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Centennial Edition of Sweetwater Baptist Association

WEST TEXAS BAPTIST

Vol. XII. | Sam Malone, Editor and Publisher, Abilene, Texas | ABILENE, TEXAS, APRIL 30, 1936 | John R. Hutto, Associate Editor, Big Spring, Texas | No. 20

Sweetwater Association Was Organized In 1885

Churches In Association Have Interesting Histories

Institutions Have Kept Pace With Economic Development of West

This issue of the West Texas Baptist contains a brief historical sketch of many of the churches in the Sweetwater Association. Practically every one of these churches had an inauspicious beginning. Some of them started back at about the time the coming of the Texas & Pacific railway brought an influx of immigration into West Texas. These churches have grown with the development of the country. Another noticeable thing about these churches is that practically every one of them were organized as a result of mission work. Our strongest churches in this section were organized about a half century ago as a result of State and Southern Mission work. Most of the smaller churches came into existence as a result of local or associational mission work. The following pages will tell the story of the beginning and a brief history of many of these churches, and the editor of the West Texas Baptist expresses appreciation to those who have co-operated with us in collecting this data.

IMMANUEL BAPTIST

The Immanuel Baptist Church, Abilene, was first organized as a mission by the First Baptist Church of Abilene, Texas, in 1904. The organization of which mission resulted originally from an inspiration on the part of Mrs. M. M. Mayfield to serve the children of the immediate community who

(Continued on page 6)

CHURCH LEADER



DR. M. A. JENKENS
Pastor, First Baptist Church
Abilene, Texas

It was in November, 1915, when Dr. Millard A Jenkens arrived in Abilene from across the Mississippi River to cast his lot with the First Baptist Church and the many causes fostered by that church. Last November the church and pastor celebrated the twentieth anniversary of their association together. During these years the church has received over six thousand members and has contributed to all causes over one million dollars. It was in the heart of Pastor Jenkens that the West Texas Baptist Sanitarium was born. He

(Continued on page 2)

Sanitarium Will Observe Mothers' Day In Memory of Nightingale

BUILDING PROGRAM FOR SANITARIUM CALLS FOR LARGE ANNEX BUILDING

The building program which the West Texas Baptist Sanitarium is inaugurating has been made possible through a gift of $110,000 from Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Hendrick. The gift included funds for erection of a four-story wing to the east end of the present five-story structure, which will materially increase the number of patients which can be cared for. Additional facilities are needed at this time, because of the crowded condition which last year's gain has made.

Located on a block at North Nineteenth and Hickory streets, donated by Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Caldwell, the plant now has a value of $247,585.88. That includes all equipment and apparatus.

Cared for 20,864

Since it was opened on September 16, 1924, the Baptist hospital has cared for 20,864 patients. Nearly one-fifth of those patients, or 3,860, were in the sanitarium last year.

The number during the last fiscal year, from September 1, 1934, to August 31, 1935, was a 59 per cent gain over the preceding fiscal year. But the preceding year, at 2,493, had been a record year, up to that time. So the gain of 1,497 patients in one year is considered phenomenal growth.

Mortality rates has shown a corresponding decline in recent years, remaining at 3 per cent for the past two.

Figures on these factors are as follows:

Year	Patients Admitted	Death Rate
1924-25	827	5 per cent
1925-26	1012	5 per cent
1926-27	1507	6 per cent
1927-28	1817	5 per cent
1928-29	1732	5 per cent
1929-30	1650	4.5 per cent

(Continued on page 5)



E. M. COLLIER
Superintendent Baptist Sanitarium

Mr. E. M. Collier, superintendent of the West Texas Baptist Sanitarium, is a native of Missouri Baptist Hospital where he was assistant manager for about six years. He came to Abilene with the depression of 1930, and the six years that he has been directing the destiny of this great healing institution in West Texas, have been years that have tried the real metal within the man. In spite of the fact that Mr. Collier has led his institution through the depression and besides that two unusually dry years, the growth has been continuous. The hospital has been able to meet its operation expenses and at the same time meet the payment on the indebtedness of the plant.

Mr. Collier is a fellow in the American College of Hospital Administrators. Last year he served as president of the Texas State Hospital Association and presided at the convention session at Dallas last March. He is a past president of the West Texas Clinic and Hospital Managers Association.

CHURCHES IN THIS SECTION ASKED TO AID CHARITY FUND

In the year 1854, Florence Nightingale, profoundly stirred by reports of the suffering and misery of the sick and wounded soldiers in the Crimean War, packed her things and set sail for the war area.

There, this brave woman brought mercy to more than 10,000 suffering men. To these stricken soldiers, she was an angel. To the officials who had permitted their misery, she was a fury. She worked, she fought, she administered she commanded. And in a few short months, she had miraculously brought order out of chaos, substituted comfort for horror.

When peace brought quiet again to the Crimea, Florence Nightingale fought on. She established nursing homes, and became the mother of modern nursing. She crusaded not only for better military hospital conditions, but for better hospitals everywhere. Her name and her work have become a legend to those who devote their lives to healing the sick.

That's why, each year, the hospitals of America set aside her birthday, May 12, as National Hospital Day.

They've set aside this day to help you learn exactly what goes on inside a hospital, and the part the hospital plays in the welfare of your community.

And what an important part that is! For the hospital is, of course, the place in which are concentrated the equipment and facilities that modern science has evoked for the treatment and cure of illness. In the hospital your physician's efforts are supplemented by the competent assistance of staff doctors, internes, pharmacists, nurses, laboratory workers and dietitians. Every member of the hos-

(Continued on page 5)

Organization Formed at Sweetwater Comprised Vast Empire of Over 450,000 Square Miles

CHURCH LEADER



DR. L. R. SCARBOROUGH
President S. W. Seminary

Dr. L. R. Scarborough, president of the Southwestern Seminary, is a native son of Jones County. His father, Rev. G. W. Scarborough, was one of the early pioneer preachers of this section, having organized many of the churches in West Texas.

While Dr. Scarborough was pursuing his law studies in Yale University, he surrendered to preach, and devoted the balance of his student life in preparing himself for his life's work. He came to Abilene in 1901 to accept his first pastorate. He at once launched into the work of building a great church; and the field work he ac-

(Continued on page 3)

By R. C. Crane

In about 1879 the Red Gap Baptist Association was organized near what is now Cisco, in Eastland County, taking its name from the red gap through which the Katy railroad leaves Cisco, going toward Albany. Rev. C. G. Stephens was the moving spirit in the organization and was its moderator.

In 1884 practically all of the churches in the counties of Eastland, Stephens, Shackelford and Callahan, all within the bounds of the Red Gap Association, met and organized the Battle Creek Baptist Association, which quickly changed its name to the present day name of Cisco Association.

That left the territory of Red Gap Association lying to the West of Callahan County.

In July, 1885, a call was regularly made by the executive committee of Red Gap Association, for a meeting of that association at the new town of Sweetwater on Friday before the first Sunday in August, 1885. The Texas & Pacific railroad had just been built through the region in 1881, and had been completed into El Paso in 1882.

In accordance with the call for the meeting at Sweetwater, Rev. Bennett Hatcher, pastor of the church at Abilene; Rev. J. A. Moore, pastor at Sweetwater and at Snyder; Rev. R. A. Sublett, pastor at Anson and at Haskell (though it is doubtful whether the latter church had then been organized); Rev. W. A. Whittle, pastor at Colorado; Rev. G. W. Baines, pastor at El Paso; and Rev. G. W. Scarborough, pastor at Merkel, met and went into organization by electing Rev. Bennett Hatcher mod-

(Continued on page three)

Hardin-Simmons University Had Beginning In 1891 At Sweetwater

The story of the founding and building of Hardin-Simmons University is a story of the accomplishment of Faith, Vision and Courage. Back in 1890 the west was young. The Sweetwater Association, under whose control the institution has been since its founding, extended from Abilene to El Paso and comprised over 450,000 square miles at the time Simmons was founded. To give an idea of the undertaking bear in mind that there were only 27 Baptist churches in this vast area with a total membership of 1,232.

In 1890 the agitation for the building of a Baptist College somewhere within the bounds of the association, became very strong. According to Mr. Will Young of Abilene, who at that time was a business man in the city, the main leader of the agitation for a college was Rev. G. W. Smith. For a long time Brother Smith talked and worked and prayed for a college. He had the Faith, Vision and Courage to work on until every difficulty disappeared, and the college became a reality.

In his history of the Sweetwater Association, which appears in this issue, Judge R. C. Crane of Sweetwater, has given a detailed story of the founding of the college. Other facts in regard to the institution are given in the story of the life of Dr. J. D. Sandefer. Below we are presenting a historical sketch of Hardin-Simmons, setting forth by years some of the accomplishments of the institution during her forty-five years of glorious history:

1890—First definite action taken by the First Baptist Church, Abilene, looking to the founding of a Baptist College by the Sweetwater Baptist Association, which at that time comprised 450,000 square miles. A committee appointed by the association met on October 17, 1890, and accepted an offer of O. W. Steffens and associates of 16

(Continued on page four)

DR. J. D. SANDEFER HAS EVENTFUL CAREER AS EDUCATION LEADER



DR. J. D. SANDEFER
President Hardin-Simmons University

Elsewhere in this issue the statement is made that the story of the birth and growth of Hardin-Simmons University is the story of the accomplishments of Faith, Vision and Courage. This is true in the development of the institution as a whole, but it is especially applicable to the connection of one man with this school of the west—Dr. J. D. Sandefer. It was in that year that the trustees of Simmons went afield to hunt for a president. At that time Dr. Sandefer was president of John Tarleton, a fast growing state institution farther east. He came to Abilene, at the urgent invitation of the trustees, to look things over. From the human point of view there was nothing

(Continued on page two)

Historical Sketch of the Sweetwater Baptist Association

Successor to Red Gap Association. Compiled by R. C. Crane.

The following tabulated sketch of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, successor to the Red Gap Association, was compiled by Judge R. C. Crane of Sweetwater. At that time the association extended on to El Paso. As one sketches the names of those who played a leading part in the pioneer kingdom building, it will be noted that most of them have gone on to their rewards, but some few of the early ones still survive. These hardy pioneers in the religious field served their day and generation well and have crossed on over the shores of time, leaving sacred footprints that will not be erased this side of eternity.—Editor's Note.

