



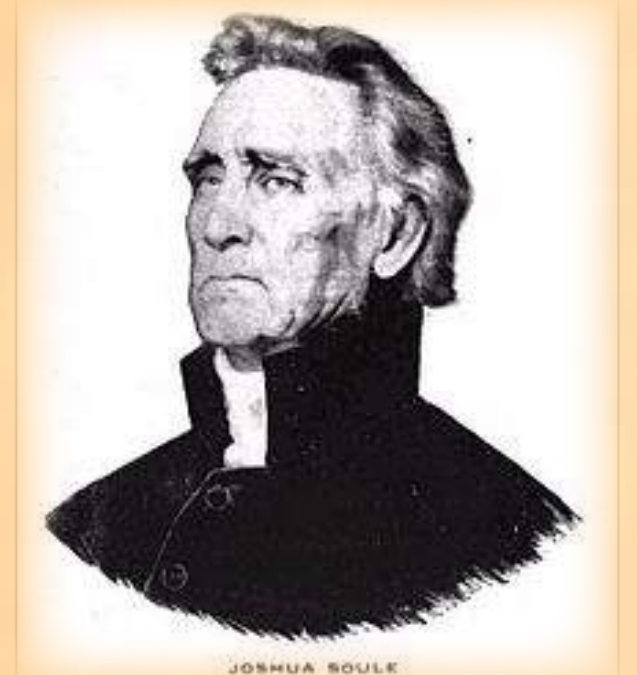
Late 1700's

Methodism spread from England to America in the closing decades of the century. Circuit riders spread out to cover the state. The Tennessee Conference sent the first preachers into Arkansas to the Spring River Circuit.



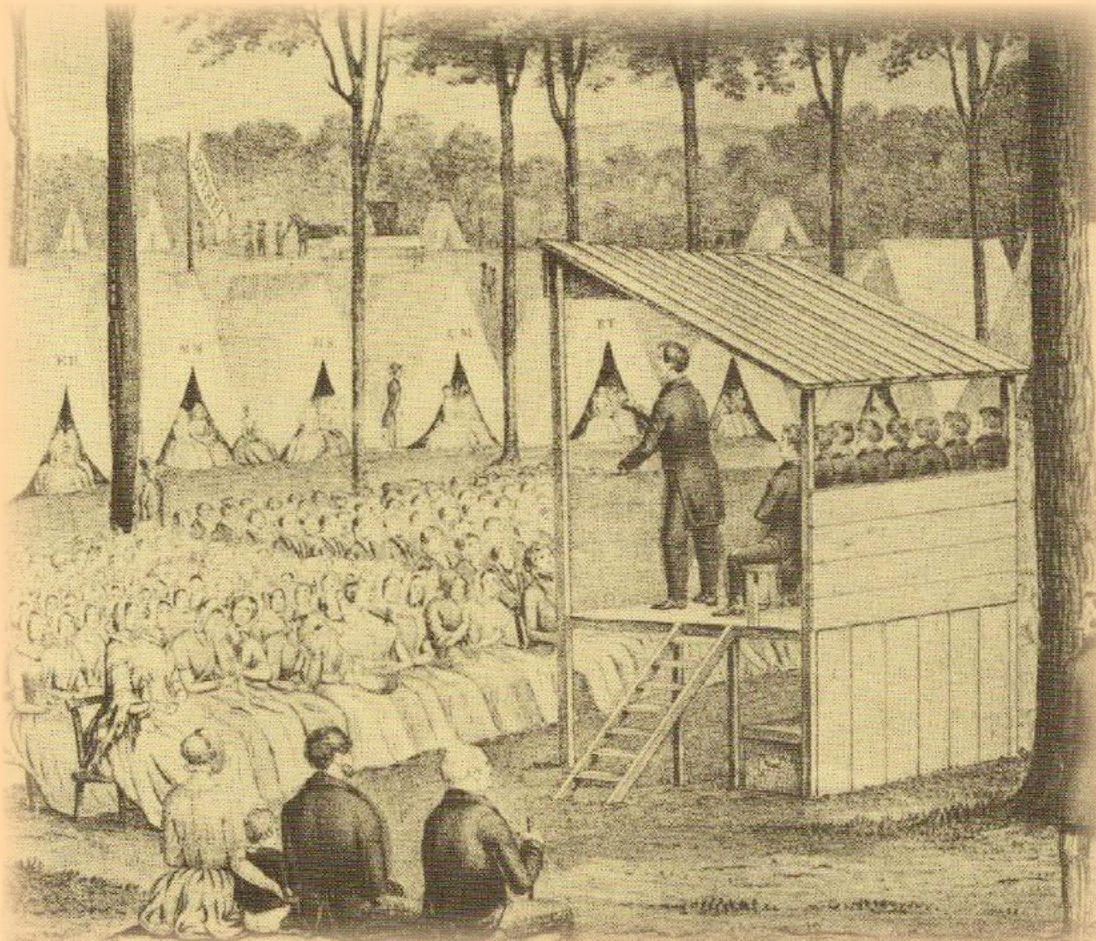
1830's

A group of Methodists objected to the idea of the hierarchy of Methodism. This group became the Methodist Protestants.



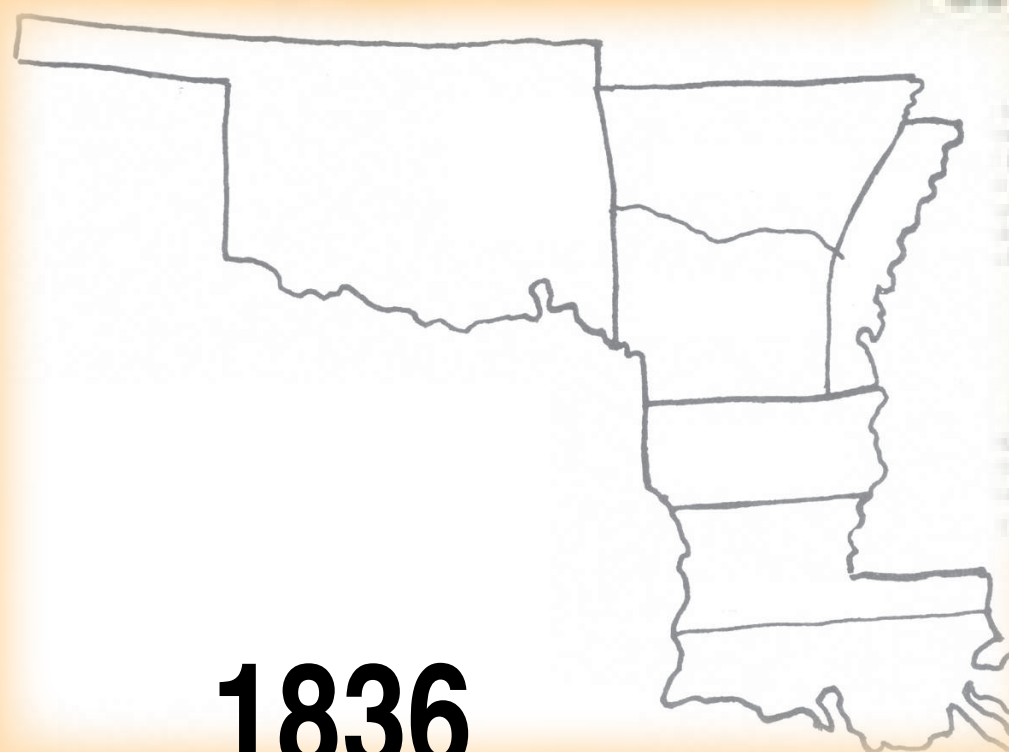
1833

Bishop Joshua Soule presided at the first annual conference that met in Arkansas Territory, Spring River. He was the first bishop to set foot in Arkansas.



