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A HISTORY OF DECATUR
BAPTIST COLLEGE

THESIS

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Texas State Teachers College in Partial
Fulfillment of the Requirements

For the Degree of

MASTER OF SCIENCE

By

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INTRODUCTION

This is a brief history of Decatur Baptist College. The data concerning this subject have been taken from Wise County newspapers, college catalogues, college annuals, deed record books, Texas Baptist Annuals, literary publications, History of Texas Baptist by J. M. Carroll, letters, and personal interviews. The data have been carefully selected and taken from reliable sources.

The material has been organized in a chronological manner under the following headings: origin of the college, material development, internal growth, and the conclusions.

Care has been taken to follow good techniques in historical research. Controversial issues, gossip, and hearsay have been eliminated, and only such material as could be substantiated by documents and personal interviews of people closely connected with the institution has been employed.

No attempt has been made to add to or detract from the educational significance of the institution. An attempt has been made to tell the story of Decatur Baptist College in such a manner that both the triumphs and the adversities will be shown.

It is the wish of the author that this study will cause the administration, faculty, students, and ex-students of Decatur Baptist College to gather the original material

used in this study and to collect other materials and to place them in a permanent file in order that friends of the institution may know its story.

CHAPTER I

ORIGIN OF THE COLLEGE

A Senior College Established

In a meeting of the Wise County Baptist Association in 1885 at Decatur, it was suggested that a Baptist College be located somewhere within reach of Decatur and Wise County. This matter was discussed each year thereafter, but nothing was definitely done about it until 1891.¹

At a meeting of the Montague Association held in Bellevue, Texas, in September, 1891, Reverend O. J. R. Caltharp of Nocona, Texas, made a motion that a college be established in Northwest Texas, the exact location to be determined at some later date.²

Interest in the Northwest Texas Baptist College grew to the extent that the associations appointed a committee to act for the various associations. A meeting was held in Iowa Park, November 23, 1891, for the purpose of opening bids from such towns as desired the location of the college. It was understood that all bids for the college must embrace at

¹C. T. Watkins, Letter to author, March 16, 1938.

²J. M. Carroll, History of Texas Baptist, p. 948.

least ten acres of land for the college site. A committee, made up of representatives from the co-operating associations, investigated each locality that had placed a bid. It met again in Iowa Park, December 2, 1891, and located the school at Decatur. Mr. C. D. Cates was one of the delegates from Decatur to the convention at Iowa Park to select a location for the Northwest Texas Baptist College. As soon as a decision was reached, Mr. Cates sent a telegram to Colonel J. J. Long of Decatur that Decatur was selected as the place for the college.³

There were several contestants for the college; namely: Henrietta, Wichita Falls, Vernon, Decatur, and Amarillo. Amarillo was not given much consideration because of its location. It was understood by the contestants that all would co-operate and make a strong appeal for the success of the college regardless of where it was located.⁴

The committee in charge of the Northwest Texas Baptist College met, December 17, 1891, at Decatur and decided to apply for a charter in the name of the Northwest Texas Baptist Educational Society. The committee was well pleased with Decatur as a location for the college. The meeting adjourned to meet again at Decatur, January 6, 1892, for the purpose of selecting a site for the college and to pass on plans and

³ Wise County Messenger, December 17, 1891.

⁴ C. T. Watkins, Letter to author, March 16, 1938.

specifications for the building.⁵

In February, 1892, bids were opened for the erection of the Northwest Texas Baptist College. Mr. S. C. Kilgore of Denison, Texas, was given the contract at \$20,855. The building was to be constructed out of blue limestone rock to be three stories high.⁶

Rock to build the administration building was secured from Jimmie Burton's land about five miles southeast of Decatur, Greathouse farm about three miles due east of Decatur, C. D. Cates farm about two miles northeast of Decatur, and from the C. B. Ball farm about two miles north of Decatur. Mr. Frank Ford who now lives in Decatur helped haul rock to construct the building.

S. C. Kilgore took the contract to construct the building with the understanding he was to get his money by subscriptions; but, when the subscription money failed to come in, he was unable to pay his men and finance the construction any longer. He let the contract go back before the building was completed.⁷

Ten thousand dollars was borrowed to complete the building, and the college property was put up as security for this amount.⁸ The contract was then let to Ferrier Brothers and

⁵Wise County Messenger, December 17, 1891.

⁶Ibid., February 23, 1892.

⁷Frank Ford, Statement.

⁸J. L. Ward, Statement.

Wirz of Seymour, Texas, in May, 1892.⁹

The first session of the Northwest Texas Baptist College opened in January, 1893, in a rented building east of the square. J. F. Roberts was principal of the school and served in that capacity until May, 1893.¹⁰

The commencement exercises were held in the new building, May 28, 1893, and Elder Baten of Fort Worth preached the baccalaureate sermon.¹¹

In the summer of 1893, Dr. A. J. Emerson, who had been president of Howard Payne College of Brownwood, Texas, was elected the first President of Northwest Texas Baptist College. W. H. Alexander and I. N. Kimbrough were connected with Dr. Emerson in the management of the college.¹²

The Northwest Texas Baptist College opened on Wednesday, September 6, 1893. A large number of Decatur citizens and also a number of persons from a distance attended the opening. An impromptu program was given, consisting of musical numbers, recitations, and speeches. Dr. Emerson in his speech stated that the institution was a college, not a high school nor a university; the degrees of A. B. and A. M., if conferred by the college, would represent real learning; the spiritual and physical needs of the students would not be neglected;

⁹Wise County Messenger, May 21, 1892.

¹⁰C. T. Watkins, Letter to author, March 16, 1938.

¹¹Wise County Messenger, May 28, 1893.

¹²C. T. Watkins, Letter to author, March 16, 1938.

and that on completion of the boarding-halls the cost of board to the students would not exceed \$6 or \$7 per month; other departments, as library, gymnasium, and manual training, would be added as rapidly as possible.

Dr. Mitchell, of Bowie, President of the Board of Directors, interested the audience by relating the history of the movement which culminated in the founding of Northwest Texas Baptist College. Great tribute was paid to the people of Decatur for their promptness in paying the amount promised the college. Fourteen thousand dollars of the fifteen thousand dollars promised had already been paid, and the full amount of real estate promised was already in the possession of the institution.

After several others had spoken and a half-hour had been spent in social conversation, the audience left the college with good wishes for its success.¹³

Dr. A. J. Emerson served as president until 1896, during which time the school suffered financial embarrassment to the extent that in 1896 its property was sold at public auction to satisfy its creditors. A group of men who had guaranteed the payment of its obligations bought it in for about thirteen thousand dollars.¹⁴

The men who bought the college are as follows: J. W. Patterson, R. E. Huff, W. F. Burton, S. A. Lillard, J. E. Neel,

¹³Wise County Messenger, September 9, 1893.

¹⁴J. M. Carroll, History of Texas Baptist, p. 948.

E. Riley, W. J. Mann, H. F. Hawkins, John Spencer, A. J. Mann, J. L. Woody, C. J. Crabb, T. W. Brown, J. B. Reeves, P.F. Steel, R. E. Carswell, J. G. Summers, J. B. Hunt, W. L. Balew, A. L. Bearden, and C. B. Gunn.¹⁵ All of these men were Baptist except J. B. Hunt, S. A. Lillard, and R. E. Carswell.¹⁶

School opened in 1896 as usual, but with Professor Thompson in charge. It was a private nondenominational school with a small enrollment. Mr. Thompson was able to conduct the school for one year, but due to the lack of financial support he discontinued it at the end of the year.¹⁷

The School Becomes a Two-Year College

In 1897, a meeting was held in Fort Worth of representatives from Texas Baptist Schools to consider the ways and means of paying their debts and correlating them into a unified system. J. L. Ward, who was pastor of the Baptist Church of Decatur, was present at this meeting as a representative of the Decatur school situation.

At a meeting of the Wise County Association in Alvord a little later, J. M. Carroll was present. J. L. Ward and J. M. Carroll decided, while at this meeting, to make an appeal to Colonel C. C. Slaughter for a gift of fifty thousand dollars to Christian education in Texas. The appeal

¹⁵ Deed Record Book 44, p. 169.

¹⁶ J. L. Ward, Statement.

¹⁷ Ibid.

was made by J. M. Carroll and at the meeting of the Baptist General Convention of Texas in San Antonio, November 5-9, 1897, the denomination was thrilled by the announcement of the gift of twenty-five thousand dollars by C. C. Slaughter for Christian education in Texas.

An offer was sent by the purchasers of the Northwest Texas Baptist College to the Convention to sell the property to the Baptist of Texas for seven thousand dollars.¹⁸

The Convention at San Antonio gave one evening service to an educational mass meeting, and during the meeting a committee of five was appointed, and the following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, there is now at Decatur, school property worth \$35,000 which can be secured to the Baptist of Texas for \$7,000 -- \$5,000 to be paid by January 1, 1898, and the balance in one year at 10% interest therefor,

Resolved, that this convention do now and here proceed to raise that amount of money and provide for the conduct and control of a Baptist school at that place, should this property be secured.¹⁹

This offer was accepted, and the school was again made the property of the Texas Baptists. Its name was changed from Northwest Texas Baptist College to Decatur Baptist College.²⁰

Up to 1895 all the Baptist schools including the two

¹⁸J. M. Carroll, History of Texas Baptist, p. 949.

¹⁹Ibid., p. 825.

²⁰Ibid., p. 949.

Baylor were regarded by a large majority of the people as local affairs and benefitting only a small section. The majority of the people considered the denominational schools as a money-making enterprise. Any failure to pay the expenses for the school year was considered as unwise management.²¹

In a conversation on a train one day, J. B. Gambrell mentioned to J. M. Carroll that all the Baptist schools should pool their debts and put on a state-wide program rather than sectional. This put J. M. Carroll to thinking, and he soon formulated a workable plan.²²

Under the leadership of J. M. Carroll, an Educational Commission was set up by the Baptist Convention for the purpose of correlating all the Baptist schools of the state. Under this plan, Baylor University was to be the head of the affiliated system. All the junior colleges agreed to this plan and to offer two years of college work. With this concession the graduates of the junior colleges were given admission to Baylor University to enter the junior class.²³

There were two Bayers, Howard Payne, Simmons, Burleson, Decatur, Rusk, Jacksboro, and Jacksonville. The combined debts of the schools were more than three hundred thousand dollars.²⁴ All of these schools were senior colleges at

²¹J. M. Carroll, History of Texas Baptist, p. 819.

²²Ibid., p. 820.

²³Hilliard Barnard, History of the Development of Junior Colleges of Texas, p. 12.

