MY MEMORIES

OF

WILLIAM JEWELL COLLEGE

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In September, 1903, when I entered William Jewell as a freshman from Maryville, Missouri High School the college campus had an ornamental wire fence about four feet high along Jewell street. Outside of this was a stepping stone walk made of native rock. Similar walks on the north side of Franklin Street led toward the courthouse square. When Dr. James G. Clark came to Liberty after the Civil War, he laid a walk of locally burned brick from Jewell Street to the top of the hill at Jewell Hall. The steepness of the hill required four flights of white limestone steps varying in number from two to twelve at various locations between the street and Jewell Hall.[1] At the crest of the hill the walk was widened into a triangle, the east side of which extended the entire width of the portico in front of Jewell Hall. From this triangle, a brick walk extended north to Old Ely, the boys' dormitory, built in 1881. Later when Wornall Hall was built in 1896, the walk was extended to the south entrance of it.

The west wall of Old Ely was in line with the west side of Jewell Hall, both buildings facing the town. Wornall Hall extended a few feet farther west and faced south, with entrances on all four sides. At the south entrance was a portico with four white columns of wood and the

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[1] When this brick walk was worn out I replaced it with a concrete walk. The stone steps were placed on either side of the new walk as seats. To raise them to the proper elevation the cut stone blocks from the head and foot of each landing were laid on their sides and the step slabs placed on top. These seats are still in use.

college bell rested on a small platform atop the portico. Entrances on the other three sides were not covered.

At one time the road to Excelsior Springs was located a few feet north of Wornall Hall. A cut through the rock wide enough for two teams to pass and about ten feet deep was left with jagged rock sticking out along the sides. About three hundred feet East of the building, the road angled northeast to the present location of highway number ten. Noise made by the wagons and drivers disturbed classes in Wornall Hall so the College got the road relocated along the west side of the Burlington railroad on land which the college deeded to the state. The old road up the hill was then blocked by logs and barbed wire. The new road entered Liberty on Mill Street one block south of the campus. An untrimmed hedge row about twenty feet high marked the south line of the campus. No roads in Clay County were hard surfaced, and only a few streets in Liberty had been macadamized.

About the time Wornall Hall was built, a water tower was erected just east of a line from Jewell Hall to Old Ely. A wooden tank was put on top and a three inch pipe laid from it to a spring at the foot of the hill on the east. Two ponds were built to act as reservoirs, and a ten horse power Witte gas engine with reciprocal pump was installed in the spring to lift the water to the tower. An additional tank was placed in the attic of Wornall Hall to supply water to the chemistry and physics laboratories. When the water would get low in the tank, an indicator would slide up the tower and show how many feet of water remained in it. The caretaker would go to the spring -- about one-fourth mile east of

the buildings -- and start the pump. When the tanks were full, he would go back and shut off the engine, which had no muffler, and sounded like a machine gun in action. The spring had been dug out until it was about ten feet across and twelve to fifteen feet deep and walled with native rock laid without mortar. A cover made of two by ten inch planks failed to keep rats, rabbits and snakes from falling in, which made the water unfit to drink. It was used in the laboratories and toilets and in case of fire.

Below the ponds was a large icehouse. In February it was filled with ice from the ponds. Sawdust was used for insulation. The ice was used in Liberty as well as in the college dining hall. As soon as the weather was warm in the spring, the purveyor at Vardman Hall would take a one-horse drag, called a "lizard", and haul the ice to the kitchen, where the sawdust was washed off by throwing water from a bucket over the blocks. Later a short peice of hose was used when a force pump was put in the cistern, instead of the old "chain and bucket pump."

An oval track, a little short of two-fifths mile in length had been built by the students under the direction of Dr. H. G. Parker, on the comparatively level ground at the foot of the hill west of the spring. The difference in level between the north and south ends of the oval was approximately thirty feet. The southeast quarter of the oval was a swamp where water stood most of the year. The track was raised about three feet and a tile put through to drain the water out of the loop. Dirt to make this fill had been taken from the north and west parts of the track, leaving the track surface about three feet below the ground

level on the West side.

Three frame cottages, called East, Middle, and West had been built north of the track and used to house students. The rooms were heated with wood or coal stoves, the wood being sawed by the students. Three "Chick Sales" stood to the north of the wood and coal sheds, which were between them and the cottages. The three unsightly cottages housed about thirty-six boys. Old Ely took care of about forty students and all others had to live out in town. Four fraternities Phi Gamma Delta, Sigma Nu, Kappa Alpha, and Kappa Sigma (in order of their chartering) cared for ten to twenty men each. All of them rented large houses in town and ran their own dining facilities. Enrollment in 1903 was college 145, Academy 299. Total 444. East of Jewell Hall stood an enormous elm tree at least eight feet in diameter and a limb spread of nearly one hundred feet -- a swell place to loaf. Finally a wind storm shattered the old elm and it died. After I became business manager I had it cut down. In the center of it was an iron link such as was used in early days for coupling cars together on the railroad. It was about six inches wide and twelve to fourteen inches long. I put it in the museum with a note telling where it was found.

Jewell Hall was divided into three sections by two hallways running east and west through all three stories. A stairway at the west end of each hall led to the floor above. To get from the third floor on one side to the third floor on the other side, it was necessary to go to the ground floor, then thru the portico and climb the other steps. A series of steps made of two by four oak boards ran down the hill to the east and terminated at the gym door.

The water tower, Wornall Hall, and gymnasium were built of yellow brick. Old Ely and Jewell Hall were red brick.

The gym had a basement which was above ground on the east and was used for locker space. The upper part of the building was two stories high with a balcony where the second floor would have been. This balcony was about five or six feet wide and was an indoor track. The building was approximately forty by one hundred four feet. A row of six inch square pine posts ran the length of each side about six feet from the wall and supported the running track and the beams on which the roof rested. The central portion was a basketball court thirty-four feet wide and eighty feet long. It was not uncommon for a student to break an arm by running into one of these posts. After Dr. Neysmith organized the first basketball team at K. U. he persuaded Younger Rothwell, athletic director at William Jewell, to do the same. These two teams are said to have played the first intercollegiate basketball game west of the Mississippi River.

When I entered William Jewell everyone was required to take gym. Instruction was given in gymnastics, parallel bars, trapeze, horizontal bars, flying rings, tumbling, Indian clubs, dumbells, wands, and the wooden horse. This "horse" was made by the gym instructor and consisted of pine planks about five feet long nailed to the sides and ends of a two by four inch frame which sloped from thirty-six inches at the bottom to twelve inches at the top. The top was padded and covered with canvas. This contraption was used until a "horse" on an iron frame with leather upholstry was purchased about the time I graduated in 1907. Field

sports were baseball, football, track, and tennis. Each spring the gymnasts put on a public exhibition which filled the gym with spectators. Chairs and benches were set up on the running balcony. Those who could not get a seat stood up or climbed onto the gym equipment not in use by the performers. The money from ticket sales was used to buy equipment.

The gym and class rooms were lighted with incandescent bulbs with carbon filaments. These hung from the ceiling by drop cords. The wires were insulated with waxed paper covered by cotton thread twisted around it and varnished. Several drop cords of this type were still in use over the basketball court in 1903. Also the line wires were coated with plaster of Paris. To change direction of a line, the wire had to be carefully bent into a wide loop so as not to break the insulation. The line wires were fastened to the wall or ceiling with porcelain cleats and screws or nails.

Soon after the gym was built, Dr. Eaton, professor of Natural Science, made a trip to New York and purchased an electric generator which had just come on the market. It would light one room with incandescent lights. When he brot it back it was powered by two hand cranks, one on each side, which were to be turned by two strong men. This was used to light the gym for night games. When I came here, a private company had a generating station near the Milwaukee railroad and furnished the town and college with a very unreliable source of power. The man-powered generator was still kept handy for use in emergencies. All wires were exposed to view and switches were the snap type.

North of the gym was the heating plant, mostly below ground level.

The only inside toilet on the hill was in this building. Coal was hauled from the Burlington depot in horse or mule drawn wagons. It kept two men busy from the time the fires were started in the fall until warm weather next spring hauling coal, and another man firing the furnace. The coal had to be shoveled from car to wagon, and from wagon to coal bunkers at the heating plant. Steam lines ran underground to all the buildings except the three cottages mentioned earlier. The radiators were cast iron and had air vents at the end opposite from that where the steam entered. These vents had to be opened by hand to let the air out when turning on the steam, and closed when the radiator was hot. Frequently the radiator would fill with water, and when the pressure came on a jet of water would shoot out two or three feet thru the air valve. After the water was out, the steam made a shrill whistle escaping thru the vent. Imagine how much fun the boys had opening radiator vents just as the class left, so that the next class would get full benefit of the water or whistle, whichever it was!

The steam lines between buildings were laid in wooden boxes filled with sawdust as insulation. After a snow or rain the line could be followed by the steam rising thru the ground from this wet insulation. The heat loss was terrific, but with coal two or three dollars a ton no one worried. A seventy-five horsepower return tubular boiler furnished steam for the four buildings. When the library was built a one hundred H. P. boiler was added. A pressure of five pounds was maintained at the boiler house. In very cold weather this was increased to ten or fifteen pounds. Usually this resulted in several air vents blowing out. The

college employed a fireman whose duty it was to keep water in the boiler and pressure up in the lines. Between firings he hauled out cinders in a wheelbarrow. These had to be pushed up a rather steep ramp, open at the top. In snowy or icy weather this was some job, and a student usually had to help the fireman, his pay fifteen cents an hour. In the spring the cinder pile had to be spread over the drives as road surfacing. So the teamsters went from coal to cinder hauling. After the first big snow, the sulphur in the cinders would heat by spontaneous combustion and the fumes would nearly choke the fireman and even run the boys out of the gym if the air was from the north.

North of the heating plant was Vardman Hall -- a one-story frame building used as a kitchen and dining hall. The present gym stands where it was. Its water supply came from a cistern just south of the building. A full-time cook, usually a man and wife, was employed. Students helped prepare meals and wait on tables and wash dishes, for which they got their meals. A purveyor and board of managers were elected by the students who ate there. This was a cooperative arrangement and the cost was apportioned to each one for the month. The purveyor checked all bills and paid them at the direction of the board. The cost usually ran as low as $2.50 or $3.00 per person. Vardman Hall was built with a gift from Missouri Baptist Churches and named for Jeremiah Vardman and when it was built the kitchen was moved to it from Old Ely and remained in Vardman until New Ely was built 1910-1911. After Wornall Hall burned (1913) the chemistry and physics departments were moved to Vardman and remained there until the basement and first floor of Marston Hall could be occupied in 1914-15. Vardman remained

vacant several years and became an eyesore on the campus. The trustees authorized its removal. I put it on the schedule for "clean up day," but it burned down the night before. There was no equipment of any kind in it so the loss was negligible.

West of Vardman on top of the hill stood Wornall Hall -- named for a Liberty citizen who contributed to the funds for building it, and who was a member of the board of trustees. It was three stories high with a low mansard roof. A hallway ran thru the building from north to south and one from east to west from the four entrances. At each entrance was a flight of concrete steps. The J bench now stands on the foundation of the east entrance. The south entrance was used the most, as a walk led from it to Old Ely and Jewell. The west side first floor was the science class room northwest, and physics lab southwest. The northeast quadrant was the science stock room. The southeast quadrant was the Treasurer's office. The second floor housed the President's office and the class rooms for the Academy (three years of High School and a sub-academy for those below High School). The entire third floor was the chapel. The chemistry labs were in the basement, also the electricity lab.

The chemistry tables were made of wood, with the tops painted black with bituminous paint to keep acids used in experiments from eating into them. An iron sink stood at the end of every second row of tables. Water pipes were brought in overhead and dropped to the sinks ending in a drippy faucet. The chemistry stock room was across the hall from the lab. Working capacity was about twenty men.

The physics for advanced students lab was in the southwest corner of the basement. There were the dynamos and motors. When the laboratory needed direct current a motor generator was started to furnish current for lighting this building and to use in the laboratory. A spring bubbled up in the middle of the floor and a trench had been cut to carry the water to the drain tile. The drain emptied into the street north of the building. It was nearly level, so was always getting stopped up and water would be an inch or more deep on the floor. The freshman lab was upstairs so was dry. Later the old hand-driven generator was removed from the gym and kept in Wornall Hall as a "show piece" until the fire in 1913 destroyed it.

The college bell was on a low platform atop the south portico of Wornall Hall. It was a regular stunt to steal the clapper on Halloween. Before an electric clock was installed, this bell was tapped for change of classes. After I came it was used when the electricity was off.

Between Wornall and Jewell stood Old Ely -- a three-story red brick dormitory with room for about forty boys. The rooms were large so that three or four boys could live in each if necessary. This building had slate shingles on the slopes and a tin deck on top. On the east was a room used for a kitchen before Vardman was built. In my day the Negro fireman used it for living quarters.

Jewell Hall, the construction of which in 1850 was superintended by Dr. William Jewell until his death, was next to the south. The ten rooms in the two wings were used for classes, the other two for the meetings of the junior literary societies (Academy students). The third floor center

was divided into two rooms occupied and furnished by the Senior societies -- Excelsior on the west and Senior Philomathic on the east. The second floor center was one large room used for a museum. The first floor center was the library. All shelving was homemade from white pine lumber. A balcony extended along the entire north side of this room and was reached by a narrow wooden ladder at the west end. The balcony was used for storing papers and old magazines, as well as books. The stacks were enclosed with heavy diamond-mesh wire netting stapled to two by four pine uprights. Miss Nannie Wikoff, a sister in law of President Greene, was librarian. Students were used as assistants. The tables were made of poplar boards tongue and grooved and glued together. These tops rested on a frame of six inch poplar boards set on six posts turned from poplar four by fours. The tops of the posts had been mitered so the top of the frame came flush with the top of the legs. The entire table was painted black. Past generations of students had carved names all over the tables. Later the tops were planed smooth and covered with green oilcloth. The librarian's desk was at the south side of the room and enclosed with six foot wire netting. A metal rail with ornamental triangles on top supplied the finish. A hole cut through this wire netting acted as a service window. A favorite stunt for older students was to set an undersized Freshman over this barrier, the door of which was locked and the key in the pocket of the librarian when she was out of the room. This was most aggravating to Miss Nannie.