1820's

Camp Meetings began to be held where there were no church buildings.



1836

The "Arkansas Conference" of the Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in Batesville. Bishop Thomas Asbury Morris traveled on horseback with several circuit riders through the Black River Swamp. The Conference also included the upper 2/3's of Louisiana and the Indian Territory. The Conference then had six districts.



1831

One of the earliest temperance movements began, a forerunner of the Women's Temperance Movement and the Anti-Saloon League.

1832

The one Methodist district in Arkansas became two, the southern half becoming the Little Rock District, the northern becoming the Arkansas District.

1840's

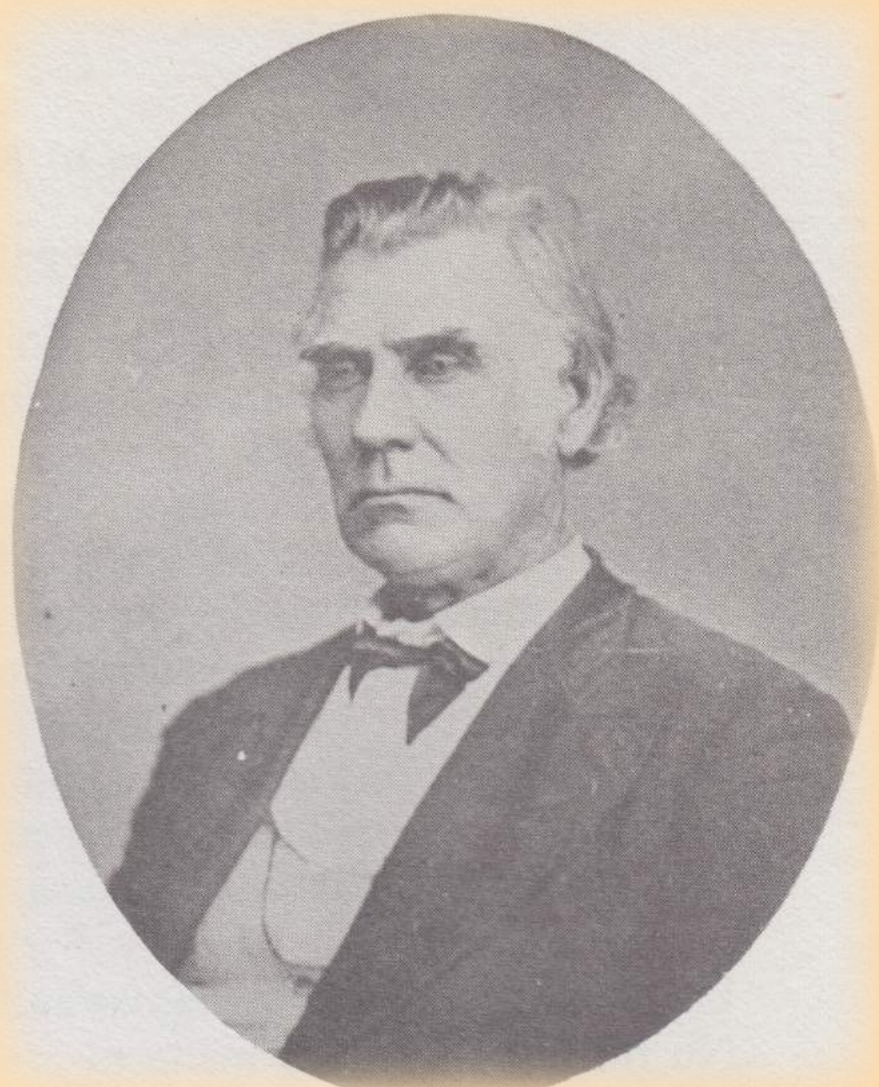
Salaries of Early preachers were \$60 or less a year.

1844

Methodism was torn asunder chiefly over issues related to slavery. Southern Methodists sent elected delegates to help develop a "Plan of Separation" from the mother church, the Methodist Episcopal Church.

1845

The Methodist Episcopal Church, South split away from the Methodist Episcopal Church.



1837

Andrew Hunter, from Ireland, came to teach in Indian Schools in Arkansas. He was appointed to the Arkansas State Senate by President Abraham Lincoln, and turned down the opportunity to be nominated for Governor.



1851

Parsonages or "parson's houses" began to be constructed. The typical log cabin parson's house had one room and a back porch. Two additional rooms were often built including a kitchen and a smoke house.



1854

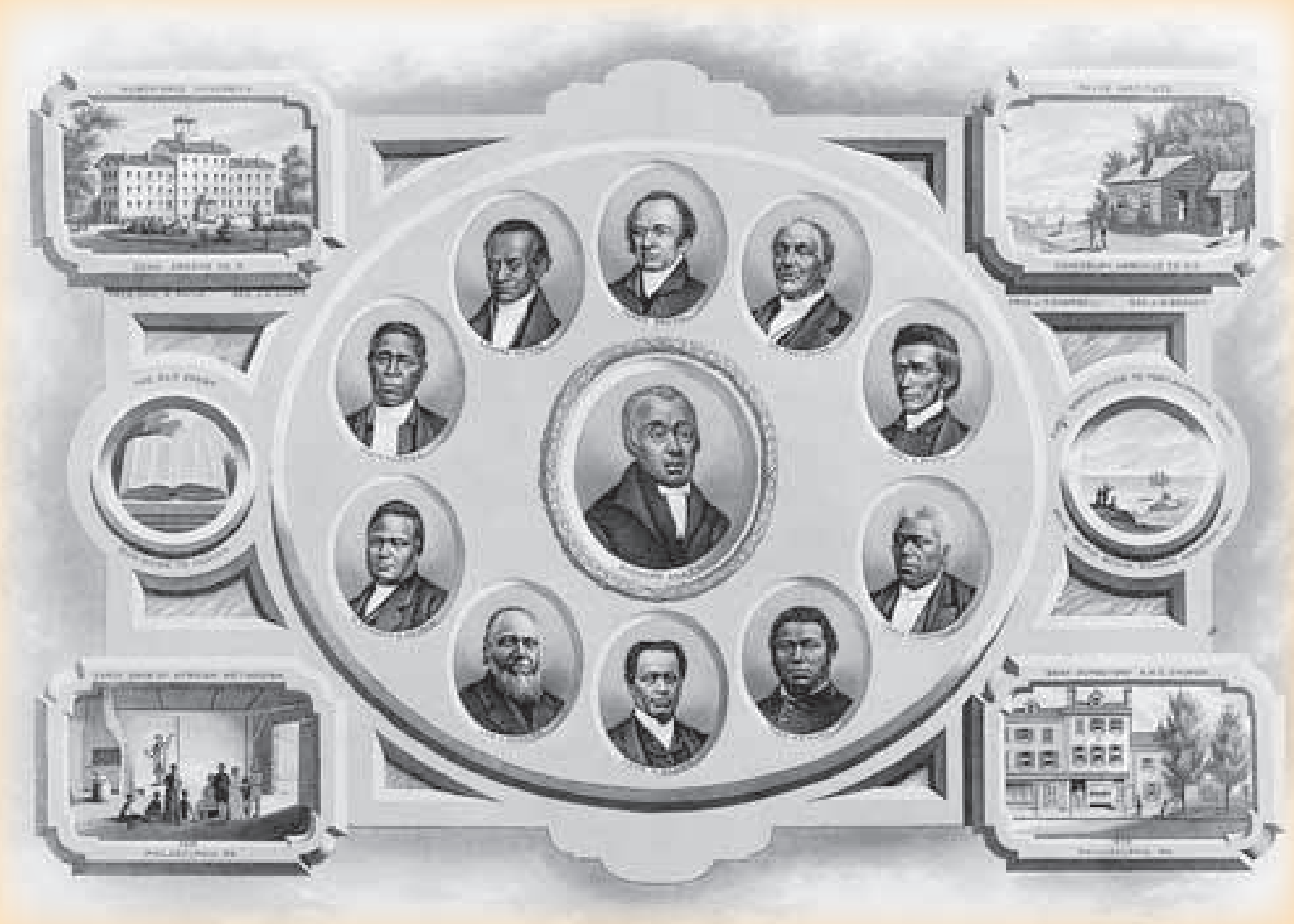
Arkansas Methodists were divided into two conferences, the Ouachita "Wichita" Conference in the south became the second conference authorized by the Methodist Episcopal Church. It later became the Little Rock Conference.



