Dr. Campbell

11:15 to 11:30 A. M.—Song and Praise Service.

11:30 to 12:30—Sermon W. D. Powell.

12:30—Noon.

3:00 to 5:00 P. M.—Recreation.

8:15 P. M.—Song and Praise Service.

8:30 P. M.—Sermon Dr. W. D. Powell.

TUESDAY

August 4

6:30 A. M.—Sunrise Prayermeeting, Conducted by Rev. B. N. Shepherd.

8:00 to 10:00 A. M.—Class Work.

10:00 to 10:15 A. M.—Song and Praise Service.

10:15 to 11:15 A. M.—Our Denominational Program R. A. Scranton.

11:15 to 11:30 A. M.—Song and Praise Service.

11:30 to 12:30—Sermon W. D. Powell.

12:30—Noon.

3:00 to 5:00 P. M.—Recreation.

8:15 P. M.—Song and Praise Service.

8:30 P. M.—Sermon Dr. W. D. Powell.

WEDNESDAY

August 5

6:30 A. M.—Sunrise Prayermeeting, Conducted by Rev. B. N. Shepherd.

8:00 to 10:00 A. M.—Class Work.

10:00 to 10:15 A. M.—Song and Praise Service.

10:15 to 11:15 A. M.—Laymen and the Kingdom

11:15 to 11:30 A. M.—Song and Praise Service.

11:30 to 12:30—Sermon W. D. Powell.

12:30—Noon.

3:00 to 5:00 P. M.—Recreation.

8:15 P. M.—Song and Praise Service.

8:30 P. M.—Sermon Dr. W. D. Powell.

THURSDAY

August 6

6:30 A. M.—Sunrise Prayermeeting, Conducted by Rev. B. N. Shepherd.

7:00 A. M.—Breakfast.

8:00 to 10:00 A. M.—Class Work.

10:00 to 10:15 A. M.—Song and Praise Service.

10:15 to 11:15 A. M.—Religious History, Dr. E. C. Routh.

11:15 to 11:30 A. M.—Song and Praise Service.

11:30 to 12:30—Sermon W. D. Powell.

12:30—Noon.

ADJOURNED

POST BAPTIST ASSEMBLY COMPLETES PROGRAM

(Continued from page one)

Five little cities in the section of the country. The business men are enthusiastic about the encampment and they are backing it to the limit. The encampment grounds, Two Draw Lake, is ideal in every respect. It is one of the most beautiful encampment sites in all the west. Plenty of water, shades, and the beautiful rolling country with the cap rock range as a background, make a combination that should draw people from a large radius. The assembly is located in one of the fastest developing sections in the State. Hundreds of families have moved into this section in the past months and this move will afford an opportunity to develop these

people and tie them onto the work in that section.

Assembly Speakers.

Dr. W. D. Powell of Richmond, Va., has been secured as the preacher for the assembly. This means that the visitors will have in this one attraction something that will be worth all the efforts it may cost to attend a meeting of this kind. Other outstanding speakers will also appear on the program, and some of the best teachers in the State have been secured to conduct the class work.

Booster Trip Planned.

At the meeting Monday the Assembly committee planned an assembly booster trip to begin on Monday, July 29. The booster will leave Post on Monday morning early and go north, visiting the towns on the Santa Fe to Lubbock, then towns in the section south of Lubbock including

Brownfield, Seagraves, Tahoka, Lamesa, O'Donnell. The party will then go south to Big Spring, then east on the T. & P. to Sweetwater. From the party will separate, one group going up the Orient north and the other north on the Santa Fe.

The Program.

A part of the program, including the daily schedule, is printed in this issue of the West Texas Baptist. The program is well arranged, giving plenty of time for devotional, class work, recreation and rest.

Considering the ideal location of Post for the encampment, the enthusiastic manner in which the business men are backing the enterprise and the strong program which has been arranged, we predict that thousands of West Texas Baptists will attend this the first meeting of the Post Baptist Assembly.