The faculty was made up of Dr. James G. Clark, mathematics; Prof. Robert Semple, Latin; Prof. H. M. Richmond, biology, geology, and miner-

ology; Dr. John Phelps Fruit, English; Dr. Charles Lee Smith, history and economics; Dr. A. Vincent Dye, modern languages; Dr. Greene (president) taught practical ethics; Dr. Robert Ryland Fleet was assistant professor of mathematics; Dr. Harry G. Parker, chemistry and physics; Prof. James William Kyle, Greek; Dr. David Jones Evans, Bible; Dr. T. P. Stafford, homiletics; Ward Edwards, assistant professor of English and later librarian; Dr. John Ernest Cook, treasurer; Prof. Richard Price Ryder was head of the Academy and secretary of the faculty.

North of the extension of Mississippi Street and blocking Jewell Street at the north end was the Cockrell property. Jewell Street ended there. A house on this property had burned some years before, and the whole area was grown over with weeds and briers. East of it and north of the road from Wornall Hall was the old city cemetery in which were tombstones on which some birth dates given were prior to the Revolution. It was enclosed by a make-shift fence, most of which was flat on the ground. Many of the head stones were of native limestone rock and rudely carved. The plot was overgrown with weeds and blackberry briars, trumpet creepers, etc.

To the east of this cemetery were forty or fifty acres belonging to the college, extending to the Excelsior Springs road on the east and to Doniphan Street on the north. It was a wilderness of brush, briars, red haws, and a few large oaks, elms, hackberry, locust, and shellbark hickory trees scattered over it. Quail, rabbits, and fox squirrels made good hunting, and almost any morning students could hear shotguns blasting away. Occasionally an o'possum would invade the chicken coops back of Vardman, and if captured by one of the students, would end in the biology

laboratory.

The area on top of the hill south of Jewell Hall was equally overgrown. Canadian thistles five or more feet tall grew almost to the south wall of Jewell Hall. East of the building was a well with a windless and "oaken bucket." Water from this well had been carried for use in the kitchen when it was back of Old Ely. It was no longer used since Vardman Hall had a cistern. However, the boys in Old Ely persisted in getting their drinking water there in warm weather, while I was in college.

A sewer line was run from the heating plant to a pond northeast of the cottages. This pond, or cess pool, was formed by an earth dam across a small branch a short distance west of the county road.

The top of the hill could be reached by wagons only over a rock road from the end of Mississippi Street to Vardman Hall. There the road turned south to the heating plant and the gym. The coal and all supplies, as well as cinders from the heating plant, were hauled over this road. There were no automobiles nor trucks so it was not very congested. Very seldom did visitors come to the top of the hill in a carriage. If they did, they tied their horses to a hitchrack in front of Vardman. The cut in the rock back of Wornall Hall was barely wide enough for two wagons to pass. The coal haulers had "chock" rocks scattered along the west slope to hold their loaded wagons while the horses 'got their breath.' A narrow sidewalk made of cinders and gravel wound from the west entrance of Wornall Hall following the general direction of the road, but not parallel to it, to Jewell Street.

The only ornamental shrubs on the hill were a few ragged clumps of

lilacs. A spring came to the surface about half way down the second terrace west of Jewell Hall. The boys and Dr. Clark dug a small pool at the foot of the terrace and walled it with rock. From this they ran tile to the terrace below, where they made another pool. From there they tiled the water to Jewell Street where it formed a mud hole. A tin cup was hung on a limb near the spring so the thirsty could be refreshed.

Shortly before the start of the fall semester, Dr. Cook would hire a colored man, by the name of Elmer Prince, to cut the grass and weeds on the front campus. He used a field mower, and left uncut an oval strip around each tree. The first reel lawn mower on the campus was drawn by a horse between shafts and had handles like a plow. With this they got a little closer to the trees but never up to them. The sticks and rocks usually had this mower laid up for repairs.

East and South from Jewell Hall was open prairie with some blue stem and prairie grass growing on it to the track at the foot of the hill and the road.

Inside the buildings the furnishings were nearly as crude as the appearance of the campus. The classroom seating consisted of benches long enough to seat four or six, and were made from pine boards fourteen to sixteen inches wide with backs about twenty inches. The ends were pine boards about three feet long and nailed to the seat boards with square wrought iron nails. A six or eight inch brace ran from one end to the other under the seat. The front edge of the seat had been rounded with a moulding plane. The top of the back and ends were capped with half round moulding. Tablet arms were cut out of ten inch pine boards and shaped with a keyhole saw. The end where the arm fastened to the

back was about three inches wide, the front nine inches. A piece of six inch pine board supported it at the edge of the seat, one end nailed to the seat and the other to the tablet arm. At one time these had been painted gray, but most of that was gone when I first saw them. Two or three rooms were furnished with manufactured seats made of maple slats and formed instead of flat. The legs were cast iron and if a seat was ever upset, the legs would be broken. The big advantage was that the seat could be folded up when the janitor swept the floor about once a week. The home-made seats were fastened to the floor by L shaped wagon box iron strips and screws. Occasionally after a bunch of students had been out late at night and had not prepared the lesson, they would line up on a back bench and work the screws loose. Then all would lean back at once. Over would go the seat and boys, feet in the air and yelling 'bloody murder.' This was usually sufficient to get the class dismissed for the day. As soon as the professor turned the class loose, every rascal involved would rush up to appologize for the "accident." All of the teachers were "good scouts" and I think got as much fun out of it as did the boys.

During the first two weeks of the fall term, the members of the Exes and Phils, as they were called, rushed the freshmen to join their literary society. On pledge night the singing and yelling could be heard as far away as the courthouse square. The societies met on Friday night. The program committee would notify some members to be ready with a speech, or reading, or current events, etc. The freshmen were asked what they could do. I had been a debater in High School. When my time came to be on the program the committee assigned me to debate against a sophomore.

The formal presentation of argument was about equal. When it came to the three minute rebuttal each was allowed, I took advantage of his Sophomore arrogance and "poured it on," as the boys say. The crowd responded and laughed and cheered most of the time. It was customary for an older student to act as critic. That night the critic was Clarence Cannon who, in his remarks said, "Davis struck like a viper in his rebuttal." That gave me my nickname. For the rest of my college career I was known as "Vipe."

Speaking of nicknames, almost everyone on the "old hill" was called by something other than his real name. That included the faculty as well as students. For example: Dr. Clark was "Uncle Jimmy," Prof. Semple "Uncle Bobby," Prof. Rider "Uncle Dick," Prof. Kyle "Sunny Jim," Dr. R. R. Fleet "Railroad," etc. If you didn't have a nickname you were not worth noticing. My closest friends were Jim McAtee, "Pappy," and Eugene Street, "Easy." Charlie Lemons was "Sour."

During the four years I was an undergraduate, four lasting improvements to the campus were begun. First -- the trustees acquired the Cockrell property of about four acres located on the north side of the road to the hill and west of the cemetery, and in 1904 began the erection of a house for the president. Before this for several years Dr. Greene had lived in a large frame house on the west side of Missouri Street and north of McCarty Street. The hotel (Arthur House) at the southeast corner of the courthouse square had burned, and the only place for visitors to stay was in a store building on Main Street one-half block south of the square, which had been converted into a hotel. For the accomodation of visitors at Commencement time this was wholly inadequate. Members of

the board of trustees and others had to be entertained in private homes. With these conditions in mind, the trustees decided to build a large house so the president could entertain college guests -- especially commencement speakers and trustees. The result was the colonial type house which has since been remodeled and is still used by the college president. During the Second World War this house was used for academic classes, and for a short time after Dr. Binns came as president. At his request it was remodeled and refinished inside and again made attractive for a home. Dr. Green had a horse and phaeton and cow, so a barn was built with the same type of paving brick with which the house was constructed. A narrow driveway was graded and rocked from Mississippi street to the side entrance of the house on the east and on north to the barn. The second story of the barn was finished for living quarters for a coachman. A college boy always occupied it and looked after the horse and milked the cow for Dr. Greene.

Just north and west of the barn was the Robert Miller property, six acres of which was purchased by the College at a later date. Melrose Hall was built on this, and Miller Avenue extended eastward to connect with the college drive.

The barn that Dr. Greene used was converted to a garage and used by Dr. Herget, who also kept a riding horse in the stable part. Later the barn was torn down and the roadway extended to Miller Avenue and on to Melrose Hall. Also a road was opened from Melrose east to the one in front of New Ely. A loop was built back of Melrose so that cars could turn around without having to back up and head out this east driveway.

Jewell Street was graded along the west side of the Cockrell property

and after a few years was paved. Jewell Street was extended another block north on the west side of the Miller property to connect with Wilson Street which ends at the college property line. These various street improvements were financed by the college and the property owners on the west side of the street. The city of Liberty aided in the grading. Jewell Street was paved with concrete as far as Miller Avenue. From there north it was blacktop. These various street improvements were carried out between 1915 and 1930.

The second improvement was the idea of class memorials, which was started in 1904. The graduating class that year planted some ivy along the north end of Jewell Hall and carved their class numeral in the water table of the building. This custom was followed for a few years, then the classes became more ambitious and donated larger sums for campus improvements. A few gave the cost of having favorite professors' pictures painted, some donated books to the Library. The classes of 1913 and 1914 erected stone posts at the entrance to the campus on Kansas Street, at the steps on Jewell Street, and at the Mississippi Street entrance. The class of 1930 erected the posts at the Kansas Street entrance and the class of 1940 gave the posts on Miller Avenue. Some others gave metal light posts which were placed in front of Jewell Hall at either side of the walk and west of Wornall where the gravel walk started. The posts along Jewell Street served a double purpose, as the city of Liberty was claiming the extension of the city streets through the campus gave them title to the right-of-way. The erection of these posts marked the boundary of the college property. Prior to this time a strand of barbed wire had been stretched across the street once a year to affirm the

college possession.

The third improvement was about 1905 or 1906 when Kessler, landscape artist for the St. Louis Worlds Fair, was enployed to make a study of the campus. This necessitated a topographic survey. He asked for three students to help with taking data. Dr. Clark recommended three from his advanced mathematics class. Jim McAtee and John O. Hassler were accepted as rod men, while I was to help in the recording of data. This was my first taste of surveying. After the field work was done, Kessler prepared a map showing the location of roads, buildings, grading, etc., as it then was and as he proposed that it should be in the future. This map was the campus guide for the next forty or more years. Not until the early '50s was another complete survey made of the campus. The experience I got with Kessler has been useful for more than fifty years. During World War I it enabled me to work as instrument man in a party making a survey of railroads for U. S. Government, by which the value was determined as a base for payment for use of the rails during the war.

When I became business manager at the college and made plans for improving the campus, I followed Kessler's suggestions. The result was that when the Association of American Landscape Architects made their survey of college campuses in the late '30s William Jewell campus was selected as one of the first ten most beautiful.

The other event was, start of the campaign for funds with which to erect a library building. Mr. A. D. Brown and Dr. J. T. M. Johnston, members of the Board of Trustees, while on a trip to Europe learned that the personal library of James Hadden Spurgeon was offered for sale by his heirs. He cabled the information to the college and offered to negotiate the sale. The

offer was accepted and the library of more than 7000 volumes was purchased for approximately one dollar a volume, including transportation. The books were crated and shipped. Its arrival was celebrated on January 26, 1906, with a parade, band, and speeches. To house this library and the 20,000 volumes the college held in its library required the erection of a new building and a campaign for funds was started. In March the announcement was made that through the generosity of Andrew Carnegie, the Carnegie Foundation would give $30,000.00 with the condition that the building should be designated the "Carnegie Library" and the name be on the building.

Mr. Echels, an architect with an office in St. Joseph, Missouri, was employed to draw plans for the building. Dr. J. E. Cook, treasurer of the college, was determened to have a building distinctive in type from anything on the campus. When the plans were ready the contract was let to the Leahr Construction Company of Saint Joseph.

Excavation for the foundation started in the fall, and revealed the old Civil War trench which ran along the west side of the hill just below the crest. The trench still showed definite quantities of ashes from the soldier camp fires. The foundation was faced with cut stone and a cut stone water table was carried around the front and ends. The cut stone ran well below the ground line along the front. An oxidized hard brick was used on the outside. Terra-cotta blocks were carried to the top of the firewall from the tops of the windows, including a heavy cornice projection. The money gave out before the building was completed so Dr. Cook called on the Carnegie Foundation for additional funds. They granted him an audience but nothing more. He was unable to raise sufficient funds to carry out the plans from other sources, so to reduce

expenses a roof of tar paper was laid on ship lap nailed to two by six pine rafters, without lead calking to hold it to the terra-cotta fire-wall. A large dome resting on terra-cotta blocks was erected on structural steel supports extending upward from the foundation. This dome was to give the appearance of height to match Jewell and Old Ely Halls, which were three stories high. Stone walls were laid up from the foundation to the reading room floor and running the entire length of the building. The space between them was left full of rubbish from the building. No floor and no plaster or finish of any kind was put on this part of the basement.

The west part of the building was for book storage, and a tin roof was laid on pine board (ship lap) to prevent leaking. The basement had a cement floor also the reading and stack room. The Spurgeon Library was housed in a balcony with a glass floor in the stack room. This balcony covered about two-thirds of the stack room space. The shelving had cast iron risers with three foot board shelving. The walls were left unpainted. The lighting was two brass light fixtures on each table in the reading room. The lights had green glass reflectors. The current was supplied through a conduit fastened to the floor so if a table were moved the light went out and required an electrician to make the repair.