1865

Federal troops took over many church buildings and schools in the ME, So. to be used as hospitals, barracks and storage of Army supplies. Many were burned and later restored.

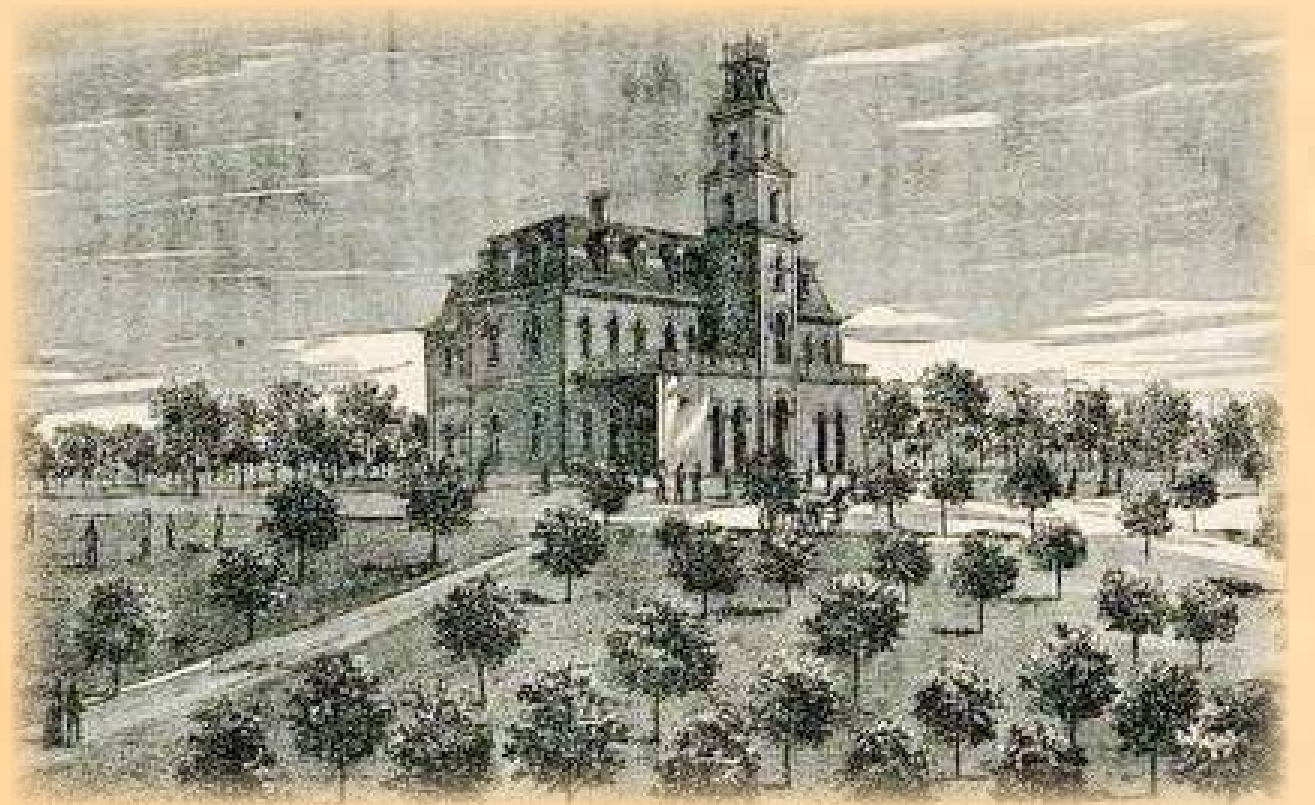
The Negro Methodist Episcopal Church was formed along with the Freedmen's Aid Society, a mission to assist newly freed slaves.



1868

African Methodist Episcopal Church was organized.

Bethel Institute was organized and later became Shorter College in 1903 in Little Rock.



1876

Central Collegiate Institute (later Hendrix College) in Altus was started for young Men.



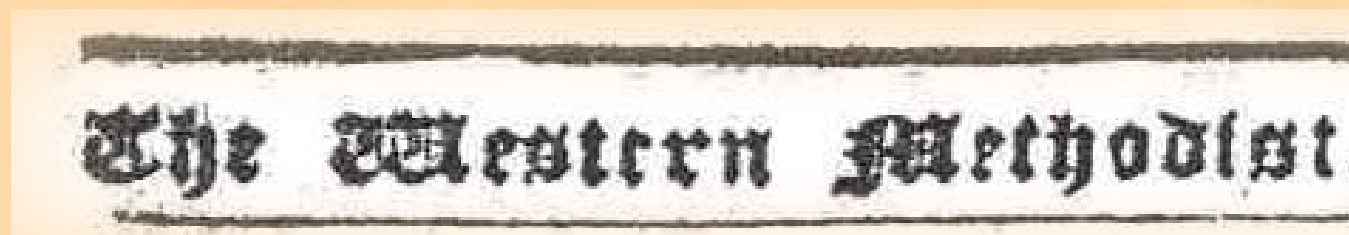
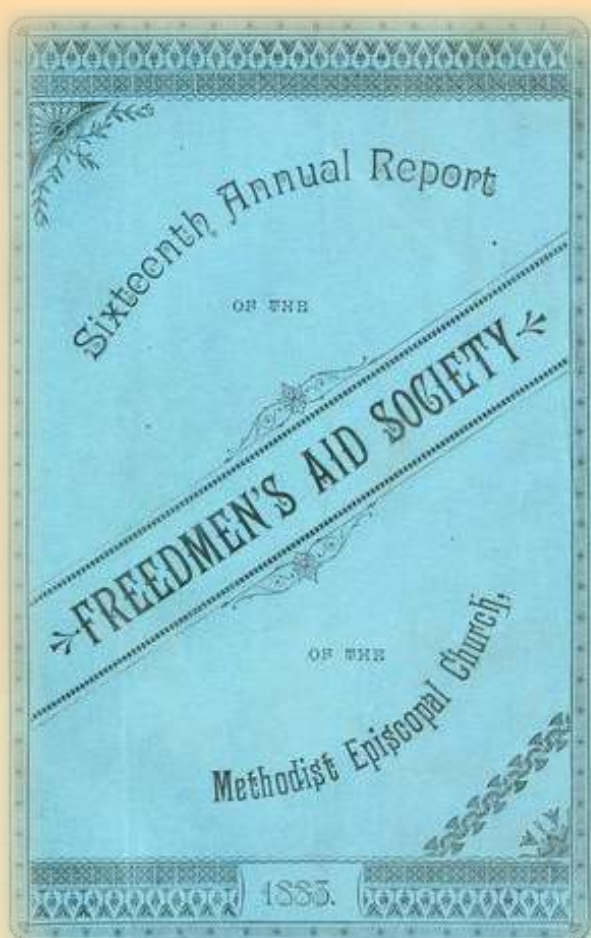
1870

