MR. AND MRS. JOHN G. HARDIN

STEWARDS WHO ADMINISTERED THEIR OWN ESTATES
A BRIEF DOCUMENTARY HISTORY

of

HARDIN-SIMMONS UNIVERSITY
FOREWORD

The papers reproduced herewith constitute a brief documentary history of Hardin-Simmons University.

It is our hope that all of the instruments will prove interesting. Some of them are important and need to be referred to from time to time in connection with the present-day operation of the University. Except where otherwise indicated, they have been taken from the minutes of the Board of Trustees which are kept in a vault in the office of the secretary-treasurer.

Rupert N. Richardson

May, 1948
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Report of Meeting of the School Committee, October 17, 1890

Abilene, Texas
October 17, 1890

The School Committee consisting of Brethren K. K. Legett and G. W. Smith of Abilene, H. C. Hord of Sweetwater, J. H. Hanna and Jno. F. Ferguson of Anson, C. R. Breedlove of Fisher, and Geo. W. Smith of Colorado, J. M. Hanna being represented by proxy, Jno. F. Ferguson, and C. R. Breedlove and Geo. W. Smith by proxy, H. C. Hord, met at Abilene, Texas on the above date and organized by electing K. K. Legett, Chairman and Jno. F. Ferguson, Secretary. On motion of H. C. Hord, the following resolutions were adopted:

1st. RESOLVED that we the undersigned committee appointed by the Sweetwater Baptist Association to locate a Baptist High School within the bounds of said association and to receive and pass on bids from the various towns within said association, for the location of said school, hereby unanimously agree that we locate said school at the city of Abilene, and accept the proposition submitted by Otto W. Steffins and associates to wit:

Abilene, Texas, September 15th, 1890.

To the Baptist Association of Sweetwater, Texas.

On behalf of my association and myself, I beg to submit to you the following proposition for the location of your college in the City of Abilene.

We will donate an eligible site for a college in the suburbs of Abilene, consisting of five acres of land, and we will donate in addition...
thereto, Ten Thousand Dollars in Cash, this money to be used as far as it will go in erecting on said site a modern college building of stone or brick, or both combined provided your association will add thereto Five Thousand Dollars obtained from other sources, and complete said building by the first day of January, 1892.

Provided further that your association will agree to maintain a good High School or College for Boys and Girls therein, open to all denominations alike. And provided further that said property (Land and Improvements) shall never be incumbered or held liable for debt, or used for any other than educational purposes, and with an agreement that your association fails to comply with the above proviso, then that the said land and improvements shall become the absolute property of the City of Abilene, to be used as a Public school building only for the children of this city. This proposition is to be accepted or rejected at the first meeting of your committee when you can locate, said meeting not to be later than November the 24th, 1890.

Yours truly,
Otto W. Steffens on behalf of himself and associates.

2nd. RESOLVED that the proposition of Jno. R. Jones and Co et als, subscribers to the fund loaned by said subscribers to the City of Abilene, aggregating the sum of $ used in the erection of the Public School Building, which said subscription was to be refunded to said subscribers out of the Public School tax levied by the City Council and promised to be repaid to said subscribers by the Board of Trustees, is hereby accepted, conditioned that the First Baptist Church of Abilene shall raise an amount sufficient to increase the amount donated by said subscribers to the sum of Four Thousand Dollars.
The proposition of said subscribers is as follows to wit:—

We the undersigned subscribers to the fund used in erecting the Public School building on the RR right of way, and which is to be repaid to us out of the public school tax, and promised by the City Council, and Board of Trustees of the City of Abilene,

Do hereby assign and transfer to the Baptist Association of Sweetwater, Texas, the several amounts set opposite our names to be paid by the City of Abilene or said School Trustees, to said Baptist association instead of us, but under said agreement with us, Provided said association will accept the same, and agree to erect a college or high school within the city of Abilene or in one mile of the city of Abilene, during the year of 1891, adding thereto not less than Five Thousand dollars that may be raised from other sources than this particular fund. This proposition to be accepted or rejected by said association as soon as the committee appointed by said association can act on the question of location under their instructions, said committee to act on same in sixty days from this date.

If said association fails to accept our donation, then we authorize O. W. Steffens, S. F. Stere and H. A. Tillett as a Committee to tender the same to any other denomination who may be desirous of erecting a college as beforesaid, and who will enter into a proper contract before the first day of January, 1891, to be approved by said committee, and on the basis as indicated in our proposition to said Baptist Association in which event the amount set opposite our names shall be paid to and belong to such denomination who will agree as aforesaid with the said committee to build said college.
But if the Baptist Association accepts our proposition as above set out, then the amounts set opposite our names shall be paid as aforesaid to said association.

Abilene, Texas, September 24th, 1890.
Jno. R. Jones and Co. and others.

3rd. RESOLVED that on behalf of the Sweetwater Association we pledge said Association to raise the amount of $1,000.00 on or before the 24th day of November, 1890, at which time said sum shall be tendered in cash or guaranteed to the satisfaction of the Board of Trustees.

4th. That we accept one of the two elevated sites consisting of five acre blocks offered to be donated for said college by 0. W. Steffens and associates, shown us by G. W. Smith and K. K. Leggett.

5th. That as soon as the $1,000.00 to be raised by said association and the amount to be raised by church and citizens of Abilene shall be deposited or guaranteed as herein provided for, provided said sums are raised or guaranteed on or before November 24th, 1890 the Board of Trustees of said college to be hereafter named and constituted, shall immediately notify 0. W. Steffins and associates, and Jno. R. Jones and Co. et als, the subscribers to said Abilene City school subscription, that the conditions of both propositions have been fully complied with, and that said Trustees are ready to receive said donations or satisfactory guarantee thereof, and good and sufficient title from said 0. W. Steffens and associates to the realty donated for said college, hereinbefore referred to.