The books were moved into the Carnegie Library building in November, 1908. The organization for the move was as follows: Some of the faculty worked in Jewell Hall where they packed the books to be moved in boxes in regular order, then assigned a student to carry the box to the new building, where the shelving space was numbered in the same order as in Jewell Hall. When the books arrived, a faculty member supervised the

reshelving. When the boxes were emptied, the student returned to Jewell Hall for another load. My job was to manage the carriers and keep them in their proper sequence. We moved and shelved something more than 20,000 volumes without losing one and reshelved them so well that the librarian had a minimum number of books out of place. That was my first job of 'bossing' a work crew.

The library building itself does not fit into the colonial style of the other buildings on the campus. Terra-cotta blocks were stylish at the time it was built and were proposed as "the building material of the future." These blocks were made of clay formed into any desired shape in presses, partially fired, then glazed and finished in a kiln. This process did not make the tiles waterproof, as cracks and bubbles formed in the glazing. The clay had a different coefficient of expansion from the mortar in the joints and "hair cracks" would permit water to soak into the wall. Another mistake was made by putting a dome of terra-cotta blocks on top of the building, resting on steel girders. The dome leaked within a few months after its construction. The walls were of oxidized brick and were well constructed up to the point where the terra-cotta tile set in just above the windows. The roof over the reading room was supported by two by six pine rafters and a tar and felt roof laid on "shiplap" sheeting. This settled in the center and water stood three or four inches deep. When this froze it cracked the felt and leaks occurred in every part of the reading room. As much as six inches of tar and gravel was put on top as the years went by. Over the stack room was a tin-covered deck, which later was covered with felt and asphalt, when it rusted through.

Much of the trouble with this building stems from the fact that its cost exceeded the allowance made by the Carnegie people in their grant. It has been an expense and worry ever since completion.

In the school year of 1925-26 a fire starting in the janitor's closet where some oily rags had been left, burned the roof off the reading room of the library and the terra-cotta dome fell in on the tables and chairs and destroyed the withdrawal desk and all the records, including card files. The large white oak tables were covered with cinders and smoke. Most of the chairs were broken or scarred. A large oil painting of Dr. William Jewell, by Caleb Bingham, was burned beyond redemption. This painting was replaced with a smaller one, by Prof. A. G. Byrns later. The fire did not get into the stacks, but many of the bindings on books were damaged by the heat. We were able to get the $25,000 insurance we had on the building, and started repair work, after getting in touch with the contractor who had erected the building in 1907. We changed the dome from terra-cotta to copper and installed a new heating system and put on a concrete slab roof. When the building was repaired, desk and card files had to be replaced and tables and chairs cleaned and refinished. We used student help for most of this. To get the smoke and grime off, I tried several commercial cleaners with poor results, and finally worked out in the lab a saturated solution of camphor gum crystals and pure grain alcohol. This not only removed smoke and grime but softened the surface of the hard varnish, so that scratches and cuts disappeared like magic. It had to be watched closely so as to wash it off before it took all the varnish. Rubber gloves were necessary for the workmen to keep the skin on fingers from going too. A table or chair that had been cleaned had to

be set aside where dust would not get on them until the varnish was again hard and shiny. By this method most of the chairs and all but one table were saved. The oak baseboard and window sills were treated the same way. This saved several thousands of dollars. The repairs when finished cost $22,500 whereas the estimate was about $45,000.

The dirt from the excavation for the library building had been left piled up at the west of the building, and a rough bank north of it. When I became business manager, 1926-'27, I used the college team and labor to grade the bank north of the building and level the pile of dirt west of the building and fill a wash that ran down the west side hill. At the deepest place a fill of three or four feet was made. With the equipment we had it took most of one summer.

Several attempts were made to waterproof the terra-cotta trim and cornice. We coated it with a heavy varnish at the recommendation of the architect. In a few months it was leaking again. We cleaned out the joints between the blocks and refilled them with cement. Also when plastics came into use we tried putty and plastic in the joints. This lasted a year or so, then more leaks. Finally, a water-proofing company from Kansas City sprayed the entire surface of the terra-cotta with a plastic coating. But it still leaks, and the water has deteriorated the cement in the joints between the bricks below so that the original idea of putting another story on top when needed can not be safely carried out.

The only benefit coming from the mistakes made in construction of this library was the resolve not to let them occur again. Consequently the trustees have adhered to the colonial type architecture in all the buildings since then.

The space under the reading room, mentioned before as "the catacombs," was half full of rubbish left from the building operations. Soon after the fire shelving space in the stack room was filled to capacity. I decided to clean out the catacombs and make this area available for more shelving. Student labor was used to load the wheelbarrows and run them out the south door of the basement. There the dirt, rock, old mortar, boards, etc. were loaded into the college truck and hauled to the dump in the pasture. After the clean up was finished concrete floors were laid in each of the spaces between the stone walls which supported the reading room floor. Then shelving of rough pine lumber was built by the college carpenter, most of which was left from the concrete forms used in the building of the gym. The space provided was used to house about 3,000 volumes of government documents, etc. which had come to the college since it was made a depository for government files, and made that much space available for reference books.

By 1948 the Library had increased to 59,681 volumes and again the "stacks" were crowded to capacity. The librarian asked me to see if any more space could be made available for stacks. When the building was first erected the Spurgeon Library had been placed on a special balcony, with glass floor, directly in front of the entrance and back of the librarians desk. Metal steps led up to the level where the book cases set. They had been built farther apart than is usual. Also a space ten feet or more was left open between the north and south walls of the building and the edge of the balcony. About six feet was left between it and the east wall. I decided to extend the balcony floor to these walls and to set the book cases at regulation distances apart. A quantity

Wornall Hall Fire

While on a week end outing at Monegau Springs in August, 1913, with Sylvia, her sister and brother-in-law, Dr. G. D. Hancock, a messenger arrived with a telegram from Dr. H. G. Parker, saying that lightning had struck Wornall Hall the evening before, and requesting me to come home at once. We hurried back to Osceola, Missouri, and I caught a train to Liberty. On arrival I hurried to the College where the ruins were still smouldering. The entire record of my research work at the University of Chicago and the apparatus I had brought to check a few things in my report were in that building as well as all the chemistry and physics apparatus belonging to the College. That pile of smouldering debris was all that was left of my more than three years of work and my hope of a doctors degree. While standing there Dr. Parker came up behind me and put his arm around my shoulder and said, "There it is! Half a life time of work and plans gone up in smoke." I realized for the first time others had sustained a great loss as well as me, and my reaction was spontaneous to comfort him. I replied, "Yes! Its gone! But we will get a better building and new equipment." While standing there we began making plans for the opening of college in a few days.

Only one building, "Old Vardman Hall," was available. It had been vacant since the dining hall had been moved to New Ely in 1911. The windows were coated with dirt and cobwebs and the floors just as they were left after moving out the dining hall equipment on a rainy morning. Apparently the only thing that had been in there during the last two or more years were sparrows, rats, and mice, all of which had left their marks.

We started next morning cleaning out the building with the help of

two college boys who had spent the summer working on the campus. Everything was scrubbed and a coat of cheap calcimine paint spread over the walls and ceiling. Dr. Parker and I built tables and shelving out of rough lumber for the laboratories. All of our apparatus catalogues were burned so we telegraphed orders to the two supply houses with whom we had dealt for new ones. By the time they arrived we had most of the carpentering done so we turned our attention to selecting laboratory equipment to be used within the first weeks after college opened. We left off the list everything that we could build ourselves, such as plane tables, ringstands, test tube racks, etc. We did buy a five foot lathe and motor to use in making equipment. That lathe is still in use. We worked till one A. M. or later every night, making ready for the next day's classes and laboratories. We had to write out in detail the laboratory instructions and run them off on a mimegraph as well as set up apparatus. It was streneous but we got the job done. The students were considerate and helped as much as possible to put things away after class, and some came in early and helped arrange for the experiments. Some inclined planes, force tables, etc. that I made then are still in use.

We carried on for more than two years under those conditions before the basement and first floor of Marston Hall were available.

After we moved out of Vardman it was used for storage. Then it became so run down as to be a detriment to the appearance of the campus.

Marston Hall

A need for more space for the science departments had been discussed for a number of years. Biology, geology, and mineralogy were located in two rooms second floor Jewell Hall. Mathematics was first floor north-east room, chemistry and two years of physics were on the first floor and basement of Wornall Hall. After Wornall Hall burned in 1913 a plea went out to friends of the college for funds to erect a science building equipped to accommodate all of the natural sciences.

Mr. Sylvester W. Marston (see bronze plaque in Marston Hall) had been an early missionary to the Indians and early white settlers in the Missouri territory. His son, Edgar L. Marston, became wealthy from mining investments. He offered the college funds for erecting a science building to be named for his father. This offer was accepted and the proper papers drawn up. An architect was selected and Dr. H. G. Parker appointed to work out the details of the requirements for all of the science departments. He conferred with Prof. Richmond, Dr. Clark, Dr. Fleet, and me. Each of us outlined our ideas of what was needed for our departments and drew pencil sketches. Then Dr. Parker and I went over the various suggestions and co-ordinated them, after which they were submitted to the architect. In due time the plans were agreed to by all concerned and the contract for erection of the building let to a Kansas City contractor, Mr. George Huggins. Excavation was begun 1914 south of Jewell Hall and north of the road around the south end of the hill, which had been opened when New Ely was built in 1910. Plans called for a building three stories high above ground and a basement under the entire building with a sub-basement under the west one-third, which would be above ground on the west and south as that part of the building

extended beyond the crest of the hill. The construction proceeded satisfactorily until the contractor ran short of funds, though the college had paid him the usual percentage as work had been completed. The workmen quit and Huggins took bankruptcy. At that time the building was enclosed but no doors were hung nor windows cased, but the sash were held in by strips nailed temporarily to the frames. The brick partitions were up but not the tile separating the smaller offices, etc. The basement and first floor rooms had one coat of plaster and the floors were finished. The roof was a concrete slab five inches thick. In other words the building lacked all finish, and about half of the construction in the second and third floors. After much wrangling the bondsmen agreed to finish the basement and first floor, but nothing was done on the other two floors, and the plastering was not given a finish coat on the basement and first floor. When the college took possession Dr. Parker and I moved the chemistry and physics departments into the basement and first floor rooms. The stairways were wide open so we used lumber from the forms to put up a rough partition at the first floor level and covered it with tar paper so we could heat the lower part of the building. A six inch pipeline was run to the steam plant, laid in a concrete box and insulated with mineral wool. The radiators were installed in the part in use but the thermostat control was out until the entire building was finished, so we put ordinary radiator valves in all lines and regulated the heat by hand. The electric conduits for the lights had been put in place before the cement was poured. The electric wires were pulled and ceiling light fixtures were installed.

Laboratory tables for the chemistry department had already been

ordered from the mill but the concrete slabs for the tops had to be poured locally. The college carpenter, Jim Rockwell, made forms and placed them on the floor of the laboratory, with tar paper under these to protect the floor. A local contractor by the name of Ben Hays poured the concrete in the forms and finished the slabs. Local labor was employed to set them on the oak tables. The plumbing was done by a local firm. Each student was provided with gas, water, and oxygen valves on his desk, also electric connections for both D. C. and A. C. current. A large square sink of Albemarl stone was placed at the end of every second table. A drain pipe was run along the center of the table with T-couplings for each desk. A large glass funnel was set in each T for disposing of waste liquids.

The washing of apparatus was done at the end sink into which three funnels drained. Each student had a cabinet under his desk for large apparatus and a drawer for glassware and another for long tubing, all of which could be secured with one lock.

Shelving in the stock rooms for both physics and chemistry was made in the college shop. Holes four inches apart were bored in two by four uprights and wooden cleats bolted to them at any space desired between shelves. Shelves three feet long were made from shiplap and nailed to cleats which could be bolted to these uprights or the shelves could be set on them loosely. Dr. Parker and I did this work ourselves, occasionally using a lab assistant if one volunteered. We worked every Saturday and until late at night most week days. The college team was used to haul our apparatus from Vardman Hall to Marston, where the lab assistants helped to put it on shelves.

After the electrical conduits were installed, the local electric company pulled the wires into the building but we had to connect them to the outlets at each desk and make connections for the students to use in plugging into the circuit. The city had A.C. 220 volt circuits so we bought a motor generator set that would furnish the laboratories with 110 and 220 D. C., also a small 24 volt D. C. generator -- the current to be used in electrolysis and for safety in elementary physics courses and charging batteries. All three currents were carried to each room and outlets wired in for the various tables.

There was no natural gas in Liberty so we installed a 'mixer' for using gasoline vapor. This was buried in the ground just outside the subbasement door south of the building. The vaporizer consisted of a copper box approximately four by four by two feet with cotton flannel strips hung from the top so that they dipped into the gasoline about half way. Air was pumped into the tank and mixed with the gas vapor so that it would burn with a blue flame. The pump was run by an electric motor. Pressure was regulated by a valve which shut off the motor automatically. This was a rather crude arrangement made by Dr. Parker and me. A U tube was partially filled with mercury and a copper wire adjusted so that it made contact when the mercury in one arm of the tube was forced up to the desired height by the gas pressure in the tank. The electric current energized a magnet which threw the switch on the motor. A similar switch on the other side of the U tube turned the motor off. This had to be adjusted occasionally as the wire burned off or the mercury became oxydized and did not make good contact, which resulted in a sudden start and stop of the motor. Several years later when natural

gas was piped to Liberty, this mixer and carbureter were disconnected and the natural gas connected to the pipes in the building. This necessitated the adjustment of all Bunsen burners and the overhauling of all valves on the desks and tables. The copper tank was left in the ground outside the subbasement door and is still there in 1959.

We moved the lathe from Vardman to the southeast room in the basement and kept it in almost constant use from morning until near midnight. We made a 'tumbler' out of a small metal keg which we could fasten in the lathe and use to polish the ring stand bases and rods which we purchased from the foundry in the rough, just as they came from the casting pit. After polishing, we dipped them in bituminous paint to prevent rusting. This was made necessary because we had no money with which to purchase manufactured equipment of this kind. Also, there were only one or two small firms making laboratory supplies and then only on special orders. In other words, laboratory science was just beginning to take hold in the schools and the demand for such apparatus did not warrant a big outlay by a manufacturer.

