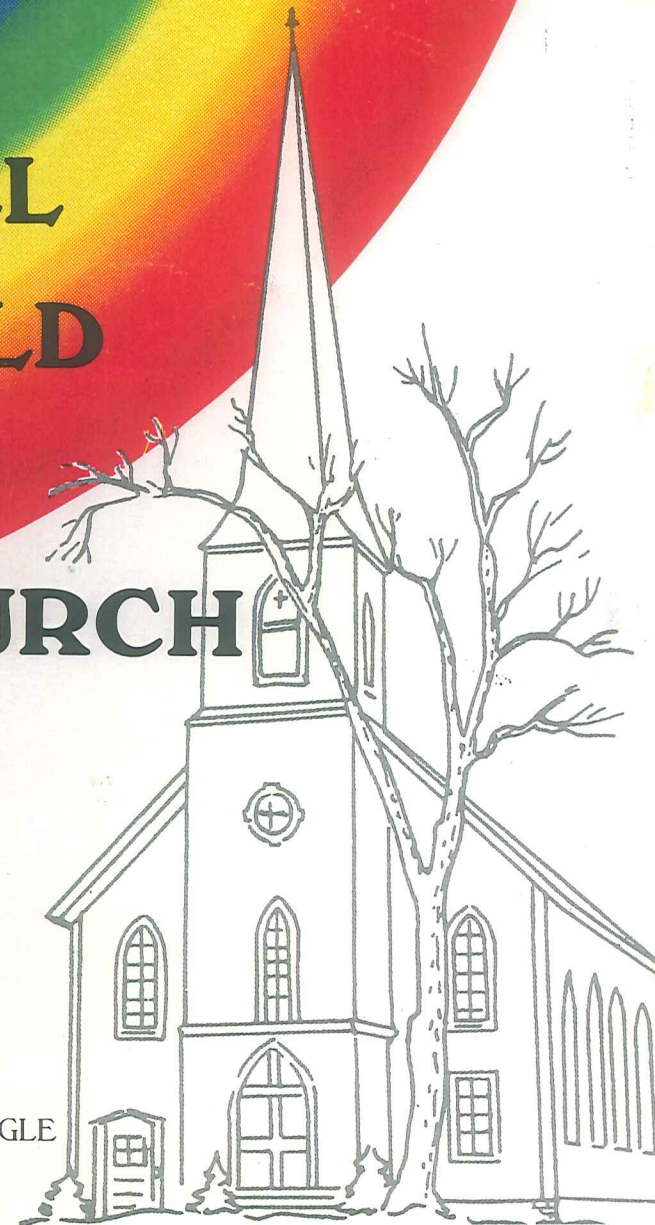


# I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH

BY:  
DR. J. LEWIS INGLE



DALLAS DISTRICT DISPATCH  
415 E. MAIN STREET  
RICHARDSON, TEXAS 75081

I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH

DIAMOND JUBILEE YEAR  
of the  
Church of the Nazarene  
in  
East Texas  
(1908 - 1983)

Dr. W. M. Lynch  
Dallas District Superintendent

Prepared by  
Dr. J. Lewis Ingle  
for  
The 75th Anniversary Committee  
Marvin McDaniel, Chairman

#### DEDICATION

I dedicate this little history of the Dallas District to my gentle and loving wife, Ruth, who lived much of it and enjoyed every minute while it was happening.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thanks are due the late Mrs. R. B. Gilmore for pictures and information on early days of the district and to several others for pictures. Thanks, too, to Mrs. Kevin Rodgers for typing the manuscript and collating the pictures and preparing the material for printers. Thanks to Marvin McDaniel and the Committee that have planned for this 75th Anniversary, and to Dr. and Mrs. W. M. Lynch for encouragement for suggestions, for pictures that have helped make this brief history possible.

## FOREWORD

Dr. J. Lewis Ingle is uniquely qualified to picture with his pen the first 75 years of the history of the Dallas District Church of the Nazarene. Dr. Ingle was born at the close of the first decade of the Dallas District and has pastored for more than one-half the history of the Church of the Nazarene. Thirty-five of those years have been on the Dallas District, with membership in seven churches; three of these he served as pastor. He and his late wife, Ruth, have both held Elders Orders in the church they have love. When they were not serving on the Dallas District, they were able to maintain a continuing contact through both family and friends.

Dr. Ingle is a scholar, a churchman and a man of Christ-like spirit. His scholarship has been recognized by Bethany Nazarene College as his Alma Mater conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Divinity. He has earned two master degrees. The viewpoint of Dr. J. L. Ingle is conditioned through the eyes of a pastor. He has served both large and small churches. For twenty-five years he served the district church as an Advisory Board member and today, he works as an assistant to the District Superintendent. Dr. J. Lewis Ingle knows the Dallas District Church of the Nazarene.

The story he writes spans the sacrifice, hardship and long hours of work with the exciting, rewarding and gratifying results. He proceeds to share the naked reality rather than an illusionary ideal of the yesterday of the church he has served. This is a review of sacrifice by a man who joined in the selfless effort to provide the message of full salvation from sin to the Northeast area of the state of Texas.

From the small beginning of our history persistent pastors and loyal laymen have seen the emergence of three great districts - Dallas, Houston and Louisiana. The prayer is that what cost so much to provide will be both the vehicle and the vision for the church until Jesus comes again. The full impact of the challenge to the early church by our Lord has been extended to 1983, "I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored and you have entered into their labor." John 4:38.

Robert B. Williams  
Pastor, Trinity Church of the Nazarene  
Duncanville, Texas

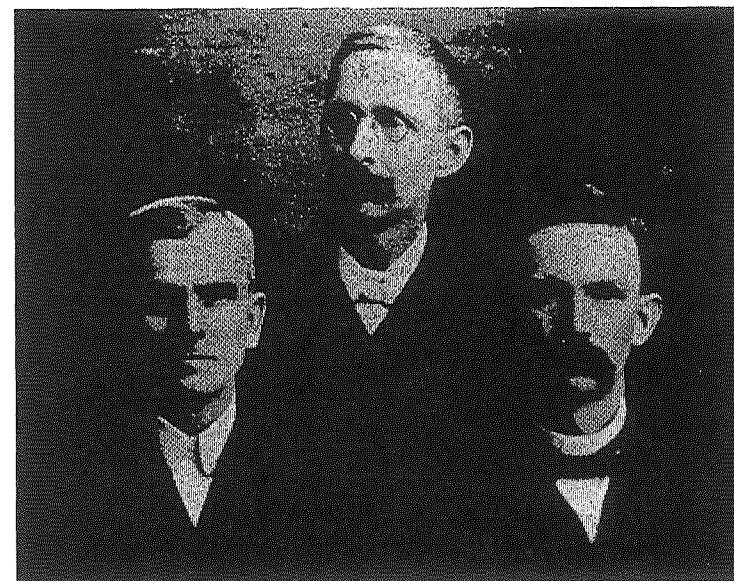
## PREFACE

In the year 1890, the Church of the Nazarene as a denomination was totally unknown in Texas or anywhere else since New Testament days. In the year 1908, the Dallas District Church of the Nazarene came into being at Pilot Point, Texas, as ordered by the first General Assembly. It reported at the end of that first year to the first District Assembly 952 members of the church and a total of \$7,150. raised for all purposes. Seventy-five years later there are now three districts where once there was one. The combined districts in 1982 reported 15,534 members and a total raised of \$9,467,286. Truly God is building His Church! There are now 177 churches who gave more than a million dollars to the General Interests of the world wide Church of the Nazarene (chiefly World Missions) and who supported Nazarene higher educational institutions with gifts of more than \$300,000. in the fiscal year of 1981-82. Our fathers and grandfathers could scarcely have envisioned what is now reality!

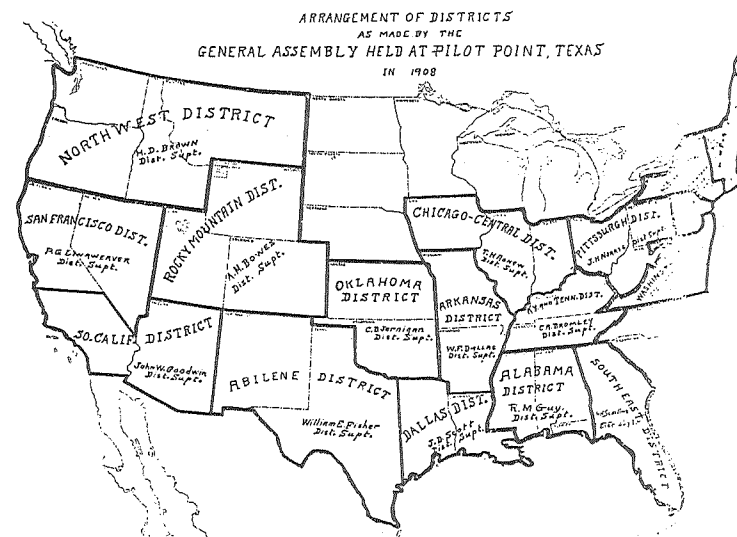
In the following pages are some persons and events in pictures and in prose that helped to bring into being our grand family of churches on the Dallas District of 1983, our "Diamond Anniversary Year". Read between the lines of the heroism, the vision, the faith, and the spirit of sacrifice that made possible the opportunities we share today.

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**INCORPORATORS**—E.C. DeJernett, C.A. McConnell and C.B. Jernigan, left to right, were incorporators of the Holiness Association of Texas in 1900. The Association enjoyed a 10-year history. Many of its units (churches and "bands") became Churches of the Nazarene. (Yearbook, 1903-4, Holiness Association of Texas).



**DISTRICTS**—The Pentecostal Church of the Nazarene denomination was organized into districts at a General Assembly held at Pilot Point, Tex., in 1908. This art work shows the alignments. Also listed are General Superintendents. ("HERALD OF HOLINESS", May 21, 1909).



## CHAPTER I

### HOW IT ALL BEGAN

#### HOLINESS IN THE SOUTHWEST

There were men and women who felt the urgent need to preach the message of holiness in the Wesleyan style in the forests, on the prairies, and on the plains of this great southwestern part of the United States in the latter part of the 19th century. They found pulpits and platforms in tents, brush arbors, school-houses, and sometimes in church buildings, wherever they could secure a hearing for the Bible message of holiness as a second work of grace. They organized the Texas Holiness Association and began camp-meetings. They encouraged "holiness bands" to meet and support one another. All the time they encouraged the holiness people to work inside the institutional church.

