

THE ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF
OKLAHOMA PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE

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OKLAHOMA PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE

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PREFACE

The purpose of this study of the origin and development of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College has been to substantiate by competent evidence the pertinent data concerning the history and development of this school.

The study is confined to the facts relating to the origin of the school and its subsequent development.

No effort has been made to prove a contribution, although it appears obvious that in sixty years of existence the institution has pioneered in training for Christian leadership and continues to render a valuable service in this field.

The burden of the effort has been to produce a faithful record of unique events that have happened in the history of the institution and to describe the present status of the institution as it is related to education in Oklahoma.

There are citations to and quotations from sources in portions of the manuscript which are subjective in nature or which are matters of personal opinion. The writer presents such material for whatever value it may have. At a number of points in the research, conflicting evidence proved somewhat confusing and required careful study to separate truth from popular belief, and facts from fiction.

The presentation of the historical facts concerning the school and its development is chronological, with little effort being made to dramatize the story. It is intended to be an accurate, and, at a few

points, a detailed account covering such areas of information as the ownership and supervision of the school, changes of administrative officers, aims and functions, plant and equipment, sources of financial support, personnel, accreditation, curricular offerings, spiritual and social life, student welfare, service to the community and state, and relation to education in Oklahoma.

The Oklahoma Presbyterian College is located at Durant, Oklahoma, and is owned and operated by the Presbyterian Church in the United States as a home mission enterprise chiefly for Indians, though young people of the white race have always been in attendance since it was founded as Calvin Institute in 1894.

The purpose of the school is Christian education. Every catalogue of the institution from 1907 to the present clearly presents this aim.

The present work is coeducational and, to some extent, intercultural. Indians, whites, Mexicans, a Formosan, and a Venezuelan make up the current student body.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, through the Board of Church Extension Division of Home Missions, furnishes one of the chief sources of fixed income which guarantee the continued existence of this institution.

Gould Wickey, in writing of church-related colleges like the Oklahoma Presbyterian College, states:

(1) The church-related college has maintained the true purpose of education. (2) The church-related college has awakened interest in and has brought higher education to millions of youth. (3) The church-related college produces an effective educational leadership. (4) The church-related college is active in preparing Christian leaders for all walks of life.¹

¹Gould Wickey and Ruth E. Anderson, Christian Higher Education (Washington, D. C., 1940), pp. 147-149.

As a church-related college, rendering service in keeping with the above named contributions, the Oklahoma Presbyterian College takes its place among the colleges, the private schools, and the government schools of the state school system; and, by virtue of its productivity, it continues to receive the unqualified support of its supervising church agencies.

Miss Amy Robinson, president of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College, made available all the resources of the school as to historical records, files, reports, minutes, correspondence, and references. The writer is deeply indebted to her for this assistance. Ebenezer Hotchkin, former president of the school, now retired, gave the writer detailed assistance and access to his collected historical materials and references, for which she is grateful. Miss Edith F. Hodgson of the staff of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College, who has also served as president, assisted in criticizing the manuscript and checking on the accuracy of certain data. She deserves an expression of sincere appreciation. Mrs. Christine B. Morrison, former dean of women, furnished much important information, and her assistance is gratefully acknowledged.

The writer is especially indebted to Dr. Ida T. Smith of the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College for sound counsel, helpful criticism, and sympathetic interest. Thanks and an expression of appreciation are also due Dr. Morris S. Wallace, Dean J. Andrew Holley, Dr. Millard Scherich, and Professor Guy A. Lackey of the same institution whose inspiration and guidance have made the completion of this study possible.

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CHAPTER I
CALVIN INSTITUTE

Origin

Oklahoma Presbyterian College was founded at Durant, Indian Territory, in 1894 under the name of Calvin Institute, a nomenclature rather in keeping with the Presbyterian origin of the school. The name was not motivated directly by hero worship, however. It was born of a missionary's vision and a father's loss.¹

Calvin Institute was established by the Executive Committee of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the United States² as a result of the activities of a missionary to the Choctaw Indians, the Reverend C. J. Ralston, who became acutely interested in establishing the school in the spring of 1894.³ He was not alone in his ambition to set up a Presbyterian school in Durant. The Indian Presbytery, a regional organization of this church, under the leadership of the pioneer missionaries, C. J. Ralston, W. J. B. Lloyd, J. J. Road, and others, all ministers of the Presbyterian Church, had been eager for some time to establish schools at several points in the Choctaw Nation.

¹Minutes of the Board of Trustees of Calvin Institute, 1894, pp. 1-5.

²The Presbyterian Church in the United States is the name of the southern branch of this church. The Presbyterian Church in the United States of America is the official title of the northern branch.

³E. Hotchkiss, Collected Papers. This is an assortment of unclassified items in the possession of Hotchkiss, a past president of the school, who was connected with the work from its earliest history. The collection consists of photostatic records, notes, clippings, photographs, manuscripts, diaries, biographical information, and letters.

One of those points was at Durant. These men had approached the Secretary of Home Missions with an appeal for help as early as 1892. An overture had been made to the General Assembly of the church, asking for authority to establish the needed schools,⁴ and this body had empowered the Executive Committee of Home Missions to purchase for school sites, provided no debt was incurred.⁵

As a matter of routine, Ralston, then Superintendent of Armstrong Academy, a school owned and operated by the Choctaw Indian Tribe, went in the spring of 1894 to Tuskahom, the Capitol of the Choctaw Nation, to speak before their legislature concerning the operation of this school; but his stay at the Capitol was interrupted. He received a telegram stating that his small son, Calvin, had drowned in a mill-pond. Accordingly, the father returned at once to his home near Durant and took the body to Denton, Texas, for burial.⁶

Following the funeral, Durant friends urged and persuaded him to stop over with them on his way home in order to attend a school meeting of citizens who were concerned over the management of existing school facilities.

A school called Halsell Hall had occasioned the school meeting which Ralston was invited to attend. Halsell Hall had been in operation for two years, but neither the staff nor the community were wholly satisfied with the school. In 1892 R. R. Halsell, a teacher from

⁴W. A. Alexander and G. F. Nicholassen, Alexander's Digest (Richmond, Virginia, 1911), p. 194. (This publication is a compilation of indexed records of the minutes of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States).

⁵Minutes of the Board of Trustees of Calvin Institute, 1894, p. 1.

⁶E. Hotchkiss, Collected Papers.

Savoy, Texas, had come to Durant to establish a school. He had purchased a small tract of land in the community near the present intersection of South Second Avenue and West Arkansas Street. This tract was purchased from Dixon Durant, a Choctaw Indian for whom the town of Durant is named. Halsell had erected a two-story frame building on this tract and opened the doors to students. His efforts had failed to attract the support the school needed, however, and much dissatisfaction had arisen among the patrons.⁷

The community meeting in Durant which G. J. Ralston attended made the fact clear that, if the school were to continue, the patrons and the school head would have to agree on general policies, the curriculum, and other such matters.⁸ Because of this predicament, Ralston was requested to act as mediator in the difficulty. He assumed the responsibility, but he found it impossible to bring the factions together. Yet he proposed a solution. He offered to purchase the building and open a school within a period of twenty days.

Perhaps Ralston, in making the proposition, had in mind the obligation to use a small legacy. This obligation had devolved upon him with the death of his young son, Calvin. Mrs. T. J. Gline, grandmother of the dead child, had set aside \$200 for the boy's education. She had specified, however, that in the event the child did not live, the money was to be used for school purposes. Ralston may also have had in mind the promised support of the Executive Committee of Home Missions under whom he worked, and likewise the maturing plans of the Indian Presbytery

⁷Henry MacCreary, A Story of Durant (Durant, Oklahoma, 1942), p. 94.

⁸E. Hotchkin, Collected Papers.

to secure property for a school in Durant. Be these things as they may, he saw an educational need and a way to meet it.⁹

Ralston's offer to buy Halsell Hall was accepted, and the property became his for an interim. At the time of the purchase, he apparently had no authorization from the Indian Presbytery to enter into a contract for it.¹⁰ The Presbytery hastened to approve of the purchase, however, and to make plans for the school.¹¹

To decide upon the name for the school was not difficult. C. J. Ralston had used the legacy that had been his son's to help buy Halsell Hall; therefore, the Presbytery promptly named the new school Calvin Institute, in honor of Ralston's son, Calvin, whose tragic death had made part of the funds available for the purchase.¹²

The school property then designated as Calvin Institute passed into the hands of the Executive Committee of Home Missions in the spring of 1894, and Ralston received \$888.90 as remuneration.¹³

That Durant, in the heart of the Choctaw Nation, should become a school center in 1894 was a natural occurrence. In truth, Calvin Institute, contrary to popular belief, was not the first Presbyterian school to be set up in Durant. The Reverend J. W. B. Lloyd, a pioneer Presbyterian missionary to the Choctaw Indians, as early as 1874, established a school which operated for a number of years. Little is

⁹Ibid.

¹⁰A careful check of all available sources failed to reveal any additional facts. As far as can be determined, he acted upon his own judgment.

¹¹Minutes of the Board of Trustees of Calvin Institute, 1894, pp. 1-5.

¹²Minutes of Indian Presbytery, 1894, p. 50.

¹³Minutes of the Board of Trustees of Calvin Institute, 1894, p. 1.

known of its status and undertakings. One can only surmise that this educational venture helped the community to become education conscious.¹⁴

The venture was certainly a manifestation of the well-known fact that, by 1890, (taking the dates of the Great Removal of the Indians into consideration), approximately sixty years of missionary preaching and teaching had helped shape Choctaw tribal history in Oklahoma.

Further, the Choctaw Indians were inclined to education. According to Angie Debo, the Choctaw Nation in 1890 maintained a system of public schools organized after the pattern of the systems in the United States; but these schools were for the Indian children.¹⁵ No free public schools for non-citizens were to be found among the Choctaws, although white children were allowed to attend the Choctaw schools as tuition pupils. The educational facilities and arrangements were inadequate, however. Private schools, maintained by tuition, subscription, or donation, were the only sources of educational opportunity for many Indian and white children.¹⁶ Thus, mission schools were welcome in the Choctaw country, and those of the Presbyterian Church served increasing numbers of students between the years of 1870 and 1890.¹⁷

The desire of the Presbyterian church to be of Christian and educational help was deep-rooted as has been indicated. S. L. Morris, who was Executive Secretary of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church

¹⁴E. Hotchkin, *Collected Papers*.

¹⁵Angie Debo, *The Rise and Fall of the Choctaw Republic* (Norman, Oklahoma, 1931), pp. 235-43.

¹⁶MacCreary, *A Story of Durant*, p. 88.

¹⁷Mrs. G. T. Ralls, ed., *Oklahoma Trails* (Atoka, Oklahoma, 1927), p. 13.

from 1901 to 1920,¹⁸ in writing a history of the home mission activity of this church for a publication called Oklahoma Trails,¹⁹ said that Presbyterianism is the child of missionary effort. The founders of the American branch of the Presbyterian Church in 1789 at the first meeting of the General Assembly, their governing body, determined that the frontier settlements should be kept under consideration. Definite steps were taken in 1812 and again in 1816 to strengthen the missionary activities, expand the work, and promote the evangelistic and teaching functions of the ministry. A committee appointed to promote these interests served, according to Morris, for forty-five years, or until the Civil War divided the church.²⁰

After the war the southern Presbyterians moved immediately to recognize their responsibility for the Indians of the church:²¹

The assembly [sig] accepts with Joyful [sig] gratitude the care of these Indian missions among our Southwestern Indian tribes, the Choctaws, Chickasaws, Creeks, Seminoles and Cherokees . . . a people comprising seventy thousand souls, to whom we are bound by obligations of special tenderness and strength, and whose spiritual interest must ever be dear to the Christians of this land.

True to this resolution, the Presbyterian Church fostered preaching and teaching missions in the Indian Territory, and the years 1870 to 1894 brought rewards. Durant, in the Indian Territory, reaped the benefit of the strong desire of the pioneer missionaries to minister and the earnest desire of the members of the Choctaw Nation and their white neighbors for good schooling. Calvin Institute was the fruitage of adjustments and striving.

¹⁸S. L. Morris, An Autobiography (Richmond, Virginia, 1932), pp. 72; 117.

¹⁹Halls, Oklahoma Trails, p. 13.

²⁰Ibid., pp. 14-15.

²¹Ibid., p. 15.

Development of Calvin Institute

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, through the Executive Committee of Home Missions, appointed a Board of Trustees for Calvin Institute. These Trustees had first been recommended by Indian Presbytery.²² The minutes of the first meeting of this group, dated June 19, 1894, open with the names and terms of office of those who had been selected to serve. They were: Dr. Robert A. Lively, a pioneer physician of Durant; W. J. B. Lloyd; C. J. Ralston; J. J. Read; and Judge James H. Franklin, a lawyer, whose knowledge and experience in the field of law were useful to the Board of Trustees. One of Franklin's first duties was to assist in delivering a legal deed to the property as requested by the Trustees of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church.

A quotation from the minutes presents what the Executive Secretary of Home Missions, J. H. Craig, thought about the development of Calvin Institute.

Office of the General Assembly's
Home Missions
Presbyterian Church U. S.
Atlanta, Georgia
June 19, 1894

. . . The Board of Managers shall have entire control of the details of the school, but shall put its religious work in the forefront, providing for the reading and sound exposition of the word of God; for the memorisation of the scriptures and of scriptural hymns, with prayer, singing, etc., according to the customs and principles of the Presbyterian Church represented by this committee.

The Board shall exhibit a liberal Christian spirit toward all sister denominations of Christians and toward those who . . . [are outside the church] . . . The school must be distinctly planned, managed, and controlled as above set forth. . .

The Board will endeavor to make such a school as will deserve the patronage which they shall invite. . .

²²Minutes of the Board of Trustees, 1894, p. 1.

The Board shall conduct the school in such a manner as to make tuition fees pay all or the largest possible amount of all expenses incurred. This committee will announce at the beginning of each year the amount it will contribute, if necessary, to defray the expenses of the school and it will positively be bound for nothing beyond the amount it promises . . . This committee promises as much as may be necessary, not to exceed one thousand dollars [sig], from this date to July 1st, 1895 . . . It will be responsible for no debts, and the board is required to state this fact to all teachers and others with whom they may deal . . .

[Signed] J. H. Craig
Secretary of Home Missions

The minutes give the additional information that the teachers must be members in good and regular standing of the Presbyterian Church.²³

R. K. Moseley, G. W. Sealey, W. T. Whitlatch, and B. L. Phipps were chosen to serve on the faculty during the 1894-1895 term of school. Whitlatch later resigned and B. L. Phipps was named in his stead. R. K. Moseley was designated principal by the board.²⁴

The departments of the school were planned as follows: collegiate, academic, intermediate, and primary. The collegiate department curriculum, as recommended, consisted of higher algebra, Latin (four books in Caesar), Greek (first two books of the Anabasis), higher English, geometry (five books), physics, general history, and Bible. The academic curriculum included Latin grammar (an exercise book), Greek (beginner's book), psychology and hygiene, English, elementary algebra, United States history, and Bible. The intermediate plans included fourth and fifth readers, complete speller, arithmetic, English, history, and intermediate geography. The primary department included: "From the beginning through the third reader, primary

²³Minutes of the Board of Trustees, 1894, p. 9.

²⁴Ibid., p. 23.

geography, book of health, spelling, and primary arithmetic through fractions.²⁵

A resolution was proposed in this same meeting to the effect that an advertisement be placed in the Durant Eagle, stating that the school would open September 3, 1894. The statement of the proposed advertisement included the names of the departments, the teachers, and the tuition rates. The minutes further state that contention arose over such issues as who was responsible for the policies of the school.²⁶

E. Hotchkin, who for many years and for two separate periods served as president, states in his collected papers that for two years following the opening "there was turmoil without progress."²⁷

The minutes of the General Assembly²⁸ in 1895 give the average daily attendance of Calvin Institute as one hundred forty pupils.

At this point in the development of the school, C. J. Ralston, who had become evangelist for Indian Presbytery, acting for the Executive Committee of Home Missions, offered in 1896, the management of Calvin Institute to Mary Sempie Hotchkin²⁹ and her son, Ebenezer.³⁰

Mrs. Hotchkin was teaching at that time in a mission school operated by the Presbyterian Church, the northern branch, for the Chickasaw Indians near Wynnewood, Oklahoma. She had many years of

²⁵Ibid., pp. 18-20.

²⁶Ibid., pp. 43-53; 77-90.

²⁷E. Hotchkin, Collected Papers.

²⁸Alexander and Nicolassen, Alexander's Digest, pp. 440-441.

²⁹See appendix for complete biography.

³⁰E. Hotchkin, Collected Papers.

teaching experience behind her. She had been sent to the Indian Country in 1857 by the American Board of Commissioners of Foreign Missions, an organization which combined the mission work of the Congregational and Presbyterian denominations. In his collected papers Hotchkin further relates that J. N. Craig, at that time Secretary of the Executive Committee of Home Missions, wrote Mrs. Hotchkin, "See and hear but don't talk!" This was good advice and was followed with success by the Hotchkins, who found the two years of turmoil over the administration of Calvin Institute had created a poor situation in which to open a school. Hotchkin, however poor the situation may have been, stated that the need for the school was more pressing than it had ever been.³¹

September 1, 1896, found Mary Semple Hotchkin and her son in charge of Calvin Institute. The latter preceded his mother by two weeks because of family illness.³² School was opened with an enrollment of thirty pupils, a serious come-down from the large attendance of the two previous years.^{33, 34}

A local community school was organized in Durant for the first time in 1899. This forerunner of the city school system, which came into existence immediately following statehood in 1907, enrolled 475

³¹E. Hotchkin, Collected Papers.

³²E. Hotchkin, Personal Interview, Antlers, Oklahoma, August, 1953.

³³E. Hotchkin, Collected Papers.

³⁴It is possible, though not established by proof, that the conflict over Calvin Institute between the management and the Board of Trustees, and between the patrons and teachers over policies and rules may well have cost the school the patronage it was created to serve.

pupils the first year.³⁵ Calvin Institute, in spite of the advantages offered by the new school system, had an enrollment of 300 in 1899.³⁶

Because of the crowding this large enrollment involved, more classroom space was a necessity. The minutes of the General Assembly in 1899 state that the pastors and Sabbath School superintendents of the Presbyterian Church were requested to collect funds for the support of Indian schools.³⁷ Part of this money, the minutes add, was spent at Calvin Institute to add two needed classrooms in 1899.

Under the leadership of the Hotchkins, the school grew, and foundations were laid for a permanent work. From the evidence, proof is available that difficulties were overcome at least in part by the admission of J. H. Craig. Friends were made among prospective patronage, and the school grew.³⁸

In this same year, 1899, the Board employed three new faculty members. These were A. Nealey, his son Harry, and Lucy Hotchkin, the daughter of Mrs. Mary S. Hotchkin.³⁹

Miss Hotchkin, who later married Judge Smedley Forrest of Stigler, Oklahoma, was employed by the school on three occasions. The first was at Calvin Institute, as mentioned above. The second term of service was as a teacher at Durant Presbyterian College in 1901. Her third

³⁵ MacCreary, A Story of Durant, p. 88.

³⁶ E. Hotchkin, Collected Papers.

³⁷ Alexander and Nicolassen, Alexander's Digest, pp. 440-441.

³⁸ S. L. Morris, The Romance of Home Missions (Richmond, Virginia, 1924), p. 213.

³⁹ E. Hotchkin, Collected Papers.

position was that of house mother at the Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls from 1925 to 1932.^{40,41}

The Reverend Thornton R. Sampson, President of Austin College, Sherman, Texas, and the Reverend W. N. Anderson of the First Presbyterian Church of Dallas, Texas, paid a visit to Calvin Institute in the fall of 1899. These men represented the Synod of Texas, an organization of the Presbyterian Church under whose jurisdiction The Indian Presbytery and Calvin Institute lay. They realized, after a careful inspection, the great need of enlarging the plant and adding equipment.

The Durant area needed the advantages that Calvin Institute had to offer. With no other college nearer than Sherman, Texas, this mission school in Durant met a growing need. Parents who wanted their children to progress beyond the high school level had little choice of places to patronize. A wealthy few were able to send their children to schools in the East, but for many young people in the Choctaw Nation this institution offered great possibilities.⁴²

The management of the school and the Board of Trustees, after the tour of inspection, persuaded Sampson and Anderson to remain in Durant to meet with some of the business men of the town. These men, a representative number, met at the Methodist Church. Lewis Paulin, editor

⁴⁰"Lucy Forrest Gave Life of Service," Durant Daily Democrat, October 18, 1954.

⁴¹Mrs. Lucy K. Forrest's contribution to the work is worthy of mention. An obituary published in the Durant Daily Democrat, October 18, 1954, said in part:

"She was a person of integrity, Christian character, and personal worth. Her wit, wisdom, and Christian grace enabled her to render a service at Calvin Institute, the Durant Presbyterian College, and the Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls which will make her long remembered in connection with the work of the various phases of the above named educational institutions."

⁴²E. Hotchkiss, Collected Papers.

of the Durant Eagle, was elected chairman. After introducing the visitors from the Synod of Texas, Paullin spoke of the work of Calvin Institute and the imperative need for enlargement. He proposed that the men of Durant raise \$5,000, that the Synod of Texas raise \$2,000, that the Executive Committee of Home Missions, Atlanta, Georgia, raise \$2,000, and lastly, that \$1,000 be raised at large. At this meeting \$2,730 was pledged, and a committee was appointed to call on other representative citizens of Durant who were not present. Such well-known men as R. L. Williams, later Governor of Oklahoma; W. A. Durant, Chief of the Choctaw Indians for many years; Green Thompson, a pioneer banker of Indian Territory; and Judge G. T. Ballis of Coalgate were present according to Hotchkin.⁴³

Judge Williams said on this occasion, "Men who act move the world," and thereupon urged action in behalf of Calvin Institute. W. A. Durant said, "Shall we follow or shall we lead?" According to Hotchkin, Durant read into the shaping of current affairs a momentous future for Oklahoma, and particularly for the Southeastern section. He was eager, therefore, to provide a means of training young people for leadership. One eloquent speaker on that occasion is quoted as having said, "The best heritage you can leave your children is trained hearts and minds."⁴⁴

The committee which was appointed to collect pledges from the citizens not present at the night meeting raised \$2,500 by noon of the following day. Sampson, who led the drive for funds, left for Atlanta, Georgia, at once and secured the approval of the Executive Committee of Home Missions and obtained the promise of \$2,000 from this source.

⁴³Ibid.

⁴⁴Ibid.

Plans and concerted action followed. A block of city property in northwest Durant was given to the Board of Trustees. A building committee was appointed, and plans were made for enlarging the work.⁴⁵

In the meantime Calvin Institute carried on. Throughout the year of 1900 useful service was rendered.⁴⁶ The student body grew, and the work prospered. Graduates of the institution went out to establish schools in their respective communities in the era before statehood. Hotchkin, who was appointed by the Federal government to represent the Choctaw Nation in the matter of qualifying applicants for teaching certificates, states that he found many graduates of Calvin Institute among those who presented themselves for examination.⁴⁷

⁴⁵Ibid.

⁴⁶William B. Morrison, The Red Man's Trail (Richmond, Virginia, 1932), p. 110.

⁴⁷E. Hotchkin, Personal Interview, Antlers, Oklahoma, August, 1953.

Summary

The Oklahoma Presbyterian College is an outgrowth of educational mission work among the Indians of the Five Civilized Tribes, carried on by the Presbyterian Church in the United States. The Executive Committee of Home Missions, largely through the efforts and financial contribution of C. J. Ralston, acquired in 1894 at Durant, Oklahoma, a piece of property which was used to house a small coeducational school called Calvin Institute. Ralston's small son, Calvin, who met death under tragic circumstances, left a legacy of \$200 which was given him by his grandmother for his education. This money was used by his father to aid in the purchase of the original plant.

Mrs. Mary Semple Hotchkiss and her son, Ebenezer, were placed in charge of the work in 1896. Under their leadership the school grew rapidly. In 1899, Thornton R. Sampson, President of Austin College, Sherman, Texas, directed a campaign to secure money for the enlargement of Calvin Institute. The financial assistance and public support which followed this effort resulted in the closing of Calvin Institute and the opening of a new and larger school.

CHAPTER II

DURANT PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE

Transition from Calvin Institute

A contract with the Choctaw tribe for the education of Indian boys and girls was granted Calvin Institute by the Choctaw Nation in 1900. Angie Debo, in her book, The Rise and Fall of the Choctaw Republic, described the tribal system of educational sustentation which made this assistance possible.¹ With this contract and the possibilities of the area for patronage, plans were made to enlarge the work.²

An organizational meeting of patrons and friends in the Durant area was held as described in Chapter I, pages 12-13. The town of Durant and leading citizens of the Choctaw Nation agreed to cooperate with the Board of Trustees in sharing the responsibility of erecting a building to cost not more than \$11,000 on the block of property acquired in the campaign of 1899.³

This building was to be, according to Hotchkin, a two-story structure of red brick, trimmed with white stone. Two arched entrances resting on marble columns, two wide halls, and an imposing stairway were provided for in these plans. Three large classrooms, an auditorium, an office, and a reception room were also included in the lay-out.⁴

¹Debo, The Rise and Fall of the Choctaw Republic, p. 237.

²E. Hotchkin, Collected Papers.

³Ibid.

⁴Ibid.

The building committee set to work, and soon the plans were executed as described. This new location was on North Eighth Avenue at the approximate spot now occupied by Washington Irving Elementary School.⁵

The buildings of Calvin Institute were moved to the new site and rebuilt for dormitory purposes. This reconstructed unit contained a suite of three rooms for the superintendent's quarters. A newly signed contract with the Choctaw tribe called for space for one hundred boys and girls; therefore, additional housing was required. The congregation of the Methodist Church was at this time offering their property on Evergreen Street for sale. This building was purchased and moved to a lot adjoining the new building on North Eighth Avenue. It was remodeled and made into a dormitory for boys. Later, when W. B. Morrison and his wife joined the staff, this building became a dormitory for girls.⁶

The Board of Trustees, meeting in the summer of 1901 to consider the problems of finance, school operation, and supervision, decided to rename the institution the Durant Presbyterian College. Thus the name Calvin Institute was dropped; and with the change in location, equipment, and facilities came a change of name recognizing the contribution of the community to the growing educational work of the Presbyterian Church.⁷ While the Indian Presbytery and the General Assembly did not officially approve this change of name for four years, the school operated under this title.⁸

⁵Ibid.

⁶Ibid.

⁷Minutes of the Board of Trustees, Durant Presbyterian College, 1904, p. 1.

⁸Ibid., p. 21.

Administration of E. Hotchkiss⁹

On August 8, 1901, the Board of Trustees elected E. Hotchkiss to be president of the newly named institution. On the same occasion they named B. B. Brown, H. D. Healey, C. L. Healey, G. W. Seeley, Miss Louise Caldwell, and Miss Lucy Hotchkiss to serve on the faculty. Hotchkiss was empowered to set salaries and employ additional faculty members.¹⁰

The minutes record that the title to the location on North Eighth Avenue was certified to be as good as could be obtained under territorial law. Mention is made of the purchase of an additional lot for which the Board paid \$225. The minutes also show that a resolution was adopted to the effect that Durant Presbyterian College was to be opened September 3, 1901.¹¹

The General Assembly, in the minutes for the year 1901, give the information that the church felt it was to be congratulated upon securing a college, fully equipped for useful work, in Durant. The hope was expressed that this institution would be of great service to the church and to the cause of Christ in a new and rapidly growing country.¹²

Henry MacCreary in his book, The Queen of Three Valleys, makes the statement that the Durant City school system was operating in 1901, but not according to the provisions of the existing school laws. As a result, some change in planning came about. Taxable property

⁹For biography see Appendix C.

¹⁰Minutes of the Board of Trustees, p. 2.

¹¹Ibid.

