

RESIDENTS OF 4 COUNTIES AT OPEN HOUSE

Built Career on Idea of Service IN FIELD 13 YEARS

DUNN, N. C. — Thirteen years ago O. S. Payton, then a recent graduate of the Cupton-Jones School of embalming and undertaking, decided that Dunn, N. C. might be a good place for an aspiring funeral director to go into business.

At the time, Mr. Payton had about one thousand dollars in capital, his newly earned professional training, a desire to be of service, and a determination to make good.

With virtually the entire state, or rather the entire region to choose from, his decision to go into business in the relatively small town of Dunn

caused quite a bit of wonder among his friends and associates. As the years passed, however, this wonderment ceased, for it became quite apparent that Payton's Funeral Home was becoming quite an institution in the area which it served.

There was little of the spectacular about this progress, but it was steady and consistent, and as much a matter of earning the good-will, confidence, appreciation and respect of the people whom the firm served as it was one of handling the county's big funerals, or of adding new equipment.

Some of the main ingredients which Mr. Payton had put into his business included sympathetic service and consideration for the families whom he served and hard work with a careful attention to detail aimed at making a difficult time as painless as possible.

Such service soon began to pay dividends, and the Payton Funeral Home began receiving calls not only from Dunn and the surrounding Harnett County, but from Cumberland, Sampson and Johnston Counties as well.

The system in which the firm was held as a result of its more than a decade of service to the families of these communities was shown clearly this past Sunday, at the dedication of its new home at 101 East Harnett Street.

The public was invited to attend, and it turned out in force. The dedicatory exercises had been set for 3:30 Sunday afternoon. Shortly after church services, the visitors began to arrive.



REFRESHMENTS — Mrs. E. L. Howard, one of the hostesses at the open house, is shown as she served punch and other refreshments to some of the guests at the open house. Many of those who attended were unable to hear the program because of the large number present who overflowed the chapel into the offices, hallways and Payton living quarters.



TIME OUT FOR THE FAMILY — Mr. and Mrs. O. S. Payton, surrounded by members of the Payton family, are shown as they paused for a few minutes following the open house and dedicatory exercises for the new home and Payton residence just before, and following the exercises.



HOSTESS — Some of the community residents who served as hostesses, appeared at the program and otherwise assisted in the open house and dedication of the new Payton's Funeral Home at 101 East Harnett Street, Dunn, N. C. Sunday afternoon are in the group shown above. They include Mrs. Romie Howard, Mrs. Samuel Rhodes, Mrs. Floyd Ray, Mrs. Nat Tucker, Mrs.



CONGRATULATIONS — Surrounded by a throng of well-wishers who congratulated him upon completion of the new Payton Funeral Home, Mr. Payton receives the congratulations of L. C. B. Codrington, one of Harnett County's leading citizens. The group above formed a small part of the hundreds who were present for the dedication program and open house held Sunday afternoon.



AUDIENCE — Above are shown a few of the members of the audience who were fortunate enough to obtain seats at the highly successful open house and dedicatory exercises of the new Payton's Funeral Home which were held Sunday afternoon.



DEDICATION HELD — Above is shown the newly completed O. S. Payton Funeral Home at 101 East Harnett Street in Dunn, N. C. More than 500 persons from Harnett, Sampson, Johnston and Cumberland Counties were present Sunday afternoon for open house and dedicatory exercises for the 21-room building which features a spacious chapel and complete facilities for the most careful and dignified of funeral services.



SOLOIST — Mrs. M. F. Crowe, one of the vocal soloists who appeared on the dedicatory program is shown as she sang before the audience which packed the Payton's Funeral Home Chapel for the program. She was accompanied at the piano by Mrs. C. H. Codrington, who also offered a reading on the program.

500 At Ceremony

DUNN — More than 500 persons from Harnett, Cumberland, Johnston and Sampson Counties were estimated to have attended the new and spacious Payton's Funeral Home at Dunn for which dedicatory exercises and open house were held Sunday.

The spacious chapel and entire ground floor of the 21-room establishment were crowded throughout the afternoon by visitors who came to inspect the new building and to congratulate its owner.

A special feature of the dedication was the holding of a program in the chapel on which many of the residents of Harnett and adjoining counties appeared as participants.

Mrs. C. B. Codrington acted as mistress of ceremonies. The invocation was delivered by the Rev. R. J. Dockery. Pastors and officers of every church in the community were represented among those present.

Following a program which included a solo by Mrs. M. F. Crowe, an instrumental selection by Mrs. Blaise Ray, a poem by Mrs. Codrington, a reading by Mrs. T. O. Satterwhite, an instrumental selection by Joseph Barnes, a Harnett County Training School student and a solo by Mrs. C. S. McLean, residents and leaders in the areas served by the funeral home offered testimonials and congratulatory remarks.

Owners Respond

While nearly everyone who appeared at the open house had an enjoyable time, among the happiest ones by far were Mr. and Mrs. O. S. Payton who had difficulty in remaining dry-eyed as they heard more than a dozen testimonials from the guests present.

Responding to the testimonials, Mr. and Mrs. Payton voiced their appreciation for the interest shown by those present as well as their patronage through the years which had made possible the construction of the new edifice.

Mr. Payton pledged in the future the same dignified, courteous and sympathetic services which have marked the firm's efforts in the past. The new building and facilities, he declared, were constructed with no other view than to permit the offering of improved and better services to those who turn to Payton's Funeral Home in their hour of need and bereavement.

Expressing her pleasure at having had the opportunity of working with her husband in the service of the firm's patrons, Mrs. Payton told her audience that the home was theirs and that it had been provided only through their support and co-operation.

"If we have anything here," she said, "it is because you have provided it. In the building of the

THANK YOU...

WE ARE OVERJOYED WITH THE RECEPTION ACCORDED US DURING OUR OPEN HOUSE AND DEDICATORY SERVICES LAST SUNDAY. AND, THE MANAGEMENT AND PERSONNEL SINCERELY THANK THEIR MANY FRIENDS WHO VISITED WITH US.

FOR IT IS ONLY ON SUCH OCCASIONS THAT ONE REALIZES HARD WORK AND DILIGENT EFFORT COUPLED WITH A DIVINE INSPIRATION RESULT IN SUCH MOMENTOUS ACCEPTANCE FOR OUR HUMBLE DESIRE TO GIVE THE BEST TO THOSE WHO ENTRUST THEIR LOVED ONES INTO OUR CARE.

SO, AGAIN WE SAY, THANK YOU FOR YOUR GRACIOUS ACCEPTANCE OF OUR OPEN HOUSE AND APPROVAL OF OUR NEW FACILITIES.

O. S. PAYTON FUNERAL HOME

DUNN, NORTH CAROLINA

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