But there developed much growing opposition to the preaching of holiness in many of the organized churches. Holiness preachers and members were starved out, frozen out, and expelled from the churches until they literally had no place to go unless they made a place for themselves. The issue of "organized holiness" became a paramount one to visionaries such as C. B. Jernigan, R. L. and Mary Lee (Cagle) Harris, Dennis Rogers, C. A. McConnell and a host of others. The result was that the holiness bands were organized into small holiness churches. These organized churches banded together through union, merger and outreach to form in the southland the Holiness Church of Christ.

By 1908 this aggressive holiness group had 92 churches with 2,307 members, 300 preachers, and 8 missionaries in India, Mexico, and Japan. The churches were scattered over a vast area stretching from Colorado and Arizona to the east coast, and from Kentucky to Florida. These churches formed the southern part of the new denomination known as the Pentecostal Church of the Nazarene brought into being at Pilot Point, Texas on October 13, 1908. One of the three men elected to the high office of General Superintendent at that first General Assembly came from the Dallas District, Dr. Edgar P. Ellyson, President of Texas Holiness University at Peniel.

In April of 1908, Dr. P. F. Bresee responded to an invitation by Dr. Ellyson and the college to conduct special

revival services in the chapel of Texas Holiness University at Peniel, Texas. The Peniel community was composed of people from various denominational backgrounds drawn together by a common interest in holiness preaching, teaching and living. Dr. Bresee preached four sermons on holiness; and on Sunday, April 7, 1908, he invited all those who were ready to unite with the new Church of the Nazarene to meet him at the altar. A total of 103 persons stepped forward, including Dr. & Mrs. E. P. Ellyson. Thus the first Church of the Nazarene in Texas came into being at Peniel and is the oldest Nazarene church (by name) on the Dallas District. Mrs. Emily Ellyson was called to be its pastor. The first Nazarene pastor in Texas was a lady! Think of that!

#### UNION AT PILOT POINT

In the second week of October, 1908, delegates from the Pentecostal Church of the Nazarene and the Holiness Church of Christ met at Pilot Point, Texas to merge the two groups into a new denomination with national scope with a distinctive emphasis on Wesleyan holiness. This union was consummated on October 13, 1908, and climaxed with a triumphant "Hallelujah March" around the big brown tent where they were gathered. At that first General Assembly most of the United States was divided up into sixteen districts and a district superintendent was elected for each district. The Dallas District was one of the original sixteen districts and included at that time what is now the Houston District, as well as the entire State of Louisiana. Rev. J. D. Scott was elected as the first Dallas District Superintendent for this inaugural year.

#### DISTRICT ASSEMBLIES

At the first district assembly meeting in the fall of 1909 in the chapel of Texas Holiness University, there were 24 out of 38 churches reporting with a total of 952 members and \$7,150 raised for all purposes. District Superintendent J. D. Scott received the grand sum of \$162.60 from the district, while a total of \$811.05 was given for general interests.

What they called "Spiritual Statistics" at the 1913 District Assembly held at Lufkin showed the following:

Revival Meetings	368	Sermons Preached	4,039
Prayer Meetings	398	Miles Traveled	121,016
Street Meetings	333	Conversions Reported	3,519
Missionary Meetings	76	Sanctifications Reported	1,183
Temperance Meetings	53	Total Pastors' Salaries	\$2,796.67
Rescue Meetings	87	Evangelists Paid	\$1,781.98
Jail Services	424	Number of Churches	41
		Number of Members	1,072

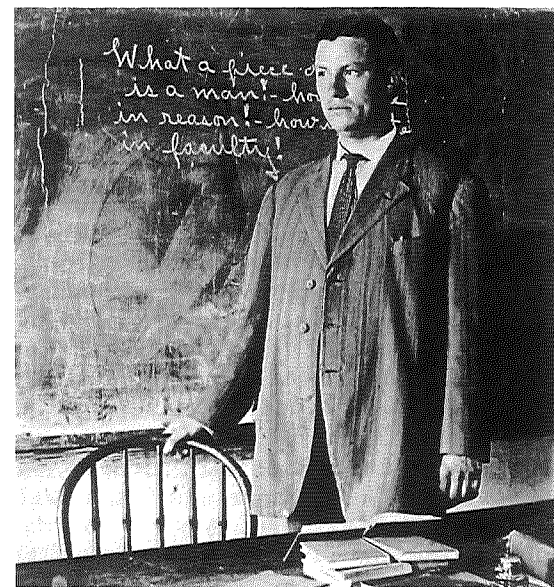
The three largest churches on the district that year were Peniel (224), Texarkana (69), and Bivins (63). The sixteen pastors reported for such places as Dimple, Culleoka, Milano, Oak Hill, Sandy Grove, Prairie Point, Cuthand, Valdasta, Callas, Red Water - places that no longer exist. Some pastors were in charge of three or four churches. In contrast there were 91 evangelists listed, counting both the elders and the licensed ministers. Of the list of preachers, 26 were ladies. There were 34 deaconesses listed in the 1913 assembly minutes. Dr. P. F. Bresee made a strong plea for pastors, "emphasizing the need of pastors who know the Bible."

District Assemblies began in 1909, at Peniel in the chapel of Texas Holiness University with Dr. E. P. Ellyson, General Superintendent and former president of the college, as the presiding General Superintendent. The assemblies have met at such different places as metropolitan Dallas and Houston and in small towns like Blossom, Cedar Hill, and Grand Saline. Dates for assemblies have varied from August 1 and 2, 1963, to December 18-22, 1918. Seventeen times assemblies have convened at Dallas with First Church and Central Church as the favorite places. Texarkana has hosted the assembly eight times. Lufkin 5 times. One-timers include the following churches: Bonham, Blossom, Beaumont, Center, Grand Prairie, Greenville, Tyler, McKinney, Dallas Trinity, Cedar Hill, Grand Saline.

District assemblies in beginning days lasted longer than they do now, beginning perhaps on Wednesday and closing on Sunday night. The evenings were devoted to inspiration and evangelism. Special "anniversary services" for foreign missions, the college, rescue work, and temperance were held at certain designated times through the week. A love feast and communion would be featured or an ordination service. The 1913 official minutes listed 16 different working assembly committees and seven standing committees including the Board of Church Titles and the Board of Superannuated Preacher's Fund.



Dr. E. P. Ellyson  
Peniel College President  
Elected as one of three first General  
Superintendent's in 1908



Dr. R. T. Williams  
Peniel College President and  
General Superintendent

## CHAPTER II

### GROWING AND DIVIDING

#### DIVISIONS OF THE DISTRICT

The Dallas District as constituted by the 1908 General Assembly included all of Texas east of the 97th meridian and the entire state of Louisiana. That portion of Denton County east of the 97th meridian was added to the West Texas District quite early so that the largest church, Pilot Point, shifted districts. Louisiana was separated as a district in 1910. The district continued on this basis until 1947 when the number of churches, 73 and the number of members, 5,611, warranted dividing the district into the Dallas and Houston Districts. The Dallas District has continued to grow in membership until it now has over a thousand members more than before the division in 1947. The western edge of Dallas County beyond the 97th meridian was added to the district to complete its present boundaries. Where there was one small, struggling district, there are now three. Where there were 24 churches reporting in 1909, there were 177 in 1982. Where there was a total of \$7,150 raised that first year, the three districts together raised a total of \$9,467,286. The Dallas District is presently stronger than it has ever been in its seventy-five year history.

#### GROWTH OF THE DISTRICT

The district has not had a constant growth of either finances or membership. Finances have followed the economic trends of the times. The number of churches has varied from the 24 reporting in 1909 up to the 83 that were reported in 1941. At the present time there are 65 churches with more to be added this assembly year. There have been lean years financially and fat years, times of growth in membership and times of retreat, times of growth and increase in attendance and soul willing and times when things were difficult.

During the first fifty years of the district's history many churches were organized as Nazarenes carried the message of holiness into new cities. From 1908 to 1958

seventy-five new churches were organized. Since that time only twenty-one new churches in the past twenty-five years have been organized indicating some sort of saturation. Now new opportunities and impetus are thrusting the church out in new home mission efforts. Leading growth eras were under the leadership of Rev. P. L. Pierce when 37 new churches were begun under his seven years of leadership. During Rev. I. M. Ellis' eight years of superintendency, 39 new churches found birth. Dr. I. C. Mathis was instrumental in his thirteen years as superintendent in establishing 43 new churches. A total of 51 new churches were established during the depression decade of the thirties. Evidently money was not such a problem then when everyone was poor, and a revival tent could be bought for \$25.00.

#### GROWTH IN MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the churches advanced from 952 reported in 1909 to a high point of 5,611 at the time of the setting apart of the Houston District. From 3,576 members after the division there has been a steady growth with never a year when there was not increase to the 1982 membership of 6,773, our all time high. Dallas Central Church holds the record of highest membership in 1945 with 473 members. The greatest number received on profession of faith in a single year was by Dallas Central Church in the 1933-34 assembly year with a total of 105. That was the year that the district received its highest number of members on profession of faith, 1010. Other high marks of members received on profession of faith were as follows: Beaumont First, 87 in 1938-39; Texarkana First, 86 in 1933-34; Center 53 in 1933-34; Farmersville, 50 in 1933-34. Dallas Central Church received a total of 492 new Nazarenes during the decade of the 30's with a high of 121 in 1933-34. Those were "glory days" for the Church of the Nazarene on the Dallas District.

#### GROWTH IN FINANCE

There has been spectacular growth in the financial area of the district during these 75 years. In 1909, the first district assembly reported a total of \$7,150 paid for all purposes. The district superintendent that year received a total of \$162.62. Ten years later District Superintendent



P. L. Pierce received \$1,254.71 as his year's salary. By 1930, Rev. I. M. Ellis received \$2,459.50. By 1980, the superintendent's salary had advanced to \$16,500.00. How times did change! Total pastors' salaries in 1909, were \$1,797 for the twenty-four churches reporting that year. For 1982, pastors' salaries and benefits had increased to a total of \$916,537. Total paid out by all the churches had grown from the \$7,150 reported in 1909 to \$4,096,047. Budgets were unheard of in those early days of the church. Much in evidence now are General Budget, District Budget, Home Missions Budget, College Budget, District Center Budget, Pensions and Benevolent Fund Budget, A total of \$756,650 was allocated to the churches for the 1982-83 fiscal year. Growth in giving is represented in these figures:

1909	\$ 7,150	1940	\$111,421	1970	\$1,044,399
1920	52,636	1950	348,344	1980	2,918,337
1930	56,031	1960	568,656	1982	4,096,047

Per capita giving in 1909 was \$7.41. By 1982 it had risen to \$605 a reflection of the current inflation as well as the comparative affluence of the Nazarenes in the 1980's.