²⁴J. M. Carroll, History of Texas Baptist, p. 818.

that time, but Decatur, Burleson, Rusk, and Howard Payne accepted junior college standing. In later years Howard Payne was dissatisfied and became a senior college.²⁵

At the meeting of Texas Baptist Convention held in San Antonio, November 5-9, 1897, there were representatives from eight Baptist schools of Texas. After several conferences of these representatives while at the Convention, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, that it is the sense of this meeting that the Baptist General Convention of Texas be requested to appoint a committee of five brethren not officially connected with any existing Baptist school, and that the representatives of each school appoint one additional member, which committee of thirteen shall be requested to consider the federation of our schools and their relation to each other. That their plan of federation and relation to be referred to the boards of our various schools as soon as possible for acceptance or rejection. Then, provided as many as five of our schools -- including the two Bayers -- agree to write in said confederation, the said committee of thirteen shall be the Education Commission for Texas Baptist for the current conventional year, with power to proceed to the work of raising funds to promote the financial interests of the schools so agreeing. Provided, further, that until such arrangements are made each school shall be permitted to attend to its own affairs, as at the present.²⁶

The committee appointed was composed of the following thirteen persons: J. B. Gambrell, Waco; J. P. Crouch, McKinney; Geo. W. Baines, Cleburne; J. B. Carter, Marshall; W. M. Harris, Galveston, representing the State at large;

²⁵J. L. Ward, Statement.

²⁶J. M. Carroll, History of Texas Baptist, p. 824.

i. e., not officially connected with any of the schools; and representing the several schools, respectively, B. H. Carroll for Baylor University at Waco; C. C. Slaughter for Baylor Female College at Belton; R. T. Hanks for Simmons College at Abilene; S. J. Anderson for Burleson College at Greenville; J. H. Grove for Howard Payne College at Brownwood; J. L. Ward for Decatur College at Decatur; J. H. Thorn for East Texas Baptist Institute at Rusk; J. C. Lindsay for North Texas Baptist College at Jacksboro.²⁷

When the commission was fully organized in January, 1898, J. M. Carroll was chosen its financial manager. He began work, January 28, and when the convention met at Waco, October 7-11, 1898, he made his first report, and the section dealing with Decatur Baptist College reads as follows:

From the \$7,000 pledged at San Antonio for the Decatur property, we have collected and paid out \$4,150; \$2,850 of those pledges are yet unpaid. These are all due by January 1, 1899, and it is earnestly desired that the brethren who made these pledges will redeem them at the earliest moment possible. Of the balance still due on that property, \$850 is past due, and on that we are paying interest. The remaining \$2,000 will be due, January 1, 1899.²⁸

On January 1, 1899, J. M. Carroll resigned as financial manager of the Education Commission, and the position was turned over to B. H. Carroll.²⁹ During the year of 1899,

²⁷ J. M. Carroll, History of Texas Baptist, p. 825.

²⁸ Ibid., p. 834.

²⁹ Ibid., p. 835.

the remaining part of the debt on Decatur Baptist College was paid, and two thousand dollars for equipment was provided. This gave the citizens of Decatur renewed courage and more confidence in the institution.³⁰

³⁰J. M. Carroll, History of Texas Baptist, p. 839.

CHAPTER II

MATERIAL DEVELOPMENT

Land

On the twenty-fourth day of February, 1892, the Texas Loan Agency of Corsicana, Texas, sold to the Northwest Texas Baptist Educational Society three blocks of land for the sum of five dollars. These blocks were numbered 109, 118, and 119, and were carved out of the A. J. Walker Survey in South Decatur Addition.¹

Decatur Baptist College bought from the Texas Loan Agency on July 10, 1905, twenty blocks of land and one lot in another block for the sum of \$300. \$100 was paid in cash, and \$200 was to be paid within two years, bearing interest at eight per cent per annūm. This land was a part of the A. J. Walker Survey in South Decatur.²

J. W. Harlan sold to Decatur Baptist College four lots in block number 123 in the South Decatur Addition on the twentieth day of July, 1905, for the sum of \$30.³

Decatur Baptist College bought four lots in block number 110 from Ada Taylor on the twenty-second day of April, 1909 for the sum of \$600. \$100 was paid in cash, and two

¹Deed Record Book 18, p. 577.

²Deed Record Book 58, p. 171.

³Ibid., p. 182.

notes of \$250 each, bearing eight per cent interest were given by Decatur Baptist College.⁴

On the seventeenth day of November, 1909, Decatur Baptist College bought from W. F. Sharp the south one-half of lot number eight in block number ninety-nine being out of the A. J. Walker Survey for the sum of \$25.⁵

On January 12th, 1922, Decatur Baptist College bought from J. H. and Cliff D. Cates two blocks, numbers eighty-two and eighty-five, and Shady View Park of South Decatur, all of which joined the college property, for the sum of \$1,000.⁶

Mrs. Minnie Cate Gose sold to Decatur Baptist College all of blocks sixty-five and sixty-six of the South Decatur Addition for the sum of \$200, on the second day of October, 1935.

Decatur Baptist College has approximately one hundred acres of land in its possession at present. About fifteen acres of this amount is occupied by the campus and the athletic field, and the remaining eighty-five acres is in pasture for the upkeep of the college dairy.⁷

Buildings

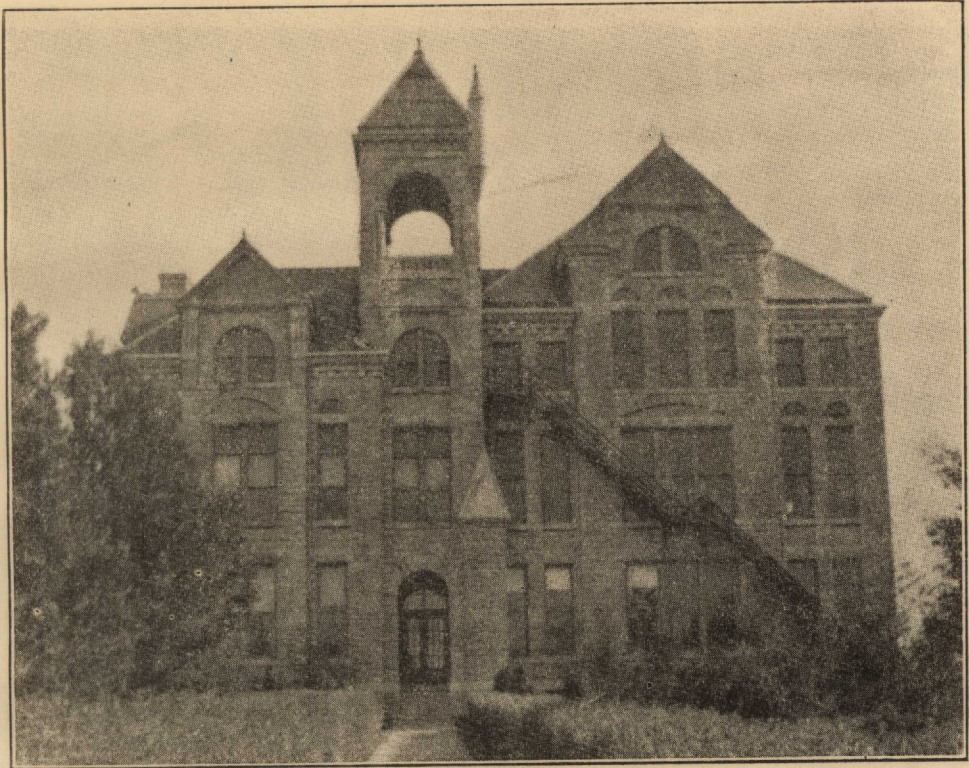
The administration building of Decatur Baptist College

⁴Deed Record Book 67, p. 192.

⁵Ibid., p. 513.

⁶Deed Record Book 102, p. 458.

⁷J. L. Ward, Statement.



Administration Building
Decatur Baptist College

was a beautiful three-story stone building eighty-five feet wide and ninety-five feet long, and built out of blue limestone rock. The interior was neatly finished, with fifteen rooms and a large chapel hall in the second story. It was built by the Baptist Associations of Northwest Texas. The building and furniture cost approximately \$35,000. The building was located in the most elevated place in the city and overlooked a broad expanse of country and fine scenery.⁸ This building still stands today and is serviceable, but of course some repair work has been necessary during the years of service.

In 1893-1894, a two-story frame dormitory was constructed for the girls. The building contained twenty-six bedrooms, a large dining room, a kitchen, and two parlors. This building, known as Neel Hall, was well fitted to accommodate young ladies; each room had a dresser and a nice closet suitable for clothing. Neel Hall was also the home of the President of the College.⁹

In 1899, Decatur Hall for boys was erected. It contained sixteen rooms. Each room was nicely papered and furnished with lights from the gas plant. On the ninth day of April, 1904, the Decatur Hall for Boys was destroyed by fire. A movement soon got under way to erect a brick dormitory for the girls and let the boys occupy Neel Hall, the old dormitory

⁸Wise County Messenger, May 28, 1893.

⁹College catalogue.

for girls.¹⁰

In 1905, a large three-story stone and brick dormitory was erected for the girls. It contained the President's home, parlors, kitchen and dining hall, practice rooms for piano pupils, laundry and bath rooms, besides furnished rooms for about sixty girls. As soon as this building was completed, Neel Hall, which had been the girls' dormitory was rearranged and furnished to give room for about sixty boys.¹¹

In the spring of 1912, the boys' dormitory burned, but a move was soon under way to construct a brick dormitory similar to that of the girls. The following is a report from Decatur Baptist College to the Baptist Convention of Texas in 1912:

To the Baptist Convention of Texas:

Our last year's work was a reasonable improvement over the former. Our student body was good, graduating class the largest in the history of the institution. Our total enrollment last year was two hundred and two, and this year is about the same as last, except our local patronage is not quite so large.

Our boys' dormitory burned last spring, which has made it hard on our boys even until now. Our new dormitory is just about completed, and will cost about \$25,000.00, accommodating 100 boys. The citizens of Decatur gave enough to erect this building. Dr. Barton did us great service, leading the campaign in the town. The denomination is under obligation to put an equal amount with this for putting in steam heat, finishing girls' hall, and putting wing on main building.

We have contracted for steam heating plant, costing about \$10,000.00. We have collected

¹⁰College catalogue.

¹¹College catalogue.

part of this amount, but we are very much in need of a man to take the field to raise the remaining part of this fund, and to raise money to make good the promise of the State Board to the citizens of Decatur, in completing other buildings.¹²

The State Executive Board made an appropriation to Decatur Baptist equal to the amount raised by the citizens of Decatur. The money raised by the citizens of Decatur was used in building the boys' dormitory, and the money supplied by the Executive Board was used in building a steam heating plant and putting a wing on the administration building.

