

. . . .DR. C. L. JACKSON, seventy four, Pine Bluff, passed away at his home three miles from Aberdeen, on November 1. He had just returned from the hospital at Charlotte, after a successful operation for the removal of cataracts. An unexpected heart attack carried him away suddenly. He was married to Miss Martha Pogue fifty-one years ago. He was a native of Portsmouth, Ohio; he did much good work in the North before he came to the Sand Hills many years ago. He had been pastor at Aberdeen and Wadesboro. He was greatly loved by his many friends. The Recorder extends sympathy to the widow and bereaved family.

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the morning service. The funeral and burial was in Morganton, N. C., attended by many friends from this church and Gastonia. Mrs. Reddish returned to Morganton to live with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Huffman, Sr., later accepting work with the State Board, but illness forced her to resign.

The church was badly in need of a new parsonage and had promised the Reddishs if they would come, something would be done. The location of the old one, due to business property development, was not desirable, so the church bought the house on West Wade Street, which had been built by the late T. W. Crowson in 1870, and owned at the time by Mr. G. W. Huntley.

An architect from Charlotte was secured to make plans for its renovation, and \$5000 was spent in modernizing the property. It is still serving as the Pastor's home, after a complete renovation in 1948.

Mrs. Reddish has been very active in her home church, and her pastor has named her "Sweetheart of the Church". Well does she deserve the name. The Reddish's did more to arouse and hold the interest of the young people in the church than any former ministers, and the results they achieved are still to be seen in some of the members and their children who are filling places of usefulness today. Mrs. Reddish resides in Morganton and still holds a keen interest in her home church, the Orphanage and Mountain Schools.

X The church was without a Pastor, and Dr. C. L. Jackson, who was being relieved as chaplain at Camp Greene in Charlotte,



C. L. JACKSON
1919-1927

was invited to be the guest preacher at Easter, 1919. He brought a marvelous message on "Behold the Man", and so pleased was the church with the man and the message, that a unanimous call was extended to him. The summer of 1919 he and his family moved here from Brooklyn, N. Y. They were delighted with the parsonage, garden and yard, and these claimed many hours of labor from Dr. Jackson. Perhaps no greater love ever existed between a Pastor and one of its members than did between

the late H. B. Allen and Dr. Jackson. Their friendship and mutual understanding found them often together.

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Both Dr. and Mrs. Jackson loved the hospitality of our town, and enjoyed the ties of friendship among their own church members and the people of the community, and as long as they lived, Wadesboro held a deep abiding place in their hearts.

It was during Dr. Jackson's pastorate that plans began to mature, and interest mount to build a new church. In 1923 the late F. C. Allen passed away, and the last bequest he made was \$1000.00 to apply on the new church, which was being talked about. The need for Sunday School space became so urgent that in the early part of 1924 at a Prayer meeting, all the members were urged to be present to discuss the building of the new church. Enthusiasm was so great that it is recorded \$85,000.00 was pledged that night toward the erection of the new church. The present building is evidence that most of those pledges were paid.

The question of a location was the first consideration, and various sites were recommended. Dr. Jackson and H. B. Allen thought the F. C. Allen home-site property, adjoining the parsonage, would be ideal, but Mrs. L. J. Huntley, to whom this property was willed by her father, preferred not to sell. Others suggested the J. T. Redfearn property on the corner of South Green Street and the Camden Road, while others favored the present location of the church. The noise and congestion on the corner of Wade and Rutherford Streets made the old site unsuitable.

On a winter day in 1922 the ladies were serving a turkey dinner in an apartment building on West Wade Street belonging to H. B. Allen. When he came in for dinner he was so pleased with the work of the ladies that he offered to give them, rent-free, the use of the old Bank of New Hanover building, if they would start a tea room to make money to apply on the new church building. The ladies accepted his offer and, knowing that such a project was carried on in Gastonia, a group of five ladies went to Gastonia to get some data.