6th. That the Board of Trustees of said College shall consist of fifteen members, of which number any five shall constitute a legal quorum,
and we hereby name and constitute the following named persons as said Board of Trustees (subject to the approval of the First Baptist Church of Abilene, Texas) to wit: G. W. Smith, Dr. J. T. Harrington, K. K. Legett, Otto W. Steffens and H. Sayles, Abilene; Geo. W. Smith and J. M. Walker, Colorado; A. J. Long and Thos. Trammell, Sweetwater; J. M. Hanna and J. F. Ferguson, Anson; Maj. A. W. Hilliard and G. H. Connell, Midland; W. D. Johnson and A. M. Walthall, Pecos.

The said Board of Trustees shall be constituted as follows:—The term of office of the five following named Trustees shall expire August 1st, 1892, to wit: K. K. Legett, Otto W. Steffens, Thos. Trammell, Jno. F. Ferguson and J. M. Walker.

The term of office of the five following named Trustees shall expire August 1st, 1894, to wit: G. W. Smith, J. M. Hanna, A. W. Hilliard, W. D. Johnson, and A. J. Long.

7th. RESOLVED that we authorize and instruct said Board of Trustees to enter into an agreement in writing with O. W. Steffens and associates to meet the conditions imposed by said Steffens and associates in their proposition, provided that the source of complaint referred to in said proposition, be limited to a majority of said donors then living.

8th. We hereby appoint Judge C. R. Breedlove to prepare and submit to the said Board of Trustees for adoption, a Charter for said College, which charter, while otherwise complying with the laws of the State of Texas, shall contain substantially the following provisions:—

1st. That said college shall be named "The Abilene Baptist College."

2nd. That the Board of Trustees shall be constituted as above set forth in Resolution 6th.
3rd. That the property of said institution shall never be incum-
bered or subject to any debt of any kind whatsoever.

4th. That said college shall be controlled and managed by the
Board of Trustees appointed by the Sweetwater Baptist Association pro-
vided one third of said Board shall be appointed annually.

K. K. Legett
Geo. W. Smith
J. M. Hanna
Jno. F. Ferguson
H. C. Hord
C. R. Breedlove
Geo. W. Smith

The foregoing constitutes a true and correct copy of the minutes of the
proceedings of the Committee appointed by the Sweetwater Baptist Associa-
tion—to locate a Baptist High School within the bounds of said Associa-
tion, at a meeting held at Abilene, Texas on the 17th day of October,
A. D. 1890.

... Chairman

Abilene, Texas, October 20th, 1890.

Charter

Art. 1st

This association shall be known as "The Abilene Baptist College," by which name it shall conduct and be conducted with, the laws be
read, and conduct all its business.
Adopting the Charter of Abilene Baptist College
February 18, 1891

Abilene, Texas, February 18, 1891

The Board of Trustees of Abilene Baptist College met pursuant to call at the office of Dr. Smith, with the following members present: Geo. W. Smith, Abilene; Thos. Trammell and A. J. Long, Sweetwater; J. M. Hanna, Anson; K. K. Legett and J. T. Harrington, Abilene, all in person; and Geo. W. Smith of Colorado, Jno. F. Ferguson and H. C. Hord by proxy.

Rev. Geo. W. Smith was elected chairman and J. T. Harrington Secretary and Treasurer, of the Board of Trustees.

K. K. Legett read Charter which he had prepared for submission to the Board of Trustees and offered the following resolution which was adopted by the Board, to-wit:—

Be it resolved that the following Charter be, and the same is hereby adopted as the Charter of the "Abilene Baptist College" as executed by three members of the Board of Trustees, be and the same is hereby fully ratified and confirmed, and they having executed the same as provided by Law, shall forward the same to the Secretary of State of the State of Texas, said Charter being in words and figures as follows to-wit:—

Charter

This association shall be known as "The Abilene Baptist College" by which name it shall contract and be contracted with, sue and be sued, and transact all its business.
Art. 2nd

This association is formed for the purpose of erecting a College or High School Building in the City of Abilene, Taylor County, Texas, or within one mile of the Corporate limits of said city, and maintaining therein a school for the education of males and females.

Art. 3rd

The place of business of the Association shall be the City of Abilene, Taylor County, Texas, where its principal office shall be.

Art. 4th

Said Association shall exist for a period of Fifty years, and at the end of said term this charter may be continued by a majority vote of the Trustees.

Art. 5th

The business of the Association shall be transacted by fifteen Trustees to be elected by the Sweetwater Baptist Association, five of whom are to be elected annually by said association, and each Trustee to hold his office for the period of three years.


The term of office of the following five Trustees shall expire August 1st, 1892, to-wit:— K. K. Legett, C. W. Merchant, Thos. Trammell, Jno. F. Ferguson and J. M. Walker:
The term of office of the following five Trustees shall expire August 1st, 1893, to-wit:- J. T. Harrington, J. H. Paramore, Geo. W. Smith of Colorado, A. M. Walthal and H. C. Hord:

The term of office of the following five Trustees shall expire August 1st, 1894, to-wit:- G. W. Smith of Abilene, J. M. Hanna, A. W. Hilliard, W. D. Johnson and A. J. Long:

Art. 6th

The Trustees of said Association shall have no power or authority whatever to encumber in any wise the property belonging to the Association by creating any lien or mortgage to secure any debt whatever.