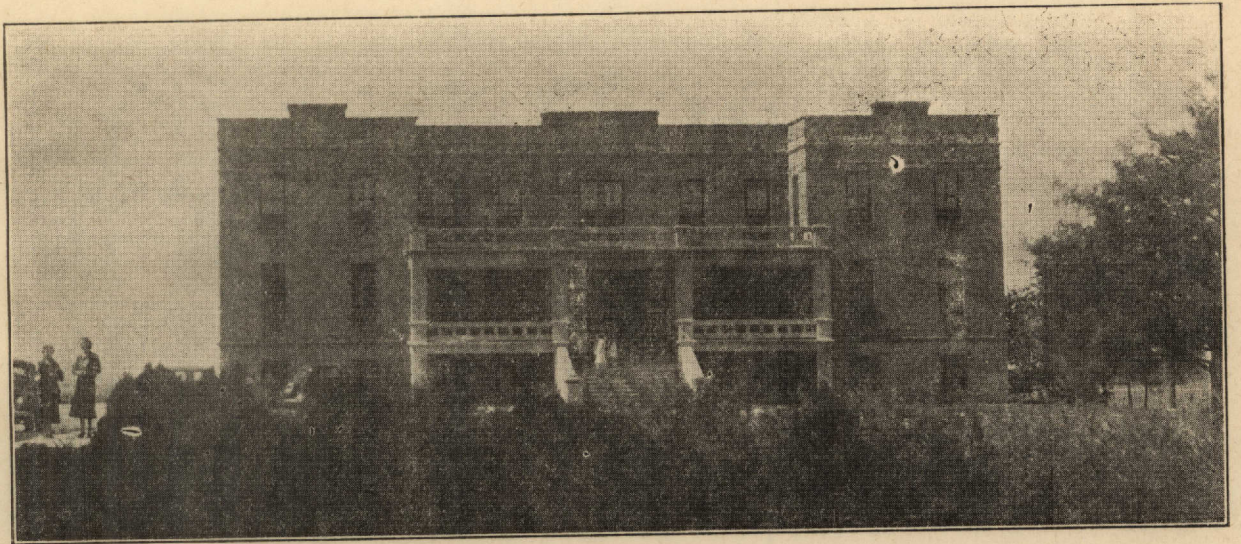
H. L. Ward gave the Decatur Baptist College the sum of \$5,000 to be used in the erection of the boys' dormitory. The building was named Ward Hall in honor of H. L. Ward, and the girls' dormitory assumed the name of Neel Hall, which had been the name of the girls' dormitory long before.¹³

At a home coming of Decatur College ex-students on November 15, 1926, a movement got under way to build a gymnasium. Mr. E. M. Gettys was selected to take charge of the campaign to raise funds from the ex-students. The following summer Mr. Gettys raised \$14,000 in money and pledges. The economic depression came on, and no additional effort was put forth to raise funds until the summer of 1933, when about \$3,000 more was raised.

An application was made for a W. P. A. project to help construct the gymnasium and was approved. Work started in

¹²Texas Baptist Annual, 1912, p. 72.

¹³J. L. Ward, Statement.



Girls' Dormitory at Decatur Baptist College



Boys' Dormitory With Gymnasium in the Background
Decatur Baptist College

the summer of 1933, and the building was completed in January, 1934. It is now valued at about \$30,000.00.¹⁴

The gymnasium was dedicated to Mr. E. M. Gettys and carries the name of Gettys Gymnasium. It is an all-brick and steel structure and is one of the best gymnasiums in the state. It has four large dressing rooms, all furnished with modern equipment, and has a seating capacity that is adequate.¹⁵

College Finance

Up until recent years, Decatur College operated through tuition and money received for board and room in the dormitories.¹⁶ In 1903, an estimate was made of expense for nine months, and it reads as follows:

TABLE I
ESTIMATE OF EXPENSE FOR NINE MONTHS¹⁷

Department	Literary	With Music	With Elocution	With Music and Elocution
Primary	\$127.50*	\$172.50	\$145.50	\$180.50
Preparatory.	141.00	186.00	159.00	204.00
College	150.00	195.00	168.00	213.00

*All expenses in the table included board and room as well as tuition. The books, stationery, and personal laundry were estimated at from \$15.00 to \$20.00

During the period from 1900 to 1907, the College never

¹⁴E. M. Gettys, Statement.

¹⁵College catalogue.

¹⁶J. L. Ward, Statement.

¹⁷College catalogue.

had a deficit in operating expense. Teachers' salaries were low, ranging from about \$50 to \$75 per month, and the president was receiving only \$1,200 per year. It was during this period that the enrollment reached the highest number in the history of the college. The enrollment for 1906-1907 was 251.¹⁸

In 1907, another estimate was made for the total expense per student, which reads as follows:

TABLE 2
ESTIMATE OF EXPENSE¹⁹

Department	Literary	With Music	With Elocution	With Music and Elocution
Preparatory.	\$155.50*	\$209.50	\$173.50	\$227.50
College.....	164.50	218.50	182.50	236.50

*The enrollment, and the tuition in all divisions increased by a small margin from 1904 to 1907, but both decreased in 1907-1908.

In 1910-1911, the expenses increased over those of the term of 1907-1908, and tuition for both college and preparatory students was the same. Board and room increased from \$112.50 to \$126.00, and tuition was \$45, which was an increase from \$36 to \$45 for students taking preparatory work. Library fee and incidental fee remained at \$2.00 and \$5.00 per term. Books, stationery, and personal laundry were estimated

¹⁸J. L. Ward, Statement.

¹⁹College catalogue.

at \$15.00 to \$20.00.²⁰ The enrollment for the term of 1910-1911 was 183, which was 67 short of the enrollment of 1906-1907.

The estimated expenses increased in 1913-1914 over those in 1910-1911. Board and room advanced from \$126 to \$135; tuition remained the same at \$45; library fee increased from \$2.00 to \$3.00; incidental fees increased from \$5.00 to \$7.50 per term of nine months; and laundry, books, etc., remained the same. The enrollment was 180, which was only three less than it was in 1910-1911.²¹

In 1917-1918, the expenses increased a little more. Board and room advanced to \$180; tuition, incidental fees, library fee, and all other expenses remained the same as in 1913-1914. The enrollment for 1917-1918 was 183, which was an increase of three over the enrollment in 1913-1914.²²

In 1919-1920, board and room increased to \$202.50, tuition increased to \$54, incidental fees remained at \$7.50, library fee remained at \$3.00, and an item listed as fees was \$5.00 for nine months. The enrollment for 1919-1920 is not available.

During the term of 1923-1924, board and room increased to \$225.00, tuition remained unchanged, incidental fees increased to \$10.50, fees increased from \$5.00 to \$15.00, and laundry was listed as a separate item of expense at \$3.00

²⁰College catalogue.

²¹Ibid.

²²Ibid.

for nine months. The enrollment for 1923-1924 was 182.²³

During the depression, the Executive Board notified all the colleges that no appropriations would be made to help bear operating cost. This condition lasted four or five years, which was probably the most trying time for the college. President Ward and his faculty had an agreement that all the faculty members board and room at the college dormitories free of charge, and, out of the cash collected through tuition and board from students, heating and boarding expense for the college be paid first. After these two expenses were paid, the cash remaining was divided among the faculty members in proportion to their salaries. Notes and accounts were also transferred to the teachers, and nearly all their salaries were collected in that way after a period of time. The college was not permitted to borrow money to pay the teachers or to assume any indebtedness of any kind, according to the charter.²⁴

An increase was made in 1928-1929 in board and room from \$225, to \$234; tuition advanced from \$54 to \$72; incidental fees remained the same; laundry expense remained unchanged; and the item listed as fees also remained unchanged. The enrollment for 1928-1929 is not available.²⁵

In 1932-1933, board and room decreased from \$234 to

²³College catalogue.

²⁴J. L. Ward, Statement.

²⁵College catalogue.

TABLE 3
ESTIMATE OF STUDENT EXPENSE AT DECATUR BAPTIST COLLEGE

		LITERARY TUITION	BOARD, ROOM	MUSIC FEE	ELOCUTION FEE	LIBRARY FEE	LAUNDRY, BOOKS, ETC.	INCIDENTAL FEE AND FEES	VOICE	ART
1894	INTERMEDIATE ACADEMIC COLLEGE	\$30.00 40.00 50.00	\$112.50 112.50 112.50	\$50.00 50.00 50.00	\$40.00 40.00 40.00	... ... ...	... ... ...	\$22.00 22.00 22.00	\$50.00 50.00 50.00	\$50.00 50.00 50.00
1903	PRIMARY PREPARATORY COLLEGE	22.50 36.00 45.00	100.00 100.00 100.00	36.00 36.00 36.00	18.00 18.00 18.00	... ... ...	\$15-20 15-20 15-20	5.00 5.00 5.00	36.00 36.00 36.00	.........
1907	PREPARATORY COLLEGE	36.00 45.00	112.50 112.50	45.00 45.00	18.00 18.00	\$2.00 2.00	15-20 15-20	5.00 5.00	45.00 45.00	......
1980	PREPARATORY COLLEGE	45.00 45.00	126.00 126.00	45.00 45.00	22.50 22.50	2.00 2.00	15-20 15-20	5.00 5.00	45.00 45.00	......
1913	PREPARATORY COLLEGE	45.00 45.00	135.00 135.00	45.00 45.00	... ...	3.00 3.00	15-20 15-20	7.50 7.50	45.00 45.00	......
1917	PREPARATORY COLLEGE	45.00 45.00	180.00 180.00	45.00 45.00	... ...	3.00 3.00	15-20 15-20	7.50 7.50	45.00 45.00	......
1919	PREPARATORY COLLEGE	54.00 54.00	202.50 202.50	54.00 54.00	54.00 54.00	3.00 3.00	15-20 15-20	12.50 12.50	54.00 54.00	......
1923	PREPARATORY COLLEGE	54.00 54.00	225.00 225.00	54.00 54.00	54.00 54.00	... ...	3.00 3.00	25.50 25.50	54.00 54.00	......
1928	PREPARATORY COLLEGE	72.00 72.00	234.00 234.00	72.00 72.00	72.00 72.00	... ...	3.00 3.00	25.50 25.50	72.00 72.00	......
1932	PREPARATORY COLLEGE	72.00 72.00	189.00 189.00	72.00 72.00	72.00 72.00	... ...	3.00 3.00	25.50 25.50	72.00 72.00	......
1937	PREPARATORY COLLEGE	72.00 72.00	189.00 189.00	54.00 54.00	54.00 54.00	... ...	4.50 4.50	25.50 25.50	54.00 54.00	......

to \$189; tuition remained at \$72.00; and incidental fees, laundry, and fees remained the same as in 1928-1929. The enrollment for 1932-1933 is not available.²⁶

The Executive Board about 1934 started making appropriations to the various denominational colleges. The appropriations have increased each year, and for the school term of 1937-1938, Decatur Baptist College received \$10,000 to help bear operating expenses.²⁷

TABLE 4

School Year	Enrollment
1893-	...*
1893-1894	...*
1894-1895	...*
1895-1896	...*
1896-1897	...*
1897-1898	...*
1898-1899	145
1899-1900	161
1900-1901	148
1901-1902	...*
1902-1903	153
1903-1904	171
1904-1905	185
1905-1906	235
1906-1907	250
1907-1908	241
1908-1909	221
1909-1910	181
1910-1911	183
1911-1912	202
1912-1913	190
1913-1914	180
1914-1915	140
1915-1916	141
1916-1917	207

²⁶College catalogue.

²⁷J. L. Ward, Statement.

TABLE 4--Continued

School Year	Enrollment
1917-1918	183
1918-1919	193
1919-1920*
1920-1921*
1921-1922*
1922-1923	171
1923-1924	182
1924-1925	209
1925-1926	160
1926-1927*
1927-1928	190
1928-1929*
1929-1930	129
1930-1931	130
1931-1932	158
1932-1933*
1933-1934	161
1934-1935	172
1935-1936	153
1936-1937	149
1937-1938	167

*These enrollments are not available.