¹²Alexander and Nicolassen, Alexander's Digest, p. 195.

was surveyed and the city council adopted a five mill levy for the support of schools.¹³ While these needed changes were under local consideration, the Durant Presbyterian College, with a strong faculty, attracted a large student body. A curriculum beginning with the primary department and extending into college, covering all the traditional fields, was available. Art, music, and elocution [sic] were added for those who wanted such training.¹⁴

The General Assembly records in the minutes for 1902 the following quotation:

The accomplished establishment of Durant Presbyterian College is noted. Of the \$11,000 spent upon the buildings \$2,000 was given by the Assembly of last year. A charter has been taken out, and the titles of property made to the Trustees of the General Assembly. The charter and the by-laws of the college have been examined. The report of the Board of Trustees shows an enrollment of 375 during this session. A good faculty has been elected. While about \$1,500 is needed for equipment of the building, the Board is able to report that the Assembly now owns a handsome college building and two acres of campus, with two dormitories valued at about \$14,000. The institution is now fairly launched, and promises great usefulness to the church in a rapidly developing centre of population and influence.¹⁵

The Board of Trustees, in planning for the school year in 1902, authorized President Hotchkin to advertise in Durant and in the church papers in order to place the college in a favorable light with the public.¹⁶

It was during the meeting of the Board of Trustees in 1902 that W. B. Morrison¹⁷ was elected to serve as vice-president. According to

¹³MacCreary, A Story of Durant, p. 89.

¹⁴Lucy K. Forrest, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, April, 1953.

¹⁵Alexander and Nicolassen, Alexander's Digest, p. 196.

¹⁶Minutes of the Board of Trustees, 1902, p. 12.

¹⁷For biography see Appendix.

the minutes of the Board, Morrison and his wife contributed to the status the college achieved and to the service it was able to render.¹⁸ S. L. Morris said that, as a graduate of Washington and Lee University, Morrison joined the faculty, trained for his responsibility and grounded in classical knowledge.¹⁹

During the Christmas season in 1902, Morrison married Christine Dorman Barton in Beaumont, Texas.²⁰ She came with him to Durant where both were employed by the school until the end of the year.²¹ Mrs. Morrison acted as counselor in the girls' dormitory, which at that time was greatly overcrowded, incomplete, and furnished only with the barest necessities.²²

The year 1902-1903 was a busy one in the development of the college. The minutes of the Board record that a catalogue was authorized. This was another mark of the growth of the work.²³ Many leading families of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations were represented in the student body.²⁴

When the Board of Trustees met in 1903, they made special reference to the excellent report of the work of the college, filed by W. B. Morrison. As an outgrowth of Morrison's report, the Board of Trustees

¹⁸Minutes of the Board of Trustees, 1903, p. 19.

¹⁹S. L. Morris, The Romance of Home Missions, p. 110.

²⁰"W. B. Morrison Dies," Durant Daily Democrat, March 20, 1944, p. 1.

²¹Mrs. W. B. Morrison, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, April, 1954.

²²Ibid.

²³Minutes of the Board of Trustees, 1903, p. 12.

²⁴Ibid.

appointed a permanent committee to study the curricular needs of the school.²⁵

The General Assembly recorded in 1903 that a request from the trustees of the Durant Presbyterian College, asking for a change in representation, was granted. Since Indian Presbytery was divided into two Presbyteries at this time, Durant and Indian, it was necessary to change both the charter and the representation. Necessary action was taken to effect these changes.²⁶

The year 1904 found the Board of Trustees jubilant over the results of the work. An unusually long report included a number of items of interest. The committee appointed to study the curriculum reported the quality of the work offered was much improved over that of past years. Another item, in nature of an inventory, assessed the valuation of the property at \$17,000 and stated that the plant was free of debt. The attendance was recorded as 280 students, of whom 198 were Indians. The resignation of W. B. Morrison and his wife was accepted.²⁷ In concluding the minutes for 1904, a motion was made and carried that the Board grant testimonial letters to the Morrisons. The last statement of the minutes is "The Church has built better than she knew." This had reference to the success of the work at the Durant Presbyterian College.²⁸

²⁵Minutes of the Board of Trustees, 1903, p. 19.

²⁶Alexander and Nicolassen, Alexander's Digest, p. 196.

²⁷Mrs. W. B. Morrison states in an unpublished manuscript that they resigned to move to Williamson, W. Va., where Morrison was to be in charge of Williamson Presbyterian Academy.

²⁸Minutes of the Board of Trustees, pp. 23-24.

The year 1905 found the college growing in favor with its patrons. There were 315 pupils enrolled. The minutes give the information that the dormitories were, in spite of poor equipment and facilities, crowded to their limits. The secretary writes that "It is impossible to overstate the importance and value of this institution to the work of the church and to education in this rapidly developing country."²⁹

In response to overtures from Durant and Indian Presbyteries in 1905 concerning the matter of better equipment and endowment, the Assembly authorized the Executive Committee of Home Missions to secure the equipment and to take action to secure the needed endowment.³⁰

The years 1906 and 1907 passed uneventfully. None of the available historical sources produces anything more than an item to the effect that the high school and college departments were strengthened.³¹

Up to this time, 1908, the college had been under the care, first, of the Indian Presbytery and, second, the Durant and the Indian Presbyteries. These Presbyteries were in turn included in the Synod of Texas. Thus, Calvin Institute and the Durant Presbyterian College were under the jurisdiction of the above mentioned Synod. The Reverend J. W. Mosaley, in writing a history of the Synod of Oklahoma for Oklahoma Trails, says that three Presbyteries in Oklahoma (Mangum, Durant, and Indian) petitioned the General Assembly meeting at Greensboro, North Carolina, to erect the Synod of Oklahoma. By request of

²⁹Ibid., pp. 33-34.

³⁰Alexander and Nicolassen, Alexander's Digest, p. 196.

³¹Minutes of the Board of Trustees, pp. 37-38.

these Presbyteries, the Assembly ordered the new Synod to meet in Durant, October 7, 1908, to organize. This was done.³²

The minutes of General Assembly contain the notation for the year 1908 that the charter of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College was amended to conform to the new Synod of Oklahoma as requested by the Trustees of the institution.³³

This source also contains the information that the Assembly heard with pleasure an address of President E. Hotchkin and cordially endorsed his administration. President Hotchkin reported to the Assembly that the town of Durant offered the Presbyterians \$20,000 for the plant occupied by the Durant Presbyterian College together with forty acres of land, 100 scholarships of \$40 each for ten years, and free water. Inasmuch as the plant was too small for the current needs, the Assembly authorized the Board of Trustees to make the sale, if the way were cleared. An agreement was reached that the money from this sale was to be used to erect a more commodious building upon the new site.³⁴

Shortly after statehood the college secured recognition as a standard college, offering courses in English, Latin, Greek, German, mathematics, and the sciences. The faculty was made up of persons such as Miss Ella Hockaday, who now operates her own exclusive school for girls in Dallas, Texas, and E. R. Sims, who later went to the University of Texas to teach.³⁵

³²Ralls, Oklahoma Trails, pp. 19-35.

³³Alexander and Nicolassen, Alexander's Digest, p. 196.

³⁴Ibid., pp. 196-197.

³⁵E. Hotchkin, Collected Papers.

Statehood brought public schools to Durant, creating an immediate need for extra buildings. The offer of \$20,000, plus a new location, certain scholarships, and other considerations, which the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church approved, was accepted. S. L. Morris, Secretary of Home Missions, came to Durant, completed the transfer, and accepted the new site. This land was the property of Paul Saldner, a citizen of the territory. It consisted of 90 acres adjoining the town on the west and was valued at \$30 per acre. A group of men, A. C. Risner, E. P. Rines, T. R. Landers, and C. C. Parker, supervised the purchase, and took title to the land in C. C. Parker's name. These men agreed to deed nine blocks of the tract in the heart of the 90 acres to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, if the town and friends of the institution would purchase the remaining lots at \$200 each. This plan was accepted by the Board of Trustees. A lottery was planned and a date set for the drawing. Block and lot numbers were to be drawn with payment to be made for each lot as follows: \$66.67 cash, one note for \$66.67 to be paid in twelve months at six per cent, and a second note at \$66.74 to be paid in twenty-four months at six per cent interest. On the day appointed a large number of people were present. A little girl drew the lot numbers from the box. There were good lots and poor ones, but everyone appeared satisfied. C. C. Parker and his wife gave deeds, retaining a lien on all lots where notes were taken.³⁶

A contract was signed in 1909 with the M. G. Gill and Company for the erection of a combination dormitory and school plant to cost \$100,000. The company failed during construction. The building

³⁶E. Hotchkiss, Collected Papers.

committee employed Hatchett and Ferguson, attorneys of Durant, to file suit. A judgment was secured against the bondsmen for the company for sufficient funds to complete the building. An additional \$5,000 was awarded for damage caused by delay and difficulty.³⁷

With this affair settled, the administration of E. Hotchkin came to a close. He stated in an interview that he refused to accept re-election, and recommended to the Board that they consider the calling of W. B. Morrison as president of the new college for girls to be opened in the fall of 1910 at the location described above.³⁸ Morrison, it will be recalled, had served the school on a previous occasion as vice president.

³⁷Ibid.

³⁸E. Hotchkin, Private Interview, Antlers, Oklahoma, August, 1953.

Summary

A large brick building costing approximately \$11,000 was erected on the outskirts of Durant and was opened for use in September, 1901. Ebenezer Hotchkin was called to the presidency of a new coeducational institution designated as the Durant Presbyterian College.

Statehood came to Oklahoma in 1907 and brought with it a better educational system. The City of Durant purchased the location and buildings of the Durant Presbyterian College in 1908 and assisted the Board of Trustees in procuring land overlooking the town upon which the Presbyterians erected a \$100,000 combination dormitory and school plant for the purpose of opening a college for girls.

CHAPTER III

OKLAHOMA PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE FOR GIRLS

Transition from the Durant Presbyterian College

In 1908, E. Hotchkin, acting as Commissioner to the General Assembly meeting at Greensboro, North Carolina, made a speech about which S. L. Morris, Secretary of Home Missions, made the following comment:

. . . a record breaking speech for brevity and enthusiasm. It awakened a spontaneous response which transformed the Durant College into Oklahoma Presbyterian College. . . now having equipment valued at \$250,000, the greatest missionary institution in Oklahoma, and perhaps of our denomination in the West. With characteristic self-abnegation, he promptly retired from the presidency in order to bring to the front Professor W. B. Morrison, a trained educator. He, himself, was forced by popular sentiment to retain his connection with the institution in the capacity of Bible teacher . . . a position he filled with unrivalled success.¹

Hotchkin, in writing of this work in an unpublished manuscript, said that in 1910 another charter was granted the school under a new name, The Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls.²

Morrison comments as follows in a pamphlet called a Century of Indian Missions:

. . . it was decided to change the co-educational school into a college for the higher education of the most promising Indian girls. Thus came Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls, which since its opening has reached hundreds of the finest young women of the Choctaw and Chickasaw tribes.³

¹Morris, The Romance of Home Missions, p. 212.

²E. Hotchkin, Collected Papers.

³W. B. Morrison, "A Century of Indian Missions," Executive Committee of Home Missions, Atlanta, Georgia. (A pamphlet containing a reference to the Oklahoma Presbyterian College).

The transition from the Durant Presbyterian College, which was a co-educational institution, to Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls brought no change in the continuing policy of the church, referred to in Chapter I, to furnish trained leadership for Indian and white youth of Oklahoma.⁴ Muriel Wright, in an article published in The Chronicles of Oklahoma, June, 1936, referring to the contributions of Indian people to Oklahoma, states, "Education and the achievement of good schools were fostered . . . [by the Indians]. Scholarly achievement was greatly desired."⁵ Because this was true, the Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls, under the leadership of such men as Hotchkin, Morrison, and A. H. Ferguson, now entered one of its greatest eras of service.⁶

Ferguson, who was appointed to the Board in 1904, had already served the school in extricating it from the morass of varied problems which the building contractors had created when they became insolvent. As president of the Board of Trustees from 1913 to the present (1955), Ferguson shared with the various presidents and the other church agencies responsible for the school, such as the Synod of Oklahoma and the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, the responsibility for carrying out the aims of the home mission work of the Church.⁷

In the period from 1910 to 1920 the school continued to progress

⁴Catalogue, "Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls," 1910, p. 5.

⁵Muriel H. Wright, "Contributions of Indian People to Oklahoma," Chronicles of Oklahoma, June, 1936, p. 158.

⁶E. Hotchkin, Personal Interview, Antlers, Oklahoma, June, 1954.

⁷E. Hotchkin, Collected Papers. (An unpublished manuscript on the life of A. H. Ferguson.)

in the achievement of the aims set forth by the Board at the beginning of the work at Calvin Institute.

Ruth Muskrat Bronson, in a book called Indians Are People Too⁸ wrote that in Oklahoma, Indians and whites intermingle freely, and Indians are accepted on terms of complete equality. She gave in her book many reasons for this. One of these reasons lay in the mission schools. On page 102 she called attention to the fact that these schools were responsible for gratifying results in the advancement and progress of many Indian communities and in the training of Indian leadership. The tireless and successful efforts of the missionaries and teachers in the mission schools on behalf of the Indians finally awakened the American people to the need of providing for the establishment of the Federal Indian educational institutions.⁹

The results referred to in the above paragraph may have had some influence on the efforts of the community to secure a Normal School at Durant in 1909. Some of the same men who had been instrumental in promoting the educational work carried on by the Presbyterian Church now turned to the endorsement of this new institution with the result that a second college opened its doors in 1909.¹⁰

W. B. Morrison writes that the first session of the Southeastern Normal School, now Southeastern State College, was held in the Durant Presbyterian College classrooms in the summer of 1909.¹¹

⁸Ruth Muskrat Bronson, Indians Are People Too. (New York, 1944) p. 120.

⁹Ibid., pp. 102-103.

¹⁰A. H. Ferguson, Private Interview, Russellville, Arkansas, August, 1953.

¹¹W. B. Morrison, "Landmark Makes Way for Progress," Durant Daily Democrat, October 16, 1938, p. 1.

The change in location, name, and administration of the home mission work, sponsored by the Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, was an accomplished fact. This educational enterprise now entered its third phase.

The Administration of W. B. Morrison

School opened in September, 1910, in an unfinished building.

W. B. Morrison and his wife, Christine Barton Morrison, took charge of the work which hereafter, until 1951, will be referred to as the Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls.¹²

Morrison, in a detailed account of the situation the school faced in 1910, stated that in spite of all efforts made to prevent it, a large debt rested upon the school. This debt was more than it would otherwise have been because of the failure of the contracting firm. There was little money in sight with which to furnish the structure and pay for insurance and other necessary items. The school had to be opened. The people of the area were clamoring for it. With the use of available credit, school rooms, dormitory, dining room, and kitchen were furnished with the necessities.¹³

In 1910 the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church entered the following notation in its minutes:

The affairs of the Durant College elicit the attention of the entire church. Strenuous efforts are being made to erect new buildings with new equipment. The efforts of the women of the church, under the leadership of Mrs. J. Calvin Stewart, to secure funds have been very successful and deserve the thanks of the entire church. With all these efforts the college is still faced with debt.¹⁴

A second entry for the same year states that the Assembly instructed its Committee on Schools and Colleges to look into the matter of

¹²W. B. Morrison, "The Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls," (An unpublished manuscript found in historical papers preserved by the college. It is dated by its contents as written in 1913.)

¹³Ibid., p. 2.

¹⁴Alexander and Nicolassen, Alexander's Digest, p. 197.

financial support for the Durant College and to see if it were possible to raise any or all of the sum requested by the school.¹⁵

Morrison, by careful planning, succeeded in paying off this indebtedness with financial support from a variety of sources.¹⁶ He stated that the struggle required great economy.¹⁷

The Home Mission Herald for the year 1910, in an article prepared by Hotchkin, reported to the church that \$11,000 was needed. Hotchkin wrote that many young women waited expectantly for the school year to open.¹⁸

In the article referred to above, Morrison writes a quotable appraisal of the work and its needs:

. . . This is now the third year of the school. We enrolled 104 students the first session, 108 the second, and to date this year, 110. We give these girls the rudiments of a good education. We teach music and the other subjects related to refinement and culture. We give a large place to the study of Bible in every department of the school. The claims of the Gospel are faithfully represented to every girl who comes under our care, and that, too, every day while she is here. We strive to make the school atmosphere cheerfully and wholesomely Christian. Need I say that our efforts have been richly blessed? . . . When you stop to think that Oklahoma is one of the most needy spots in the United States, with only 18 professed Christians to the 100. . . the smallest percentage of any state or territory in the union. . . You can see that such work as we are striving to do must count. This is too great and too good a country to turn over to the cohorts of evil!¹⁹

In his book The Red Man's Trail, Morrison says "the next ten years reads almost like a novel. . . a constant struggle against debt,

¹⁵Ibid., p. 197.

¹⁶Morrison, "The Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls," p. 3.

¹⁷Ibid., p. 3.

¹⁸E. Hotchkin, "Indian Boys and Girls of Durant College," The Home Mission Herald, (July, 1910), p. 167.

¹⁹Morrison, "The Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls," p. 3.

and the ever-increasing demands of a high-grade institution." Yet, he reports that the support of the church never failed.²⁰

The catalogue, published by the college for the year 1910, contains the information that the school offered Latin, science, moral science, German, French, English, history, expression, art, music, voice, piano, and violin. There were five teachers in the fine arts department alone. A paragraph on the offerings of this department stated that it was the aim of the school to make this department the very best to be found anywhere.²¹

This publication carries the notice that additional dormitory space was made available to the college in 1912 in order to accommodate the increasing number of those who were applying for admittance to the college. Morrison built a large and substantial two story frame building on a lot adjoining the college property. He secured the lots from Hotchkin who in turn had acquired them from C. C. Parker at the time of the drawing.²²

The writer of this issue of the catalogue, who may have been Morrison, states that the dormitory was named Hotchkin Hall in honor of Hotchkin, the founder of the Durant Presbyterian College.²³

A comment on the degrees offered by the institution in the 1912 catalogue reads:

The degrees offered by this college are B. A. (Bachelor of Arts); B. L. (Bachelor of Literature); B. S. (Bachelor of Science). It will

²⁰Morrison, The Red Man's Trail, p. 11.

²¹Catalogue, "Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls," 1910.

²²Bryan County Abstract Company, Bryan County Records, Book 154, p. 290, and Book 218, p. 187.

²³Catalogue, "Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls," 1912.

ordinarily take a student four years to finish any one of the degree courses. In addition to completing the prescribed course, a thesis on some subject appropriate to the degree sought must be prepared by the candidate and submitted to the teacher in whose department the subject belongs at least thirty days before the date of commencement.²⁴

Under a topic in the catalogue called "Social Advantages" mention is made of the attractions available in Durant. These included the possible hearing of such speakers as William Jennings Bryan and Senator T. P. Gore. Mand Powell, violinist, and Frederick Ward, Shakespearian scholar, were also heard in Durant in 1912.²⁵

The availability of a European tour was outlined in the same issue of the catalogue. Miss Mathilde Leipold, a native of Germany herself, and a member of the music staff of the college, offered to conduct a party of students and patrons on a tour of Europe, if any were interested.²⁶

Professor Edward Baxter Perry of Boston, who was a student of the famous Liszt, became visiting director of the music department.²⁷ A music critic, writing for the local paper, stated in 1912 that the college had a music department as strong as any in the state, if not stronger.²⁸

This department was further strengthened in 1913 by the addition of Miss Irma Beck. A notice in the catalogue stated that the school

²⁴Ibid.

²⁵Ibid.

²⁶Ibid.

²⁷Ibid.

²⁸The Durant Daily Democrat, "Mr. Perry's Lecture-Recital," (March 21, 1912), p. 3.

was fortunate to secure her services because she represented the top in ability as a musician and teacher.²⁹

The Board of Trustees, in a manuscript dated October 27, 1914, written as a report to the Synod of Oklahoma, records that, "The financial condition of the institution was now being placed on a more satisfactory basis." The current expenses were met out of receipts of the college, and \$2,106.94 was expended upon debts, insurance, and additional equipment. The constant demand for new, better, or expanding facilities placed the administration under heavy responsibility. The Board of Trustees renewed their contract for the services of W. B. Morrison as president for a term of five years. In this report they said that they recommended the leasing of Hotchkin Hall to the college for a sum of \$500 a year, payable to Morrison.³⁰

Morrison's report to the board in 1915 states with some feeling that he found it difficult to obtain the type of consecrated and efficient young women he would like to have for staff members. The staff, he reported, if lacking somewhat in interest in the religious work of the school, were at least growing rapidly in that direction. He added that their shortcomings and mistakes were the result of youth and inexperience rather than inability and lack of interest.³¹

Morrison calls attention to the fact that he wished to sell Hotchkin Hall to the school. No action was taken in regard to this matter. He

²⁹Catalogue, "Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls," 1913-1914. (No pagination given.)

³⁰The Board of Trustees, "A Report to Synod," October 27, 1914.

³¹W. B. Morrison, "Fifth Annual Report of W. B. Morrison," April 20, 1915.

further records, in closing his report for the year, that the water supply was inadequate and recommended the boring of a deep well.³²

The catalogue for the 1914-1915 school year shows that twenty staff members served a total enrollment of 200 students. A comparison of the catalogue of the previous year with the 1915-1916 publication reveals that the administration added another staff member to the music department. A section on graduates shows nine degrees were awarded.³³

At this time the government discontinued temporarily the payment of tuition fees for Choctaw and Chickasaw students. The school had found these funds a great help as a dependable source of income. Morrison, writing for the church paper, The Missionary Survey, explained to the church that the comptroller of the United States treasury ruled that "no Indian money shall be paid for pupils in other than government schools proper." This, Morrison stated, would work a hardship on the school, and he appealed to the church for financial support.³⁴

The Missionary Survey for July, 1915, contained an article also written by Morrison in which he informed the church of the potential possibilities of a Christian college. The Young Women's Christian Association on the campus adopted a plan for forming "Eight Weeks Clubs." Seven girls agreed to form these clubs in their home towns, thus bringing social and spiritual advantages into these communities, in addition to giving these organizers the benefit of training in

³²Ibid.

³³Catalogue, "Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls," 1914-1915.

³⁴W. B. Morrison, "The New Ruling of the Indian Office As It Affects Our Work," The Missionary Survey, (October, 1915), p. 787.

leadership. Morrison said in this article that there was great talk about the value of Christian colleges in the older states, but that not one of them began to touch the possibilities of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College.³⁵

Mrs. Earl Newcomb, a graduate of the school who received a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1915, when asked to give a fair evaluation of the work during the years she attended, has written as follows:

During the years I was senior adviser in Antlers High School, I examined the courses of study of many colleges and universities. I found the curriculum set up by Dr. Morrison for the years I attended O. P. C. was equal to almost any college or university of the present day, and in some courses of study today. During my years there we were given intensive training and instruction because of the small class load. Mr. Scott Amend, former superintendent of the Antlers schools, and now connected with the public schools of Laton, California, once said that any one who graduated or received a degree from O. P. C. during Dr. Morrison's administration had almost received a degree from Washington and Lee. [This was the school from which Morrison was graduated.] He felt O. P. C. never received its full measure of recognition from, or in, educational circles of Oklahoma.^{36, 37}

The minutes of the Board of Trustees for 1915 show reasons why the college should consider the demands of the church to standardize and accredit the institution. The growing competition of state institutions was rapidly becoming a serious threat. The question of competing with the local state college presented problems of a perplexing nature to the Board of Trustees. Such matters as expanding the plant, increasing the qualifications of the teaching staff, improving library

³⁵W. B. Morrison, "The Potential Possibilities of a Christian College," The Missionary Survey, (July, 1915), pp. 543-544.

³⁶Gladys S. Newcomb, Personal Letter appraising the value of the work at the Oklahoma Presbyterian College in 1915. Antlers, Oklahoma, January 6, 1955.

³⁷This letter is included as opinion for whatever opinion is worth in evaluating the work of the institution.

facilities, the current financial depression, and means of securing financial aid were given serious and prayerful attention, according to the minutes.³⁸

The following year a movement to secure funds to add another building was initiated. Eighteen thousand dollars was obtained in pledges from the town of Durant, the Synod of Oklahoma, the Executive Committee of Home Missions in Atlanta, and friends. It was proposed that a building costing approximately \$30,000 be erected. As needs grew, this estimate was expanded in 1918 to provide for a building to cost between \$80,000 and \$100,000. A proposal was presented to the board that the college purchase Hotchkiss Hall in order to save the college the yearly rental. No action was taken on this latter suggestion.³⁹

The contract for the education of Indians was renewed in 1918 by the United States government. This was a matter of some encouragement in light of the current drop in attendance of Indian students and the accompanying decrease of revenues. In the depression of the time any shortage of income was felt keenly. The Board of Trustees expressed themselves as being deeply concerned over the loss of patronage due to the ever increasing popularity of the state colleges. Specifically, Oklahoma College for Women at Chickasha was financially able to offer lower board and tuition rates and better housing accommodations than the Oklahoma Presbyterian College. The records quote board and room, tuition, and extras such as art, music, and expression at the Oklahoma

³⁸Minutes of the Board of Trustees, "Exhibit F," April 20, 1915.

³⁹Minutes of the Board of Trustees, January 25, 1916, p. 13.

College for Women for the low price of \$16 per month, a figure the trustees felt they could not meet under existing conditions.⁴⁰

The Board felt that plans must continue to go forward to erect the proposed new dormitory and to purchase Hotchkiss Hall. Both of these projects were necessary to relieve the overcrowded conditions. The prestige of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College was at stake, and plans were made to reach the church at large and the Synod of Oklahoma with an appeal for funds.⁴¹

During this period of time, the fall of 1916, a local typhoid epidemic made the problem of an adequate and pure water supply a very pressing one. After the disease broke out in the school, a study of the city water supply by health officers revealed the source of infection to be the "dead end" line of which the college was the "end" consumer. Since the city had been unable for two years to furnish the school with adequate amounts of water, the decision was made to bore a deep well and install a pump system. The installation was completed under a contract to a competent firm at a cost of nearly \$2,000. The epidemic resulted in the death of one student.⁴²

As the state institutions grew, and as the government supported the boarding schools for Indians more adequately, the Oklahoma Presbyterian College found it increasingly difficult to keep its student body representative of the type of patronage it had formerly served. A financial depression and its effects are mentioned in the minutes of

⁴⁰Ibid., pp. 15-17.

⁴¹"A Crises and an Opportunity," June 26, 1916. (A pamphlet published by the college).

⁴²Minutes of the Board of Trustees, April 17, 1917, pp. 7-10.

the Board of Trustees for three years from 1914 to 1917. The president's report to the Board in 1917 called attention to six factors mentioned for consideration. The first was the need to consider state accrediting. The second concerned the growing tendency of the college to fail in attracting students beyond high school level. The third item stated that it was impossible to make the school pay its way under the existing conditions. The fourth statement, proved by the unfavorable results of a questionnaire sent to selected representation of the Presbyterian Church, claimed a lack of interest on the part of the church people in the work of the school. The fifth point recommended for consideration was surprising. Morrison asked to be relieved of the presidency. He says at this point in his report:

Under existing conditions, I am no longer willing to undertake the operation of the college as its president. It is impossible for me to make it pay its way, and it is also impossible for the Board of Trustees to keep its contract with me. . . It is useless for me to attempt to carry longer a burden that is constantly getting heavier, and which threatens to overwhelm me and my family with complete financial disaster.⁴³

Under the sixth and last item Morrison urged the necessity for drastic action in regard to the present and future of the school. He suggested that steps must be taken at once to take care of outstanding debts, to curtail the number of teachers and branches taught, and lastly, to employ a canvasser who would begin at once a determined campaign for the new building.⁴⁴

The Board of Trustees answered these recommendations one by one with plausible suggestions for solutions. Plans were made to secure funds to erect the much needed dormitory. An arrangement was finally

⁴³Minutes of the Board of Trustees, April 17, 1917, pp. 9-11.