Dallas Central Church gave an all time high of \$430,621 in 1981-82 under the leadership of Pastor John Calhoun. The Richardson Church under the leadership of Pastor Jesse Middendorf funneled \$42,322 into General Church interests chiefly for World Missions during 1981-82. The Dallas District gave a total of \$424,721 to General Church interests as compared to \$811 in 1909. Our stewardship care has improved along with our financial condition.

#### A LIST OF "FIRSTS" ON THE DALLAS DISTRICT

First Church of the Nazarene in Texas and on the Dallas District was Peniel organized in April of 1908, six months before the union at Pilot Point. First District Superintendent was Rev. J. D. Scott (1908-1909). First District Assembly was held at Peniel, October 27, 1909. First General Superintendent presiding over the Dallas District Assembly was Dr. E. P. Ellyson at Peniel in 1909. First Missionaries were Rev. & Mrs. Harmon F. Schmelzenbach to South Africa. First Campmeeting was at Scottsville in 1888 sponsored through the National Holiness Association. First District Campmeeting was at Peniel in 1909.

First Holiness College was at Peniel - founded in 1899 and called Texas Holiness University, then Peniel University. It merged with Oklahoma Holiness College in 1920. First Orphanage was established at Peniel soon after 1900 and was phased out by 1930. First Spanish Speaking Church - Primera Iglesia was organized in 1981 and is pastored by Rev. Martin Hernandez. First Black Church of the Nazarene was Dallas Calvary organized in 1980 and pastored by Rev. Richard Roberson. First Youth Organization on the district level was begun in 1919 with William Bryan Huckabee as president. First NWMS District Organization was begun in 1920 with Rev. Mrs. Ina Lee Akin as president.

Thirteen men have served the Dallas District during these 75 years as district superintendent with terms of service varying from less than one year (W. F. Dallas died before completing one year) to twenty years. One man, Rev. P. L. Pierce, served twice as superintendent (1914-16 and 1919-22). Those who served a single year include Rev. J. D. Scott (1908-09), Dr. B. F. Neely (1909-10). Revs. W. M. Nelson (1910-12) and F. E. Wiese (1926-28) served for two years. E. G. Theus (1917-20) and J. W. Bost superintended three years each. Rev. E. L. Cornelison served for five and one half years (1970-75) retiring because of ill-health. Rev. I. M. Ellis gave eight years of faithful service and did much to advance the cause of home missions. Dr. I. C. Mathis served the district as its leader for fourteen years and led in establishing the district center at Scottsville. Dr. Paul H. Garrett, after a successful career as pastor on the district, gave 20 years to the Dallas District superintendency. Dr. W. M. Lynch has been our district leader for eight years and was the official host for the General Assembly which met in Dallas in 1976. He has led in establishing a district office in Richardson and in initiating work among ethnic groups in the Dallas Metroplex.

LISTING OF DALLAS DISTRICT ASSEMBLIES

NO.	DATES	PLACE	GEN. SUPT.	PASTOR	DIST. SUPT.	DIST. SEC.	DIST. TREAS.	NO. OF CHURCHES	S.S. ATTEND.	MRS.	FINANCES
1	Oct. 27-1909	Peniel	E. P. Ellyson	E. C. De-Jernett	J. D. Scott	W. M. Nelson	NR	24 (reporting)	1,228(e)	952	\$ 7,150
2	Oct. 26-30 1910	Blossom	H. F. Reynolds	J. W. Land	B. F. Neely	W. M. Nelson	NR		712(e)	1,002	10,257
3	Sept. 13-17 1911	Peniel	P. F. Bresee	B. F. Neely	W. M. Nelson	H. B. Wallin	NR	38	678(e)	1,250	9,817
4	Nov. 6-10 1912	Grand Saline	H. F. Reynolds	S. W. Hampton	W. M. Nelson	H. B. Wallin	J. M. Michels	NR	954(e)	NR	NR
5	Nov. 26-30 1913	Lufkin	P. F. Bresee	P. L. Pierce	W. F. Dallas & P. L. Pierce	H. B. Wallin	E. C. Delernett	41	1,072(e)	1,072	13,738
6	Nov. 4-8 1914	Peniel	H. F. Reynolds	NR	P. L. Pierce	H. B. Wallin	NR	38	1,097(e)	1,160	11,969
7	Nov. 3-7 1915	Dallas First	W. C. Wilson	H. B. Wallin	P. L. Pierce	Mrs. Elliott J. Sheeks	E. H. Sheeks	49	NR	NR	NR
8	Oct. 18-22 1916	Sherman	R. T. Williams	Oscar Hudson	E. G. Theus	Mrs. Elliott J. Sheeks	E. H. Sheeks	46	1,352(e)	1,350	14,166
9	Nov. 7-11 1917	Cedar Hill	E. F. Walker	H. C. Cagle	E. G. Theus	Mrs. Elliott J. Sheeks	E. H. Sheeks	49	1,357(e)	1,487	24,273
10	Dec. 18-22 1918	Peniel	J. W. Goodwin	Oscar Hudson	E. G. Theus	Mrs. Elliott J. Sheeks	E. H. Sheeks	39	1,383(e)	1,392	28,480
11	Oct. 29-Nov 2 1919	Sherman	R. T. Williams	M. V. Dillingham	E. G. Theus	Mrs. Elliott J. Sheeks	E. H. Sheeks	40	1,581(e)	1,512	34,870
12	Nov. 10-15 1920	Port Arthur	J. W. Goodwin	J. W. Bost	E. G. Theus	Mrs. Elliott J. Sheeks	G. E. Waddle	39	1,626(e)	1,550	52,636
13	Oct. 25-31 1921	Denison	R. T. Williams	G. M. Akin	P. L. Pierce	Mrs. Elliott J. Sheeks	G. E. Waddle	45	2,076(e)	1,868	48,325
14	Oct. 24-29 1922	Dallas First	J. W. Goodwin	G. E. Waddle	P. L. Pierce	F. E. Wiese	F. E. Wiese	50	2,506(e)	1,843	36,473
15	Oct. 17-27 1923	Lufkin	R. T. Williams	W. M. Nelson	J. W. Bost	F. E. Wiese	F. E. Wiese	46	2,600(e)	1,746	36,445
16	Oct. 22-26 1924	Bonham	H. F. Reynolds	W. A. Carter	J. W. Bost	F. E. Wiese	F. E. Wiese	57	2,385(e)	1,936	37,646
17	Oct. 28-Nov 1 1925	McKinney	J. W. Goodwin	V. B. Atteberry	J. W. Bost	F. E. Wiese	F. E. Wiese	54	2,823(e)	1,974	52,110
18	Oct. 13-17 1926	Houston First	R. T. Williams	J. E. Moore	F. E. Wiese	W. D. McGraw, Jr.	W. D. McGraw, Jr.	55	3,122(e)	2,060	49,196
19	Oct. 12-16 1927	Texarkana First	H. F. Reynolds	W. B. Walker	F. E. Wiese	W. D. McGraw, Jr.	W. D. McGraw, Jr.	52	3,321(e)	2,074	76,202
20	Oct. 24-28 1928	Dallas	J. W. Goodwin	D. Shelby Corbett	I. M. Ellis	W. D. McGraw, Jr.	W. D. McGraw, Jr.	52	3,194(e) (Att 1915)	1,982	68,156

LISTING OF DALLAS DISTRICT ASSEMBLIES

NO.	DATES	PLACE	GEN. SUPT.	PASTOR	DIST. SUPT.	DIST. SEC.	DIST. TREAS.	NO. OF CHURCHES	S.S. ATTEND.	MRS.	FINANCES
21	Oct. 16-19 1929	Beaumont	J. B. Chapman	W. D. McGraw	I. M. Ellis	L. T. Corlett	F. E. Wiese	51	3,259 (1882)	2,091	\$ 63,300
22	Oct. 14-19 1930	Sherman	J. W. Goodwin	S. M. King	I. M. Ellis	L. T. Corlett	F. E. Wiese	53	2,059(Att)	2,193	56,031
23	Oct. 13-18 1931	Lufkin	J. B. Chapman	H. D. Burson	I. M. Ellis	L. T. Corlett	F. E. Wiese	61	NR	2,693	47,928
24	Nov. 2-6 1932	Center	R. T. Williams	Mrs. Morris Gill	I. M. Ellis	L. T. Corlett	L. T. Corbett	65	3,045	2,834	47,350
25	Sept 27-Oct 1 1933	Port Arthur	J. W. Goodwin	S. M. King	I. M. Ellis	L. T. Corlett	L. T. Corbett	54	2,967	3,256	41,217
26	Oct. 1-5 1934	Dallas First	J. B. Chapman	E. D. Simpson	I. M. Ellis	W. O. Fisher	W. O. Fisher	64	3,685	3,771	82,677
27	Oct. 8-11 1935	Houston First	R. T. Williams	R. W. Snyder	I. M. Ellis	W. O. Fisher	W. O. Fisher	71	4,024	4,158	72,190
28	Oct. 27-30 1936	Texarkana First	J. W. Goodwin	Harold Johnson	I. C. Mathis	W. O. Fisher	W. O. Fisher	65	3,486	4,037	79,313
29	Oct. 12-17 1937	Dallas Central	R. T. Williams	H. D. Burson	I. C. Mathis	W. O. Fisher	W. O. Fisher	67	3,580	3,769	79,307
30	Oct. 18-21 1938	Lufkin-1st Baptist	J. B. Chapman	Mrs. Emma Erick	I. C. Mathis	Paul H. Garrett	Paul H. Garrett	71	4,562	4,127	90,525
31	Oct. 17-20 1939	Houston First	R. T. Williams	I. W. Young	I. C. Mathis	Paul H. Garrett	Paul H. Garrett	71	5,146	4,512	98,869
32	Oct. 16-18 1940	Dis.-Tyler St. Meth.	R. T. Williams	J. E. Moore	I. C. Mathis	Paul H. Garrett	Paul H. Garrett	77	4,998	4,964	111,421
33	Oct. 15-17 1941	Kilgore	J. B. Chapman	Leo H. Baldwin	I. C. Mathis	Paul H. Garrett	Paul H. Garrett	83	5,498	5,163	155,425
34	Oct. 14-16 1942	Lufkin-1st Baptist	R. T. Williams	Mrs. Emma Erick	I. C. Mathis	Paul H. Garrett	Paul H. Garrett	75	5,362	5,026	173,540
35	Oct. 13-15 1943	Houston First	R. T. Williams	Leo H. Baldwin	I. C. Mathis	Paul H. Garrett	Paul H. Garrett	74	5,091	5,133	266,476
36	Oct. 11-12 1944	Greenville Mon. Aud.	H. V. Miller	Joe E. Chas-tain	I. C. Mathis	Paul H. Garrett	Paul H. Garrett	74	5,261	5,236	323,139
37	Oct. 10-12 1945	Dallas First	J. B. Chapman	A. Milton Smith	I. C. Mathis	Paul H. Garrett	Paul H. Garrett	76	5,466	5,319	370,110
38	Aug 28-Sept 1 1946	Scottsvl. Camp	G. B. Williamson	R. B. Gilmore	I. C. Mathis	Paul H. Garrett	Paul H. Garrett	71	5,594	5,282	350,817
39	Aug 28-30 1947	Scottsvl. Camp	Hardy C. Powers	R. B. Gilmore	I. C. Mathis	Paul H. Garrett	Paul H. Garrett	73	5,968	5,611	435,553

