

The Franklin Press.

VOLUME XL

FRANKLIN, N. C., FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 1925

NUMBER THIRTY-TWO

LIFE OF DR. GEO. W. TRUETT CONT

(Continued from last week.)

Gave All To Baylor

I recall that when he was out raising funds for Baylor he took a collection down in Eastern Texas. He has saved \$500, which he meant to invest in his college education, because, mind you, he had never been in college and is one of the few men whom I have known who paid the college out of debt in which he subsequently graduated. This \$500 was all he had. When he took this collection for the object so dear to his heart he laid that \$500, every penny of it, on the altar and told the assembled multitude that he was giving every penny he had on earth and that he didn't have enough money to pay his way back to Waco. It sent a thrill through that audience that caused money to rain down upon the altar of God in that service. That was the most characteristic thing I ever knew of him. He had already given himself. He first gave himself to God and in all the after years he has given of his thought, of his time, of his talents, of his love, of his whole being to the uplift and salvation of humanity.

Never Seeks Limelight

He is one of the most modest men I ever knew. Sometimes his modesty borders on timidity. He never seeks the limelight. So far as I know, he never has written an article for the secular press. He does not write voluminously for the religious press, which I deeply regret. It is only in times of crises that he puts pen to paper to breathe out his heart in resistance appeal to the great brotherhood to rally to the cause and uphold the hauds of its leaders. I have regretted that he has not lived more in current literature of his time, but I come back to the verisimilitude of his life with that of the Apostle Paul. It is always to him, "This one thing I do."

He never parades himself. He seeks the quietude of his own daily tasks and, like Moses when he came down from the mount where he held converse with God, he knows not that his face shines. Over and over again he quotes the words, "The kingdom of God cometh not by observation."

Loved by Congregation

During the entire incumbency of George W. Truett as pastor of the First Baptist church here the congregation has been at peace. In all the church family there is not a man woman or child who is not in affectionate and abiding sympathy with the pastor. There never has been the slightest intimation of discord during all the years of his unselfish service for the church.

It is interesting, the manner in which the general denominational work of the Baptist has been carried forward through the years. Like all the religious fraternities, the Baptist denomination always needs a line of bank credit through which to finance its increasing and enlarging activities. Time out of mind this credit at the bank for the Baptist State Executive Board was stabilized by a blanket guaranty, signed by a number of our Texas Baptist laymen whose bank credit was high. There are some difficulties pertaining to matters of this kind not necessary to recite here. Suffice it to say that, upon a time not long ago, when the executive board needed a larger line of credit and new and larger indorsements, it seemed somewhat difficult to secure this advanced line through an increase of the number of personal indorsers.

Name Alone Ample Security

It was settled, however, in a very simple way. When the corresponding secretary of our executive board went to Nathan Adams, president of the American Exchange National Bank, to establish this new and larger line of credit Mr. Adams was asked what security or indorsement he would

ELECTRICAL SHOP TO OPEN HERE

Mr. B. F. Culbertson of Virginia will arrive in Franklin within a few days, probably on August 7th, and will open up a modern electrical supply shop. He will carry electrical appliances of all kinds and will also be prepared to do electrical installation work. Mr. Culbertson has had 20 years experience as an electrician. Franklin extends a hearty welcome to Mr. and Mrs. Culbertson who expect to make this their future home.

Mr. Culbertson was here sometime ago and was so impressed with the possibilities of Franklin's future he decided to locate here.

need in order to accord to the denomination this accommodation. He asked the secretary if Dr. George W. Truett would sign the paper. Receiving an affirmative answer, he said:

"There will be no limit to your line of credit at our bank so long as the paper is indorsed by Dr. George W. Truett. He is all the security we need."

Of course, this fine banker knew that Dr. Truett was not legally worth a penny in the world. He extended this credit solely on this great man's character and he will know, and his directors will know and the world will know, as we journey on down the years that this confidence was in no wise misplaced.

Preached at Stockholm

Perhaps the climax of George W. Truett's life was reached when, at the Baptist World Alliance held at Stockholm last year, he was selected to preach the annual sermon. When he arose to make that address he faced the assembled Baptists of the world. While it was not quite true as on the day of Pentecost that every man heard the preacher in his own tongue, yet it was true that he addressed more nationalities than were present on the day that Peter preached his immortal sermon in Jerusalem. Europe, Asia, Africa, North and South America, the islands of the sea—all the world was represented in that Stockholm convocation. It was a challenge such as has rarely come to any man, because this was the greatest Baptist meeting known in world history.