During the time we were in Vardman Hall, the class bells were operated by push button. Soon after getting set up in Marston Hall the College purchased a master clock and installed it in my office. It was operated by a transformer and switch which started the 24 volt generator which in turn rang the bells. This was not very satisfactory so we put in a relay and attached the 110 volt D. C. generator to the bell circuit, and installed bells on all floors of Jewell, New Ely, Marston, and in the library. This worked fine unless someone stuffed paper between the bell contacts. It was part of my duty to keep the bells operating, so I con-

nected up a testing set to check the lines.

Later an alternating current clock was purchased and installed so the bells could be operated in parallel. Then the only trouble we had was when ice and wind broke the lines. With this system one bell might not ring but that did not stop the others, as a relay shunted the defective bell.

As the chemistry and physics departments grew, we often were crowded. At commencement 1917 the alumni raised $1000.00 with which to finish the second floor of Marston and turned the money over to me to see that the work was done. I hired several common laborers and started to clean the floors which had accumulated dirt since the contractor left. There was cement stuck to the rough floor that had fallen when the brick partitions were laid up, and had to be loosened with picks before the finish could be put on.

I rigged a block and tackle out the east window of the lecture room and hauled all materials up that way instead of having them carried upstairs by laborers as Huggins had done on the first floor. We had no steam or electrical hoists in those days for small construction jobs. If the job was big enough they used a steam boiler and winch, which required at least two men to operate. Huggins had used that set up on the top floors, but to save expense we used a block and tackle and one of the college horses to do the hoisting. The colored man who drove the horse loaded the material in a half barrel or bundles as the case might be, for the hoist. After getting the walls and floors cleaned I ordered sand, cement and finish materials, also conduit and wire for the electrical circuits. Local concrete workers and plasterers were hired to do that

finish work, and the wood work when we were ready for it. We had the second floor finished, the doors and window frames varnished, slate blackboards installed, and everything ready for the opening of college in September. The college carpenter made the tables for the physics department, using fir four by fours for legs and a false top from lumber used for forms, and finished the job with a top of maple flooring closely joined and varnished. These tables were still in use in 1952.

The mathematics department moved into a south room with an office across the hall. The rest of the floor was used for physics.

One of the biggest jobs connected with finishing the second floor was the wiring. Conduits had been run when the building was erected, but many of them were clogged with cement and dirt so that we had to chisel out trenches in the brick walls or concrete floors as the case might be, and run more conduit in many rooms. Switchboards had to be made and installed in each room with a master board in my office. This control board had four panels, one of which was for the master clock circuit. The other three were to supply any voltage that might be desired to any desk in the physics laboratories or lecture room. The panels were of smoothly ground slate five feet tall, two feet wide, and one and one-fourth inches thick. The bus bars were copper bars one inch wide and one-eighth inch thick and extended across the board to within an inch or so of the bevel edges. Eight holes were drilled through each bar and a piece of brass tubing two and one-half inches long screwed into it, to hold the switch board plugs with which connection was made to the distributing panel in each room. In order to make the system more flexible separate receptacles were made so that each type of current could be sent

to any laboratory or class room on the floor. More than 100 holes had to be bored in each of the three boards and the connections fastened in by means of brass nuts. These sockets were made of brass tubing cut to two and one-half inch lengths and threaded through half their length. To make the plugs fit tightly in these sockets it was necessary to split them lengthwise at least one-half their length, with a hack saw. To bore the holes in the slate for all of these connections a dolly was made on which the heavy slate could be laid and rolled under the drill bit and shifted from one position to another as the holes were drilled. This required an enormous amount of work and time. In addition to this, master switches for each circuit had to be fastened to the panels as well as the starting rheostats for the D. C. generators. I did the major part of the machine work and all of the layout and designing. The class in electrical engineering ran the lines and connected the circuits to the boards in the various rooms as well as on the master board. Of the students who worked on this job, one became head of the cable department for the Kansas City Power and Light Company. Another became a construction engineer and installed electric distributing systems from coast to coast. Another went into the shops of Western Electric and became a foreman. The fourth taught electricity at Oregon State University. The fifth became a contractor for electrical construction. I felt well paid by the success of these students, though my salary remained the same.

The clock control panel was the simplest of the four to build, but required greater accuracy. The first clock for ringing the class bells was a low voltage D. C. current, tape type. The bells were rung by electric current which was put on the circuit by contact through the slots

cut in a revolving paper band. The tape was rotated by the clock mechanism, and when the contact spring passed over one of the slots cut in the tape contact would be made with a 24 volt battery or generator which would send D. C. current through the bell circuit. When the contact spring was lifted by the paper tape the bell stopped ringing. This tape had to be punched very accurately and the edges cut cleanly. If a change in schedule was desired a new tape had to be cut, so we put an independent switch on the panel that could be operated by hand. If a temporary change in classes were necessary we simply threw the clock circuit off and rang the bells by making contact with this switch.

Later a clock that used alternating current was installed. This simplified operations by eliminating relays, rheostats, batteries, or D. C. generators, etc. If the current went off for any reason the clock had to be reset and the old one had to have the paper tape very carefully moved to the correct time. The batteries had to be recharged and breaks in the line had to be soldered up. The new clock has a disc which rotates in synchronism with the alternating current, so the cutting of new tape is no longer necessary.

Before the third floor could by finished, it was necessary to put a permanent roof on the building. So far only the concrete slab and some joint caulking had sufficed. When inspecting the roof to see what needed to be done I found that the shale brick on the inside surface of the fire wall was shelling so badly that a major repair was necessary. All these brick were removed and cement filled into the holes and a coating of stucco laid on top and sprayed with waterproofing. The joints in the water table on top were filled with plastic cement and water proofed.

A roof coating of tar and felt was then laid over the entire surface of the concrete slab. After the roof was finished, the third floor was plastered and wood work installed. A drop deiling was hung from the galvanized rods which had been placed at regular intervals when the concrete slab was poured in 1914. The mill work and finish were ordered through a local lumber yard and made to match that in the remainder of the building. Cement finish was put on all the floors and electric wiring pulled into the conduits laid above the drop ceiling. The space between ceiling and roof varied from four to ten feet so there was room for ventilation. When the building was erected, air space was left along the north side between columns of brick about two feet high and four inches apart. Snow and rain blew in through these openings so they had to be closed. Ventilators of galvanized steel were placed on top of the roof to carry the air of the rooms below. Ventilator ducts had been built in all the walls but many of them were choked with mortar, etc. and had to be cleaned out. When the third floor was finished, the biology department moved in and had tables made for the laboratories by a local cabinet maker.

The cases for the museum were made by the college carpenter. The museum specimens had been stored in boxes since it was moved from Jewell Hall. This had to be taken out, cleaned, catalogued and placed in the cabinets. This work was handled by Dr. Gier and his assistants.

When Marston was planned, Dr. Parker insisted on an entrance being made from the road along the south of the hill. A tunnel was started from the road to the building and a shaft sunk through the shale from the subbasement to meet this tunnel. The plan was for supplies to be

unloaded at the mouth of the tunnel and brought into the building where they could be taken to the various floors by means of an elevator. The elevator shaft was constructed of tile and extended through the roof so the lifting machinery could be placed in a small house also enclosed with tile and cemented over. When Huggins threw up his contract, this tunnel was left uncompleted and was never finished. The elevator shaft was never used until we had a Navy unit during World War II. They required toilets installed on every floor. The old elevator shaft made installation of soil and water pipes easy, so floors were put in the shaft at the level of each story and fixtures added. Before that, the only toilet for men and one for ladies was located in the basement under the entrance platform to the building.

In the hallway on first floor hangs a large oil painting of Sylvester W. Marston, given by his son Edward L. Marston. On the west wall of the entrance a bronze plaque tells the accomplishments of Sylvester Marston. Among other things it states that he organized 700 Sunday Schools in the state of Missouri. His life span was from 1826 to 1887.

At the west end of the central hallway is a bronze plaque to the memory of James Andrew Yates, a former student of the college, and to his father, William Franklin Yates, a member of the Board of Trustees of the college who gave $250,000 to endow the department of chemistry. Also mentioned are the Kresge Foundation, Mrs. E. S. Pillsbury, and the Baptist General Association of Missouri, all of whom contributed to the refinishing and equipping of the building in 1953. The physics department was similarly endowed by Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Pillsbury of St. Louis.

During World War I a National Guard captain was assigned to W. J. C.

to train those students who cared to enlist and remain in college until called. Most of them were given exemption until after graduation. Ludwick Graves, son of Judge Graves of the Missouri Supreme Court, was in college at that time. He had attended a military academy so the captain organized a company and made Graves a student captain. The company drilled twice a day -- morning and afternoon. The only classes interfered with were laboratory sessions in the afternoon. A supply of 1870 Springfield rifles with bayonets were issued. The training consisted of marching in formation, manual of arms, calisthenics, and care of equipment. At the end of the war the company was discharged but Graves organized a group to continue with the study of military tactics, etc. Fifty of the rifles were released to the college and stored in the attic of Marston Hall.

Marston Hall Surroundings

When Marston Hall was erected there was no road leading to any entrance of the building, and much opposition to building one along the top of the hill so close to Jewell Hall. Teachers in that building feared that the passing traffic would disturb classes. When the building was under construction, materials were brought to it over a temporary road east of Jewell. The ground was cut into deep ruts which filled with water when it rained. Cinders had been dumped into the chuckholes and ruts and when dry they ground into dust so it was necessary to close the windows on the east side of the building. This temporary road ended at the east door of Marston, so delivery trucks and wagons had to back up and turn around to get out. The area between Jewell and Marston was piled with scraps and trash from the forms from the building construction as high as the second story windows. Hence Dr. Parker's suggestion for a tunnel to the street as mentioned earlier.

After the contractor quit this was out of the realm of possibilities. In 1916-17 I assigned my class in surveying the problem of laying out a road from the corner of the cemetery along the top of the hill to Marston. "Clean up day" was inaugurated to clear the space between Jewell and Marston. After the rubbish was moved, the class staked out a circle between the two buildings and the road was graded and cindered. The Senior class built a fountain and pool edged with brick between the buildings which was removed when the driveway was paved.

The high bank back of Marston was shale and void of all vegetation, consequently it washed into numerous ditches a foot or more deep. Also, the old tunnel which had been abandoned was a menace to anyone trying to get to the gas tank at the rear of the building. On another clean up day

this was filled with rock and dirt and smoothed over so that honeysuckle vines would grow on it. Dr. and Mrs. Arthur Tutt, he a member of the trustees, gave the vines and the students did the work. The honeysuckle spread very rapidly and covered the entire hillside and the stone wall the students had laid up along the street curbing. A tile was laid from the mouth of the tunnel to a manhole in the sewer line at the intersection of Jewell and Kansas Streets. This afforded drainage for the old elevator shaft and the entire basement. Black locust seed were sowed among the vines and soon grew into flowering trees, thus completely changing the appearance of the building from the south. Later the street south of the building was paved with concrete and two stone posts erected at the property line. The light company installed electric lights on top of the posts. A road was opened from the entrance eastward to number ten highway and blacktopped. This road is used as an access route to the athletic field as well as a public road. The college deeded the land for it to the city in exchange for a deed to the old road through the campus past the cemetery and Gano Chapel. That had been in dispute for several years by the city. I was able to get Mayor Seldon Murry, to sign the agreement settling the controversy. The city council concurred and the city assumed responsibility of maintaining the street. Before that the College had done all grading, surfacing, etc., on it.

A drive along the west side of the athletic field was graded and rocked thus relieving the traffic congestion along the driveway further up the hill. This also made accessable the space south of the regular athletic field and track, which was graded and seeded to grass for a practice field. and parking area for games.

Athletic Field

At commencement, 1915, the alumni raised several hundred dollars with which to grade the athletic field. The field had remained as Dr. Parker had made it with a short two-fifths mile track having a difference of level of thirty feet between the high point on the north loop and the low point just past the south loop. As chairman of the athletic board, I hired teams and wheel scrapers to level the ground for a one-fourth mile track. The weather permitted us to grade all winter with the exception of three days when the ground was frozen too deep to plow. By the time the track season opened, the running track had been leveled and a one-fourth mile oval enclosed. Cinders from the power plant were screened and three carloads bought from Kansas City Power and Light Company, who charged fifty cents a ton for loading the cars. The bank to the north and west of the track was cut back about thirty feet beyond the track so as to allow for the erection of seats just west of the straightaway. On the west side of the loop an eight lane 220 yard straightaway was leveled and surfaced/ with cinders. The Senior Class, 1916, made a gift of four Carthage stone posts which were placed at the start and finish of the 100 yard dash at the north end of the straightaway.

In the spring, 1917, William Jewell held for the first time the Missouri College Athletic Association Track Meet. Previously this had been held at a college with a standard one-fourth mile track. Now William Jewell College qualified.

Inside the oval a football field was leveled and then the center elevated to afford drainage. An eighteen inch clay tile was placed under the track and a slight ditch made around the inside of the loop to drain into this tile.

Broad jump and pole vault pits were dug and filled with sawdust just east of the straightaway. Wooden bleachers were built west of the field. After World War II steel bleachers with wood seats were installed. In 1955 a concrete grandstand was erected and the former bleachers moved to the east side.

As money became available, a woven wire fence was erected to the north, south, and west of the field. Evergreen trees (pine and cedar) were planted around the north end of the oval, extending a little along both east and west sides -- to shut off the view from the parking area.

Recently tennis courts have been graded and surfaced north of the field and a blacktop walk laid from the gym to the entrance. This made the old tennis courts available for parking cars near the college buildings. A road from New Ely Dormitory has been graded and blacktopped to number ten highway east of the campus. This has made the buildings and athletic fields much more accessible.