Other Property and Equipment

In 1915, Decatur Baptist College bought two registered Jersey cows for the sum of \$275 from Mr. Heath and Mr. Gose. These cows were placed on the college farm, and today the college has a herd of fifteen. These cows furnish milk for the boarding hall and also furnish employment to boys who wish to work their way through school.

In 1918, fire escapes were purchased for each of the dormitories and also the administration building at a cost of \$1,450.

During the economic depression, Burleson Junior College

discontinued due to financial difficulties, and Decatur Baptist made application to the State Executive Board for some of their equipment. This request was granted, and Decatur College received furniture to equip the boys' dormitory, library books, four or five pianos, science laboratory equipment, and a steel safe.

In 1932, the Lions Club of Decatur sponsored a movement to light the college football field. A liberal contribution was made by the Texas Power and Light Company for this cause. The approximate cost of the lighting equipment was \$1,200.

Campus beautification was started in 1934 with the help of the N. Y. A. and supplemented by funds raised by the college. Mrs. E. M. Gettys has directed this program and has done a wonderful piece of work. The campus has been made attractive through the planting of native trees, flowers, and shrubs.

In the spring of 1934, four tennis courts were constructed on the campus. The college furnished the money to build the courts and most of the work was done by the students who volunteered their services.

The citizens of Decatur through donations built the football bleachers in 1935. The approximate cost of this piece of work was \$300.

In recent years, about \$10,000 has been spent on new furniture, flooring, and decoration for the dormitories and

administration building. This program has been financed by the Women's Missionary Union of districts 11 and 12, and supplemented by funds raised by the various Brotherhoods, chief among which was the Broadway Baptist Church of Fort Worth. Decatur College also provided funds for this improvement.

Through personal donations, Decatur Baptist College has a \$20,000 productive endowment which brings in a small income. This money is used for improvements on the college and to help bear operating expenses.

The interest from \$20,000 endowment, the contribution of \$10,000 annually by the Baptist Executive Board, and fees collected from students for tuition, board, and room constitute the present income of the college.

CHAPTER III

INTERNAL GROWTH OF THE COLLEGE

This chapter deals with the internal growth of the college considering first a brief biography of each president of the college and listing the faculty members for each year from the time the college opened to the present date. The second part of the chapter deals with the changes made in the curriculum throughout the history of the college. Part three deals with the growth of library facilities. Part four deals with the various activities participated in by the student body. The last part of the chapter considers some of the most prominent men who have graduated from Decatur Baptist College.

Presidents and Faculty Members

A. J. Emerson.--Professor A. J. Emerson, President of Howard Payne College, was elected President of Northwest Texas Baptist College in 1893. Dr. Emerson was a man of profound education and rare ability both as an educator and as a minister of the Gospel.

Dr. Emerson accepted a position in William Jewel College, Liberty, Missouri, in 1872 or 1873, and held the same position seventeen or eighteen years, or until 1890. He resigned to accept the presidency of Howard Payne College at Brownwood, Texas.

In college work he was a power for good. In the pulpit he had no superior as a good sound reasoner and an earnest devotee to the cause he represented.¹

He served as President of Decatur Baptist College until 1896, when the property was sold to satisfy its creditors.

B. F. Giles.--B. F. Giles was a graduate of Howard College, Alabama, and the Seminary at Louisville, Kentucky. He served as a pastor in Indiana and later became a teacher in Howard College.

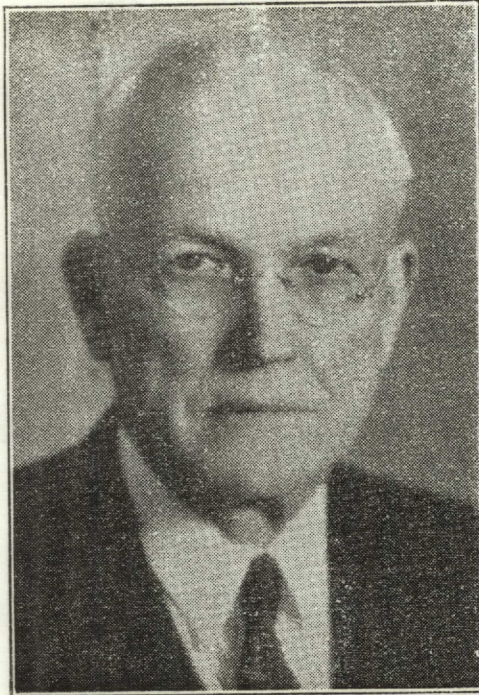
He was very highly recommended by J. T. Murfee, who was President of Howard College, as being a good administrator, a man who was invaluable to Howard College in discipline and religious influence.

He served as President of Decatur Baptist College from 1898 to 1900 and resigned to accept the presidency of Central Female College at Tuscaloosa, Alabama.²

J. L. Ward.--J. L. Ward came to Decatur in 1896 as pastor of Decatur Baptist Church, and was elected President of Decatur Baptist College in the summer of 1900. He spent the summer soliciting students for the college. When school opened in the fall, there were six boarding students and sixty-nine local students enrolled. It was evident that the income from such a small number of students would pay only about one-half of the teachers' salaries. According to the contract entered into

¹Wise County Messenger, May 13, 1893.

²Wise County Messenger, March 18, 1898.



Jessie Lawrence Ward, M. A.
President of
Decatur Baptist College

with the president, he was to draw his salary for the summer out of the first income of the school, and then pay the teachers out of the balance, but he voluntarily shared alike with the teachers in proportion to their salaries. The outlook was rather dark for President Ward and the teachers; but, before the session was over, the enrollment reached 155 and all the salaries were paid including the president's salary for the summer months.

President Ward remained at the head of the college for seven years, and during this time there was never a deficit in the operating expenses of the college. The enrollment grew from 155 in 1900-1901 to 250 in 1906.

In February, 1907, Mrs. J. D. Ward, wife of the president, died, and in June, President Ward resigned and accepted a position as secretary of the Education Commission.

In 1914, J. L. Ward was called back to be the head of the college again. At that time, the school was heavily in debt, and some of the debts were long past due. A contract had been let to repair the buildings, and the workmen had to be paid. Banks were very reluctant to loan money, and the World War was on. President Ward was well known in Decatur, and the bankers had confidence in his good business judgment. They loaned him the money necessary to pay for the repairs that were being made. At that time, H. D. Heath was employed as district evangelist by the Education Board and was located at Decatur. He put on a campaign to raise \$50,000 in the territory of Decatur

to pay off the college debts and make the necessary repairs. The debts were soon paid, the college credit was again established in the town, and the president re-established his habit of making the school pay expenses. In 1920, the enrollment reached 217.

In May, 1917, President Ward was married to Mrs. Elizabeth Dickson. At that time she was superintendent of the girls' dormitory and has continued to serve in that capacity.

J. L. Ward has made a profound impression upon the character and ideals of the college. The college has a reputation of honest work, wise management, and strong spiritual life. The college has no ambition of being anything but a junior college, but it aspires to be equal to the best.³

The whole history of Decatur Baptist College hinges around the life of J. L. Ward, the present president. In 1897 he came to the assistance of the college and saved it for the Baptist of Texas. In 1907, when the financial standing of the college was at a low ebb, J. L. Ward was called back to serve the college as president. He has carried the college through depressions and has made a great sacrifice for the college.

J. B. Tidwell.--J. B. Tidwell was a graduate of Howard College in Alabama. He came to Decatur Baptist College as a teacher in 1898. During his first term he taught Greek, German, and mathematics. In his second year he taught Greek, Latin, and German, but after his second year his work was

³J. M. Carroll, History of Texas Baptist, p. 949.

devoted to only Greek and Latin. He served as a teacher until 1907, and was then elected president of the college to succeed J. L. Ward.

Dr. Tidwell served two years as president of the college and resigned to accept a position as endowment secretary of Baylor University. He served in that capacity from 1909 to 1910, and was then made a professor of Bible in Baylor University. He is still serving in that position.

Dr. Tidwell has served on many prominent committees and has traveled in Europe and widely in America. The former students of Dr. Tidwell and friends of Baylor University are erecting the Tidwell Biblical Library as a tribute to him for his services at Baylor.

Dr. Tidwell has written seven or eight books, and they are listed as follows: Genesis, The Sunday School Teacher Magnified, The Bible Book by Book, The Bible Period by Period, Introducing the New Testament, Christian Teachings, Thinking Straight About the Bible, and John and His Five Books Concerning Preachers.⁴

W. C. Carver.--W. C. Carver was pastor of the Baptist Church of Whitesboro, Texas, before coming to Decatur as pastor in 1900. He served the Baptist Church of Decatur four years as pastor and also became a teacher in Decatur Baptist College in 1902-1903. He taught Bible in the college until 1909, and was then elected president of the institution. He served as presi-

⁴Pamphlet published by the Tidwell Memorial Committee.

dent from 1909 until 1914.⁵

W. C. Carver was a very interesting character and had a great personality. He was scholarly and was a very attractive speaker.

Faculty members.--

January, 1893 - May, 1893

Names of Faculty Members	Degree Held	Subjects Taught
J. F. Roberts, Principal	...	Mathematics
J. F. Hailey	...	Science
I. N. Kimbrough	...	Latin and history
Miss Verona Bumpass	...	Elementary work
Miss Francis Cate	...	Primary work
Mrs. W. C. Fleet	...	Music ⁶

1893 - 1894

A. J. Emerson, President	A.M., D.D.	English
J. F. Hailey	...	Natural sci- ence
W. H. Alexander	...	Latin, Greek
J. L. Rudy	...	Mathematics
Miss Lela Fisher	...	English, math- ematics
Chas. C. Cousins	...	Director of music
Mrs. W. C. Fleet	...	Music and mod- ern languages
Miss Mamie Clonts	...	Primary and art

⁵J. L. Ward, Statement.

⁶Mrs. Mable Ford Keeton, Letter to author, June 26, 1938.

Names of Faculty Members	Degree Held	Subjects Taught
Miss Lorena Kimbrough	...	Elocution ⁷
1894 - 1895		
A. J. Emerson, President	A.M., D.D.	Bible, philosophy
W. H. Alexander	...	Latin, mathematics, history
I. N. Kimbrough	...	Greek, natural science
Mrs. W. C. Fleet	...	Music, modern languages
Miss Lorena Kimbrough	...	Elocution
(To be supplied)	...	Art teacher
Miss Mamie Clonts	...	Agent, Girls' Boarding Hall ⁸
1898 - 1899 ⁹		
B. F. Giles, President	A. M.	English, Latin, psychology
J. L. Ward	...	Bible, moral science
J. B. Tidwell	A. B.	Mathematics, Greek, German, Commandant of Military De- partment
Mrs. B. F. Giles	...	History, French, Superintendent of Home Depart- ment
Miss Mattie N. Johnson	...	Elocution and art

⁷ Wise County Messenger, July 8, 1893.

⁸ College catalogue.

⁹ Lists from 1895 to 1898 are not available.