In testimony wherof witness our hands at Abilene, Texas this 20th day of January A. D. 1891.

Geo. W. Smith
K. K. Leggett
J. T. Harrington

Architect Archer being present, presented a number of building plans for College, all of which with other plans, were considered by the Board and plan No. 1 as prepared by Mr. Archer was adopted. A vote of thanks to Mr. Archer was unanimously passed by the Board for his generous aid.

A motion was then adopted creating an executive committee composed of the Local Board of Trustees at Abilene, J. M. Hanna, of Anson, Thos. Trammell of Sweetwater, and J. A. Walker of Colorado, with full power to act for the Board of Trustees.

On motion, Thos. Trammell and A. J. Long were appointed special soliciting agents for the Board.

The foregoing minutes were then read and adopted and the Board adjourned subject to the call of the chairman.

Geo. W. Smith, Chairman

Attest: J. T. Harrington, Secretary
Foundation Agreement (Covenant with the Simmons Family)

July 29, 1891

Abilene, Texas, July 29, 1891

The Board of Trustees of the Abilene Baptist College met at the office of Rev. G. W. Smith, pursuant to the call of the Chairman, and the following members were present, to-wit: - Rev. G. W. Smith, K. K. Legett, C. W. Merchant, and J. T. Harrington of Abilene; Thos. Trammell and A. J. Long of Sweetwater, Texas; W. D. Johnson and A. M. Walthall of Pecos; J. A. Walker of Colorado; and J. M. Hanna of Anson.

A quorum being present, the following Preamble and Resolutions were submitted, and on motion, unanimously adopted, to-wit:-

Whereas, the Rev. James B. Simmons, D. D., Mary E. Simmons, Robert S. Simmons, M. D., and Edith H. Simmons of the city of New York, have paid to the Abilene Baptist College the sum of Five Thousand Dollars in consideration of the execution and delivery of the agreement herein-after mentioned and of the agreement by the Board of Trustees of said college to adopt the following resolutions and to carry the same into effect, the receipt of which sum of Five Thousand Dollars is hereby acknowledged by said Board of Trustees.

Now therefore, it is by said Board of Trustees, in a meeting duly and regularly called, Resolved:

That the Trustees of the Abilene Baptist College are not to sell the eleven acres of College Campus until at least ten years after the 29th day of July 1891, without the written consent of the said James B. Simmons, Mary E. Simmons, Robert S. Simmons and Edith Simmons.
That the corporate name of the "Abilene Baptist College" be changed
to the "Simmons College" and that application be made to the Secretary
of State, of the state of Texas and that such other steps be taken as may
be necessary to secure an amendment to the Charter of said College, chang-
ing the name of the same as above indicated.

That the President of the Board of Trustees be, and he is hereby
authorised and directed to execute in the manner provided by law, the
agreement hereinbefore set forth and to deliver the same to the said Rev.
J. B. Simmons, Mary E. Simmons, Robert S. Simmons, and Edith H. Simms,
said agreement being in the words and figures following, to-wit:-

Whereas the Holy Bible has God for its author, Salvation for its end,
and truth without any mixture of error for its matter; and Whereas:

This Divine Book is the Sword of the Spirit, the seed of the Kingdom,
and the incorruptible word of Jehovah, established forever in Heaven, and
Whereas:

Schools, Colleges and Universities that undervalue or discard the Holy
Bible and the Spirit of God as its Interpreter, are apt to become Instru-
ments of destruction and the very gateways of perdition, and Whereas:

No savage tribe or heathen nation ever civilises itself, but all
progress of nations, as of individuals comes from an outside inspiration,
and that inspiration is the Spirit of God, through the teachings of the
Son of God, as revealed in the word of God, and Whereas:

The conquest of this world unto Jehovah is not likely to be accom-
plished except through the instrumentality of Christian Schools and Col-
leges in which Christianity shall be the confessed and formative principles
in the planting and training of Christian Churches, the founding and
of their whole organization, method and life, and in which it shall be
the constant aim of the teachers, by a truly liberal and Christian culture:

   To bring young men and women to Christ;

   To teach them of Christ;

   To train them for Christ; and Whereas:

   Such truly Christian College, must give actual Christian instruction,
not only in other departments of Science and learning and liberal culture,
but especially,

   In the word of God, the greatest classic;

   In the story of the Church, the greatest history;

   In the doctrines of the Bible, the greatest Science; and in Christian
Ethics, the noblest morality; and Whereas:

   In order to this end it is indispensable that the President, Profes-
sors, Tutors and Teachers (but especially, the President) should be chosen,
other things being equal, first of all because of a hearty sympathy with
the above named views and principles, and Whereas:

   James B. Simmons, and Mary E. Simmons, his wife, Robert S. Simmons,
and Edith H. Simmons, his wife, all of the State and City of New York, are
profound believers in the above named principles, and desire to found a
college to the honor of Jesus Christ, based upon said principles, in which
to educate youth of both sexes, not only in the higher learning and general
culture, intellectually, but especially in the principles of evangelical
religion, revealed in the Scriptures of the old and new Testaments, more
particularly as interpreted by the Missionary Baptists, and Whereas:

   The above James B. Simmons has devoted nearly forty years of his life
to the planting and training of Christian churches, the founding and
endowing of Christian schools and colleges and the helping forward of Christian missions both at home and abroad; and Whereas:

The family of said James B. Simmons have determined to perpetuate his memory by giving Five Thousand Dollars in perpetual trust to some youthful Baptist college that shall bear in all future time the family name of "Simmons" after the form and style of "Simmons College" or "Simmons University" if the growth of the college shall hereafter warrant it, and Whereas:

The trustees of the Abilene Baptist College at Abilene in the State of Texas, have requested and do hereby request that the said Five Thousand Dollars be given to said college in perpetual trust, to be used by it in conformity with the principles herein set forth:

Now, therefore, this Agreement Witnesseth; That the said Abilene Baptist College, party of the first part, in consideration of the sum of Five Thousand Dollars, to it in hand paid by the said James B. Simmons, Mary E. Simmons, Robert S. Simmons, and Edith H. Simmons the parties hereto of the second part, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, do hereby covenant and agree as follows:

That Christianity shall be the confessed and formative principles of the whole organization method and life of the said Abilene Baptist College: it shall be in said college the constant aim of the Teachers, by a truly liberal and Christian education:

To bring young men and women to Christ;
To teach them of Christ;
To train them for Christ;
That said college shall give to its Students Christian instruction in the word of God, in the story of the church, in the doctrines of the Bible, and in Christian Ethics, and in the principles of Evangelical Religion as revealed in the old and new Testaments, as they are interpreted by the Missionary Baptists:

That the President, Professors, Tutors, and Teachers of said College shall be chosen, as far as practicable, other things being equal, first of all because of the hearty sympathy with the views and principles herein expressed:

That the name of the "Abilene Baptist College" shall be changed to "Simmons College" and if the growth of said College shall hereafter warrant it, to "Simmons University" and that for all time to come, the said Institution or corporation shall be known as "Simmons College" or "Simmons University":

That the said college will apply the said sum of Five Thousand Dollars and any further sum or sums that may hereafter be given to it by any or all of the parties hereto of the second part, either during life or by will, in conformity with the views and principles herein expressed, under the perpetual auspices and control of the Denomination commonly known as Missionary Baptists or Anti Pede Baptists:

That if the said Abilene Baptist College, or the Simmons College, or the Simmons University as the case may be, shall in any respect fail to perform and keep the covenants and agreements herein contained, the said sum of Five Thousand Dollars and any additional sum or sums that may be given to said college by any or all of the parties hereto of the second part, with interest thereon at the rate of six per cent per annum from
the time of the demand for the payment of the sum of said Five Thousand Dollars, or of any such additional sum or sums as shall be due and payable to the said James B. Simmons, Mary E. Simmons, Robert S. Simmons and Edith H. Simmons and their respective Executors, Administrators, or Assigns, to whom the said Abilene Baptist College will pay the same.

In witness whereof the said corporation has hereto caused its corporate seal to be affixed and these presents to be signed by the President, Geo. W. Smith, this 29th day of July A.D. 1891.

Geo. W. Smith, President

[Signature]

Simsom College
by C. W. Merchant President

[Signature]
Surrender Agreement, March 20, 1900

Agreement made this 20th day of March 1900, between Simmons College, of Abilene, Texas, party of the first part, James B. Simmons, of the borough of Manhattan, in the city of New York, party of the second part, and Robert S. Simmons, of the borough of Manhattan, party of the third part.

Witnesseth: That in consideration of the sum of one dollar, by each of the parties hereto to the other in hand paid, and of other good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which by each is hereby acknowledged, the parties hereto agree that the two agreements, to-wit: the agreement called the Foundation Agreement, dated the 29th day of July 1891, and the agreement called the "Endowment Plan" dated the 1st December, 1897, the first agreement being between Abilene Baptist College and the said James B. Simmons and the second being between Simmons College and the said James B. Simmons, be and the same are hereby cancelled and terminated and the rights of each of the parties hereto in, to or under said agreements are hereby surrendered and the interests of all the parties under said agreements, whether of said Abilene Baptist College, said James B. Simmons, said Simmons College, or said Robert S. Simmons, and of all other corporations and persons so far as they can be bound by this agreement are hereby released and forever discharged.

In witness whereof the said Simmons College has hereunto caused its corporate seal to be affixed and the instrument to be signed by its president and the said James B. Simmons and Robert S. Simmons, have hereunto set their hands and seals all on the day and year first above written.

Simmons College
by C. W. Merchant President

Attest (E. N. Kirby
(Sec'y (seal)

James B. Simmons (seal)
Robert S. Simmons (seal)
Raising the Number of Trustees to Twenty-one,
December 12, 1912

WHEREAS, At a meeting of the Board of Trustees of Simmons College, held on the 12th day of December, 1912 by unanimous vote, the following resolution was adopted, viz:

Resolved, first that article 5 of the Charter of SIMMONS COLLEGE be so changed that it shall hereafter read as follows:

ARTICLE 5th:

The business of the association shall be transacted by twenty-one trustees, to be elected by the Sweetwater Baptist Association, seven of whom are to be elected annually, by said association, and each trustee to hold his office for a period of three years. The following named trustees are hereby declared trustees until their term of office expires and their places are filled by said Sweetwater Baptist Association, viz:

George S. Anderson
George L. Paxton
Jesse Scott
J. C. Burkett
Eugene Wood
C. W. Cowden
A. H. Kirby
U. Collins
J. H. Parramore
M. H. Compere
T. C. Campbell
C. W. Merchant
J. E. Chandler
Mac L. Wyatt

All of whom reside at Abilene, Texas.

J. M. Cowden, who resides at Midland, Texas
R. T. Hanks, who resides at El Paso, Texas
J. B. Ashburn, who resides at Stamford, Texas
C. C. Coleman, who resides at Fort Worth, Texas
L. R. Scarborough, who resides at Fort Worth, Texas
M. H. Morrison, who resides at Big Spring, Texas; and
W. L. Ross, who resides at Pecos, Texas.