Organized at Sweetwater, Texas, on Friday before the first Sunday in August, 1885	1	Moderator ..... Rev. B. Hatcher Clerk ..... J. B. Scarborough Treasurer ..... G. H. Connell
Second session at Colorado, August 27, 1886	2	Moderator ..... Rev. W. G. Caperton Clerk ..... Rev. J. A. Moore Treasurer ..... T. Q. Mullin
Third session at Abilene, August 27, 1887	3	Moderator ..... Rev. G. W. Smith Clerk ..... Rev. A. J. Tant Treasurer ..... William Young
Fourth session at Anson, Jones County, August 3, 1888	4	Moderator ..... Rev. G. W. Smith Clerk ..... Rev. A. J. Tant Treasurer ..... Will Young
Fifth sessions at Abilene August 2-5, 1889	5	Moderator ..... Rev. G. W. Smith Clerk ..... W. C. Martin Treasurer ..... William Young
Sixth session at Sweetwater. Stonewall Association organized. August 1, 1890	6	Moderator ..... Rev. J. C. Wingo Clerk ..... M. M. Callaway Treasurer ..... Will Young
Seventh session at Anson. North Colorado Association organized. August 1, 1891	7	Moderator ..... Rev. J. C. Wingo Clerk ..... Rev. W. F. Adair Treasurer ..... C. P. Warren
Eighth session at Colorado, September 16, 1892	8	Moderator ..... Rev. G. W. Smith Clerk ..... Rev. W. F. Adair Treasurer ..... C. P. Warren
Ninth session at Sweetwater, September 15, 1893	9	Moderator ..... Rev. G. W. Smith Clerk ..... Rev. W. F. Adair Treasurer ..... C. P. Warren
Tenth session at Midland, September 13-15, 1894	10	Moderator ..... Rev. L. R. Millican Clerk ..... Rev. R. T. Hanks Treasurer ..... C. P. Warren

(Continued on page 2)

West Texas Baptist Launched Over 43 Years Ago By Church Leaders



GEORGE S. ANDERSON

CALLAHAN WORKERS MET AT ATWELL

Callahan Workers' Conference met with Atwell Church April 17. Rev. V. W. Tatum presided. After song and prayer by Rev. W. T. Preddy, Rev. Joe Mayes spoke on "What is the Church and Who Should Belong to It?" "What Are the Ordinances of the Church and Who is to Treat Them?" was discussed by Rev. V. W. Tatum.

Rev. Tierce, pastor of Clyde Church, preached a good sermon on "The Tragedy of an Empty Net."

Dinner was served by the church.

At 1:30 p.m. the executive board met with the moderator, Rev. Hollis, presiding. The following committees made reports to the board: Evangelism, by Rev. Joe Mayes. Mrs. V. W. Tatum gave report on W. M. U. work. Moderator made report on Baptist Standard. C. D. Owen spoke on Centennial plan of West Texas Baptist. Brother W. Lee Pool was apointed to write the history for the association and Mrs. John Cook the history of W. M. U.

The power of the printed page in the promotion of religious enterprises was realized by the leaders in the establishment of Simmons College early in the beginning of the institution. The first session of the institution was in September, 1892. Early in the next year, 1893, Dr. W. C. Friley, president of the school, associated himself with Rev. George W. Smith in the launching of a Baptist newspaper. The paper was called the WEST TEXAS BAPTIST and Brother Smith was the first editor.

In 1894 Mr. George S. Anderson moved from Roby to Abilene, bought Dr. Friley's interest in the paper and became publisher and business manager. With the exception of a brief interval at two periods of time when a paper was not published, Mr. Anderson has been connected with a Baptist paper in Abilene for over 43 years.

The paper was published by Smith and Anderson for about three years, when the former moved to DeLeon to become pastor of the Baptist church. Dr. R. T. Hanks, for many years pastor of the First Baptist Church, Abilene, and a denominational leader in Texas, bought Rev. Smith's interest in the paper and became associated with Mr. Anderson in the publication. Later on the paper was sold to Dr. J. B. Cranfill, who moved it to Dallas and changed the name to The Baptist Progress.

In 1905 Dr. L. R. Scarborough, and other Baptist leaders, realizing the need of another paper in this section launched The Western Evangel. Rev. Joe Dawson of Waco came to Abilene as editor of the paper. He later resigned to become editor of the Baptist Standard, Dallas, and his brother, E. E. Dawson, became editor of the Evangel.

After Ed. Dawson resigned as editor to re-enter the pastorate W. T. and Ed Curtis were elected as editors of the Evangel. W. T. Cur-

(Continued on page 3)

West Texas Baptist

SAM MALONE ..... Editor and Publisher
C. D. OWEN ..... Field Representative

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CENTENNIAL EDITIONS

This issue of the West Texas Baptist is the first of a series of special Centennial editions to be published for associations in this section. Many of the churches in the Sweetwater Association have co-operated with us in securing the historical data contained in this issue, for which we are thankful. One of the things we have learned in getting out this issue is that it is a rather large task to try to get together the history of the churches in an entire associaion in a limited scope of time. Perhaps the things we have learned in working with this issue will enable us to do a better job on the subsequent issues.

We plan to go to press with the Callahan edition on May 14, and the Fisher County edition on May 28. On June 4 the Lueders Encampment issue will appear together with the historical edition for Jones County. We are urging the churches in all these associations to get the historical data to us at an early date.

UNIVERSITY CHURCH

University Baptist Church, just off the campus of Hardin-Simmons University, was organized March 26, 1905. Rev. M. C. Bishop, now pastor at Post, led in the organization. Charter members of the church were, M. D. Townsend, M. L. Nelson, A. M. Daniels, Rev. R. Cooke, W. R. Townsend, Lola and Stella Townsend, Mrs. S. M. Townsend, Lucinda Ellard, J. Ellard, Sallie and Eula Cooke, Mrs. Ida Nelson.

The church was located in North Park addition to the city, and was called the North Park Church. A small school building was used as a place of worship. Later a small church building was erected on Hickory Street North of the University. The name wae changed to College Height and later on to University Church.

The church has had eight pastors to date, as follows: M. C. Bishop, Robert Cooke, E. E. Dawson W, E. Deere, F. C. Dick, J. C. Burkett, W. H. Simms and the present pastor, C. A. Powell, who has been with the church 13 years.

The church has a membership at present of 936, with 805 enrolled in Sunday School, 304 in B. T. U. and fifty in W. M. U. Professor D. W. Arnett of H.-S. U. is superintendent of the Sunday School.

The present church auditorium was built by Dr. J. C. Burkett, in 1918. The present $30,000 educational building was built in 1928

University Church is the home of many of the ministerial students who attend Hardin-Simmons University. Last year there were twenty-five such students members of the church.

There is much additional data concerning this great church that will be published in subsequent issues. The information in regard to the church reached us late, due to the fact that Pastor Powell has been in Hobbs, N. M., for two weeks in a revival meeting.

FORMER MONTEZUMA PRESIDENT MOVES FAMILY TO ABILENE

One of the many business men attracted to Abilene and this section of West Texas during the past few months is Mr. J. M. Cook, who came here from Amarillo where he has been active in business, civic and religious enterprises for the past ten years. Mr. Cook is a former president of Montezuma College, New Mexico. While president of that institution he was association with Dr. N. A. Moore, now of the Bible department of Hardin-Simmons University, Professor Irl Allison, formerly connected with the piano department of Simmons and Mr. J. D. Riddle, educational director of the First Baptist Church, Abilene. These three men were on the faculty at Montezuma during the time Mr. Cook was president.

Within the next few days an announcement will be made in regard to Mr. Cook's business connection in Abilene. In the meanwhile, we join the Baptists of this section and the business men of Abilene in welcoming this fine family to our midst. They have purchased a home in the Elmwood addition to the city.

Copies of this issue of the West Texas Baptist may be had for five cents per copy. Address orders to West Texas Baptist, P. O. Box 918, Abilene, Texas.

REV. C. A. POWELL

Rev. Powell has spent 28 years in a useful ministry. Was ordained by the Vernon Baptist Church after having graduated from Vernon High School. Was later called to the pastorate of Talmage Church. Feeling his need of a more thorough preparation for his calling, he entered the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. After having spent some years as student in the Seminary, he was called and served as pastor the following named churches: Margarett, Oklaunion, Demdee, Munday, Knox City, Rule and University Church, Abilene, Texas, his present pastorate. He has served in his present pastorate thirteen years. Brother Powell has always been a very close student of the Bible, spend much time in preparation of his sermons making them rich in thought, thereby supplying spiritual food for the soul. He is recognized throughout the state as one of our great gospel preachers. He is being sought continually to serve in our state denominational programs. His ministry during the pastorate of University Church has stimulated and enriched the life of scores of ministerial students while attending Hardin-Simmons University. He has led this church in erecting a large educational building and in organizing all departments in church life. He has also made his church great in missionary spirit and activity. They give freely to the full missionary program.

SUNSET CHURCH

One of the youngest Baptist churches in the city of Abilene is the Sunset Church in the western part of the city, which was organized July 27, 1933. This church, as did a number of the other churches of the city, grew out of the ministry of the First Baptist Church of Abilene. A mission station was conducted in this part of the city for several years and the church organization came as a result of the ministry of Rev. J. A. Lunsford, who, at the time, was a ministerial student in Hardin-Simmons University. Brother Lunsford came to this section from Jonesboro, Ark., where he finished his junior college work.

Some of the charter members of the Sunset Church were: W. Baker, E. R. Keese, Mrs. Hendricks, Ray Bother and wife, Albert Padgett, Bernice Barker, Mrs. Barker, Mrs. Keesee, Maurice Keesee.

The church has had three pastors during the three years of its existence. Brother P. E. Boyd followed Brother Lunsford as pastor and the present pastor, Rev. W. A. Reed followed Brother Boyd. The present pastor has been with th church for the past seven months and the work is going steadily forward under his ministry.

The present membership of the church is 74, with the same number enrolled in Sunday School. Mr. W. Baker is superintendent of the Sunday School.

Sunset Baptist Church has adopted the tithing plan as its plan of financing and has always been able to take care of its own financial obligations and co-operate with all denominational work.

B. T. U.

We have a fully organized B. T. U. in all departments, taking a study course each year.

HAMBY CHURCH

By MRS. O. D. McILROY
Oldest Living Member

The church was organized when I came here in August, 1897. Church services were then held in the school house at that time called Melrose.

In 1900 a little town was built up about one mile north of the Melrose school house so the school was moved to this new location and its name changed to Hamby, after the name of the young man who built the first store. The Hamby church was then organized in the home of E. S. Gott with 20 members. Sam Cannon was elected as first deacon of the new organization. Ruth Cannon was elected as clerk.