⁴⁴Ibid., p. 9.

worked out for the purchase of Hotchkiss Hall. The Board refused to accept Morrison's resignation, gave him a vote of complete confidence, and promised him renewed support and financial assistance.⁴⁵

A survey of the work at this time showed modifications in the program which supported the recommendations of the Board. The curricular offerings had been cut in 1916 to a three year program terminating in a diploma instead of a degree.⁴⁶ A department of education is listed in the catalogue for 1917. It was evidently felt this would add to the advantages offered by the college to its patrons.⁴⁷

S. L. Morris, Secretary of Home Missions, proved a faithful friend of the institution throughout his life time. During these troubled years his vision for the work never faltered. A half-dozen reliable sources, including reports of his active part on innumerable committees recorded by the minutes of the Board, attest to the indispensable role he played in furthering the work he loved. The school yearbook for 1917-1918 was dedicated to him by the editing staff of the publication. In view of his efforts in helping to procure the new dormitory, mentioned previously, it seems fitting to quote this dedication:

Because of his love of Oklahoma, his faith in her people, his untiring efforts in behalf of our college during its whole history, and because of our appreciation of him as a fine Christian gentleman and friend, we the students of this institution do respectfully dedicate this volume of Ithanna to Rev. S. L. Morris, D. D., of Atlanta, Georgia.⁴⁸

The school continued, in spite of small yearly deficits, to fill

⁴⁵Ibid., p. 14.

⁴⁶Catalogue, Oklahoma Presbyterian College, 1916, p. 26.

⁴⁷Ibid., p. 17.

⁴⁸Ithanna, The 1917 Yearbook of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College.

its dormitory space to capacity.⁴⁹ The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, meeting at Durant in 1918, authorized the Home Mission Committee to undertake the second dormitory for which the administration and friends of the school had been working for several years. The plans called for an outlay of nearly \$100,000 which again entailed a heavy debt upon an already struggling institution in a weak Synod which could not rally to its support. The town, however, agreed to pay one-third the cost; the Home Missions Committee, another third; and Mr. C. E. Graham, a friend of members of the Home Mission Committee, the remaining third. Plans for the building were beginning at this time to move toward completion.⁵⁰ Largely through the efforts of the Home Mission Committee, under the direction of Morris, the work of planning and financing progressed with continued assurance of success.⁵¹

The resignation of Morrison reached the Board of Trustees again in March, 1920. On this occasion no amount of persuasion prevailed to keep him in office. A motion was made and carried that his resignation be accepted. Morris presented the Board of Trustees with evidence that all existing debts were paid. Twenty thousand dollars was turned over to the school to be used by the building committee for the new dormitory as soon as it was matched by a like amount by the city of Durant. The success of Morris, and others concerned, in securing the money with which to proceed on the long-wanted and still much needed

⁴⁹Minutes of the Board of Trustees, 1918.

⁵⁰Morris, The Romance of Home Missions, p. 110.

⁵¹Minutes of the Board of Trustees, 1919.

building was gratifying to all concerned.⁵² W. B. Morrison was congratulated upon his management of the school. Inasmuch as the institution was now debt free, had a favorable balance in the bank, and was assured a new dormitory, the Board reports that they considered it a matter for special thanksgiving. Generous gifts were reported from several Indians.⁵³

The work of keeping the college accredited with the State Board of Education necessitated, in 1920, the dropping of another year from the college curriculum. It was designated, therefore, as a two year, standard junior college conferring the degree of Associate in Arts (A. A.).⁵⁴ This move, while it resulted in fewer course offerings, was designed to strengthen the quality of the work.⁵⁵

The first administration of W. B. Morrison came to a close at the end of the school year in 1920. The institution was reported in excellent condition, and friends rallied to the support of the work with money and patronage.⁵⁶

⁵²Minutes of the Board of Trustees, March 30, 1920.

⁵³Ibid.

⁵⁴Catalogue "The Oklahoma Presbyterian College," 1920.

⁵⁵Ibid.

⁵⁶W. Hotchkiss, Collected Papers.

The Administration of E. H. Lyle⁵⁷

E. H. Lyle, of Cleburne, Texas, was present at the meeting of the Board of Trustees on March 31, 1920, and he was asked to make a statement as to his qualifications for the position of president of the college.⁵⁸ His academic qualifications are listed in the 1920-1921 catalogue. He held Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts degrees from Westminster College, and a Doctor of Philosophy degree from Princeton. Lyle was, according to the faculty committee appointed to employ a president, the best prepared for the work of any candidate considered. Therefore, action was taken to employ him and his wife to fill the positions formerly filled by W. B. Morrison and his wife.⁵⁹

The new building was now being pushed to completion, according to the catalogue for the year 1920.⁶⁰ Morrison said that the completion of this building was assured through the contributions of C. E. Graham and his family of South Carolina; Simeon Jackson, a full blood Choctaw of Bethel, in McCurtain County, Oklahoma; and the City of Durant.⁶¹ However, the minutes of the Board of Trustees for April, 1921, give the cost of the building under construction as \$91,425.94. Of this amount \$61,395.23 was contributed, and approximately \$30,000 was borrowed from banks and represented a debt of the college. The Board of Trustees asked that Notchkin be instructed to secure funds to match

⁵⁷For biography see Appendix C.

⁵⁸Minutes of the Board of Trustees, March 31, 1920, p. 7.

⁵⁹Ibid.

⁶⁰Catalogue, "Oklahoma Presbyterian College," 1920, p. 9.

⁶¹Morrison, The Red Man's Trail, p. 111.

the amount pledged by C. E. Graham.⁶² The furnishing of the building was considered by the board and estimated to cost around \$100 per room. The president was instructed to circularise the church to obtain the needed funds.⁶³

Though Morrison resigned his duties as president, he was elected to the Board of Trustees. His name is listed as a member of a committee of the Board to assist in paying off the current indebtedness of the college. This committee was composed of A. H. Ferguson, Frank Lewis, and W. B. Morrison.⁶⁴

The new building was completed and ready for occupancy in the fall of 1921. It was named in honor of the two donors, C. E. Graham and Simeon Jackson, who are listed among the largest contributors. The name, Graham-Jackson Hall, thus came into existence in 1922. This building contained dormitory space to accommodate approximately fifty students, an auditorium, a swimming pool, (added in 1923), showers, and space for the fine arts and home economics departments.⁶⁵

E. H. Lyle, who served the college for two years, submitted his resignation to the Board of Trustees in 1922. He stated that his health prevented him from continuing the work. His administration was uneventful, and no changes in the essential nature of the work took place. The minutes take note of his resignation as follows:

We would recommend that this Board recognize and express its appreciation of the fidelity and accuracy of his conduct of the

⁶²Minutes of the Board of Trustees, April 18, 1921, p. 6.

⁶³Ibid., p. 6.

⁶⁴Ibid., p. 7.

⁶⁵Catalogue, "Oklahoma Presbyterian College," 1922.

business of the college and the high purpose evident in all his relations to the school. In view of his impaired health, we regret Dr. Lyle's resignation from the presidency, and sympathize deeply with him in his affliction. We recognize the efficiency and untiring efforts of Dr. and Mrs. Lyle in sustaining the high character of the college for the last two years, and hereby express our appreciation of the same.⁶⁶

The minutes of the sixty-second General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States further compliment the Lyles for their faithful service. In this connection comments were added to the effect that the failure of the churches to respond to a call for needed assistance caused the institution to face a large deficit. Boll weevils destroyed the crop in the Southwest. This seriously affected patronage.

Under the burden of these circumstances, Lyle's health failed.⁶⁷ He passed away in Dallas, Texas, within six months following his resignation.⁶⁸

In bringing to a close the administration of E. H. Lyle, a statement in the minutes of General Assembly for 1922 has value.

In many respects, Oklahoma is the greatest missionary state of the South. It has the smallest percentage of church membership, only 18 out of every 100 being identified with any branch of the church. It contains the largest Indian population within our bounds. It has a large number of new towns springing up, and while much preaching is being done, it has perhaps the smallest per cent of evangelical and sane Christianity. While thousands are now pouring into the state, they are "a mixed multitude" of heterogeneous elements. They are composed of "fortune seekers," adventurers, failures in other communities, oil speculators, mostly characterized by the commercial spirit. Many leave behind them their church membership to escape their obligations, which were local rather than religious. The Presbyterian Church U. S. A. is much stronger than ours, but one-third of their churches are nearly always vacant, and they have not the men to occupy these new and inviting fields. It is a situation of the most perplexing character, both discouraging and encouraging, and which makes compelling demands upon Assembly's Home Missions, ranging through the whole scope of our eight departments. . . .

⁶⁶Minutes of the Board of Trustees, April 17, 1922, p. 15.

⁶⁷Minutes of the General Assembly, 1922, p. 112.

⁶⁸A. H. Ferguson, Personal Interview, Russellville, Arkansas, August, 1953.

The American Indian is awakening to a new racial and social consciousness. His horizon is broadening beyond the narrow bonds of mere tribal and racial interests. Favorable to the Indian's uplift is the government's policy in putting him on an equal citizenship basis with the white man as early and speedily as possible.

In some respects the Oklahoma Presbyterian College is the greatest missionary institution in the church. . . not in numbers, though it some times serves 250 young women in one year. It is great in its situation, being located in one of the neediest sections of the church, great in opportunity, reaching the potential leadership and future mothers of Indian and Anglo-Saxon alike, and destined to shape the character of a great state. It is great in its purposes and possibilities and will draw to itself as the years go by a vast number of young people. This plant is now valued at \$250,000, but desperately needs furnishings and apparatus.⁶⁹

The words "encouraging" and "discouraging" quoted from the preceding paragraph seem to characterize the outlook at the close of E. H. Lyle's administration.

⁶⁹Minutes of the General Assembly, 1922, pp. 111-112.

The Second Administration of W. B. Morrison

S. L. Morris, chairman of the committee of the Board of Trustees to select a new president for the college to succeed Lyle, recommended the election of W. B. Morrison. He was able to persuade Morrison to accept the nomination although there were discouraging aspects to the financial outlook because of debt incurred in the completion and furnishing of Graham-Jackson Hall. Morrison and his wife took office again on June 1, 1922.⁷⁰

The outlook was not encouraging for the new administration. There was an indebtedness of about \$20,000 on the property and nearly \$10,000 of accumulated deficits on current expenses and repairs. The new dormitory was almost bare of furniture. Practically all the teachers declined re-election because they had no faith in the ability of the college to pay salaries. Worst of all, the school had no prospects for students. Under these circumstances, the school opened its doors with hope at a new low ebb. Then came the surprise. Students poured in from all over the state and far down into Texas. The school held the best opening in its history with one of the finest student bodies it had ever had. Next came the elimination of the indebtedness. Several Indians, who came into fortunes in oil, gave the college \$20,000. A. G. Graham, the son of C. E. Graham, followed his father's previous gift with an additional \$10,000. The remarkable thing about the Indians who gave money was that none of them belonged to the Presbyterian Church.⁷¹

The college worked out a relationship with Southeastern Teachers College, effective in September, 1922, by which students interested in

⁷⁰Minutes of the Board of Trustees, April 17, 1922, p. 13.

⁷¹Morrison, The Red Man's Trail, p. 111.

teacher training could be enrolled simultaneously at both institutions. Each institution agreed to accept the credits of the other. In addition to this advantage offered for the first time, the accreditation of the two year college department and the high school was assured by agreement with the Oklahoma State Department of Education.⁷²

Recommendations made to the Board in 1923 mention the need to secure an endowment of at least \$200,000. Accreditation continued to plague the administration, and it was suggested by the Board of Trustees that the college must meet every requirement for a standard junior college without further delay or face the penalty of withdrawal of the approval of the Oklahoma State Department of Education.⁷³ Equipment and library facilities were considered inadequate. The lack of assured income was another drawback to accreditation.

The religious features of the school were improved and strengthened. The outlook was more encouraging than in years past. The proportionate number of Presbyterians increased, showing seventy-two as against fifty-eight in 1917-1918. While it was never the policy to limit the student body to those of Presbyterian belief, it seemed encouraging to be able to report this growth in denominational support to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church.⁷⁴ The catalogue for the year lists a college branch of the Young Women's Christian Association, a Christian Endeavor Society, a morning watch prayer group, a Student Volunteer Association, and a Sunday evening prayer meeting.⁷⁵

⁷²Catalogue, "Oklahoma Presbyterian College," 1922, pp. 15; 21.

⁷³Minutes of the Board of Trustees, April 16, 1923, p. 4.

⁷⁴Report to General Assembly, April, 1923.

⁷⁵Catalogue, "Oklahoma Presbyterian College," 1923, p. 44.

A swimming pool, the gift of the alumnae association, was built and made ready for use in the fall of 1923. This installation was built into the basement of Graham-Jackson Hall, under the auditorium, in a space provided for this purpose by the architects when the plans were drawn. At the time the building was completed, the cost was considered prohibitive in light of the other needs; therefore, a pool had not been installed. Miss Marion Severance, who was president of the Alumnae Association at this time, was active in securing the necessary funds.⁷⁶

A large radio was installed in the auditorium of Graham-Jackson Hall in the summer of 1923. This was a battery set and doubtless subject to the limitations of the day. However, according to the catalogue, it enabled the student body to enjoy frequent concerts from such broadcasting stations as Chicago, Pittsburgh, and Dallas.⁷⁷

A recommendation for the purchase of a pipe organ was made by the improvements committee of the Board of Trustees at the meeting in 1922. The original estimate of cost was listed as \$1,200.⁷⁸ This instrument was bought, installed, and made ready for use in the spring of 1924. The final cost to the college was approximately \$3,800. Gifts from all over the Southern Presbyterian Church made possible the purchase of a Hillgreen-Lane organ. It was formally dedicated in 1926 to the memory of the Reverend Frank Hall Wright, Indian evangelist and singer, who held services at the college each year for many years. This dedicatory

⁷⁶Miss Marion Severance, Personal Interview, January, 1955, Durant, Oklahoma.

⁷⁷Catalogue, "Oklahoma Presbyterian College," p. 44.

⁷⁸Minutes of the Board of Trustees, April, 1924, p. 6.

program was declared to be one of the outstanding events of the 1926 school year.⁷⁹

H. G. Bennett, President of Southeastern Teachers College, and W. B. Morrison signed an agreement in June, 1923, whereby the music and dramatic art departments of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College were to serve both institutions for the ensuing session. Morrison said the faculty was one of greater preparation, experience, and ability than either institution could hope to maintain separately. Southeastern Teachers College agreed to provide, in addition to those already in use at the Oklahoma Presbyterian College, studios on its campus, notices in the college catalogue, and advertising in the regional papers. For this, Southeastern Teachers College was to receive the services of the faculty members and a stipulated share of the revenue.⁸⁰

At the completion of certain outlined courses in any of the branches of the fine arts offered, a special diploma was offered by the Oklahoma Presbyterian College for girls. Arrangements were made for a visiting supervisory connection with the Horner Institute of Fine Arts, one of the leading schools of the sort in the West.⁸¹ There were seven faculty members listed in this department at the Oklahoma Presbyterian College in 1924. Included in the number was Miss Irma Beck who joined the staff in the early years of Morrison's first administration.⁸²

⁷⁹Ethel Rockett, "Girl's School Springs from Log Cabin," Daily Ardmoreite, August 14, 1927, pp. 11; 20.

⁸⁰W. B. Morrison, "A contract with Southeastern Teachers College," Durant, Oklahoma, June 11, 1924.

⁸¹"Southeastern Teachers College, and the Oklahoma Presbyterian College, Music and Dramatic Art," 1923-24. (This brochure pictured the faculty and explained the program.)

⁸²Catalogue, "Oklahoma Presbyterian College," 1913-14, p. 3.

Morrison says, in a report to the Board of Trustees in 1924, that the above arrangement was disappointing financially. The exact words are quoted here because they may be interpreted to mean, perhaps, that he was ahead of his time in his vision for the community. He wrote with some apparent asperity as follows:

I have the promise of H. G. Bennett of Southeastern Teachers College to pay half the deficit occasioned by the employment of a teacher of voice culture too expensive for a community which is not half so interested in Fine Arts as it pretends to be.⁸³

A connecting walk-way, covered by a tile roof, between Main Building and Graham-Jackson Hall was built in 1923. This furnished a sheltered passage between the two buildings.⁸⁴

A request for a leave of absence for W. B. Morrison was filed in writing at a special meeting of the Board on September 11, 1924. He stated that he wished to attend the University of Oklahoma. The request was granted.⁸⁵ With the aid of Mrs. Morrison, who carried on much of the executive work of the 1924-1925 session, he was able to absent himself from the college. He was graduated from the University of Oklahoma in June, 1925, with a Master of Arts degree in the field of history.⁸⁶

The Board of Trustees accepted the resignation of Morrison in April, 1925. Appropriate resolutions of commendation are recorded in the Minutes of the Board of Trustees.⁸⁷ Mrs. W. B. Morrison remained on the staff at the Oklahoma Presbyterian College as dean of women until 1933, when she retired because of serious illness.⁸⁸

⁸³W. B. Morrison, "A Report to the Board of Trustees."

⁸⁴Catalogue, "Oklahoma Presbyterian College," 1922-23, p. 14.

⁸⁵Minutes of the Board of Trustees, September 11, 1925.

⁸⁶J. D. Morrison, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, February, 1955.

⁸⁷Minutes of the Board of Trustees, April, 1925.

⁸⁸Minutes of the Board of Trustees, March, 1933.

Second Administration of E. Hotchkin

The election of Ebenezer Hotchkin to serve a second time as president of the institution followed the resignation of W. B. Morrison. In accepting the responsibility, he was faced at once with the need for endowment and for funds to wipe out the yearly deficit which seemed inescapable. Gifts of considerable size from wealthy Indians continued to rescue the college from financial disaster. The outlook was not lacking in opportunity, but a heavy responsibility was implied by the nature of the problems.⁸⁹

Two hundred and eighty-eight students were enrolled in the fall of 1925. The report of the president to the Board of Trustees states that this was the largest enrollment in some years. More than half of these were of Indian blood. There were only thirty-seven Presbyterians.

A strong business department was created and drew an enrollment of thirty-seven students. The home economics department was strengthened by the addition of needed equipment. Hotchkin said that a glee club was functioning in a fine way to bring credit to the music department. The arrangement for the fine arts faculty to serve both the Oklahoma Presbyterian College and Southeastern Teachers College was continued.⁹⁰

Cement sidewalks were laid in 1926 connecting both buildings of the college with a main walk running the length of that part of the campus immediately in front of the two buildings. This outlay was made possible by students who raised the money by presenting a popular and well-attended play.⁹¹

⁸⁹Ibid.

⁹⁰E. Hotchkin, "A Report to the Board of Trustees," April, 1926.

⁹¹Ibid.

Gifts of \$20,142.29 were acknowledged in the financial report for the 1926 school year. The minutes of the Board of Trustees state that these were the results of the activity and zeal of President Hotchkin. All outstanding debts were once more cleared, leaving a small margin to guarantee the year would be closed with all obligations met.⁹² Mention is made in the minutes of 1926 that the school was to be made the recipient of the annual birthday offering of the women's auxiliaries of the Presbyterian Church.⁹³

Encouraged by the auxiliary officers of the presbyteries, and the Synod of Oklahoma, the president of the college appeared before the central board of the women of the church at Montreat, North Carolina, and presented a request for an endowment. Through the interest of Mrs. Maudie Fountain, president of the Oklahoma synodical organization of women, and through the further influence of Mrs. W. C. Winsborough, Secretary of Women's Work of the Presbyterian Church at large, and other friends, the request was granted and the Oklahoma Presbyterian College was awarded this endowment money amounting to approximately \$50,000. In giving this money to the college, the donors requested that the income should be used to establish a chair of Bible. The fund was named the Mary Semple Hotchkin Endowment.⁹⁴

The program, featuring the dedication of this money, held on December 6, 1926, was an important event, centering the attention of the whole church upon the college at Durant. Mrs. Fountain presided on

⁹²Minutes of the Board of Trustees, April 17, 1926, p. 1.

⁹³Minutes of the Board of Trustees, "Report on Ways and Means," p. 2.

⁹⁴S. Hotchkin, Collected Papers.

this occasion and Mrs. Winsborough was present to make the main address. She said in part: "I bring you loving greetings from 110,000 women, members of the auxiliary, who gave their annual Birthday Offering to endow our Bible Chair for the Oklahoma Presbyterian College." The service was concluded when Mrs. Winsborough formally announced that the Mary Seiple Hotchkin Bible Chair was named in honor of the much beloved missionary to the Oklahoma Indians who was also one of the first successful teachers of Calvin Institute. The Reverend C. J. Ralston, one of the founders of the school, who was present on this occasion, offered the dedicatory prayer.⁹⁵

S. L. Morris, Executive Secretary of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church, and the Board of Trustees initiated a move at this time to secure additional funds from the General Education Board. Minutes of the Board of Trustees and letters in Hotchkin's collected papers record the preparation of the needed papers of application. For reasons not explained, this request was never approved.^{96,97}

Hotchkin's health became critical in 1928. After making an excellent report to the Board of Trustees, he requested that they consider his resignation. In spite of this request, he was re-nominated and accepted election.⁹⁸

The debate team of the college won the state championship for the junior college section in 1928, competing on the campus at the University

⁹⁵Mrs. G. T. Ralls, "Bible Chair Dedicated," Oklahoma Trails, pp. 112-113.

⁹⁶Minutes of the Board of Trustees, 1926.

⁹⁷E. Hotchkin, Collected Papers.

⁹⁸Ibid.

of Oklahoma.⁹⁹ The following year the Junior College Forensic Association awarded a group from the Oklahoma Presbyterian College the state championship in debate a second time.¹⁰⁰

The Glee Club, according to the college paper, distinguished itself and brought honor to the college under the leadership of an excellent music department. They toured the state, visiting Presbyterian churches, schools, and women's auxiliaries, putting on progress wherever invitation and advantage for the college made it possible and desirable.¹⁰¹

The school, in 1928, completed an especially successful basketball season. The Cardinals, the college team, won first place in the Texas-Oklahoma conference and first place in the invitation tournament sponsored by Austin College in Sherman, Texas.

Under the able coaching of Sam F. Babb, this group, known as the Cardinals, won the state championship in 1928. On March 24, 1932, at Shreveport, Louisiana, they won the National Amateur Athletic Union Championship. On March 25, 1933, they won a second National Championship at Wichita, Kansas. Five members of this group were selected for the All-American team in 1933. At Edmonton, Canada, in June, 1933, they won the North American Championship.¹⁰² Later, under independent sponsorship, the team toured Europe.¹⁰³

⁹⁹"Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls," 1928. (A prospectus prepared for mailing to friends of the school.)

¹⁰⁰"Debate Event Won by Presbyterians," Extension News Letter, University of Oklahoma, April 15, 1928, p. 1.

¹⁰¹"Glee Club," Polished Pebbles, November, 1929, (The College paper).

¹⁰²MacCreary, Story of Durant, p. 97.

¹⁰³E. Hotchkin, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, January, 1955.

The Cardinals attracted international attention in March, 1933, when they won the second National Amateur Athletic Union Championship. Oklahoma and the City of Durant united to give this team the praise and honor they justly deserved.¹⁰⁴

Victor Murdock, writer and publisher of the Wichita Eagle, was quoted in the Durant Daily Democrat as having said that sports history would record the achievements of S. F. Babb, as coach of the Cardinals. As director of the game, he coached the following line-up to the top position of all time in women's amateur basketball: Doll Harris, captain, Toka Lee Fields, Buena Harris, Hazel Vickers, Earnestine Lumpson, Juanita Park, La Homa Lassister, Irene Williams, Lera Dunford, Vera Dunford, Lucille Thurman, and Coral Worley.¹⁰⁵ This was accomplished on a self-sustaining basis, not a penny being taken from the meager budget of the school.¹⁰⁶

Mexican students were enrolled for the first time in 1928. Through the contacts of the school with the agencies of the foreign mission work of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, four students were enrolled from Toluca, Mexico.¹⁰⁷ This marked the beginning of twenty-six years of continued service to the church in Mexico.¹⁰⁸ In a following chapter further information is presented concerning this work.

¹⁰⁴"Cardinals Win Second National Championship," Durant Daily Democrat, March 25, 1933, p. 1.

¹⁰⁵Ibid., March 28, 1933, p. 1.

¹⁰⁶E. Hotchkin, Personal Interview, Antlers, Oklahoma, August, 1954.

¹⁰⁷E. Hotchkin, "Annual Report to the Board," April 17, 1929.

¹⁰⁸Amy E. Robinson, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, January, 1955.

While basketball was the center of interest in these years, it was not the only achievement of the school. The funds from the Bible endowment made it possible to employ a second Bible teacher. Money was also available for increases in library facilities. Hotchkiss, in his report to the Board, said that the Bible courses, under the direction of the Misses Mary Bittinger and Sarah Hamilton, created a moral and spiritual atmosphere that permeated the whole student body. The records state that student life had a distinctly religious tone. Visiting lectureships brought church leaders to the school and state, enabling the school and its supporters to have the benefit of the best the church had to offer in speakers. In his report to the Board in 1930, Hotchkiss mentions, as a by-product of this moral and spiritual uplift, that discipline and government became easier to maintain.¹⁰⁹

The closing statement of the president's report to the Board of Trustees for the year, 1930, reveals something of the nature of coming difficulty and also furnishes an appropriate summary:

This struggle is a hard one. There is distress financially, and this distress is common to all business, but have we not after all succeeded in the primary undertaking? Are not many hundreds of young women happy in the benefits of a Christian education, and richer in spiritual experience? Have we not proven Isaiah 32:2, and become 'Streams of water in a dry place'?¹¹⁰

The financial difficulty and lack of endowment brought forth the first mention made of the possibility of combining academic instruction with the State Teachers College. The drawbacks were considered to be: surrender of identity, divided management, loss of interest of the church, and the surrender of a faculty which seemed the heart of the

¹⁰⁹E. Hotchkiss, "Annual Report to the Board," April 14, 1930.

¹¹⁰Ibid.

matter. No action was taken by the Board on this suggestion.¹¹¹ Much discussion ensued for a matter of five years before action was finally taken by the Board of Trustees in 1935.¹¹²

The Board of Trustees met twice in the fall of 1932. The first meeting, held October 14, was called for the purpose of outlining a new plan for the administration of the college. President Hotchkin was able to attend, although severe illness had kept him in the hospital several months. He stated that he favored a policy of employing some active, competent man to take over the management of campus affairs, thus allowing him to spend his time in the field looking after the financial needs of the school.¹¹³ The Board of Trustees adjourned to meet again on December 14, 1932, at which time an instrument was drawn up clarifying the duties of the Board, the president, and the proposed vice-president. In accordance with the provisions set forth in this agreement, Hotchkin was named president. His duties were defined as he had requested them to be in the October meeting. Andrew Brazalett,¹¹⁴ of Birmingham, Alabama, was elected executive vice-president, responsible for the management of the college beginning January 1, 1933. This election was to be confirmed, and final salaries set, at the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees in May, 1933.¹¹⁵

Andrew Brazalett and his wife arrived in Durant to take up their duties, as arranged. Hotchkin continued to be in such poor health he

¹¹¹Ibid.

¹¹²Minutes of the Board of Trustees, 1932.

¹¹³Ibid., October 14, 1932.

¹¹⁴For biography see Appendix.

¹¹⁵Minutes of the Board of Trustees, December 14, 1932.

was unable to attend to any matters of business for months.¹¹⁶ Therefore, responsibility fell heavily upon Braslett.¹¹⁷

At the May meeting of the Board in 1933, the arrangements, made in the preceding fall, were confirmed by a full session of the members. A memorial to Hotchkin was made a matter of record, and a copy was presented to him. This statement read as follows:

Resolved that we, the trustees of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls in annual meeting assembled, hereby express to Dr. E. Hotchkin who has so faithfully filled the trying and difficult position of president of this institution for so many years, our abiding confidence in him and our profound gratitude to him for the unselfish and devoted work he has done and is doing, and that we pledge to him our unqualified support in all his undertakings, and that we assure him that we shall pray God's blessings upon him and his work during the coming year.

[Signed] The Trustees,

May 11, 1932¹¹⁸

The depression years following 1930 placed the Oklahoma Presbyterian College, in 1933, in the unenviable position of having to settle debts on a percentage basis. A \$25,000 indebtedness had accumulated, and the Board of Trustees proposed that effort be made to settle all debts of the college, including faculty salaries, at half value. A large amount, several thousand dollars, to be exact, was owed to the faculty. The faculty agreed to settle on the suggested basis. This indebtedness was not substantially larger than at previous periods, but the depression years were such that people felt the weight of debt keenly. Gifts decreased, the Home Mission Committee was burdened with serious cuts in revenue, and tuition fees were not collectible.¹¹⁹

¹¹⁶E. Hotchkin, Personal Interview, Antlers, Oklahoma, August, 1954.

