

Dedication

This book is dedicated in loving memory to Mary B. Baker (1876-1970). Serving continuously in Sunday School for over seventy years, Mrs. Baker attended her children's class only a few days before her death.

Her faithful dedication to Christ, evidenced in the organization of the Japanese Church which ministered over fourty years, her concern for missions around the world, and her loving interest in children, is still an inspiration to all.



Rev. & Mrs. Dan Crummon - Anadarko, Oklahoma

Beside a great corps of Bible School teachers and officers, there have been two things which have greatly blessed our Church. One is a group of volunteers who put out mailings, count money, keep various records and stand ready to help at any time. The other is our dedicated Secretarial and custodial Staffs, who feel they have been "called to serve". Upon the fifteenth anniversary of Dr. Coles' coming, this is their statement:

"It was on the first Sunday of February in 1955 that Dr. and Mrs. Cole brought their family to Pomona First Baptist Church in response to a unanimous call. These have been 15 years of tremendous growth as Dr. Cole has led us under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

From a membership of 3100 to one of 5300 members; a Bible School attendance going from 1354 to 1630; a budget in 1955 of \$171,000 to one of \$423,000 in 1970 are but indications of the many outstanding things that have taken place in 15 years. If we add to this—18 young men ordained into the ministry; some 90 Timothians; 8 mission churches begun; a youth program known for its depth and sense of mission; a Bible School second to none and an \$859,000 plant we gain some idea as to what the Lord can accomplish through a membership united around its pastor to achieve the will of God in this community. We thank God for the Coles and their willingness to be used to His glory and our good."

Qur Japanese Church

In 1912 Mrs. Mary B. Baker gathered a group of Japanese boys in the basement of the church. The object was to teach them to read English and give them Bible study. Her helpers were Mrs. George Reed, Naomi Hough, William Keunne, Myron Gallup and Helen Gallup. One of the boys was Mr. K. Arita. He had been in America for 19 years and no one had told him of Jesus. He was the first convert in the group, holding some meetings in his home and serving as interpreter. Mr. J. E. Patterson taught a Japanese class from 1914 to 1930. A Vacation Bible School was held in the summer of 1925 on Mrs. A. W. Carey's lawn. About 35 children came and 6 mothers. Mrs. J. M. Paige taught the mothers to bake cakes.



JAPANESE CHRISTMAS PARTY – Helen Gallup, Maydelle and Horace, Mary Baker, Rev. Chaney Sheldon

Prayer meetings were held at the Carey home on Saturday evenings. The Vacation Bible School continued for two more years at Washington Park. One of the boys attending became a Christian doctor.

A Japanese pastor was called, and shortly before World War II Japanese services were held in the church Annex. Rev. Shiraishi was the first pastor, followed by Rev. Harry Murakami and Rev. Watanabe. During the war, the church tried to keep in touch with our Japanese in relocation camps, but many did not return to Pomona.

The Rev. W. A. Warner worked with the young people for a number of years. Services were held every other Saturday in the Annex. A student at the Baptist Seminary in Covina, Noburo Hojo, came once a month to speak to approximately twenty senior Japanese in their own language. When Noburo Hojo was graduated from the Seminary, he was ordained in our church and returned to Japan to pastor a Baptist Church in Tokyo.

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The highest of distinctions is service to others.—King George VI.

In this short space one can only touch upon some of the highlights in the life of this amazing woman. Following the example set by her forefathers, Mary B. Baker is often called "Mrs. Baptist" because her life has been so fully dedicated to serving others. On Feb. 13, 1964, she will have completed seventy-five years as a Sunday School teacher in the Baptist church.

Mary B. Baker was born February 13, 1874, to Manly Juhan Breaker of So. Carolina and Mary Elizabeth Timms of W. Virginia. Manly Breaker, eldest child of Rev. Jacob Manly Canty Breaker and Emma Juliette (Juhan) Breaker, was born March 9, 1850. After attending a religious school, Manly Breaker studied at Wofford College; Washington University; William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo.; and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary at Greenville, S. C. He became a pastor and "loved and faithfully served the Lord with a consuming zeal." He was president of Mt. Pleasant College in Huntsville, Mo., builder of the Missionary Plan, and served as Secretary of the Home and Foreign Board for twelve years until his sudden death on Oct. 1, 1908. The Missouri Baptist Assn. erected a memorial to Dr. Breaker's memory in Shanghai, China, in 1915. It was named Breaker Hall.

After attending Fayette schools, Mary Baker graduated from the Baptist Ladies Cottage in Lexington, Mo., in 1893.

Mrs. Baker taught school in many locations in Missouri before coming to California on Jan. 1, 1902. She was married Sept. 28, 1898, in St. Louis to Laws West Baker of Missouri. Rev. Breaker performed the ceremony. Mr. Baker, born Aug. 19, 1872, died in 1930, in an automobile accident. He owned lemon and orange groves in Upland, was a member of the Pomona Lodge B.P.O.E., and was secretary and treasurer of the Upland. Lemon Hts. & Cucamonga Water Co. for many years.

Mr. and Mrs. Baker had two children. Horace West Baker, born Sept. 22, 1899, was a brilliant engineering student in his senior year at California Institute of Technology, engaged to a young lady, when he was killed in an accident Sept. 8, 1922. Maydelle Baker was a stockholder and director of Mullen & Bluett clothing stores in Los Angeles from 1932 until they were sold in 1957. She then became a travel consultant at Wilson's Travel Agency in Beverly Hills. Until 1957 "clothes were her business and travel her hobby, now travel is her business and clothes her hobby." She has visited 107 countries since she was a student at the University of Redlands and plans to visit eight more this fall. She is active in John Tracy Clinic (for hard-of-hearing children) and on the Alumnus Board of University of Redlands and is recreational director for the Baptist Children's Home.