Rev. W. A. Ross of Potosi was pastor of the church when I came here and Brother John Stevenson was a deacon and Brother D. N. Balch, Sunday School superintendent. About three years later, Rev. Theo Estell of Abilene was called as pastor and served until 1904. That summer Rev. Lee Scarborough, then pastor of the First Baptist Church of Abilene, held a very successful revival meeting at Hamby. The following pastors served while services were being held in the new school building: Rev. Rogers, W. P. Crow, Ed Pippen, and E. E. Mason.

In 1921 the Baptists built a nice modern church building, had it paid for and dedicated when in 1929 it burned. It was built back in the same year on the same lot, but just a large plain building. Rev. R. D. Reid was the first pastor after the first house was built and Brother Sam Cannon was one of the deacons and Brother L. A. Muston Sunday School superintendent. The next pastor was Rev. Henry Turner of Abilene and Rev. W. C. Ashford, now pastor of the South Side Baptist church of Abilene, held a revival meeting with 47 conversions and all were baptized. This was the most successful meeting ever held at Hamby.

Others serving as pastors at Hamby were: Revs. Rudd, Barb Arthur Jordon, J. B. Bradford, Zeb Freeman, T. L. Nipp, Thomas Young.

TUSCOLA CHURCH

The Tuscola Baptist Church of the Sweetwater Association, formerly of the Content Association was organized July 15, 1898, with D. H. Burk as moderator.

Charter members in the organization were: Mrs. Nancy J. Graham, Ida Beard, Cordelia Carpenter, and Ida Poe; Misses Minnie Graham, E. M. Cox, Ada Poe, Ethel Poe, and May Carpenter; Messrs. C. A. Cox, W. J. Beard, and Robert P. Poe.

Among the charter members living are: Miss Minnie Graham ,Mrs. Ethel Poe Walker, Mrs. Ida Childress, and Robert J. Poe.

On June 18, 1912, the Union Chapel Church was changed to that of the Tuscola Baptist Church, and the church was moved from Old Tuscola.

The church has had many able pastors; many of whom are outstanding in our denominational work. Those serving the church as pastors: Revs. W. P. Crow, W. T. Conner, W. L. Carter, W. S. Maddox, M. C. Bishop, B. W. Davis, A. L. Johnston, D. M. West, C. C. Carr, M. A. Quinlen, R. A. Scranton, Joe R. Mayes, E. J. Barb, R. H. Williams, O. F. Smith, W. C. Ashford, Dave Reid, J. C. McKenzie, C. G. Sewell, Raymond Collier, Thomas J. Young, and Kelley Barnett, present pastor.

Rev. Kelley Barnett has been pastor of the church for over six months. He is from the state of Arkansas, and is a senior in Hardin-Simmons University. Rev. Barnett has been very outstanding in Hardin-Simmons, especially during his senior year. He has won many honors in oratory and in speech, and is ably serving two Baptist churches as pastor. His work at Talpa and Tuscola is very outstanding. He is well known in this association and this district.

The present membership of the Tuscola Church is two hundred and eight. A financial program has been started, which includes all causes. The work is growing and much interest is shown. Recent work has been done on the building.

Pioneers that generously assisted in the early building program of the church were: Will Reddell, Jim Hardin, J. W. Blackwood, A. B. Cox, and J. L. Graham. The land was donated by the Sante Fe railroad, and others ably assisted in the work.

SHEP CHURCH

The Shep Church, located in South Taylor County, was organized in 1895. Rev. R. E. Cumby of Bronte led in the organization with the following charter members: J. R. Crayton and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Davenport, Mr. and Mrs. Griffith, Mr. and Mrs. Pruitt, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Faucett, and Mrs. Arie Lagrone. The church has had fifteen pastors as follows: J. L. Lilly, Adams, Crow, R. M. Dunlap, Cook, Burnett, E. E. Mason, S. A. Jones, W. S. Brown, S. E. Hurt, O. F. Smith, E. D. Dunlap, C. G. Sewell, J. Lowell Ponder and the present pastor, N. W. Pitts, who has been with the church two years. The church has a membership of 114, a Sunday school enrollment of 82. W. S. Ray is superintendent of the Sunday School and Carl Pillion is B. T. U. director.

The Shep Church has sent out five young preachers. They are: W. S. Brown, Southwestern Seminary; Ernest Ray, Baylor University; Melvin Byrd, Hardin-Simmons University; and George and Nat Fine of the Shep community.

DR. J. D. SANDEFER

(Continued from page 1)

attractive about the situation. A small struggling school in a sparcely settled west was the human outlook.

It was a lively battle that took place in a small room in Abilene back at that time when the trustees, feeling that they had found God's man for the place, pressed Dr. Sandefer for a decision to accept. After a night of prayer and consultation, Dr. Sandefer caught that vision of Faith that has always been characteristic of the great pioneers of the west, and he decided to cast his lot with these trustees and the institution they represented.

As to the part courage has played in Dr. Sandefer's connection with Hardin-Simmons, no one versed on the growth and development of this institution, with all the disappointments and adversities, will doubt for a moment but that it has taken heroic courage, backed by iron will power and undying determination, to lead the institution to its present place of usefulness.

President Sandefer was born in Sharp County, Arkansas, in 1868. The family moved to Parker County, Texas, in 1878 where young Sandefer received his early educational training in rural schools. He attended Parker Institute, a Methodist college located at Whitt, Texas. He was a student in State University for several summers and then attended Chicago University, where he received his Ph. B. degree. The LLD degree was conferred upon him by Baylor University.

Dr. Sandefer taught in the rural schools of Parker County. He was later president of Strawn College for seven years, and was superintendent of the city schools at Granburry for one year. He next went to John Tarleton College, Stephenville, where he served as vice-president for six years, after which he became president.

Dr. Sandefer resigned as president of John Tarleton to become president of Simmons College in the fall of 1909. His work as president of this institution and as a Baptist leader in Texas are well known to most of our readers. He came here at a time when Simmons was a struggling Junior college. During these 27 years the institution has become one of the foremost universities in the Southwest. The beautiful campus of 40 acres with the 12 buildings, an endowment of around one and a half million dollars and a faculty of 50 men and women are monuments to a remarkable leadership seldom equaled by schoolmen in America.

DR. M. A. JENKENS

(Continued from page one)

had a vision of a great institution of healing with Abilene as an outstanding medical center. Perhaps the crowning work of his ministry had been the successful efforts in bringing into being the West Texas Baptist Sanitarium.

MEETING CLOSES SUNDAY

The revival meeting being conducted at the First Baptist Church, Abilene, will close Sunday evening. Three services have been announced for next Sunday. In the afternoon Dr. John W. Hamm of Atlanta, Ga., who is conducting the meeting, will deliver a special message to men only, the service beginning at 3 o'clock. Men in this section of the country are invited to attend this service.

Historical Sketch of Sweetwates Association

(Continued from page 1)