A third conference named the White River was organized in the north east part of Arkansas. The north west remained the Arkansas Conference.

1870

Quitman College was established in 1868 as a school for girls. It was purchased by Methodists in 1870 becoming a male and female college. It built a two-story building in 1881 and closed in 1887.

ALSO IN 1870, the Conferences in Arkansas adopted as their printed voice, "The Western Methodist," published out of Memphis.

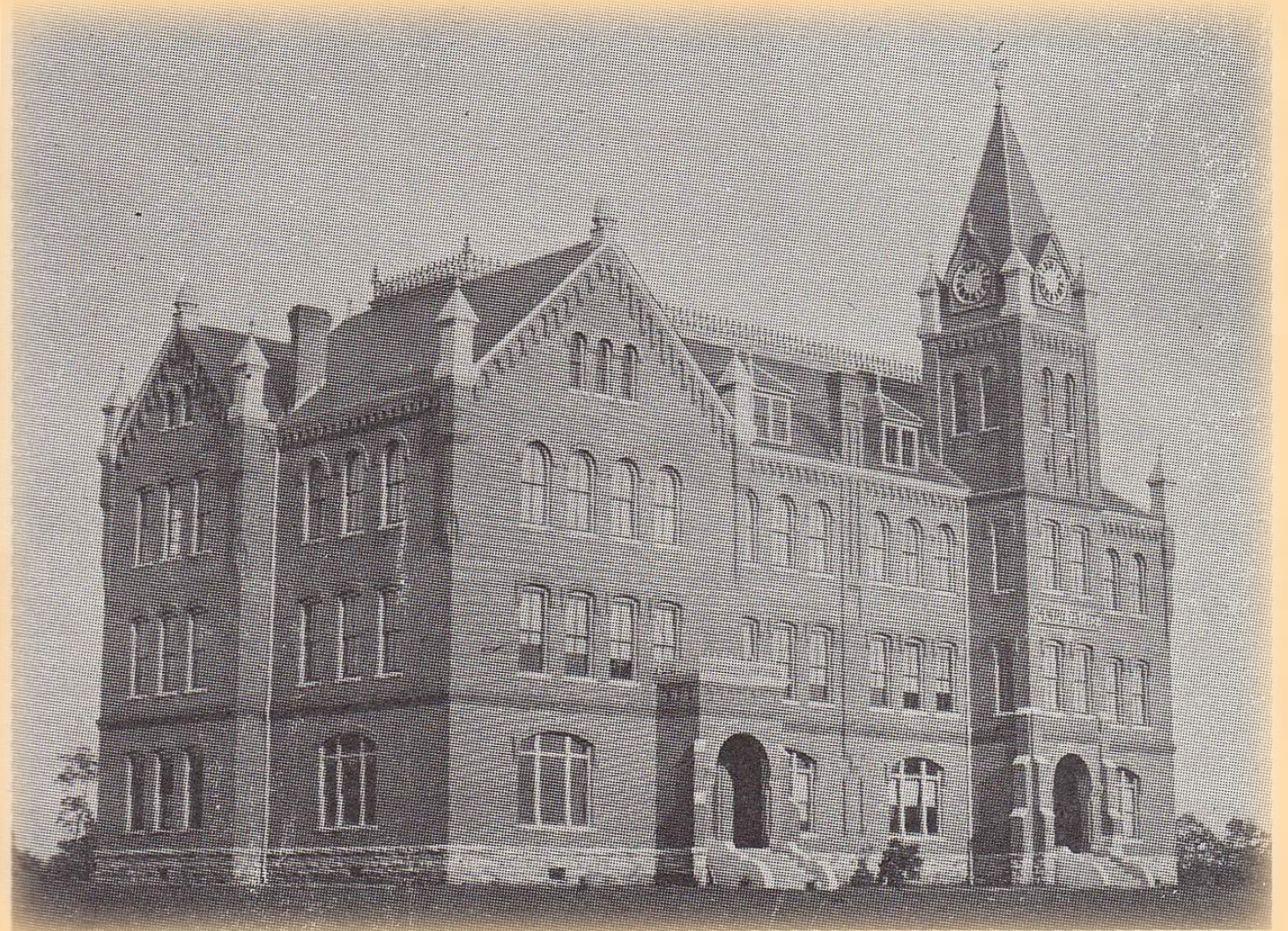
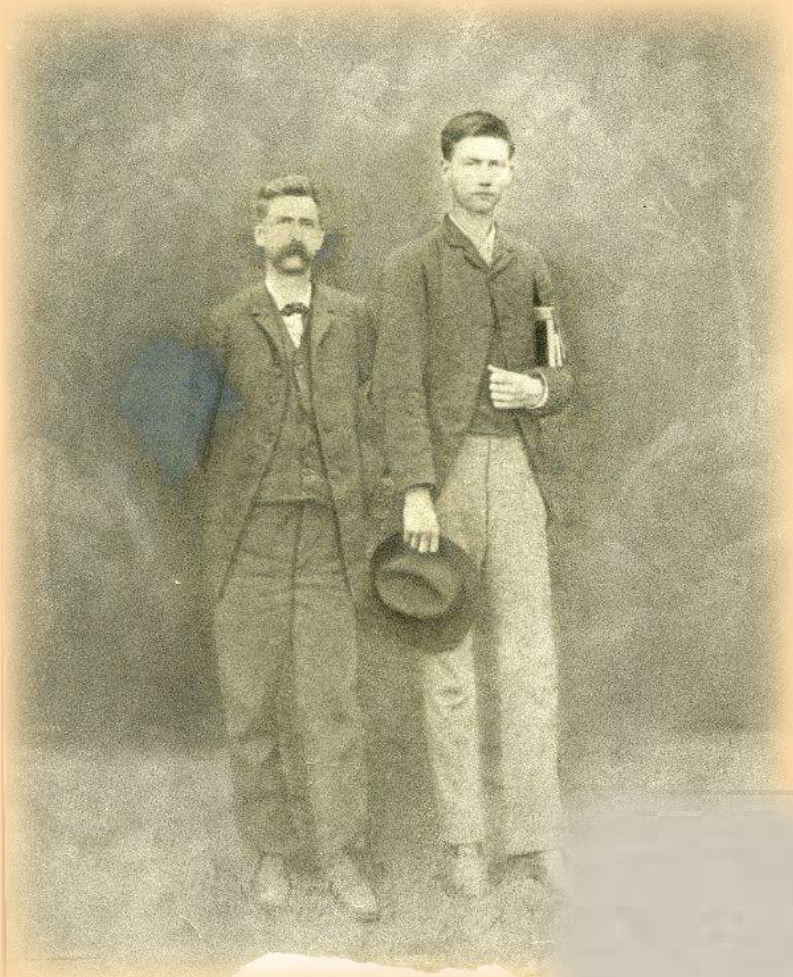


1866

Name of Ouachita Conference changed to the Little Rock Conference. The next year it passed a resolution against the indulgence of tobacco.

