

## Becoming And Parsonage Dedication, Too

# Historic Mars Hill Church To Observe 125th Anniversary Of Founding Sunday

Mars Hill Baptist Church of Hillsboro plans a combination of very important services this Sunday to mark the 125th Anniversary of the Church. The Church will observe its Annual Homecoming and a special dedicatory service in conjunction with the 125th Anniversary Service. The distinguished guests of the day will be several former pastors of the Church. These will include Dr. E. Maddy of Hillsboro,

who will preach the Morning Message. Dr. Maddy was the church's 18th pastor. He was pastor of the Church in 1931-1904, while attending the University of North Carolina. Since that time he has served churches and held many honored places of responsibility in the Southern Baptist Convention. Perhaps his greatest work and responsibility during his ministry, was accomplished while he was Executive Secretary of the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Con-

vention. He held this position from 1934-1944. The Mars Hill Church has a very colorful and interesting history. The Church is one of the older churches in Orange County and is the fourth oldest Baptist Church in several surrounding counties. **Founded in 1834** Its history dates back to 1834 when the church was organized by Stephen Pleasant, the first pastor. Elder Pleasant organized the Church with only a handful of

members (10) that had gathered in homes where he stopped over for the night while enroute from his home to other Churches he pastored. These people, largely Baptists of far off churches, visited and worshipped in these homes with Elder Pleasant because there was not a Baptist Church near enough for them to attend. The people became interested in constituting their own church and so the Pastor led the people to form the Mars Hill Church.

The group began their worship and their first church meetings in homes in the community. However on the fifth of June, 1834, Thomas Watts, an interested person purchased two acres of land from John Freeland, for a price of \$20.00 and deeded the property and the meeting house the worshippers had constructed, to Stephen Justice, John Reeves, and the worshippers of the meeting house. Justice and Reeves were Deacons of Cane Creek Baptist Church, who were designated to help begin the New Church.

The first building was a simple rectangular log house, built on the same location as the present Church house.

### Charter Members

Stephen Pleasant, Levi Andrews and ten other members, four males and six females, constituted the Charter Membership of the Church. Pleasant was pastor and Andrews assisted him as pastor. John Mitchell was clerk, and H. G. Parrish and John Redding were deacons. Alvis Durham and the two deacons were messengers to the Beulah Association. Other Charter Members included Agnes Parrish, Elizabeth Redding, Margaret Redding, Susan Durham, Rebecca Faucette, and Ann McKerrall. Some of these families still have descendants living in Orange County.

Stephen Pleasant, the first Pastor, served for six years and received \$15.00 while pastor. During his ministry one by one, converts were baptized, until in 1840 there were 29 members.

George W. Purefoy, the second Pastor, served from 1840 to 1850 and received \$5.00 per year as salary. Annual revival meetings were held and in ten years the membership had grown to 107. Of this number 49 were slaves. They were largely converted during the revivals and were baptized with the slaves.

### Separate Doors

During Purefoy's pastorate the simple log building the people worshipped in was replaced by a frame building providing a separate door for men and women. One end was cut off by a long bench behind which was an entrance door and benches for the colored members.

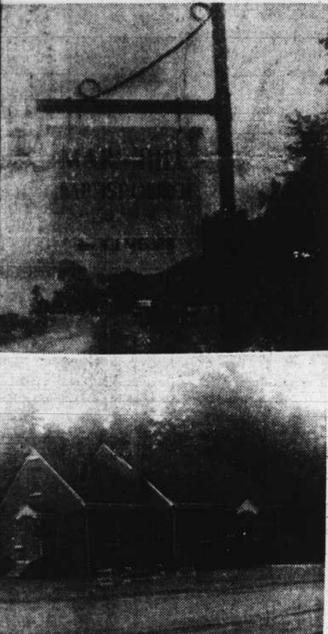
After 1850 there were several short pastorates until Frank M. Jordan, noted Pastor and Evangelist, accepted pastorate of the church in 1857. It was during this time, in 1853, that 15 members were granted letters to form the Baptist Church in Hillsboro. In 1857 Pastor Jordan held a revival meeting at Green Springs at the close of which 15 converts were baptized.