DISTRICT DIVIDED - 1947

LISTING OF DALLAS DISTRICT ASSEMBLIES

NO.	DATES	PLACE	GEN. SUPT.	PASTOR	DIST. SUPT.	DIST. SEC.	DIST. TREAS.	CHURCHES	S.S. ATTEND.	MERS.	FINANCES
40	Aug 26-27 1948	Scottsvl. Camp	O. J. Nease	R. B. Gilmore	I. C. Mathis	Paul H. Garrett	Paul H.	48	4,162	3,576	\$313,189
41	Aug 25-27 1949	Scottsvl. Camp	Samuel Young	Lloyd W. Hail	I. C. Mathis	Paul H. Garrett	Garrett	50	4,226	3,711	332,526
42	Aug 30-Sept 1 1950	Scottsvl. Camp	G. B. Williamson	Lloyd W. Hail	Paul H. Garrett	Harold C. Harcourt	E. W. Quak- enbush	51	4,462	3,719	348,344
43	Aug 22-24 1954	Scottsvl. Camp	D. I. Vander- pool	Elbert Labenske	Paul H. Garrett	Harold C. Harcourt	E. W. Quak- enbush	55	4,563	3,741	398,387
44	Aug 20-21 1952	Scottsvl. Camp	Hardy C. Powers	Elbert Labenske	Paul H. Garrett	Cecil C. Fulton	E. W. Quak- enbush	58	4,744	3,883	402,628
45	Aug 19-20 1953	Scottsvl. Camp	Hugh C. Benner	Elbert Labenske	Paul H. Garrett	Harold Blankenship	E. W. Quak- enbush	57	4,791	3,908	417,457
46	Aug 18-19 1954	Texarkana Rs Hl Bpt	D. I. Vander- pool	Elbert Labenske	Paul H. Garrett	Harold Blankenship	E. W. Quak- enbush	58	4,883	4,064	435,135
47	Aug 16-17 1955	Scottsvl. Camp	Samuel Young	J. Lewis Ingle	Paul H. Garrett	Harold Blankenship	E. W. Quak- enbush	61	5,046	4,162	447,785
48	Aug 15-17 1956	Scottsvl. Camp	Hugh C. Benner	J. Lewis Ingle	Paul H. Garrett	Elmer H. Stahley	Leon Martin	62	5,167	4,196	460,542
49	Aug 14-15 1957	Kilgore	D. I. Vander- pool	Elmer H. Stahley	Paul H. Garrett	Elmer H. Stahley	Leon Martin	63	4,777	4,273	467,352
50	Aug 13-14 1958	Texarkana First	Hardy C. Powers	R. B. Kelly	Paul H. Garrett	Elmer H. Stahley	Leon Martin	64	4,671	4,332	497,237
51	Aug 12-13 1959	Marshall	G. B. Williamson	J. Lewis Ingle	Paul H. Garrett	Elmer H. Stahley	Leon Martin	64	4,756	4,486	520,156
52	Aug 10-11 1960	Marshall	Samuel Young	J. Lewis Ingle	Paul H. Garrett	W. W. Cummins	Leon Martin	65	4,756	4,569	568,646
53	Aug 9-10 1961	Scottsvl. Camp	Hugh C. Benner	Floyd T. Smith	Paul H. Garrett	W. W. Cummins	Leon Martin	66	4,844	4,622	559,651
54	Aug 8-9 1962	Scottsvl. Camp	Hardy C. Powers	Floyd T. Smith	Paul H. Garrett	W. W. Cummins	Leon Martin	67	4,715	4,718	588,447
55	Aug 1-2 1963	Dallas Central	G. B. Williamson	Clyde E. Ammons	Paul H. Garrett	W. W. Cummins	Leon Martin	68	4,543	4,732	591,328
56	Aug 6-7 1964	Denison	V. H. Lewis	W. W. Lewis Cummins	Paul H. Garrett	W. W. Cummins	Leon Martin	69	4,457	4,746	635,088
57	Aug 12-13 1965	Texarkana First	Samuel Young	R. B. Kelly	Paul H. Garrett	W. W. Cummins	Leon Martin	69	4,526	4,765	667,499
58	Aug 18-19 1966	Dallas First	George Coulter	Robert G. Nielson	Paul H. Garrett	Lloyd W. Millikin	Leon Martin	67	4,444	4,823	724,857
59	Aug 10-11 1967	Tyler Marvin Method.	Hugh C. Benner	Burford Burgner	Paul H. Garrett	Lloyd W. Millikin	Leon Martin	65	4,305	4,868	784,262

LISTING OF DALLAS DISTRICT ASSEMBLIES

NO.	DATES	PLACE	GEN. SUPT.	PASTOR	DIST. SUPT.	DIST. SEC.	DIST. TREAS.	NO. OF CHURCHES	S.S. ATTEND.	MERS.	FINANCES
60	Aug 15-16 1968	Dallas Trinity	Edward Lawlor	Robert B. Williams	Paul H. Garrett	Lloyd W. Millikin	Lawrence Abila	67	4,346	5,002	\$ 880,637
61	Aug 6-7 1969	Texarkana First	Orville W. Jenkins	Harold C. Davis	Paul H. Garrett	Ark Noel Jr	B. A. Patton	68	4,358	5,160	957,544
62	Aug 13-14 1970	Dallas First	Samuel Young	Robert G. Nielson	E. L. Cornelison	Ark Noel Jr	B. A. Patton	67	4,346	5,188	1,044,399
63	Aug 20-21 1971	Dallas Central	V. H. Lewis	Clyde E. Ammons	E. L. Cornelison	Ark Noel Jr	B. A. Patton	66	4,706	5,314	1,182,365
64	Aug 11-12 1972	Grand Prairie	George Coulter	J. Lewis Ingle	E. L. Cornelison	Claude E. Pittenger	B. A. Patton	60	4,728	5,490	1,302,589
65	Aug 16-17 1973	Texarkana First	Eugene L. Stove	R. G. Womack	E. L. Cornelison	Claude E. Pittenger	B. A. Patton	60	4,806	5,581	1,415,850
66	Aug 22-23 1974	Richardson First	Orville W. Jenkins	J. Eudell Stroud	E. L. Cornelison	Jack W. McClung	B. A. Patton	60	4,922	5,767	1,645,394
67	Aug 22-23 1975	Dallas First	Eugene L. Stove	Robert G. Nielson	W. M. Lynch	Jack W. McClung	B. A. Patton	60	5,095	5,898	1,722,242
68	Aug 19-21 1976	Dallas Central	W. M. Great- house	John H. Calhoun	W. M. Lynch	Jack W. McClung	B. A. Patton	59	5,408	6,121	1,972,978
69	Aug 18-21 1977	Richardson First	George Coulter	J. Eudell Stroud	W. M. Lynch	Jack W. McClung	B. A. Patton	60	5,197	6,138	2,183,274
70	Aug 17-19 1978	Richardson First	V. H. Lewis	Jesse C. Middendorf	W. M. Lynch	Jack W. McClung	B. A. Patton	60	4,970	6,358	2,405,126
71	Aug 16-18 1979	Dallas First	Charles H. Strickland	John Bowling	W. M. Lynch	Kenneth V. Bate- man, Jr.	B. A. Patton	62	4,933	6,425	2,687,130
72	Aug 14-16 1980	Dallas First	Orville W. Jenkins	John Bowling	W. M. Lynch	Kenneth V. Bate- man, Jr.	Charles R. Randall	63	4,669	6,440	2,915,337
73	Aug 14-15 1981	Texarkana First	Eugene L. Stove	Kenneth V. Bateman	W. M. Lynch	Kenneth V. Bate- man, Jr.	Charles R. Randall	65	4,673	6,650	3,415,962
74	Aug 13-14 1982	Dallas First	W. M. Great- house	John Bowling	W. M. Lynch	Kenneth V. Bate- man, Jr.	Charles R. Randall	65	4,796	6,773*	4,096,047*

## CHAPTER III

### SPECIAL EMPHASES IN OUR HISTORY

There were certain things going forward on the Dallas District that were unique and gave the character of the district an unusual flavor. The district has had an unusual relationship with higher education, orphanage work, rescue work, and official church papers.

#### HIGHER EDUCATION

Texas Holiness University was established at Peniel near Greenville in 1899, with Dr. A. M. Hills leading the way as its first president. It was in its early years non-denominational but with a strong emphasis on Wesleyan Holiness. The Holiness Church of Christ had established at Pilot Point the "Literary and Bible Institute and Training School" with Rev. J. D. Scott as president. There was an enrollment of about 160 in its three departments of "literary, theology and music" - trainees for service in the holiness ranks, for preachers, missionaries and musicians to serve the Lord. The school at Pilot Point soon passed off the scene as the eastern half of Denton County was transferred to the Abilene District within two years after the creating of the districts.

Texas Holiness University became the property of the Pentecostal Church of the Nazarene at the 1911 General Assembly. Its name was changed to Peniel University, and then Peniel College in 1910. Men who served the school as presidents included: Dr. A. M. Hills, Rev. L. B. Williams, Dr. E. P. Ellyson, Dr. R. T. Williams, Dr. J. B. Chapman, Dr. A. K. Bracken (acting president), and Dr. N. W. Sanford. The college was merged with Oklahoma Nazarene College in 1920, and relocated at Bethany, Oklahoma, under the name Bethany Peniel College. In 1955 it became Bethany Nazarene College. Many outstanding leaders in the Church of the Nazarene received their education and were thrust into the ministry from THU, including the following: Dr. H. B. Wallin, Dr. D. Shelby Corlett, Dr. L. T. Corlett, Dr. S. S. White, Dr. L. A. Reed, Missionary Harmon Schmelzenbach (opener of Nazarene work in Swaziland), Dr. Roy F. Smee, Dr. A. K. Bracken, Dr. R. T. Williams, Dr. J. B. Chapman, Missionaries Harry and Kathryn Wiese.