¹¹⁷Mrs. Andrew Braslett, Private Papers. (These were furnished on request, and consist of biographies, articles, memoirs, and manuscripts.)

¹¹⁸E. Hotchkin, Collected Papers.

¹¹⁹Minutes of the Board of Trustees, 1933.

Bradlett, new to the work, was burdened with apprehension over being responsible for such a large amount as the now rapidly growing deficit. He drove hard business bargains, shrewdly cutting every corner. This reduced the debt rapidly but alienated many friends. When the time came, in the early summer of 1933, to organize a faculty for the college, those who might otherwise have agreed to teach could see no advantage in a contract, authorized by the Board of Trustees by which they were to receive only a prorated share of college work for over a quarter of a century. It had been distinctly missionary income. Many were willing to accept a promise to pay in lieu of cash, this whole Southwest country, but few were willing to accept a contract for future salary which it seemed at the beginning of the present school year economic conditions relieved the college of responsibility to pay if the money was not, at least as a junior college. The visible income was not sufficient to available. The Board recommended that the college consolidate its work

with the State College, surrendering the teaching work, except for one to go ahead with the school without pay from the college. They said Bible, to this institution. Two teachers, Miss Sassy D. Hogue, head of the Bible department, and Miss Abne Semple, teacher of English, in order to keep the junior college in existence and operative, agreed to organize a faculty who would work on a "Faith Plan." They were to work for such salary only as was provided by gifts to the college, designated for this purpose. It was further agreed the plan was to be publicized in church papers, local publications, and state papers. Miss Hogue, who received her pay from the Bible Department endowment, contributed her salary to the fund. Three other teachers were secured who were willing to agree to

¹²³ Sassy D. Hogue, Personal Letter, Elmer, Illinois, February, 1955.

¹²⁴ *Ibid.*

¹²⁰ E. Hotchkiss, Personal Interview, Antlers, Oklahoma, August, 1954.

¹²⁵ A. H. Ferguson, "President of the Board of Trustees of the College,"

¹²¹ Q. E. Oklahoma Presbyterian College, Collected Papers.

¹²² Abne Semple, Personal Papers. Q. E. Oklahoma Presbyterian College, February, 1934, p. 1.

accepting the plan for salaries which has been described.¹²³ During the summer of 1933, the prospects for continuing the work appeared dark. Debtors were pressing for settlement. The former faculty, for the most part, secured better positions, leaving only a skeleton staff to open school in September, 1933. However, a successful year followed.¹²⁴

The President of the Board of Trustees, wrote in February, 1934:

The Oklahoma Presbyterian College has done a unique and outstanding work for over a quarter of a century. It has been distinctly missionary. The influence of this institution is readily seen and felt throughout this whole Southwest country.

It seemed at the beginning of the present school year economic conditions were such that it would be impossible to continue the school, at least as a junior college. The visible income was not sufficient to maintain the school.

However, consecrated Christian teachers met the situation by agreeing to go ahead with the school without pay from the college. They said: 'We have faith that the Christian men and women of the Southern Presbyterian Church want the school continued. We will, therefore, trust the Lord to take care of us.' They have worked so far under 'The Faith Plan,' and shall for the entire year. I cannot believe the Church will fail them.¹²⁵

Mrs. Bramlett wrote at this time:

The faculty depends upon voluntary contributions from God's people to what we call 'The Faculty Faith Fund.' Up to the present the response has met immediate needs.

. . . Their spirit pervades the school. One girl remarked: 'I never saw a school like this. No one talks about anyone else. It is easy not to criticize when no one else does!'

. . . A faculty that makes a girl feel like that is worthy of its 'Faith Fund.'¹²⁶

¹²³Sunny D. Hogue, Personal Letter, Chicago, Illinois, February, 1955.

¹²⁴Ibid.

¹²⁵A. H. Ferguson, "President of the Board Endorses Faith Work," O. P. C. News, February, 1934, p. 1.

¹²⁶Mrs. Andrew Bramlett, "Saying It in White," O. P. C. News, February, 1934, p. 1.

The Board of Trustees sent a resolution of appreciation to the faculty in 1934. This read in part as follows:

. . . To Miss Sassy D. Hogue and Miss Anne Semple we would express our special appreciation, recognizing the fact that they were in large part the prime movers in this venture of faith, and that their own voluntary and happy service at the Oklahoma Presbyterian College with no assured salary was an inspiration and encouragement to others who entered into this same agreement, so that the junior college could be carried on this year.¹²⁷

The 1933 school year found the school temporarily coeducational once more. Through the efforts of Chief Ben Dwight of the Choctaw tribe and E. Hotchkin, the Oklahoma Presbyterian College received a contract with the Choctaw nation for the education of 85 boys and girls ranging in age from six to twenty. All were from needy families. A few were young people of high school and college age. All those who could be sent to public school were enrolled in Russell Training School at Southeastern Teachers College. Those who were high school graduates were taught on the campus at the Oklahoma Presbyterian College.¹²⁸ This contract, or modifications of it, continued in force until 1935.¹²⁹

The college resumed the responsibility for payment of a faculty in 1934. Inasmuch as the school was solvent again at this time,¹³⁰ it was considered advisable to place the business of securing new faculty members in the hands of Andrew Bramlett, Executive Vice-President.¹³¹ A competent faculty was secured. School opened for the 1934-35 school

¹²⁷ Anne Semple, Personal papers.

¹²⁸ Minnie M. Bramlett, "Oklahoma Presbyterian College," The Presbyterian Survey, June, 1933.

¹²⁹ Minnie M. Bramlett, Personal Letter, June, 1954, Quitman, Georgia.

¹³⁰ Oklahoma Presbyterian College, "Auditor's Report," May, 1934.

¹³¹ Minutes of the Board of Trustees, May, 1934.

year with the plant in good repair and with a fine, though smaller, student body.¹³²

The Board of Trustees accepted the resignation of S. L. Morris as a member of the Board in May, 1934. Because of his retirement as Secretary of Home Missions, he considered it desirable to have his place filled by his successor, the Reverend Homer McMillan, D. D. As a recognition of his long years of loyal service, he was made an honorary member of the Board.¹³³

Hotchkin Hall, the dormitory built by W. B. Morrison and later sold to the college, was disposed of in 1935. The decrease in the student body, and the fact that The Durant Building and Loan Company was threatening to institute foreclosure proceedings against the college, brought Bramlett to recommend a settlement.¹³⁴ Accordingly, the Board voted to turn the property over to the holders of the mortgage to satisfy the debt.¹³⁵ This transfer was actually recorded on February 4, 1936.¹³⁶

The resignation of E. Hotchkin reached the Board of Trustees in 1935. He expressed a desire, in spite of his resignation, to be used in the work of the school in any unofficial way it was considered he might serve.¹³⁷ The Board accepted his resignation and elected him

¹³²Ibid., May, 1935.

¹³³Ibid., May, 1934.

¹³⁴Minutes of the Board of Trustees, May 4, 1935.

¹³⁵Ibid.

¹³⁶Bryan County Abstract Company, Bryan County Records, Book 218, p. 187.

¹³⁷E. Hotchkin, Collected Papers.

President Escribas without pay in recognition of his forty-one years of service to the school.¹³⁸

The closing of the second administration of E. Hotchkiss brought the school to the end of forty-one years of existence as a liberal arts college.¹³⁹

¹³⁸Minutes of the Board of Trustees, May, 1935.

¹³⁹Ibid.

Summary

The Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls came into existence in September, 1910, with W. B. Morrison directing the work as president. Until 1916, this institution was operated as a four year degree granting college. Then the program was reduced to three years. The college accepted junior college status in 1920 and was maintained with this accrediting until 1935.

E. H. Lyle succeeded W. B. Morrison in 1920 and served until 1922. During his administration, the Presbyterian Church in the United States added a second dormitory to the plant, at a cost of \$100,000. This building was named Graham-Jackson Hall in honor of two generous donors to the building fund.

W. B. Morrison again served the college as president from 1922 to 1925. At this time Ebenezer Hotchkiss was appointed to succeed him. In 1926 the school was presented with an endowment of approximately \$50,000, the income from which was designated for the support of the Mary Semple Hotchkiss Chair of Bible. The money was the gift of the Department of Woman's Work of the Presbyterian Church in the United States and was made available by contributions of auxiliaries to a fund called the "Birthday Offering." Through this endowment it was possible to add a second teacher to the Bible department, thus strengthening the religious interests of the school.

The financing of the school proved very difficult throughout the depression years, and this caused a change of administrative policy in 1935. Large gifts from wealthy Indians more than once rescued the budget from serious deficits.

CHAPTER IV

THE OKLAHOMA PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE CHANGES FUNCTIONS

The Administration of Andrew Bramlett

Andrew Bramlett was elected president of the college in May, 1935. He faced the immediate necessity for carrying out the directive of the Board to close the work of the junior college. With the assistance of Mrs. Bramlett, who was named dean, he took up the responsibility and moved forward to lay the foundation for the present work of the institution.¹

The Board of Trustees decided at the close of the 1935 school year that it would be to the advantage of the college to surrender its instructional functions, except for Bible and music, to Southeastern Teachers College. Plans were made to consummate this arrangement. The saving in salaries amounting to somewhat less than \$10,000 would enable the Board of Trustees to meet, at least in part, the anticipated yearly deficits which had been recurring for a number of years.²

To facilitate the problem of transporting students regularly to the campus of the state college, a new and more commodious school bus was purchased. A bus had been used for transportation to town, church, and Southeastern Teachers College since 1923. The last of a succession of long-used trucks with homemade bodies proved expensive and unsafe.

¹Minutes of the Board of Trustees, May 4, 1935.

²Ibid.

Bramlett felt a newer and better bus would not be an extravagance; therefore, a regulation model school bus was purchased for approximately \$1,200. This bus was in use when the Board met on October 16, 1935.³

The administration of the Bramletts proceeded smoothly according to the records of the college. A resolution adopted in October, 1935, read as follows:

We believe the purposes of the institution, the character and earnestness of the student body, the instruction in the Bible department, and the wholesome Christian home life of the school justify the liberal support of our church and of all the friends of Christian education.⁴

The school paid for books and fees for students who were on the Indian Contract for the next few years, terminating with the last contract in 1942. Items are entered in the financial report from year to year showing this expenditure. Students, other than Choctaws on this contract, paid their own fees.⁵

During the years of the Bramlett administration, the Bible teachers continued their service to the church in the state by teaching Bible study classes at Women's Auxiliaries, Presbyterial, and Synodical meetings. The Mary Semple Hotchkin Endowment Fund paid the salaries of two highly qualified teachers, both of whom have been required to hold Master's degrees.⁶

³Ibid.

⁴Ibid.

⁵A. N. Leecraft, "Financial Report: Oklahoma Presbyterian College," October 16, 1935, p. 5.

⁶Edith F. Hodgson, Personal Interview, February, 1955, Durant, Oklahoma.

The practice of entertaining the three summer church conferences of the Presbyterian Church was initiated in 1937.⁷ The intermediate, senior, and adult groups have continued since that time to use the college facilities each successive summer. This has brought to the campus the representative leadership of the Presbyterian Church to see the college as it functions and to inspect the facilities. This arrangement has been mutually profitable.⁸

The Choctaw contract was changed in 1937 upon recommendation of the commissioner of Indian affairs to include all tribes. While this made little difference in the composition of the student body, it enabled the school to collect fees from the government for a few Creeks and Seminoles already resident and unable to pay.⁹

Mrs. Branlett took a group of Indian young people of college age to Massanetta, Virginia, Montreat, North Carolina, and Kerrville, Texas, in the summer of 1937. Groups also accompanied President Branlett to Montreat, North Carolina, on several occasions.¹⁰ The matter of encouraging the young people on the campus to attend state, regional, and national meetings of religious significance has been a policy in the past which continues to operate. Students have gone not only to represent the school, but also for the purpose of personal growth and service.¹¹

⁷Minutes of the Board of Trustees, May 4, 1937.

⁸Amy E. Robinson, Personal Interview, February, 1955, Durant, Oklahoma.

⁹Minutes of the Board of Trustees, May 4, 1937.

¹⁰Andrew Branlett, "President's Report," May 4, 1937.

¹¹Amy Robinson, Personal Interview, February, 1955, Durant, Oklahoma.

The music department of the school, which at its height employed seven teachers and at one time owned fifteen practice pianos, one grand piano, and a pipe organ,¹² was reduced materially in staff and equipment by the depression years.¹³ The pipe organ was sold to the Beal Heights Presbyterian Church at Lawton, Oklahoma. It had been damaged by water when a storm destroyed the roof of the auditorium in 1933.¹⁴ Through the effort of Miss Edith F. Hodgson,¹⁵ who came to the school as a Bible teacher in 1935, music continued to receive much emphasis.¹⁶ Miss Hodgson's contribution to the college as a teacher of Bible, as leader in the school and community in musical interests, and as president of the school will be discussed in the latter part of this chapter.

In 1941 two serious fires brought the college a host of problems. The first fire was discovered about 2:30 on Sunday morning, January 26. This fire completely destroyed the dormitory floor of Main Building. The library on the main floor was gutted; thousands of valuable books were a total loss. There was extensive water and smoke damage over the whole structure. All occupants of the building escaped, but many lost all their possessions.¹⁷

¹²Catalogue, "Oklahoma Presbyterian College," 1923, p. 13.

¹³Ibid., 1934.

¹⁴Edith F. Hodgson, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, February, 1955.

¹⁵For biography see Appendix.

¹⁶Amy Robinson, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, February, 1955.

¹⁷"Durant Cares for Girls Made Homeless by Oklahoma Presbyterian College Fire," Durant Daily Democrat, Vol. XL, January, 1941, p. 1.

The people of Durant were most generous in helping to restore the personal losses of the girls and in assisting in many ways in the rapid readjustments made necessary by the fire. The girls of the school were promptly supplied with clothing. The women of the Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist, and Christian Churches served the evening meal for four successive days, enabling the school to reorganize the damaged dining and kitchen service facilities. Funds were raised to replace lost currency, glasses, and necessary toilet articles. The Red Cross donated \$75 to meet emergency needs of those who lost all they had in the fire.¹⁸

The second fire was discovered in the same location about 3:30 in the morning on Tuesday, April 22, 1941. The building was well advanced in its restoration but was not occupied. The actual burning was confined to the mid-section. There was much smoke damage to the walls and ceilings throughout the three floors.¹⁹

Property damage resulting from the first fire was covered by insurance only to the extent of \$25,000. Damage resulting from the second fire was completely covered by insurance. Funds were raised to restore and refurnish the building. Plans were drawn to modernize the interior. The fourth floor, which had been used as a gymnasium, was not restored, reducing the height of the exterior. Bedrooms were made larger, improving the appearance and convenience of the dormitory; but these changes reduced the number of rooms in the dormitory by one-half. The building was again ready for occupancy in the fall of 1942.²⁰

¹⁸Andrew Bramlett, "President's Report," May 6, 1941.

¹⁹Ibid.

²⁰Report of the Building Committee, "Exhibit F," May 8, 1941.

The Board accepted the resignations of Andrew Braslett and his wife at the annual meeting on May 12, 1942. During the years between 1933 and 1942, the debt of the college had been wiped out, but other problems appeared pressing. Mr. and Mrs. Braslett both wished to retire from the work which had been strenuous and troublesome. The depression years had increased the responsibility, and the outlook was not promising.²¹

²¹Minutes of the Board of Trustees, May 12, 1942.

The Administration of Edith F. Hodgson

Miss Edith F. Hodgson,²² who was elected president in June, 1942, to succeed Andrew Bralettt, had already, according to the minutes of the Board of Trustees, made a contribution to the work as a Bible teacher and as a leader in activities connected with music. She came to the college in 1935 with a Master of Arts degree, special training in Bible, and with four years of musical study in Europe, not to mention valuable teaching experience in a home mission school. All this prepared her for her responsibility.²³

She wrote of her aims for the school in 1944:

We have a beautiful plant here, well equipped, and with the Bible Chair endowed by the women of the Church . . . My vision for O. P. C. is to see 100 girls of different races being together here, going to college, and receiving training to prepare them to be the leaders in our churches, and of our nation.²⁴

Miss Hodgson inherited the benefit of the ground work laid by Andrew Bralettt between the years 1933 and 1942.²⁵ The debts of the institution had been paid with income from the work and with the generous assistance of the Home Mission Committee, headed then by Homer McMillan.²⁶ With this background Miss Hodgson wrote of the work:

²²Miss Hodgson was named principal at the time she was employed. Nine references to her position in the Minutes of the Board of Trustees from 1943 to 1945 use the term "president." The Board accepted her resignation as president, and recorded recommendations of appreciation to her as president. Since she served in this capacity, and made her reports under the title of "The President's Report," she has been listed as president.

²³Edith F. Hodgson, Unpublished Manuscript.

²⁴Edith F. Hodgson, "President's Report," May, 1944.

²⁵Ang Robinson, Personal Interview, February, 1955, Durant, Oklahoma.

²⁶Minnie M. Bralettt, Unpublished Manuscript.

A very low rate of cost is made possible to students partly by the fact that each student is assigned a minimum amount of work to do, which is accredited to her expenses, and because the college is a mission institution and to a large degree maintained by the Assembly's Committee of Home Missions, and by personal gifts from friends all over the Southland. Oklahoma Presbyterian College is particularly fortunate in being located in the same town with Southeastern State College. . . . Because of the close affiliation between these colleges, O. P. C. can offer unusual advantages to its students. The school bus takes students to the state college for regular academic work. O. P. C. provides on its own campus, Christian home training, and instruction in Bible and other religious education subjects. These courses, which are made possible by an endowment. . . . are credited toward a degree at Southeastern State College.²⁷

The functioning of the institution for the period between 1942 and the present, under three presidents, has remained such the same. The staff of the college considers the connection with Southeastern State College a pioneering venture with twenty years of valuable, accumulated experience in successful operation now behind it.²⁸ The Durant Daily Democrat in an article written about the college in 1945 said:

Today, Oklahoma Presbyterian College is pioneering in a field which many educators think will be the trend of the future. Churches, instead of building more Church Colleges, will instead, use their money in placing near state colleges institutions on the order of O. P. C. where students can supplement their secular education with religious education, being enrolled in both institutions at the same time. Many large state universities are encouraging the establishment of just such an arrangement that already exists here in Durant between O. P. C. and S. S. C. More and more leading educators of the nation are realizing the need for religious and character development along with the development of the mind.²⁹

This relationship was commented on by Mrs. Bramlett who wrote as follows:

This excellent arrangement gives our Indian girls the advantage of a large co-educational state institution, and, at the same time, the stabilizing influence and strengthening power of a small Christian college.

²⁷ Edith F. Hodgson, "Oklahoma Presbyterian College," Christian Observer (July 7, 1943), p. 10.

²⁸ Amy Robinson, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, February, 1955.

²⁹ "Oklahoma Presbyterian College Pioneers," Durant Daily Democrat, XLIV, August 12, 1945, p. 1.

Our students are received at Southeastern Teachers College on every basis of social and scholastic equality. They hold office in class and student organizations, and win honor and distinction in many fields and reflect credit on both institutions.³⁰

The Reverend Hunter B. Blakely, Secretary of the Division of Higher Education, Presbyterian Church, said that, in his opinion, the school was rendering a unique service in the field of higher education. In visiting the school in recent years he stated he was surprised to find the president of the state institution an active elder in the Presbyterian Church. He observed that the whole church was interested in this work which he referred to as a mission school providing leadership for a significant group in the Southwest.³¹

With the assistance of Mrs. Laura McGee, who was named assistant to the president, Miss Hodgson's administration progressed smoothly. Mrs. McGee was librarian and ably carried on several other phases of the work such as acting president, dietitian, office manager, and food buyer. She first became associated with the school during the Hotchkin administration in 1933 and was offered full-time employment as librarian and teacher under Mr. Bramlett in 1935. She continued these services until her retirement in 1945.³²

The contract with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of Interior, for the education of Indian students that the college had renewed from year to year for many years expired in 1942 and was not re-issued. The officials of the Indian Bureau adopted a policy of

³⁰Mrs. Andrew Bramlett, Indian Trails Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow, Executive Committee of Home Mission, Atlanta, Georgia.

³¹Hunter B. Blakely, "Our Work at the Oklahoma Presbyterian College," Presbyterian Survey (April, 1952), p. 36.

³²Edith F. Hodgson, Personal Interview, February, 1955, Durant, Oklahoma.

lending money to worthy college students on a personal basis, rather than of granting funds direct to institutions of higher learning. This loss of funds seemed discouraging to the new administration for a time.³³ However, in spite of this loss, revenues were sufficient to support the work. Each year the college has some assured income from Indian students who are able to arrange for loans.³⁴

Under the leadership of Miss Hodgson and the two succeeding presidents, life on the campus was enriched by the contributions of such Bible teachers as Miss Mary Garland Taylor, presently serving as a missionary to Brazil; Miss Willedine Gialer, who served at Oklahoma Presbyterian College during the war years, and who left to care for an invalid father; Miss Amy Robinson, former missionary to Japan, now serving as president; Miss Mary Schaller of Daytona Beach, Florida; Miss Katherine Buswell, at this time at Biblical Seminary in New York; Miss Sara Dixon, Missionary to Mexico; and Miss Alma Steading who is serving her third year at the college.³⁵

The Fellowship Council, an organization which planned the religious life of the campus, made an excellent report to the Board in 1943 showing its program in four areas. Under Life Enrichment, a group reported ten different activities beginning with such items as planning for the weeks of self-denial and prayer and preparing a devotional guide for the Easter season. The Highway of Learning group taught

³³Edith F. Hodgson, Personal Interview, February, 1955, Durant, Oklahoma.

³⁴Amy E. Robinson, Personal Interview, February, 1955, Durant, Oklahoma.

³⁵Minutes of the Board of Trustees, March 31, 1943.

Sunday School classes each Sunday afternoon at a mission church. The Enlistment and Training group listed four activities, one of these being making a poster advertising the Assembly's Training School. The Comradeship group sponsored a Latin-American party and several other comparable activities. The entire council held a spring retreat at Wood Lake, near Sherman, Texas.³⁶

Miss Hodgson's report to the Board mentions the fact that the school cooperated in the war effort by buying bonds, contributing scrap metal, renting land for victory gardens, and clearing the premises of all useful salvage.³⁷

The report also carries a notation that the Oklahoma Presbyterian College was listed in the catalogue of Southeastern State College, with its connection explained and its facilities for housing and teaching outlined in some detail.³⁸

Beginning in 1943 and continuing to the present, a policy of keeping the plant and equipment in good condition has been followed by each successive administration.³⁹ Miss Hodgson reported extensive redecorating operations in both buildings for the 1943 school year.⁴⁰

Miss Berta Murray, president of the Presbyterian School for Mexican girls at Taft, Texas, visited the campus during the spring of 1943 and was so favorably impressed that she promised to send the whole

³⁶Fellowship Council, "Report to Board of Trustees," March 31, 1943.

³⁷Minutes of the Board of Trustees, 1943.

³⁸Ibid.

³⁹Minutes of the Board of Trustees, 1943-1955.

⁴⁰Edith F. Hodgson, "Report to the Board," March 31, 1943.

graduating class of her institution to Durant.⁴¹ The fact that she did is verified by the records of attendance, given by nationalities, in the college files in succeeding years. The admission of Mexicans, begun years before (see Chapter III, p. 57) has grown until it now represents an important phase of the work.⁴²

The closing year of Miss Hodgson's administration in 1945 was, according to the Board, a very successful one, marked by an excellent gain in student activities and Fellowship Council effectiveness.⁴³ Miss Hodgson's influence was at one time characterized by Mrs. Andrew Branlett who wrote: "She gives of herself, her talents, and her time unceasingly and unselfishly. No estimate can be placed on the value of her gracious personality and her quiet but efficient service."⁴⁴

The quality of her service and her value to the institution is further verified by the fact that the Board reluctantly accepted her resignation in 1945 and asked that she be retained in her former position of Bible teacher. This arrangement was confirmed by Miss Hodgson. She retired from the presidency, June 1, 1945.⁴⁵

⁴¹Ibid.

⁴²Ary Robinson, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, February, 1955.

⁴³Minutes of the Board of Trustees, May 8, 1943.

⁴⁴Minnie H. Branlett, "Report to the Secretary of Women's Work," June 17, 1940.

⁴⁵Minutes of the Board of Trustees, May 8, 1945.

The Administration of Mrs. Jewell L. Hardy

Mrs. Jewell Hardy,⁴⁶ who was elected to the presidency in 1945, was a graduate of the school, having completed her work in the year 1919. The Missionary Survey of June, 1918, describes her as a young girl graduate.⁴⁷ In the year following, Mrs. Hardy wrote of the work of the institution in the same publication. Both articles portray something of the exceptional capacities of this young woman.⁴⁸ She was serving as English teacher and girl's counselor at Goodland Indian Orphanage, Hugo, Oklahoma, at the time she was called to serve at the Oklahoma Presbyterian College. She had, previous to her marriage in 1925, served as an English teacher on the faculty of the college during the years 1922 to 1925.⁴⁸

Mrs. Hardy, in accepting the work, qualified her promise to serve by agreeing to accept the position only for such time as her husband, who was a major in the armed forces in service in the Near East, remained abroad.⁴⁹ She came June 1, 1945, to take up her work at the college.⁵⁰

When her husband, Major Hardy, notified her in September, 1945, of his approaching return, Mrs. Hardy resigned, effective the first of

⁴⁶For biography, see Appendix.

⁴⁷Mrs. C. C. Anderson, "What of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College?" The Missionary Survey (June, 1918), p. 326.

⁴⁸Bessie Johns, "Durant College's Needs As Seen By An Indian Girl," The Missionary Survey (July, 1919), pp. 45-48.

⁴⁹Mrs. Jewell L. Hardy, Personal Interview, Antlers, Oklahoma, December, 1954.

⁵⁰Minutes of the Board of Trustees, May 9, 1945.

November, in order to re-open her home. She recommended that Miss Amy Robinson, Bible teacher, serve out her term.⁵¹

⁵¹ Mrs. Jewell L. Hardy, Personal Interview, Antlers, Oklahoma, December, 1954.

The Administration of Amy E. Robinson

Miss Amy Robinson,⁵² who, in 1945, was elected to serve out the unexpired term of Mrs. Jewell L. Hardy, came to the position with such experience to prepare her for it. She held a B. A. degree from Flora Macdonald College, Red Springs, North Carolina; a Master's degree in Religious Education from the Assembly's Training School, Richmond, Virginia; and had done graduate work at Biblical Seminary in New York City, Duke University, and the University of North Carolina. She taught mathematics and chemistry in high school for six years prior to going to Assembly's Training School. Following her graduation from this institution, she taught Bible at the Oklahoma Presbyterian College for one year (1934-1935). In the spring of 1935, the Foreign Mission Committee of the Presbyterian Church appointed her to serve as a missionary to Japan. While there, she taught at the Golden Castle College for Girls at Nagoya. After serving her five year first term, she returned to the states on furlough in 1940. The relations between Japan and the United States became so strained in 1941 that she was unable to return. She taught Bible at Highland Institute in Guerrant, Kentucky, for one year before she accepted the invitation of Miss Hodgson to join the staff at the Oklahoma Presbyterian College in June, 1943. She has been elected president continuously from 1946 to 1955.⁵³

Mrs. R. M. Firebaugh, who has long been in Indian Mission work in Indian Presbytery, writing in 1948 for one of the large church papers of the South, said of Miss Robinson's contribution at the College:

⁵²For biography see Appendix.

⁵³Amy Robinson, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, February, 1955.