Building Campaign (1925)

Young women were admitted to classes in William Jewell during World War I with the proviso that it would be a coordinated school. The demand for this from the citizens of Liberty had become more and more urgent since the Liberty Ladies College was destroyed by fire, February, 1913. By 1918 so many young men were called to the armed forces that classroom space was available and the income from tuition made their admission almost a necessity. The trustees, on March 6, 1918, voted to admit girls to classes on the "Old Hill" but not to make the College coeducational.

After Dr. D. J. Evans became President in 1921, he called a faculty meeting at night in his home to discuss changing the college to a coeducational institution. Most of the faculty expressed themselves in favor of the change. A vote was taken on a motion to admit women to all classes and change the college to a coeducational status. This carried and the trustees concurred. This made possible the enrollment of girls who did not live in Liberty, so when I became business manager a house formerly occupied by Dr. J. E. Cook was rented from a Liberty merchant by the name of Clark, and furnished for a girls dormitory. This house was later purchased by the college and used as a girls dormitory until Melrose Hall was completed in 1926. Since then it has been made into apartments and rented to faculty members and others.

In 1924 a man living in California, who asked that his name be kept secret, but may now be revealed as C. M. Treat, offered the college $100,000.00 with which to build a girls' dormitory provided the college would agree to erect a chapel and a gymnasium, which buildings were being considered. A further stipulation was to the effect that the college state definitely before January 1, 1925, that they would take the

necessary steps to complete this program. On December 4, 1924, the college trustees accepted the offer and authorized a campaign to raise the money. A Mrs. Johnson, who lived in Kansas City, made an offer of $50,000.00 with which to erect a chapel. That left $150,000.00 to be secured. A member of the trustees, Mr. Townley Culberson, arranged for the college to have an office in the Commerce Trust Building to use as headquarters during the campaign. A full page ad was put in the Kansas City Star and Times and a list of prospective donors made. Many of the trustees took names from the list and solicited them personally. The ad in the Kansas City Star focused attention on the college and brought in gifts from men like William Volker without further solicitation. Meetings were arranged in cities and towns throughout the state. Dr. Wayman and I put on a campaign in St. Joseph and Kansas City. I spent considerable time in the Kansas City office calling friends on the phone and arranging for a solicitor to see them. The result was that the announcement was made at the end of the campaign, January 1, 1925, that sufficient funds were pledged to proceed with the plans for the three buildings. The girls' dormitory which the donor named Melrose Hall was first on the list and the Chapel which Mrs. Johnson named in honor of her (grandfather), John Gano, came second; the gym was to be built after the others were finished. A building committee from the board of trustees was appointed and carried on until all the buildings were completed.

After a thorough investigation, Charles A. Smith, architect for the school board in Kansas City, was selected to draw the plans and write the specifications. The committee asked me to work with him and to act as lesion between the committee and architect on all these buildings.

I outlined to the architect what was needed, such as amount of space, type of construction (colonial), etc., and made pencil sketches to demonstrate my ideas. These sketches were first presented to the committee for their approval. Then the architect developed the ideas and submitted a drawing to the committee before working out the details for construction.. When the plans were ready they were put in the hands of contractors for bids. I had made several suggestions to the architect, one of which was that an ell be added to Melrose and called the "Turner Memorial." Mr. Richard Turner, of St. Joseph, a former president of the Board of Trustees, left a bequest of $20,000.00 to be used for a building. This had been on the college books for some years but not used. The trustees approved the suggestion and a three story building was added to the west elevation of Melrose. The first floor was an assembly hall, or reception room, with a high ceiling and panel woodwork. The second and third floors were finished for girls living rooms. At that time, 1925, there remained a question of whether William Jewell College should be a "coordinated college" or a coeducational one. Later coeducation was approved. Following the Second World War this room was partitioned off to form dormitory rooms. Up until that time the large room was used for class meetings, sororities, receptions, etc.

An entrance way to the Turner Memorial building was provided on each floor from Melrose and an outside door on the south for entrance to the reception room. A small anteroom with coat racks and an office were just inside this entrance. This room was furnished with comfortable chairs, floor lamps, and curtains.

Melrose Hall had a reception room on the first floor with a stairway

leading to the second and third floors. Just off this reception room was the matron's office and a conference room. The matron's living quarters were just east of this conference room. Electric call bells on each floor and a telephone were connected to the office. In the basement was a kitchen and dining hall which was used until after World War II when girls were admitted to New Ely dining hall. A wash room was equipped with laundry tubs, ironing boards, etc., in the basement for the occupants of the building to use. After the girls were admitted to New Ely dining hall, the Melrose dining hall was furnished for a recreation room and a sick bay was set up in the kitchen and a trained nurse put in charge. One of the chief advantages of this building is its adaptability. If necessity arose, beds could be set up in the recreation room.

A contract for the erection of Melrose and Turner Memorial was let to S. E. Shultz Construction Company of Chillicothe. A separate contract for Gano was let to the same firm.

As Melrose and Turner Memorial neared completion, furniture for each room and the reception room was ordered from Emery Bird Thayer in Kansas City. This was installed and ready for use by the time college opened in September. Dining room and kitchen equipment were bought from the Smith Supply Company.

As the rough construction on Melrose was completed, the workmen were moved to similar work on Gano. The basement of Wornall Hall was cleared of the debris from the fire and the excavation to the west of the former basement was extended several feet by student labor during the previous summer, while plans were being drawn. Consequently, the

foundation for Gano was ready for the carpenter to build forms for the floor before the second floor of Melrose was ready for them. This switching of laborers was proposed by me to Mr. G. E. Morris, foreman for Shultz. It reduced the cost of both buildings by eliminating the expense of hiring new men all the time.

As Gano Chapel neared completion, Mrs. Johnson came to see it. John Gano, for whom it was named, was her Grand-father and a pioneer missionary in Virginia and the Carolinas; also founder of the First Baptist Church in New York City. She was very desirous that everything should be first class, so I was gratified to have her approval of the building and workmanship. After careful examination, she decided that the brick wall back stage should be plastered. I assured her that it would be done with Portland cement so it would resist scarring when stage furniture was moved.

She requested that a large oil painting, then in her possession, showing the baptism of George Washington by John Gano, his chaplin during the Revolutionary War, be hung in this building. I referred her to President Wayman and suggested that it be hung in one of the rooms opening into the lobby since there would be many visitors to see it when it was known to be in Gano Chapel.

President Wayman and Mrs. Johnson both agreed to this with the added provision that the picture be permanently kept in the building. Another request she made at this time was that the college take care of the grave of John Gano who is buried in a cemetery approximately two miles west of Excelsior Springs. This was also agreed to. Both requests were put in writing by her attorney and filed as a codicil to her gift agreement.

Later, after newspaper publicity had spread the story of John Gano baptising George Washington, a controversy was waged by Episcopal clergymen and others as to the authenticity of this act of Washington's baptism by a Baptist minister. Gano was Washington's chaplin during the Revolution and a very close friend. This controversy went on for several years with articles in magazines and newspapers throughout the country, but finally died down.During the Dr. Wayman vs. Dr. Fleet turmoil, the painting was taken from the room off the lobby and stored on the balcony above the stage, an act which I had nothing to do with and did not know about until it was done.

The chapel windows were my design, approved by the architect and trustees. The outstanding motif is the motto adopted during Dr. J. P. Greene's presidency and suggested by him, "Deo Fisus Labora," "Trust in God and Work."

When it was decided to put a balcony across the back of the auditorium and not along the sides, the question of "echo" came up. The architect said, "Mr. Davis is a physicist, perhaps he can work out a formula for eliminating the echo which usually is noticible in an auditorium of this type." I said, "I thought you were the architect." Everyone laughed, and Mr. Smith said, "We'll see what we can do." After the committee left, he said, "Mr. Davis, I was serious about your trying to eliminate that balcony echo." I agreed to try. After many failures I found a curvature for the ceiling under the balcony that eliminated the "dead spot" which was caused by the reflected waves interfering with the approaching sound wave and neutralizing it where they came together. The next job was getting the ceiling frame work at the desired angle and the

plaster surface smoothed to the proper angle. I stayed on the job and saw that the finished ceiling was as near perfect as possible. The result made me feel repaid for all the work I had put on the drawing board.

When the "tar and felt" roof was being put on, a workman pulled a 300 pound barrel of asphalt off the hoist onto the tower platform. The floor gave away and the barrel landed on the workman fifty feet below. He was dead when we got to him. A coroner's inquest cleared the college and contractor of any responsibility.

Gano Chapel was erected over part of the basement of Wornall Hall, but extended north to within about ten feet of the Mississippi Street extension, which was widened to the foundation of the building. West of the Chapel the rock along the south side of the street was taken out and a forty foot roadway surfaced with rock to the top of the hill. A side walk was laid from the corner to the walk from New Ely to the Chapel. The walk on the north side of the street was built by the city of Liberty to afford access to the cemetery on top of the hill, and from the entrance to the eastward it was graveled to the corner where concrete steps were laid to the walk from New Ely. A privet hedge was planted from the corner of the campus along the south side of the walk to the rock ledge west of Gano. Before this was done, students and faculty had worn a path from the intersection of Jewell and Mississippi Streets diagonally up the hill to Jewell Hall. It was necessary to plant heavy shrubbery at the corner, back of the stone post, to stop the use of this path.

The rock north of the Wornall Hall basement was left under the central part of the Chapel by the contractor, so the only way to go from

the front basement to the rear one was to go outside. The printing press was moved from the basement of the Library to the north basement of Gano and a tile partition built shutting it off from the unexcavated section in the center. After the co-op moved into the front basement, a passage-way was made to the back and a door cut through this tile partition. The remainder of the central section remained unexcavated. There was opposition to locating the press in the chapel building because of the noise, so the tile wall was built, but experience proved this noise was negligible. After two or three years, I used college labor during the winter who were hired by the year, to take out the rock in the central part and open this space for storage, which was used by the press and the co-op. A concrete runway was laid along the west wall from the front to the back and the tile partition north of the co-op was moved toward the center of the basement area, thus doubling the space they occupied. Later the co-op bookstore was moved to Old Ely and the printing press was moved to the front room of the basement. The space at the north which the press had occupied was turned over to the music department for the band.

The William Jewell Press was started by Ward Edwards, when he was College Librarian. The first press was a large toy he had bought for his boys, and was used to print calling cards, notices for the bulletin board, etc. Then a small power driven rotary plate press was purchased. The rotary plate was approximately twenty inches in diameter. Later a platform press was bought second hand, and used for many years to print the college catalogue, the "Student" and "Tatler" as well as most of the other college printing. A full time printer was employed. Before that, college students and Ward Edwards had done the work.

The William Jewell Press was located in the basement of the library until the Gano Chapel basement was available about 1927-'28, when it was moved there. Later, a larger new press was installed so that books may now by printed as well as all other printed supplies.

The spring which had caused so much inconvenience in the basement of Wornall Hall was carried out to the street through tile and loose rock placed in the crevices between the limestone ledges, called "French drains," on which the floor rests, and has not given any trouble since the Chapel was erected.

The drive for money continued during 1925 and 1926, conducted by a Baptist preacher named D. W. Howerton. By 1927, sufficient funds for a gymnasium were pledged. The architect, Charles A. Smith, was retained and I again drew sketches showing what was needed, and worked as the college representative with the architect during the planning and construction of the New Brown Gymnasium. After the 1927 basketball season was over, Brown Gymnasium burned. All of the athletic equipment, as well as the building, was lost. The college had $50,000.00 insurance, which was all the company would allow on that building. After the fire, the college used the High School gymnasium until the New Brown Gymnasium was completed. Mr. A. D. Brown, of St. Louis, was a personal friend of Dr. J. P. Greene, and had furnished the money for the erection of the first college gymnasium erected exclusively for that purpose west of the Mississippi River. It occurred to me that the original building should in some way be represented in the new one. I drew a pencil shetch to scale of the first Brown gymnasium, and made it the front of a larger one that would accommodate the various uses of a modern gym. The building

was moved from the low ground where the old one stood to the spur of the hill east of Gano Chapel, which is the location of the former Vardman Hall. The slope of the hill made possible the erection of a building on two levels with a minimum of excavation. The front, west, section is the same dimension as the old Brown Gymnasium, 102 feet by 41 feet and two stories above ground with locker and dressing rooms for girls and visitors below ground level on the west and one north of the storeroom for visiting teams. The north and south entrances come out at ground level on the side hill. The main gymnasium, including the basketball court of maximum size, the men's lockers, the swimming pool, and shower rooms are above ground. In the east end is a large door entering the plenum room where the washing machines and other machinery are kept, used for heating and ventilating the entire building.

The plan was accepted by the trustees, faculty, and alumni, so I submitted it to the architect. He remarked, "I have planned gymnasiums for four Kansas City High Schools, but this is more to my liking than any of them." He and Mr. Seiben, his assistant, took a personal interest in the building and drove to Liberty after office hours many times to watch the progress during construction.

The contract was let to Godfrey, who was a world war aviator with his home office in Iowa. His foreman was, named Freeman, from the Ozark country of Missouri. When the excavation was finished and the forms in place for the footings and west wall to ground level, a five inch rain fell in about two hours. The earth along the entire west front slid into the hole, burying the forms under tons of rock, dirt, and water. When I reached the building next morning the foreman and a group of laborers were standing around afraid to go into the excavation and clean it out.

Rock for foundation of Melrose, Gano, and gym was quarried between New Ely and the end of Mississippi Street.