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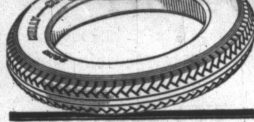
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ABE TELLS MORE ABOUT BAPTIST CONVENTION

Dear Margret:
In my last letter I told you what a splendid time I had on my trip to the Memphis Convention. I also told you that I would write and tell you more of the proceedings, just as I see and hear and impressed by them. I am already impressed, rather than it being "The Southern Baptist Convention" as it is called it is a convention of Southern Baptist preachers, one of the big features is our getting together and renewing our acquaintances and telling each other where we are, and what all we are doing. Ike and I have been talking about how we could manage to get about a thousand or so of our splendid laymen from Texas to attend the Houston Convention.

My anticipation warmed near the steaming point as the hour drew near for the committee to report on the Re-statement of our Articles of Faith. I expected to hear some discussion by some of the brethren who were not

on the committee notwithstanding the fact that our principal leaders are all on committees, and we open our mouths so wide in swallowing that it is difficult to get them in shape in time to say "No", or to spit out anything that does not have the right taste. As you know I have said that free speech and general discussion are among the chief characteristics of the Democracy contributed to the world by Baptists. Both are becoming more conspicuously rare in our general meetings, both were throtled on this particular occasion, either purposely or otherwise.

Much of the time is used in reading long drawn-out reports and spiritless speechmaking, spiced here and there with some of the finest singing that I ever heard. Also many questions freighted with importance are hurriedly voted through for lack of time to discuss them. However one of the really important reports was both made and discussed by Secretary Love, on Foreign Missions. Brother Love's face as well as his physique, shows worry and deep concern over the enormous debt on his board. He

said that the Education Board got more and the Foreign Mission Board got less of the 75 million fund than had been agreed upon. He also said "The Foreign Mission Appeal brought in more money than had been turned over to Foreign Missions", that "Mistakes have been made but let us confess, forgive and forget". I noticed that some of the brethren were not at their accustomed places on the stage when Brother Love discussed his report.

Another hour of special interest to me was when some of our Missionaries who are home on vacation spoke. One speaking on conditions in Europe made special mention of the unparalleled progress of Baptists in Russia. He said "There are six thousand Baptist churches in Russia with an uncounted membership. He also said that Baptists have no denominational schools, colleges, seminaries, nor sanitariums in Russia, that no Foreign Mission Board or Society had done any work in Russia except the Relief Board which is not a religious body. Then Ike said "May-

be-so some of our religious denominations are over-institutionalized." Yours for "Fair Play", Abe.

SINGER HUGH L. HIETT REPORTS GREAT MEETING

Recently it has been my joy to sing in meetings at Rosenberg with Pastor John H. Hardy, and at San Antonio with Pastor I. E. Gates and the First Church there. 39 were received into the church at Rosenberg and 67 into the church at San Antonio.

Gates is going in a great way with his situation. In the early fall they will be moved into their new \$250,000 meeting house. It is the last word in beauty, and in church architecture. Nothing like it in all the land.

I am now here in a good meeting, which will continue till June 7th. Because of shifting dates, I have two weeks from June 7th to 21st left open that I could give to another meeting.

Yours faithfully,
Hugh L. Hiett.



DR. J. D. SANDEFER
Post Assembly Speaker.

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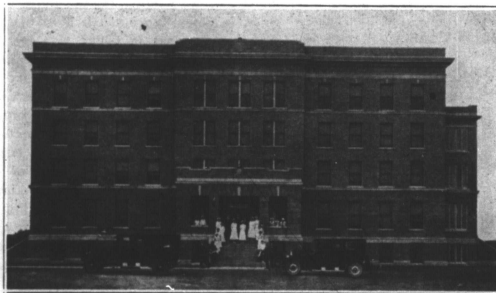
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