At the next Church Conference in November they were granted letters to form the Green Spring Baptist and Evangelistic Missionary for 20 years. During his pastorate he preached many revival meetings when not busy in his own Church. Often he established Churches after his meetings. **The First Baptist (See MARS HILL, Page 8)**

THE REV. H. J. MELVIN  
... present pastor



MARS HILL ... Founded 125 Years Ago



# Over 300 Will Participate In Water Safety Program

The most ambitious "learn to swim" program in Hillsboro history began this week at Holiday Park under the sponsorship of the Exchange Club, the Red Cross and James Freeland.

This week, 18 adults began an intensive five day instructor's course under the direction of William J. McDonald, field representative, American Red Cross, whose home is in Hillsboro.

In the next two weeks over 300 children of the community will receive instruction in swimming at the Park pool, having enrolled for the program through their schools prior to the closing earlier this month. Eligible to attend will be rising second graders through children 12 years of age. The classes are free.

McDonald has had many years of experience in the Red Cross water safety program, including the education phases. With the help of the new instructors, he will conduct the

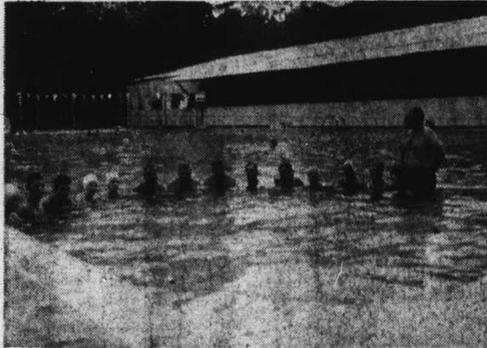
swim lessons, which are expected to last an hour and a half each day, beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Bobby Knight is the Exchange Club chairman for the "learn to swim" program and other members of the club are assisting in its conduct and arrangements.

The 18 volunteer adults undergoing the instructorship training this week are: Mesdames Joe Hughes, Lucius Chesire, Wilson Cole, Charles Floyd, Max Miller, Allen Walker Sr. and William J. McDonald; Miss Merle Mitchell, Hilda Strayhorn, Kaye Williams, Henrietta Brown and Nancy Roberts; D. C. "Hank" Rhew, Tommy Leonard, Joe Barnes, Joe Crawford, John Couch and Allen Watkins.

McDonald, who teaches instructors in water safety at North Carolina Colleges and in connection with City Recreation departments, says 10 million Americans will participate in water activities this summer and 7,000 will drown. It is in recognition of this that the local program is being sponsored.

## Instructors Learn Their Duties For Two Week Event



Red Cross Field Representative McDonald Explains Procedures To 18 Volunteers Who Will Help Conduct Vital Program



Actual Demonstration Also Gets Attention As Would-Be Swim Instructors Prepare For Big Assignment



## County Gets Two Additional Teachers In New Allotment

Additional teachers have been allotted for next year, according to the information received by Superintendent Carr yesterday.

New teachers on the basis of next year's enrollment will go to ... and Eiland-Cheeks Elementary schools.



NEW LIONS CLUB OFFICERS TAKE OVER — Sitting, left to right, Isehour, Gattis, Murphy and Liner; standing, Ward, Crawford, Shoaif, Smith, Clark, Cates and Johnston.

## Gattis, Other Lions Officers Are Installed

New officers for the next year were installed at Tuesday night's meeting of the Hillsboro Lions Club at Colonial Inn.

Past District Governor G. Paul Carr was the installing officer at the session characterized by general organizational procedures incident to the induction rites.

Sam Gattis will serve as president for the next term after filling out the unexpired term of the late G. H. Clayton. Elected to serve with him and installed Tuesday night were: Dr. R. J. Murphy, first vice president; Vance Isehour, second vice president; Frank Liner, third vice president; Marion Clark, secretary-treasurer; Ted Shoaif, assistant secretary; Dr. H. W. Moore, lion tamer; Ed Hamlin, tail twister; Ira Ward, past president; and the following directors, Ben Johnston, Charles Crawford, Fred Cates and Ted Smith.