Christian workers now serving as teachers, ministers and missionary's wives, business women, chemists, nurses, and in other professions in Alaska, Mexico, Japan and South America since 1948 and throughout our own country are living better lives because they have come under the influence of Amy Robinson. Her courage, faith, humility, rare ability to meet new situations, love of people, and sense of humor have carried her through many difficult experiences. The girls love her also boys since 1951 and go to her with problems of every kind.⁵⁴

Under Miss Robinson's guidance, the religious life of the institution has received fresh emphasis.⁵⁵ Because of the effort made possible through the continued support of the Mary Sempie Hotchkiss Endowment Fund, the spiritual life of the campus has been so enriched that the school now has recent graduates on tour of the foreign mission fields in Mexico, Africa, South America, and Japan. Eight girls have taken training at the Assembly's Training School for Lay Workers located at Richmond, Virginia. These girls are now serving as directors of Christian education, ministers' wives, or in other full time Christian work.⁵⁶ After a recent visit to the campus, Hunter B. Blakely, Secretary of the Board of Christian Education, Division of Higher Education of the Presbyterian Church, wrote of the work as follows: "They learn valuable lessons in community living; they pray and worship together; and they grow in Christian experiences with a group of consecrated Christian leaders who are available for counselling."⁵⁷

The present staff of the school looks upon the work as a pioneering experiment. Miss Robinson says that "Christian living in a democratic

⁵⁴Mrs. R. M. Firebaugh, "Miss Amy Robinson," Christian Observer (March 10, 1948), p. 9.

⁵⁵Hunter B. Blakely, "Our Work at the Oklahoma Presbyterian College," The Presbyterian Survey (April, 1952), pp. 36-37.

⁵⁶Amy Robinson, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, February, 1955.

⁵⁷Hunter B. Blakely, "Our Work at the Oklahoma Presbyterian College," The Presbyterian Survey (April, 1952), pp. 36-37.

community" might well be the present description of the effort of the employees of the institution to translate the aims of the school into reality. In Austin, Texas, a similar project has been organized by a group of interdenominational Christians for students who attend the University of Texas. This venture is referred to as the "Faith and Life Community." It provides dormitory space for a co-educational work and a program of supervised activities, religious training, and Bible teaching. However, Miss Hodgson states that this work lacks many of the advantages enjoyed by the Oklahoma Presbyterian College. The latter institution has the financial support of the Presbyterian Church to whom it belongs. Bible and music are accredited by the state school which is a member of a national accrediting body. The religious training is supported by endowment funds. The plant, equipment, and over-all management contributes to the effectiveness of the program.⁵⁸

The church has pioneered in Christian education, according to many eminent authorities. Wickey and Anderson in a publication called Christian Education Handbook have said, "The Christian Church pioneered in education and became known as the 'Mother of Schools.' In the United States, the Church pioneered in primary, secondary, and higher education, and the education of girls, and in Indian and Negro schools."⁵⁹

The original venture at Durant was a pioneering one designed to meet a pressing need for educational facilities in Indian Territory. The second phase of the work primarily involved furnished a Christian

⁵⁸ Edith F. Hodgson, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, February, 1955.

⁵⁹ Gould Wickey and Ruth E. Anderson, Christian Higher Education (Washington, 1940), p. 3.

College for Southeastern Oklahoma.⁶⁰ The present phase, while it is a continuation of the original work and closely related to it in aims, functions, and results, shows a change in the basic nature of the teaching work. It is a radical departure from the usual church affiliated college. In discussing the work of the school, Miss Hodgson has further demonstrated that the school, through controls exercised by the Division of Home Missions of the Board of Church Extension and through its Synod and local management, has adapted itself to the changing needs and circumstances of the time in a way that continues to bear a testimony to the pioneering spirit and vision of the present leaders of the church.⁶¹

The functions of the school were further modified in 1951 to include once again the education of boys. Miss Robinson, after careful consideration and upon the recommendation of staff, presented a request for this change to the Board of Trustees in October, 1950.⁶² The request was granted. The minutes read, "This action was taken in order to make a more favorable use of our equipment, and to meet a distinct need in our area."⁶³

A. H. Ferguson, president of the Board of Trustees, in writing to C. H. Pritchard, Secretary of the Division of Home Missions, Board of Church Extensions, on March 14, 1951, states: "In accordance with the action of the Synod of Oklahoma the College will be opened for the

⁶⁰See Chapter I.

⁶¹Edith F. Hodgson, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, February, 1955.

⁶²Amy Robinson, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, February, 1955.

⁶³Minutes of the Board of Trustees, October, 1951.

admission of boys and will be hereafter known as the 'Oklahoma Presbyterian College,' as provided in the original charter."⁶⁴

A year later another letter to Dr. Pritchard contains this item:

The Board is glad to report that the admission of boys to this college is adding greatly to the ministry of the school and their presence is proving very satisfactory. We feel that the school is perhaps entering upon an era of its largest Christian service to the Presbyterian Church in Oklahoma.⁶⁵

Still another change in the functioning of the school came in 1948 as a result of the recommendation of Miss Robinson. A kindergarten was established in the fall of 1948 and was opened under the supervision of a specialist in pre-school education. The Board of Trustees again approved of the measure in light of the local situation.⁶⁶ The staff of the college feels that the college buildings and grounds provide an excellent spot for this undertaking. That it was well received in Durant is proved by a patronage which more than justifies its operation. Miss Robinson says of this work: "It serves two distinct needs. The size of the community demands a strong kindergarten, and the school needs this connection with and support of the people of Durant."⁶⁷

Since 1946 extensive improvements have been made in the plant and equipment. In 1947 the Board approved an expenditure of \$1,500 for landscaping the campus.⁶⁸ This money was spent in part for replacing many shade trees which had died because of ice-storm damage and of old age. Extensive leveling, grading, and draining were accomplished by

⁶⁴A. H. Ferguson, Personal Letter, March 14, 1951.

⁶⁵A. H. Ferguson, Personal Letter, March 5, 1952.

⁶⁶Minutes of the Board of Trustees, May 20, 1948.

⁶⁷Amy Robinson, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, February, 1955.

⁶⁸Minutes of the Board of Trustees, May 23, 1947.

contractors who were landscape technicians. Hedge plants, shrubs, and flowering perennials were planted. These added to the beauty of the campus.⁶⁹

The library, destroyed by fire in 1941, was gradually replaced over a period of years.⁷⁰ Mrs. John Crumpler, who joined the staff as librarian in 1951, made desirable changes in shelving, storage facilities, preservation of historical material, and other library services. Money has been spent on maintaining a respectable library, not only in religious education but also in all desirable fields. Mrs. Crumpler said, "We feel our library has a definite part in the cultural and religious life of our young people."⁷¹

The family of Miss Edith F. Hodgson presented the school with a studio piano in 1951 as a memorial to Mrs. Mable Hodgson Gamble, a sister who had been a music student and teacher of distinction.⁷² In 1952 Miss Hodgson gave the school a Baldwin studio grand piano. These additions to the music department were acknowledged by the Board of Trustees with appropriate comments.⁷³ In 1954, partly through the recommendations of Miss Hodgson and Miss Robinson, the Board of Trustees appropriated \$1,000 for the purchase of a Baldwin electric organ to replace the Hillgreen-Lane pipe organ which had been sold during the depression years.⁷⁴ Miss Hodgson has undertaken to raise the remaining

⁶⁹Ibid.

⁷⁰Mrs. John Crumpler, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, January, 1955.

⁷¹Mrs. John Crumpler, "Report of Librarian," March 10, 1952.

⁷²Amy Robinson, "Report of the President," March 5, 1952.

⁷³Minutes of the Board of Trustees, 1952 and 1953.

⁷⁴Minutes of the Board of Trustees, 1954.

\$2,000 to pay for this instrument. This organ was installed in the auditorium in Graham-Jackson Hall in September, 1954. As soon as it has been paid for, which Miss Hodgson anticipates may be in the spring of 1955, a suitable dedicatory service will be held.⁷⁵

Miss Hodgson, in addition to her duties as a Bible teacher, has taught organ to a number of students during 1954 and 1955. According to Miss Robinson, there is no way of estimating the contribution of Miss Hodgson to the religious, musical, and cultural aspects of the work at the Oklahoma Presbyterian College. Miss Hodgson concludes twenty years of teaching on the campus at the end of the 1955 term of school.

A chapel was added to the plant in 1953. This is a large room, now used for worship services and other such purposes. It is appropriately decorated and furnished with chairs, lectern, and piano. The chapel is named the "Mary Sempie Hotchkiss Chapel" to further commemorate the life of this early missionary to the Indians who has been mentioned before in earlier chapters.⁷⁶

During Miss Robinson's administration, a caretaker's cottage was added to the college plant at a cost of \$2,950. This building is constructed of war surplus lumber, mill work, and hardware and represents an addition to the housing facilities of the college worth considerably more than the above named figures.⁷⁷

Since 1950 many improvements in the plant have been made and much equipment has been added. Dining room chairs were purchased to replace

⁷⁵Edith F. Hodgson, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, February, 1955.

⁷⁶Amy Robinson, "Report to the Board," 1953.

⁷⁷Minutes of the Board of Trustees, 1950.

the much worn ones which had been used for many years. New furniture was placed in the parlors of Main Building. A room on the second floor of this building was set aside for a student lounge and was appropriately furnished and decorated. This space had formerly been designated as the dean's office. New stage curtains and auditorium chairs were bought for the main auditorium in Graham-Jackson Hall. A walk-in ice box, a meat slicer, a large deep freeze unit, and new silverware for one hundred people have added to the effectiveness of the dining room and kitchen service. New sinks, stoves, and ovens have replaced old unsafe and inefficient equipment. A small tractor has been purchased to take care of gardening needs. Extensive improvements have made the heating plant more effective. A booster pump in Graham-Jackson Hall, which returns water from the steam heating system to the central boilers, has added greatly to the efficiency of the heating in this building. An automatic pilot on one boiler, a gift of the Durant National Bank, was installed in September, 1954. A slide film projector and screen were added to the facilities available for student use. A cement tennis court expanded the possibilities for recreation in 1953. Large power-driven lawn mowers keep the campus attractive.⁷⁸

The finances of the school have been on a safe basis for fifteen years. The school obtains its income from the following sources: The Division of Home Missions of the Board of Church Extension of the Presbyterian Church U. S.; benevolences of the presbyteries of the Synod of Oklahoma; scholarship funds made available by the Presbyterian Youth Fellowship in 1952; board, room, and fees; gifts of individuals;

⁷⁸Any Robinson, "The President's Report," 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954.

the Mary Semple Hotchkiss Endowment Fund; funds derived from the operation of the kindergarten; government loans to Indian students; and rent from the caretaker's cottage. This last item is made possible because of the fact that boys, supervised by staff members, do the work once performed by a caretaker. For the year ending March 31, 1953, the total receipts were \$54,404.85. Figures for 1954 were approximately the same.⁷⁹

The present personnel of the staff is made up of the people who, for the most part, have served the school for a number of years.⁸⁰ These people are in a large measure responsible for the success of the work according to A. H. Ferguson, President of the Board of Trustees, who wrote about them to Dr. C. H. Pritchard, Secretary of the Division of Home Missions as follows: "There is no institution in the Assembly that has a more efficient, consecrated, and capable body of teachers and workers. They are worth of the highest praise."⁸¹

Miss Robinson and Miss Hodgson have already been discussed in the foregoing chapter. Miss Robinson has served the school on two occasions and for thirteen years in various capacities. Miss Hodgson completes her twentieth year in May, 1955.

Mrs. G. L. Teasley has served the school as a house mother and girls' counselor since 1938. Miss Robinson considers that Mrs. Teasley's years of service have been, and now are, of inestimable value to the school. Coming to the college from Athens, Georgia, where she

⁷⁹Amy Robinson, "Financial Report," 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954.

⁸⁰Amy Robinson, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, February, 1955.

⁸¹A. H. Ferguson, Personal Letter, March 14, 1951.

had served as house mother at the University of Georgia, she brought with her much experience. As an ex-student of Agnes Scott College, she has had much to offer the young people of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College. Her wisdom, judgment, and ability have seen the dormitory life at the college through countless trials and emergencies. According to Miss Robinson, Mrs. Teasley's loyal and conscientious attention to her work is exceptional.⁸²

Miss Alma Steading, Bible teacher, who came from Greenville, South Carolina, joined the staff in 1952. She received her Bachelor's degree from Furman University at Greenville and completed her work toward a Master of Arts degree at the University of South Carolina. After three years of teaching experience at Lees-McRae College in Banner Elk, North Carolina, and at Montreat College at Montreat, North Carolina, Miss Steading entered the Assembly's Training School at Richmond, Virginia. She was graduated from that school in 1952 with a Master of Arts degree in English Bible.⁸³ At the Oklahoma Presbyterian College she sponsors, with all the other staff members assisting, the Westminster Fellowship program. Miss Robinson believes the effectiveness of this organization to be a testimony to the high type of service Miss Steading has rendered.⁸⁴

Miss Wilma Frieberger, former student and a graduate of Southeastern State College in 1955, joined the staff in September, 1954, as a counselor and field worker. Miss Robinson stated that Miss Frieberger

⁸²Amy Robinson, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, February, 1955.

⁸³Alma Steading, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, February, 1955.

⁸⁴Amy Robinson, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, February, 1955.

has made the same fine contribution as a staff member that she made as a student.⁸⁵

Mrs. James D. Morrison, daughter-in-law of the late W. B. Morrison, former president of the school, has served effectively as director of the kindergarten since 1950. Miss Robinson has said, "Mrs. Morrison's work deserves greatest praise."⁸⁶

Mrs. Nannie B. Folsom has served as supervisor of the dining room since 1946. A former student of the Durant Presbyterian College and an Indian herself, Mrs. Folsom has made a contribution to the effectiveness of the Indian work. Her devotion to duty and her high principles are deeply appreciated by the administration of the school.⁸⁷

Mrs. Anna Trout, kitchen supervisor, is a capable woman of ready sympathy and fine, cooperative spirit. She joined the staff in 1948. Her seven years of service have been marked by great improvements in her department.⁸⁸

Mrs. Early Zion, kitchen supervisor who until the early fall of this year shared with Mrs. Trout the responsibilities of this work, passed away on November 15, 1954. She had served eleven years on the staff. Her going was a great loss to the school. The students wrote in the December issue of The Peace Piper that they appreciated her wise counsel and faithful ministry.⁸⁹

Mrs. John Crumpler, who served as librarian and boys' counselor for

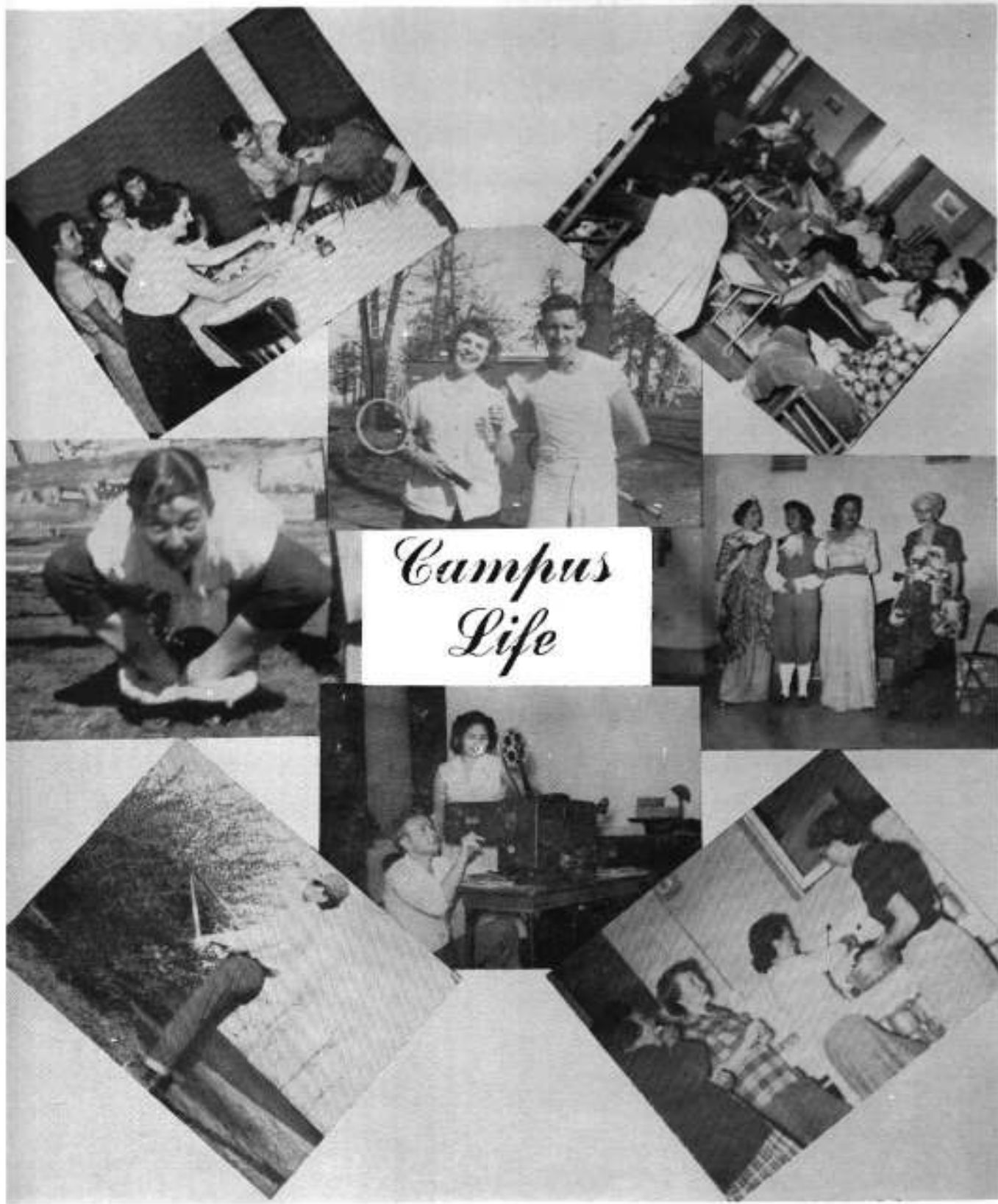
⁸⁵Ibid.

⁸⁶Ibid.

⁸⁷Ibid.

⁸⁸Ibid.

⁸⁹The Peace Piper, December 1954, p. 1.



*Campus
Life*

three and one half years, resigned effective the first of February, 1955, to accept a position as librarian at Midwest City. Her creative work in the library is mentioned early in this chapter.⁹⁰

The school usually employs a secretary who also serves as book-keeper. This year Miss Robinson has not been able to find anyone to serve in this capacity. Students who are upper classmen have carried the duties of the secretary during the current year.⁹¹

Miss Anne Semple, a graduate and former teacher, who has been resident in the school since 1942, serves as dietitian and is an unofficial member of the staff. Miss Semple contributes her services to the work.^{92,93}

The student life of the college has four phases. These are the academic, extracurricular, community service, and a work program.

The academic program is limited to Bible, music, and kindergarten. It is under the direction of Miss Amy Robinson.

Two of the phases, extracurricular, and community service, have been under the direct supervision of an organization called the Westminster Fellowship.

The fourth phase, the work program, is set up by the administration to provide an hour a day of work for each student who needs it to reduce the cost of board and room. This program is administered democratically with ample opportunity for change of duties and with aims outlined and

⁹⁰Amy Robinson, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, February, 1955.

⁹¹Ibid.

⁹²Ibid.

⁹³The evaluation of the present staff is the work of Miss Amy Robinson, and is given to show the qualifications, experience, and type of service these people render.

duties clearly defined by those who supervise this feature of the school life.

With Miss Alma Steading directing, and every member of the staff serving in an advisory capacity, the extracurricular program is administered by the Westminster Fellowship. Commissions are set up by this group as follows: Worship; Programs; Christian Works; Christian Comradeship; and Christian Citizenship.⁹⁴

All phases of the spiritual life of the school are the special concern of the Commission on Worship. This commission, with a staff member participating, is responsible for a Sunday morning worship service which is held on the campus; the Thursday evening chapel prayer service; the morning worship in the dining room; the hall prayer groups; the religious emphasis week; and the Christmas program.

The Commission on Programs works with the Commission on Worship to sponsor Sunday morning worship service. This group has as its duties the responsibility for suggesting topics or themes for desirable programs, suggesting ways of developing topics, recommending leaders for the programs, being alert for program material, and seeking ways of improving programs.

The Commission on Christian Works has as its function the sponsoring of various types of mission work each year which include packing relief and clothing boxes; campus improvement, such as planting flowers and providing trash cans; monthly visitation to the King's Daughters and Sons Home for the Aged; making scrapbooks for children's hospitals; remembering needy families; decorations at the Christmas season; and the appointment of ushers for chapel service.

⁹⁴Alma Steading, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, February, 1955.

The Commission on Christian Comradeship promotes good will; plans at least one all school activity each month; holds monthly birthday parties in the dining room; sponsors sports and tournaments such as ping pong, tennis, and basketball; takes care of sports equipment; has charge of the student kitchen; sponsors peanut week; and sponsors talent and stunt night.

The Commission on Christian Citizenship has as its duties the promotion of Christian citizenship on campus at the college, at Southeastern State College, and in Durant. This group is also responsible for conducting Tuesday evening assembly programs, sponsoring a float for homecoming parades, supporting Southeastern State College organizations, inviting student senate members once each semester for dinner, and promoting Christian citizenship by assisting with community projects such as Red Cross drives, the March of Dimes, and blood donation drives.

Community Service, which comes under the management of various commissions of the Westminster Fellowship, is also under the direction of Miss Steading. Young people are encouraged to participate in their denominational youth work.⁹⁵ In the past two years, six students attended the Oklahoma Westminster Fellowship Conference at Tulsa, February 11-12, 1955; two students attended the Church Extension Conference, Presbyterian Church at Montreat, North Carolina, August, 1954; one student attended Assembly's Youth Council, Presbyterian Church, Montreat, North Carolina, June, 1954; two students from the Oklahoma Presbyterian College went with the Youth Caravan to Mexico, Presbyterian Church, August, 1953; twelve students went to the fifth annual

⁹⁵Student Handbook, Oklahoma Presbyterian College, 1954-1955, pp. 13-29.

Survey about the intercultural groups on the campus as follows: "The students at Oklahoma Presbyterian College truly learn to live with many kinds of people. . . Some speak Spanish at home, some Choctaw, some Creek, some Seminole, some Chickasaw, and some Navajo."⁹⁹

If Miss Taylor were on the campus now, she might add Formosan and Venezuelan to the groups represented.

In closing the history of the administration of three presidents, it is in order to mention that the school has the loyal support of the Synod of Oklahoma. In 1947 an overture to the Assembly was made asking the committee on Home Missions to supplement the budget of the school so that at least \$35,000 a year of income would be assured.¹⁰⁰

Gary Hoffius, Chairman of Schools and Colleges, Synod of Oklahoma, wrote, "We are grateful for the service of O. P. C. and the unique advantages of its affiliated relationship with S. S. C."¹⁰¹

The minutes of Synod read, in 1951, "That Miss Robinson and her capable staff should be warmly recommended for the fine work they are doing."¹⁰²

The school still retains its original charter and could at any time return to a basic teaching program if it became financially and otherwise desirable to do so. According to Miss Robinson, it is not probable this will be done in the immediate future. The present plan

⁹⁹Mary Garland Taylor, "O. P. C. Does Her Part," Presbyterian Survey, (July, 1944), p. 260.

¹⁰⁰Minutes of the Synod of Oklahoma, 1947.

¹⁰¹Ibid., 1948.

¹⁰²Ibid., 1951.

of operation and administration has the approval and support of all agencies and persons responsible for the work.¹⁰³

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States continues to hold title to the property. A Board of Trustees is appointed by the Synod of Oklahoma. By agreement with the Synod, the Secretary of the Division of Home Missions of the Board of Church Extension and the Secretary of the Board of Woman's Work are reappointed continuously though the other membership is regulated, as to terms of office, on a rotation plan. The school is operated as a home mission project principally for Indians, though the student body now has several nationalities and three races represented.

¹⁰³Amy Robinson, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, February, 1955.

Summary

During these four administrations, the school met and surmounted many obstacles.

When Andrew Bramlett became president in 1935, a definite change was made in the program at the Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls. For reasons of economy and mutual benefit, the school became affiliated with Southeastern State College which is also located at Durant, Oklahoma. According to this arrangement, Bible, religious education, leadership training, and music were taught at the Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls. The students received their academic instruction at the state school. This arrangement proved to have many advantages to both institutions.

Despite disastrous fires and declining enrollment, the Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls survived the depression debt free and well equipped for future service.

In the next three administrations, the college continued to function under the arrangement with Southeastern State College.

Miss Edith F. Hodgson served as president from 1942 to 1945. In this period the emphasis on leadership training and spiritual life received special attention.

Mrs. Jewell L. Hardy served as president from June to November of the year 1945. She was succeeded by Miss Amy Robinson who became acting president.

Miss Robinson was elected president in June, 1946, and has served continuously until the present (1955). The school became coeducational again in 1951 and changed its name to Oklahoma Presbyterian College, dropping "for Girls" from the title.

CHAPTER V

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE OKLAHOMA PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE

Estimate of Financial Support Contributed by the Presbyterian Church

Officials of the college have estimated that the Oklahoma Presbyterian College has been the recipient of and has disbursed in Southeastern Oklahoma an amount in excess of \$1,600,000 over the period of its sixty years of continuous existence.¹

Mr. G. B. Strickler, Treasurer of the Board of Church Extension, estimates that the Division of Home Missions has paid into the work either as investment in building and equipment or as direct appropriation to the maintenance of the work, as much as \$500,000.²

Neither of these amounts includes money spent personally by students. A writer who contributed to the Durant Daily Democrat in 1931 estimated that students attending the Oklahoma Presbyterian College had spent as much as \$750,000 in Durant for clothing and other such items in 37 years.³ Since that time this figure could easily have grown to \$1,000,000. The college, supported by the Presbyterian Church, has spent in excess of \$2,600,000 in the state. This is considered a conservative estimate.⁴

¹Amy Robinson, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, February, 1955.

²G. B. Strickler, Personal Letter, February, 1955.

³"Oklahoma Presbyterian College is of Financial Value to Durant," Durant Daily Democrat, March 20, 1931.

⁴Amy Robinson, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, February, 1955.

While it obviously cannot be said all of this money was spent on education, at least it estimates the amount of money the school has brought to the community.⁵

⁵ibid.

Value of Present Buildings and Equipment

At the request of the Board of Trustees, C. C. Wilson, a certified public accountant, made an inventory and estimate of the present value of the plant and equipment of the college for the period ending December 31, 1953. The following figures are taken from this report:

CURRENT ASSETS	\$ 19,529.21
FIXED ASSETS	
Real Estate and Improvements	
Equipment and Furniture	
Library	
Automobiles and Buses	
Total	324,110.04
TRUST FUND INVESTMENTS	45,876.29
TOTAL ASSETS	389,515.54 ⁶

Miss Robinson, in her financial report for 1953, lists \$54,404.85 as the total receipts of the college from all sources of income for the year.⁷

The above amount represents, according to Miss Robinson, one of the largest figures for yearly income on record. Tuition fees have been more collectible in the very recent years, and there have been increases in the amount charged students for board, room, and fees.⁸

⁶C. C. Wilson, "Audit Report: Oklahoma Presbyterian College," Durant, Oklahoma, December 31, 1953.

⁷Amy Robinson, "Financial Report," 1953.

⁸Amy Robinson, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, February, 1955.



MAIN BUILDING



THE COLLEGE AND THE CAMPUS

Qualifications of Personnel

The qualifications of the teaching personnel of the college in the first and second phases of the work were acceptable to the existing agencies of supervision and accreditation.⁹ A number of these persons had studied abroad, and at least three of the music teachers were Germans who had studied in leading European schools. A member of the musical staff had studied under such teachers as Liszt and Burneister.¹⁰

The result of such preparation was, generally speaking, teaching of the quality referred to by Mrs. Earl Newcomb, whose letter is quoted in Chapter III.