1880's

Arkansas Methodists began sending missionaries to Japan and China.



1890

Hendrix College, formerly Central Collegiate Institute, was moved from Altus to its permanent home in Conway.

1877

The first women's Missionary Society was organized.



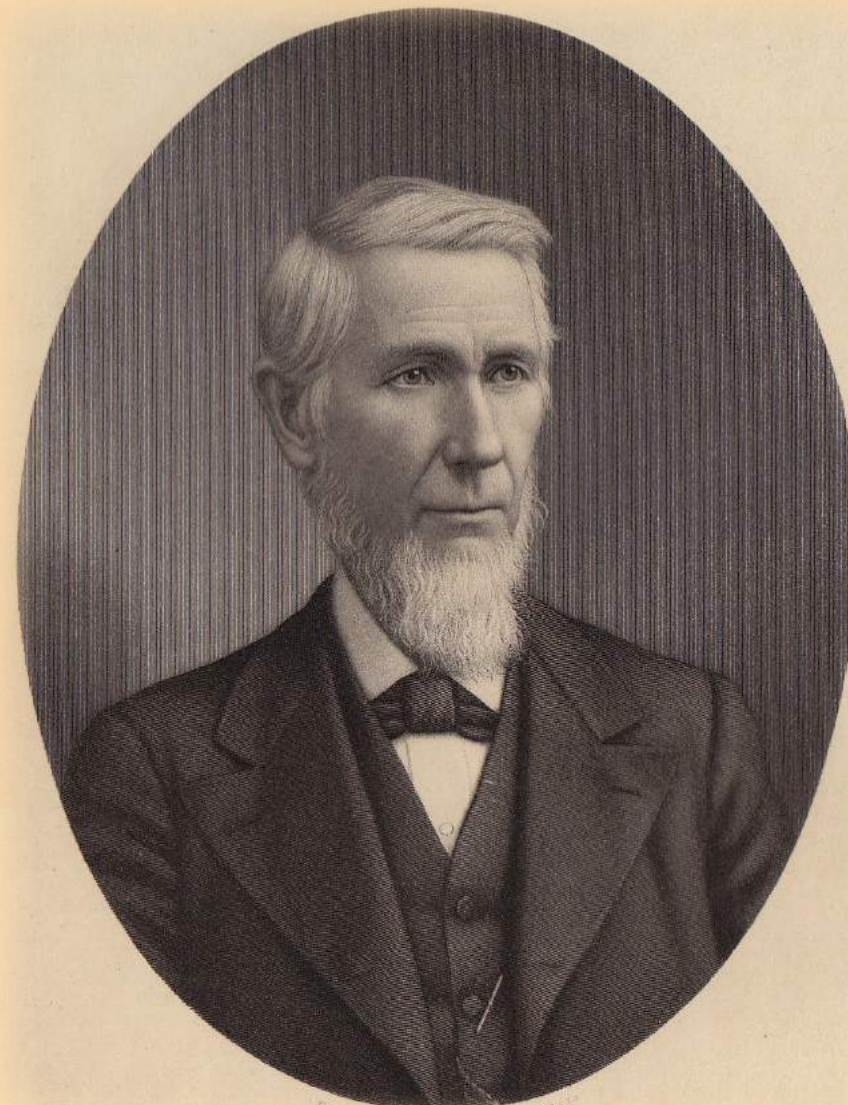
1870's

Sue A. Ward McKinnon was said to have been "used by God to assist is laying the foundation of the Woman's Missionary Society in the Little Rock Conference," a fore runner of the modern United Methodist Women.



1880

The Parsonage and Women's Home Missionary Society collected funds to build homes for itinerate preachers.



1882

"A Concise History of the Methodist Protestant Church, From Its Origin" was written by Ansel A. Bassett.



VOL. LX LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, FEBRUARY 27, 1941 NO. 9

Legalized Betting In Arkansas

THE Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee held an open hearing on February 19th at the Marion Hotel, Little Rock, relative to Senate Bill No. 67 proposing to outlaw gambling on horse and dog races. In spite of the fact that representative citizens from Hot Springs and Little Rock all spoke in favor of the bill, said Committee, of which Senator Ellis Fagan of Pulaski County acted as chairman, reported "no pass." (Earlier in "Ark" Senate bill No. 203, sponsored by Senator Sullivan and Dillon of Pulaski County, which would allow grocery stores and other retail sales outlets to handle beer upon the payment of a \$5 tax, was favorably acted upon). Suffice it to say that gambling, in the last few years has become a national menace. It is estimated that seven billion dollars a year is squandered in this

Day of Compassion

DEAR Pastors and People: In our ears there sounds the cry of distress. Listen! My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me! My husband is a prisoner of war; my only son a conscript in an advancing army; and my home destroyed, by a stray bomb in an air raid. At dawn today I turned to the church in which I have long prayed for peace and found only smoldering ruins. My hope, my spirit—like my home and my church—is a shattered city. Jesus, I understand why you said those words on the cross. "But where did you get the other words, 'Father, into Thy hands I commend my spirit'?" Was hope restored? Was your spirit renewed? What can He

Mussolini's Empire Crumbles

NO LONGER do we see in the news the brazen threats of Il Duce Mussolini, dictator of Italy. No longer are his conferences with Herr Hitler front page news. The voice of benediction has been silenced. Added to the impressive ruins of the day of the Caesars are the recent but no less impressive ruins of the Italian empire along the coast of north Africa and around the borders of Egypt. "The hand that held the dagger" did strike, but the dagger did little damage. We cannot foretell the future for Italy or for the mighty fighting army of Greece. This heroic country may yet be whipped off the face of the earth. But this one thing is sure—the office and pomp and "power" of Italy is gone. And nothing has strengthened the morale of the Allies more than the collapse of Italy. She has demonstrated the truth of an ancient sage who prophesied that they who take up the sword shall perish by the sword. But this truth, unfortunately, does not

1882

The "Arkansas Methodist" began publication.



1892

The North Arkansas and Little Rock Conferences published, "History of Arkansas Methodism" by Horace Jewell.



1898

The Little Rock Conference organized the first Methodist orphanage to provide short term care and permanent homes for children.



1894

Miss Esther Case was the first woman to go out of this state as a missionary.



1889

Galloway College (for young women) opened in Searcy.



1896

Sarah Allen Babcock became the first woman to address an Arkansas annual conference, speaking before the White River Conference.



1913

Methodists in Arkansas gathered its historical materials. These were placed in a vault at the Arkansas National Bank of Fayetteville.



1922

The final charter for a new western Methodist assembly was chartered as Mt. Sequoyah Assembly in Fayetteville.



1914

The White River and the Arkansas Conferences were combined in the north section of the state to form the North Arkansas Conference.