Names of Faculty Members	Degree Held	Subjects Taught
Miss Lillian Duke	...	Natural science and physical culture
James A. Edwards	...	Director of music
Mrs. Lora Edwards	...	Assistant in music
Mrs. Callie Deramus	...	Matron ¹⁰
1899 - 1900		
B. F. Giles, President	A. M.	English and psychology
J. L. Ward	...	Bible and moral science
J. B. Tidwell	A. B.	Latin, Greek, German
F. Mynatt	A. B.	Pure and applied mathematics
Mrs. B. F. Giles	...	English classics, Superintendent of Home Department
Miss Lillian Duke	...	Natural science, physical culture
Miss Mattie N. Johnson	...	Elocution, French, art
Miss Louise Barnes	...	Vocal and instrumental music
Mrs. Callie Deramus	...	Matron ¹¹
1900 - 1901		
J. L. Ward, President	...	English
J. B. Tidwell	A. B.	Greek, Latin

¹⁰Wise County Messenger, August 19, 1898.

¹¹College catalogue.

Names of Faculty Members	Degree Held	Subject Taught
J. H. Perdue	A. B.	Mathematics
Miss Annie Jenkins	B. S.	History, German
Miss Flora Jennings	...	Elocution, physical culture
Miss Douglas Thomkies	...	Music
Miss Georgie Jenkins	...	Art
Mrs. J. L. Ward	...	Superintendent and Matron of Home Department ¹²
1901 - 1902		
J. L. Ward, President	...	English
Miss Flora Jennings	...	Elocution, physical culture
Miss Douglas Thomkies	...	Music
J. B. Tidwell	A. B.	Greek, Latin
J. D. Simonds	M. S.	Mathematics
Miss Annie Jenkins	B. S.	History, German
Miss Georgia Jenkins	...	Art
Mrs. J. L. Ward	...	Superintendent and Matron of Home Department ¹³
1902 - 1903		
J. L. Ward, President	...	
J. B. Tidwell	A. B.	Language
J. D. Simonds	M. S.	Science and mathematics
S. R. Spencer	...	Assistant mathematics instructor

¹²College catalogue.

¹³College catalogue.

Names of Faculty Members	Degree Held	Subjects Taught
Miss Lora Parker	...	History
Miss Zula Welburn	...	Principal of Primary Department
Miss Douglas Thomkies	...	Music
Miss Flora Jennings	...	Elocution, physical culture
Mrs. J. L. Ward	...	Superintendent of Neel Hall
W. C. Carver	...	Bible ¹⁴
1903 - 1904		
J. L. Ward, President	A. M.	
J. B. Tidwell	A. M.	Greek, Latin
(To be supplied)	...	Mathematics, science
C. R. Fulbright	B. S.	English, history, German
Mrs. S. R. Spencer	...	Assistant in English and history
Rev. W. C. Carver	...	Biblical literature
Miss Flora Jennings	...	Elocution, physical education
Miss Douglas Thomkies	...	Music
Miss Zella Welborn	...	Primary Department
Mrs. J. L. Ward	...	Home Department ¹⁵

¹⁴Wise County Messenger, September 19, 1902.

¹⁵College catalogue.

1904 - 1905

Names of Faculty Members	Degree Held	Subjects Taught
J. L. Ward, President	A. M.	
J. B. Tidwell	A. M.	Greek, Latin
(To be supplied)	...	Mathematics, science
R. C. Fulbright	B. Ph.	English, history, German
Miss Frances Copass	A. M.	English, history
Rev. W. C. Carver	...	Biblical litera- ture
Miss Flora Jennings	...	Elocution, phys- ical education
Miss Douglas Thomkies	...	Music
Mrs. S. R. Spencer	...	Principal, Primary Department
Mrs. J. L. Ward	...	Superintendent of Home Department ¹⁶

1905 - 1906

J. L. Ward, President	A. M.	
J. B. Tidwell	A. M.	Latin, Greek
E. B. Moore	A. B.	Mathematics, science
R. C. Fulbright	B. Ph. Ph. M.	English, German
Miss Frances Copass	A. M.	Preparatory De- partment
Miss Douglas Thomkies	A. M.	Music
Miss Flora Jennings	...	Elocution, phys- ical education

Names of Faculty Members	Degree Held	Subjects Taught
S. R. Spencer	...	Assistant in mathematics and science
Mrs. S. R. Spencer	...	Principal of Primary Department
Mrs. J. L. Ward	...	Home Department
Rev. W. C. Carver	...	Biblical literature ¹⁷
1906 - 1907		
J. L. Ward, President	A. M.	
J. B. Tidwell	A. M.	Greek, Latin
E. B. Moore	A. B.	Mathematics, science
W. M. W. Splawn	A. B.	English
Miss Lola Isbil	Ph. B.	German and assistant in Latin
Rev. W. C. Carver	B. S.	History
Miss Douglas Thomkies	A. M.	Music
Miss Flora Jennings	...	Elocution, physical education
Mrs. S. R. Spencer	...	Primary Department
S. R. Spencer	...	Assistant in mathematics and science
Mrs. J. L. Ward	...	Home Department ¹⁸
1907 - 1908		
J. B. Tidwell, President	A. M.	
(To be supplied)	...	Greek, Latin

¹⁷College catalogue.

¹⁸College catalogue.

Names of Faculty Members	Degree Held	Subjects Taught
E. B. Moore	A. B.	Mathematics
W. M. W. Splawn	A. B.	English
F. A. Gentry	A. B.	Acting teacher in English
Miss Douglas Thomkies	A. M.	Music Department
Miss Annie Browning	B. S.	Assistant in music
Miss Flora Jennings	...	Elocution, phys- ical culture
Mrs. S. R. Spencer	...	Home Department
W. C. Carver	B. S.	History
S. R. Spencer	...	Prof. of science
J. T. Vance	A. B.	Latin, German
Ed Ward and J. C. Rogers	...	Librarians
Miss Lillian Splawn	...	Preparatory De- partment ¹⁹

1908-1909

J. B. Tidwell, President	A. M.	Bible
W. M. W. Splawn	A. B.	English
E. B. Moore	A. B.	Mathematics
W. C. Carver	B. S.	History
F. A. Gentry	A. B.	Greek
S. R. Spencer	...	Science
J. T. Vance	A. B.	Latin and Greek
Georgella Holt	A. B.	Preparatory De- partment
Douglas Thomkies	A. M.	Music

¹⁹College catalogue.

Names of Faculty Members	Degree Held	Subjects Taught
Annie Browning	B. S.	Assistant in music
Flora Jennings	...	Elocution, physical culture
Mrs. S. R. Spencer	...	Matron, Home Department
W. M. Hughes	A. B.	Secretary and Treasurer
Ed Ward	...	Librarian
Jessie Combs	...	Librarian ²⁰
1909 - 1910		
W. C. Carver, President	B. S.	Bible
E. B. Moore	A. B.	Mathematics, science
F. A. Gentry	A. B.	Professor of Greek
J. T. Vance	A. B.	Latin, German
W. M. Hughes	A. B.	History
A. H. Thornton	...	Assistant in mathematics
(To be supplied)	...	English
Mary Alexander	B. S.	Preparatory Department
Mrs. Douglas Thomkies Simmons	A. M.	Music
Annie Browning	B. S.	Assistant in music
Dehlia Caudell	B. S.	Elocution, physical education

Names of Faculty Members	Degree Held	Subjects Taught
Mrs. Blanche Underwood	...	Home Department
Jessie Combs	...	Librarian
Bascom Horton	...	Librarian ²¹
1910 - 1911		
W. C. Carver, President	A. M.	Biblical literature
E. B. Moore	A. B.	Mathematics, science
F. A. Gentry	A. B.	Greek
J. T. Vance	A. B.	Latin, German
W. M. Hughes	A. B.	Mathematics
A. H. Thornton	...	History
C. M. Vance	...	English
Mrs. Douglas Thomkies Simmons	A. M.	Music
Mrs. W. C. Carver	...	Home Department for girls
(To be supplied)	...	Assistant in music
(To be supplied)	...	Expression
Mrs. A. H. Thornton	...	Superintendent of young men's hall
Jessie Combs	...	Librarian
Bascom Horton	...	Librarian ²²
1911 - 1912		
W. C. Carver, President	A. M.	Biblical literature

²¹College catalogue.

²²College catalogue.

Names of Faculty Members	Degree Held	Subjects Taught
E. B. Moore	A. B.	Mathematics, science
R. E. Rosser	A. B.	Latin, German
W. M. Hughes	A. B.	Mathematics
P. W. Murphree	A. B.	Greek, history
W. S. Donaho	A. B.	English
Mrs. Douglas Thomkies Simmons	A. M.	Music
Mrs. W. D. Carver	...	Home Department
Rex Ray	...	Librarian
Robert Brister	...	Librarian ²³
1913 - 1914 ²⁴		
W. C. Carver, President	A. M.	Bible
W. S. Donaho	A. B.	English
W. M. Hughes	A. B.	Mathematics
L. E. Rosser	A. B.	Latin, German
C. H. Murphree	A. B.	Greek, history
Mrs. Simmons	A. M.	Piano
W. T. Short	A. B.	Science, philos- ophy
Miss Judah Shiflett	...	Preparatory
Miss Fannie Heath	B. L.	Voice
Miss Marguerite Corder	B. O.	Expression
Mrs. L. E. Rosser	...	Stringed and wind instruments

²³College catalogue.

²⁴List of 1912-1913 is not available.

Names of Faculty Members	Degree Held	Subjects Taught
Mrs. W. C. Carver	...	Superintendent of Girls' Dormitory
Mrs. W. S. Donaho	...	Superintendent of Boys' Dormitory
Rex Ray	...	Librarian
William Wolf	...	Librarian ²⁵
1914 - 1915		
J. L. Ward, President	A. M.	
W. C. Carver	A. M.	Bible
W. M. Hughes	A. B.	Mathematics
W. S. Donaho	A. B.	English
L. E. Rosser	A. B.	Latin, German
C. H. Murphree	A. B.	Greek, history
W. T. Short	A. B.	Science, philos- ophy
Rev. H. D. Heath	...	Field represen- tative
Miss Fannie Heath	B. L.	Voice
Mrs. L. E. Rosser	...	Piano, stringed, and wood instru- ments
Miss Marguerite Corder	B. O.	Expression
Mrs. H. O. Dickson	...	Superintendent, Girls' Dormitory
Mr. and Mrs. Donaho	...	Superintendents, Boys' Dormitory ²⁶

²⁵ College catalogue.

²⁶ College catalogue.

1915 - 1916

Names of Faculty Members	Degree Held	Subjects Taught
J. L. Ward, President	A. M.	
W. M. Hughes	A. B.	Mathematics
W. S. Donaho	A. B.	English
L. E. Rosser	A. B.	Latin, German
C. H. Murphree	A. B.	Greek, history
W. T. Short	A. B.	Science, philosophy
Rev. H. D. Heath	...	Field representative
Miss Fannie Heath	B. L.	Voice
Mrs. L. E. Rosser	...	Piano, stringed, and wood instruments
Miss Marguerite Corder	B. O.	Expression
Mrs. J. L. Ward	...	Superintendent, Girls' Dormitory
Mr. and Mrs. Donaho	...	Superintendents, ²⁷ Boys' Dormitory

1916 - 1917

J. L. Ward, President	A. M.	
W. M. Hughes	A. B.	Mathematics
Bernice Neel	A. B.	English
L. E. Rosser	A. B.	Latin, German
C. H. Murphree	A. B.	Greek, history
T. L. Hamilton	A. B.	Science, philosophy

²⁷College catalogue.