PENIEL COLLEGE

After the college at Peniel was discontinued as a college, it carried on as an academy to serve the children and youth in the Peniel Orphans Home with 75% of monies raised to go to funding the academy and 35% to go to Bethany Peniel College. After the academy and the college were phased out, the old campus continued to house the Peniel Church of the Nazarene and the tabernacle for the Peniel Campmeeting. The land was later subdivided into lots and criss-crossed by streets. Houses were built, and the area called Peniel was incorporated into the nearby city of Greenville. The present beautiful church building on the northwest corner of the old campus was erected under the leadership of Pastor Marvin McDaniel.

#### ORPHANAGE WORK

An orphanage was established at Peniel soon after 1900, in the outburst of compassion for the poor and downtrodden felt by our early holiness fathers. Operated for years as non-denominational, in 1917 it became the property of the Pentecostal Church of the Nazarene. At first the General Orphanage Board planned to make the home a general orphanage to serve the whole denomination, but the 1923 General Assembly decided to abandon the plan and transferred the property back to a board elected by the district assemblies of what is now known as the South Central Zone. The orphanage used some of the old buildings left from the days of Peniel College. Such early leaders as Rev. Oscar Hudson and Dr. J. W. Benton, a medical doctor and great lay leader of the Dallas District, headed the work of the orphanage. The denomination chose not to burden its evangelistic efforts with this kind of social work. The home was phased out by 1930, with the adoption of the children. Thus a noble experiment of 30 years duration came to an end.



Rev. Oscar Hudson, Peniel College Pastor, Sherman Pastor, great Evangelist and Superintendent of the Orphans home at Peniel a number of years.

#### RESCUE WORK

Homes for the redemption of young women forced into the "red light" districts of the cities and for unwed mothers were established at Arlington, Texas, in 1903, and about the same time at Pilot Point. Dr. J. T. Upchurch was the founder of Berachah at Arlington, while Rev. J. P. Roberts led in the establishing of Rest Cottage at Pilot Point. Berachah Home remained inter-denominational through the thirty-two years of its history. Through the continuing presence of Dr. J. T. Upchurch, founder, and Rev. F. E. Wiese, superintendent of the home, a close relationship was kept with the district and an interest maintained in its financial help. Rest Cottage, though soon detached from the Dallas District geographically, continued to find support from the Dallas District into the 70's. Many lives were saved and children added to the Kingdom of God through "rescue" work.

#### CHURCH PAPERS

When the 1911 General Assembly created the Department of Publication under the General Board, there were three official organs of the Pentecostal Church of the Nazarene, The Nazarene Messenger (published in Los Angeles), The Beulah Christian (published in Providence, Rhode Island), and The Pentecostal Advocate (published at Peniel). The Pentecostal Advocate had merged with The Holiness Evangel (published at Pilot Point) in 1910. C. A. McConnell, prominent holiness laymen and later teacher at Bethany Nazarene College, was the editor. The Board of Publication purchased the asset of all three papers and relocated them at Kansas City, Missouri, and came out with a new paper entitled The Herald Of Holiness in 1912 with Dr. B. F. Haynes as editor. Dr. Haynes had been a professor of theology at Texas Holiness University. He had as his office editor Dr. C. A. McConnell. We have had Dallas District news sheets varying from a single sheet to eight pages and entitled variously as The Dallas District Bulletin and The District Dispatch with news of the churches, announcements and reports from the departments and the district treasurer.





The building with an X is the printing office where the Other Sheep began its publication. Dr. C. A. McConnell was editor.

## EVANGELISM AND EVANGELISTS

There were reported to the 1910 District Assembly a total of 413 revivals with 5,513 professing salvation and 1,368 professing entire sanctification. That particular year the district reports showed \$4,411 paid to evangelists and only \$2,255 paid to the pastors of the District. Listed in the 1911 Assembly Journal were only 16 pastors for the 40 churches with five churches having no pastor. In that same report there were 91 evangelists listed - 62 of them ordained elders and 29 licensed ministers. From then on the trend has been to more pastors and less evangelists. Dr. Bresee made a plea in the 1911 Assembly at Peniel in reference "to our great need of pastors who know the Bible."

There have been many outstanding evangelists who have served the cause of holiness through the Church of the Nazarene that have been members of the Dallas District. Some of the outstanding men and women, especially in the early days of the church, lived at Peniel. Any roll call of evangelists would include some of the following: Allie and Emma Irick, Bud Robinson, John and Grace Roberts, A. G. Jeffries, C. C. Cluck, J. B. McBride, Dr. J. B. Chapman, E. C. DeJernett, C. B. Jernigan, C. W. Johnson, Lee L. Hamric, V. B. Atteberry, Oscar and Nettie Hudson, Dr. B. F. Neely, Dr. J. T. Upchurch, Mrs. E. J. Sheeks, Johnny J. Douglas, Haldor and Bertha Lillenas, R. B. Gilmore. In more recent years we have had men like W. E. "Bill" Boggs, J. C. Dobson, George Gardner, E. C. Wilson, Mrs. Thelma Steelman, H. D. Burson, Fred Lester, H. F. Crews, J. W. McGuffey, W. A. Carter, Paul Stewart, D. C. and Elizabeth Stout. There are in this "Diamond Jubilee Year" the following serving full-time in the evangelistic field as Commissioned Evangelists: Billy J. Grimes, James H. Robertson, Linard O. Wells and Larry D. Williams. Commissioned Song Evangelists number two: E. Bruce Wade and Janie White.

## CHAPTER IV

### "WINDS OF CHANGE" - A LOOK BACKWARD



Uncle Bud Robinson's home in Peniel. He was an outstanding evangelist.

In the first roster of churches reporting to the 1909 District Assembly there were 24 churches, and of this number only one was in a major city, Dallas. Other so-called "city" churches were Bonham, Lufkin, Paris and Texarkana. The other 19 churches were country churches or churches in villages like Peniel and Blossom. Services and church programs were oriented about the farming habits and ways of the people. Pastors might be forced to live on "credit" until crops were gathered in the fall. Offerings were sparse many months of the year. Revivals were planned after the crops were "laid by" or after harvest. When there was a drought or too much rain or the crops were "hailed out", everyone and everything including the church and its pastor suffered and "made-do" with what they had.

Of the forty churches listed in the 1911 District Assembly minutes only eleven of them still exist. All the others were country chapels or villages that have vanished off the map long ago. Churches were so small that one could hardly support a pastor, so two, three, or even four might be grouped together for one pastor to serve, and he might live at Peniel. Travel to and from appointments was by rail or horseback or in a buggy or on foot. In 1911 Rev. J. W. Land pastored Blossom near Paris and Vivian, Louisiana at the same time. Rev. Miss Ina Lee Hughes (later Mrs. G. M. Akin) pastored Whitesboro, Capeville, Culleoka, and Buris Chapel and that year built what District Superintendent B. F. Neely called "a nice new church on her charge, valued at \$1,000".

What a change has taken place on the Dallas District! The trend, in common with the conditions prevailing in the United States, has been from rural to urban areas. The Dallas District in 1983 has only 5 distinctively rural churches with 31 churches in four metropolitan areas of the district, and the rest in smaller cities and villages. Churches in the metropolitan areas have retreated from the inner city areas to the suburbs for the most part. There has been a dramatic turn around within the past five years in the retreat from the inner city of Dallas so that we now have two fully organized ethnic churches and four others in the mission stage. Where there was one church in Dallas in 1908, there are now 24 churches in Dallas and its suburban areas including the ethnic missions.

In 1909, there were only two churches, Peniel and Pilot Point with a membership in excess of 100. Bivens near Atlanta was the third largest church with a membership of 63. In Dallas, the largest city, the church had a membership of only 31. 18 of the 24 churches had less than 50 members. The 1982, report showed that there are now 25 churches with more than 100 members, five of them having more than 300 members. Dallas First Church has the largest membership with a total of 434 members. Along with the growth in membership has come a corresponding increase in church staff to care for the multiplying problems and needs of people and for the enriching of the program of the church in the responsibility of redeeming and discipling men. Richardson has possibly the largest staff with 10 full or part-time people ministering to the needs of this large and growing congregation. Others of our Dallas District churches are finding help and growth in this area of opportunity.

In the early days of the churches on the district, there were no organizations pushing youth work or missions, and not a great deal was made of the Sunday School. In 1910, there were 710 enrollees in Sunday School on the district while there were 1002 church members. By 1917, the two totals were about even. Ten years later in 1927, Sunday School enrollment was 3,321, while church membership was 2,074. Sunday School enrollment has since that time surpassed church membership, and Sunday School attendance exceeded church membership until 1962. From that time forward Sunday School attendance has continued to drop in comparison to membership. In 1982, reports showed 4,796 attending Sunday School each week with a church membership total of 6,773.

We have passed through a cycle from larger worship service attendance as compared with Sunday School into another phase where Sunday School attendance exceeded attendance at all the other services. We have now reversed the situation in most churches, for attendance in the morning worship services now exceed the attendance in Sunday School. Where Sunday evening services were largely attended and were great times of altar evangelism, we have now devised other ways of doing evangelism and changed the emphasis of the Sunday evening services in our churches as the attendance of non-members has dropped.

In the beginning days of the Dallas District, we were for the most part extremely poor people with low incomes worshipping in very plain and poor buildings. We were preaching the gospel to the poor, to the distressed, to the lower socio-economic group of society. Most of our people were farmers or were dependent on farming for sustenance. Now there are many professional people - doctors, lawyers, businessmen, teachers, engineers, technocrats, along with blue-collar factory workers who are a part of the Church of the Nazarene. Not so many are from the lower socio-economic group and we are not reaching that group very much with the gospel of full salvation. We have become a middle class church.

In the early days there were not many church buildings and far fewer parsonages. The total value of all our properties on the district in 1911 was only \$16,525 as contrasted with a total of \$18,889,437 in 1983. In 1983 there were 51 parsonages and 64 church buildings compared to 28 church buildings and 7 parsonages in 1920. In 1932, there were 17 churches out of a total of 62 on the district that did not have buildings of their own. Only 13 churches owned parsonages while 49 were without. In the 70's and early 80's there was a trend toward letting the pastor buy his own home and giving him a compensatory housing allowance. A "nice new church" could be built in 1911 for \$1,000, but in the 1980's we find churches spending more than a million dollars for a building considered functional and sized right for a growing congregation. Dallas Central Church, Dallas First Church, Duncanville Trinity, and Richardson have large, utilitarian buildings valued at considerably more than one million dollars.