The Mary Semple Hotchkiss Endowment Fund has made possible, since 1926, employment of teachers of Bible and religious education whose qualifications, almost without exception, include study beyond a Master's degree.¹¹

The type of the personnel employed has made possible a work which finds its highest compliment in the accomplishments of its graduates. The Missionary Survey in 1946 gave this summary of the type of contributions Oklahoma Presbyterian College students were able to make:

Lola Totero, a junior in college at O. P. C., directed and taught two Bible Schools. [During the summer.] She also acted as director of religious education at the First Presbyterian Church in Durant during the month of August. Mae Wilson, one of the fine Indian girls at Oklahoma Presbyterian College, taught five Bible schools held in Indian churches in Southeastern Oklahoma. Mary Gusher, another Indian girl, who is a senior this year, helped in three Bible schools in Indian Presbytery. Emma Alvarez, who graduates from college at mid-term, directed four Bible schools for Mexican children in South Texas. Louisa Rodriguez and Berta Galvan directed Bible schools in their home

⁹These were the Executive Committee of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church and the State Department of Education.

¹⁰Catalogues, "Oklahoma Presbyterian College," 1907-1935.

¹¹Records on file in the president's office.

churches. Berta also was sponsor for the pioneer group in her church during the summer. Eliza Gonzales assisted the pastor of her church in Falfurrias, Texas. Mary Lee Haraughty, at present a sophomore in college, taught a Sunday school class.

This is only a part of the Christian work the girls of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College are able to carry on and have carried on largely because of the training and inspiration they receive at the school.¹²

The girls named above have since found, for the most part, their places in life as homemakers who are active in the work of the Presbyterian Church. However, Mary Lee Haraughty has spent five years as a missionary in Japan and is now home on furlough. Eliza Gonzales is a missionary in Brazil and is soon to return for her furlough. Lola Totoro and Louisa Rodriguez are directors of Christian education in Texas Presbyteries. Emma Alvarez is married, and she and her husband are in the United States Indian Service on the Blackfoot Reservation at Cut Bank Boarding School, Browning, Montana.¹³

¹²"Christian Leadership Developed at the Oklahoma Presbyterian College," The Missionary Survey (January, 1946), p. 20.

¹³Records of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College.

Graduates Trained for the Church

Since 1948 the school has been represented on four mission fields of the Presbyterian Church. These are Mexico, Brazil, Japan, and Africa.

There are five graduates who are serving as directors of Christian Education in churches in the Southwest.

Ten girls at present are working in church affiliated schools like Goodland Indian Orphanage and the Presbyterian School for Mexican Girls at Taft, Texas.¹⁴

¹⁴Ibid.

Graduates Trained for Secular Teaching

A careful examination of the alumnae records of the college reveals that the college has at least one hundred and twenty-five graduates and former students who are in the teaching profession. This is thought to be a very conservative estimate. The files of the college were partly destroyed by fire in 1942, and among the lost records were those of the Alumnae Association. The school has slowly recreated a useful list of former students, but it does not furnish the complete data expected of such files.¹⁵

¹⁵Ibid.

Graduates Trained For Other Occupations:
United States Indian Service, Nursing,
Clerical Workers, and Christian
Home Making

The college office estimates that the school has fifteen students in the United States Indian Service at schools such as Sequoyah, Chilocco, Intermountain, and Cut Bank Boarding School.

Five graduates are nurses. One of these is an officer on overseas duty in the armed forces.¹⁶

Clerical work claims twenty-five known former students who are employed as stenographers, secretaries, file clerks, bookkeepers, and receptionists. There are thought to be more such workers among the alumnae whose whereabouts cannot be determined.¹⁷

Three graduates are social workers. One of these is in the Indian service but is not included in the enumeration of Indian service employees given above.¹⁸

Christian home making claims the largest number of the estimated ten thousand former students of the institution.¹⁹

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ Ibid.

Enrollment

Before discussing the average enrollment of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College, it is necessary to explain that the attendance records of the college have not been filed systematically through the years as to method or place.²⁰ This fact makes an accurate summary impossible. However, a fair estimate has been made. This indicates that at least ten thousand students have been enrolled since Calvin Institute came into existence in 1894.²¹

Between the years 1894 and 1910 there was a heavy enrollment which taxed the resources of the school to the limit. In 1895 the attendance was given as 140 students.²² A total enrollment of 300 was recorded in 1899.²³ A top attendance of 395 was reached in 1901.²⁴ The institution not only operated a boarding department, but it also provided a much needed community day school in Durant in the years before a good, local public school system was available.²⁵ As many as 3,750 students probably attended Calvin Institute and the Durant Presbyterian College in the sixteen years of the existence of these two phases of the work.

When the school became a college for girls in 1910, the attendance of day students from the town continued on a decreased basis. A rapidly

²⁰The President's Report to the Board of Trustees is the best single source for information on enrollment from 1894 to 1908, after which time the catalogues contain the yearly student lists. Since 1935, the President's account books are the only reliable source of information.

²¹Amy Robinson, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, February, 1955.

²²Minutes of the Board of Directors of Calvin Institute, 1895.

²³Ibid., 1899.

²⁴Alexander and Nicholassen, Alexander's Digest, p. 196.

²⁵See Chapter I.

growing state normal school attracted many local students who had formerly enrolled at the Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls.²⁶

In spite of this growing competition, the attendance averaged 200 yearly between 1910 and 1920. From 1920 to 1930, there were losses and gains. On the whole, the above figures continued to be the average.²⁷

During the years of the existence of the school between 1910 and 1933, when the demand for rooming space taxed the capacity of the three dormitories, both E. Hotchkin²⁸ and W. B. Morrison opened their homes to students.²⁹ From 1925 to 1933, Hotchkin and his family lived in an apartment on the campus, and he converted his home into a dormitory.³⁰ In addition to these facilities, a few students were housed in rented rooms close to the campus.³¹

The depression years were perhaps responsible in part for greatly lowered enrollment figures, beginning in 1930 and continuing to 1950. During this time the student body was reduced to less than 100. Another factor in the lowered enrollment was the decrease in the number of Indian students for whom the government contracted to pay.³² In 1935 the president disposed of Hotchkin Hall, which removed twelve rooms from the housing space of the college.³³ The changes in Main Building,

²⁶E. Hotchkin, Personal Interview, Antlers, Oklahoma, August, 1954.

²⁷Minutes of the Board of Trustees of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls, 1910-1930.

²⁸E. Hotchkin, Personal Interview, Antlers, Oklahoma, August, 1954.

²⁹Mrs. W. B. Morrison, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, February, 1955.

³⁰E. Hotchkin, Personal Interview, Antlers, Oklahoma, August, 1954.

³¹Minutes of the Board of Trustees of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College, 1929.

³²*Ibid.*, 1935-1940.

³³See Chapter III, p. 64.

after the fires of 1942, further cut the rooms available to students. Whereas, the building formerly housed seventy-five to eighty students, it now had rooms for thirty-five or forty.³⁴

Since 1942, the policy of the school has been to seek students on the basis of quality rather than quantity. This has caused a corresponding improvement in the results of the work. To support this statement, an examination of alumnae files shows that a greater number of recent graduates have become foreign missionaries, full-time Christian workers, and have gone into service occupations than ever before in all the previous years of the existence of the college.³⁵ As a result of this policy, the average enrollment has been somewhat below 100 since 1942.³⁶

According to Miss Robinson, approximately 6,250 students have attended the school since 1910. These, plus the 3,750 who were enrolled between the years from 1894 to 1910, make up the estimate of a total enrollment of ten thousand students.³⁷

³⁴See Chapter IV, pp. 71-72.

³⁵Files of the Alumnae Association, 1910-1955.

³⁶Amy Robinson, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, February, 1955.

³⁷Ibid.

Relationship With Southeastern State College

The pioneering affiliation between Southeastern State College and the Oklahoma Presbyterian College has been mutually beneficial. Dr. A. E. Shearer wrote in an editorial called "Our Town" the following comment:

Oklahoma Presbyterian College works closely with Southeastern State College in developing an excellent program of education for many young men and women who come from almost every state in the union and from outside our borders to enjoy and profit by the wonderful atmosphere created by the Christian women who conduct it.³⁸

The pioneer cooperative plan has functioned harmoniously, according to Miss Robinson, for twenty years. The problems of accrediting, counseling, discipline, attendance, and finances are solved with no friction and with a minimum amount of effort. The policy on accrediting is determined by the presidents of the two institutions. Counseling is managed through the offices of the deans. On matters of discipline, each school accepts the recommendations of the other. Attendance is also cleared through the offices of the deans. There is no financial connection between the two schools, except in regard to payment of student fees. In some cases the Oklahoma Presbyterian College guarantees the payment of these fees where the money of a student is not readily available. There are instances where gifts are designated to cover such expenses, and the Oklahoma Presbyterian College pays Southeastern State College directly for some student fees.³⁹

Transportation is furnished by the Oklahoma Presbyterian College to the state school for all daytime schedules. Buses also run at night if there is a sufficient demand to justify it.

³⁸A. E. Shearer, "Our Town," Durant Daily Democrat, April 15, 1953, p. 1.

³⁹Amy Robinson, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, February, 1955.

The program has been evaluated by Dr. Hunter B. Blakely, Secretary of the Division of Higher Education, Board of Christian Education, Presbyterian Church U. S. In 1952 he wrote:

During these sixteen years this has proved a useful arrangement. Students are able to receive degrees from a fully accredited institution. Expenses of the college have been kept low since the major educational cost of academic education is borne by the state tax-supported institution. It is thus possible for a student to secure an education at moderate cost. At the same time, students live in a Christian community and receive Christian instruction.⁴⁰

As far as the officials of the college know, this is the only work of its kind in the Southwest. A project in operation at Austin, Texas, near the campus of the University of Texas has some points of similarity, but it is not identical in its operation.⁴¹

Dr. Claude H. Pritchard, Secretary of the Division of Home Missions, Board of Church Extension, Presbyterian Church U. S., has written:

The present cooperative arrangement between Southeastern State College and O. P. C., both located in Durant, whereby the academic work is done at the state college while Bible, religious education, and music are provided at O. P. C., has enabled this school to render the most effective service of its long history.⁴²

⁴⁰Hunter B. Blakely, "Our Work at Oklahoma Presbyterian College," Missionary Survey (April, 1952), p. 36.

⁴¹Edith F. Hodgson, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, February, 1955.

⁴²Claude H. Pritchard, Personal Letter, June 30, 1954.

Summary

Although no attempt has been made to prove a contribution to education in Oklahoma on the part of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College, certain interesting items relating to the work of the school have been mentioned in this chapter.

Over a period of years, officials estimate that an amount in excess of \$1,600,000 has been disbursed in Durant, Oklahoma, by the Presbyterian Church in the United States. The total assets of the institution are now estimated to be \$389,515.54. The yearly budget is approximately \$54,000.

The qualifications of the personnel meet the standards set by the Presbyterian Church for the educational institutions under its supervision. These standards are commonly known to be very high.

Graduates trained for the church serve in four foreign mission fields, in many church affiliated schools, and in other areas of Christian service.

A careful examination of the alumnae records reveals that the college has at least one hundred and twenty-five graduates who are in the teaching profession.

Among graduates trained for other occupations there are many who are currently serving in the United States Indian Service. Others serve as nurses, clerical workers, and Christian home makers.

Approximately 10,000 students have been enrolled at the Oklahoma Presbyterian College since 1894. The current enrollment averages about ninety students.

The Oklahoma Presbyterian College works closely with Southeastern State College in an affiliation which transfers the academic work of the church school, with the exception of Bible and music, to the campus of the state college.

CHAPTER VI
SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Summary

The Oklahoma Presbyterian College is an outgrowth of educational mission work carried on by the Presbyterian Church in the United States among the Indians of the Five Civilized Tribes. The Executive Committee of Home Missions, largely through the efforts and financial contribution of C. J. Ralston, acquired in 1894 at Durant, Oklahoma, a piece of property which was used to house a small coeducational school called Calvin Institute. Ralston's small son, Calvin, who met death under tragic circumstances, left a legacy of \$200 which was given him by his grandmother for his education. This money was used by his father to aid in the purchase of the original plant.

Mrs. Mary Semple Hotchkin and her son, Ebenezer, were placed in charge of the work in 1896, which grew rapidly under their leadership.

In 1899 Thornton R. Sampson, president of Austin College, Sherman, Texas, directed a campaign to secure money for the enlargement of Calvin Institute. The financial assistance and public support which followed this effort resulted in the closing of Calvin Institute and the opening of a new and larger school.

A large brick building costing approximately \$11,000 was erected on the outskirts of Durant and was opened for use in September, 1901. Ebenezer Hotchkin was called to the presidency of this new coeducational institution designated as the Durant Presbyterian College.

Statehood came to Oklahoma in 1907 and brought with it a better public educational system. Durant no longer needed, as before, a local, coeducational church school. The great need at the time seemed to be a school for young women. The City of Durant purchased the location and buildings of the Durant Presbyterian College in 1908 and assisted the Board of Trustees in procuring land overlooking the town. On this land the Presbyterians erected a \$100,000 combination dormitory and school plant for the purpose of opening a college for girls.

The Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls came into existence in September, 1910, with W. B. Morrison directing the work as president. This institution was operated as a four year degree granting college until 1916 when the program was reduced to three years. The college accepted junior college status in 1920 and was maintained with this accrediting until 1935.

E. H. Lyle succeeded W. B. Morrison in 1920 and served until 1922. During his administration the Presbyterian Church in the United States added a second dormitory to the plant, at a cost of \$100,000. This building was named Graham-Jackson Hall in honor of two generous donors to the building fund.

W. B. Morrison again served the college as president from 1922 to 1925, at which time Ebenezer Hotchkin was appointed to succeed him. In 1926 the school was presented with an endowment of approximately \$50,000, the income from which was designated for the support of the Mary Semple Hotchkin Chair of Bible. The money was a gift of the Department of Woman's Work of the Presbyterian Church in the United States and was made available by contributions of auxiliaries to a fund called the "Birthday Offering." Through this endowment it was possible

to add a second teacher to the Bible department, thus strengthening the religious interests of the school.

The financing of the school proved to be very difficult throughout the depression years, and this caused a change of administrative policy in 1935. More than once large gifts from wealthy Indians rescued the budget from serious deficits.

When Andrew Bramlett became president in 1935, a definite change was made in the program at the Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls. For reasons of economy and mutual benefit, the school became affiliated with Southeastern State College which is also located at Durant, Oklahoma. According to this arrangement, Bible, religious education, leadership training, and music are taught at the Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls. The students receive their academic instruction at the state school. This arrangement has proved advantageous to both institutions.

The Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls survived the depression debt free and well equipped for future service.

Miss Edith F. Hodgson served as president from 1942 to 1945. In this period the emphasis on leadership training and spiritual life received special attention.

Mrs. Jewell L. Hardy served as president from June to November of the year 1945. She was succeeded by Miss Amy Robinson who became acting president.

Miss Robinson was elected president in June, 1946, and has served continuously until the present (1955). The school became co-educational again in 1951, and changed its name to Oklahoma Presbyterian College, dropping "for Girls" from the title.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States

continues to hold title to the property. A Board of Trustees, appointed by the Synod of Oklahoma, is the governing body in control of the institution. By agreement with the above named group, the Secretary of the Division of Home Missions and the Secretary of the Board of Woman's Work serve on the Board continuously, though other members are appointed on a rotation plan. The school is operated as a home mission project, principally for Indian education, although the student body is now composed of several nationalities, with the red, yellow, and white races represented.

The school opened its history as a pioneering venture in Territorial days and it continues its existence as such in its affiliation with Southeastern State College in a program which achieves both a desirable separation of aims and a profitable combination of functions.

Conclusions

The title of this study, the "Origin and Development of Oklahoma Presbyterian College," implies a purpose which is that of collecting, substantiating, interpreting, and recording in readable, documented prose the pertinent data concerning the history and development of this school.

The historical method is used. The major portion of the data was collected from such sources as minutes, reports of individuals, letters, financial statements, unpublished biographies, autobiographies, a diary, county records, contracts, deeds, reports of committees, personal interviews, unpublished manuscripts, catalogues, bulletins, yearbooks, photostatic records, prospectuses, advertisements, courses of study, newspapers, magazines, pamphlets, and books.

The record presented proves the existence of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College and traces its development. No effort is made to measure or evaluate the contributions of the institution to education in Oklahoma.

On examining, as a part of this study, extensive quantities of data related to the activities of the Presbyterian Church in the United States in Oklahoma, it appears that a history of the educational work of this church in the state would make a desirable further study. The teaching work of the Southern Presbyterians was initiated by those missionaries who accompanied the Choctaws to their new homes at the time of The Great Removal of the Indians to Oklahoma. Goodland Indian Orphanage, founded by the Presbyterians, at Hugo, Oklahoma, has been in existence for over one hundred years in the Choctaw Nation, not to mention the sixty years of service of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College reviewed in the preceding pages. The history of Goodland has been

written; but the mission stations, maintained throughout the nation, each supported a school, some of which continued in existence after the founding of Calvin Institute. No detailed study has been made of this specific contribution to education, yet the results would appear to justify such research.

The conclusions may be reached from the evidence presented that the Oklahoma Presbyterian College has an important history worth preserving and that the part this institution has played and continues to play in education in Oklahoma has justified the money spent by the Presbyterian Church in the United States to support it.

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APPENDIX A

Administrative Chart

CALVIN INSTITUTE¹

R. J. Moseley	Principal	1894-1895
W. T. Whitlatch	Principal	1895-1896
Mary Semple Hotchkin	Principal	1896-1898
Ebenezer Hotchkin	Principal	1898-1901

DURANT PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE

Ebenezer Hotchkin	President	1901-1910
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OKLAHOMA PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE FOR GIRLS

W. B. Morrison	President	1910-1920
E. H. Lyle	President	1920-1922
W. B. Morrison	President	1922-1925
Ebenezer Hotchkin	President	1925-1935
Andrew Bramlett	President	1935-1942
Edith F. Hodgson	President	1942-1945
Mrs. Jewell L. Hardy	President	1945-1945
Amy E. Robinson	President	1945-1951

OKLAHOMA PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE

Amy E. Robinson	President	1951-
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¹There have been four distinct phases to the work of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College. These are as outlined above.

APPENDIX B

Executive Secretaries of Home Missions
Presbyterian Church in the United States²

J. N. Craig	1894-1901
S. L. Morris	1901-1929
Homer McMillan	1929-1944
Claude H. Pritchard	1944-

These are men who have served in a supervisory capacity in promoting that phase of the Home Mission work of the Presbyterian Church in the United States represented by the Oklahoma Presbyterian College.³

²This title has been changed to Executive Secretary, Division of Home Missions, Board of Church Extension.

³Minutes of General Assembly, Presbyterian Church in the United States.

APPENDIX C

Biographies of Administrative Officers

Mary Semple Hotchkin
1837 - 1917

Mary Semple Hotchkin was born in Steubenville, Ohio, in 1837. She was a graduate of Steubenville Seminary. When she was about nineteen years old she accepted a call to become a missionary to the Indians of the Southwest. She journeyed down the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers by boat, then across the wilds of Arkansas, and finally reached Wheelock Mission by wagon train in 1857.⁴ In her diary she said that the Indian country was harder to reach than Europe.⁵ First at Wheelock and later at Bennington she served successfully in the mission stations as a teacher. In 1860 she married Henry Hotchkin, son of the pioneer missionary, Ebenezer Hotchkin, who accompanied the Choctaws over the Trail of Tears. She reared a large family, several of whom have served the church with distinction. She taught at Goodwater, Mayhew, Chikiki, near Wynnewood, Caddo, and Durant.⁶

W. B. Morrison in writing of her work stated:

It is almost impossible to measure the influence of the service of this good woman, who worked for more than forty years among the Indians. She served as doctor, nurse, adviser, teacher, and friend. She was a great lover of the Word of God and a constant student of it. She read the Bible through at each of the mission stations with which she was connected. She had a hobby of giving away marked copies of the New Testament and literally thousands were given away in this way. Little wonder when she passed from earth to heaven on August 31, 1917, (at Stigler, Oklahoma) her last words were, 'Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet.'⁷

⁴Morrison, The Red Man's Trail, p. 108.

⁵Mary Semple Hotchkin, Diary.

⁶Ibid.

⁷Morrison, The Red Man's Trail, p. 108.

Mrs. Hotchkin's closing home mission appointment was at Calvin Institute in Durant where she served for two years, from 1896 to 1898, so successfully that this small school enjoyed unprecedented success. She, together with her son, Ebenezer, built better than they knew, for out of a threatened collapse of the work, they were able to reconstruct a strong school which later became the Oklahoma Presbyterian College.⁸

In 1926 funds were presented to the College by the women of the church to endow a Chair of Bible. The committee responsible for the collection of this money asked that the gift be referred to as the Mary Semple Hotchkin Endowment.⁹

A chapel in the main building was named the Mary Semple Hotchkin Chapel in commemoration of her forty years of devoted service to the Indian young people of Southeastern Oklahoma.¹⁰

⁸Minutes of the Board of Trustees of Calvin Institute, 1896-1898.

⁹Rails, Oklahoma Trails, pp. 112-113.

¹⁰Minutes of the Board of Trustees of Calvin Institute, 1896-1898.



MARY SEMPLE HOTCHKIN
Principal Calvin Institute, 1896-1898

Ebenezer Hotchkiss
1869 -

Ebenezer Hotchkiss was born in 1869 near Red River in a community not far from the present site of Goodland Indian Orphanage. He was the son of Mary Semple Hotchkiss and Henry Hotchkiss. His mother was a missionary to the Indians, and his father was a son of Ebenezer Hotchkiss, a missionary who came with the Choctaws over the Trail of Tears.

His early education was under his mother's instruction, chiefly at Caddo. As a boy, he attended Haskell Institute at Lawrence, Kansas. Returning from Haskell, he worked for a year or two as a cowboy on an Oklahoma ranch in the days when rustlers and outlaws were a constant threat. Giving up this rough life, he completed his education at Park College and at Forth Worth University in Texas. By this time he was determined to follow the teaching profession.¹¹

Later he was ordained as a minister of the gospel and served a number of years as evangelist for Indian Presbytery, all the while retaining his position as Bible teacher with the Durant Presbyterian College.¹²

He married Mariah Moore of Wynnewood, Oklahoma, and reared a large family on a salary, according to S. L. Morris, which was never adequate for their comfortable support.¹³ Morris said of his work up to 1925:

His graduates are scattered all over the state, serving as teachers and other professions, while hundreds of converts . . .

¹¹Morrison, The Red Man's Trail, p. 109.

¹²Ibid.

¹³Morris, The Romance of Home Missions, p. 213.

have recognized his spiritual leadership⁷. His life and work suffer in having so mild a term applied as 'romance.'¹⁴

Dr. Hotchkin served as a teacher in Calvin Institute from 1896 to 1901. At that time he became president of Durant Presbyterian College. He continued in this work until 1910 when he requested that W. B. Morrison accept the presidency of Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls. Public sentiment demanded that he preserve his connection with the work; therefore, he was retained as Bible teacher.¹⁵

In 1925, upon the resignation of W. B. Morrison, he was again elected president and served until his retirement in 1935. During his presidency the work grew, the student body increased, and the creativeness of the students was manifested in the numerous honors, awards, and recognition accorded them.¹⁶

The minutes of the Board show that he raised more than \$100,000 for the support of the work he loved from people all over the Southern Presbyterian Church, from wealthy Indians, and from interested friends in the State of Oklahoma.¹⁷

Resolutions of commendation recorded and given to him upon his retirement in 1935 recognize his contribution to the progress of the college and express the deep appreciation of the Board of Trustees for his years of magnificent service to the home mission work of the Presbyterian Church among the Indians of Oklahoma.¹⁸

¹⁴Ibid.

¹⁵Minutes of the Board of Trustees of Durant Presbyterian College, 1901-1909.

¹⁶Ibid.

¹⁷Ibid.

¹⁸Ibid.

Austin College, Sherman, Texas, conferred the honorary degree of
Doctor of Divinity upon him in 1927.¹⁹

¹⁹E. Hotchkin, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, February, 1955.



EBENEZER HOTCHKIN

Principal of Calvin Institute, 1898-1901
President of Durant Presbyterian College, 1901-1910
President of Oklahoma Presbyterian College, 1925-1935

W. B. Morrison
1877 - 1944

W. B. Morrison was born in Lexington, Virginia, June 12, 1877.

He received his early education in the Lexington schools and was graduated with the Bachelor of Arts degree from Washington and Lee University. Later, in 1925, he received his Master of Arts degree from the University of Oklahoma. He began his teaching the year following his graduation at Rockville Academy, Rockville, Maryland. From there he went to Beaumont, Texas, where he had his own school, the Beaumont Classical Academy. He also served as principal of Beaumont High School until coming, in 1902, to the Durant Presbyterian College in Durant, Oklahoma, to serve as vice-president.

On December 25, 1902, he was married to Christine Dorman Barton in Beaumont, Texas. He and Mrs. Morrison continued in the work at Durant Presbyterian College until the end of the school year in 1904. At this time he went to Williamson, West Virginia, where he had charge of the Williamson Presbyterial Academy. He was later principal of the high school in Williamson, and at the same time editor and publisher of the Williamson Enterprise.

In 1910 Morrison and his family returned to Durant. He became president of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls, in which position he served until 1920. He resigned at that time to go into business in Durant. In 1922 he again accepted the presidency at the Oklahoma Presbyterian College, serving until 1925. The Board of Trustees granted him a leave of absence for the 1924-1925 school year. Mrs. Morrison served as acting president in this interim. At the close of 1925 he again resigned his work at the Oklahoma Presbyterian College. In the fall of 1925 he joined the faculty of Southeastern State College

as a teacher of history. He held this position until the time of his death on March 20, 1944.

Mr. Morrison won prominence in the Southwest as an educator, historical writer, and poet. Among books written by Mr. Morrison are: The Red Man's Trail, An Oklahoman Abroad, Out in Oklahoma (a book of poetry), and Military Camps and Forts. In addition to these books, he wrote many articles for publication in the state press, the Chronicles of Oklahoma, and professional magazines.

He was a charter member of the Lion's Club. He was also a member of the Masonic Blue Lodge, Knight's Templar, Knights of Pythias, and Woodman of the World. Among his many public services to the community was his outstanding contribution to the Robert L. Williams public library. He was among the original civic group who sponsored this project, and he served on the library board until his death.

In education and in historical research, Mr. Morrison was one of Oklahoma's outstanding citizens. In addition to serving as president of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College for many years, he served for one year as acting president of Southeastern State College. After he went to the state school to teach, he spent several months in an extended European tour in 1928. Austin College, Sherman, Texas, conferred on him the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters in 1917.

He served with distinction as president at the Oklahoma Presbyterian College and served on the Board of the institution for several terms when he was not serving as president. Those who wrote of his life have said that his unselfish devotion to duty, his Christian character, and his capacity for leadership mark him as one who will

be long remembered by his friends and associates at both Durant colleges.^{20,21,22}

²⁰"Dr. W. B. Morrison Dies," Durant Daily Democrat, March 20, 1944, p. 1.

²¹"Dr. Morrison's Funeral Rites," Durant Daily Democrat, March 21, 1944, p. 1.

²²Mrs. Christine B. Morrison, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, March, 1955.



WILLIAM RROWN MORRISON

President of Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls, 1910-1920
President of Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls, 1922-1925

Edward Hays Lyle
1867 - 1922

Edward Hays Lyle was born at Monroe City, Missouri, on June 7, 1867. His father was John Newton Lyle, and his mother was Margaret Trimble Hays. He was married to Louise Hook Brown at St. Louis, Missouri, October 2, 1900. Westminster College granted him Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts degrees in 1888. He received his Doctor of Philosophy degree from Princeton in 1899. Westminster College employed him as a professor from 1888 to 1892. The Presbytery of Missouri (Presbyterian Church of the United States), granted him a license to preach September 24, 1894. He was ordained October 30, 1894, in Pueblo Presbytery (Presbyterian Church in the United States of America).