The term of office of the following seven trustees shall expire on the date of the convening of the Sweetwater Association in 1913, to-wit:
Andersen, Geo. S.                          Burkett, J. C.
Paxton, Geo. L.                           Cowden, J. M.
Scott, Jesse                             Wood, Eugene
Hanks, R. T.

The term of the following seven trustees shall expire upon the con-
vening of the Sweetwater Baptist Association in 1914, to-wit:-

Ashburn, J. B.                          Kirby, A. H.
Cowden, C. W.                           Collins, U.
Coleman, C. C.                          Scarborough, L. R.
Morrison, M. H.

The term of the following seven trustees shall expire on the con-
vening of the Sweetwater Baptist Association in 1915, to-wit:-

Parramore, J. H.                         Merchant, C. W.
Compere, M. H.                           Chandler, J. E.
Campbell, T. G.                          Wyatt, Mac L.
Ross, W. L.

Resolved, Second that any three members of the Board of Trustees of
SIMMONS COLLEGE are hereby authorized and directed to execute the necessary
amendment to the Charter of SIMMONS COLLEGE as above provided for, and to
apply to the Secretary of State of the State of Texas for an amendment to
said charter effecting the change provided for.

Now therefore we the undersigned being three members of the Board of
Trustees of SIMMONS COLLEGE, hereby adopt the following Amendment to the
Charter of SIMMONS COLLEGE, to-wit:-

ARTICLE FIFTH:

The business of the Association shall be transacted by twenty-one
trustees to be elected by the Sweetwater Baptist Association, seven of
whom are to be elected annually, by said Association, and each Trustee to
hold his office for a period of three years. The following named Trustees
are hereby declared Trustees until their term of office expires and their
places are filled by said Sweetwater Baptist Association, viz:

The term of office of the following seven trustees shall expire on the date of the convening of the Sweetwater Association in 1913, to-wit:- Geo. S. Anderson, Geo. L. Paxton, Jesse Scott, J. C. Burkett, J. M. Cowden, Eugene Wood and R. T. Hanks.

The term of the following seven trustees shall expire upon the convening of the Sweetwater Baptist Association in 1914, to-wit:- J. B. Ashburn, C. W. Cowden, C. C. Coleman, A. H. Kirby, U. Collins, L. R. Scarborough, and M. H. Morrison.


WITNESS out hands this the 18th day of December, 1912.

M. H. Compere,
A. H. Kirby,
Geo. L. Paxton.
The Board of Trustees of Simmons College met in regular monthly session today at 3 p.m., in the director's room of the Citizens National Bank. The following members, together with the President of the College and Secretary of the Board, were present: Anderson, Compere, Campbell, Collins, Hanks and Paxton. The Board was called to order by Vice President Geo. S. Anderson and led in prayer by President Sandefur.

The minute of the previous meeting was read and approved. The Secretary-Treasurer made his monthly report, which was also approved. Motion by Mr. U. Collins and seconded by Mr. Campbell that the suggested budget for 1924-1925 be approved. Motion carried.

Hereewith is inserted the paragraph concerning the Charter of Simmons College regarding the increase of the number of trustees from twenty-one to thirty-six.

"Upon motion of J. C. Burkett, seconded by Geo. S. Anderson, and unanimously carried, and in conformity with the resolution of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, adopted unanimously on the 2nd day of October, 1924, it was voted to amend the Charter of Simmons College so that hereafter the number of trustees shall not be less than twenty-one (21) and no more than thirty-six (36), not less than seven nor more than twelve of said number to be elected annually, and that such action be certified to the Secretary of State."

Motion was made by Geo. Paxton and seconded by B. Hanks that the following names be added to the Board of Trustees:
Motion was made that President Sandefer be authorized to call a meeting of the Board of Trustees of Simmons College in conjunction with the Executive Committee of the Chamber of Commerce for the purpose of considering the Rockefeller Endowment Campaign.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned.

President, Board of Trustees
Secretary-Treasurer
Changing the Name to Simmons University, February 3, 1925

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF TAYLOR

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS: That at a meeting of the Board of Trustees of Simmons College, held at Abilene, Texas, on the 3rd day of February, 1925 in conformity with the bylaws thereof, and a legal quorum of said Board of Trustees being present, it was unanimously voted to change the name from Simmons College to Simmons University and to maintain said institution hereafter as a university of the first class.

NOW THEREFORE, we the Board of Trustees of said corporation in compliance with the resolution of the Board of Trustees have this 1st day of May, 1925, changed Articles I and Articles II of the charter of Simmons College, said changes effective on and after the filing of this charter amendment in the office of the Secretary of State so that Articles I and II shall hereafter be as follows:

Article I.

This association shall be known as "Simmons University" by which name it shall contract and be contracted with, sue and be sued, and transact all of its business.

Article II.

Said association is formed for the purpose of maintaining a university of the first class in the city of Abilene, Taylor county, Texas, for the education of males and females, with power to confer degrees and with all powers incident and necessary to a university of the first class.
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, we hereby certify the same to the Secretary
of the State of Texas, and hereunto subscribe our names this the 1st
day of May, AD 1925.