In beginning days and in the 20's and 30's home mission work was done in tents, arbors, and store-front buildings. A congregation would be gathered together through a series of home mission campaigns. At the 1930-31 Assembly District Superintendent I. M. Ellis reported as follows: "Though we have had but little finances to do home missionary work with, there has been quite a bit of home missionary work done on the District this year. At our assembly last year, Dr. Goodwin prayed so often that God would give us ten new churches and five hundred new Nazarenes on the District this year that it got hold of me and I couldn't get away from it. It looked for awhile that we would not come any way near this goal, no

finances coming in to put on campaigns. But after school was out, wife and I launched into the fight and have kept it up all summer. Also, a number of pastors have pushed out into new fields, holding revivals, and the results are we are reporting ten new churches, and we trust the reports will show the five hundred new Nazarenes." Reports for the year did show a total of \$2,883 paid for district interests for all purposes, \$2,760 of which was for district budget. There were 856 new Nazarenes added to the rolls. Home Mission work has been done quite differently the past twenty-five years for the pattern has been for the district to build a building while a congregation was being gathered together. In the early 80's, home missions has changed directions and methods for a strong forward move in reaching ethnic groups in the greater Dallas area are being pursued.

Perhaps the most remarkable and startling change in the Dallas District is in the area of finances. Prior to 1920 there was no budget plan at all and no plan for sharing the Nazarene dollar with either district or general interests. The result was that out of a total of \$7,150 reported in 1909 the sum of \$163 went for district interests and 11% for general interests (\$1,577 for general budget) and a total of \$5,393 (4.8%) was paid to all district interests including schools and colleges. By 1982 the total paid for all purposes had risen to \$4,096,047. \$424,721 was paid for all general interests and \$343,909 paid for all district interests including schools and colleges. These totals mean that for the 1981-82 assembly year the Dallas District gave 10.4% for general interests and 8.4% for district interests. Surely inflation has been a factor, but it is evident that the Nazarenes of 1983 are good stewards and far more affluent than their 1909 forbears.

Pastors' salaries in 1909 for all the pastors on the district totaled only \$1,797 for the 20 who reported an average of nearly \$90 per pastor for the entire year! Then there were those lean years of the Great Depression. Pastor's salaries in 1934 totaled \$26,413 for the 64 pastors \$413 per parsonage family for the year. Dallas First Church paid its pastor \$2,274, while Houston First Church came in second with \$2,255 for its pastor. District Superintendent I. M. Ellis received the princely sum of \$2,250, with no travel allowance, but that was much more than the \$163. Rev. J. D. Scott received for his year's work in superintending

that inaugural year, 1908-1909. Brother Scott said "Good-bye" and went to Mexico as a missionary - out of the financial frying pan into the fire! Things are different now with the 1982 report showing a total of \$762,046, paid pastors for an average of \$11,836, for each. How much better it is that pastors share in the affluence of their people and are cared for with so many different kindnesses. Evangelists as a group fared comparatively better in the early days of the church than they do now providing they could keep reasonably busy conducting revivals. All parts of the work of the church have been better able to operate since the adoption of the budget plan in 1920.

The Dallas District Y.P.S. in 1923 first suggested dividing the district into two zones - North and South, and holding quarterly "zone meetings". Zones have played a very important part in the development of district homogeneity as the church schools, NWMS, and youth have all operated district programs through the zones. The number and size of the zones have varied through the years. The "zone plan" was adopted for the W.M.S. during 1932. The Church Schools board adopted the same zone plan used by the N.Y.P.S. in 1936. First mention of zones in the directory portion of the assembly minutes is in the 1937 minutes where five zone N.Y.P.S. presidents are named as part of the District N.Y.P.S. Officers indicating that there were five zones. Eight zones were named in the 1940 assembly journal as follows: Beaumont, Dallas, Greenville, Houston, Kilgore, Lufkin, Sherman, and Texarkana. The district operated with this zone set-up until the division in 1947. The reduced in-size-and-numbers Dallas District began with six zones that were not named. This was later reduced to four zones corresponding roughly with the present zone arrangement on the district. The number of zones increased to five in 1952. The number was increased to nine zones in 1954. Now we are back to four.

In the 30's zone rallies would last all day and close with a rousing evangelistic service. Zone C.S.T. institutes and zone pastors fellowships helped decrease the sense of isolation small Nazarene churches might feel and enabled them to do together what they might not do alone. All three departments had times of emphasis in the day's program. Banners were given for attendance. Rivalry and fellowship were keen. The comingling of Nazarenes in such a fellowship has added to the homogeneity of the church both on the district and in all parts of the nation. It has widened Nazarene horizons and increased vision. It may still offer much to enhance the work of the district if properly used.

## CHAPTER V "AIDS TO GROWTH"

### YOUTH

The California or western branch of the church (The Church of the Nazarene) had paid little attention to youth work as such, while the Association of Pentecostal Churches brought a healthy emphasis and impetus to the whole church in this area of responsibility. No mention is made of youth societies or groups in the 1909 assembly minutes of the Dallas District. The first youth group (and the only one) was carried on at Peniel during the 1912-13 year with 105 members. During 1913-14 one other group at Chesterville was organized with 30 members. Dallas 1st Church and Sherman had youth groups by 1915-16. By 1919-20 there were 9 churches with a total of 240 youth members. The 1920 District Assembly voted to elect a district president and a district secretary to work at getting youth societies organized in all the churches. It was also voted to have a district convention. The first district convention actually met at Port Arthur, August 26-29, 1923, with R.R. Crow as District N.Y.P.S. President and Lura White as secretary with five churches represented. Since that time there have been annual District N.Y.P.S. Conventions and the work has grown. Added impetus came after the 1923 General Assembly when a national "N.Y.P.S." was organized. Membership in the N.Y.P.S. (now called N.Y.I. - Nazarene Youth International) has followed a constant pattern of growth.

1912-13, 1 group, 105 members ... 1949-50, 44 groups, 1,175 members ... 1915-16, 3 groups, 74 members ... 1959-60, 51 groups, 1,278 members ... 1919-20, 9 groups, 240 members ... 1969-70, 45 groups, 1,787 members ... 1929-30, 19 groups, 560 members ... 1979-80, 35 groups, 828 members ... 1939-40, 49 groups, 1,589 members ... 1981-82, 49 groups, 1,626 members.

The N.Y.I. was the first departmental group to be organized on the district level. They pioneered district conventions (1923), zone activities (1924), institutes, summer camps plus activities on the general church level. It has always been a training school for leadership and churchmanship. District President Curtis Smith reported to the District N.Y.P.S. convention in 1947, as follows: "Also in June we conducted one of the greatest institutes we have

ever witnessed on the Dallas District. None under fourteen were allowed to register this year, but our enrollment reached 349 and over 500 attended the preaching services. Rev. H. Dale Mitchell proved to be the man of the hour as the speaker for this camp. Over 250 sought God at the altar, and none will ever forget that Wednesday night when we witnessed a veritable Pentecost."



YOUTH AT CAMP IN SCOTTSVILLE IN 1941  
top row, left to right: Myra Couvillion,  
Dejuana Hale; bottom row, left to right,  
Barbara Tackett and name unknown.

### MISSIONS

The Dallas District has from its beginning been vitally interested in missions. Harmon F. Schmelzenbach went out to Africa as a missionary from Peniel in 1907, and he and his wife were members of this district for a number of years. The first district superintendent of the Dallas District, Rev. J. D. Scott, and his wife went to Mexico as missionaries from this district. The 1918 assembly minutes list five missionaries from the district: Rev. and Mrs. J. D. Franklin (Central America), P. Neilson (Africa), Harmon and Lula Schmelzenbach (South Africa). Some other missionaries that have served the Lord and the church from the Dallas District would include the following: Miss Ollie Nelson (India), Miss Leona Belew (Africa), Miss Mildred McClellan (China), Miss Mayme Alexander (Guatemala), Miss Ruth Rudolph (India), Rev. & Mrs. Harry Wiese (China), Rev. & Mrs. L.A. Campbell (India). Dr. Charles Strickland, General Superintendent, went from this district to pioneer work among the whites in South Africa. There are presently three missionary couples



from our district in active missionary service: Rev. & Mrs. Merrill Williams (Philippines), Rev. & Mrs. John Burge (Haiti), and Rev. & Mrs. Paul Stroud (under appointment to return to the Cape Verde Islands). The missionary vision of the Nazarenes on the Dallas District in 1911 was indicated in this statement taken from the report of the Committee on Missions. "We are slowly but surely getting our feet down on the various mission fields and by the help of the Lord we hope within the next ten years to have a thousand missionaries on the fields and with better support than we have been able to give our present missionaries." These words have not yet proved prophetic, but they show the desire was there. The first annual reporting of giving in 1909 showed the Dallas District to be "10% for missions" with 11% for general interests. Of course this fine record was not maintained as the church passed through some economic stress in depression days and droughth years, and years when agricultural products had little demand. In 1939, the district support for general giving was only 1.7%, and in 1940 it was only 1.4% - a measly \$1,669 out of a total of \$111,421. The NWMS raised \$2,833 in 1939 and \$5,825 in 1940. In 1941 the percentage of giving began an increase (6 1/2%) that has risen to 10% and more - a tithe for missions. In 1982 a total of \$424,721 was given for general interests (10.4%) out of a grand total paid by the district for all purposes of \$4,096,047.

The missionary society of the local and district church can claim a large share of responsibility for increasing interest in world missions in every aspect along with the denominational missionary periodical, The Other Sheep (now knows as World Missions). In beginning days and for the first ten years the only organization on a district level was a four or five man "District Missionary Board" or later "Board of Missions." Five men were appointed to this board in 1918. In 1919, the board was composed of three men and two ladies, and "Home" Missions was separated from "Foreign" Missions with Rev. Mrs. Ina Lee Akin as District President and organizer and Rev. Mrs. Bessie Dillingham as District SecretaryTreasurer. They encouraged each local church to organize "Women's Auxillaries" to promote foreign missions. In 1923, the name was changed to "Foreign Missions Women's Auxillary" with Mrs. Minnie Pierce as president. The Prayer and Fasting League was first adopted in 1925 and continued for 50 years and is still used by some of our churches in

raising funds for the General budget. Others have gone to "Faith Promise" conventions and pledging for a year at a time. In 1924, the practice of holding monthly study meetings by the NWMS began on the Dallas District. In 1927 there were three missionary "group meetings" (fore-runners of zone meetings) held on the district with missionary speakers. In 1928 all NWMS Presidents became ex-officio members of the district assembly. That year there were 385 members on the entire district. The first mention of a "District NWMS Convention" was in the 1929 assembly minutes when ten ladies were present for this historic occasion during the campmeeting at Peniel. In 1930, the district convention was held prior to the district assembly. Three societies were "Standard Societies" - Dallas 1st, Beaumont and Lufkin. Dr. J. G. Morrison was the special speaker for the 1932 convention. There were 27 societies reporting for 451 members. The first district tour was made in the interest of missions by a general officer of the church (Dr. J.G. Morrison) with 29 churches visited and 14 new societies organized. The 1932 convention was held at Waco at the State Campmeeting with 691 members reported. The YWFMS began on the district in 1936, and 1,311 members of the Prayer and Fasting League were reported. General President Rev. Mrs. S. N. Fitkin was the convention speaker in 1938. Teen-age chapters were begun in 1941. Over 4,000 Other Sheep subscriptions were secured in the 1944 subscription campaign. The name was changed in 1949 to "The Church Missionary Society" and then to the "Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society" in 1951. After the district divided in 1947 growth continued so that in 1960 the total membership was 2,498 members and exceeded the 1947 total membership of 1,396 members (all ladies!). 1970 saw \$75,665 raised by the NFMS with 3,359 members and 2,518 members of the Prayer and Fasting League. In 1964, the name was changed to "NWMS", "Nazarene World Mission Society". In 1980, the total monies raised by the NWMS for missions had risen to \$263,716, and the end is not yet.