Eleventh session at Pecos, October 4-6, 1895	11	Moderator	Rev. G. W. Smith
		Clerk	Rev. R. T. Hanks
		Treasurer	C. P. Warren
Twelfth session at Merkel, October 2, 1896	12	Moderator	Rev. G. W. Smith
		Clerk	Rev. R. T. Hanks
		Treasurer	C. P. Warren
Thirteenth session at Sweetwater, September 10, 1897	13	Moderator	Rev. G. W. Smith
		Clerk	Rev. R. T. Hanks
		Treasurer	C. P. Warren
Fourteenth session at Midland, September 9, 1898	14	Moderator	Rev. G. W. Smith
		Clerk	Rev. R. T. Hanks
		Treasurer	C. P. Warren
Fifteenth session at Pecos, September 8-9-10, 1899	15	Moderator	Rev. G. W. Smith
		Clerk	Rev. R. T. Hanks
		Treasurer	C. P. Warren
Sixteenth session at Colorado, September 7-8-9, 1900	16	Moderator	John T. Tucker
		Clerk	Rev. R. T. Hanks
		Treasurer	C. P. Warren
Seventeenth session at Midland, October 11-12-13, 1901	17	Moderator	G. H. M. Wilson
		Clerk	Rev. L. R. Scarborough
		Treasurer	C. P. Warren
Eighteenth session at Abilene. Nine churches from Midland west withdrew to form El Paso Association. October 2-3-4 1902	18	Moderator	G. H. M. Wilson
		Clerk	Rev. G. M. Harrell
		Treasurer	C. P. Warren
Ninteenth session at Big Spring. Resolution adopted to organize women's work. October 1-2-3, 1903	19	Moderator	J. T. Tucker
		Clerk	G. M. Harrel
		Treasurer	C. P. Warren
Twentieth session at Roscoe. Women's work reported for first time. September 9, 1904	20	Moderator	J. T. Tucker
		Clerk	Rev. C. R. Hairfield
		Treasurer	C. P. Warren
Twenty-first session at Mulberry Canyon, Taylor Co. September 28-October 1, 1905	21	Moderator	J. T. Tucker
		Clerk	Rev. R. T. Hanks
		Treasurer	C. P. Warren
Twenty-second session at Colorado, October 4-7, 1906	22	Moderator	J. T. Tucker
		Clerk	Rev. R. T. Hanks
		Treasurer	C. P. Warren
Twenty-third session at Abilene (First Church), October 3-6, 1907	23	Moderator	Rev. R. T. Hanks
		Clerk	Ernest Keathley
		Treasurer	C. P. Warren
Twenty-fourth session at Big Spring (First Church). All churches west of Big Spring withdrew to form association. Oct. 1-4 1908	24	Moderator	O. H. Cooper
		Clerk	Ernest Keathley
		Treasurer	J. D. Kennedy
Twenty-fifth session at Merkel, October 7-10, 1909	25	Moderator	Rev. Holmes Nichols
		Clerk	Ernest Keathley
		Treasurer	J. H. Couch
Twenty-sixth session at Sweetwater, October 6-7-8, 1910	26	Moderator	Rev. J. M. Reynolds
		Clerk	Ernest Keathley
		Treasurer	J. H. Couch
Twenty-seventh session at Loraine (First Church), October 5-6-7, 1911	27	Moderator	Rev. J. M. Reynolds
		Clerk	Ernest Keathley
		Treasurer	J. H. Couch
Twenty-eighth session at North Park Church (Abilene), October 10-11-12, 1912	28	Moderator	Rev. B. Broome
		Clerk	Ernest Keathley
		Treasurer	J. H. Couch
Twenty-ninth session at Sweetwater, (First Church) 1913	29	Moderator	Rev. J. M. Reynolds
		Clerk	Ernest Keathley
		Treasurer	J. H. Couch
Thirtieth session at Colorado, October 8-9-10 1914	30	Moderator	U. Collins
		Clerk	Ernest Keathley
		Treasurer	I. A. Griffith
Thirty-first session at Roscoe (First Church), October 14-5-6, 1915	31	Moderator	U. Collins
		Clerk	Ernest Keathley
		Treasurer	A. B. Collins
Thirty-second session at Merkel, October 5-6-7 1916	32	Moderator	U. Collins
		Clerk	Ernest Keathley
		Treasurer	Eugene Wood
Thirty-third session at College Heights (Abilene), October 11-2-3, 1917	33	Moderator	U. Collins
		Clerk	Ernest Keathley
		Treasurer	C. D. Whitley
Thirty-fourth session at Sweetwater (First Church), October 10-11, 1918	34	Moderator	Rev. T. Y. Adams
		Clerk	Ernest Keathley
		Treasurer	U. Collins
Thirty-fifth session at Abliene (First Church), October 10-11, 1919	35	Moderator	Rev. T. Y. Adams
		Clerk	M. F. Richardson
		Treasurer	U. Collins
Thirty-sixth session at Loraine, October 7-8-9, 1920	36	Moderator	Rev. M. A. Jenkens
		Clerk	John W. Pearce
		Treasurer	U. Collins
Thirty-seventh session at Ovalo, October 5-6, 1921	37	Moderator	Rev. M. A. Jenkens
		Clerk	Rev. M. C. Bishop
		Treasurer	U. Collins
Thirty-eighth session at Roscoe, October 4-5, 1922	38	Moderator	Rev. M. C. Bishop
		Clerk	B. L. Davis
		Treasurer	W. Guy Ivey
Thirty-ninth session at Colorado, October 10-11-12, 1923	39	Moderator	Rev. M. C. Bishop
		Clerk	L. A. Stulce
		Treasurer	Guy Ivey
Fortieth session at Sweetwater (First Church). Roscoe, Colorado, and several other churches withdrew to go into M-S Assn. Oct. 1-2, 1924	40	Moderator	Rev. J. C. Burkett
		Clerk	L. A. Stulce
		Treasurer	U. Collins
Forty-first session at Abilene (First Church), October 8-9, 1925	41	Moderator	Rev. J. C. Burkett
		Clerk	L. A. Stulce
		Treasurer	U. Collins
Forty-second session at Merkel, October 7-8, 1926	42	Moderator	Rev. Ira L. Parrack
		Clerk	L. A. Stulce
		Treasurer	H. W. Hart
Forty-third session at Caps (Abilene, Rt. 3), September 1-2, 1927	43	Moderator	Rev. Ira L. Parrack
		Clerk	L. A. Stulce
		Treasurer	U. Collins
Forty-fourth session at Lamar Street (Sweetwater), October 8-9, 1928	44	Moderator	Rev. J. Perry King
		Clerk	Rev. W. H. Howell
		Treasurer	W. F. Joiner
Forty-fifth sessions at View (Taylor County), October 10-11, 1929	45	Moderator	Rev. J. Perry King
		Clerk	Rev. W. H. Howell
		Treasurer	W. F. Joiner
Forty-sixth session at Sweetwater (First Church), October 9-10, 1930	46	Moderator	Rev. George Green
		Clerk	Rev. C. G. Sewell
		Treasurer	W. F. Joiner
Forty-seventh session at Abilene (First Church, U. & S. S. hosts) .Date of age of Assn. corrected—47th not 57th. October 8-9, 1931	47	Moderator	Rev. C. A. Powell
		Clerk	Miss Ima D. Petty
		Treasurer	W. F. Joiner
Forty-eighth session at Merkel, October 6-7, 1932	48	Moderator	Rev. C. A. Powell
		Clerk	Miss Ima D. Petty
		Treasurer	W. F. Joiner
Forty-ninth session at University Church (Abilene), October 5-6, 1933	49	Moderator	Rev. C. R. Joiner
		Clerk	Miss Ima D. Petty
		Treasurer	W. F. Joiner
Fiftieth session at Sweetwater (First Church), October 3-4-5, 1934	50	Moderator	Rev. C. R. Joiner
		Clerk	Miss Ima D. Petty
		Treasurer	Mrs. W. F. Joiner, acting
Fifty-first session at First Baptist Church, Abilene, October 10-11, 1935	50	Moderator	Dr. M. A. Jenkens
		Clerk	Miss Ima D. Petty
		Treasurer	L. P. Cook

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SWEETWATER ASS'N. ORGANIZED IN 1885

(Continued from page 1)

erator, J. B. Scarborough, clerk, and G. H. Connell, treasurer.

It would appear that this meeting so called, under all of the circumstances, had the right to claim succession to the name of Red Gap Association if it had so desired, but on the other hand, a resolution was early passed reciting the regularity of the call for the meeting as the Red Gap Association, but recited that inasmuch as some of the brethren objected to the call and to the use of the name, and therefore waived the name and proceeded to organize as the Sweetwater Baptist Association, with territory to extend from Taylor County on the east, to El Paso on the west, with all contiguous and nearby counties, thus embracing a region about 450 miles east and west, and 90 to 200 miles north and south. It was then estimated that there were about 450 Baptists in the entire region outlined. The region was just emerging from wild frontier conditions into organized society.

A great majority of the counties in the region at that time had not been organized—which means that such counties did not have as many as 150 voters to the county as that was the requirement for the organization of new counties.

All of the pastors taking part in the organization were at that time carried on the rolls of the Texas Baptist State Convention as missionaries on the frontier of Texas—with the sole exception of Rev. G. W. Scarborough.

Dr. O. C. Pope was then corresponding secretary and superintendent of State Missions in Texas, under the State Convention. In his report for 1885 he stated that he had succeeded in getting Red Gap, or Sweetwater Association, to cooperate with the State convention for the first time.

The Sweetwater Association had been organized just about one month when the State Convention met in its annual session at Lampasas; and several of the churches of the new association had messengers—notably Colorado. Sweetwater and Abilene, and the subscription of the new association for state missions was the second largest listed in the minutes, for the entire state.

From the statement of Dr. Pope that, in effect, the Red Gap Association had not been in co-operation with the State Convention; and the fact that an examination of the minutes does not disclose that any of the churches taking part in the organization of Battle Creek Association, sent messengers to the convention, and a number of the churches in the new Sweetwater Association did send messengers; and the further fact that the executive committee of the State convention, at the suggestion of Dr. Pope paid the expenses of Rev. J. A. Moore to and from the convention, points strongly to the conclusion that Dr. Pope in his representative capacity co-operated in the organization of the new association, for thereby co-operation of the region, then beginning to settle and develop with numbers of new towns, was secured to the State convention.

It must be understood in that connection that there were then two state-wide state Baptist organizations in Texas.

It was under Dr. Pope's guiding hand as superintendent of State Missions that the above named missionaries were placed on the frontiers of West Texas, and by his efforts kept there; and to him more than any one man is due the credit for the fact that Baptists early and continuously have been in the front rank in all things religious in the region.

He had been superintendent of State Missions in Texas for three years before Sweetwater Association was organized, but owing to the death of Drs. Chaplin and Crane, the president and first vice-president and the mainstays of the State convention, in the winter of '84 and early spring of '85, Dr. Pope in about July '85 resigned his office to go to New York, there to accept work under Dr. J. B. Simmons, whose board had been aiding Dr. Pope's work with $1,500 for church extension work, and generally credited with being the founder of Hardin-Simmons University. And that again gave Dr. Pope a strategic position to help West Texas, when in 1890 the call went to him at New York from his old Texas friend, Dr. G. W. Smith, for money with which to build Abilene Baptist College at Abilene.

The letter was turned over to Dr. Simmons, and Simmons College was the result—now recently changed in name.

By 1891 there were 27 churches co-operating with the association, with an estimated membership of 1,232.

With the growth and development of West Texas, the organization of Baptist churches kept pace, and the consequent enlargement of the activities of the Sweetwater Baptist Association kept in the field from time to time from one to a half dozen missionaries, usually in co-operation with the State convention.

Some times this missionary effort has taken the form of aiding a number of small and weak churches in retaining pastors where they would otherwise be unable to keep pastors.

One of the outstanding things coming as the result of the association's efforts, is the present day Hardin-Simmons University, at Abilene.

In 1890 after some discussion and agitation, and with the co-operation especially of members of the Abilene and the Sweetwater churches, at the meeting of the association, again at Sweetwater, by pre-arrangement with Judge K. K. Legett and Dr. G. W. Smith representing the Abilene church, Judge H. C. Hord of Sweetwater, introduced a resolution in the association, calling for the establishment of a Baptist school within bounds of the association. Dr. R. C. Burleson, president of Baylor University at Waco, was present as a visitor and took the floor in opposition to the motion, arguing that the population was too scarce and did not need the school; that the scheme was utterly impractible, reciting the long fight of Baptists in Texas to establish a university, and predicting that the school if started, would be strangled to death by debt before it could get on its feet.

The members of the association heard the arguments of the venerable school man with entire good humor and patience, and then proceeded to adopt the resolution; and proceeded in regular order to establish the school, with results that are well known.

Without taking the time and space to trace the growth and development of the association year by year, let it be said that the foundations laid by it in frontier days has been largely instrumental in the fact that probably more associations have been formed out of the original bounds of the association than have come from any other association in the State.

It would appear that the following associations have been formed, in whole or in part, out of territory or with churches originally, at at time of withdrawal, forming this association:

Stonewall, Jones, Fisher, Haskell, Dickens, Big Spring, El Paso, Lamesa, Lubbock, Mitchell-Scurry, Pecos Valley, Runnels and Concho Valley — thirteen associations, which with the parent association, now have about 300 churches and in excess of 50,000 members.

The parent association has the territory of Taylor and part of Nolan Counties as its remaining home, but has a number of churches with vastly more members than there were Baptists in the entire region when the association was formed in 1885; and it appears to have now as many churches co-operating, as it had at any time during the period of life. With the drawing off of churches and ter-

(Continued on page 8)

WEST TEXAS BAPTIST

(Continued from Page One)

tis is now connected with the Baptist Standard as field representative.

Dr. W. F. Fry, for 20 years head of the Bible department of Hardin-Simmons was the next editor. Dr. Fry, with the splendid aid of his wife, managed to edit the paper along with his other pressing work as teacher and field man for the institution.

Following Dr. Fry Rev. E. E. Dawson returned to Abilene as editor of the paper. He was followed by Horace I. Trout, who was editor for about two years.

The present editor of the West Texas Baptist, who was then a senior in Simmons, became editor of the Evangel in 1920. In that year the paper was taken over by the Baptist Standard, then edited by Dr. J. N. Routh, and for the next year the writer represented the Baptist Standard in this section and contributed weekly news notes to the Standard.