The north end of the form was flapping in a strong east wind so they had a good excuse for being scared. After looking the situation over, I asked the foreman to start work. In his characteristic South Missouri drawl, he said, "I reckon they ain't intending to work today." After a short argument, I turned to my college laborers and said, "Charley (Smith) you'll go in, won't you." He grinned and said, "Yas sir! If you goes in I'll follow." I said, "All right, boys, let's show the d--- cowards how to get the job done." My bunch followed into the hole and we propped up the swinging forms and started a pump to get the water out. Then the contractor's crew came in and started to work. I was covered with mud from head to foot. That morning I had put on a pair of white duck pants and a white shirt, but when I climbed out, you couldn't tell that they had ever been white. I had just sat down on a pile of lumber to rest, when a car drove up and Maurice Winger, Vice President of the Board of Trustees, and another man got out. They came toward me. I got off the lumber pile, and wiped some of the mud off my face and hands and stepped from behind the lumber pile to meet them. Maurice said, "John! I want you to meet Dr. Herget, our new President." Dr. Herget stepped forward with a smile and said, "You look like you had just come out of the trenches." I said, "I have," and pointed to the excavation. We both laughed and I explained what had happened. They looked into the pit and Maurice said, "Looks like you have things started." I said, "Yes! The question is will I ever get them stopped." The water was pouring into the hole by the barrel, and the earth bank was crumbling. They went to the college office and by the time they came back, I had another pump going and the water level was falling. This was my introduction to Dr. John F. Herget,

President of William Jewell College for the next ~~twelve~~ 14 years.

When he moved to Liberty later that summer, I had on a clean suit and my face washed. He grabbed my hand and said, "Is this the John Davis I met last spring?" and laughed that hearty laugh of his. I knew at once we would be the best of friends.

An accident occurred on this building which resulted in the death of two workmen. The contract for delivering and placing the roof trusses of fabricated steel was let to the Centropolis Transfer Company of Kansas City. When the brick walls were completed they delivered the girders which were more than 97 feet long and set up a derrick on the concrete floor of the basketball court to lift them in place on the wall. I watched until they had the first girder in place and bolted to the pilasters, then I went to my office on the second floor of Gano, the window of which faced the east. Just as I sat down at my desk, I heard a loud crash and someone yelling. I looked out the window and saw a cloud of dust rising from the floor and the girder with one end resting against the north wall of the gym. I ran to the building and learned that two men had been riding the girder up and had swung it in place on the wall. Before the bolts holding it had been tightened, they loosened the derrick chain. When they pushed the heavy derrick block and chain away, the back thrust from their feet upset the girder, and they hit the concrete floor with the girder on top of them. One was killed instantly; the other lingered for several months and died. Another inquest and testimony before a coroner's jury. It looked like the contractor was going to be blamed for the accident. I took the stand and went into every detail of the accident and explained that the men had thoughtlessly released the chain

and the beam had been tipped out of equilibrium by the opposite reaction. The jury found for the contractor.

When the building was completed, I suggested that bronze plaques the size of bricks be placed in the lobby commemorating the state championships won by William Jewell teams, also pictures of outstanding athletes be hung there. Both ideas were carried out. Wooden bleachers from the football field were erected in the wings under the balcony of the basketball court seating an additional 1000. Later, when money was available, folding bleachers were put in. A score board and time clock was placed on the east wall. Spotlights resting on the roof trusses were focused on the goals. The ceiling was covered with Celotex to reduce the echo.

The balconies mentioned above ran along the north and south sides of the room and had raised floors so that opera chairs could be placed at each level thus providing seats for about 300 spectators.

Pictures of outstanding athletes were hung in the lobby, which was furnished with leather upholstered chairs. A J Club room is in the northwest corner of this floor. The second floor is equipped for a corrective gym. A handball court is at each end of this corrective gymnasium. Rebounds may be played from all four walls, which are finished with hard plaster. A stairway leads from the lobby to this floor and a small balcony for spectators.

A class room opens off the lobby on the south. Entrance to the south balcony is through this room. The seating is arm chairs.

The athletic director's office is on the north of the entrance; the women's director's office on the south. Both of these offices have

private baths and dressing rooms, also storage closets.

An equipment room at the west end of the locker room is well ventilated and contains an air tight cubical for fumigation purposes. The women's locker room is on the southwest corner of the basement. Both locker rooms are equipped with steel lockers.

The basketball floor is white ash, which is more durable than maple, and easier to keep polished.

Heating Plant

The heating plant had remained as it was when I entered college, except that a 100 H. P. return tubular boiler had been added when New Ely was built in 1911, until Melrose and Gano Halls were occupied. The old brick smokestack extended approximately twenty feet above the roof. With the Chapel and the Gymnasium on the crest of the hill, the wind came over their tops and caused a "down draft" in the heating plant stack; also, the brick stack was cracked through half its length. This was called to the attention of President Wayman in my annual report in May, 1928, and the necessity for replacement emphasized. At that time he was in a controversy with some of his faculty, and failed to bring this information to the board of trustees' annual meeting. When the weather got cool that fall, both faculty and students complained, and were referred to the President. He admitted that he had "forgotten" to mention the heating plant to the trustees, and called a meeting of the Executive Committee at once. They authorized me to proceed immediately to correct the situation.

The Booling Construction Company, with offices in Chicago, was recommended to me. After investigating this company and two others, I let the contract to the Booling Company, whose specialty was chimney construction. Their equipment arrived in a few days and the excavation for the foundation begun. The old brick chimney was pulled down with a wire cable hitched to a truck. The new one was located just west of the heating plant. The pit for the foundation was dug and the reinforced concrete foundation poured within a week. As soon as this had "set" forms were placed for the first section of the chimney. The construction proceeded in ten foot sections as fast as possible, until the top reached

125 feet. The boilers were connected by a steel jacket and normal heat for the buildings was again available. After a few years the heat and acid from the sulphur in the coal caused the inside of the stack to begin "shelling" but it lasted until the new heating plant was ready in 1948.

The old boilers had been subjected to a heavy overload for more than ten years, and the strain had reached the limit of safety. The boiler inspector notified me that the College's boiler insurance would be canceled if this condition was not corrected. He pointed out that the newest of the three boilers had been in use thirty years, and the oldest more than fifty years, and that the hull of the old boiler was showing definite signs of giving away. In my report to President Herget and the trustees, I included the inspectors report, also called their attention to the numerous leaks in the steam lines to Old Ely and the Library, which had been in use since 1906-07. They authorized me to recommend an architect and work with him on plans for a new heating plant and distributing system. In this type of work, not only the architect's qualifications must be considered but also those of the heating engineer affiliated with his firm. After checking the qualifications of various firms, Wight and Wight, and Walter Gilliam, their heating engineer, were employed. As soon as the plans and specifications were ready and accepted by the trustees, at a meeting of the Executive Committee contracts were let to the Fox Construction Company for the building. The Castle Equipment Company got the automatic control contract and the Booling Company the contract for the smoke stack. They had been very satisfactory in the construction of the old stack. The pipeline went to Foley and Foley, who had built the steam line to Marston Hall. The Kewanee Boiler Company

was given an order for two 150 H. P. boilers. At my suggestion all of these contracts carried clauses guaranteeing the proper functioning of the appliances involved. This proved to be very valuable in the case of the Castle Company's control apparatus. So many different contracts were let in order to hurry the work; winter was getting close.

The new heating plant was located north of the Gymnasium after much argument on my part, the reasons for moving it being that all the run off from the hill went through the old location. At times the water got into the fire boxes of the boilers. Second, the new location was more central for the campus buildings as I visioned them in the future. The trustees approved all of these contracts as well as the new location; time and campus growth has confirmed the choice. It was necessary to hurry the construction because of the lateness of the season. We started looking for architects the first of June. All the contractors responded to the emergency. Foley and Foley dug the trenches for the steam lines, poured the concrete box holding them and the insulation and had the pipe in place before the first hard freeze, but did not get the top on and the ditch filled on the main line to the Chapel and Library before a "norther" brought snow and near zero temperatures. They placed the concrete covers on the trenches to protect the insulation and left the trench stand all winter. We built a temporary bridge over it between the Gym and the Chapel.

As soon as the roof was on the boiler house, the new boilers were set and connected to the new line, and steam turned on. The old boiler plant was kept in operation till this could be done, and kept the buildings fairly comfortable by switching to the classroom buildings in the

morning after the dormitories were hot and then switching back to the dorms about four p. m. It required extra work, but the firemen were cooperative and we never had to dismiss a class on account of the temperature. Finally, the Castle Equipment Company installed the automatic controls in the new boiler room and after they were adjusted properly the new plant took over. After the new plant took over the load, the old plant was dismantled and the building wrecked. The concrete stack was weakened by cutting a large hole just above the foundation and throwing the stack with a winch on a heavy truck. The old boiler room was filled with debris from the building and covered with cinders so the space could be used for a parking lot. The problem then was fuel. We had ordered gas burners, but the city of Liberty failed to get sufficient gas to run them, so we installed coal grates and burned slack coal, which was fed into the fire box through a tube by means of an auger operated by a motor. A thermostat regulated the time the fuel was fed into the firebox. This took more adjusting, but finally worked satisfactorily. Oil tanks were installed west of the building and crude oil was used part time. In war time the fuel problem was difficult, but I was fortunate to get a Navy unit for the College, and that gave us high priority. I have always been grateful to the Standard Oil Refinery at Independence, Missouri, for the way their contractor took care of us during these trying times. The coal company which had supplied the College for many years got a government contract and threw us overboard. I secured a contract with a "strip mine" near Butler to supply us with slack, which we had to keep on hands for an emergency even after the crude oil burners were installed. The gas company was unable to supply our fuel until after the war, so the slack and crude oil were life savers for the College.

When the boiler house was constructed, the foundation for two more boilers was put in for future needs. The two 150 H. P. Kewanee boilers were adequate for our needs at that time, but as the college grew, it was evident more would be needed and I knew that when the building was being constructed was the time to prepare for them. Since my retirement, a thir boiler has been installed. A large coal bin was provided just west of the boilers, and a concrete platform for the trucks to drive onto and dump their loads through manholes. North of this was a smaller room for storing equipment and oils, etc., for the boiler room use. A large room was partitioned off beyond this for a workroom in which the fireman could change his clothes and the night man could have a cot. Toilet and bath facilities were provided. A large door was placed at the east side so that another boiler could be brought in without cutting the wall. Part of the college campus equipment and tractor were stored in the space left for the new boilers. Over about half of the coal bin a large room was built and equipped with a lathe, power drill, plane, etc., for the college carpenter shop. This room is well lighted and ventilated. The smoke stack was built of tile and lined with fire brick. Lightning rods were carried to the ground and on several occasions have proved their worth. There isn't a crack in this stack, nor has a fireman received an electrical shock due to the lightning, though the chimney has been struck several times. The stack is built of glazed tile. A driveway along the west side of the athletic field gives access to the carpenter shop and the boiler room.

Depression

Following World War I, in the late Twenties and early Thirties, came a period of "boom and bust," followed by a severe depression. Thousands of men in all walks of life lost their jobs and had to "go on relief." In this community more than one hundred men were affected and their families suffering because of the lack for food and clothing. The Clay County Relief Committee came to me and asked if they might have permission to open a rock quarry north of the cemetery in which these men would be employed. I presented their request to the Board of Trustees who readily granted their permission. The work was to be handled by the Relief Committee, and the men were to be paid from the office downtown. Many of the men had sledge hammers and picks; those who didn't were supplied by the government. Crowbars were lacking, so I loaned them those owned by the college which had been used in quarrying rock for the three buildings we had just erected. Also, they were granted the use of the rockcrusher, for which they furnished the oil and electricity and any repairs which were needed. After the project ended, everything was returned in good order. The dirt and shell rock from the quarry was used to raise the road bed between the barn and the cemetery entrance, and to widen it. One of the men who was a stonemason volunteered to lay up a stone wall along the south side of the road which is still standing, September 1, 1959. The rock crushed was used in the city cemeteries to surface the driveways, and to surface some streets.

In addition to this project, the trustees gave permission for the Federal Relief Committee to build a camp along number ten highway on college property. Several bunk houses were built, a dining hall, and a recreation building. Also, a sewer line and latrine. Various groups of laborers were housed and fed, among them one company of Negroes and one

of World War Veterans. The college campus was "out of bounds" for all camp personell, so the college had no trouble with them. The various work groups did terracing, ditch filling, etc., on the farms in Clay County. They were hauled to and from work each day in trucks furnished by the Federal Government.

Jewell Hall

Dr. William Jewell, for whom the College was named, lived in a one story and attic brick house just north of the old courthouse in Columbia, Missouri. The stone columns which supported the portico roof of the courthouse now stand and are identified by a marker, since the courthouse was destroyed by fire many years ago. At the front door of Dr. Jewell's house was a cut stone stoop, about four feet square, and leading up to it were steps of white stone. The house remained about as it was when Dr. Jewell occupied it until in the thirties the lot was sold and the building demolished. A friend, by name of Anderson, in Columbia, Missouri, called Mr. Martin Lawson, the college attorney, and asked if the college would be interested in having the stone steps to Dr. Jewell's old home. Mr. Lawson and I drove to Columbia and spent one forenoon talking to the old gentleman and his wife. The lady was the daughter of the contractor whom Dr. Jewell had commissioned to build Jewell Hall. In the conversation she told us that her father, B. McAllister, loaded his construction machinery on a steamboat at Roachport and sent his oldest son along to guard it on the trip to Liberty. He then took the remainder of the family in a carriage overland to Liberty. On arriving, they learned that the boat had hit a snag in Jackass Bend and had sunk with the entire load and passengers. Her father ordered new equipment, and when it arrived began the construction of Jewell Hall, the plans for which had been drawn by Dr. Jewell. Dr. Jewell spent much of his time in Liberty watching every detail of the construction until overcome with heat during the summer, 1852. From this stroke Dr. Jewell never recovered, but her father completed the building. Dr. Jewell's death was August 7, 1852.

I hired a truck to bring the stone steps to Liberty and had them placed at the door of the southeast entrance to Jewell Hall. When this

building was remodeled, the steps were moved to the south side of Brown Gymnasium and placed in a walk leading to the north door of the greenhouse. These steps are the only memento from the home of the college founder, and in my opinion should be carefully preserved.