Beginning with Rev. Mrs. Ina Lee Akin, first district missionary president in 1920, down to the present time there have been thirteen gracious ladies always ladies! - that have chaired the district missionary society. God bless the ladies!



Rev. and Mrs. Merrill Williams  
Missionaries to the Phillipines



Rev. and Mrs. Paul Stroud  
Missionaries to the Cape Verde Islands



Rev. and Mrs. John Burge  
Missionaries to Haiti

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday school was not as important in the early days of the churches on the Dallas District as it later became. Church membership was larger than Sunday school enrollment for the first ten years, but the distance between grew less and less until in 1919 Sunday school enrollment passed church membership and has ever since then exceeded it. Before the district divided the all-time high in enrollment (9,000) was in 1946-47 before the district divided with Rev. Herman F. Crews, "Mr. Sunday School" on the Dallas District, in his second year as Diistrict Church Schools Chairman. Since the division of the district Sunday School enrollment in the final year (1976-77) of Rev. Charles E. Peter's leadership reached the all time high of 9,499. All time attendance record on the undivided district was 5,968 in 1946-47, and since division 5,408 was the top attendance in 1975-76.

First tentative efforts at some form of district Sunday school organization were in 1920, when Mrs. Ina Lee Akin was named "District Sunday School Superintendent and Secretary". There had been a "District Sunday School Committee for District Convention" appointed by the 1918 District Assembly. It was composed of Dr. D.S. Arnold, Ray Rawlings and E.S. Drummond. A "Committee on Sunday School" was named each year until the name was changed to the "District Church School Board" in the 1928 District Assembly. That is the name it still bears today. Rev. J. E. Moore was the first chairman of the board. The first district convention was held at Port Arthur, August 26-29, 1924, with five churches represented. The first use of the zones (started by the N.Y.P.S.) to promote Sunday School was in 1936. A "District Church School Superintendent" was recommended in 1935 to contact every Sunday School on the district during the year. Sunday School institutes began in 1927, and D.V.B.S. was pushed in 1930. 1932 marked the date when the first church school dues were assessed - 1 cent per member annually! In 1933 Fall Rally day was set for the last Sunday of October with a goal of 7,500. Leadership training was stressed. This was later changed to Christian Service Training, and has now finally been changed to Continuing Lay Training. Tours and zone rallies were used to arouse enthusiasm for different facets of Sunday School work but most of all to encourage attendance. Rev. H. F. Crews served as District

Church School Board Chairman for eleven years, and Dr. Robert G. Nielson for 12 years. Laymen like Dr. James R. Garner, G. E. Ohsfeldt, and Ned Thompson have been District Church School Board Chairmen. In 1965 there were 42 V.B.S.'s with 3,136 enrolled, and during that same year 1,331 C.S.T. credits were awarded. Dallas First Church Sunday School has led the Dallas District 31 times in average attendance during the years that records have been kept beginning in 1923-24. Houston First led four times; Texarkana First, eight times; Dallas Central, six times, Denison, eight times, Richardson, three times, Beaumont, one time. Beaumont was the first church to top 300 in attendance for the year with 305 in 1939. Dallas First averaged 300 or better eleven years. The all time high of average attendance for the year was recorded by Denison in 1955-56 under the leadership of Rev. & Mrs. H.F. Crews. They had the largest Nazarene Sunday School in Texas, exceeding El Paso First Church that year with 350 as the year's average. Records show that all of these churches had substantial growth in membership at the same time they had growing Sunday Schools. It is impossible to over estimate the importance of the role the Sunday School has played as the outreach arm of the church through the years.

#### CAMPMEETINGS

Campmeetings have been important in the spiritual life and growth of the Dallas District from its very beginning days. Already there was a live campmeeting at Peniel on the east end of the old college campus. This camp began as an interdenominational holiness camp in 1895. It became the particular responsibility of the Dallas District in 1918, and the first Campmeeting Board was elected by the 1921 District Assembly. The 1922 assembly seperated 2.3 acres of the old college campus for campmeeting purposes. Campmeetings were held here until the district interests were moved to the Scottsville Campgrounds in 1939, unofficially, because there were better facilities than at Peniel. The district cooperated with the other Texas districts in the Waco Campmeeting as the "All-State Campmeeting" in the early thirties with district NYPS, NWMS, and Sunday School conventions being held there also. In 1940 the District Assembly accepted the offer of the Scottsville Holiness Campmeeting Board to take over the property and use it. It

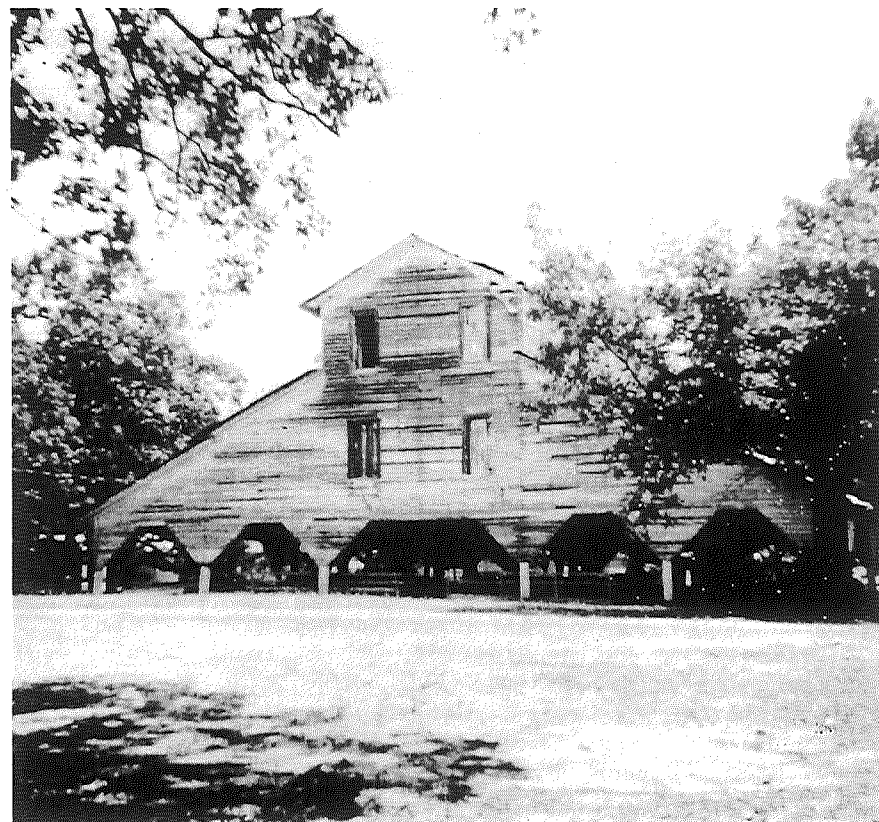


The tabernacle on campground at Peniel. In 1923 the District NWMS and NYPS were organized here.

was already being used for NYPS Institutes. Scottsville has been the scene of great district gatherings since that time with many of the great holiness preachers gracing its platform.

Besides campmeeting every summer there has been active use of the camp for youth camps, institutes and retreats, as well as boys and girls camps. Quite a number of our annual district assemblies have been held there. Through the years improvements have been made. In the spring of 1983, the old tabernacle was torn down because it was unsafe to use. Beautiful and permanent buildings have been erected, and the old camp that began in 1888 bids fair to celebrate its 100th anniversary perhaps with a new tabernacle and a new lease on life.

Some of the holiness greats of yesteryear that have preached at district camps in the past include the following: Rev. A.M. Hills, Rev. B. H. Haynie, Dr. J. E. L. Moore, Rev. U. E. Harding, Rev. Reuben "Bud" Robinson, Rev. C. H. Babcock, Dr. A. O. Hendricks, Dr. J. B. Chapman, Dr. Jarrette Aycock, Rev. C. B. Fugett, Dr. R. T. Williams, Dr. H. V. Miller, Rev. Bona Fleming, Dr. T. M. Anderson, Rev. Harold Volk, Dr. Curtis Smith, Dr. Edward Lawlor, Dr. Charles Strickland, Dr. W. E. McCumber, Dr. Holland London, Dr. D. I. Vanderpool, Dr. Hardy Powers, Dr. David Tarrant (from the British Isles), Dr. I. C. Mathis, Dr. Paul Martin, Dr. W. T. Purkiser, Dr. Ralph Earle. There are too many to name them all, but they have each provided their share of inspiration and evangelistic ardor along with musicians like R. T. Williams, Jr., Harper Edwards, Warnie Tippit, Jim Bohi, Harold Lucky, Calvin Oyler, E. Clay Milby, and Lester Dunn. The district campmeeting along with youth and children's camp has been a unifying force on the district, enabling laymen and ministers to become acquainted and to learn to work together in reaching the lost and discipling the believers.



TABERNACLE AT SCOTTSVILLE

## PERSONALITIES THAT HAVE LED

Strong lay and ministerial leadership have aided the growth of the Dallas District. Long terms in superintendence, in pastorates, and in places of district responsibilities have encouraged stability and progress in the work of the district. Some of our strong laymen through the years would include Dr. J. W. Benton, Dr. C. A. McConnell, Dr. D. S. Arnold, Lawrence Crawford, Ned Thompson, J. H. Smee, R. R. Kirby, Edwin H. Sheeks, E. W. Quakenbush, Ralph Randall, P. F. Dozier, R. S. May, G. E. Osafeldt, A. B. Bullock, Paul Anglin, Don Henderson, Malcom White, Arless Wilson, and J. David McClung. All of these men served at one time or another on the District Advisory Board. Ned Thompson served 25 years on this board. Some very strong pastors have led churches of our district, some of them for long periods of service. Dr. Robert G. Nielson was pastor of Dallas First Church for 24 years. Dr. Clyde E. Ammons pastored the Dallas Central Church for 28 years. Rev. Robert B. Williams has been more than twenty years at the Dallas Trinity Church (now Duncanville Trinity). Rev. Leon Martin has spent all of his ministry (most of it as a pastor) on the Dallas District - a total of 43 years as pastor, evangelist, district treasurer, and as a representative of Bethany Nazarene College. Rev. H. F. Crews continues to be active as evangelist and interim pastor (even though retired) after having given 46 years of service to the Dallas District. Other strong pastors would include these: Dr. H. B. Wallin, Rev. J. E. Moore, Dr. A. Milton Smith, Dr. Lewis T. Corlett, Dr. B. F. Neely, Rev. E. C. DeJernett, Mrs. Emma Irick, Dr. William C. Allshouse, Rev. H. D. Burson, Dr. Ray Hance, Dr. Charles Strickland, Rev. M. M. Snyder, Dr. Haldor Lillenas, Rev. R. M. Parks, Rev. R. B. Gilmore, Rev. Chester A. Smith, Rev. Granville S. Rogers, Dr. E. D. Simpson.

