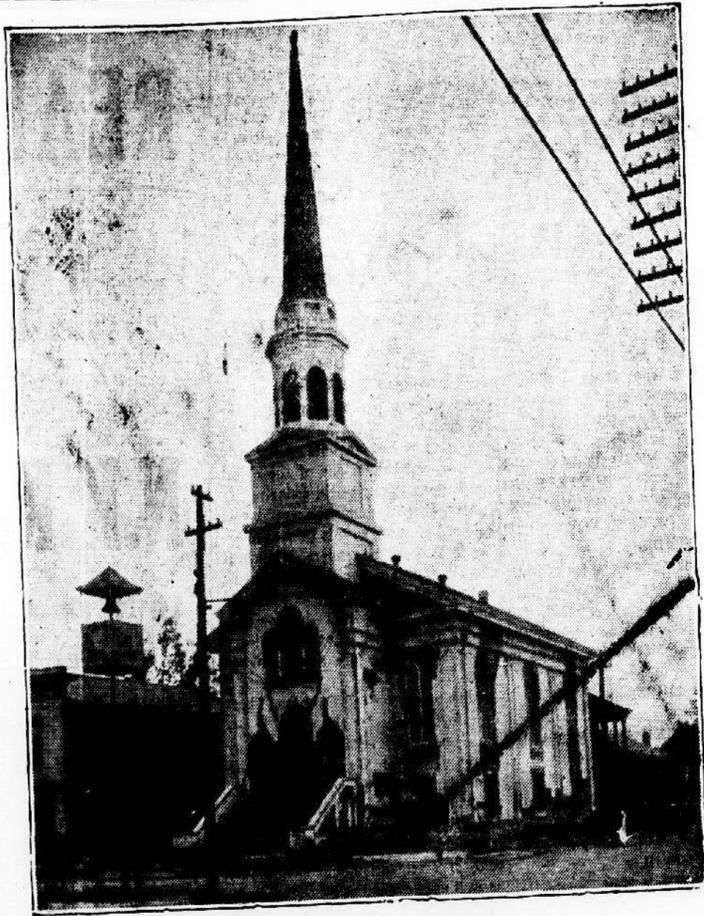


FIRST M. E. CHURCH, SOUTH

The pastor of the First Methodist Church has in his possession a book of great interest, upon the fly-leaf of which is written: "Register of the Baton Rouge Methodist Episcopal Church, South, with the General Records, and a Synoptical History of the Statistics, Revised, etc., Robert J. Harp, 1851." It is bound in sheepskin, its pages number to 470, some of which are written upon and some of which are blank, while still others, unfortunately, are missing; and has printed upon the back edge, "M. E. Church Register." The book is now about 67 years of age. It contains many revisions of the church roll, registers, baptisms, marriages, deaths, records of quarterly conferences, notes by various pastors, and other matters of interest. The history of the church begins with the year 1834; the first revision of the roll contains the names of those who, in 1851, had been members since 1834. One of the last items recorded before the incumbency of the present pastor, was written by Rev. J. A. Parker, D. D., and reads thus: "If I am not returned here next year (1892), I trust my successor will keep up the record.—Parker. Two lines for 1892 follows and no other entries appear, except those made by this pastor.

In 1834 Baton Rouge was made a station; but the first appointment to this city seems to have been made in 1832 when Rev. E. Tabor had charge with outlying preaching places. In 1834 money was subscribed to build the church, and in 1836 it was completed. The task of raising the funds and building the edifice was in the Lord's vineyard. As the church then stood, it was the first story of the present building. In 1860 Rev. W. E. M. Linfield made the following note: "The new church was built this year; \$14,000 was raised in cash and subscriptions, and about \$1,000 was left to be secured after dedication. The sermon was preached by Dr. Marshall, the first pastor of the station." Bro. Linfield meant by the "new church" that another story had been added to the building erected in 1836, and the spire, as it now appears, was placed upon the church. A parsonage was bought and furnished that year also. On May 18, 1861, Brother Linfield made the following note: "While last year offered the occasion for privation and liberality and was closed most graciously, the excitement in the political world, the dissolution of the old Government, the preparations for war and the hardness of the times have furnished the occasions of great trial; some \$7,000 unpaid on church subscriptions, and the impossibility of collecting finds us in a trying strait. The ante-rooms of the basement are used as sewing rooms for the soldiers who are volunteering for the campaign." In 1862, the "short history" relates, New Orleans and Baton Rouge were captured by the Federalists, and the Baton Rouge Methodist preacher, Brother Cravens, was taken a prisoner to New Orleans. During the years 1863, 1864, and 1865, Baton Rouge was in the Federal lines, and no appointments were made to the charge.

In 1871 Rev. R. S. Trippett was appointed to Baton Rouge. He devised means, he states in a short entry, to pay the church out of its heavy indebtedness, to raise money for a new door in the basement and to paint the spire. In 1890, Dr. J. A. Parker writes, about \$1,000 was spent upon the church in having it replastered and frescoed. He also remarks that in 1891 "a lot of ground at the corner of America and Favrot streets was purchased. The lot was paid for



FIRST METHODIST CHURCH.

and property deeded to the Board of Trustees of this church. M. C. Aldrich, Pres. Board." In this year a Sunday School was organized at the point where this ground was bought. It has since grown into a flourishing church of much activity. A neat parsonage has been erected upon the lot beside the church building. The present title of the organization is, "The Keener Memorial Methodist Church", and Rev. J. W. Booth is the efficient pastor.

The "short history" contains no further record of work upon the building of the First Methodist Church; but it may be added that during the pastorate of Rev. E. K. Means, \$7,000 was raised and spent for needed repairs, putting the building in comfortable shape. During the year 1916 about \$2,500 was spent upon the church in replacing the basement floor (which Brother Trippett put in in 1871), with one of cement, in converting the basement into a modern Sunday School apartment with individual class rooms, and in installing a modern hot-water heating plant throughout the building.