They were so delighted with what the Gastonia ladies had accomplished, that they came back through Charlotte and bought the necessary equipment to start the tea room. What was lacking the various members of the church brought from their homes, and in a short time the "Old Dutch Tea Room" opened its doors, presumably to serve a light lunch and to have a few articles of fancy work and food for sale. However, it was but a short time when it was operating a regular three-meal-a-day eating place.

At first the women of the church took certain days that they would be responsible for the work and serving the meals.

After some months, though, this grew burdensome, and a cook and manager were procured. Mrs. E. A. Covington was asked to be treasurer, and *gave* her services in this capacity throughout the period that the "Old Dutch" operated for the church. It became a very popular eating place, and people from all parts of the State would return to eat here, claiming that the food was superior to any they could get.

One of these guests who returned to eat with us, came not only to eat but to buy the lock off the door. It was a huge brass lock, for which he offered \$5.00. The ladies considered that a good sale, and substituted a ten-cent hasp and lock for it.

Every woman of the Church worked in some capacity, and many who had gardens provided fruits and vegetables, and meats from their own smokehouses. Misses Allie and Pansy Staton, Sallie Knotts and Julia Boggan worked hard and long, giving their services at first to make this a successful project. Later the Misses Staton bought it and continued to operate it for some time. Various clubs and organizations were entertained there.

Every cent of the profit that was made from the "Old Dutch Tea Room" was used for the new church. Much of it went into furnishing a ladies' parlor, the kitchen, and for chairs in the class rooms and equipment for the Primary Department.

Favoring the purchase of the Redfearn lot for the new church, the ladies encouraged the trustees to buy the property, so on February 17, 1924, I. B. Covington, H. B. Allen, J. F. Williamson, C. S. Brasington and H. P. Taylor, trustees, purchased the property for the sum of \$6500.00. The ladies turned over to the trustees their money made at the Tea Room on payment of the property. A note shows the ladies made payments from Sept. 19, 1924 to January, 1927. Total payments, including taxes, were a little over \$5000.00.

The six-room house on the property was moved to the lower side of the lot and made into two apartments and the rent went toward payment for the property. In 1934, when money became so scarce, the trustees decided to sell the property and apply the money on the debt of the church building. The highest bid was under \$5000.00. Mrs. Bessie Little offered \$5000.00 for the property, stating that she would wait a period of time, and if more could be obtained for the property she would gladly release it to

the church. The bid was not raised and the church accepted the offer of Mrs. Little.

It was during Dr. Jackson's ministry that the "Seventy-Five-Million Dollar" campaign was launched by Southern Baptists, the greatest undertaking in all church history, and the late R. L. Hardison was in charge of the drive in this church. He did not live to see it completed, but the church did a magnificent job in this great project, and while some of the gifts were never paid, due to the stress of the times in 1922 and 1923, the majority of the pledges were paid.

Most unfortunately, Dr. Jackson's eye-sight failed and his health was broken, so he was unable to lead in the building of the new church, but he deserves credit for creating interest and enthusiasm in the great undertaking and for laying the foundation upon which others could build.

Dr. Jackson was a great theologian and preacher. He knew his Bible from cover to cover and could quote the great majority of the New Testament. After losing his eyesight he could still preach ably, for the Bible was stored in his memory. He seldom used an illustration other than some truth contained in God's Word.

When he resigned, his beloved friend, H. B. Allen, offered him a home in Wadesboro as long as he lived, feeling that his influence would be worth so much to the community. He chose, however, to buy and settle in nearby Pine Bluff, where the last few years of his life were spent in his comfortable, hospitable home with the loving care of his devoted wife. Most of the time she spent reading to him and so acute was his memory that he learned many complete books of the Bible and other writings as he awaited the summons. His business transactions and interests never were taken from Wadesboro and, at his request, he was buried in a plot given him and adjoining that of his beloved friend, H. B. Allen.