Jewell Hall had been used as classrooms and dormitory during the early years of the college. As the college grew, the students were moved to dormitories and the entire building turned over to class work. During the century before 1951-52 the building had stood for a hundred years with only minor repair, such as new floors and a new roof of shingles, etc. the floors being laid over the old ones until as many as three layers were put one on top of the other. The stairways, which had originally run up the walls in the center section of the building, had been moved to the west end of the halls with a landing halfway up each flight. The floors had been treated with oil so the danger of loosing the building by fire as well as the necessity for modernization caused the trustees to decide to have the building fireproofed and modernized, inside, but no change to be made in the outside appearance. The Charles A. Smith architectural firm, which had designed the Chapel, Melrose, and Gym, was employed as architect and I was authorized to proceed with the remodeling. The architect estimated that the repairs could be done for $65,000 or $70,000, judging from what was apparent on the outside. This estimate proved to be $50,000 too little.

The woodwork inside the building was white pine. Some of the mouldings showed the plane marks where they had been cut by hand or with a crude machine. All the woodwork was taken off and the plaster, which was soft lime, in places three inches thick, either fell off or was jarred loose with a spade. The floors were lifted as carefully as possible so

that the lumber could be used again. When the floors were lifted, the joists were found to be white oak twelve to sixteen inches wide and sixteen to twenty-four feet long, many of them three inches thick. Some of them had split part way through and this accounted for the floors springiness when walking over some sections. The radiators were the old style cast iron, three section type, many of them cracked and leaking. The steam lines were run along the wall above the floor, most of them without insulation. There were two hallways running from west to east, but no way of getting from the north one-third of the building to the south one-third, except to go down stairs, out on to the portico, and in the door at the south end and climb the stairs on that side. That was most inconvenient if you were on the third floor on one end and wanted to get to the third floor on the other. Evidently these fire walls were put in to prevent a fire spreading through the entire building. There was no water line in the building. When the floor was removed from the southwest room first floor, a shallow basement was disclosed. On inquiry, I learned that this room had been the first college dining hall, and the shallow room dug in the rock below the floor had been the cellar for storing the milk and vegetables. The brick wall to the east of this room had been knocked out and patched up with two by sixes and plastered. This was done when the federal troops occupied the building during the Civil War and stabled their horses on the ground floor. All the partition walls were of brick and at least thirteen inches thick. The hall walls were seventeen inches thick. The partition wall mentioned above was patched with brick during the remodeling.

The central section of the building on all three floors had been left as three large rooms. Later a partition had been run from north to

south on the third floor creating rooms for the Senior Philomathic and Excelsior Literary Societies. A peculiar innovation in construction came to light when the floor boards were removed from the top floor. It was swung from the roof trusses like a bridge floor. Iron rods two inches in diameter extended from the trusses to beams carrying the floor. These were adjustable with turnbuckles so that any settling could have been adjusted but never was, as the floor level was three or four inches below the level of the hallway, where the floor sills rested in slots left in the brick walls. I presume this arrangement had been made to aid in holding the roof down in case of heavy winds. If so, it worked, because the roof had never blown off, though the shingles had been lifted in high winds. The cornice, which looked sound from the ground, was found to be decayed next to the roof, and had to be removed. The trusses were made of white oak logs and fastened together with wooden pins through mortised joints. All of them were sound and the joints tight so we left them just as they were. We covered the roof with asbestos shingles and left the rest of it alone.

The American Milling Company sent a representative to Liberty to see the old window sash and then made new sashes to fit the window openings to match the design of the original ones. The walls were replastered with cement and painted. New doors and frames were made and new slate blackboards put up. Some of the old blackboards were plaster with surfaces of ground slate dust mixed into the paint. A hallway was opened from the north hall to the south hall on every floor and offices for the faculty built on the west side of it. On the second and third floors, the space to the east of the hall was made into large classrooms to accommodate 125 students. The other rooms would accommodate from forty to

eighty each. Mr. W. D. Johnson, President of the Board of Trustees, backed me all the way on the changes and told me to do the remodeling right regardless of the cost, or what anyone else said. He made up a large part of the difference between the estimate and the actual cost. His gifts to the college altogether amounted to more than one million dollars and extended through many years. The floors were covered with tile, and baseboards were of the same material. I took the old window casings and made lecturns for each room with a shelf for books in each one. Venetian blinds were installed on all windows. Modern radiators with flanges were fastened to the walls, and the latest type of class-room lighting was installed. The rooms before remodeling had drop cords and exposed wires with snap switches. In other words the interior of the building was made thoroughly modern. The exterior looked as it had for a hundred years. An oil painting of Mr. W. D. Johnson and one of Dr. Herget (President of the college) were hung in the hallway on the first floor, one at the north end and the other at the south end of the cross hall facing each other. A bronze plaque was placed in the portico in honor of Dr. Herget.

A new steam line was run to the boiler house and thermostat control installed in all rooms. Modern toilets for both men and women were put at the end of the second story halls, an innovation for Jewell Hall.

After the Library was moved from Jewell Hall in 1908, the space it had occupied on the first floor central section of the building was divided into two classrooms by a partition. One of these was given to Dr. Fleet for his mathematics classes. He suggested that a tray be placed beneath the blackboard on which the erasers and chalk could be left and which would catch some of the chalk dust when the blackboard was erased.

A trough was made from moulding and a metal box a half-inch deep and two and one-half inches wide was set in it. This metal box had a screen wire top and was made in four foot sections so they could be taken out and cleaned. This reduced the chalk dust in the air by about 70%, so the same plan was used in the other classrooms where chalk was used the most. Later, the idea was patented by a tinsmith here in Liberty and widely advertised. This type of chalk rail has been installed in all classrooms on the hill.

Campus Improvements, 1910-11, 12-13

While I was at the University of Chicago, New Ely Hall was erected and was occupied when I returned. After I became business manager, I had sheet lead put in all the bathrooms. They had been floored with "terraza," a mixture of marble chips and cement, ground smooth with emery stones. After a few years use the terraza began to let water soak through and drip into the [illegible] rooms below. The sheets of lead were laid flat on the old floor and a cement floor laid over the top. This raised the bathroom floors about four inches. This is the only major repair made on this building. When New Ely was erected in 1910-11, a road was graded and rocked around the south end of the hill. This gave access from Kansas Street to the Gymnasium, steam plant, and the rear of New Ely, kitchen entrance. The road was extended around the east promontory of the hill northeast of New Ely and then west, past the barn to join the east end of Miller Avenue at Jewell Street. The road was narrow and quite steep northeast of New Ely, as it dipped into the valley running through the pasture east of the barn, and was used only by the college.

In 1913, after the Wornall Hall fire, the brick and rubbish from the fire was hauled to this road and dumped on the north slope of the hill, making possible a better access to the barn. After the gym fire in 1928 the rubbish was again dumped on this road raising the level some eight or ten feet. Between the road and the north slope of the hill was a depression varying from zero to ten feet in depth. The road was scarcely wide enough for two teams to pass. When the foundation for New Ely was dug in 1910, the contractor piled the dirt north of the building almost to the level of the second story windows. By 1927 this pile of dirt was grown over with weeds and was an eyesore. I used the college team and labor to drag this pile of dirt down to the pit between the road and the

hill. It was necessary to put in a large tile to carry the water under the road; and a well with the walls rocked up to the top of the fill. The only cost of this operation to the college was the tile, since the men were hired for twelve months and did this at spare times. From time to time cinders and waste dirt were dumped on this road until it was nearly level to the entrance of the barn.

After the erection of New Ely, a pile of forms remaining from the concrete work was left around the building. This lumber was used to construct a barn north and west of New Ely with access to this new road. The college kept a team and a dairy herd. A college boy was given room and board to do the milking and deliver the milk to New Ely Dining Hall. This practice continued until I sold the dairy herd about 1930.

When New Ely was built, the contractor excavated a space just large enough for the foundation and ground floor. Unexcavated rock and dirt come to within two or three feet of the building on the south, west, and north. As soon as I was sure the Chapel and Melrose would be built, I started men to quarrying the rock south and west of the building. By the time the contractor was ready for it, there was enough limestone quarried for the foundation of Gano, Melrose, and the Gym. As soon as the rock was out of the way, I staked out a road from Mississippi Street extending to the road north of the cemetery, passing in front of New Ely. The college had bought a rock crusher when New Ely was built. We started this crusher and supplied all the crushed rock for the three buildings, and had enough to surface the new road in front of New Ely around to the entrance to the cemetery. The bank along the west side of this road was graded and backfilled, then planted to evergreens and shrubs. All this grading and rock hauling was done by the college campus labor using the

college team and an old grader I had persuaded the city to give to the college.

The area north of New Ely, where the dirt had been piled when the building was erected in 1910-11, was graded and planted as a formal garden. A rock walk of four inch limestone was laid around the entire area with large yellow limestone steps where it joined the roadway. Vertical phitzers were placed at intervals and horizontal cedars were planted along the bank bordering the drive in front of New Ely. Appalachian spreaders were planted by the steps at the southeast entrance. Clusters of holly were planted at the northwest corner and two flower beds were laid out along the inside of the walk. In the center a concrete pool with rose marble curbing and fountain was erected by the class of 1913 for their twenty-fifth anniversary celebration and dedicated to the memory of Dr. J. P. Grene. Mugo pines and a cluster of cedars were planted around it for a background. The marble and construction of this fountain was furnished by Johnson Brothers of Independence, one of whom was a member of the class of 1913. A walk of native four inch limestone was laid from New Ely to the walk from Melrose to Gano.

Also, a concrete walk along the north side of Kansas Street from the corner of the campus to the end of South Jewell Street. An unsightly path led up the hill to the walk in front of Jewell Hall. About halfway up the hill from Kansas Street, a path branched off to Marston. Two graduating classes and the income from the Co-op enabled me to build concrete steps up this steep hill to both buildings. The bank between the branches of this walk was graded and planted to shrubbery so as to stop the erosion. On clean up day, iris were set along these walks. This not only was a decoration, but also kept the runoff water from the

This fountain was moved at the request of the donors to the space between the Library and the student union building in 1959 because the new dormitory for boys shut off the drive around the loop north of New Ely and isolated the pool and commemorative stone where it stood.

top of the hill from undermining the steps.

Later Miss Louise Riley deeded to the college the lot just south of the college drive and east of South Jewell. A bank about five feet high was on the south side of the college drive and this gift enabled the college to grade this lot to curb level. Later, shrubs were planted and the ground fertilized so that grass would grow.

The public made a path across the southwest corner of the campus from Kansas Street to Franklin Street. After the walk was built to Marston, shrubbery was planted at the steps up from Kansas Street, also at the entrance from Franklin Street. A heavy planting of lilacs, redbud, etc. was made at the southwest corner of the campus extending from the euonymus hedge along Jewell Street to the privet hedge along Kansas Street. These plantings finally discouraged the tresspassers so that they quit cutting the corners, and soon the paths greened over. The plants for this hedge were sprouted in the college greenhouse and transplanted to the two hedges on clean up day.

The greenhouse was given to the college by Omar Thompson, a florist who did his study of plants at Columbia University in New York. He came to Liberty from Texas and came to my office to see if there was any opening in this area for such work. I introduced him to several people from whom he received work. We became good friends and he offered to give the college a greenhouse if we would let him use part of it to grow plants. We made the deal, which proved very beneficial for the college, as he furnished us with most of the shrubs, evergreens, etc., which now are the background for the buildings and the athletic field and which were sprouted in the greenhouse at no cost to the college. We visited many nurseries in the Kansas City and St. Joseph vicinity. From these we

secured seedlings and cuttings from which we grew the plants in the greenhouse, and transplanted them as needed. Among the most appreciated gifts of this kind were some from the superintendent of grounds for the Kansas City Art Institute, who gave us the cuttings from horizontal junipers and euonymus which had been planted along the drives and walks on the Institute grounds. These cuttings were trimmed and cut to three inch lengths and planted in sand trays in the greenhouse where they were kept watered. By clean up day the following year they were rooted sufficiently to be set along the front of the campus from Kansas to Mississippi Streets where they made an attractive hedge which lasted until I retired.

The bank above the road east of Jewell and Marston Halls was shale and joint clay. Every spring during the rainy season, it would slide into the road and block travel. To prevent this I had a number of Osage orange sprouts, which had come from the roots of the hedge romoved along the south end of the campus, set out along the top of the bank. These plants put out roots twenty to thirty feet, and effectively held the shale from eroding. The bank has not slipped into the road since then.

South of these Osage orange sprouts was set 1500 cuttings of spreading junipers secured from the Kansas City Art Institute and rooted in our greenhouse. Dr. John F. Herget did the transplanting single-handed on clean up day. These junipers have formed a complete cover over the shale where nothing else grew.

Melrose Hall had been erected near the north line of the six acres bought from Robert Miller. His heirs owned the land joining this on the north and extending to Doniphan Street. They decided to sell this in order to facilitate the settlement of the estate and asked me if the college would be interested in buying it. I presented it to the President

and trustees, who authorized the purchase. This "squared out" the land owned by the college and extended the total acreage to 106.

A narrow strip aproximately fifty feet wide at the south end and running to a point at the north caused by the fence line running at an angle was later added to this.