1917

The Great World War I raged in Europe for nearly three years. Army barracks and a hospital was set up on the campus of Hendrix College as many students enrolled in the Student Army Training Corps.



1918

Little Rock Conference women established a Committee on War Relief Work. The Conference appropriated money to assist in the work of military chaplains, Fort Roots and Camp Pike.



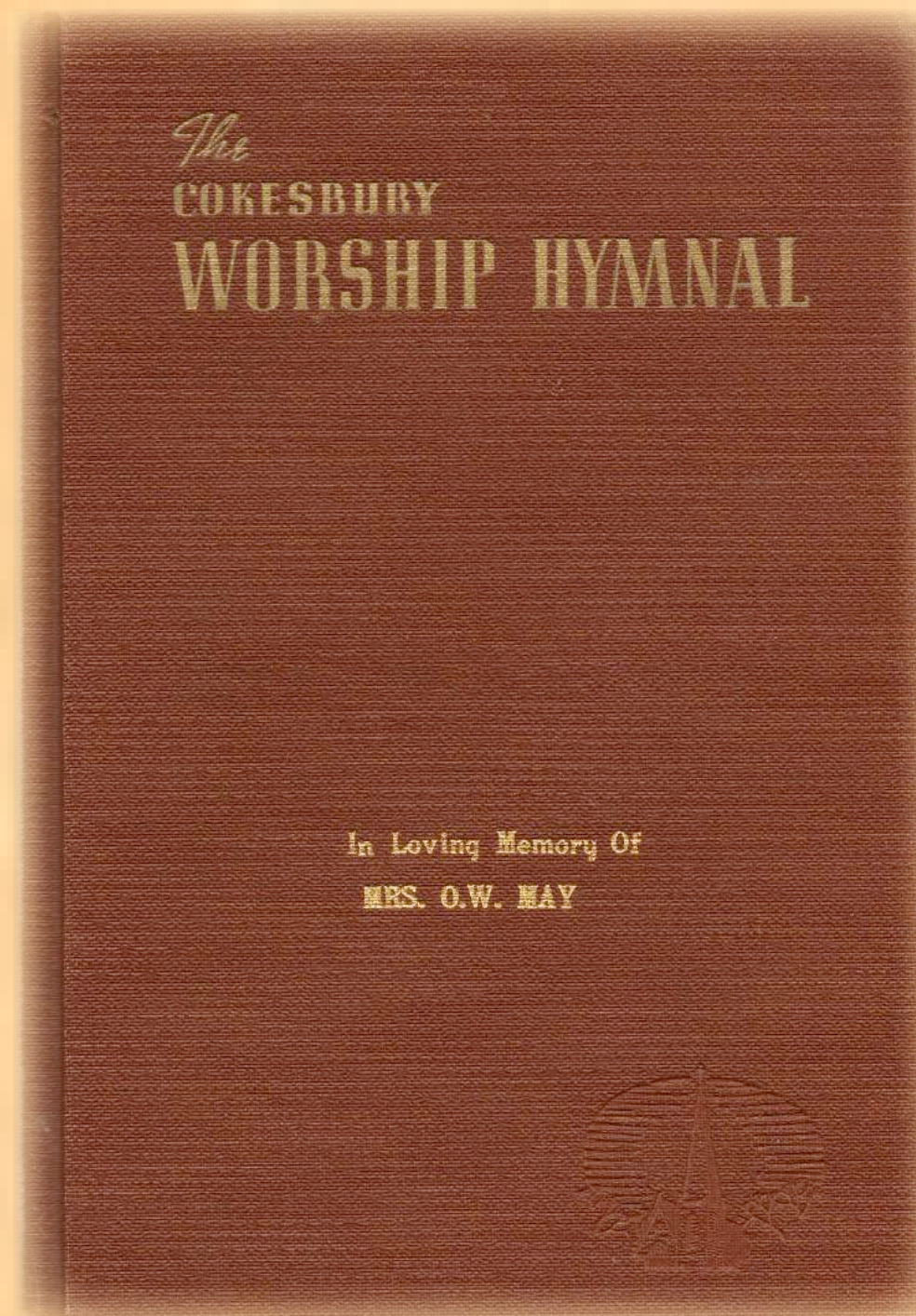
1918

The first building in Memphis was donated to the Methodist Hospital Board.



1920

The Epworth League was a major force for Methodist youth, providing summer assemblies.



1923

The “Cokesbury Hymnal” became a favorite songbook for many Methodist churches, often used for Sunday evening services and morning classes.

1936

The “Centennial Celebration of Arkansas Methodism” was held at Batesville on the site where the original founding conference met at First Methodist Church in Batesville.

1939

Three groups merge to form The Methodist Church.

Methodist Episcopal Church

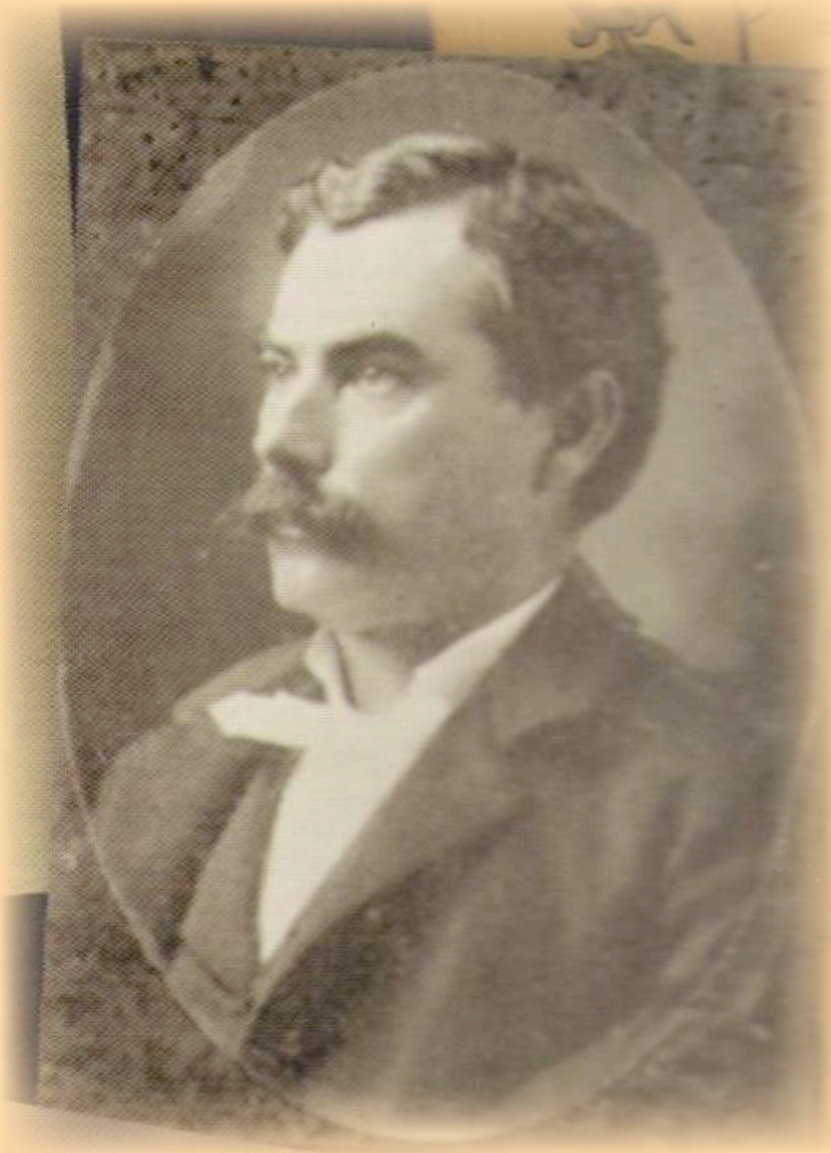
Methodist Episcopal Church, South

Methodist Protestant Church

The Methodist Church

1935

The Little Rock and North Arkansas Conferences published, "Centennial History of Methodism in Arkansas: A History of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South in the State of Arkansas," by James A. Anderson.