During the pastorate of Rev. W. W. Drake the congregation of the First Methodist Church donated over \$1,300 toward the erection of the handsome district parsonage on Government street, where Rev. J. W. Lee, the present presiding elder of the Baton Rouge District, resides.

In 1917, with some assistance from the forces of the Keener Memorial Methodist Church, the First Methodist Church established a mission plant near the Standard Oil refinery. The land was donated by the Istrouma Land Co., and deeded to the First Methodist Church.

It is interesting to note that the Louisiana Annual Conference was held in the First Methodist Church in 1860 by Bishop Early; in 1874 by Bishop Marvin; in 1886 by Bishop Keener; in 1889 by Bishop Duncan; in 1900 by Bishop Galloway; and in 1916, by

Bishop E. E. Hoss. In 1889 W. H. N. Magruder and W. H. Goodale were pillars in the local church. Since that time J. R. Holmes, beloved by every body, and S. B. Jones, the father-in-law of Dr. F. N. Parker, both deceased, were zealous leaders in this field. In 1851 Brother Harp reported, he states in the "short history," 139 members to Conference.

REPORT OF JOANNA WADDILL CHAPTER U. D. C.

Among the Earliest Societies Organized After the Civil War.

Joanna Waddill Chapter U. D. C. was organized April 8, 1889 by Miss Mattie B. McGrath with the following members: Mmes. J. W. Ballis, H. Lytle, M. P. Robertson, S. W. Heroman, W. A. Hurst, S. P. House, S. Skofield, F. M. Brooks, A. Pino, S. R. Harris, J. C. Allen, Harry Badley, J. N. Ogden, Misses Launo Waddill, Alma Brooks, Maimie Pipes, Mattie B. McGrath, Julia McGrath, Mary Barrow, S. Waddill, Mattie Conner, Mattie Bates.

The chapter's motto is, "We Cling to the Memory of Our Heroes." The flower is the Wisteria.

The objects of the association are memorial, and to that end educational and literary, social and benevolent; to collect and preserve all material for a true history of the confederate states; and to honor the memory of all men and women who served that cause, as well as their patient endurance during the trying hours after its close. It is also our purpose to maintain a Public Library in our city. The library report will also appear in this issue.

The official U. D. C. days have always been observed as follows: January 19, birthday of General Robert E. Lee; June 3, birthday of President Jefferson Davis; April 6, confederate decoration day; Sept. 27, birthday of Admiral Raphael Semmes.

The chapter gives some of the work done by the various active committees such as visiting the sick veterans, sending flowers, medicine and nourishment to them and their families when needed; it contributes to all state's work, widows fund, scholarship loan fund, monument fund and many others. No year has ever passed that has given us more genuine pleasure than during the past year for never before have we so often had the confederate veterans as our guests.

As we write this report the sentiments expressed in a recent issue of a Baton Rouge paper come to our minds, and we quote in part, "It is a long way from Appomattox to the battlefields of France, and it is a long time from 1865 to 1921," and as we

fancy we see our confederate veterans in parade June 10, with the young veterans of the World War, we think with the editor, "Soldiers of another age, another century, whose gray hairs are as the soft light of the moon, silvery over the evening of life, yet who come rugged and erect to greet virile youth." The attitude of the old veterans to the young veterans on this occasion was one of deep respect, and the chapter wishes to point out that this is the spirit of the confederate from the beginning of his war struggle in 1861 to 1865; all during the troublesome reconstruction days to the last days of his life. We honor him for these things, and for performing his duty as he saw it. And when there is no more confederate veteran to honor, we will honor his memory.

The present officers of Joanna Waddill Chapter are: Mrs. L. U. Babin, president; Mrs. T. P. Singletary, first vice president; Mrs. Belle Williams, second vice president; Mrs. W. B. Kennard, recording secretary; Mrs. A. P. Miller, corresponding secretary; Mrs. St. Claire Favrot, treasurer; Mrs.

F. G. Clark, registrar; Mrs. Lee R. Harris, historian.

The main committees doing chapter work are the Memorial committee, Visiting committee, Cross of Honor committee, and Credential committee. These committees are composed of the following ladies: Memorial committee, Mrs. B. F. Waddill chairman, Mrs. L. Echard and John Heroman; Visiting committee, Mrs. F. G. Clark chairman, Mrs. W. E. Robertson and Miss Winnie Costello; Cross of Honor committee, Mrs. A. P. Miller chairman, Mmes. A. L. Drehr and W. S. Cushman; Confederate Mound committee, Mrs. Belle Williams chairman, Mmes. Louis Kretz and Edward Miller; Credential committee, Mrs. A. G. Grant chairman, Mmes. F. M. Brooks, B. A. Day, B. F. Waddill and J. N. Ogden.

(Signed) MRS. L. U. BABIN, President.
MRS. W. B. KENNARD, Rec. Secty.

The idle hand is more to be dreaded than the Black Hand used to be.

THEY ALL LIKE 'EM.

All the ladies who have tried them
State they like them best of all,
Young or old it makes no difference;
Tall or short, we please them all.

What, you ask, is it that please
All the ladies, young or old?
Tall and short ones, fat and thin ones?
It would seem a statement bold.

But—can it be you're not acquainted
With our brand called Madame Grace?
Within the WOMAN'S SHOP on Third Street
You will find it holds first place.

White ones, pink ones, yes and blue ones,
Girdles, step-ins, every kind.
Graceful touts, Brassieres, and Bandeaux,
High class corsets you will find.

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Ladies we will help you to save, and welcome your accounts whether large or small.

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