The writer finished his Seminary work in 1924, did evangelistic work during that summer in Young County under the direction of the board of the Young County Association, and returned to Abilene in the fall and with the backing of Mr. George S. Anderson and C. M. Caldwell, again launched the West Texas Baptist.

DR. L. R. SCARBOROUGH

complished for Simmons College, then a struggling junior institution, was of incalculable worth to the kingdom work in West Texas. The seven years work Dr. Scarborough did while in Abilene was, perhaps, the most fruitful of his entire ministry.

Dr. Scarborough went to the Southwestern Seminary as assistant to Dr. B. H. Carrol, succeeding to the presidency at the latter's death. Along with his administrative work, Dr. Scarborough has taught evangelism in the Seminary. During his ministry he has won many thousands of souls to Christ.

Following the meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention next month, he and Mrs. Scarborough will go on an evangelistic tour of South America. This trip is made possible by the friends of this man of God who appreciate his worth as a leader of men and as a winner of souls.

NOLAN CHURCH

The Nolan Baptist Church, located 20 miles south of Sweetwater on the Divide, was organized August 10, 1890, by Rev. S. H. Blair. J. J. Lively and wife and C. H. Farmer were among the charter members of the church.

The following preachers have been pastor of the church: S. H. Blair, W. M. Smith, Robert Cook, W. L. Carter, N. W. Pitts, R. M. Dunlap, J. H. McLaughlin, M. G. Ellis, R. M. McGinnis, R. D. Dodd and T. J. Young.

Brother N. W. Pitts, present pastor, has been with the church for two and one-half years. The church has a membership of 165 with 115 enrolled in the Sunday School. L. A. Lister is superintendent of the Sunday School and Brother McClure is B. T. U. director. There have been 70 professions of faith in the church during Brother Pitt's ministry.

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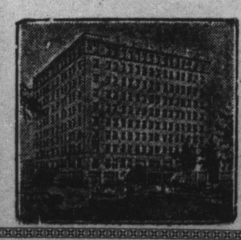
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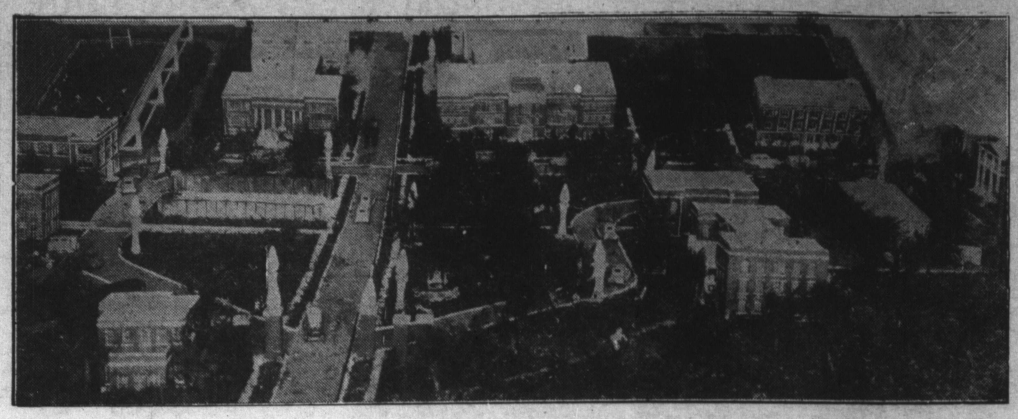
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Candidate For
COUNTY CLERK, TAYLOR COUNTY
Experience and Efficiency

HARDIN-SIMMONS HAS BEGINNING IN 1891

(Continued from page 1)

acres of land and $5,000 to locate the college on its present site.

1891—The charter was filed with the Secretary of State. Dr. George W. Smith, chairman of the board of trustees, enlisted the aid of Dr. O. C. Pope of New York, who at one time had been secretary of missions in Texas. Dr. Pope enlisted the aid of Dr. James B. Simmons of New York, who gave generously to the founding of the college. The corner stone of the first building was laid July 4, 1891. The trustees decided to change the name of the institution from Abilene Baptist College to Simmons College, in honor of Dr. Simmons, who at that time was its largest donor.

September, 1892—First session of the new college was opened with Rev. W. C. Friley as president.

1894 — Dr. Thatcher became president and under his administration of four years substantial progress was made.

1898—Dr. O. C. Pope became president, served three years and was forced to resign on account of his health.

1901—Rev. C. J. Hairfield became president and served one year. It was during this year that Dr. L. R. Scarborough came to Abilene as pastor of the First Baptist Church, and for the next few years his untiring service was of tremendous worth to the institution.

1902—Dr. Oscar H. Cooper, formerly a member of the Yale faculty and president of Baylor University, became president and during the next seven years Simmons made rapid advancement along all lines.

1903—Anna Hall, a girl's dormitory, was built and named in honor of the daughter of Dr. Robert S. Simmons.

1906—The college received notice of the bequest of Dr. Simmons' entire estate valued at $80,000.

1907—A new dormitory for boys was erected and named Billie Cowden hall in honor of "Uncle Billie" Cowden, whose children made the largest contribution to the funds for erecting the building.

1909-1910—Smith Hall, a girl's dormitory, at first called "The Girls' Industrial Home,' was erected, 'costing around $50,000.

1909—Dr. J. D. Sandefer, then President of John Tarleton College, was elected president.

1911—Simmons received recognition as a standard college of the first class.

1913—Abilene Hall, Administration building, costing $40,000, was built and equipped.

1916—Mary Frances Hall, girls' dormitory, named in honor of Mrs. J. H. Parramore and Mrs. C. W. Merchant, wives of two of the original trustees and largest donors to the building, was erected.

1918—Marston Gymnasium was completed and equipped at a cost of $50,000. The building was named in honor of Edgar L. Marston of New York, who gave the first $10,000 toward the building.

1918-1919 — Simmons Science Hall was constructed on the site of the original Simmons College building, at a cost of $181,000.

1920-21 — Caldwell Fine Arts Hall was erected and equipped at a cost of $105,000. This beautiful building was the gift of Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Caldwell of Abilene.

1923—The Crane Historical Library was acquired. The valuable library was the gift of Judge R. C. Crane of Sweetwater, whose father, Dr. William Carey Crane, was president of Baylor University at Independence for more than a quarter of a century.

1924-25—Ferguson Hall, boys' dormitory, was erected. Its construction was made possible by the generous gift of Mr. W. P. Ferguson of Wichita Falls and his sons, Jasper and Herbert Ferguson, as a memorial to wife and mother, Mrs. W. P. Ferguson.

1924—$200,000 was subscribed in Abilene to meet an offer of the General Education Board of New York to give $100,000 as endowment for Simmons. In this year the president's home was erected on the campus at a cost of $18,000.

During the 75 Million Campaign (1920-24) Simmons received about $150,000 from her participation in the movement.

1925—Anna Hall was remodeled as a library building at a cost of $20,000. During this year the name of the institution was changed from Simmons College to Simmons University.

1927—A Chapel building and Cafeteria were erected at a cost of $40,000. In this year the university was admitted into the American Association of Colleges, and also the Southern Association of Colleges.

1934—The University celebrated the 25th anniversary of the service of Dr. J. D. Sandefer as president. During this year a gift of $250,000 from Mr. and Mrs. John G. Hardin of Burkburnett was announced. The name of the institution was changed to Hardin-Simmons University in honor of the donors of this generous gift.

1935—Announcement made of additional gifts to the university of around $170,000.

1936—A gift of $100,000 was made to the institution by Judge and Mrs. T. G. Hendricks of Abilene, the money to be used to liquidate the indebtedness.

CAPS CHURCH

Of all the churches in the Sweetwater Association the one at Caps perhaps means a little more to the editor of the West Texas Baptist than any other, for it was in this community that we grew to young manhood and received early training.

Back in the beginning this community was known as Border's Chapel, and the Baptist Church there was called the Harmony Baptist Church.

The Caps Church was organized in 1891 under the leadership of Rev. George W. Smith, who played such a prominent part in the early history of Simmons College.

The charter members of the Caps Church were: Robert Malone and wife, E. A. Blanks and wife, J. C. Joiner and wife, Mrs. T. M. Blakemore, Mittie Harper, Mary A. Hammond, E. E. Sadler and wife, J. J. Williams, R. C. Joiner, Laura Joiner, W. M. and Rebecca Collins.

At this time there are five surviving charter members of the church. They are Mrs. Mary A. Hammond, E. A. Blanks and wife, of Caps, Mrs. E. E. Sadler of Abilene, and Mrs. Laura Joiner Blakemore of Plainview. One of the charter members, Judge R. C. Joiner, died last week at his home in Plainview.

The Caps Church has had 23 pastors during the 45 years of its history. Taken as a whole, perhaps there is not a rural church in Texas that has had a more able group of pastors than has this good church. W. F. Adair was the first pastor. The other pastors, given in approximately the order in which they served, are as follows:

W. C. Friley, W. M. Reynolds, Sam Bristow, W. T. Conner, C. H. Hairfield, R. T. Hanks, W. B. Davis, A. S. Pierson, W. F. Fry, J. D. Kennedy, A. J. Morgan, Perry King, D. W. Arnette, E. E. Dawson, John W. Newsom, Fred Eastman, W. H. Hughes, Sam Morris, J. C. McKinzie, W. R. Derr. Rev. W. H. Hughes has served the church at two different times. He recently resigned as pastor of the church to go to Petersburg. The church has recently called Rev. Clyde Jackson, pastor of the church at View and student in Hardin-Simmons University.

The church has a present membership of 153, with a Sunday School enrollment of 154. The Sunday School was organized in October, 1899. Brother E. A. Blanks was one of the leaders in this organization. His membership is still with the church and during these 45 years he has been faithful to every trust committed to him.

Mrs. W. F. Joiner is the present superintendent of the Sunday School. Her late husband, W. F. Joiner, served in that capacity for over 18 years and his wife succeeded him at his death. During Brother Joiner's ministry the church had the distinction of reaching the advanced standard in its Sunday School work.

In commenting on the work of the Caps Church, Mrs. W. F. Joiner, the Sunday School superintendent, said:

"Harmony Baptist Church has grown steadily from a church with 19 charter members in 1891 to a membership of 164, while I think the membership now is about 155, I am not sure of the correct number, but this is near it. The Sunday School has now enrolled 154, is graded, has been a standard school ever since 1927, and two years held the advanced standard under the leadership of the late W. F. Joiner, who was superintendent for 18 years.