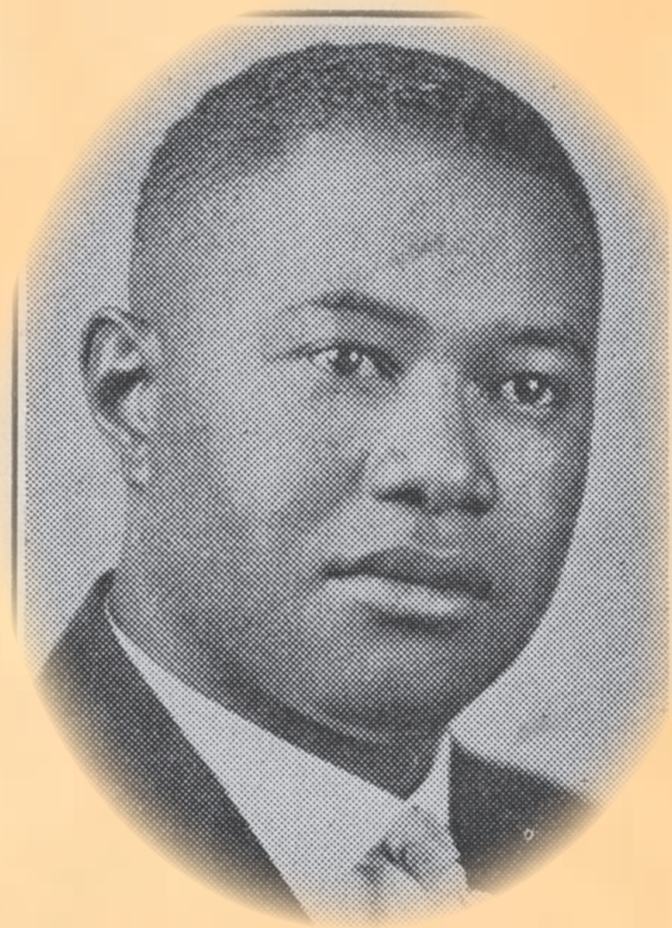


1940

Full Membership reports from 1939 were made from the various districts and conferences in 1940. The newly joined "Methodist Church" totaled 123,814 persons.

1936

Dr. J. H. Taggart, District Superintendent of the Fort Smith District of the Southwest Conference, reported at his annual conference, "The Evangelistic fire has been burning. With this medium, many souls have been saved."



1943

Rev. Fern Cook came from the Methodist Protestant merger. She was the first woman in the North Arkansas Conference to be sent to a regular appointment, the Hardy - Mammoth Spring Charge. Many of her appointments were hard work. Sometimes she pastored as many as six churches at once.



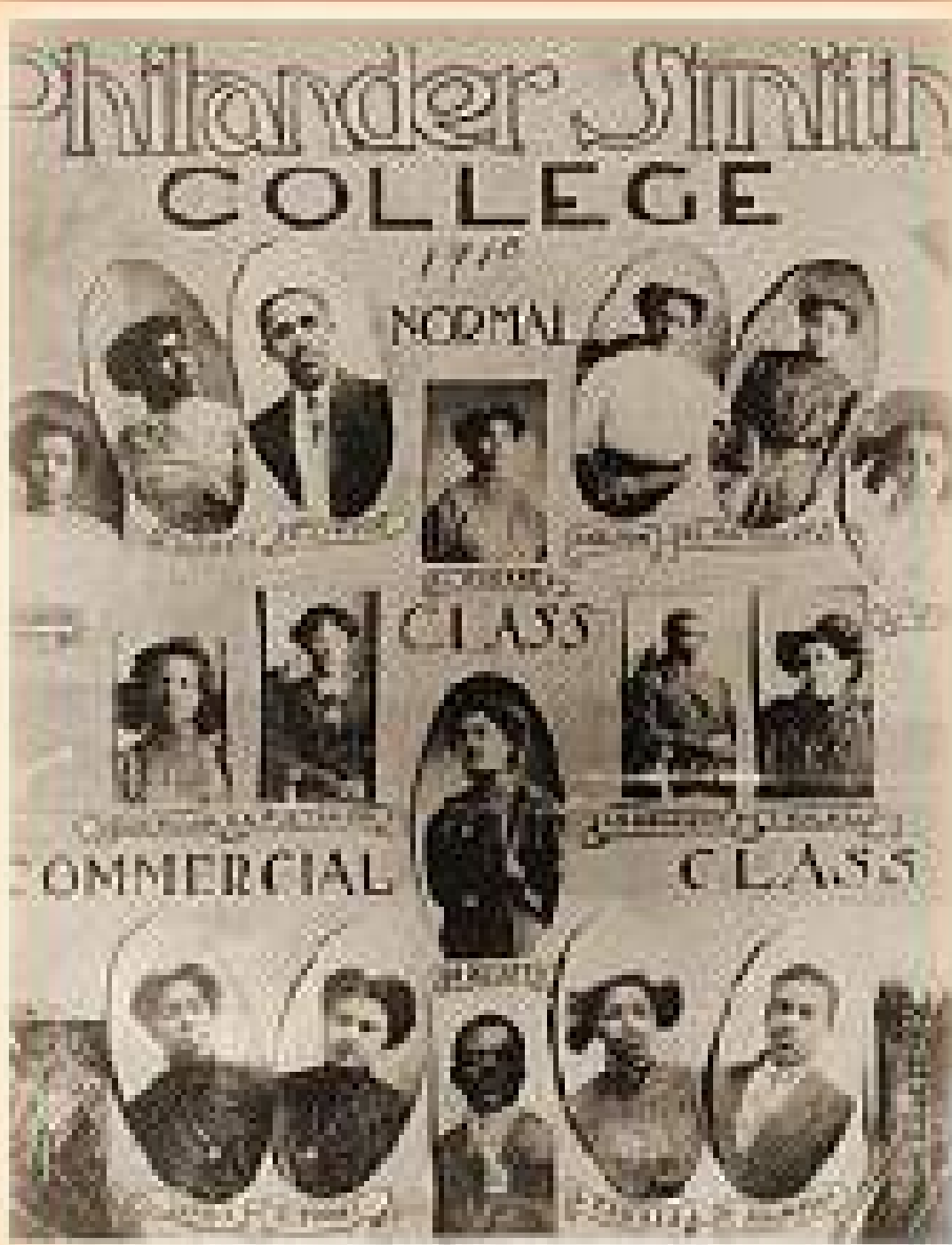
1946

Camp Aldersgate in Little Rock opened on an abandoned turkey farm.



1976

Pat Freemyer and Nell Barling were two of the District Presidents of United Methodist Women in the North Arkansas Conference.