Long-term servants of the district would include: Dr. David Strack, fourteen years as caretaker at Scottsville campgrounds, Dr. Paul H. Garrett, 12 years as District Secretary and also District Treasurer besides being District Superintendent twenty years; Mrs. I. C. Mathis, thirteen years as district NWMS President; Rev. Leon Martin, twelve years as District Treasurer; Mrs. Clyde E. Ammons, ten years as District NWMS President; Dr. Clyde Ammons, 21 years on the District Advisory Board; Dr. J. Lewis Ingle, 24 years on

the District Advisory Board; Ned Thompson, twenty-five years on the District Advisory Board; Arless Wilson, ten years on the District Advisory Board. Five men from the Dallas Dallas District have been elected General Superintendents of the Church - Dr. E. P. Ellyson, Dr. R. T. Williams, Dr. James B. Chapman, Dr. V. H. Lewis, and Dr. Charles Strickland. Others have become college presidents - Dr. Bill Draper, Dr. L. T. Corlett, Dr. Bennett Dudley, Dr. S. S. White, Dr. A. K. Bracken, Dr. A. L. Parrott, Dr. E. P. Ellyson, Dr. R. T. Williams, Dr. J. B. Chapman, Dr. Charles Strickland, Dr. Curtis Smith. A great number have become district superintendents, some of whom are now serving the church in this capacity including our own district superintendent - Dr. W. M. Lynch. Dr. B. F. Haynes, who taught theology at Peniel College, became the first editor of The Herald Of Holiness. Dr. Roy Smee was a student at Peniel who later became a district superintendent and the first Executive Secretary for Home Missions for the General Church. Dr. J. T. Upchurch gave nearly 50 years of loving and devoted service to his Lord through the Dallas District. The Church of the Nazarene would be greatly impoverished in its history and ongoing without the good men and women who have exercised places of leadership on the Dallas District.

Great camps, conventions, and assemblies have played their part in the success and growth of the district. Who could forget the great Four-State Holiness Convention at Texarkana in January of 1940 when there were 250 happy saints shouting, weeping, and enjoying the great outpouring of the Holy Spirit along with the other more quiet ones who in their own way rejoiced at the mighty manifestation of the Holy Spirit?



## CHAPTER VI

### "LOOKING AHEAD"

At the 1915 District Assembly held at Dallas First Church the Committee on Church Extension reported as follows: "There are on the Dallas District 116 cities and towns of over 1,000 population where we have no church organization. Truly a great door and effectual is opened." What was true in 1915 is still true today in 1983 sixty-eight years later. The Dallas District has enormous potential for growth as yet unrealized in new churches to be started and for weak churches to be strengthened. In the thirty-seven counties that are wholly or in part territory of the district there are twenty small cities between 2,000 and 3,000 population according to the 1980 census without the message of full salvation. There are in addition sixteen cities between 3,000 and 5,000 without Nazarene witness and seven cities between 5,000 and 10,000 population. There are four cities with more than 10,000 population that have no Nazarene Church. The great city of Dallas has only twelve missions and churches for its more than 950,000 inhabitants. Additional churches are needed in Garland, Irving, Richardson, Grand Prairie, Mesquite - all cities, suburban to Dallas, from 70,000 to 160,000 population. There is ample opportunity to double the number of churches on the Dallas District in the next ten years. There are ten county-seat towns on the district without the Nazarene message of Wesleyan holiness. The challenge is there!

There is a great new resurgence in this 75th Anniversary year, our "diamond jubilee", fermenting in the hearts and minds of our district Superintendent, Dr. W. M. Lynch and other district leaders directly involved in implementing of plans for locating new sites and creating new organizations to meet the great spiritual need. There are now in progress in the Dallas area a Korean church, Spanish-speaking congregations, and a new church in West Plano.

Looking to the future would include an ongoing development and increasing use of our District Center at Scottsville. The historic old tabernacle, nearly one hundred years old, had to be dismantled this year and will surely be replaced by a modern one, winterized and suited to year-round use. Other facilities on the beautiful wooded 30.5 acre site need upgrading and expanding to care for the

greater demands for housing campmeeting and the entire summer camping program. An enlarged and enriched program and use would enable us to reach and help more families, more children, more youth, more singles and more seniors who would all be able to use these better facilities.

Ways must be found or devised for better discipling of our people. In the 30's statistics show that we were losing 68% from the local church and 48% from the denomination of the hundreds that were being brought into the church. In the 70's 79% were lost from the local church, but only 24% were lost to the denomination. In the first two years of the 80's 76% were lost to the local church and 30% from the denomination of our gains. We must find ways of reducing our losses by grounding our people in the Word, by teaching habits and ways of Christian living so as to maintain spiritual health, by training them in evangelism, and by establishing them doctrinally and ethically.

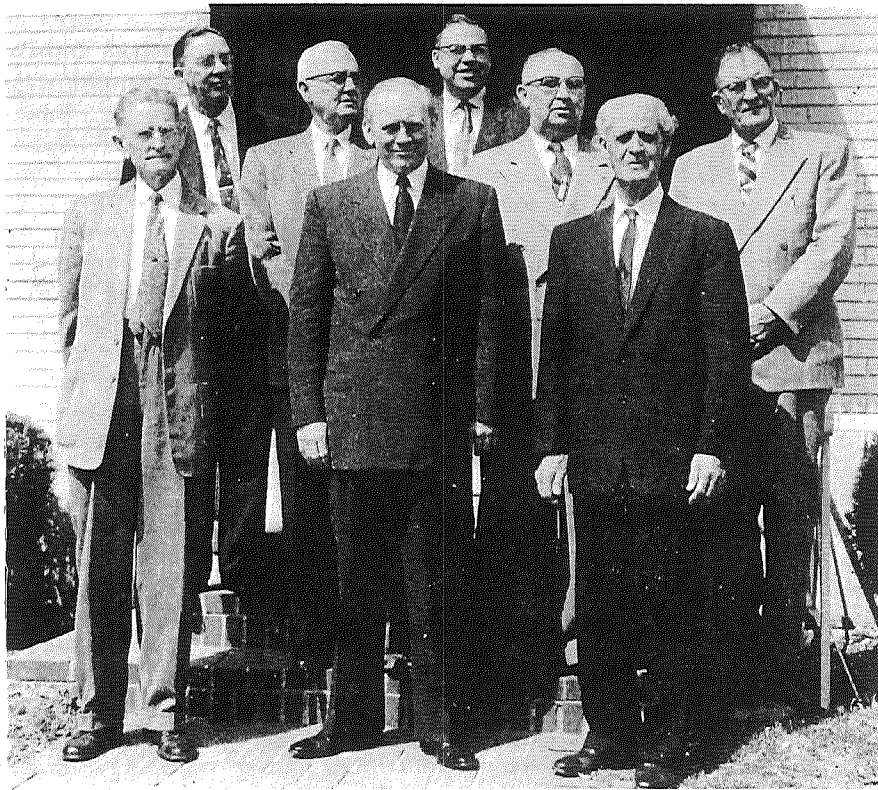
The newly acquired district office in Richardson will aid in the administrative work of the district as it is developed with new equipment, furnishings, and personnel. There will be offices for the workers and a meeting room for district boards and committees and small groups. Planning, counseling, and secretarial work will be done in better fashion and make the district superintendent more available to all our district people.

"TOMORROW" from our beloved District Superintendent Dr. W. M. Lynch

Only the past is known. The future is uncharted, and who can know it. Yet, it belongs to us for a season. While it is yet day, we must give of ourselves to the harvest! There are churches to build, cities to enter, souls to save.

The objective is clear. We have but one purpose and that is to redeem men. We must lead them to an experience of salvation. They must know they are sanctified. They must be brought into the fellowship of the Church.

The goals are definable. As we serve, they are obtainable. Within the next ten years our goals include increases as follows:



VETERAN PREACHERS ON THE DALLAS DISTRICT  
Back row, left to right: R. M. Parks (40 years) Irving, J. E. Moore (47 years) South Oak Cliff, Paul Garrett - District Superintendent, R. B. Gilmore (36 years) North Dallas, W. E. Bond (36 years) Whitesboro. Front row, left to right: Rev. C. W. Johnson (53 years) McKinney First Church, Dr. Hugh C. Benner General Superintendent, Rev. Lee Hameric (51 years) Evangelist.



WOMEN PASTORS ON THE DALLAS DISTRICT IN 1940  
top row, left to right: Rev. Neatie Wright, Hudsonville, Rev. Emma Irick, Lufkin, Rev. Maud Busby, Center. Bottom row, left to right: Rev. Bertha Pults, Conroe, Rev. Cora Westbrook, Atlanta and Rev. Thelma Steelman, Grand Saline.

DALLAS DISTRICT DISPATCH  
415 E. MAIN STREET  
RICHARDSON, TEXAS 75081

Attendance in Sunday School (now 4,796) . . . . .	7,000
Enrollment in Sunday School (now 8,859) . . . . .	14,000
Church Membership (now 6,773) . . . . .	8,500
Total finances (now 4,159,945) . . . . .	\$8,000,000
Organized churches (now 65) . . . . .	90

There are two very strong potentials. There is the possibility of the organization of a new Latin District. Such an organization should have its beginning under the supervision of the Dallas District Advisory Board and should come early in the decadal objectives. The second possibility is the creation of another district by division. Exceptional preparation, clear thought, and administrative direction is the route for such division. It should come near the place of goals reached. It is imperative that two strong districts must be created, so that evangelism at its highest level can be continued.

Above all, we must labor together for a clear and profitable tomorrow in His Kingdom so that we may lay sheaves at His feet.



Dr. W. M. Lynch  
Dallas District Superintendent  
1975 -