C. M. Caldwell  L. M. Crowley
H. W. Hart  U. Collins
D. D. Farramore  Geo. S. Anderson
Jas. P. Stinson  Geo. L. Paxton
W. J. Behrens  C. S. Lee
M. B. Hanks  W. P. Head
Millard A. Jenkins  J. C. Burkett
F. T. Compore  T. C. Campbell

J. F. Jones

Being a majority of the Board of Directors.
Authorizing Indebtedness, October 26, 1931

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF TAYLOR

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

THAT, at a meeting of the Board of Trustees of Simmons University, held at Abilene, Texas, on the 26th day of October, 1931, in conformity with the by-laws thereof, and a legal quorum of said Board of Trustees being present, it was unanimously voted to change the Seventh Paragraph of the original Charter of the University so that Seventh Paragraph shall hereafter read as follows:

"7th. The Trustees of Simmons University shall have power and authority to execute a mortgage and to create a lien on the property of the institution or any part thereof, to secure any indebtedness due by Simmons University or to borrow money for the benefit of the University."

Now, therefore we, the Board of Trustees of said Corporation, in compliance with the resolution of the Board of Trustees have this the 29th day of October, 1931, changed Section No. Seven of the Charter of Simmons University which was originally chartered as Abilene Baptist College, said change to be effective on and after the filing of this Charter amendment in the office of the Secretary of State, so that said Section No. Seven shall hereafter be as follows:

7th. The Trustees of Simmons University shall have power and authority to execute a mortgage and to create a lien on the property of the institution or any part thereof, to secure any indebtedness due by Simmons University or to borrow money for the benefit of the University.
In testimony whereof, we hereby certify the same to the Secretary of State of Texas, and hereunto subscribe our names, this the 29th day of October, 1931, the subscribers hereto being a majority of the Board of Directors.

C. M. Caldwell
T. C. Campbell
C. C. Cowden
J. C. Hunter
M. B. Hanks
Jas. F. Stinson
Geo. L. Paxton
T. T. Harris
W. J. Behrens
Geo. S. Anderson
Millard A. Jenkins
E. T. Compere
Bert E. Low
T. N. Carswell
C. W. Clark
J. E. Brewer
Jas. F. Holliday
L. M. Crowley

C. M. Caldwell
Geo. S. Anderson
T. C. Campbell
Millard A. Jenkins
C. C. Cowden
E. T. Compere
J. C. Hunter
Bert E. Low
M. B. Hanks
T. N. Carswell
Jas. F. Stinson
C. W. Clark
Geo. L. Paxton
J. E. Brewer
T. T. Harris
Jas. F. Holliday
W. J. Behrens
L. M. Crowley

In testimony whereof, we hereby certify the same to the Secretary of State of Texas, and hereunto subscribe our names, this the 29th day of October, 1931, the subscribers hereto being a majority of the Board of Directors.

C. M. Caldwell
Geo. S. Anderson
T. C. Campbell
Millard A. Jenkins
C. C. Cowden
E. T. Compere
J. C. Hunter
Bert E. Low
M. B. Hanks
T. N. Carswell
Jas. F. Stinson
C. W. Clark
Geo. L. Paxton
J. E. Brewer
T. T. Harris
Jas. F. Holliday
W. J. Behrens
L. M. Crowley
Changing the Name to Hardin-Simmons University,

May 10, 1934

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF TAYLOR

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

THAT, at a meeting of the Board of Trustees of Simmons University held at Abilene, Texas, on the 10th day of May, 1934, in conformity with the by-laws thereof, and a majority of said Board of Trustees being present, and being a legal quorum of said Board, it was unanimously voted to change the name from "Simmons University" to "Hardin-Simmons University."

NOW, THEREFORE, we the Board of Trustees of said corporation, in compliance with the resolution of the Board of Trustees have this 7th day of July, 1934, changed Article One of the Charter of Simmons University, said change to be effective on and after the filing of this charter amendment in the office of the Secretary of the State, so that said Article One shall hereafter be as follows:

ARTICLE ONE

This association shall be known as Hardin-Simmons University, by which name it shall contract and be contracted with, sue and be sued, and transact all of its business.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, we hereby certify the same to the Secretary of the State of Texas, and hereunto subscribe our names this the 7th day of July, 1934.

C. M. Caldwell
Geo. S. Anderson
T. C. Campbell
Geo. L. Paxton
J. C. Hunter
T. N. Carswell
Bert E. Lowe
O. D. Dillingham
T. T. Harris
W. J. Behrens
C. C. Cowden
E. T. Compere
J. D. Sandefur, Jr.

Millard A. Jenkins
C. W. Clark
James P. Stinson
M. D. Hanks
J. E. Brewer
Ben F. Allen
THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF TAYLOR

Approved, 6/7/40

I, J. T. Haney, do hereby certify that I am the duly elected secretary of the Board of Trustees of Hardin-Simmons University, a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Texas for a term of fifty years from the sixth day of February, 1891, and that as such secretary I have access to all original records of said corporation: and I do hereby further certify that at a special meeting of the Board of Trustees of Hardin-Simmons University, duly called in accordance with the by-laws of such corporation for the purpose of voting upon the resolution hereinafter set out, and in accordance with such by-laws duly convened and held at Abilene, Taylor County, Texas on the 3rd day of June, 1940, a legal quorum of said Board of Trustees being present, the following resolution was unanimously adopted, to-wit:

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the charter, and corporate existence of Hardin-Simmons University, a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Texas, be extended for an additional period of fifty years from the expiration date of the original charter thereof and amendments thereto, namely, from the sixth day of February, 1941, with all the privileges, powers, immunities, right of succession by its corporate name, and rights of property, real and personal, exercised and held by it at such expiration date, to the same intents and purposes as upon original
incorporation, and amendments thereto, and that the secretary
file and record a copy of this resolution, duly certified by
him, under the corporate seal in the office of the Secretary
of State of the State of Texas, paying out of the treasury of
Hardin-Simmons University all required filing fees."