Names of Faculty Members	Degree Held	Subjects Taught
Rev. H. D. Heath	...	Field representative
Miss Fannie Heath	B. L.	Voice
Mrs. L. E. Rosser	...	Piano, stringed, and wood instruments
Jenettie V. Allen	...	Expression
Mrs. J. L. Ward	...	Superintendent, Girls' Dormitory
Mr. and Mrs. McKinley Norman	...	Superintendents, Boys' Dormitory ²⁸

1917 - 1918

J. L. Ward, President	A. M.	
W. M. Hughes	A. B.	Mathematics
C. H. Murphree	A. B.	Greek, history
Bernice Neel	A. B.	English
C. H. Dillehay	M. A.	Science, philosophy
(To be supplied)	...	Latin, German
(To be supplied)	...	Piano, stringed instruments
(To be supplied)	...	Expression
Albert Walker	...	Voice
Rev. H. D. Heath	...	Field representative
Mrs. J. L. Ward	...	Superintendent, Girls' Ward

Names of Faculty Members	Degree Held	Subjects Taught
Mrs. J. L. Ward	...	Superintendent, Boys' Ward ²⁹
1918 - 1919		
J. L. Ward, President	A. M.	Bible, education
W. M. Hughes	A. B.	Mathematics
J. N. Hunt	A. B.	Greek, Latin
Miss B. Neel	A. B.	English
E. M. Gettys	M. A.	History
D. L. Hamilton	A. M.	Modern languages
Reba Funk	B. L.	Piano
Nellie Smith	...	Expression
Albert Walker	...	Voice
Mrs. J. L. Ward	...	Superintendent, Girls' Dormitory
Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Hunt	...	Superintendents, Boys' Dormitory ³⁰
1919 - 1920		
J. L. Ward, President	A. M.	Bible
W. M. Hughes	A. B.	Mathematics
Miss Bernice Neel	A. B.	English
E. M. Gettys	M. A.	History
Mrs. E. M. Gettys	A. B.	Latin and Super- intendent of Boys' Hall
Dora Watson	M. A.	Modern languages

²⁹College catalogue.

³⁰College catalogue and annual.

Names of Faculty Members	Degree Held	Subjects Taught
Emily Jo Pipkin	...	Piano
Nellie Smith	...	Expression
Nona Lytton	...	Voice
Mrs. J. L. Ward	...	Superintendent, Girls' Dormitory
Mrs. W. M. Hughes	A. B.	Psychology, edu- cation ³¹
1920 - 1921		
J. L. Ward, President	M. A.	Bible
W. M. Hughes	A. B.	Mathematics
Miss Bernice R. Neel	M. A.	English
E. M. Gettys	M. A.	History
Mrs. E. M. Gettys	A. B.	Latin and Matron, Boys' Dormitory
Mrs. W. M. Hughes	A. B.	Psychology, edu- cation
J. Lloyd Reed	...	Modern languages
Mrs. Harry Gose	...	Piano
Mrs. J. L. Ward	...	Matron of Neel Hall
T. L. Kuykendall	...	Coach ³²
1921 - 1922		
J. L. Ward, President	A. M.	Bible
E. M. Gettys	A. M.	History
Mrs. E. M. Gettys	A. B.	Latin
W. M. Hughes	A. B.	Mathematics

³¹College annual.

³²College annual.

Names of Faculty Members	Degree Held	Subjects Taught
Mrs. W. M. Hughes	A. B.	Psychology, education
J. L. Reed	...	Modern languages
.....	...	English
.....	...	Piano ³³
1922 - 1923		
J. L. Ward, President	M. A.	Bible
E. M. Gettys	M. A.	History
Mrs. E. M. Gettys	A. B.	Latin
Mrs. W. M. Hughes	A. B.	Psychology, education
W. M. Hughes	A. B.	Mathematics
J. L. Reed	...	Modern languages
Zack West	...	Voice
Miss Edna Pearl Stanton	A. B.	English
Miss Anne Rivers Bigham	...	Piano ³⁴
1923 - 1924		
J. L. Ward, President	A. M.	Education, Bible
E. M. Gettys, Dean	M. A.	History
Edna Pearl Stanton	A. B.	English
Mrs. E. M. Gettys	A. B.	Latin
J. L. Reed	...	Modern languages, voice
(To be supplied)	...	Mathematics

³³College annual, 1920-1921, and Wise County Messenger.

³⁴Wise County Messenger, September 15, 1922.

Names of Faculty Members	Degree Held	Subjects Taught
P. O. Dickson	A. B.	Education, athletics
Annie Rives Bigham	...	Piano
(To be supplied)	...	Expression
Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Gettys	...	Superintendents, Girls' Dormitory
Mr. and Mrs. P. M. Curry	...	Superintendents, Boys' Dormitory ³⁵

1924-1925

J. L. Ward, President	A. M.	Education
E. M. Gettys	A. M.	History
P. M. Curry	A. M.	English
Mrs. E. M. Gettys	A. B.	Latin
J. L. Reed	A. B.	Modern languages
C. J. Newton	A. M.	Mathematics, science
P. O. Dickson	A. B.	Education, athletics
John Fullingim	...	Athletics
Beatrice Preston	...	Piano, voice
Jackie Gose	...	Expression
Mrs. C. M. Curry	...	Superintendent, Girls' Dormitory
Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Gettys	...	Superintendents, Boys' Dormitory ³⁶

1925 - 1926

J. L. Ward, President	A. M.	Bible
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³⁵College catalogue.³⁶College catalogue.

Names of Faculty Members	Degree Held	Subjects Taught
E. M. Gettys	A. M.	History
P. M. Curry	A. M.	English
J. M. Jones	A. B.	Education
U. R. Neely	A. B.	Spanish, coach
Mrs. E. M. Gettys	A. B.	Mathematics, Latin
C. J. Newton	A. M.	Mathematics, science
Miss Zelma Cousins	...	Voice, piano
Penn O. Dickson	A. B.	Assistant coach
Mrs. P. M. Curry	...	Matron of Neel Hall ³⁷
1926 - 1927		
J. L. Ward, President	A. M.	
E. M. Gettys	A. M.	History
P. M. Curry	A. M.	English
Mrs. E. M. Gettys	A. B.	Mathematics
C. J. Newton	A. M.	Science
J. M. Jones	A. B.	Education, Bible
U. R. Neely	A. B.	Modern languages, athletics
P. O. Dickson	A. B.	Athletic director
(To be supplied)	...	Piano, voice
Mrs. P. M. Curry	...	Superintendent, Girls' Dormitory
Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Jones	...	Superintendents, Men's Hall ³⁸

³⁷Wise County Messenger, September 18, 1925.

³⁸College catalogue.

1927 - 1928

Names of Faculty Members	Degree Held	Subjects Taught
J. L. Ward, President	A. M.	
Miss Teel	A. B.	English, expression, dramatics
E. M. Gettys	A. M.	History
Mrs. E. M. Gettys	A. B.	Mathematics
J. M. Jones	A. B.	Bible, education
Mrs. Harry Gose	...	Piano
U. R. Neely	A. B.	Spanish
Clyde J. Newton	A. M.	Science
P. O. Dickson	A. B.	Coach ³⁹

1928 - 1929

J. L. Ward, President	A. M.	
E. M. Gettys	A. M.	History
Ruth Teel	A. B.	English
Mrs. E. M. Gettys	A. B.	Mathematics
H. L. Farrow	A. M.	Science
J. M. Jones	A. B.	Education, Bible
U. R. Neely	A. B.	Modern languages, athletics
P. O. Dickson	A. B.	Athletics
A. G. Barrett	...	Voice
(To be supplied)	...	Piano ⁴⁰

1929 - 1930

J. L. Ward, President	A. M.	
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³⁹Wise County Messenger, September 23, 1927.

⁴⁰College catalogue.

Names of Faculty Members	Degree Held	Subjects Taught
E. M. Gettys	A. M.	History
H. T. Tinsley	A. M.	English
Mrs. E. M. Gettys	A. B.	Mathematics
H. L. Farrow	A. M.	Science
J. M. Jones	A. B.	Education, Bible
U. R. Neely	A. B.	Modern languages, athletics
P. O. Dickson	A. B.	Athletics
A. G. Barrett	...	Voice
(To be supplied)	...	Piano
Mrs. J. M. Jones	...	Superintendent, Girls' Dormitory
Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Gettys	...	Superintendents, Boys' Dormitory ⁴¹

1930 - 1931

J. L. Ward, President	A. M.	Bible
E. M. Gettys	A. M.	History
H. T. Tinsley	A. M.	English
W. A. Bishop	A. B.	Science
Mrs. E. M. Gettys	A. B.	Mathematics
P. D. Lewis	A. B.	Modern languages, athletics
Ernest McPherson	A. B.	Education, ath- letics
Miss Lela Mann	...	Director of dra- matic arts
Mrs. G. D. Roberts	...	Music

⁴¹College catalogue.

Names of Faculty Members	Degree Held	Subjects Taught
Miss Annette J. McMordie	...	Librarian
Mrs. E. W. McPherson	...	Matron, Girls' Dormitory
Mrs. J. L. Ward	...	Dietitian ⁴²
1931 - 1932		
J. L. Ward, President	A. M.	Bible
E. M. Gettys	A. M.	History
H. T. Tinsley	A. M.	English
W. A. Bishop	A. B.	Science
Mrs. E. M. Gettys	A. B.	Mathematics
P. D. Lewis	A. B.	Modern languages, athletics
J. C. Boyd	A. B.	Education, athletics
Mrs. P. D. Lewis	...	Assistant in history
Miss Lela Mann	...	Director dramatics
Miss Helen Heath	B. M.	Music
Mrs. J. L. Ward	...	Dietitian
Mrs. P. D. Lewis	...	Matron, Girls' Dormitory ⁴³
1932 - 1933		
J. L. Ward, President	A. M.	Bible
E. M. Gettys	Ph. D.	History
H. T. Tinsley	A. M.	English
Paul Stepp	A. M.	Science

⁴²College catalogue.

⁴³Wise County Messenger, September 17, 1931.

Names of Faculty Members	Degree Held	Subjects Taught
Mrs. E. M. Gettys	A. B.	Mathematics
(To be supplied)	...	Modern languages
Roy H. Watkins	A. M.	Education, athletics
Miss Lela Mann	...	Director of dramatics
Carl Brumbelow	B. Mus.	Music
John Greathouse	...	Football, track
(To be supplied)	....	Matron
Mrs. J. L. Ward	...	Dietitian ⁴⁴
1933 - 1934		
J. L. Ward, President	A. M.	Bible
E. M. Gettys	Ph. D.	History
H. F. Tinsley	A. M.	English
Paul Stapp	A. M.	Zoology, chemistry
Mrs. E. M. Gettys	A. B.	Mathematics
Roy H. Watkins	A. M.	Education, athletics
.....	...	Modern languages
Miss Lela Mann	...	Dramatics
Carl Brumbelow	B. Mus.	Music
John Greathouse	...	Football, track
.....	...	Matron
Mrs. J. L. Ward	...	Dietitian ⁴⁵

⁴⁴College catalogue.