"Four preachers have gone out from this church. Dr. W. T. Conner, teacher of systematic theology in the Southwestern Seminary at Fort Worth, Texas. J. Perry King was for years pastor of Harmony Church, and is now pastor at Clarendon, Texas. C. A. Joiner pastored churches on the plans for a number of years. His last pastorate was at Sudan, Texas, which he resigned because of failing health. Sam Malone has been pastor of Eliasville Church for six years, just recently having resigned. He is editor of the West Texas Baptist and has taught Bible in Hardin-Simmons University.

"We are proud of each of them. One other young preacher, John V. Conner (brother of Dr. W. T. Conner(was ordained by this church but was called to his reward before he finished his preparation for his life's work.

"Mrs. Roy Quattlebaum is director of the B. T. U., with about 60 enrolled. It was organized this time about two and a half years ago.

"Mrs. Dillard is our W. M. U. president. It was organized with 14 members. I do not remember the date.

"The Layman's Brotherhood was organized last year with eight or ten members. Mr. J. M. Lucas is president.

"As to other members and their work who are worthy of mention will say they are too numerous to mention. I hesitate to name them for fear I might leave out some worthy ones. Many faithful ones have passed on to their reward, but their influence still lives on in the work."

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BUILDING PROGRAM FOR SANITARIUM CALLS FOR LARGE ANNEX BUILDING

(Continued from page 1)

1930-31	1849	3 per cent
1931-32	1798	4 per cent
1932-33	2219	3.5 per cent
1933-34	2493	3 per cent
1934-35	3960	3 per cent

The number of patient days for the year just closed totaled 18,320 or an average of 50 days each. That was an increase of seven days for each patient, over the 1933-34 figure.

Much Charity Work

Expenses, including interest on indebtedness, ran $90,601.37 last year, while the cash collected amounted to $87,105.64. Charity work, because it is the only hospital in this city and immediate vicinity, runs unusually large and keeps the institution from showing a profit, said Superintendent E. M. Collier.

Mr. Collier took over the helm on October 20, 1929, from L. A. Sanders, who had served more than two years. Sanders had followed H. V. Campbell, who was the first superintendent.

Coming from the Missouri Baptist hospital at St. Louis, where he was assistant superintendent, Mr. Collier has made an enviable record at the local institution. The number of patients has grown steadily, the mortality rate has decreased and professional standards of highest order have been maintained.

He is a fellow of the American College of Hospital Administrators and was the fourth Texan to be admitted to that nationally honored body. During the past year he has served as president of the Texas State Hospital, and presided at the annual convention held in Dallas March 6 and 7. He is a past president of West Texas Clinic and Hospital Managers association.

Anderson Chairman

George S. Anderson, prominent business and church leader of Abilene, has been chairman of the board since the hospital's founding. He is actively in charge of the current expansion program.

Presidents of the staff have been, in the order named: Dr. Stewart Cooper, two years; Dr. E. R. Middleton, two years; Dr. T. Wade Hedrick, Dr. W. A. V. Cash, Dr. L. J. Pickard, Dr. J. Frank Clark, Dr. W. J. Mathews, Dr. R. P. Glenn, Dr. C. B. Leggett and Dr. Erle D. Sellers.

MORO CHURCH

Nestling in the hills of southwest Taylor County is the little Moro Church, which had its beginning in 1912. Details of the organization and early history of the church are lacking, because of the fact that the records of the church were destroyed by fire several years ago. The only surviving charter member of the church is Mrs. Mattie Floyd.

The church has had thirteen pastors since its beginning. Some of them are: E. J. Harker, B. M. Jackson, W. N. Hall, V. W. Tatum, E. K. Daugherty, Turner, McClure, Scott, Badgett, Young, and the present pastor, Rev. Clyde Jackson.

The church has a present membership of 51. The Sunday school has an enrollment of 64. Lester Bradshaw is superintendent of the Sunday School.

CHURCHES IN THIS SECTION ASKED TO AID CHARITY FUND

(Continued from page one)

pital staff is trained to care sympathetically and intelligently for the sick. And the hospital is so organized that this service continues for 24 hours a day.

Visit one of the hospitals in your community. Then if the time comes when your physician advises you or one of your family to go to a hospital, you will know, from having seen with your own eyes, what an efficient, friendly, peaceful place a hospital is.

Collier Makes Statement

In regard to the Mother's Day program for our churches, Superintendent E. M. Collier has issued the following statement:

"The hospitals throughout the nation on May 12 will hold open house to the public. Those in charge of hospitals know that it is important that the public be familiar with the work of the hospital and thoroughly understand their relation to the hospital. May 12 is also Mother's Day and has been set aside by the Southern Baptist Convention for each church in the convention to do something for one of the 26 hospitals on this day. Our Baptist people in West Texas, of course, will want to help their own institution; likewise, the Baptist people near other Baptist hospitals in the state will see that their contributions go to the nearest Baptist hospital. This money is not to be used to pay debts and salaries, but it is to be used to care for the charity patients. This is the only time during the year that our Baptist hospitals ask our churches to help them with this work. Every church in the state will want every Baptist hospital to be able to take care of every charity patient in need of hospitalization. Our hospitals are compelled to pay for the drugs, surgical supplies, food, laundry and many other items necessary in the care and treatment of a charity patient, just the same as if it was a pay patient.

"We are asking our church people on May 12 to help us raise this money. Our doctors and nurses will be giving their services and the hospital space will be used free, but we must pay the drug house, the surgical supply house and the various other business firms where we purchase supplies in treating sick people. A very small percent of our Baptist churches in the state have ever given one penny toward the care and treatment of charity patients or helped in any way the Baptist hospitals in the state. We, as Baptist people, not only believe that it is our Christian duty to help serve the sick and injured poor, but it is also our duty to provide proper facilities to care for others who are able to pay when they become sick and injured. A good hospital is one of the most important institutions in the community, next to the school, church and home; we cannot do without it. So why shouldn't we show a greater interest in our hospitals?

"The Baptist hospital in Abilene has been crowded to capacity for the past year. We are receiving patients from a very wide territory, and our doctors are doing very excellent work. Our death rate last month was 3 per cent, which is considered very small. Larger hospitals consider 5 per cent an excellent record.

"We have at this time a young woman in the maternity department who stated, when she was asked by the admission clerk for her address, that she had no address that the landlord had put her out of the house and all the furniture was out in the street. She said her husband had been out of work for a long time, and it seems they did not have a friend in the world. She was asked if she was a church member, she stated she had been years ago. She was told that this institution, which had received her so graciously, was owned by the Baptists of Texas and that the church had provdied a way to care for her. It certainly will be a sad day when church people neglect to provide maternity, medical and surgical attention to destitute people. This is the only appeal we make to church people to assist us in this work. Every section of Texas will be asked to take an offering for their nearest Baptist hospital. I am sure that West Texas will remember this institution with a generous offering such as they have given in the past. Plan now for your offering on Mother's Day."

CEDAR GAP CHURCH

Most of the early records of this church has been misplaced or distroyed. The following sketch is given from memory by Mrs. T. W. Stephenson, who was a charter member of the church. It was organized in 1884 with five members, as follows: Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Stephenson, Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Truett, and Mrs. Ben F. Graham. Mrs. Stephenson is the only one of the above named members that survives. She has never moved her membership from this church.

The church was one of the first organized in Sweetwater Association. The present house of worship was erected 13 years after its organization, during the pastorate of Rev. Wood.

During its history of 52 years 30 preachers have served it as pastor, namely: Revs. Scott, Leggett, Dickey, Burt, Hanks, Crow, Maddox, Lilly, Adair, Stringer, Estell, Wood, Harvesty, Strickland, Millican, Leach, Reynolds, Dick, Davis, Ball, Summers, Hughs, Tatum, Tiner, Williams, Sr., Henderson, Jordan, Stripling, Wood (second time), Owen, present pastor.

The church has had a varied experience through periods of prosperity and that of adversity, was once considered a strong, active country church that contributed freely to all our denominational work, but a large number of its members have moved away, leaving less than 25 to carry on its work. Its time of worship is the second Sunday of each month.

Mrs. Robinson is superintendent of the Sunday School. C. D. Owen of Abilene is pastor.

A number of pastors in this section are planning to attend the meeting of the Southwest Baptist Convention at St. Louis May 14-18.

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IMMANUEL CHURCH

(Continued from page 1)

were not in Sunday school. For a short while groups of children gathered in her home for the lesson hour. The need was soon recognized and presented for a mission station, and the First Baptist Church rented a dwelling on Walnut Street, and appointed Mr. Will Fulwiler, Sr., as superintendent of the mission school, which mission station was, for 17 years, called the Walnut Street Mission. Mr. and Mrs. Fulwiler, previous to the organization, had also become interested workers in this field, and here they continued to labor for more than 15 years; and Mrs. Mayfield continued as a faithful worker in this district for more than 20 years.

Shortly after the work was organized the First Church built the first mission house at 10th and Walnut Street. This building was later destroyed by a cyclone, July 31, 1911. The First Church immediately rebuilt, and the mission property was at this time valued at $1,000.

Then in 1925 the church building was destroyed by fire, at which time the church records were burned, but in the minutes to the Sweetwater Association we find the following reports:

"The Walnut Street Mission School; Septembre 30, 1911. We have 15 officers and teachers; 165 scholars enrolled; 95 average attendance; 17 conversions; $60 total contributions."

"October 5, 1913. Walnut Street Sunday School is not graded but there are 13 teachers and officers; 269 scholars enrolled; 85 average attendance; 11 conversions during the year; $60.25 expended.

"(Signed) W. M. Fulwiler, Supt.
(Miss) Alberta Mayfield,
Secretary-Treasurer."

In 1914 the first B. Y. P. U. was organized. Miss Madge Moore (now Mrs. E. M. Landers); Messrs. Ki Daugherty and Chester Nichodemus, were assistants in this work.

In 1917 Rev. R. H. Williams was employed by the First Church as missionary pastor of Walnut Street Mission. He continued in this work until 1919. Judge Stinson was Sunday School superintendent. Mr. Jesse Scott and others helped.

In the First Church records we find that Hyman Harrison was elected as superintendent of the Walnut Street Mission July 6, 1921.

About August, 1921, Rev. John W. Newsom held a revival meeting. Shortly thereafter the following names were presented to the First Baptist Church in conference, with the expressed desire of being permitted, as charter members to serve in the organization of a church. This request was granted and in the early fall of 1921, with Rev. Newsom presiding the Walnut Street Mission was organized into the Walnut Street Baptist Church.

