

Baptist Church's Centennial Marks Years Of Work, Growth

Sunday, October 19, the First Baptist church of Santa Cruz will observe its centennial with morning and evening services and an afternoon reception. Dr. Sanford Fleming will be the speaker in the morning service. The afternoon will be devoted to a reception with a presentation of greetings and historical sketches. Dr. Mack McCray Jr., executive secretary of the Northern California Baptist convention, will speak at the concluding evening session.

The church was one of 11 now existing in the Northern California Baptist convention organized before 1860. Rev. O. C. Wheeler, who served as the fifth pastor, was one of the influential leaders in the founding of these churches. October 24, 1858, three ministers, Revs. C. N. West, Orin Crittenden and James Webb, inspired by the Southern Baptist mission, constituted a church council held in Rice hall.

Prior to this time, while not constituting a church, Jonathan Guild and his wife, Lawrence Pollard and his wife from Massachusetts and Z. Sprague and his wife were interested in Baptist work. Rev. Crittenden acted as moderator and Rev. C. N. West as clerk. Rev. West and his wife, Elizabeth Sloan and Cecelia Low were received as the first members.

In later meetings the same day, Lawrence Pollard, his wife, a man named Stultz and Abram Frick were received.

Rev. James Webb preached the first sermon and Rev. West was elected pastor. During the year 1859 unsuccessful efforts were made to secure a building site. From July, 1860, to the spring of 1864, meetings were infrequent and outside support was difficult to obtain. On October 16, 1864, J. A. Wirth was elected pastor and ordained. He resigned August 4, 1866. Since the church was unable to afford the rental of the Temperance hall, a number of the members voted to meet in the Scotts Valley school house. December 6, 1866 these members organized what they called the San Lorenzo Church with Rev. West as pastor. Unsuccessful efforts were made to obtain land upon which to build. According to the Santa Cruz County Times, on May 22, 1869, S. S. Roberts preached at the Scotts Valley school. No further information is obtainable about this movement away from Santa Cruz.

In the meantime those members who remained in Santa Cruz, including Pollard, Guild and N. A. Bixby, were not inactive. Rev. J. B. Knight was called to the pastorate. During his ministry the church was reorganized, incorporated and an edifice was built on Locust street near its junction with Mission street and dedicated June 1867. It came to be known as the "Little Baptist Church on the Hill."

The members were never enthusiastic about the location, preferring a place of worship on the "flat." August 1, 1886 a call was extended to T. M. Merriman from Vermont who accepted on the condition that the church building be moved from the "hill" to the "flat."

Finances were arranged, a lot on the corner of Walnut avenue and Center street was purchased for \$1500 and on August 19, 1887 the building was moved, repaired and enlarged. It was dedicated November 20, 1887. In the same year Calvin Gault donated a lot on the East Side upon which a mission was built, the church's first missionary enterprise.

From 1888, when Merriman resigned, to 1905 information about the church is meagre. Bixby has left a history indicating that capable pastors with above average tenure served during this period. The first pastor called in the 20th century was E. R. Bennett who

had been executive secretary of the Northern California Baptist convention during the years 1899 through 1904. His pastorate began December 1, 1905 and ended November 28, 1916. In 1910 the church was remodeled to its present size and dedicated in May, 1910. In the succeeding years repairs were made but the building is now substantially the same as it was in 1910.

Pastors following Bennett were H. W. Vodra, J. N. Hoover, W. B. Pearson, E. A. Junker and W. A. Armstrong. The present pastor, Sidney B. Cooper, was called from the Manette Community Baptist church of Bremerton, Wash., June 18, 1950.

Including the one on the East Side on the lot donated by Gault, missions have been maintained in the Seabright area, Live Oak and Twin Lakes. The latter was organized as an independent church in 1930. In 1929 a resolution was passed accepting responsibility with other churches in the San Jose Baptist association for special work in Hollister and Gilroy. Rev. J. C. Colyar undertook this assignment. In addition to the activity in the home missions field, contributions have been made almost continuously to the support of a native worker in Ongole, India, since the beginning of the present century.

With the completion of 100 years of activity in the Santa Cruz community, the second century begins with plans for a new church plant to be located on Trevethan avenue and Roxas street. An architect has been employed and preliminary drawings are in process.

Hurrying To Court Raises Fine For Check Passer

Kansas City, (AP). — Sheriff's officers came to William Nevins, 34, with a warrant for his arrest on a bad check charge.

Nevins, however, had paid the complainant and only owed \$11.03 court costs. The officers suggested he go to court and pay. Nevins agreed but insisted on driving his car.

The officers, following Nevins, noticed his car was drawing farther and farther away. They said they clocked him 70 m.p.h. in a 60-mile zone; 55 in a 20-mile zone and 65 in a 50-mile zone.

Outside the court, Nevins was handed a speeding ticket. He pleaded guilty and was fined \$43. Total payment: \$54.03.

In the Netherlands Antilles in the West Indies the official language is Dutch. But, only a few people speak any language other than English.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS No. 15,825

In the Superior Court of the State of California, in and for the County of Santa Cruz.

In the Matter of the Estate of WILLARD BURRIS TERRELL, also known as WILLARD B. TERRELL, and as W. B. TERRELL, Deceased.

Notice Is Hereby Given by the Undersigned, VIRGINIA BURKHART Administratrix with the will annexed of the estate of Willard Burris Terrell, also known as Willard B. Terrell and as W. B. Terrell, deceased, to the creditors of, and all persons having claims against the said deceased, or said estate, to file them, with the necessary vouchers, in the office of the Clerk of the above named Court (which said office is situate in the Court House in the City of Santa Cruz in said County and State), within six months after the first publication of this notice made on the 2nd day of October, 1958, or present and exhibit them, with the necessary vouchers, within said period, to the said administratrix at the office of Lucas, Wyckoff & Miller, 113 Cooper Street, P.O. Box 475, in the City of Santa Cruz, County of Santa Cruz, State of California, which said last named office, the undersigned selects as the place of business in all matters