And I, J. T. Haney, Secretary for the Board of Trustees, as aforesaid,
do hereby further certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct
copy of said resolution as it appears in the Minute Book of said Hardin-
Simmons University, and that such resolution has not been amended, re-
scinded or repealed, and is now in full force and effect.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto signed my name and attached
the corporate seal of Hardin-Simmons University on this the 3rd day of
June 1940.

J. T. Haney
Secretary of the Board of Trustees of
Hardin-Simmons University.

Subscribed and sworn to before me by the said J. T. Haney on this
the 3rd day of June, 1940, to certify which, witness my hand and seal
of office.

Mrs. J. A. Beard,
Notary Public in and for Taylor County, Texas
Resolution Proposing Further Denominational Affiliation,

June 3, 1940

Resolution

-Whereas there is an urgent and growing demand on the part of the constituency of Hardin-Simmons University for the school to enter into further denominational affiliation with the Baptist General Convention of Texas, which will in no way endanger the school's financial or religious program, therefore be it resolved:

That the Board of Trustees of Hardin-Simmons University of Abilene, Texas, go on record as favoring such affiliation and that a Committee consisting of the incoming President, Rev. Dick O'Brien, Dr. Millard A. Jenkins, and John A. Alvis, compose said Committee, whose duty it shall be to confer with Sweetwater Baptist Association, and the Baptist General Convention of Texas, looking to the consummation of such relationship.

A motion was made by Geo. S. Anderson, who read the resolution, and seconded by Rev. T. A. Patterson that the resolution be adopted.

The motion carried.

From Minutes of Board of Trustees, June 3, 1940.
Plan of Relationship with the Baptist General Convention.

October 11, 1940

On this the 11th day of October, 1940, at a regular meeting of the Sweetwater Baptist Association held in Tuscola, Texas, a quorum being present the following Resolution was adopted and passed by said Association to-wit:

WHEREAS, The Sweetwater Baptist Association and Hardin-Simmons University are in full harmony with the plans, policies, principles and faith of Texas Baptists, and
WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of Hardin-Simmons University are now elected by the Sweetwater Baptist Association and ratified by the Baptist General Convention of Texas, and
WHEREAS, it is to the best interest of Hardin-Simmons University and the Baptist General Convention of Texas that a closer cooperation be had among themselves,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

First, That the Board of Trustees of Hardin-Simmons University shall hereafter be recommended by the Sweetwater Baptist Association and elected by the Baptist General Convention of Texas, it being provided, however, that any vacancy on said Board of Trustees may be filled by the Executive Board of the Baptist General Convention from recommendations by the Board of Trustees.

Second: That the Board of Trustees of Hardin-Simmons University shall manage the business and property of the said
Hardin-Simmons University and shall have exclusive control over all of the property of said Hardin-Simmons University and of the nature and extent of the academic work, the content and nature of the curriculum, and may make all necessary by-laws, elect and employ officers, provide for filling vacancies, appoint and remove professors, teachers, agents, etc., and fix their compensation, confer degrees, and do and perform all necessary acts to carry into effect the objects of Hardin-Simmons University.

Third: The Baptist General Convention of Texas does not by the acceptance of the obligation of electing the Trustees aforesaid assume any financial obligation or liability now existing or hereafter to exist against the said Hardin-Simmons University and the said Hardin-Simmons University does not assume any financial obligation now existing or hereafter to exist against the Baptist General Convention of Texas, it being distinctly understood that the Baptist General Convention of Texas and Hardin-Simmons University are separate and distinct corporations or bodies and neither shall have control of the business or financial obligations of the other; and the legal and equitable title to the property now belonging to Hardin-Simmons University and/or hereafter acquired shall remain and be vested in the said Hardin-Simmons University, and its Board of Trustees shall have the right, power, and authority to sell, convey, encumber in any way, dispose of and make good and sufficient title by deed or other conveyance all of said property.
of said Hardin-Simmons University either real or personal which it now owns or hereafter may be seized and possessed of by purchase, gift or donation or otherwise and without the consent of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

Fourth: It is the intention of this Resolution to perfect a closer cooperation between the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Hardin-Simmons University and the Baptist General Convention of Texas with reference to Hardin-Simmons University, and the Board of Trustees of Hardin-Simmons University is hereby authorized and empowered to adopt any and all necessary resolutions to carry out the purposes and intentions of this Resolution.

J. M. Sibley
Moderator

(Miss) Ima D. Petty
Clerk

I, Ima D. Petty
Clerk of Sweetwater Baptist Association hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted by the Sweetwater Baptist Association on the 11th day of October, 1940.

(Miss) Ima D. Petty
Clerk.
"Thursday Night Session

"George W. Truett reported for the committee on the request from Sweetwater Association, concerning Hardin-Simmons University, and moved the adoption of the report. H. J. Matthews seconded the motion and it carried."
ARTICLE I.

Section 1. The name of this corporation shall be Hardin-Simmons University.

Sec. 2. The principal office shall be located at Abilene, Taylor County, Texas.

Sec. 3. Other offices for the transaction of business shall be located at such places as the Board of Trustees may from time to time determine.

ARTICLE II.

Section 1. The business and property of the corporation shall be managed by a Board of thirty-six (36) Trustees, who shall be elected on recommendation of the Sweetwater Baptist Association by the Baptist General Convention of Texas at its Annual Meeting as hereinafter provided.