The charter members were: Mrs. M. M. Mayfield, W. H. Gulley and Ray Gulley (now Mrs. Ray Biggers), Percy Mayfield, and Mrs. Percy Mayfield, Frances Hicks (now Mrs. A. John), Bobby Locke, Loyd Locke, Miss Mollie Maples; Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Mitchell; Mr. and Mrs. Tom Odor, Theodore Odor, Wauneta Odor and Walter Odor; Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Barrington, Ruth Barrington; Elmer, Willie and Ray Newsome; Eva and Vera Adis, Mrs. Emma Reese, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Passmon, R. D. Stewart and Albert Shipley, Arthur Gulley and Hyman Harrison.

A few weeks after the church organization Rev. Newsom was called at its first pastor. Here he served for about two years, during which time the Lord blessed his ministry.

In 1923, Rev. R. H. Williams was called as pastor, and he served about two years, with a budget of $1,250 for each year.

In the year 1925, Rev. Scott W. Hickey was called as pastor. He served the church something over two years. The building was destroyed by fire during his pastorate and he lead the membership in the building of the house we now worship in; with Dr. M. A. Jenkens preaching the dedication sermon.

On October 3, 1928, Rev. A. C. Turner accepted the pastorate, and served until 1930. In the report sent October 10, 1929, to the Sweetwater Association we find the following:

"Gave $10 to co-operative program; total to missions $68.40; grand total for all gifts $1,596.65; 24 tithers; adopted budget for missions."

During Brother Turners ministry the church purchased three lots on the corner of 13th and Cypress Streets, and the church was moved to that location and the name changed from Walnut Street Baptist Church to "The Immanuel Baptist Church."

In the fall of 1930 Rev. David Phillips was called at pastor. He served the church three months, at which time he resigned to accept work elsewhere.

On January 7, 1931, Rev. S. J. T. Williams accepted the pastorate. A large tabernacle was built to worship in, and four revivals were held, during his two years of service. The zealous and efficient work of Mrs. Williams resulted in a substantial increase in attendance in both the women's department of the Sunday School and the W. M. S. work.

November 1, 1932, Dr. J. C. Burkett came in as pastor, and served until his death, four months later. During his brief ministry 47 members were added to the church, 17 of these coming for baptism.

April 1, 1933, Rev. W. R. Derr accepted the pastorate and served until November 24, 1935. During the time there were 142 additions to the church, 86 of these came for baptism. The church debt was reduced from about $3,000 to less than $1,300.

February 23, 1936, the church called Rev. Roy Young as its pastor, and under his consecrated leadership we are at the present time facing our task with new courage.

The present membership of the church is 237. The Sunday School has an enrollment of 162, with an average attendance of 140. The B. T. U. enrollment is 81. Robin Cluck, Hardin-Simmons student, is director. There are 95 women enrolled in the W. M. U., with an active membership of 24. Mrs. Perry Mayfield is president. Harry Rice is chairman of the board of deacons.

MT. OLIVE CHURCH

The Mount Olive Church, located several miles southeast of Sweetwater was organized in 1925. Rev. G. W. Tankersley, then a student in Simmons University, led in the organization of the church. Some of the charter members were J. H. Lamkin and wife, J. W. Henry and wife, D. W. Henry, Sr., and wife, J. H. Ashbourn and wife, Mrs. S. H. Sneed.

The church has had twelve pastors since its organization. They are, in the order in which they served the church, as follows: Brethren Tankersley, Dennis, Pyers, Sewell, Newsom, Price, Grautt, McLaughlin, Burns and Hair.

Brother Lloyd Hair, the present pastor, has been with the church for only three months, but he is getting a fine start in the leadership of the people.

The Sunday School was organized in 1925 by Rev. Tankersley, assisted by Brother D. W. Henry, Sr. The present membership of the Sunday School is 45.

We had a good day Sunday at the Greenwood Church. There was one conversion and four additions to the church by baptism. One lady came from the Methodist Church.

We do not have room for the people. We laid the foundation for addition to our church today and if any of our friends care to have a part in the work a dollar will be greatly appreciated.

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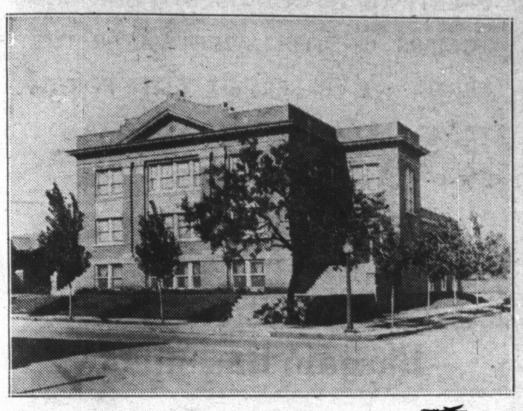
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First Church of Sweetwater Had Its Beginning In 1881



It was in December, 1881, 55 years ago that the First Baptist Church, Sweetwater, was organized under the leadership of Rev. Peter Turner, a missionary of the Texas Baptist State Convention When we look back over these 55 years and see the glorious ministry of this great church in the west, we are made to realize the tremendous importance of missions—local, state, home and foreign.

The charter members of the church, according to Judge R. C. Crane, historian of the Sweetwater church, were: G. H. Connell, who died some time ago at Fort Worth; his wife; an elderly country preacher by the name of Clark, his wife and his son, Harley Clark, and wife and his single son or daughter. This data as to the charter members of the church Judge Crane received from Mr. G. H. Connell in a letter dated May 18, 1922. Mrs. G. H. Connell of Fort Worth is the only charter member of the church known to be alive at this time.

The First Church, Sweetwater, has had 19 pastors during its 55 years of service. Rev. Bennett Hatcher succeeded Brother Turner as pastor. Other pastors serving the church were: Revs. G. W. Smith, J. A. Moore, R. A. Lee, Pinkey Harris, W. M. Crawford, E. Ward, R. T. Hanks, C. T. Ball, W. A. Moffitt, M. E. Hudson, L. D. Bass, H. C. Compt[redacted] Adams, L. G. Morony, C[redacted] Whatley, George Green, an[redacted] the present pastor, Rev. E. D. Dunlap. Brother Dunlap has been with the church since June, 1932 and he is leading the church in a real constructive denominational program.

The church has a present membership of 800. The Sunday School enrollment is 842. The Sunday School was organized by Brother G. H. Connell and his brother-in-law, James T. McHan, the later being superintendent for a number of years. P. E. Ponder is superintendent of the Sunday School at the present time.

CALVARY CHURCH

This church was organized July 6, 1934, under the leadership of the present pastor, J. H. Dean. There were eight charter members.

The present membership is 98, 42 of whom were baptized into the fellowship of the church. The Sunday School, B. T. U., and W. M. U. are all graded.

One Junior girl was perfect in the state B. T. U. Bible memory contest last year.

The church owns its house of worship located at Ninth and Victoria Streets, Abilene.

E. D. DUNLAP



Rev. E. D. Dunlap, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Sweetwater, was born in Comanche County, Texas, September 19, 1897. He was converted and joined the Harmony Baptist Church near Comanche in 1907. He was married to Miss Dossie Burrus of Loraine in 1919.

After surrendering to the call to preach Brother Dunlap entered Hardin-Simmons, and during his school years here was ordained as a minister by University Baptist Church. He received his A. B. degree from Hardin-Simmons in 1929. During his school years he was pastor of the churches at Colony Hill, Mount Pleasant, View, Shep, Sweet Home, O'Brien, Drasco, and Talpa. After leaving Abilene he went to Park Heights, San Angelo, as pastor. After a very successful ministry there he resigned to become pastor of the Sweetwater Church.

Besides his regular ministry to his churches, Brother Dunlap has been active in general denominational work, having led in a number of responsible denominational campaigns in the past few years.

LAMAR STREET

Lamar Street Church, Sweetwater, was organized in 1913, from a mission previously established by the First Church. The following are some of the charter members of the church. Mrs. J. E. Cole, Mr. and Mrs. A. Kector, Mrs. Asa Johnston, Mrs. Malsphette, Mrs. Joe Flannigan, Mrs. B. A. Richardson. The church began its work in a wooden building with 13 members and later erected a brick building which is not yet completed. Has a pastor's home, making a total value of church property $10,200. Has a membership of 320. Sunday School enrollment of 225 and B. T. S. enrollment of 100.

The following are names of some of the pastors that served the church: Rev. C. W. Clark, Rev. Willie Jackson, Rev. Phil Little, Rev. E. K. Dougherty, Rev. Henry Weldon, Rev. J. H. McLaughlin, Rev. Herman Coe, and present pastor, Rev. L. L. Trott.

The church has ordained eight young preachers during its history. Have made liberal monthly offerings to the co-operative program for the past 18 months. Its membership is deeply spiritual and co-operative. Its pastor, Rev. Trott, is one of our most aggressive and efficient young preachers. R. L. Davis is superintendent of the Sunday School, Mrs. C. A. Matthews is president of W. M. U. C. L. Boswell, president of Brotherhood and Mrs. J. S. Olson, church clerk.

NEIL BAPTIST CHURCH

The Neill Missionary Baptist Church, located on the Buffalo Gap highway, began its ministry to the cause of Christ on July 8, 1923. Rev. A. R. Tyson, who served as pastor of churches in this section for several years, and also served the association as missionary, led in the organization of the church. Associated with him in the organization work were the following: J. H. Wade and wife, W. F. Stewart and wife, K. J. Lovingston and wife, S. E. Clark and wife, Mrs. G. W. Wiggins, Mrs. Oline Clark, Mrs. Lena Dawson, Mrs. G. P. Oliver, Mrs. S. G. Oliver, Mrs. Ethel Thornton, Ed Fillman, and Milton Cox.

Eight pastors have served the Neill Church since its beginning. They are: A. R. Tyson, Sam Morris, J. B. Adams, V. W. Tatum, Fred McPherson, Ben R. Stripling, and F. A. Hollis, the present pastor.

Pastor Hollis has been with the church for the past two and one-half years. His home is at Putnam, where he is pastor of that church in the Callahan Association. He was for a number of years pastor of the church at Ovalo.

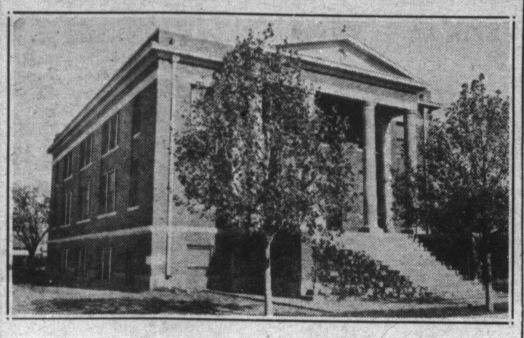
The present membership of the church is 103, and the Sunday School enrollment in 79. Brother S. G. Oliver led in the roganization of the Sunday School and Brother H. L. DeShazo is the present superintendent.