Has Declined Many Calls

His work here in Dallas has wrought most gloriously for the uplift and good of our citizenship. Many have been the calls that have come to him to link his life with what the friends abroad thought were larger and more important fields. He has been implored to go to the country's great metropolis, and he would have been called to the Calvary Baptist church of Washington City, and have had our recent President as an auditor, but he turned away from it all and continued here with us. I could write a book about him and some day I think I shall. He has been pictured and characterized by able pens, but no eloquence of pen or tongue could adequately portray the potentiality of a man like George W. Truett who, in singleness of purpose and devotion of heart, gives all that is in him to humanity and God.

He is now in the flood-tide of his strong and glorious manhood. He comes of a long-lived, hardy, virile race. I do not know how long he will be with us, but this I know, that every day of his glorious life he is binding our hearts more tenderly to him, and through the momentum of his long years of service is growing in the esteem, the fellowship and the tender love of all our citizenship.

Leading Citizen of America

Who is the leading citizen of Texas? One of our Senators or ex-Governors? Our present Governor? Our Justice of the Supreme Court? The Mayor of Dallas? The managing editor of one of our great newspapers? My answer to all these questions is no. The leading citizen of Texas is George W. Truett. Not only is he the leading citizen of Texas; in my own thinking he is the leading citizen of America,

COMPLETION OF DAM IN SIGHT

Foundation of Power House Finished—Contractor Exerting All Energy to Make Record for Quick Job.

Due to the remarkably good weather since April 1st, and to the excellent equipment and fine organization of the contractors the completion of the power dam is now within sight. Mr. Allen, the resident engineer, estimates that the citizens of Franklin will be using the current generated by the dam by the middle of October. The foundation for the power house is completed and work on the superstructure will begin at an early date.

While the Press is without information on the subject those who are familiar with building dams are inclined to believe that the Electrical Constructors company of Charlotte has made a record in work so far done. Mr. Easton, the company's construction engineer has a good crew and one that is well contented.

The readers of the Press will be delighted to learn that the town is to have power several weeks before the date specified in the contract. This, of course, is contingent upon continued good weather.

The power situation in Franklin is now critical. In fact there is no power worthy of mention. The sooner the current from the municipal dam is available the better the public will be pleased.

Camp Taukeetah Banquet

Last Friday the annual banquet was served at Camp Taukeetah. A sumptuous feast was enjoyed by the girls and a few guests from Franklin and elsewhere among whom were Dr. F. T. Smith, Rev. and Mrs. A. J. Smith, Dr. Angel, Major and Mrs. S. A. Harris, all of Franklin; Mr. and Mrs. J. S. McKnight of Shelby, and Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Connell of Atlanta.

The guests were kept thoroughly entertained during the meal with many original songs. From time to time various toast were offered by the girls. These toast were exceedingly clever and witty.

Throughout the evening the spirit of Camp Taukeetah was manifested in numerous ways as were the love and devotion of the girls to Miss Patton, the director. It is evident that Miss Patton at Camp Taukeetah has something more than a mere camp. It might be said that her camp is an institution and one of which Franklin is justly proud.

The program for the evening follows:

Toastmistress, Nellie Irvin.
Welcome, Nellie Irvin.
To our visitors, Margaret Hood.
To Taukeetah, Mary J. Wharton.
To Miss Patton, Blanche Hodgins.
To the Councillors, Becky Daniel.

Phases of Camp Life:

Riding, Joe Abernathy.
Swimming, Lillian Houck.
Dancing, Frances Sterne.
Tennis, Katherine Palmer.
Reducing, Mary L. Heuitt.

Judge Bryson to Speak

During some noon hour of the August term of court Judge Thad Bryson will speak to the people of Macon county on the proposed national park in the Great Smoky Mountains. Judge Bryson is an earnest advocate of this park and his message will be of interest to all our citizens.

because, as I believe, he is America's greatest preacher. Measured in terms of money, he is poor, but measured in terms of service, he is the richest man I ever knew. Henry Ford is a pauper beside him. The great galaxy of inventors and leaders in the realm of science, literature and art are pigmies beside this quiet, gentle-hearted protagonist of the Gospel of Christ.

Sylva's Meeting

On the evening of July 30th the Sylva Chamber of Commerce entertained many visitors from adjoining counties in a get-together meeting of Western North Carolina. The ladies of the Missionary societies of the Baptist and Methodist churches served an excellent supper in Sylva's magnificent school building. An orchestra from Waynesville furnished excellent music during the repast.

Mayor Dan Tompkins, president of the Chamber of Commerce acted as toastmaster. In his introductory remarks he stated that the Sylva Chamber of Commerce is not only working for the best interest of that town but is willing and anxious to extend a helping hand to all of Western North Carolina.

Judge Thad Bryson of Bryson City was then introduced and made a ringing speech in favor of a National Park in the Great Smoky Mountains. His speech was forceful and logical and his arguments to the effect that a national park will serve the people better than a national forest reserve appear to be unanswerable. It was the consensus of opinion that Judge Bryson's speech made many friends for the national park movement.