1943

Philander Smith College was officially founded in 1877 under the name of Walden Seminary as a means of providing education opportunities for freed slaves west of the Mississippi River. The school was renamed Philander Smith College in 1882 to recognize the financial contributions of Adeline Smith, the widow of Philander Smith. The college was chartered as a four-year college in 1883 and conferred its first bachelor's degree in 1888. In 1933, it merged the assets of the George R. Smith College in Sedalia, Missouri, which burned down in 1925. In 1943, Philander Smith was accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

1968

Three denominations merge to form
The United Methodist Church.

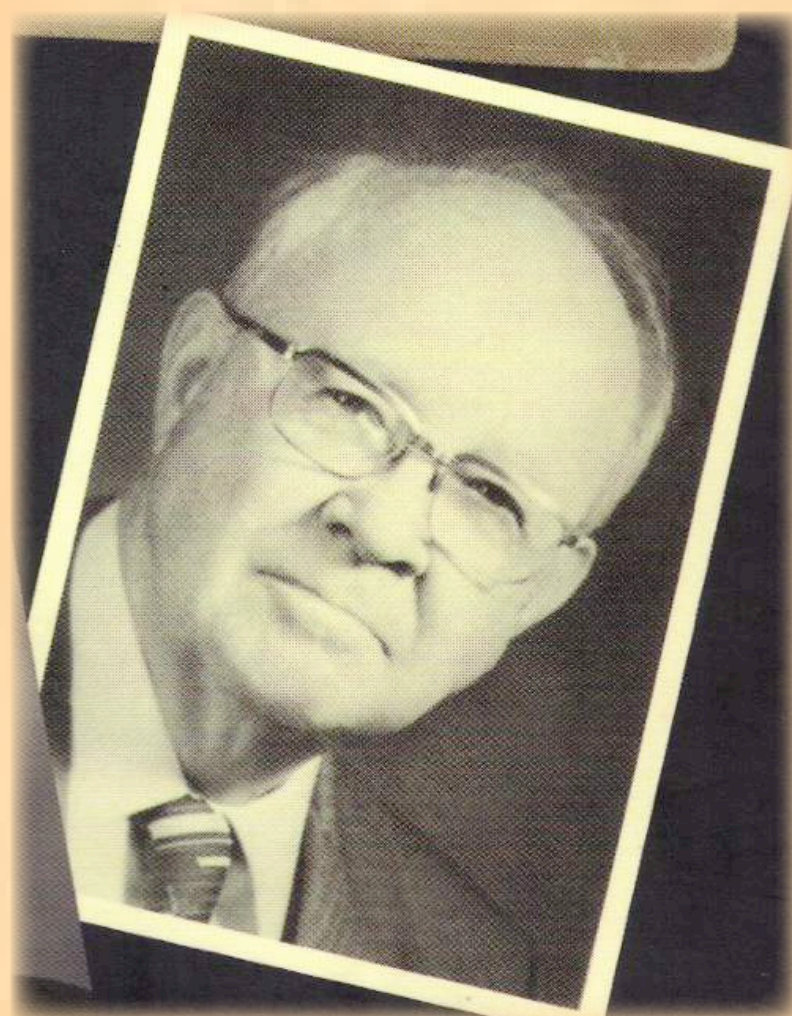
The Evangelical Association

The United Brethren

The Evangelical United Brethren

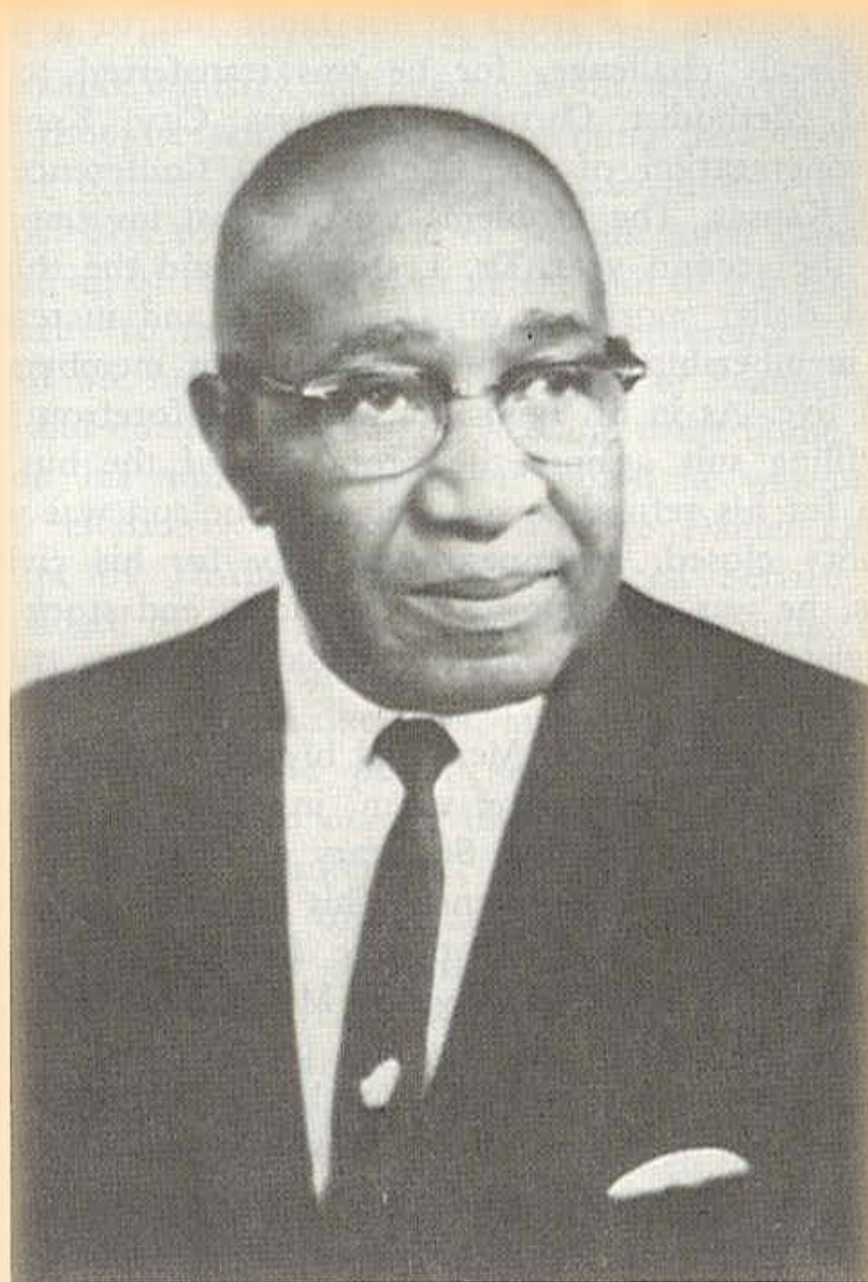
The Methodist Church

The United Methodist Church



1976

The Joint Committee for the History of Arkansas Methodism published, "Methodism in Arkansas 1816 - 1976" by Walter N. Vernon.



W. D. LESTER

1996

"The History of the Negro and Methodism in Arkansas and Oklahoma" was published. The author was W. D. Lester.

2000

The Joint Advisory Board of the Little Rock and North Arkansas Conferences published, "Two Centuries of Methodism in Arkansas: 1800 - 2000," written by Nancy Britton.