He was a stated supply pastor at La Junta, Colorado, in 1894, and pastor in 1895 and 1896. As pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church at Colorado Springs, he served from 1897 to 1904. From this pastorate he went to the Texas Presbyterian College as a teacher, serving for the year 1904-1905. He served two pastorates in the Presbyterian Church in Texas from 1905 to 1920. These were at Lancaster and Cleburne. He was called to the presidency of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College in 1920. Here he served until 1922. He resigned because of ill health, and passed away at Dallas, Texas, October 26, 1922.²³

During his administration, plans for a second brick dormitory reached completion. This building was erected on the campus of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College and named Graham-Jackson Hall in honor of two generous donors to the building fund.²⁴

²³R. M. Firebaugh, Personal Letter, Hugo, Oklahoma, March 5, 1955.

²⁴Minutes of the Board of Trustees, April 17, 1922.

Resolutions of appreciation were recorded and given Dr. Lyle by the Board of Trustees following his resignation.²⁵

²⁵Ibid.



EDWARD HAYS LYLE

President of Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls, 1920-1922

Andrew Bramlett
1877 - 1951

Andrew Bramlett was born in Pickens County, South Carolina, January 22, 1877. He finished public schools in Pickens County and entered The Citadel, a South Carolina military college, Charleston, South Carolina. He was graduated as a cadet captain in 1899. After teaching two years at Welch Neck High School, Hartsville, South Carolina, he was employed at Georgia School of Technology in Atlanta, Georgia, as a teacher of mathematics. From this school he went to Georgia Military Academy, College Park, Georgia, to serve in the same capacity for two years. In 1908 he became professor of mathematics at Clemson College, Clemson, South Carolina. Before taking up his work at Clemson, he was married to Minnie McIntire. At the beginning of World War I, he went to the first Officer Training School at Fort Monroe, Virginia, and was graduated as a captain in the Coast Guard Artillery. Soon after being assigned to Fort Sumter, South Carolina, he was promoted to major. In France he served as a casual, and later joined the 69th Heavy Artillery. At the close of the war he returned to the states, was honorably discharged, and was employed again at Clemson College as assistant commandant in 1920. Upon his discharge from active service, he joined the Coast Artillery Reserve and attained the rank of colonial.

Bramlett served as executive vice-president at the Oklahoma Presbyterian College from January 1933 to 1935. He was appointed president in 1935 and continued to serve in this capacity until his resignation and retirement in 1942.

He and Mrs. Bramlett made their home at Ada, Oklahoma, until his death April 19, 1951. He was buried in National Cemetery, Marietta, Georgia.

He is survived by Mrs. Minnie Bramlett who now makes her home in Quitman, Georgia.

Bramlett led the work at the Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls during the most difficult time of its history. He served faithfully, conscientiously, and well. The foundations for the present work were laid during his administration.^{26,27}

²⁶Mrs. Minnie M. Bramlett, Manuscript and Personal Letter, June 27, 1954.

²⁷A record of Andrew Bramlett's achievements, honors, awards, and memberships in organizations is not available.



ANDREW BRAMLETT

President of Oklahoma Presbyterian College, 1935-1942

Edith F. Hodgson
1884 -

Miss Hodgson was born in Athens, Georgia, October 18, 1884, to Joseph Marshall Hodgson and Isabella Turner Hodgson. She grew up there and attended Lucy Cobb Institute (a junior college) in Athens from which she was graduated in 1902 as valedictorian. Following this, she spent four years in Berlin, Germany, studying voice, piano, and German. While there she travelled extensively in the British Isles, Norway, Denmark, Belgium, Holland, France, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, and Italy. Upon her return she studied voice for one winter in Philadelphia and another winter in New York City.

During World War I she served in the Army School of Nursing at Camp Wadsworth, Spartanburg, South Carolina. In 1923 she was graduated from Biblical Seminary, New York City. The University of Georgia granted her a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1926. In 1931 she received her Master of Arts degree from the same institution. At this time she became a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

Miss Hodgson taught Bible and music at Lucy Cobb Institute at Athens, Georgia, for many years. She had a private class of music pupils and, at the same time, served as soloist and choir director at the Central Presbyterian Church in Athens. Miss Hodgson taught music for one year at Milledgeville Institute at Santee, Georgia.

In 1935 the president of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls offered her a position as Bible teacher. Although she was not employed to teach music, she has devoted herself to promoting an interest in and to the teaching of music. She was elected president of the college in 1942 and continued to serve until 1945. At this time she petitioned the Board of Trustees to relieve her of administrative work. This was done, and she was re-elected to serve as

Bible teacher, a position she continues to hold with honor to herself and to the institution. In May, 1955, she will have completed twenty years of service at the Oklahoma Presbyterian College.

Miss Hodgson was for years a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Athens, Georgia. Later she became a charter member of the Central Presbyterian Church. Since her residence in Durant she has been an associate member of the First Presbyterian Church.

Besides her Phi Beta Kappa membership, Miss Hodgson is a member of Kappa Delta Pi, the American Association of University Women, and the Business Women's Circle of the Presbyterian Church.²⁸

²⁸Edith F. Hodgson, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, February, 1955.

Mrs. Jewell L. Hardy
1900 -

Mrs. Jewell L. Hardy was born in 1900 north of Antlers, Indian Territory, in an area designated as John's Valley. She attended the Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls and was graduated in 1919, after which she went to the University of Oklahoma. Here she was granted a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1921.

In the fall of 1921, she accepted a position at Chilocco Indian School where she taught for one year. Dr. W. B. Morrison offered her a position teaching English at the Oklahoma Presbyterian College in 1922. Her marriage in 1925 ended her teaching career for some years. She made her home in Mineral Wells, Sherman, and Wichita Falls, Texas, until the war years. From 1943 to 1945, she taught English at Goodland Indian Orphanage, Hugo, Oklahoma. She was offered the presidency of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College at Durant, Oklahoma, in May, 1945. She accepted this work on condition that she would be released in the event her husband, Major Jewell L. Hardy, was discharged from overseas service. She served ably as president for the months between June and November, 1945, when Major Hardy was returned to the States. Following this, Mr. and Mrs. Hardy lived in Texas for a few years. At the present they make their home on a large ranch south of Antlers, Oklahoma.²⁹

As Bessie Johns, she was an outstanding Indian student at the Oklahoma Presbyterian College.³⁰ According to the Missionary Survey

²⁹Mrs. Jewell L. Hardy, Personal Letter, Antlers, Oklahoma, March 5, 1954.

³⁰Mrs. C. C. Anderson, "What of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College?" The Missionary Survey (July, 1919), p. 476.

for July, 1919, she was then considered to be an excellent example of the results of the Christian training received at this institution.

As a student, she was active in the organizations of the campus, such as: Phi Delta Sigma Literary Society, Young Women's Christian Association, Miriam Band, and others. She served as president or officer in these organizations on more than one occasion.³¹

Mrs. Hardy has been an active member of the Presbyterian Church of the United States since her earliest youth.³²

³¹Ithanna, Durant, Oklahoma, 1914-1917 (College Yearbooks).

³²Mrs. Jewell L. Hardy, Personal Interview, Antlers, Oklahoma, December, 1954.



MRS. JEWEL L. HARDY

President of Oklahoma Presbyterian College, 1945-1945

Amy E. Robinson
1905 -

Miss Robinson was born in Gastonia, North Carolina, January 2, 1905. She attended elementary school in the Piedmont section and attended preparatory school at Linwood College in Gastonia. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree at Flora Macdonald College, Red Springs, North Carolina. Miss Robinson taught mathematics and chemistry for six years in high school prior to going to the Assembly Training School for Lay Workers at Richmond, Virginia. Here she received a Master's degree in religious education. Further graduate study was done at Duke University, the University of North Carolina, and Biblical Seminary in New York City.

Following her graduation in Richmond, she taught Bible for one year at the Oklahoma Presbyterian College in 1934-1935. The Foreign Mission Committee of the Presbyterian Church in the United States appointed her to serve as a missionary to Japan in 1935. While there, she taught at the Golden Castle College for Girls at Nagoya. After serving her five year first term she returned to the states on furlough in 1940. The relations between Japan and the United States became so strained in 1941 that she was unable to return. She taught Bible at Highland Institute in Guerrant, Kentucky, for one year before she accepted the invitation of Miss Edith F. Hodgson to join the staff at the Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls at Durant, Oklahoma, in June, 1943. She was elected acting-president in 1945 to serve out the unexpired term of Mrs. Jewell Hardy who resigned in the middle of the year. She was elected president in 1946 and has served continuously in that capacity since that time.

Miss Robinson is a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, the Business

Women's Circle of the Presbyterian Church, and a life long member of the Long Creek Presbyterian Church, King's Mountain, North Carolina. She is an associate member of the First Presbyterian Church, Durant, Oklahoma.³³

³³Amy E. Robinson, Personal Interview, Durant, Oklahoma, February, 1955.



AMY ELIZABETH ROBINSON

President of Oklahoma Presbyterian College, 1945--

APPENDIX D

Faculties from 1907 to 1933

1907 - 1908³⁴

Ebenezer Hotchkin, President
Park College, Fort Worth University
English and Bible

E. R. Sins, Vice-President
A. B., Austin College
Language

C. L. Healy, Principal
Primary and Intermediate Departments
B. S., Ravina College
Mathematics

Henry Young, Manager Athletic Association
B. S., Austin College
Philosophy

Miss Ella Hockaday
Scholarship Student to Columbia University New York City
Two Summers at Chicago University, Methods and Science
Two Summers at Montagle, Tennessee, also work in Boulder
and New York Chautauquas
Science

Teacher of Intermediate Department
Not named

Teacher of Primary Department
Not named

Miss Williamine Walls
Department of Music--Piano

Professor J. C. McClellan
Department of Music--Band and String Instruments

Teacher of Department of Elocution
Not named

Miss Haynes
Department of Art

³⁴This faculty list is copied from the 1907-1908 catalogue of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College.

1910 - 1911³⁵

Professor W. B. Morrison, A. B.
Washington-Lee University
Languages and Higher Mathematics

Reverend Ebenezer Hotchkin
Park College
Bible, Moral Science

Miss Natalie Ballou
Mathematics and German

Miss Katherine Washhope
Fredericksburg College
Latin and French

Miss Susie Blake
Duo West Female College
English and Expression

Miss Edyth Williams
Texas Presbyterian College for Girls, and Agnes Scott College
Principal Sub-Collegiate Department

Miss Matilda Leipold
Art Department

Miss Dora A. Koenig
Wesley School of Music
Pupil of Professor James W. Hill,
Frank E. Morse, Boston
Pupil of Mme. H. C. Maurice, New York
Voice, Violin and Piano

Miss G. A. Bruce Taylor
Charleston Female Seminary, Charleston, South Carolina
Elizabeth College, Charlotte, North Carolina
Piano and Voice

Miss Ella Warren
Matron

Dr. A. S. Hagood
Physician

³⁵This faculty list is copied from the 1910-1911 catalogue of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College.

1911 - 1912³⁶

W. B. Morrison, A. B., President
Washington and Lee University
Higher Mathematics

Reverend Ebenezer Hotchkin
Park College
Bible and Moral Science

Miss Sue Blake, A. B.
Women's College, Due West, South Carolina
English and Expression

Miss Katherine Washope, A. B.
Fredericksburg College, Virginia
Latin and French

Miss Clara Blake
Women's College, Due West, South Carolina
History and English

Miss Ruth Falls
Women's College, Due West, South Carolina
Mathematics and Science

Miss Mathilde Leipold
Stadel Art Institute, Munich Academy of Fine Arts
Art and German

Edward Baxter Perry
Pupil of Liszt; Visiting Director of Piano Department
Teacher of Interpretation

Mrs. Alla B. Kinsey
Pupil E. A. Smith, Boston Conservatory;
Pupil Bateman, Leipzig
Piano, Harmony, History of Music

Miss Dora A. Koenig, A. B.
Wesley School of Music; Pupil Professor James W. Hill,
Frank E. Morse of Boston;
Pupil Mme. H. C. Maurice, New York
Voice, Violin, Piano

Miss Ellie Gray, A. B.
LaGrange College; Pupil Miss Rose Muller,
Leipzig Conservatory;
Piano and Theory, Pipe Organ

³⁶This faculty list is copied from the 1911-1912 catalogue of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College.

Miss Sade A. Nesbit
Synodical College, Fulton, Missouri
Principal Home Department; Secretary to President

Dr. A. S. Hagood
Physician

1912 - 1913³⁷

W. B. Morrison, A. B., President
Washington and Lee University
Mathematics and French

Reverend A. L. Rhea, M. A.
Southwestern Presbyterian University
Bible and Science

Miss Harriet Mason
Agnes Scott College, Curry School of Expression
English and Expression

Miss Katherine Manchope, A. B.
Fredericksburg College, Virginia
Latin and German

Mrs. Tressie H. Shields, A. B.
Missouri Synodical College
Domestic Science; Primary

Miss Ruth Falls
Women's College, Due West, South Carolina
History and English

Miss Jane I. Gibbs
Newcomb College
Art and Drawing

Edward Baxter Perry
Pupil of Liszt; Visiting Director of Piano Department
Teacher of Interpretation

Mrs. Alla B. Kinsey
Pupil E. A. Smith, Boston, Conservatory;
Pupil Bateman, Leipzig
Piano, Harmony, History of Music

Miss Dora A. Koenig
Elizabeth Conservatory; Pupil Oscar Saenger, New York;
Pupil Professor William Ortmann, Leipzig
Voice, Violin, Piano

Miss Ellie Gray, A. B.
LaGrange College; Pupil Miss Rose Muller,
Leipzig Conservatory
Piano and Theory

³⁷This faculty list is copied from the 1912-1913 catalogue of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College.

Miss Sade A. Nesbit
Synodical College, Fulton, Missouri
Principal Home Department; Secretary to President

Dr. A. S. Hagood
Physician

1913 - 1914³⁸

W. B. Morrison, A. B., President
Washington and Lee University

Academic Faculty

W. B. Morrison, A. B.
Modern Languages and Science

Reverend Ebenezer Hotchkiss
Park College
Bible and Moral Science

Miss Nina M. Oschman
Graduate Curry School of Expression,
Boston, Massachusetts
Expression and English

Miss Julia Byrne
Graduate Newcomb College Art School,
New Orleans, Louisiana
Art and Drawing

Miss Myra Williams, A. B.
Graduate Alabama Girls' Technical Institute
Student Chicago University
Latin and Mathematics

Miss Irene McCain, A. B.
Graduate Women's College, Due West, South Carolina
English and History

Mrs. Tressie N. Shields, A. B.
Missouri Synodical College
Domestic Science; Academic Assistant

Miss Dora Pearigen, B. L.
Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls
Academic Assistant

³⁸This faculty list is copied from the 1913-1914 catalogue of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College.

Musical Faculty

Edward Baxter Perry
Pupil of Liszt; Consulting Director of Piano
Teacher of Interpretation

Miss Irma Beck
Graduate of Kidd-Key Conservatory under Mickwitz;
Pupil of Burmeister, Germany;
Resident Director of Piano
Piano, Harmony

Mrs. Alla B. Kimsey
Pupil E. A. Smith, Boston Conservatory;
Pupil Bateman, Leipzig
Piano, History of Music

Miss Floy Eagleton
Graduate Kidd-Key Conservatory
Piano and Theory

Miss Dora A. Koenig
Elizabeth Conservatory; Pupil Oscar Saenger, New York;
Pupil Professor William Ortmann, Leipzig
Voice Culture and Violin

 Home Department

Miss Sade Nesbit
Missouri Synodical College
Principal Home Department

Mrs. W. B. Morrison
Newcomb College
In Charge of Hotchkiss Hall

Dr. A. S. Hagood
Physician

1914 - 1915³⁹

W. B. Morrison, A. B., President
Washington and Lee University

Mrs. W. B. Morrison, Lady Principal
Newcomb College

Academic Faculty

Reverend Ebenezer Hotchkiss
Park College
Bible and Moral Science

W. B. Morrison, A. B.
Latin and Mathematics

Miss Mary Wiggins, A. B.
University of Oklahoma
English and French

Miss Mattie Silliman, A. B.
Science and Mathematics

Miss Kathleen Cauffield, A. B.
Texas Presbyterian College for Girls
History

Miss Katherine McLean, A. B.
German and Latin

Miss Laura Dinwiddie
Academic Grades

Special Branches

Mrs. Tressie N. Shields, A. B.
Missouri Synodical College
Domestic Science

Miss Nina M. Oschman
Graduate Curry School of Expression,
Boston, Massachusetts
Expression

³⁹This faculty list is copied from the 1914-1915 catalogue of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College.

Miss Fannie M. Lyle
Aiken Institute
Art

—

Musical Faculty

Edward Baxter Perry
Pupil of Liszt
Visiting Director of Piano; Teacher of Interpretation

Miss Irma Beck
Pupil of Burnmeister, Germany
Resident Director of Piano; Piano, Harmony

Mrs. Alla B. Kinsey
Pupil E. A. Smith, Boston Conservatory;
Pupil Bateman, Leipzig
Piano, History of Music

Miss Floy Eagleton
Graduate Kidd-Key Conservatory
Piano and Theory

Miss Rebecca Addison
Graduate Voice Department, Women's College,
Duo West, South Carolina
Cincinnati Conservatory
Voice Culture

Professor George C. Davis
Student of Yachtka, Schmits, Schreiner, and others
Violin

—

Home Department

Mrs. K. S. Currie, Matron
Dr. A. S. Hagoed, Physician

1915 - 1916⁴⁰

W. B. Morrison, A. B. President
Washington and Lee University

Mrs. W. B. Morrison, Lady Principal
Newcomb College

Academic Faculty

Reverend Ebenezer Hotelkin
Park College
Bible and Moral Science

W. B. Morrison, A. B.
Latin and Mathematics

Miss Laura Oliver, A. B.
Daniel Baker College
Science and Mathematics

Miss Julia McLean, A. B.
Texas Presbyterian College for Girls
History

Miss Katherine McLean, A. B.
Texas Presbyterian College for Girls
German and Latin

Miss Laura Dimiddie
Graduate North Texas Normal School, Texas
Academic Grades

Special Branches

Mrs. Tressie W. Shields, A. B.
Missouri Synodical College
Domestic Science

Miss Elizabeth Jordan
Graduate Curry School of Expression,
Boston, Massachusetts
Expression

⁴⁰This faculty list is copied from the 1915-1916 catalogue of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College.

Miss Fannie H. Lyle
Aiken Institute
Art

Musical Faculty

Edward Baxter Perry
Pupil of Liszt
Visiting Director of Piano; Teacher of Interpretation

Miss Irma Beck
Pupil of Burnmeister, Germany
Resident Director of Piano; Piano, Harmony

Mrs. Alla B. Kinsey
Pupil E. A. Smith, Boston Conservatory;
Pupil Bateson, Leipzig
Piano, History of Music

Miss Floy Eagleton
Pupil of Renard; Chicago Conservatory
Piano and Theory

Miss Rebecca Addison
Graduate Voice Department, Women's College
Due West, South Carolina
Voice Culture

Professor George C. Davis
Student of Yachka, Schmits, Schreiner, and others
Violin

Home Department

Mrs. K. S. Currie, Matron
Dr. A. S. Hagood, Physician

1916 - 1917⁴¹

Miss Dorothy Whitney
Mathematics

Miss Anna Lewis
History

Miss Irma Beck
Director of Music
Piano and Harmony

Miss Floy Eagleton
Piano

Mrs. Tressie H. Shields
Home Economics

Mrs. W. B. Morrison
Lady Principal

Mrs. Mary Woody
Matron

Miss Hazel Wager
Piano

Miss Enid Patterson
Latin and German

Miss Frances Lyle
Art

Miss Hazel Meadow
Voice

Mrs. Nettie Howard
Matron

Miss Cecil Painter
Academic

Miss Elizabeth Jordan
English and Expression

⁴¹No catalogue was published in 1916-1917. This list was found in the college yearbook, Ithama. No qualifications were given.

1917 - 1918⁴²

W. B. Morrison, A. B.; Lit. D., President
Washington and Lee University

Mrs. W. B. Morrison, Lady Principal
Newcomb College

Academic Faculty

W. B. Morrison, A. B.; Lit. D.
Washington and Lee University
Bible and Science

Miss Elizabeth Jordan
Graduate Curry School of Expression
English

Miss Enid Patterson, A. B.; B. S.
University of Missouri
Latin and German

Miss Dorothy Whitney, A. B.
Oklahoma Presbyterian College;
Graduate Southeastern Normal School
Mathematics

Miss Elizabeth Gannon, A. B.
Agnes Scott College
French and History

Miss Verna Woodworth, A. B.
University of Oklahoma
Moral Science and Education

Miss Cecil Painter
Academic Grades

Special Branches

Mrs. Tressie N. Shields, A. B.
Missouri Synodical College
Domestic Science

⁴²This faculty list is copied from the 1917-1918 catalogue of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College.

Miss Elizabeth Jordan
 Graduate Curry School of Expression
 Boston, Massachusetts
 Expression

Miss Fannie M. Lyle
 Aiken Institute
 Art

—

Musical Faculty

Edward Baxter Perry
 Pupil of Liszt
 Visiting Director of Piano; Teacher of Interpretation

Miss Irma Beck
 Pupil of Burmeister, Germany
 Resident Director of Piano; Piano, Harmony

Miss Floy Eagleton
 Pupil of Renard; Chicago Conservatory
 Piano and Theory

Miss Hazel Meadow
 Voice Culture and Piano

Professor Sidney Thorne
 Violin

—

Home Department

Mrs. J. M. Woody, Matron
 Mrs. E. M. Howard, Matron
 Dr. A. S. Hagood, Physician

1919 - 1920⁴³

W. B. Morrison, A. B.; Lit. D., President

Mrs. W. B. Morrison, Lady Principal

Miss Emma Stevenson, B. L., Librarian

—
Academic Faculty

W. B. Morrison, A. B.; Lit. D.
Washington and Lee University; Austin College
Latin and Mathematics

Ebeneser Hotchkin
Park College; Fort Worth University
Bible and Moral Science and Education

J. S. Baird, A. B.; B. D.
Austin College; Louisville Theological Seminary
History and Latin

Miss Verna Woodworth, A. B.
Michigan Normal College, Ypsilanti, Michigan
Household Economics; Science

Miss Ada McQuary, A. B.
Baylor College
English and Expression

Miss Agnes Rooney
Graduate East Central State Normal School; Hill's
Business College
Commercial Courses

Miss Virginia Lee Kiser
Post Graduate Columbus, O. Art School; Student Chase
School of Art, New York
Art

Miss Ione Swope, A. B.
University of Texas
French and Spanish

Miss Mary Harrison, A. B.
Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls
Academic Department

⁴³This faculty list is copied from the 1919-1920 catalogue of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College. Information for 1918-1919 is not available.

Musical Faculty

Sam L. Ball

Student with Hans Richard, eminent Swiss Pianist; Kidd
Key Conservatory; Johan Becker, Chicago
Director of Piano

Mrs. Alta R. Mahaffey

Artist Diploma from Indianapolis Conservatory
Piano

A. H. Mahaffey

Student of James Steven Martin and
John Colvill Dickson, Pittsburg;
Also student of Danish baritone Johan Berthelsohn,
and William Zerffi
Director of Voice

Ferdinand Dittler

Student of Pringuitz, of Atlanta; Harold G. Simpson,
Columbus; Brandt of Cincinnati
Violin

Miss Virginia McAtee

Graduate American Conservatory, Liberty, Missouri;
student of Stevens, University of Chicago
Pipe Organ

—

Home Department

Mrs. J. M. Woody, Matron

Dr. A. S. Hagood, Physician

1920 - 1921⁴⁴

Reverend E. H. Lyle, A. B.; A. M.; Ph. D., President
Mrs. E. H. Lyle, Lady Principal

Edward H. Lyle, A. B., A. M., Ph. D.
Westminster College

Special work in Harvard University and Princeton
University, and Theological Work at Princeton Seminary
Moral Science and Education

Reverend Ebeneser Hotchkiss
Park College; Forth Worth University
Bible and Mathematics

Miss Celeste Brown, B. S., A. B.
B. S.—Texas Presbyterian College; A. B.—University
of Texas
Latin and History

Miss Clo Buster
Graduate East Central Normal School
Agriculture and Spanish

Miss Katherine Kirven, A. B.
University of Texas
English and French

Miss Margaret Williams
Oklahoma Presbyterian College
Student Curry School of Expression, Boston
Expression and Physical Culture

Not named
Commercial Course

Mrs. Matilda Leitpold Weston
Studied in Europe, Paris, Munich, etc.
Work exhibited in Art Centers in Europe and America
Awarded Several State Prizes
Art

Not named
Household Economics and Science

Miss Lenora Hollnuth, A. B.
University of Texas
Academic Department

Not named
Librarian

⁴⁴This faculty list is copied from the 1920-1921 catalogue of
the Oklahoma Presbyterian College.

Musical Faculty

Sam L. Ball

Student with Hans Richard, Dainent Swiss Pianist;
Kidd Key Conservatory; Johan Becker, Chicago; Leopold
Godowsky
Director of Piano

Miss Clara Smith

Graduate American Conservatory of Music, Chicago,
Soprano Soloist and Accompanist with Radcliffe
Chautauqua Company 1919-1920
Voice and Piano

E. M. Davis

Student of Pittsburg Conservatory; Student of leading
violin instructors in Chicago, and is now attending
Hunter Institute, Kansas City
Violin

Mrs. Virginia McAtee

Graduate American Conservatory, Liberty, Missouri;
Student of Stevens University of Chicago; Student of
Lawrence Erb, University of Illinois
Pipe Organ

—

Home Department

Mrs. J. M. Woody, Matron
Dr. A. S. Hagood, Physician

1921 - 1922⁴⁵

Reverend E. H. Lyle, A. B.; A. M.; Ph. D., President
Mrs. E. H. Lyle, Lady Principal

Edward H. Lyle, A. B., A. M., Ph. D.
Westminster College
Special work in Harvard University and Princeton
University, and Theological Work at Princeton Seminary
Moral Science and Education

Reverend Ebenezer Hotchkiss
Park College; Forth Worth University
Bible Lectures

Miss Celeste Brown, B. S., A. B.
B. S.—Texas Presbyterian College; A. B.—University
of Texas
Latin and History

Miss Lenora Hellmuth, A. B.
University of Texas
Mathematics

Miss Margaret Williams
Oklahoma Presbyterian College
Curry School of Expression and Physical Culture

Miss Blanche Hodges
Springfield Business College
Commercial Course

Mrs. Marie H. Lyle
Bible Memory Work

Not Named
Art and Spanish

Miss Madge Bullard, A. B.
University of Texas
Agriculture and Science

Miss Cathryn Crawford, A. B.
University of Texas
English and French

Miss Emma Stevenson, B. L.
Oklahoma Presbyterian College
Special work Medical College, Virginia and Memorial
Hospital, Richmond
Household Economics

⁴⁵This faculty list is copied from the 1921-1922 catalogue of
the Oklahoma Presbyterian College.

Mrs. Nellie J. Parks
 Librarian

Academic Department
 Not named

Musical Faculty

Sam L. Ball
 Student with Hans Richard, Eminent Swiss Pianist;
 Kid Key Conservatory; Johan Becker, Chicago; Leopold
 Godowsky
 Director of Piano

Miss Marguerite Lake
 Graduate Synodical Presbyterian College Missouri
 Chicago Musical College, Chicago
 Student of Harold Henry, Chicago
 Charles Hall-Leipsic
 Piano Voice

E. M. Davis
 Student of Pittsburg Conservatory; Student of leading
 violin instructors in Chicago, and Hunter
 Institute, Kansas City
 Violin

Mrs. Virginia McAtee
 Graduate American Conservatory, Liberty, Missouri;
 Student of Stevens University of Chicago; Student of
 Lawrence Erb, University of Illinois
 Pipe Organ

Home Department

Mrs. Parks, Matron

Dr. A. S. Hagood, Physician

1922 - 1923⁴⁶

W. B. Morrison, A. B., D. Lit., President
Mrs. W. B. Morrison, Lady Principal

W. B. Morrison, A. B., D. Lit.
Washington and Lee University
Science

Reverend Ebenezer Hotchkin
Park College; Fort Worth University
Bible and Moral Science

Miss Mary Lee Foster, A. B.
University of Tennessee
Latin and French

Miss Eva Bessie Johns, A. B.
University of Oklahoma
English

Miss Roberta Morris, A. B.
Woman's College, South Carolina
History

Miss Eusa Thomas, A. B.
Austin College
Mathematics, Spanish

Miss Annie L. Maxwell, B. S.
College of Industrial Arts, Denton, Texas
Art and Household Economics

Mrs. S. A. Martin, B. O.
Southwestern Methodist University
Expression and Physical Culture

Miss Esther Strong, A. B.
Erskine College
Graded School

Musical Faculty

Sam L. Ball
Student with Hans Richard, Eminent Swiss Pianist;
Kid Key Conservatory; Johan Becker, Chicago; Leopold
Godowsky
Director of Piano

⁴⁶This faculty list is copied from the 1922-1923 catalogue of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College.