Mr. James G. Stikeleather made a general talk on roads in his district telling what has been done and what he hopes to do in the near future. Mr. Stikeleather stated that he believes that the Wilson Construction company has made a record in the state in its rapid construction of the Georgia road.

Attorney Dean Sisk of Franklin told the three hundred assembled guests that Franklin and Macon county will co-operate with other counties in the western part of the state for the advancement of the whole. Another Franklin citizen then made an announcement of the Truett-McConnell meeting to be held in a large tabernacle at Franklin on Aug. 14-23 and invited all present to attend the meeting.

A rising vote of thanks was extended to the good ladies who had served the supper.

The meeting then adjourned with many expressions of best wishes for the Sylva Chamber of Commerce.

Joe Loses

Last Saturday Joe Ashear missed a dress from his hangers. A thorough search of his pockets and cash drawer failed to reveal any money received in payment for said dress. Joe then remembered that a lady of color had visited his store about the time the dress disappeared. The sheriff and Joe made a search for the thief but failed to locate her.

Joe says his dresses are priced so cheaply he reckons the woman thought he stole the garment and that she was entitled to the same privilege.

Box Supper

The King's Daughters will give a box supper at Maden's Chapel on the water of the Cartoogechaye. August 15th at 8:00 o'clock, for the purpose of raising funds for the chapel. Every body invited.

PROGRESS T. B. ERADICATION

Dr. Castleberry, government veterinarian in charge of bovine tuberculosis eradication in Macon county, tested during the month of July 617 cattle. From this untuber five were found to have tuberculosis. Since starting this work in April Dr. Castleberry has tested 2699 cattle and found 13 reactors. It is estimated that there are between eight thousand and nine thousand cattle in the county. It can therefore readily be seen that this work is progressing rapidly as more than one-fourth of the cows have been tested.

Mrs. W. T. Moore, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Connell and son, Misses Sue and Catherine Hunnicutt, Mr. Roan Bradley and Dr. Alvah Pearce spent the week end on the Nantahala.

BIG TABERNACLE NOW COMPLETE

Will Seat 4,000—Other Preliminary Details Arranged—Former Estimate of 50,000 visitors Increased.

The big tabernacle, seating 4,000, built in the grove just south of town, is now complete and ready for the great Truett-McConnell meeting to be held August 14-23. Arrangements have been made whereby cars can be parked in a systematic manner to avoid confusion and traffic congestion.

As stated in previous issues of the Press the visiting public is urged to bring along camping outfits as the housing accommodations in Franklin are exceedingly limited. The citizens of Franklin and those who live in rural communities are earnestly requested to notify Alf Higdon or Mrs. Will Higdon of the number of rooms and beds they will have available for use of visitors during the meeting. The latest information received by Rev. A. J. Smith, pastor of the local Baptist church, is to the effect that probably 70,000 visitors will be here during the ten days of the meeting. It is therefore incumbent upon all to open their doors to these visitors and extend hospitality in the fullest measure.

The senior and junior choirs under direction of Mrs. W. C. McKenzie and Mrs. Smith Harris respectively are practicing daily for the meeting. These choirs are intended only as a nucleus for congregational singing.

The meeting will begin promptly at 11 A. M. Friday August 14th with Dr. F. C. McConnell preaching. Dr. Truett will preach Friday night at 8 o'clock. On week days this schedule will hold during the entire meeting. On Sundays there will probably be three services with Dr. Truett preaching in the morning and at night and Dr. McConnell in the afternoon. Definite announcements concerning Sunday services will be made at a later date.

T. R. Gray Writes of Dr. McConnell's Father

Editor Press:—I am glad to see the Truett-McConnell meeting in Franklin so wide advertised and that a suitable arbor is being provided for services by our local Baptist friends.

It may not be generally known that Mr. McConnell's father went as a young man from the good old county of Macon.

I had the pleasure a good many years ago of being at his home for a short while. As he had known my father before leaving here, he talked very freely to me.

There was abundant evidence about his home that he has done well. He spoke very freely about his leaving here. I was especially struck by his recital of the worldly goods he carried with him upon this memorable trip.

It consisted of a rifle, a hound dog, a southern harmony, and a dollar in money. He was evidently satisfied with the result.

Let every person who can attend the services.
T. R. GRAY.

(Editor's Note: Dr. McConnell's father was born in Macon county near the mouth of Cartoogechaye 100 years ago this year and his grandfather is buried in the family burial ground at the old homestead. Two distinguished relatives of Dr. McConnell, Rev. Humphrey Posey and Rev. J. Kinsey organized the Franklin Baptist church 162 years ago.)

Car Wreck

The car in which Mr. and Mrs. Fred Jacobs, Mr. Floyd Jacobs and a young lady friend were riding on the Georgia road, Sunday turned turtle near the home of Mr. C. A. Lowery. The car was badly wrecked and the occupants painfully though not seriously injured.