In mentioning the contributions made by members of the church, Brother V. E. Hodges, present church clerk, said:

"It would be unjust to mention a few who have worked so faithfully in the upbuilding of our church and leave others out. We have a good Sunday School, B. T. U., Men's Brotherhood, and these auxiliaries of the church are all making progress. We own our house of worship, contribute regularly to the co-operative work and are out of debt. Our Brotherhood was organized in September, 1935, with 13 members. Brother I. B Duck is leader of this organization."

Pastor C. R. Joyner reports that the Merkel Church has just completed a successful B. T. U. study course with a large number taking the examinations.

First Church at Merkel Was Organized by G. W. Scarborough





REV. C. R. JOYNER
Postor First Baptist Church,
Merkel, Texas

In the year A. D., 1885, Brother G. W. Scarborough, father of Brother Lee R. Scarborough, at that time living on a farm-ranch on the Clear Fork, about 18 or 20 miles north of Merkel, organized the First Baptist Church of Merkel, with a charter membership of nine. The charter members were: G. W. Scarborough and wife, a son, C. B. Scarborough, daughter, Ada Scarborough, G. W. Dunning and wife, O. X. Ginn and wife, and T. B. Story.

At time of organization there was no public building in Merkel; the organization was made in a small residence, owned by O. X Ginn.

After the organization Rev. G. W. Scarborough was called as pastor of the church. O. X. Ginn was elected church clerk. This constituted the first religious organization for Merkel.

It was not long after the organization until a one-room school building was erected, and the First Baptist Church of Merkel moved its place of worship to that building where they met for preaching once a month, with business meeting of the church on Saturday before each regular service.

In the summer of 1893 a church building was erected, a long, straight old-fashioned building, with a great tall tower on the west end, directly over the only door to the building.

During this time the membership had increased to about 40.

With its own church building the next move was to organize a Baptist Sunday School. In October, 1893, a few of the members of the church, with a few members of the Presbyterian church, met in the new church building and organized the Sunday School that survived through the influences of the early years, and gradually developed into a well organized Sunday School. Brother W. W. Wheeler was elected as the first superintendent and served until 1902. Brother B. A. Cox was elected secretary.

About 1895 Brother G. W. Smith, who had a part in the organization of Simmons College (now Hardin-Simmons University) was called to the pastorate of the church, and served as pastor for two or three years.

Since that time the church has had many pastors, which record we do not have at hand. There has been a steady growth, until now the church has a membership of about four hundred, with church property valued about $3,500. God has been wonderfully good to this little church. Its present membership will look forward to greater blessings in the future.

Rev. C. R. Joiner is the present pastor of the church. He came to the association about four years ago, and he has served the association and the denomination in a credible way during these years.

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First Baptist Church, Abilene



ABILENE FIRST CHURCH WAS ORGANIZED IN 1881 WITH 17 MEMBERS

The First Baptist, Abilene, is fifty-six years old this month (April). This institution was organized with 17 charter members about a month after the sale of town lots at Abilene was held. The organization was perfected by Dr. O. C. Pope, then secretary of missions in Texas, who afterwards, in 1891, was largely instrumental in founding Simmons College, and still later served as president of the institution. The first home of the little church was in a small frame school building located at 3rd and Cedar streets. Mr. John R. Spaulding and Col. R. A. Miller are the only charter members now living, and still retain their membership in the church.

The first pastor of the church was the Rev. M. H. Jones who was called to the pastorate on January 11, 1882, and served until April 23, 1882. Col. R. A. Miller was the only member of the church at the time who had as many as two rooms to his house (his home had one large room and a shed) and thus it fell his lot to "board the preacher." On April 28, 1882, the Rev. L. S. Knight was called to serve the church until a regular pastor could be secured. The Rev. W. A. Whittle, missionary, supplied for the church for a few Sundays in the summer of 1883.

The next minutes of the church were dated November 25, 1883, showing at that time that the Rev. Bennett Hatcher was pastor. He resigned as pastor on March 24, 1886. On April 7, 1886, the church called the Rev. G. W. Smith, one of the founders of Simmons College, and in whose honor Smith hall, girls' dormitory, was named. One October 30, 1889, the church recalled Brother Smith, but on November 27 of the same year he declined the call of the church.

On January 25, 1890, the Rev. J. C. Wingo accepted the call of the church. On January 26, 1892, the church again called him, but he declined.

The next pastor of the church was Dr. R. T. Hanks. He was called by the church on March 9, 1892, and served the church for seven years. This was right after the founding of Simmons College, and it was during the leadership of Dr. Hanks that the church began to make rapid strides forward. Dr. Hanks resigned on November 13, 1898, effective January 1, 1899.

Dr. Isaac Sellers was the next pastor and served the church from January 11, 1899 to March 27, 1901.

On April 10, 1901, Dr. O. C. Pope was called as supply pastor of the church and served in this capacity until Dr. L. R. Scarborough, now president of the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, began his pastorate on August 18, 1901.

The church extended a call to Dr. Scarborough on June 26, 1901. He accepted the call on July 14, 1901, and preached his first sermon on August 18, 1901. Dr. Scarborough served the church until June 1, 1908. During these seven years the church was led in a great program of evangelism and constructive kingdom building. The church released its pastor for a great deal of field work for Simmons College, then a straggling junior institution. Dr. Scarborough's work in this field was of inestimable value to the institution.

The church was pastorless until December 19, 1908, at which time a call was extended to the Rev. C. C. Coleman. He accepted, and began his pastorate on March 1, 1909, and served the church until October 1, 1912.

The church was without a pastor until February 23, 1913, at which time a call was extended to the Rev. R. A. Kimbrough. He began his work as pastor on March 16, 1913, and served the church until the summer of 1915.

Dr. Jenkens' Pastorate

The present pastor of the church, Dr. Millard A. Jenkens, began his work with the church in November, 1915. On November 17 of last year the church celebrated the 20th anniversary of Dr. Jenkens' ministry. These have been years of glorious achievements and progress. From a struggling little band of seventeen members back in 1881 to the present membership —2,600. The church, under Dr. Jenkens' ministry, has received up to last November, 6,526 members, and the total contributions up to that time reached the enormous amount of $1,034,391.96. It is largely through the efforts and labors of Dr. Jenkens that the West Texas Baptist Sanitarium was brought into existence. During these years he has given generously of his time to this institution, to Hardin-Simmons University, and at the same time has led his people in doing great things for the whole denominational work.

J. D. Riddle, formerly with the First Baptist Church, Lubbock, accepted the work as director of education and music August 1, 1935. A men's chorus has been organized, and the special numbers rendered by them on Sunday evenings have been enjoyed by all. A marked improvement has been noted in the church work since the coming of the Riddle family. We are encouraged to go forward, and feel that great things will be accomplished in the future.

Educational Plan One of Largest In State

Completion of the new $150,000 educational building of the First Baptist Church, the formal opening of which was held the second Sunday in May, 1930, marked an epoch in the history of the First Baptist Church.

Covering 82 by 140 feet, four stories and roof garden, and containing 150 rooms and assembly halls, the building has capacity for more than 2,700 persons and is recognized by the Southern Baptist Sunday school board, Nashville, Tenn., as being an educational building which meets the full requirements of the Sunday school, B. T. U., and other phases of the education program.

The structure is connected by two hallways with the church building, the entrances being between third story of the educational building and balcony of the church, and second story of the new structure and auditorium of the church.

The roof garden, an ideal place for summer concerts and social affairs, is protected by high railing.

Church Officers

Our finance committee is composed of T. T. Harris, chairman, George S. Anderson, vice-chairman, C. M. Caldwell, J. O. Shelton and Thomas E. Roberts.

J. D. RIDDLE



J. D. Riddle, music and educational director of the First Baptist Church, Abilene, was born at Tyler, Texas.

When he was only 18 months old he lost his mother, and when he was six years old his father died. He lived with his grandparents near Palestine until he was ten years old. He was then adopted by his father's oldest brother, D. H. Riddle, prominent Primitive Baptist preacher.

Brother Riddle spent much of his young life in Henderson County, where he married Miss Blanch Lee in 1926. After attending teacher's normal schools and institutes he received a first grade certificate and taught school for six years in Hill County. After surrendering to do special religious work he attended the Southwestern Seminary and in 1920 received his B. M. degree. He then went to Montezuma College where he taught music and pursued his studies, receiving his B. A. degree in 1925.

From Montezuma Brother Riddle went to Mangum, Okla., First Church, as assistant to Rev. B. M. Jackson, the pastor. He then spent three years as edicational and music director for the First Church, Amarillo. He then spent two years with Rev. B. M. Jackson at College Avenue Church, Fort Worth, and two years with the First Church, Lubbock, before coming to Abilene.

Through his school years Mrs. Riddle studied with her husband and received the same degrees he received. She, and the talented children are a great help to him in directing the educational and music work in a great church.

SWEETWATER ASS'N. ORGANIZED IN 1885

(Continued from page three)

ritory to form new associations, the membership of the remaining churches would multiply, and the newly formed associations would increase the number of churches and members within their bounds proportionately.

In 1903 at the meeting at Big Spring, a notable resolution was passed, looking to the organization of the women's work. Mrs. R. T. Hanks, then of Sweetwater, Mrs. C. R. Hairfield of Merkel, and Mrs. C. C. Compere were requested to perfect such an organization and did so, and the Women's Missionary Union reported at the Roscoe meeting in 1904 for the first time; and their work has kept pace with the growth and development of the work of the association ever since that time.

During the life of the association many notable men have been connected with it; and many useful men have been developed and sent out from its bounds to greater usefulness.

The sub-joined table will throw additional light on the association

NOTE—At its meeting in 1933 the association requested me to write a history of the association. I have collected data with the view of doing so but it does not appear practicable at this time to compile such a work—hence this sketch and the subjoined table.

I am especially indebted for assistance in this work to Rev. L. R. Elliott, librarian at the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, for a great deal of time and labor in getting together data on the early meetings of the association, as that library has a complete file of the early minutes and other invaluable material bearing on Texas history. I am also greatly indebted to the First Baptist Church at Abilene; to Ernest Keathly, long time clerk of the association; to Judge H. C. Hord, Rev. L. R. Millican, Mrs. George L. Paxton, Sr., B. W. and J. F. Patterson of Cisco, and Mrs. B. Reagan of Big Spring for assistance rendered.

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