Horace Hay
 Graduate Student Andrew Hemphill, etc.
 Voice, Culture, Chorus Training

Taylor Matthews
 Pupil E. Rude, Leipzig, etc.
 Violin

Miss Lucille Price, B. Music
 Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas
 Concert Artist, and former Organist First Presbyterian
 Church, Dallas, Texas
 Pipe Organ, Piano

Miss Elizabeth Hodges, Matron Main Building
 Miss Sarah E. Beattie, Matron Graham-Jackson Hall
 Miss Hester Cline, Librarian
 Miss Louie Moore, Secretary
 Dr. A. S. Hagood, Physician

1923 - 1924⁴⁷

W. B. Morrison, A. B., Lit. D., President
Mrs. W. B. Morrison, Dean

—
W. B. Morrison, A. B., Lit. D.
Washington and Lee University
Latin

Ebeneser Hotchkiss
Park College; Fort Worth University
Bible and Philosophy

Augustus R. Craig, A. B., A. M. B. D.
Davidson College; Union Theological Seminary,
Richmond, Virginia
History

Eva Besale Johns, A. B.
University of Oklahoma
English

Cornelia Varnar, A. B.
College of Industrial Arts, Denton, Texas
French, Latin

T. O. Griffin, A. B., Ph. D.
Cumberland University
Mathematics, Science

Nancy King Tripp, A. B.
Agnes Scott College
Spanish, Mathematics

Louise Maxwell, B. S.
College of Industrial Arts, Denton, Texas
Household Economics, Science

Nettie Cleaveland
Boston School of Fine Arts
Art

Mamie Howard Martin, B. O.
Southwestern Methodist University
Expression, English

Janice M. Pollock
Oklahoma Presbyterian College; Oklahoma University
Stenography

⁴⁷This faculty list is copied from the 1923-1924 catalogue of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College.

Tephia Folsom
 Oklahoma Presbyterian College
 Life Certificate Southeastern State Teachers College
 Junior High School

Musical Faculty

Irma Beck
 Graduate Student Under Harold Von Mickwitz;
 four years in Berlin under Burnmeister
 Director of Piano

Lillian Bartlett
 The College of Music, Cincinnati;
 Student under W. M. Sherwood and Leibling, Chicago;
 Student Under Crosby Adams
 Piano

Virginia Mackey Healey
 Graduate American Conservatory, Liberty, Missouri;
 Student Under Percy Grainger, Rudolph Gans,
 J. Lawrence Erb (New York), and Clarence Eddy;
 Organist University of Illinois, etc.
 Pipe Organ

Taylor Matthews
 Pupil E. Ruddle, Leipzig, etc.
 Orchestra, Wind Instruments

Irene Pendleton
 Southern Methodist University;
 Student Under Fried, etc.
 Violin

Olga Leaman
 Pupil of Frans Schroeder, Chicago;
 two years in Berlin, with Frank King Clark;
 Student under MacBurney, Edwards, Sacerdote,
 George W. Jenkins, Bispham, and William Henri Zay.
 Four years a member Voice Faculty,
 University of Illinois
 Voice Culture

Officers

Miss Emma Hodges
 Matron Main Building

Mrs. T. O. Griffis
 Matron Graham-Jackson Hall

Mrs. A. R. Craig
Librarian

Miss Janice Pollock
Secretary

Dr. A. S. Haged
Physician

1925 - 1926⁴⁸

Ebenezer Hotchkiss, President
 Mrs. W. B. Morrison, Dean
 W. B. Morrison, A. B., A. M., Lit. D., Treasurer
 Miss Emma Hodges, Matron

R. R. Craig, A. B., B. D.
 Davidson College; Union Theological Seminary
 Mathematics

Janie Ruth Spragens, A. B.
 Texas Female College
 English

L. M. Scroggs, A. B., A. M., B. D.
 Park College; University of Oklahoma
 Latin

Camilla McKinney, A. B.
 Oklahoma Presbyterian College; Hollins College
 English; Athletic Director

Valma Denison, A. B.
 Southeastern State Teachers College
 History

Grace Norris Davis, A. B.
 University of Oklahoma
 Spanish; Literature

Bessie Kate Lewis, A. B.
 Oklahoma Presbyterian College;
 Southeastern State Teachers College
 History; Science

Dorothy Scott, B. S.
 College of Industrial Arts, Denton, Texas
 Home Economics; Science

Tephia Folsom
 Life Certificate; Southeastern State Teachers College
 Public School Music; Student Loan Fund Director

Mrs. R. R. Craig
 Certificate Assembly's Training School,
 Richmond, Virginia
 Bible

⁴⁸This faculty list is copied from the 1925-1926 catalogue of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College. Information for 1924-1925 is not available.

Mrs. C. G. Landers
 Life Certificate; Southeastern State Teachers College
 Junior High School

Dorothy Betts, A. B.
 University of Oklahoma
 Commerce

—
 Fine Arts

Miss Virginia McKinney
 Graduate in Expression, Stamford College;
 Student University of Texas; Horner Institute
 Expression

Irma Beck
 Graduate Student under Harold Von Mickwitz;
 Four years in Berlin under Bursmeister
 Piano

Irene Thoma, A. B.
 University of Oklahoma; Horner Institute of Fine Arts
 Piano

Virginia Mackey Neely
 Graduate American Conservatory, Liberty, Missouri
 Student under Percy Granger, Rudolph Ganz,
 J. Lawrence Erb, New York and Clarence Eddy
 Organist University of Illinois, etc.
 Pipe Organ

Mary Phillips Moye
 Life Certificate in Piano and Harmony;
 University of Oklahoma; Oklahoma Presbyterian College;
 Meridian Women's College;
 S. M. U. Pupil of Paul Van Katwijk;
 Violin under Walter Fried
 Violin-Orchestra

1926 - 1927⁴⁹

Reverend Ebenezer Hotchkiss, D. D., President
 Mrs. W. B. Morrison, Dean
 Miss Emma Hodges, Matron
 Mrs. L. K. Forrest, Matron
 Mrs. A. C. Risner, Matron
 Mrs. L. Fountain, Librarian

R. R. Craig, A. B., B. D.
 Davidson College; Union Theological Seminary
 Mathematics

Janie Ruth Spragens, A. B.
 Texas Presbyterian College
 English

L. M. Scroggs, A. B., A. M., B. D.
 Park College; University of Oklahoma
 Latin

Camilla McKinney, A. B.
 Oklahoma Presbyterian College; Hollins College
 English; Athletic Director

Valma Denison, A. B.
 Southeastern State Teachers College
 History

Grace Morris Davis, A. B.
 University of Oklahoma
 Spanish; Literature

Bessie Kate Lewis, A. B.
 Oklahoma Presbyterian College;
 Southeastern State Teachers College
 History; Science

Dorothy Scott, B. S.
 College of Industrial Arts, Denton, Texas
 Home Economics; Science

Tephia Folsom
 Life Certificate; Southeastern State Teachers College
 Public School Music; Student Loan Director

Mrs. R. R. Craig
 Certificate, Assembly's Training School
 Richmond, Virginia

⁴⁹This faculty list is copied from the 1926-1927 catalogue of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College.

Julia Louise Kelley, A. B.
 University of Oklahoma;
 Graduate Work Oklahoma University

—
 Fine Arts

Lucy Avis McIlvaney
 Miss Irma Beck, Von Katwijk--S. M. U. University
 Piano

Irene Thoma, A. B.
 University of Oklahoma; Horner Institute of Fine Arts
 Piano

Virginia Mackey Neely
 Graduate American Conservatory, Liberty, Missouri;
 Student under Percy Granger, Rudolph Gans,
 J. Lawrence Erb, New York and Clarence Eddy;
 Organist University of Illinois, etc.
 Pipe Organ

Not named
 Expression

Miss Mary Ritchey Alexander
 Ward-Belmont, student in New York
 Art

Mrs. J. A. Jackson
 Student in New York and three years in Chicago
 Voice

Not named
 Violin-orchestra

1928 - 1929⁵⁰

E. Hotchkin, D. D., President
 Mrs. W. B. Morrison, Dean
 J. T. Colwick, M. D., Physician
 Mrs. Velma Denison, A. B., Registrar
 Mrs. Ben McCurtain, Matron
 Mrs. L. K. Forrest, Matron
 R. R. Craig, Bursar

E. Hotchkin, D. D.
 Park College, Fort Worth University, Austin College
 Bible; Lecture Course

L. M. Scroggs, A. B., A. M., B. D.
 Park College, Oklahoma University, McCormick Seminary
 Science

R. R. Craig, A. B., B. D.
 Davidson, Union Theological Seminary
 Mathematics

C. G. Hamilton, A. B., B. D.
 Berea College, Columbia Theological Seminary
 Latin

Velma Denison, A. B.
 Southeastern State Teachers College,
 Graduate Work Peabody
 History

Mildred Noseley, A. B.
 Oklahoma Presbyterian College, Tulsa University
 English

Christine Hotchkin, A. B.
 Southwestern Presbyterian College,
 Oklahoma College for Women
 English

Mary Bittinger, A. B., M. A.
 Stonewall Jackson College, Carson and Newson College
 Graduate General Assembly Training School
 Bible

Sarah B. Hamilton, A. B.,
 M. A.,
 North Carolina College, Graduate General
 Assembly Training School for Women
 Moral Science

⁵⁰This faculty list is copied from the 1928-1929 catalogue of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College. Information for 1927-1928 is not available.

Anne R. Sempie
Southeastern State Teachers College
Spanish

Fine Arts

Mrs. J. R. Jackson
Student in New York and three years in Chicago
Voice

Virginia Mackey Neely
American Conservatory. Student under Percy Granger,
Radolph Granz, J. Lawrence Erb, and Clarence Eddy
Organ

Christine Hotchkin
Dramatics; Stagecraft

Mrs. J. R. Hannah
Expression

Lula Mae Hays
Chicago Musical College, Student under Percy Granger
Graduate Kidd-Key College Conservatory, Sherman, Texas,
Artist pupil of Hans Rischard.
Graduate Progressive Series Teachers College,
St. Louis, Missouri, Normal Courses,
Chicago Musical College, Progressive Series
Teachers College
Piano

1929 - 1930⁵¹

Reverend E. Hotchkin, D. D., President
 Reverend R. R. Craig, B. D., Bursar
 Christine B. Morrison, Dean
 Velma Dennison, Registrar
 Lucy K. Forrest, Matron
 Mrs. Ben McCurtain, Matron
 Mrs. Mamie Fountain, Librarian
 Dr. J. T. Colwick, Physician

—
 E. Hotchkin, D. D.
 Park College, Fort Worth University, Austin College
 Bible Lectures

R. R. Craig, B. A., B. D.
 Davidson, Union Theological Seminary
 Mathematics

Mary C. Bittinger, B. A.
 Stonewall Jackson College, Carson and Newman College,
 Two Years Graduate work General Assembly
 Training School
 Bible

Sarah B. Hamilton, B. A.
 North Carolina College, Two Years Graduate work
 General Assembly Training School
 Moral Science

Velma Dennison, B. A.
 Southeastern Teachers College,
 Graduate work at Peabody summers of 1926-1929
 History

Christine Hotchkin, B. A.
 Oklahoma Presbyterian College,
 Southeastern Teachers College,
 Southwestern University,
 Oklahoma College for Women
 English

Mildred Mosaley, B. A.
 Oklahoma Presbyterian College,
 Oklahoma University, Tulsa University
 Latin, Spanish

⁵¹This faculty list is copied from the 1929-1930 catalogue of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College

Margaret Pickens, B. S., B. A.
Southeastern Teachers College
Science

L. M. Scroggs, M. A., B. D.
Park College, Oklahoma University,
McCormick Seminary
Psychology

Anne R. Semple
Oklahoma Presbyterian College
Life Certificate, Southeastern State Teachers College
English

Ethyle Curtis, B. S.
University of Chicago
Southeastern State Teachers College
Home Economics

William Brown Morrison
A. B., 1907, Washington and Lee University;
Lit. D., 1917, Austin College;
M. A., 1925, University of Oklahoma.
Southeastern Teachers College, 1921
Professor of History

Fine Arts

Lula Mae Hayes
Chicago Musical School, student under Percy Granger;
Graduate Kidd-Key College Conservatory;
Artist pupil of Hans Rischard
Graduate Series Teachers College, Normal Courses,
Chicago Musical
College
Piano

Christine Hotchkin, B. A.
Public Speaking

Virginia Maekey Neely
American Conservatory
Student under Percy Granger, Rudolph Granz,
J. Lawrence Erb, and Clarence Eddy
Pipe Organ

Mrs. J. R. Jackson
Pupil of Victor Harris, New York;
Sandor Radonovitz, Chicago;
Special oratorio, Arthur Beresford, Chicago
Voice

1930 - 1931⁵²

Reverend E. Hotchkin, D. D., President
 Reverend R. R. Craig, B. D., Bursar
 Christine B. Morrison, Dean
 Velma Dennison, Registrar
 Lucy K. Forrest, Matron
 Mrs. Joie Morgan, Matron
 Mrs. Mamie Fountain, Librarian
 Dr. J. T. Colwick, Physician
 Mrs. Etta Atwell, Dietitian

—
 E. Hotchkin, D. D.
 Park College, Fort Worth University, Austin College
 Bible Lectures

R. R. Craig, B. A., B. D.
 Davidson, Union Theological Seminary
 Mathematics

Mary C. Bittinger, B. A.
 Stonewall Jackson College, Carson and Newman College,
 Two Years Graduate work General Assembly
 Training School
 Bible

Sarah B. Hamilton, B. A.
 North Carolina College, Two Years Graduate work
 General Assembly Training School
 Moral Science

Velma Dennison, B. A.
 Southeastern Teachers College,
 Graduate work at Peabody summers of 1926-1930
 History

Christine Hotchkin, B. A.
 Oklahoma Presbyterian College,
 Southeastern Teachers College,
 Southwestern University,
 Oklahoma College for Women
 English

Mildred Moseley, B. A.
 Oklahoma Presbyterian College,
 Oklahoma University, Tulsa University
 Latin, Spanish

⁵²This faculty list is copied from the 1930-1931 catalogue of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College.

Margaret Pickens, B. S., B. A.
Southeastern Teachers College
Science

L. M. Scroggs, M. A., B. D.
Park College, Oklahoma University,
McCormick Seminary
Psychology

Anne R. Semple
Oklahoma Presbyterian College
Life Certificate, Southeastern State Teachers College
English

Ethyle Curtis, B. S.
University of Chicago,
Southeastern State Teachers College
Home Economics

William Brown Morrison
A. B., 1907, Washington and Lee University;
Lit. D., 1917, Austin College;
M. A., 1925, University of Oklahoma.
Southeastern Teachers College, 1921
Professor of History

Sam F. Babb, M. A., B. A.
University of Oklahoma
Physical Education

Fine Arts

Lula Mae Hayes
Chicago Musical School, student under Percy Granger;
Graduate Kidd-Key College Conservatory;
Artist pupil of Hans Rischard;
Graduate Series Teachers College, Normal Courses,
Chicago Musical College
Piano

Christine Hotchkin, B. A.
Public Speaking

Virginia Mackey Neely
American Conservatory.
Student under Percy Granger, Rudolph Granz,
J. Lawrence Erb, and Clarence Eddy
Pipe Organ

Mrs. J. R. Jackson
Pupil of Victor Harris, New York;
Sandor Radonovits, Chicago;
Special oratorio, Arthur Beresford, Chicago
Voice

1933 - 1934⁵³

Reverend E. Hotchkin, D. D., President
 Andrew Braulett, B. S., Executive Vice President
 Sammy D. Hogue, A. M., Registrar
 Anne R. Semple, A. M., Dean of the College
 Mrs. Minnie M. Braulett, Dean of Women
 Mrs. Laura B. McGee, B. S., Librarian
 Mrs. Jane C. Kealhofer, Matron
 Dr. J. T. Colwick, Physician

—
 English

Carrie V. Brown, A. B., Des Moines College;
 A. M., Columbia University;
 Moody Bible Institute

Modern Languages

Mrs. Myrtle Roberts, A. B., A. M.,
 University of Oklahoma

Science and Mathematics

Dorothy Lane Huff, A. B., A. M.,
 University of Oklahoma

History

Anne R. Semple, Oklahoma Presbyterian College;
 A. B., Southeastern Oklahoma State Teachers College
 A. M., Austin College

Bible and English

Sammy D. Hogue, A. B., University of Texas;
 A. M., Austin College; Moody Bible Institute

Bible and Music

Margaret McMullin, Assembly's Training School
 Presbyterian Church, U. S., Richmond, Virginia;
 Wesleyan Conservatory

Home Economics

Mrs. Leola Gossett
 B. S., Southeastern Oklahoma State Teachers College

Special Tutor

Mrs. Lela Sailors Armstrong
 Oklahoma Presbyterian College;
 A. B., Southeastern Oklahoma State Teachers College

⁵³This faculty list is copied from the 1933-1934 catalogue of the Oklahoma Presbyterian College. Information for 1931-1932 and 1932-1933 is not available.

Faculties from 1934 to 1955⁵⁴

1934 - 1935

Reverend E. Hotchkin, D. D., President
 Andrew Bramlett, B. S., Vice-president
 Sassy D. Hogue, M. A., Registrar
 Anne R. Semple, M. A., Dean of the College
 Mrs. Andrew Bramlett, Dean of Women
 Mrs. Laura A. McGee, B. S., Librarian
 Mrs. Mary James, Matron
 Mrs. Minnie Blatchford, Matron
 Mrs. Haud Wilson, Dining Room Supervisor
 Mrs. Etta Atwell, Kitchen Supervisor
 Hardy Ray, Maintenance

English

Martha Lawrence, M. A.
 Austin College

English and Bible

Sassy D. Hogue, M. A.
 Austin College

History

Anne R. Semple, M. A.
 Austin College

Anne E. Cameron, M. A.
 University of Georgia

Bible

Amy E. Robinson, M. R. E.
 Assembly's Training School for Lay Workers

Physical Education

Doris Sadler, B. A.
 University of Oklahoma

⁵⁴The faculty lists from 1934 to 1955 are reconstructed from the financial records.

1935 - 1936

Andrew Bramlett, President
Mrs. Andrew Bramlett, Dean of Women
Mrs. Laura A. McGee, Librarian
Mrs. Minnie Blatchford, Matron
Mrs. Mary James, Matron
Edith Searcy, Dietitian
Mrs. Etta Atwell, Kitchen Supervisor
Hardy Ray, Maintenance

Bible

Edith F. Hodgson, M. A.
University of Georgia

Mary Garland Taylor, M. A.
Assembly's Training School for Lay Workers

Elementary Grades and Music
Pearl Jones, B. A.

1936 - 1937

Andrew Branlett, President
Mrs. Andrew Branlett, Dean of Women
Mrs. Laura A. McGee, Librarian
Mrs. Minnie Blatchford, Matron
Mrs. Mary James, Matron
Edith Searcy, Dietitian
Miss Iva Goren, Kitchen Supervisor
Hardy Ray, Maintenance

Bible

Edith F. Hodgson, M. A.
University of Georgia

Mary Garland Taylor, M. A.
Assembly's Training School for Lay Workers

Elementary Grades and Music
Pearl Jones, B. A.

1937 - 1938

Andrew Braslett, President
Mrs. Andrew Braslett, Dean of Women
Mrs. Laura A. McGee, Librarian
Mrs. Minnie Blatchford, Matron
Mrs. Mary James, Matron
Edith Searcy, Dietitian
Miss Ica Ceren, Kitchen Supervisor
Hardy Ray, Maintenance

Bible

Edith F. Hodgson, M. A.
University of Georgia

Mary Garland Taylor, M. A.
Assembly's Training School for Lay Workers

Elementary Grades and Music
Pearl Jones, B. A.

1938 - 1939

Andrew Bramlett, B. S., President
Mrs. Andrew Bramlett, Dean of Women
Mrs. Laura A. McGee, Librarian
Mrs. Mary James, Matron
Mrs. O. L. Teasley, Matron
Mrs. Will Gravitt, Kitchen Supervisor
Edith Searcy, Dietitian
Hardy Ray, Maintenance

Bible

Edith F. Hodgson, M. A.
University of Georgia

Luisa Faucette, M. A.
Assembly's Training School for Lay Workers

Elementary Grades

Sue Taylor Smith, B. A.
Southeastern State College

1939 - 1940

Andrew Bramlett, President
Mrs. Andrew Bramlett, Dean of Women
Mrs. Laura A. McGee, Librarian
Mrs. M. L. Padgett, Matron
Mrs. O. L. Teasley, Matron
Mrs. Will Gravitt, Kitchen Supervisor
Edith Searcy, Dietitian
Hardy Ray, Maintenance

Bible

Luisa N. Faucette, M. A.

Edith Hodgson, M. A.
University of Georgia

1940 - 1941

Andrew Bramlett, President
Mrs. Andrew Bramlett, Dean of Women
Mrs. Laura A. McGee, Librarian
Mrs. Mary James, Matron
Mrs. O. L. Teasley, Matron
Mrs. J. G. McGahey, Kitchen Supervisor
Mrs. M. L. Padgett, Matron
Hardy Ray, Maintenance

Bible

Edith F. Hodgson, M. A.
University of Georgia

Mary Garland Taylor, M. A.
Assembly's Training School for Lay Workers

1941 - 1942

Andrew Bramlett, President
Mrs. Andrew Bramlett, Dean of Women
Mrs. Laura A. McGee, Librarian
Mrs. M. L. Padgett, Matron
Mrs. O. L. Teasley, Matron
Mrs. Eva Mitchell, Kitchen Supervisor
Mrs. A. D. Sherrill, Dining Room Supervisor
Hardy Ray, Maintenance

Bible

Miss Edith F. Hodgson, M. A.
University of Georgia
Mary Garland Taylor, M. A.
Assembly's Training School for Lay Workers

1942 - 1943

Edith F. Hodgson, President
Laura A. McGee, Vice-President
Mrs. O. L. Teasley, Housemother
Mrs. Mary James, Housemother
Mrs. Cleo Smith, Maintenance
Mrs. Ben Risner, Kitchen Supervisor

Bible

Mary Garland Taylor, M. A.
Assembly's Training School for Lay Workers

Willodine Gialer, M. A.
Assembly's Training School for Lay Workers

1943 - 1944

Edith F. Hodgson, President
Laura A. McGee, Vice-President
Willodene Gisler, Secretary
Mrs. O. L. Teasley, Housemother
Amy E. Robinson, Housemother and Counselor
C. H. Miller, Maintenance
Mrs. Mary Tolbert and Mrs. W. E. Zion, Kitchen Supervisors

Bible

Mary Garland Taylor, M. A.
Assembly's Training School for Lay Workers

Willodine Gisler, M. A.
Assembly's Training School for Lay Workers

1944 - 1945

Edith F. Hodgson, President
Laura A. McGee, Vice-President
Willodine Gisler, Secretary
Mrs. O. L. Teasley, Housemother
Mrs. Ed Reece, Housemother
Mrs. Mable Ward, Housemother
Mrs. W. E. Zion, Kitchen Supervisor

Bible

Willodine Gisler, M. A.
Assembly's Training School for Lay Workers

Asy E. Robinson, M. R. E.
Assembly's Training School for Lay Workers

1945 - 1946

Mrs. Jewell L. Hardy, President
Mrs. O. L. Teasley, Housemother
Mrs. M. I. Colling, Housemother
Emma Alvarez, Dining Room Supervisor
Mrs. Mable Ward, Dietitian
Mrs. Ed Reece and Mrs. W. E. Zion, Kitchen Supervisors

Bible

Edith F. Hodgson, M. A.
University of Georgia

Amy E. Robinson, M. R. E.
Assembly's Training School for Lay Workers

1946 - 1947

Amy E. Robinson, President
Mrs. Margaret McBee, Secretary
Mrs. Jessie Stevens, Housemother
Mrs. O. L. Teasley, Housemother
Mrs. Nannie Folsom, Dining Room Supervisor
Mrs. W. E. Zion, Kitchen Supervisor
R. L. Vest, Maintenance

Bible

Edith F. Hodgson, M. A.
University of Georgia

Mary Schaller, M. A.
Biblical Seminary

1947 - 1948

Amy E. Robinson, President
Betty Choate, Secretary
Mrs. C. C. Anderson, Housemother
Mrs. O. L. Teasley, Housemother
Mrs. Hattie Folsom, Dining Room Supervisor
Mrs. W. E. Zion, Kitchen Supervisor
R. L. Vest, Maintenance

Bible

Edith F. Hodgson, M. A.
University of Georgia

Mary Schaller, M. A.
Biblical Seminary

Teacher

Elisa Gonzales, B. A.

1948 - 1949

Amy E. Robinson, President
Mrs. Fred Van Hooser, Secretary
Mrs. C. C. Anderson, Housemother
Mrs. O. L. Teasley, Housemother
Mrs. Hannie Folsom, Dining Room Supervisor
Mrs. Anna Trout, Kitchen Supervisor
Mrs. W. E. Zion, Kitchen Supervisor
R. L. Vest, Maintenance

Bible

Edith F. Hodgson, M. A.
University of Georgia

Sarah Dixon
Assembly's Training School for Lay Workers

Kindergarten
Mrs. Roy J. Weger

1949 - 1950

Amy E. Robinson, President
Frances Conley, Secretary
Mrs. O. L. Teasley, Housemother
Oneita Wilson, Housemother
Mrs. Nannie Folsom, Dining Room Supervisor
Mrs. W. E. Zion, Kitchen Supervisor
Mrs. Anna Trout, Kitchen Supervisor
R. L. Vest, Maintenance

Bible

Edith F. Hodgson, M. A.
University of Georgia

Sarah Dixon

Assembly's Training School for Lay Workers

Music

Janet Van de Erve

Kindergarten

Mrs. James D. Morrison

1950 - 1951

Amy E. Robinson, President
Mrs. Fred Van Hooser, Secretary
Mrs. O. L. Teasley, Housemother
Mrs. Nannie Folsom, Dining Room Supervisor
Mrs. Anna Trout, Kitchen Supervisor
Mrs. W. E. Zion, Kitchen Supervisor
Mr. L. M. Vest, Maintenance

Bible

Edith F. Hodgson, M. A.
University of Georgia

Katherine Buswell, M. A.
Biblical Seminary

Kindergarten

Mrs. James D. Morrison

1951 - 1952

Amy E. Robinson, President
Mrs. Charles F. Maupin, Secretary (One Semester)
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candidate for the degree of
Doctor of Education

Thesis: THE ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE OKLAHOMA PRESBYTERIAN
COLLEGE

Major: Education

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Undergraduate Study: She attended grade school at Caddo, Oklahoma, and entered the Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls at Durant, Oklahoma, academy department, in 1913, where she remained in school until 1917. She re-entered in 1923, and finished junior college in 1927. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Southeastern State College in 1933.

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Experiences: The Oklahoma Presbyterian College employed her from 1923 to 1935. She has taught at Southeastern State College from 1935 to the present. She is a member of the Association for Childhood Education International, Association for Student Teaching, Kappa Delta Pi, Phi Alpha Theta honorary history fraternity, Delta Kappa Gamma Society, Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, National Education Association, Oklahoma Education Association, Oklahoma Historical Society, National Geographic Society, Southwestern Philosophy of Education Society, and the Poetry Society of Oklahoma. She is the author of a book of poems called Prairie-born, and has served as Poet Laureate of Oklahoma.

THESIS TITLE: THE ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE OKLAHOMA PRESBYTERIAN
COLLEGE

AUTHOR: ANNE RUTH SEMPLE

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