⁴⁵College catalogue.

1934 - 1935

Names of Faculty Members	Degree Held	Subjects Taught
J. L. Ward, President	A. M.	Bible
E. M. Gettys	Ph. D.	History, political science
H. F. Tinsley	A. M.	English
Paul Stapp	A. M.	Science
Mrs. E. M. Gettys	A. B.	Mathematics
Roy H. Watkins	A. M.	Education, coach
Miss Louise Johnson	A. M.	Romance languages
Miss Lela Mann	...	Dramatics
Carl Brumbelow	B. Mus.	Music
John Ford	...	Football coach
Mrs. Watkins	...	Matron
Mrs. J. L. Ward	...	Dietitian ⁴⁶

1935 - 1936

J. L. Ward, President	A. M.	Bible
E. M. Gettys	Ph. D.	History, political science
H. T. Tinsley	A. M.	English
Kenon Stephens	A. M.	Science
Mrs. E. M. Gettys	A. B.	Mathematics
Roy H. Watkins	A. M.	Education, basketball
Carl Brumbelow	B. Mus.	Music
John Ford	...	Football
(To be supplied)	...	Romance languages

⁴⁶College catalogue.

Names of Faculty Members	Degree Held	Subjects Taught
(To be supplied)	...	Instructor of accounting and secretarial work
Mrs. Roy H. Watkins	...	Matron
Mrs. J. L. Ward	...	Dietitian ⁴⁷
1936 - 1937		
J. L. Ward, President	A. M.	Bible
E. M. Gettys	Ph. D.	History, political science
H. T. Tinsley	A. M.	English
Kenon Stephens	A. M.	Science
Mrs. E. M. Gettys	A. B.	Mathematics
John Ford	...	Coach
Roy H. Watkins	A. M.	Education
Carl Brumbelow	B. Mus.	Music
Mrs. Lee Burke	...	Librarian
Mrs. Susie Dalton	...	Field representative
Mrs. Roy H. Watkins	...	Matron, Girls' Dormitory
Mrs. J. L. Ward	...	Dietitian
(To be supplied)	...	Romance languages
(To be supplied)	...	Secretarial and accounting ⁴⁸
1937 - 1938		
J. L. Ward, President	A. M.	Bible

⁴⁷College catalogue.

⁴⁸College catalogue.

Names of Faculty Members	Degree Held	Subjects Taught
E. M. Gettys	Ph. D.	History, political science
H. T. Tinsley	A. M.	English
Kenon Stephens	A. M.	Science
Mrs. E. M. Gettys	A. B.	Mathematics
Clyde T. Johnson	A. B.	Coach, instructor in Spanish
Roy H. Watkins	A. M.	Education
Miss Octavine Cooper	A. M.	Secretarial and accounting
Carl Brumbelow	B. Mus.	Music
Mrs. Lee Burke	...	Librarian
Mrs. Susie Dalton	...	Field representative
Mrs. R. H. Watkins	...	Matron
Mrs. J. L. Ward	...	Dietitian ⁴⁹

Curriculum

In 1894, the college curriculum consisted of nine separate departments; namely: Latin and Greek, English and history, mathematics, natural science, philosophy, modern languages, music and fine arts, commercial course, and theology.

Four years of work was offered in mathematics. Such courses as algebra, plane geometry, plane trigonometry, and surveying were offered the first year. Solid geometry and spherical trigonometry were offered the second year. Analytic

⁴⁹College catalogue.

geometry and Newcomb's analytic geometry were offered the third year. Mechanics and astronomy were offered the fourth year.

Four years was offered in English and history. Rhetoric, early history of Rome, and oratory were offered the first year. English history, mediaeval and modern history, and oratory were offered the second year. English literature, study of authors, Anglo-Saxon, and oratory were offered the third year. The fourth year's work contained ancient and mediaeval history, middle English, modern English, and original orations by members of the class.

Physics, chemistry, geology, and astronomy were the subjects included in the natural science course.

Philosophy was offered in the third and fourth year's work. Mental science, political economy, moral philosophy, and international law were offered in the department of philosophy.

The course of study in music consisted of piano, organ, guitar, voice culture, theory and harmony, history of music, chorus singing, and ensemble playing.

The branches taught in the commercial department were bookkeeping, penmanship, commercial law, business arithmetic, business letter writing, business paper, and spelling.

In the department of theology, six years of work was offered. During the first year a study was made of the Bible with reference to historical facts. In the second year the geography of the Bible, and archaeology of the Bible were studied. Evidences of revealed religion, and principles of

interpretation were studied the third year. The fourth year's work was based on system of theology. Homiletics and church history were studied in the fifth year. The sixth year's work was based on New Testament Greek, or Hebrew.

Latin was offered in the first, second, and third years of college work. First year contained a study of Virgil, Sallust, Cicero's orations, Arnold's Prose Composition, and Gildersleeve's Latin Grammar. Horace or Livy, Cicero, and Arnold's Prose Composition were offered in the second-year course. Livy, Tacitus, Juvenal, Brown's Roman Classical Literature, and Original Exercises were offered in the third year's course.

Greek was studied during the first two years of college work. Xenophon's Anabasis and Cyropedia, written exercises, Greek into English, and English into Greek were studied the first year. Demosthenes, Homer, grammar, and English into Greek were studied the second year.

The college also offered three years of preparatory work. The first year was the intermediate, and such courses as beginner's arithmetic, grammar, geography, reading, writing, and spelling were taught. The second-year academic was composed of arithmetic, grammar, Latin grammar, geography, United States history, reading, spelling, and composition. The third-year academic course was composed of algebra, geometry, Latin grammar, Greek grammar, English and composition, physical geography, and physiology.

In 1900 the curriculum was composed of the following departments: Latin, Greek, English and elocution, modern languages, mathematics, natural science, mental and moral science, music, and art. The courses were narrowed down to two years of college work but were the same work as that offered in Baylor University for the first two years.

The preparatory courses were English, geography, mathematics, history, and Latin.

Education was first introduced into the curriculum in 1917 and in 1918 German was discarded from the curriculum.

In 1922, Greek was dropped, and two commercial subjects were added; namely: commercial arithmetic and bookkeeping. Economics and civil government were also added.

Latin and French were dropped from the curriculum in 1925, and zoology was added. In the preparatory department, geography was dropped from the list.

In 1931 public speaking and dramatics were added to the curriculum. algebra, geometry, biology, chemistry, and economics were added to the preparatory department.

In 1933 physical education and public school music were added to the college curriculum, and Spanish was added to the preparatory department.

Secretarial work such as typing, shorthand, and accounting was added to the curriculum in 1934. A course in entomology, nature study, and humane physiology was also added.

The curriculum for 1937 was as follows: education, English, Modern language, mathematics, science, history and

political science, religious education, public school music, secretarial work, bookkeeping and accounting, piano, voice, and public speaking. In the preparatory department, the curriculum consisted of two years of English, one year of Spanish, one year of algebra and one year of geometry, two years of history, one year of biology, and one year of chemistry.

Library Facilities

In 1900-1910, Decatur Baptist College, with the help of the student body working through the Erosophian, Philomathian, and Polymnian literary societies and the Adelpian Society for young preachers, began the work of building a library.⁵¹

The progress that was made in gathering books for the library was very satisfactory. The college also made an appeal to the friends of the college for books, magazines, and newspapers in order to build up an adequate library. Reading rooms were also fitted for the use of the pupils.⁵²

The library in 1905 contained about 1800 volumes, comprised of 390 volumes of history and biography, seven encyclopaedias consisting of 105 volumes, 280 volumes of fiction, 125 volumes of poetry, 50 volumes of orations, 75 volumes on political economy, 100 volumes of religious works, 125 volumes of works on education and textbooks, and 500 volumes of government publications.

The reading room conducted in connection with the library

⁵¹College catalogue.

⁵²College catalogue.

received fifteen standard magazines, all the county papers, a number of college magazines, state newspapers, periodicals, and religious publications.

The library was maintained by the assessment of a fee of one dollar upon every student and by contributions from friends. All the funds collected were spent in buying books and in improving library facilities.⁵³

In 1906-1907, the library contained 2,000 volumes comprised of 460 volumes of history, seven encyclopaedias of 105 volumes, 300 volumes of fiction, 130 volumes of poetry, 50 volumes of orations, 100 volumes on political economy, 120 volumes of religious works, 150 volumes of works on education and textbooks, and 600 volumes of government publications.⁵⁴

The library in 1922-1923 contained 3,500 volumes comprised of 900 volumes of history and biography, twelve encyclopaedias of 200 volumes, 400 volumes of fiction, 130 volumes of poetry, 50 volumes of orations, 100 volumes of political economy, 150 volumes of religious works, 500 volumes of works on education and textbooks, and 800 volumes of government publications.

The reading room received thirty standard magazines, all the county papers, a number of college magazines, state newspapers, periodicals, and religious publications.⁵⁵

⁵³College catalogue, 1905-1906.

⁵⁴College catalogue, 1906-1907.

⁵⁵College catalogue, 1922-1923.

In 1929-1930, the library was re-catalogued, and a number of useless books were discarded. Six hundred sixty-five dollars (\$665) worth of new books for all the departments were added. The library also adopted the closed-stack method of issuing books.

The library after being improved contained 3,000 volumes, consisting of 900 volumes of history, 12 encyclopaedias of 200 volumes, 800 volumes of literature, 500 volumes concerning education and psychology, 100 volumes on philosophy, 300 volumes on religion, 100 volumes on science, 100 volumes on political science, and 500 volumes of government documents.

The reading room received three well-known city newspapers, a number of college papers, state newspapers, periodicals, religious publications, and about fifteen standard magazines.⁵⁶

The following is a list of all the junior colleges in the State of Texas, showing the number of volumes each library contains:

	Number of volumes
Amarillo College, Amarillo	(not reported)
Blinn College, Brenham	4,605
Brownsville College, Brownsville	4,623
Clarendon College, Clarendon	7,458
Clifton College, Clifton	3,278
College of Marshall, Marshall	3,949
Decatur Baptist College, Decatur	3,984
Edinburg College, Edinburg	4,260
Gainesville Junior College, Gainesville.	5,100
Hillsboro Junior College, Hillsboro. . .	3,812

⁵⁶College catalogue, 1929-1930.