Sec. 2. The Trustees shall be elected for the term of three (3) years, and the Baptist General Convention of Texas shall elect annually one-third (1/3rd) of the whole number of the Board of Trustees so that the term of office of only one-third of the whole Board of Trustees shall expire in any year, and the successors to those Trustees whose term shall expire in that year shall be elected at such Annual Meeting.

Sec. 3. The regular meetings of the Trustees shall be held at Abilene, Taylor County, Texas, and shall be held quarterly during each year; that is, the Annual Meeting shall be held as soon as practicable.
after the Annual Meeting of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, the definite date of such Trustee's Annual Meeting to be fixed by the President of the Board of Trustees, and the other three regular meetings of the Trustees, including the Annual Meeting, shall be approximately three months apart during the year. The specific date of any such meeting shall be definitely fixed by the President of the Board of Trustees, or in his absence or inability to act, by the Vice-President of the Board of Trustees.

Sec. 4. Special meetings of the Board of Trustees are to be held at Abilene, Taylor County, Texas, and may be called by the President; and in his absence, by the Vice-President; or by any nine (9) members of the Board. By the consent of a majority of the Trustees, special meetings of the Board may be held without notice, at any time and place.

Sec. 5. Notice of all regular and special meetings, except those specified in the second sentence of the next preceding Section of this Article, shall be mailed to each Trustee by the Secretary at least three (3) days previous to the time fixed for the meeting.

Sec. 6. A quorum for the transaction of business at any regular or special meeting of the Trustees shall consist of a majority of the members of the Board; but a majority of those present at any regular or special meeting shall have power to adjourn the meeting to a future time.

Sec. 7. The Board of Trustees and their successors may make all necessary By-Laws, elect, employ, and remove officers of the university, provide for filling vacancies, appoint and remove professors, teachers, agents, etc., and fix their compensation, confer degrees, and do and perform all necessary acts to carry into effect the objects of the corporation.
Sec. 8. Vacancies in the Board of Trustees may be filled by the Executive Board of the Baptist General Convention from recommendations by the remaining Trustees made at any regular or special meeting of the Board.

Sec. 9. The President of the Board of Trustees may annually, at its Annual Meeting, appoint seven (7) members of the Board, two of whom shall be the President and Vice-President of the Board, as an Executive Committee to manage the business of the corporation during the interim between meetings of the Board of Trustees. Any vacancy in the Committee may be filled by the Board of Trustees at any regular or special meeting. Four members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Sec. 10. The President of the Board of Trustees may appoint any and all Committees that he deems necessary.

ARTICLE III

Section 1. The officers of the Board of Trustees shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary and a Treasurer, who shall be elected at the Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees for the term of one year, and shall hold office until their successors are duly elected and qualified. No one shall be eligible to the office of President or Vice-President who is not a member of the Board of Trustees, and any such officer who ceases to be a Trustee shall cease to hold office. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be held by one person. Should the office of President or Vice-President or Secretary and Treasurer become vacant, the Board of Trustees may fill such vacancies at any regular or special meeting. An officer of the Board of Trustees may be removed at any time by a two-thirds (2/3rds) vote of the Board of Trustees.
Sec. 2. The President of the Board of Trustees shall preside at all Trustee meetings; shall have general supervision of the other officers of the Board, and shall perform all such other duties as are incident to his office. In case of the absence or disability of the President, his duties shall be performed by the Vice-President.

Sec. 3. The Secretary shall issue notices of all meetings of the Board of Trustees except where otherwise provided, and shall attend and keep the minutes of the meetings; shall have charge of all corporate books, records and papers, shall be custodian of the corporate seal, shall attest with his signature and impress with the corporate seal all written contracts of the corporation except where otherwise provided by the Board of Trustees, and shall perform all such other duties as are incident to his office.

Sec. 4. The Treasurer shall have custody of all money and securities of the corporation, and shall give bond in such sum and with such sureties as the Board of Trustees may require, conditioned upon the faithful performance of the duties of his office. He shall sign all checks of the corporation, shall keep regular books of account, and shall submit them, together with all his vouchers, receipts, and records and other papers, to the Trustees for their examination and approval as often as they may require; and shall perform all such other duties as are incident to his office.

Sec. 5. The funds of the corporation shall be deposited in such bank or banks, or trust company or companies as the Trustees shall designate, and shall be withdrawn only upon the check or order of the Treasurer.
ARTICLE IV.

Section 1. Amendments to the By-Laws may be made by the Board of Trustees at any meeting of such Board.

Section 2. Amendment to Section 1, Article III.

At a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Hardin-Simmons University, held in the City of Abilene, Taylor County, Texas, on the 29th day of March, 1945, a quorum being present, the following resolution was, upon motion made by John H. Alvis and seconded by C. M. Caldwell, unanimously adopted:

"RESOLVED: That the first sentence of Section 1, Article III, of the By-Laws of Hardin-Simmons University, a corporation, be amended to read as follows:

"The officers of the Board of Trustees shall be a President, one or more Vice-Presidents, a Secretary and a Treasurer, who shall be elected at the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees for the term of one year, and shall hold office until their successors are duly elected and qualified."

"RESOLVED: That the President or any Vice-President of the Board of Trustees be and are authorized to execute on behalf of the corporation any and all legal documents or instruments, including any and all deeds, deeds of trust,
mortgages, notes, releases, transfers, and assignments, conveyances of real property, conveyances of personal property, and any other instrument, same to be attested by the Secretary of the Board of Trustees of said corporation, with the corporate seal attached."
sign checks, the President of the Board of Trustees may designate another member of the staff of the University or a member of the Board of Trustees to perform that function until one or both of the above-named officers resume their duties.