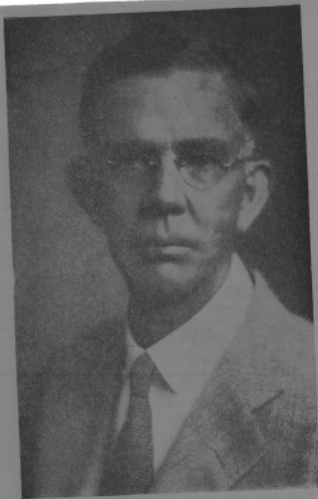




These minutes of the 37th annual session of the Surry Baptist Association are dedicated to the late Dr. J. Thomas Smith, of Westfield, whose death last spring brought to an end a life of outstanding service to the Master and his fellowmen. A lifelong Baptist, a veteran physician and minister, he healed both the physical and spiritual ills of his people.

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DANBURY REPERAL N.C. 9 MAR 1978 News of Yesteryear

March 16, 1939

Dr. J. Thomas Smith died at the age of 61 at a Mt. Airy hospital Tuesday.

Dr. Smith was born at Westfield November 25, 1877, a son of Captain John L. and Ann Cobb Smith. He spent his entire life in the Westfield section with the exception of the time he was obtaining his medical education. He was graduated from Davidson College and Jefferson Medical College at Philadelphia, Pa.

After obtaining his license, Dr. Smith returned to his home community in 1899. He was married to Miss Betty George, of Westfield, in 1899.

While a young man, Dr. Smith entered the ministry of the Baptist church and served pastorates of the Missionary Baptist Church for many years.

Funeral services were held at Westfield Baptist Church Thursday afternoon, with Rev. R.W. Hovis and Rev. James B. Ficklin in charge. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Surviving are his wife, one son, Ansle L. Smith; one daughter, Miss Lavinia Smith, and one sister, Mrs. R.K. Simmons.

March 30, 1939

H.P. Loftis, who recently purchased the Taylor old hotel in Danbury, is now converting the building into four apartments. The old hotel had been in the Spottswood Taylor family since shortly after the establishment of the county seat here in 1849.

The basement of the house, which served as the kitchen and dining room,

is rich in historical memories. Some of the most distinguished persons of the State, including ex-governors Zebulon Vance, Robert Glenn, Thomas Bickett, Thomas Jarvis, William Kitchen and Daniel Fowle received the welcome, hospitality and fine food dispensed by Captain Spot Taylor, proprietor of the hotel.

May 11, 1939

The A & Y passenger train that has served King for more than 50 years made its last trip Sunday, April 30. A large group of the town's population turned out to see the last passenger train pass through King on its final trip from Sanford to Mt. Airy. The train was late and the group of spectators resembled mourners at a funeral. Seventy five people boarded the train for a final ride. J.E. Stone, who was in the party, has the distinction of having ridden the first passenger train on the line to pass through King and also the last one. Dick Stone, aged 13, who had never ridden a train, was among the passengers.

The first passenger train operated over the line which was originally the C.F.&Y.V., arrived in Mt. Airy June 20, 1888.

October 5, 1939

Mrs. Margie Slate, who resides in east King, has a honey dish which her mother gave her when she was married 66 years ago. She has kept honey in the dish continuously for the entire 66 years. Mrs. Slate is the widow of John Slate.

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SURRY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION MINUTES, 1939

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(also a photograph)