

Many Speakers Take Part as Baptists Dedicate Building

Dr. Leon Mobley Latimer was the Dedicatory speaker on Sunday afternoon at the First Baptist church when the new Educational Building was dedicated. Dr. Latimer, father of Mrs. Ollin J. Owens, is the president of the South Carolina Baptist Convention and retiring pastor of the First Baptist Church of Greenville.

Other speakers for the occasion included the former pastor,



DR. L. M. LATIMER

the Rev. H. Floyd Surles; Mr. J. L. Corzine, Director of Sunday School work for the State Baptist Convention.

Tragedy at Shelton

Billy McDowell, Henry DeHart Drown Friday in Broad River

Bodies of Young Men Recovered Saturday Afternoon Following Diligent Search, and Final Rites Conducted Sunday. Hundreds Flock to Scene.

Stark tragedy struck Friday at the picturesque little village of Shelton, in northwestern Fairfield, when the swift, treacherous waters of the turbulent Broad River claimed the lives of two young men, W. B. (Billy) McDowell, Jr., 23, and Henry DeHart, 35, a native of Newberry county. Young McDowell is the son of W. B. McDowell, Sr., who is president and owner of the Shivar Springs plant located at Shelton, and a past president of the South Carolina Bottlers' association, and the Fairfield county chamber of commerce.

Although complete details may never be known, the accident is thought to have occurred around five o'clock Friday afternoon. The bodies were recovered approximately 24 hours later by U. G. DesPortes and H. S. Meng, two of a large group of searchers who tirelessly patrolled the river for many hours.

The young men had gone into the river earlier Friday afternoon in a home-made, out-board motor boat. Apparently, they had just completed stretching a trot line at a narrow point in the river, from the Fairfield side to a small island, when the boat overturned. The hooks had not been baited. Both of the men could

not have been seen since the tragedy, some 20 yards from the Fairfield bank, about 200 yards upstream from the railroad trestle at Shelton. The bodies were recovered approximately 100 yards downstream (south) from the boat and were found hardly more than ten yards apart. Mr. McDowell's non-waterproof wrist watch had stopped at 5:05, giving, perhaps, a good indication of the time of the accident.

Since early Saturday morning, when Sheriff E. K. Rabb had been told of the missing men, searching parties had been carefully combing the river. In the sheriff's party were Rural Officers Harvey Weir and Joe Burley. Basil Peake of the South Carolina Law Enforcement department took part in the search and Clyde Hurt of the Columbia Fire department, a veteran of many water tragedies, gave able assistance. It was he who brought the grappling equipment. Scores of people were attracted to the scene and many of them rendered help in one way or another, some on the river, others elsewhere. Among these (and there were probably others) were T. M. Center, Sr., Norwood Obear, Howard Allen, Mr. DesPortes and Mr. Meng, Dr. J. L. Bryson, Mark Stevens, D. A.

*for filing
deHart
+ McDowell*