

New Church Monument To Struggling Faith

(Continued from first page.)

foundation for the first church building, and during all the years of his ministry she aided, advised and encouraged him by both example and precept. Always she taught a Sunday school class, at the same time serving a number of years as superintendent. They observed their twentieth anniversary on November 26. Mr. Groat reared a family by a previous marriage.

The handful of the faithful struggled bravely for years up a checkered pathway and surmounted many and great difficulties, all ways with sacrifice upon the part of the pastor and his congregation. The early church meetings were held in a little building that is now the lean-to on the building sold last year to the Nazarenes. During much of the time the church was without a regular pastor and during the period from 1909 to 1925 it had seven pastors. Two of them, Pastor VanGorkum and Pastor Groat served twice. Pastor VanGorkum married a daughter of the Phelps family, who were devout members of the church. Pastor VanGorkum and his family are now residents of California.

Among the first preachers here was Pastor Milam, who made frequent trips here from his home in Springfield and held services in the homes of Baptists, under brush arbors and in school houses. This was some time before there was a Baptist organization. Another early preacher was Pastor Post of the chapel car Evangel. He made a number of converts and some of them were baptized in the Coast fork. Several years later the chapel car Immanuel, with Pastor B. F. Jakes, was here for several weeks. Pastor Groat served for several months as missionary on this car while Pastor Jakes was attending his wife in a hospital in California.

The late Dr. C. A. Woody was western secretary of the American Baptist Home Mission society at the time the present Baptist church was organized and furnished \$500 of the money which went into the old meeting house. Dr. Gilman Parker was at that time state mission secretary for Oregon and gave assistance in erecting the building and maintaining the church. Dr. F. C. W.

Parker was state missionary and labored here in the early days of the church. Mrs. J. K. Barrett was appointed to select and buy a lot. The corner on which the old church stands was her selection. The ground was bought from a Presbyterian, J. C. Long, well known pioneer. He made a contribution in a reduced price on the lot. Mrs. K. K. Mills, who is now superintendent of the Sunday school, was superintendent of the school for six years in the earlier years of this church.

In 1925 the Baptists sold this old property to the Church of the Nazarene and held services for a time in the W. O. W. hall. On November 30, 1925, the chapel car Good Will, with J. D. and Mrs. Chappelle as missionaries, arrived. Plans were immediately worked out for the erection of the new edifice on Fifth street. The contract was let for the new building on September 13. On the 15th of the same month ground was broken and construction was begun. On November 21, Justice O. P. Coshaw, of the supreme court of Oregon, acting grand master of the A. F. & A. M. of Oregon, laid the cornerstone. The church held its first service in the new house December 19, 1926.

The church held all of its services in the chapel car from November 30, 1925, to December 19, 1926. Pastor Chappelle acted as pastor and is yet acting in that capacity. The missionaries of the chapel car are appointed jointly

by the American Baptist Publication of Philadelphia and the American Baptist Home Mission society in New York. These boards pay the salaries and expenses of these missionaries and give them free of charge to the communities in which they labor. The Baptists have seven of these chapel cars. One of them is now in West Virginia and the remainder are west of Denver.

When the church calls and locates a minister here the chapel car will go to Eugene for a service and then make its way over the new Cascade line to Klamath Falls for the purpose of organizing congregations in the communities along the line.

It is expected that before the end of another week pledges will have been made to cover the entire cost of the new building, which was approximately \$25,000.

DEMPSEY GYM OBJECT ATTEMPTED EXPLOSION

(By United Press.)
LOS ANGELES, Dec. 30.—(Special).—A disastrous explosion was narrowly averted today in the Winslow Hotel building, where Jack Dempsey maintains a gymnasium and training quarters, when 12 sticks of dynamite, a can of nitroglycerine and two gallons of gasoline were removed from the top of the furnace in the basement of the building.

A small fire had started in the building just before the explosives

were discovered and was put out in time to prevent the explosion which would have wrecked the building. The dynamite, nitroglycerine and gasoline had been packed against a chimney flue where they would receive full benefit of the flames.

Police are endeavoring to find those connected with the placing of the explosives and are checking several clues.

Jack Dempsey, former heavy weight champion, recently opened training quarters in the hotel building. One theory on which the police are working is that the attempt was planned against the former titleholder. Rumors that Dempsey was poisoned just before the championship fight in September still persist and some think today's attempt may have some connection.

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