As a member of the First Baptist Church at Holt & Garey, Mrs. Baker has been Women's Missionary Society president, superintendent of Beginners and Juniors Bible school, and is now a teacher in the Primary Dept. She has been chairman of devotion for



ten years, holds weekly prayer meetings in her home every Monday morning, is a deaconess, on the Advisory Committee, White Cross chairman, and a member of the Women's Union. In 1914 she met with Oriental workers at night, teaching them English and the Bible, and founded the Japanese Mission group. They now have a large membership composed of third generation members. Mrs. Baker is also a National Life member of W.C.T.U.

Travel and sewing are her hobbies. Her sewing has a purpose and she works to make this prayer come true:

Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray the Lord the souls to keep Of other children far away who have no home in which to stay.

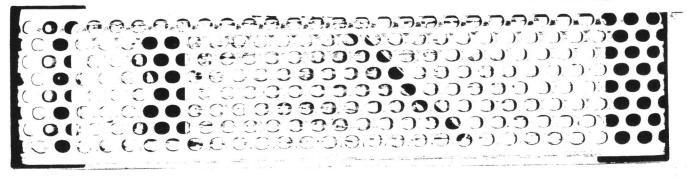
Now in her eighty-ninth year, Mrs. Baker sews about 80 dresses a year for kindergarten girls in an orphanage in Hong Kong, makes shirts and shifts for children in the Belgian Congo, quilts and other items for Hopi Indians in Arizona, stuffed toys for the general hospital, and miscellaneous items for the Baptist Children's Home in Inglewood.

Mrs. Baker had done much traveling—to Alaska in 1923 to visit the Kodiak Orphanage on Kodiak Island, remote and difficult to reach; they had to travel on a salmon freighter. In 1936 she went to the Orient and visited missionaries in Japan, China, Hong Kong, Philippine Islands, and attended a memorial service for her father in Shanghai. China, at the Boys' Dormitory at the University of Shanghai. She traveled through the Panama Canal and South America in 1928 and was a delegate to the Baptist World Alliance in Copenhagen in 1946. She has made frequent trips to Baptist conferences and teacher training meetings in the States.

Her most outstanding trip was in 1955 when she sailed around the world by herself on the President Monroe. She was greeted by former students and missionary friends at every port and was the "belle of the ship." Never one to be idle, she made a dress for her daughter during the trip-it was made out of hair-pin ribbon (nineteen yards of hair-pin lace and 280 crazy daisies). She also did much knitting and crocheting. She toured Honolulu Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Panang, Colombo, Bombay, Egypt, and was met by her brother Ernest who was a construction engineer in Europe. On the trip she climbed over rugged ground and up hundreds of steps on the tours and kept pace with much younger passengers. She also joined in ship activities and won two prizes at costume parties. One of her best friends on the ship was a young boy, and they spent hours telling each other stories. She was interested in the dress of the people and in the children and babies she saw. In Ceylon she ordered an elephant, but was disappointed that she couldn't ride it, because they had brought no saddle, but she did ride a camel to the pyramids in Egypt (in spite of promising her daughter that she wouldn't). Upon her return to Pomona, she was met at the train station by her young Sunday School class. Her trip around the world at 81 received much local publicity.

She truly lives her philosophy, which is to accept Jesus Christ as our Savior and to spend much time in prayer. This verse written for her father is also fitting for Mary B. Baker:

If every lamp was well lighted, and steadily blazed in a line. Oh what a girdle of glory 'round the whole world would shine.



Brother Ayres is now an old man, having seen seventy-four winters, and is waiting with great resignation to cross the river.

Manly J. Breaker.—This gifted and brilliant young pastor comes of a family of Baptist preachers. His grandfather was a Baptist preacher; and his father, Rev. J. M. C. Breaker, D. D., highly esteemed and well known, is the able pastor of the First Baptist Church, Houston, Texas.

The subject of this notice was born in New Berne, North Carolina, March 9, 1850, but was brought up in South Carolina, as his father soon returned to that state. He was converted in September, 1865, baptized by his father, and united with Spartanburg Baptist Church in South Carolina. His education was pursued at Wofford College, S. C., Washington University, Mo., William Jewell College, Mo., and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. At this last institution he graduated in full in May, 1873: and soon after married Miss Mary Timms, Liberty, Mo. His first pastorate was at Glasgow, which he left to take the presidency of Mount Pleasant College, Huntsville. This he resigned and became pastor of the Baptist church at Fayette, Howard County, Mo., to which, and some neighboring churches, he has preached ever since, except three months that he spent at Austin, Texas. He has done some writing for the press, and especially has he rendered valuable assistance in the editorial work of the Central Baptist, having for some time conducted the Sundayschool department of that paper. His preaching is very largely expository; in style he is clear and forcible. No one questions his devotion to the interests of the Baptist denomination. He is fully identified with the work of the Missouri Baptist General Association and of the Southern Baptist Convention. As a theological thinker he is independent and recognizes no Master but Christ.

Samuel Driskoll—was born in Rockingham County, North Carolina, December 10, 1799. His early religious convictions were deep and pungent, and followed him for many years. At one time his conviction of sin was so heavy as to cause sickness, requiring the attendance of the physician, who bled him, but to no purpose. Getting no better, he removed to Tennessee, where he succeeded in partially throwing off his convictions for three years. He then moved to Green County, Illinois, where he remained only four years, and from there to Morgan County, Missouri.

About this time, at thirty-five years of age, he lost two chil-

FROM "AHISTORY OF THE BAPTISTS IN MISSOUR !