**COMPLETES RECRUIT TRAINING** Vernon E. Petty, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Petty of Route 3, Hillsboro, completed recruit training June 9 at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S. C.

## Presbyterians To Have Guest Minister Here

The Reverend William O. Walker Jr. will conduct the morning worship service this Sunday at the Hillsboro Presbyterian Church.

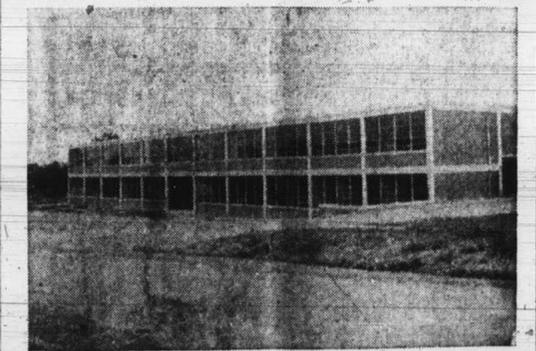
Mr. Walker is presently a candidate for his graduate degree in the Department of Religion of the Duke University Graduate School.

A native of Texas and educated in the Southwest at Austin College and Austin Theological Seminary, he has also taught in the department of Greek at Austin College.

Mr. Walker will speak on the topic, "Christ's Cross and Mine." The public is cordially invited to attend the service.

### FISH FRY

The annual Fourth of July fish fry will be held at Schley Grange Saturday, July 4.



NEW CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL has been completed and accepted by the State and the Board of Education, subject to correction of minor deficiencies noted in official inspection by county and state officials and representatives of the Architect here Tuesday. The building replaces one burned year and a half ago.

# S & L Boosts Rate To 4%

Hillsboro Savings and Loan Association has joined the growing movement to higher dividend rates, effective for the next semi-annual savings period.

At a special meeting of the institution's Board of Directors at 11 a.m. yesterday, a resolution was adopted expressing the intention to pay dividends for the next semi-annual period, ending next December 31st, at the annual rate of 4%.

Prevalent dividend rate among savings and loan institutions in this area for the past two or more years has been 3 1/2%.

One Durham institution announced adoption of the higher rate several weeks ago and some others in nearby towns, Roxboro for one, have followed suit. The trend is expected to continue among others in the area.

Last week, the Hillsboro association announced plans to pay the largest dividend in its 46 year history to its stockholders as of June 30 for the six months period now ending at the annual rate of 3 1/2%. The amount to be split among the approximately 1,500 savers will be \$49,999.30, bringing to \$96,800 the amount which will have been paid in the past 12 months.

Total of earnings paid to stockholders in 1958 was \$92,018.93, in 1957 it was \$86,290.24.

Spokesman for the Orange County Building and Loan at Chapel Hill, the county's other home savings organization, said yesterday no action had been taken by that institution on the higher interest rate. However, the movement was being watched with interest. Dividends to be paid its stockholders for the

## All Officers Of REA Coop Are Re-Elected

Members of the Piedmont Electric Membership Corp. were urged here Saturday to continue their efforts in cooperation that they might set an example for all North Carolinians.

B. C. Mangum, president of the N. C. Farm Bureau Federation, delivered the challenge to approximately 500 to 600 people who gathered for the 20th annual meeting of the electric corporation.

"Our overall program in this state, especially the general farm program, will depend far greater upon cooperation among the people in the years to come," said Mangum.

"Through our Piedmont organization, we have learned that only through cooperation can rural people achieve their goals."

During the meeting, members (See REA, Page 8)

## Cannery Opens At Aycock On July 3rd

The Aycock Community Cannery will open next Thursday morning, July 3, at 8 o'clock.

The cannery will be open each Tuesday and Thursday in July and August from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

According to C. N. Langston, Aycock Vocational Agricultural Teacher and cannery supervisor the fees for canning during the 1959-60 season will be the same as last year.

Patrons are urged to arrive at the cannery prior to 1 p.m. on canning days and to select only fresh fruits and vegetables for canning.

Langston further advises that reservations must be made for canning Brunswick stew and meats.



PAUL CARR JR.