	Number of volumes
Jacksonville College, Jacksonville. . .	3,900
John Tarleton Agricultural College, Stephenville.	15,500 (including 1,000 government pub- lications)
Lamar Junior College, Beaumont.	5,654
Lon Morris College, Jacksonville.	4,000
Lutheran College, Seguin.	6,500
Mary Allen Junior College, Crockett . .	2,920
North Texas Agricultural College, Arlington	6,946
Paris Junior College, Paris	4,300
Ranger Junior College, Ranger	6,000
Saint Phillip's Junior College, San Antonio	2,000
Schreiner Institute, Kerrville.	3,800
Temple Junior College, Temple	1,035
Texas Military College, Terrell	3,360
Texarkana Junior College, Texarkana . .	(not reported)
Tyler Junior College, Tyler	6,573
Victoria Junior College, Victoria	5,285
Wayland Baptist College, Plainview. . . .	4,000
Weatherford College, Weatherford.	4,969
Wesley College, Greenville.	6,000
Westminister College, Tehuacana	4,283
Wichita Falls Junior College, Wichita Falls	5,653 ⁵⁷

This report on the junior colleges of Texas was made in 1933, but from this report Decatur Baptist College compares favorably with the rest of the colleges. There were nine colleges out of the list with a smaller number of volumes than Decatur College, and nineteen with a larger number, while there were two colleges with no report.

New books have been added, and useless books have been discarded, still leaving about 3,000 volumes in 1937. The library reading room is well lighted, ventilated, comfortably furnished, and has an attractive appearance.

⁵⁷Hilliard Barnard, History of the Development of Junior Colleges in Texas, p. 33.

Each student is assessed a fee of two dollars and fifty cents per year for use of the library. This fee, plus contributions from friends of the college, is used for the improvement of the library reading room and the buying of new books each year.

Activities Engaged in by Students

The Philomathian, Athenaeum, Erisophian, and Palladian literary societies were founded at Decatur Baptist College in 1899. The Philomathian and Erisophian societies were for young men, and the Palladian and Athenaeum societies were for the young ladies. The societies were intended to create a love for reading and literature, to encourage the students to develop the habit of individual research, to drill the students in oral debates and writing of essays, and to give the students a practical knowledge of parliamentary usage in conducting assemblies.

These societies meant much to the school. They kept the enthusiasm going and did everything they could for the uplifting of the college. The students in preparing themselves for the work in the various organizations also prepared themselves to do better work in college.

One of the greatest events of the school year was the debate between the opposing societies at the commencement exercises. Much enthusiasm was developed for this occasion not only by the individual speakers who put forth a great

amount of effort in preparation, but by the members of the societies as well.

The societies were not only helpful in the training of students but they also did much to improve the college campus. They constructed a fence around the campus and also added some concrete walks in 1913. In 1916 they erected a flag pole; in 1917 a belfry was constructed, and a little later a grandstand was constructed on the athletic field.

The reason for the discontinuance of these societies is not known, but in 1928-1929 they failed to function.

In 1919 the Young Women's Auxiliary was organized. This organization was affiliated with the Baptist Woman's Work of the Baptist General Convention of Texas. It was designed for the study of missions.

The Baptist Student Union was organized in Decatur College in 1921 by Dr. J. P. Boone, who was secretary of the Student Union of Texas. This organization was designed to take charge of the religious work of the school.

There are many other clubs or organizations in the school. They are as follows: Preachers' Club, Glee Club, County Clubs, Students' Volunteer Band, Dramatic Club, and the various class organizations.

For a number of years basketball, baseball, and tennis were the outstanding sports of Decatur Baptist College. The basketball teams had unusual success during the early years of the college by winning the state championship in 1906-07 over all the colleges of the state, including Baylor Univer-

sity, Texas University, and junior colleges. Frank Wood was manager and James St. Clair was captain over the championship team of 1906-1907. In 1916 football was introduced in Decatur Baptist College and since that time has become the leading sport of the college.

Decatur College has been anxious to put winning teams in the various forms of athletics, but at the same time the athletes are taught the principles of honor and generosity, and the games must not interfere with the students' studies. It has been a ruling of the college for many years that no student will be permitted on any athletic team, whose conduct has not been good or whose studies have been neglected. Much care has also been taken to instill in the pupil's heart a disgust for professional games.

Outstanding Men from Decatur Baptist College

Decatur Baptist College has turned out some very prominent men; some have gained state prominence, and some have gained national prominence. Many of the graduates have become educators, lawyers, doctors, preachers, and members of various other vocations. Practically all the most prominent men who are graduates of Decatur College were outstanding while in college in some literary way. Some were orators, debaters, preachers, and leaders of the student body in some way. The following is a list of some of the most prominent men from Decatur Baptist College:

W. M. W. Splawn graduated from Decatur Baptist College in 1904 and from Baylor University in 1906. He was elected professor of English in Decatur College in 1906 and served three years. In later years he was elected president of State University and resigned to accept a position as Chairman of the Interstate Commerce Commission. He holds that office at the present time.

S. R. Spencer graduated in 1905 and from Baylor in 1911. He taught about four years in Decatur College before taking his degree. He was later made a professor of physics in Baylor and is now at the head of the department.

W. W. Melton graduated from Decatur Baptist College in 1906 and graduated from Baylor University in 1919. For the past twenty-six years he has been pastor of the Seventh and James Streets Baptist Church of Waco.

Albert Gettys graduated from Decatur College in 1910, and later took his doctor's degree. He taught Bible for a number of years in Mary Hardin College at Belton. He now represents the college at Belton on the field.

E. M. Gettys graduated from Decatur College in 1912, Baylor in 1914, University of Chicago in 1916, and took his Ph. D. degree from Leland Stanford University in 1932. He was elected as a teacher of history in Decatur College in 1918, later made Dean of the College in connection with his teaching, and is serving in that capacity at present.

W. A. Jackson, who died last year, was a graduate of Decatur College in 1912. He later took his doctor's degree

and was made a member of the faculty at Texas Technological College at Lubbock. He was serving in that capacity at the time of his death.

C. T. Gettys, who is recognized today as the outstanding lawyer of Decatur, is a graduate of Decatur Baptist College.

Grady Woodruff, who is now a lawyer and a very influential man in the Texas Senate, is a graduate of Decatur College.

R. H. Brister, who is now President of the Texas State Teachers Association, is also a graduate of Decatur College.

Claude Dillehay, who was chairman of the Textbook Commission of Texas and is now Superintendent of Schools at Vernon, Texas, is a graduate of Decatur College.

Wilbur Hunt, who is now President of the First National Bank of Olney, Texas, is a graduate of Decatur College.

T. J. Doss, who is now pastor of the Baptist Church of Terrell, graduated at Decatur Baptist College in 1913 and at Baylor University in 1918.

J. C. Boyd, who is pastor of the Baptist Church of Woodville, is a graduate of Decatur College.

Lem Hodges, pastor of the Baptist Church of Amarillo, is a graduate of Decatur College.

Hope Owens, pastor of the Baptist Church of Quanah, is a graduate of Decatur College.

P. L. Gettys graduated from Decatur Baptist College in

1917. He later took his B. A. and M. A. degrees from Oklahoma University. He was then elected as a member of the faculty of Oklahoma University and served two or three years. He later took his doctor's degree from Leland Stanford University and today is a professor of law at Temple University in Philadelphia.

Hall Shannon, who is now a noted physician of Dallas, is a graduate of Decatur College.

Walter Jackson, who is a physician at Ranger, is a graduate of Decatur College.

Zack Bobo, who is a physician at Arlington, is a Decatur College graduate.

P. J. Fullingim, who is a physician of Dallas, is a Decatur College graduate.

Trabue Carswell, who is now a very prominent lawyer of New York City, is a graduate of Decatur College.

B. C. Schulkey, who is now Assistant Superintendent of Fort Worth Public Schools, is a graduate of Decatur College, 1914.

McKinley Norman, who is pastor of the Baptist Church at Waxahachie, is a graduate of Decatur College.

Jewel Ingram, who is an educator and connected with the schools of Los Angeles, California, is a graduate of Decatur College.

Guinn Williams, who is now a motion picture actor, is a graduate of Decatur College.

James St. Clair, who is now basketball coach of Southern Methodist University and head of the physical education department there, is a graduate of Decatur College. While at Decatur College, he was captain of the basketball team that won the state championship, a member of the baseball team, a member of the mandolin club, a member of the debating team, president of a literary society, secretary of the athletic association, athletic director of the Black and Gold publication, librarian, and vice-president of the senior class.

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSIONS

Decatur Baptist College has had a struggle in finance and enrollment since it was established. In 1896, all the college property was sold to satisfy its creditors. In 1914, the finance of the college was at a low ebb. The finance of the college reached a low point again when the depression started. The enrollment also reached a low point and probably the lowest point in the history of the school during the early years of the depression.

The outlook for Decatur Baptist College seems very good at present, provided the Baptist Executive Board of the state continues to make reasonable appropriations as they have in recent years, and provided the enrollment in the college continues to increase or at least to remain steady. With the college dairy herd, the income from the endowment, and the other items mentioned above, the college will be in very good condition, financially speaking. The possibility for the Executive Board to continue making appropriations is favorable, due to the fact that the indebtedness of the Board is decreasing and the income is increasing. The enrollment in the college and appropriations from the Executive Board have been gradually increasing. The college has never anticipated anything but a junior college program since 1897. It is the opinion of

the writer that this policy should be continued.

Decatur Baptist College has at present property valued at about \$200,000. This property includes the administration building, the boys' dormitory, the girls' dormitory, the gymnasium, the football stadium, the dairy herd, about one hundred acres of land, and a \$20,000 endowment.

J. L. Ward became interested in Decatur College, and in 1897 he sponsored the movement whereby Decatur College was purchased by the Baptists of Texas and placed on junior college standing. J. L. Ward became its vigorous president in 1900 and served well until 1907, when he resigned to accept the position of secretary of the Executive Board of **Texas Baptist**. In 1914, J. L. Ward came back as president of Decatur Baptist College and dedicated his life to that work. It has been through his devotion to the institution, and his ability as a business man that Decatur Baptist College has been saved thus far.

The curriculum in Decatur Baptist College has been changed in many ways to meet the demands. It has had pleasant relations with the accrediting agencies and the state department. The college meets the state requirements for certificates, because it is necessary to do so in order to keep the enrollment from decreasing and to meet college competition. To do this necessitates curriculum revision occasionally. The work that Decatur College offers is accepted by all the standard colleges of Texas and of other states as well. Thus, it can be

seen that the curriculum policy of the institution is to keep in touch with the trends rather than to develop new trends, or to lead others into new curriculum fields.

Decatur College ranks twentieth among the junior colleges of Texas in library facilities. At present, the library contains 3,000 or more volumes. In connection with the library the college has provided an adequate reading room to accommodate the student body. As in the case of many other junior colleges, the library needs material expansion.

The student body has various forms of activities to engage in at Decatur College. There are several clubs, such as Glee Club, Students' Volunteer Band, Dramatic Club, Preachers' Club, and various class organizations. There are also many athletic events for the students to participate in, such as tennis, basketball, football, and other minor sports. Although the school developed a championship basketball team in 1907, the year that witnessed the highest enrollment in the history of the school, this championship did not seem to attract students as one might expect. Black and Gold for that year announced that they should have a championship team for the next year, and yet the college enrollment decreased.

Decatur Baptist College serves a wide area over North and West Texas, but the greatest per cent of the students comes from Decatur and nearby communities. This was true in the early history of the college, and has varied but very little to the present time. It seems reasonable to conclude that this will be true in the future.

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