Depression of Early Thirties

During the depression of the early thirties, the Governor of Missouri appointed relief committees in every county in the state to plan work projects for the unemployed. Clay County had a representative from each township and each of the larger cities. The chairman was Judge Earl Kirkland, who came to me for suggestions. I proposed that work projects be set up in each local community that would be of benefit after the depression was over, such as mending roads in cemeteries, and city streets, etc. This would necessitate operating quarries and rock crushers and trucks, etc. The committee approved the idea of using the labor to accomplish something of lasting benefit instead of on "boondogling projects" like many counties were doing, but asked where they could open a quarry without encroaching on personal property. I suggested that an old quarry was on the college campus where we had taken out rock for the buildings erected in the late twenties, and I would take it up with Dr. John F. Herget and the trustees if the committee so desired. They voted to do this for the Liberty unemployed. The representatives from the other communities agreed to see what they could work out. Dr. Herget and the trustees gave their permission with the understanding that no unsightly scar be left on the campus and that the work would not disturb the classes at the college. I staked off an area north of the water tower and south of the road to Melrose bounded by the concrete drive to the cemetery on the east and by the road to Miller Avenue on the north and west. Judge Kirkland added my name to the Relief Committee to represent the college. Within less than a week we had fifty men at work, which was increased to 150 as the job progressed. The work had to be done by hand tools, such as shovels, sledges, wedges, crowbars, and picks. Many of the men had these tools of their own, but those who didn't were supplied by funds

from the state, all except crowbars which the college had left from quarrying rock for the three new buildings erected during the late twenties. These were loaned to the men and all of them returned when the project was closed. The rock they quarried was used to build retaining walls in the City Cemetery, and some crushed for driveways and streets in Liberty. The dirt overlay from the quarry was hauled in wheelbarrows to raise the driveway west from the college barn to where it entered the Melrose campus. This driveway was widened and raised from four to about seven feet and a wall of shell rock laid along the south side by some of the laborers. The hillside above this was graded and seeded to blue grass, thus improving the appearance of the campus.

While this work was in progress, it was necessary for the committee to go to Jefferson City every two weeks to report to the state supervisor and fill out requisitions for funds for the next two weeks. I drove my car for most of these trips and took Judge Kirkland, Billy Barnes, City Engineer, and Ernest Davidson, banker in North Kansas City and vice-chairman of our committee. It took all day to see the various state chairmen and get our budget for the next period approved, since several other groups from over the state were there for the same purpose. Our projects received wide publicity and we were asked to advise committees as far away as Sedalia on the east and Bethany on the north. We never had a project that we recommended turned down. The men to whom we gave work seemed very appreciative.

Greene Hall

When the depression was becoming a memory, Mr. W. D. Johnson and I were riding the elevator in the Fidelity National Bank building to the twenty-fifth floor where his office was. All the others in the elevator got off at lower floors leaving us alone. He turned to me and said, "The Lord has been very good to me and I want to help His cause a little." After a pause he continued, "I don't know any better place to do it than William Jewell. I have just about decided to put $100,000.00 into the endowment." I replied, "Mr. Johnson, you are the finest Christian I have ever known and I agree with you that the College can use that money to aid the education of ministers who will do a real service for His Kingdom." He said, "Well, don't say anything about it yet." Sometime later Dr. Herget called me into his office and showed me a check made to the endowment fund and signed by W. D. Johnson. Dr. Herget said, "His letter says that you know about this." I told him of my conversation with Mr. Johnson. Dr. Herget knelt and we thanked the Lord for men like W. D. Johnson who had the means and the will to serve. I am sure that Mr. Johnson had talked of this gift to others though I did not hear him.

At a later date -- I think about 1945 -- Mr. Johnson said, "There ought to be a memorial to Dr. Greene on the Old Hill." I replied, "Yes, all we have is an oil painting hanging in the Library and a stone dedicating a pool north of New Ely, given by one of the classes." He asked, "Is that adequate? In my opinion there should be a building with his name." I agreed, and suggested that we were crowded for office space in the Chapel. Later he announced to the executive committee of the trustees that they should make plans for the erection of a building to house the College offices. After some discussion, he volunteered to find a way to pay for its erection.

I drew sketches for a building just north of the old water tower. The plan was for space for all the executives' offices and business office and room for future expansion. The museum was housed on the third floor of Marston Hall and was becoming crowded, so I planned space for it in the basement of the administration building. Mr. Johnson suffered a paralytic stroke and was incapacitated before the building was started or the plans more than tentatively approved. Later the plans were modified by making the offices smaller and eliminating the room for a museum. All the available space is now occupied, and any future expansion will necessitate a shuffling or combining of offices.

A room for the faculty is provided on the top floor, which floor also accommodates the president's offices and those of the three vice-presidents. The first floor is occupied by the offices of treasurer, dean, registrar, dean of women, business manager, and the telephone switchboard.

The basement furnishes space for alumni office, superintendent of grounds, admissions office, and a storeroom for records and janitor's supplies. The building was dedicated in December, 1949. Granddaughters of Dr. Greene and Mr. W. D. Johnson unveiled the memorial plaque.

I was past the age of retirement, but the trustees permitted me to occupy the office of business manager in the new building until 1952. I had watched the construction of Greene Hall very closely. When digging for the foundation, the contractor stopped the excavation above the level where slides had occurred during wet seasons. I reported this to Mr. Morris Winger, vice-president of the board. He called it to the attention of the architect, who then had test holes bored and lowered the footing line of the west wall several feet. So far as I know, no one

was given authority to superintend the construction, so I felt free to make the suggestion. This was the last construction job while I was active on the Old Hill.

The Missouri Supreme Court and William Jewell College

In 1843 Dr. William Jewell, a practicing physician in Columbia, Mo., offered the Baptist General Association land valued at $10,000 "as a nucleus for the endowment of a college." A committee was appointed to receive the same, fix the location of the institution, and do all other things usual and necessary to organize and carry on a Literary Institution. A year later the committee reported unfavorably, and "the Association declined Dr. Jewell's offer," which he did not withdraw. From then until 1847, the question was discussed by the Baptist constituary, and that year the Association appointed another committee "to organize an institution of learning for the Baptists of Missouri and form a plan by which its endowment and perpetuity might be secured." The above quotations are from the History of William Jewell College by Dr. James G. Clark.

Dr. Jewell was a member of the state legislature, and introduced a bill for special legislation granting exemption from the usual taxes levied by the state to any responsible organization which would found and support an educational institution for higher learning within the borders of the state. Howard Payne of Fayette supported the measure, as he had made a proposition to the Methodist group similar to that made by Dr. Jewell to the Baptists.

The background for this special legislation was that many desirable immigrants from eastern states, who had located in Missouri, were returning to their native states because of the lack of educational facilities for their children. Missouri State University had been in operation only a few years and was poorly equipped to care for the influx of students from the families coming into all sections of the state. The legislature failed to pass a bill to insure the improvements necessary to bring

the new university up to the standards set by older states. The legislature had discussed this during the session. Dr. Jewell's bill granting exemption from taxes to any reliable organization who would establish and maintain an institution of higher learning offered a solution to the dilemma. The record of the act passed is recorded in the acts of the session of 1849 and was signed by the governor February 27th.

Following the adoption of this special legislation, groups in several counties began raising funds to induce the committee to locate the college in their vicinity. In Clay County, Judge James T. V. Thompson and Col. Alexander W. Doniphan, of the famous Doniphan Expedition in the Mexican War, organized the fund raising campaign and presented Clay County's plea for the college to a meeting of the contributors to the fund, held at Boonville, Missouri, August 21, 1849. At that meeting 884 shares of stock at $45.00 each were represented. The solicitation had been in the form of sales of non-dividend stock in the college. Citizens of Clay County had raised $7000, and Dr. Jewell's gift of $10,000 added to the $42,432 from out state brought the total to $59,432. After all the pleas were in, Col. Doniphan's eloquence brought the college to Clay County under the name William Jewell College, which he was said to have suggested. Dr. Jewell's bill, which authorized any responsible group who would support a college to organize one, met with popular approval, and many groups in various parts of the state started small academies and colleges. Of this number only five have survived to the present time (1959). They are Washington University of St. Louis, which adopted the charter of one of these small colleges located in St. Louis and absorbed by the University when it was organized; Westminister College at Fulton; Stephens College at Columbia; Lindenwood College at St. Charles; and William Jewell

at Liberty. I received this information when working on the tax suit in 1948. Central College at Fayette absorbed Howard Payne, but did not adopt its charter, hence does not have tax exemption.

The tax exemption was not challenged until 1909, when George G. Waller, Collector of Clay County, sued William Jewell College for taxes alleged to be due on personal property. The Clay County Court upheld the College's exemption and the Missouri Supreme Court, in a suit State ex. rel. vs. Trustees of William Jewell College recorded in 234 Mo. 299, affirmed the lower court decision. The background for this suit was unusual. The candidate for the office of prosecuting attorney of Clay County was a lawyer named Finley, who was a graduate of William Jewell. Dr. Charles Lee Smith, head of the History Department at the College, was asked to speak at the courthouse during the campaign. In his speech, Smith attacked Finley's position on the liquor question.

Finley bitterly objected to this as he was out of town at the time Smith spoke and had no opportunity to defend his position. Both men were known as hotheads, and personal remarks passed between them. Finally, Finley demanded that President Greene dismiss Smith from the faculty, which Dr. Greene refused to do. Finley was defeated, and his friend Waller filed the tax suit against the College.

The personal property of the College was not specifically mentioned in the tax exemption act. The suit hinged on whether the word property included personal property such as endowment, loans, cash, gifts, etc. A court's decision cleared this point. Judge Graves, presiding justice of the Supreme Court of Missouri, summed up the arguments so forcefully that a majority of the members rendered a favorable decision for the College.

This decision was unchallenged until 1942, when the county collector of Worth County, Missouri, sued the College in the Worth County circuit court for real estate taxes alleged to be due on land secured by foreclosure, the taxes being assessed after the College took possession. Change of venue was taken to Harrison County, since the son of the Worth County collector was the circuit judge in that county. The trial was held before Judge V. C. Rose, who found for the College. Worth County appealed to the Supreme Court, which decided in 351 Mo. 87 to confirm the trial court and held that real estate owned by the College, regardless of the method by which it was acquired, so long as legal, was exempt. The court was divided, one opposed and was concurred in by a second justice, and one disqualified himself. Judge Frank Atwood of Carollton was associated with Mr. Martin E. Lawson of Liberty as college attorneys. Judge Atwood was a member of the board of trustees and Mr. Lawson was the college attorney more than thirty years. I accompanied Mr. Lawson to Jefferson City for the trial. He referred to me as his "leg man," meaning that I did the traveling to secure information for the background in the case. Mr. Lawson found where the William Jewell College case was quoted in a case tried in another state and accepted by the judge. I made several trips to Jefferson City while working on the case, but carefully avoided any contact with members of the Supreme Court, lest undue influence be charged by the Worth County collector's attorney.

The College owned approximately 940 acres of mineral land in Morgan County which had been given to it by Mr. Richard Turner of St. Joseph. He was a former president of the Board of Trustees and had given the land in lieu of cash during a fund raising campaign. It had been held many years as college property. During the period immediately following the

depression in the early 1930's, there was a general move to tax everything that would bring more money into the local government units. The Morgan County Court ordered this land put on the tax books and sent the College a bill. I drove to Versailles to inform them of the tax exemption of the College and the Supreme Court decision. They refused to abate the tax, so I drove on to Jefferson City and reported to the state tax board. They gave me an order to deliver to the Morgan County Court. The presiding judge was a German farmer who stubbornly asserted "that bunch at Jefferson City hain't got nothing to do with us. We set the taxes and we're going to collect or sell the land to pay the assessment." I returned to Jefferson City and reported the County Court's attitude to the Commission. They instructed Mr. Morgan, a member of the Commission, to go to Versailles and personally convey the decision of the Supreme Court and the Commission. He drove his car and I followed him to Versailles where the Morgan County Court had promised to be in session. When we got there, they had adjourned. Mr. Morgan told the clerk to get in touch with them and have them at the courthouse within an hour. He had them rounded up in about one-half an hour, as none of them had left town. Morgan and I were sure they had adjourned when they saw us drive up to the courthouse. We went into the court room as soon as they assembled. He told them that William Jewell College was tax exempt. They asked why it was when none of the others were. I explained that five colleges were tax free, because of their charters. The German judge said, "Their charters were not granted in Morgan County, so they are not tax free here." Mr. Morgan explained that the tax exemption was a state affair and that it applied to Morgan County as well as all other counties in the State. The German shook his head and said, "We will run our own

tax business as we please." This made Morgan angry, and he said, "Go ahead and try to collect and the College will appeal to the Commission and we will abate them regardless of you." With that he walked out and left town. I stepped out of the room to let them make their decision. After nearly an hour without any word from them, I went into the court room. There they sat, looking glum. I asked if they had reached any conclusion about the assessment. The German presiding judge said, "You got too much money for us -- we are helpless. It is not right, but we do what we have to." I said, "All right, I want a statement to the effect that you have abated the assessment and will not put it on the books again." The clerk was taking down what I said, and went to his office to type it up. I waited in the court room. The clerk brought the letter to the judge, who read it aloud and signed it. That ended the College tax squabble until the city of St. Louis in 1950 brought suit in the circuit court for taxes alleged to be due the city on real estate purchased by the College for the endowment fund.

The attorney for the city of St. Louis claimed that the purchasing of real estate and removing it from taxation worked a hardship on the city and was illegal for several reasons set forth in his brief. The trial court denied the city's right of recovery and on appeal to the Supreme Court in 364 Mo. 199 again held that William Jewell College was not taxable. The Supreme Court passed on it July 13, 1953. Lawson and Hale, with the honorable James M. Douglass, a former Supreme Court Justice, represented the College. The St. Louis city councilor, James E. Crow, represented the city of St. Louis. I conferred with Mr. Lawson preparing the case but was retired from office of Business Manager before the trial. Mr. Lawson supplied much of the information to Judge Douglass,

but suffered a paralytic stroke before the trial, so Judge Douglass presented the argument to the court. The decision resulted in Kansas City's dropping a similar suit against William Jewell College, also one against Washington University. An injunction has prevented either city from filing other suits since then.

These Supreme Court decisions seem to have closed loopholes in the original charter. The first supreme court ruling made definite that personal property of William Jewell College was exempt. The second decision made clear that real estate acquired by foreclosure and formerly on the tax books was exempt. The third decision defined the College's right to purchase income property and take it off the tax books of any subdivision of the state. The decision of the tax commission relieved the College of taking a tax case to the Supreme Court everytime a county disregarded the rights set out in the charter. Now it will be necessary for a complainant to show some cause not covered by the charter or court decisions before he can get into a court on a tax cause against the College. The injunction prevents the large cities from causing harrassment by filing tax claims each year as they might otherwise do.