

**Inventory to the Sadie Harber Adgent Collection**

**AR 867**



**Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives**

**Processed by William Denius, with contributions by Nancy Adgent**

**3 April 2006**

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### I. Biographical Sketch

Sadie Harber Adgent was born April 22, 1920 in Marshall County, Tennessee. She was the sixth of Jacob Edward and Leila Hopper Harber's nine children. She was raised in the Rich Creek, Anes Station, and Caney Spring communities of the county. Her parents were farmers as were at least three generations of her Harber, Hopper, Dwiggins, and Green ancestors, all in Marshall and the adjoining Bedford counties. She attended elementary school in Caney Spring and high school in Chapel Hill, graduating in 1943 after missing months in different years due to illness and family needs.

Between her graduation and first teaching position, Sadie worked at a sheet metal shop in Columbia, Tennessee, one of many "Rosie the Riveter" women who performed jobs previously done by men who left to serve in World War II. She taught grades 1-8 at Wilson School near Chapel Hill for the 1943-44 school term, boarding with the Gene Hardison family who lived adjacent to the school. (The Hardisons lived on the same farm Sadie and her husband bought in 1951.) The following summer she worked in Lewisburg at Basham's Grocery, returning to teaching in September 1944, this time at Anes Station School near Lewisburg. With only 9 pupils enrolled, the school closed shortly and Sadie returned to work at Basham's Grocery and moved to Lewisburg. From July 1945 through February 1947, she worked at Lewisburg's J.C. Penney store as bookkeeper and sales clerk. After leaving Penney's, she worked at Florence Stove Company in Lewisburg until she left in April 1949 to get married.

On April 15, 1949, Sadie married Sam Joe Adgent in Bell Buckle, Tennessee. Rev. C. N. Barclay officiated. In September of the following year, their only child, Nancy, was born. In 1951, they purchased 118 acres in the Wilson School / Lunn's Store community of Marshall County where they operated a dairy farm and raised tobacco, corn, sorghum, horses, hogs, chickens, apples, pears, peaches, and vegetables.

Sadie taught grades 1 through 6 at Wilson School for the 1956-57 and 1957-58 terms. She was an active member of the Wilson Home Demonstration Club during the 1950s through 1970s. Her skill as a seamstress supplemented their farm income. For many years she worked at the Wilson School voting site on election days, verifying voter registration, and manually tallying votes.

The family belonged to Smyrna Baptist Church near Chapel Hill, Tennessee which was located in a white frame building (no longer standing) across from what is now Henry Horton State Park golf course. Sadie taught various Sunday School and Vacation Bible School classes. She was frequently called upon to plan entertainment for church parties, including Halloween and New Year's Eve, and she made many costumes for Christmas pageants. In 1997, she compiled the church's history for its

125<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Currently, Sadie Adgent is a resident of Rosewood Manor Nursing Home in Columbia, Tennessee.

## II. Scope and Content Note

The Sadie Harber Adgent collection consists of 1 linear foot of material contained in two document boxes. The collection consists chiefly of information about Smyrna Baptist Church in Chapel Hill, Marshall County, Tennessee, and its members as well as other churches in the area. The collection is arranged alphabetically by folder title. Materials in the collection cover the years 1931 to 2001. Two of the largest files contain information about the history of Smyrna Baptist Church, of which Henry Hollis Horton, governor of Tennessee from 1927 to 1933, was a member. Included in the collection is scrapbook information compiled by Sadie Adgent, Vacation Bible School certificates for Adgent and her daughter Nancy, and church bulletins from Smyrna Baptist Church that range from 1944 to 1999. The Sadie Harber Adgent Collection contributes to resources on local church life in Tennessee in the mid twentieth century. Adgent's daughter, Nancy, donated this collection to the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives in August 2005.

## III. Folder Listing

### Box 1

- 1-1. Ackland, Donald F.- *Studies in Deuteronomy*- 1964
- 1-2. Adgent, Nancy- Vacation Bible School Certificates- 1956-1961
- 1-3. Adgent, Sadie- Training Union Certificates- 1939, 1948 (original in map case, drawer 7)
- 1-4. Adgent, Sadie- Vacation Bible School Certificates- 1958, 1967
- 1-5. Adgent, Sammie Joe- Training Union Certificate- 1948 (original in map case, drawer 7)
- 1-6. Allen, Clifton J.- *On the Wing With the Word*- April-December 1961, October-December 1962
- 1-7. Baptist Sunday School Board- Church Library Department- 1970-1971
- 1-8. Belmont Heights Baptist Church (Nashville, Tennessee)- 1968
- 1-9. Broadman Press- Promotional Poster (*The Jesus Revolution*)
- 1-10. Brown, Dwain and Kathy (Missionaries to French Guiana)- 1990
- 1-11. Capitol Hill Metropolitan Baptist Church (Washington, D.C.)- 1971
- 1-12. Christian Home Week Posters- 1967, 1970
- 1-13. Correspondence- Barclay, Catharan and Chuck- Undated
- 1-14. Correspondence- Jarman, George S.- 1961
- 1-15. Correspondence- Pickler, C.M.- 1953
- 1-16. East Commerce Baptist Church (Lewisburg, Tennessee)
- 1-17. Ewton, L.S. and Mrs. (Members, Smyrna Baptist Church)

- 1-18. First Baptist Church (Shelbyville, Tennessee)- 1953
- 1-19. Harber, Lelia- Training Union Certificate- Undated
- 1-20. Haynes, Juanita- Baptist Training Union Certificate-Undated
- 1-21. Higgins, James W. (Pastor, Holt's Corner Baptist Church)- 1972
- 1-22. Holt's Corner Baptist Church (Chapel Hill, Tennessee)- 1997
- 1-23. Horton, Henry Hollis (Governor of Tennessee 1927-1933)- Genealogy
- 1-24. Journal- Mission Trip to Benton, Missouri- 1993
- 1-25. Keeney, Arthur H.- *The Bible Treasury: An Abridgment of the Book of Books*- 1933
- 1-26. Luppens, Louis Charles and Mrs. (Residents, Chapel Hill)- 1970
- 1-27. Mc Connelle, Billie Bryant and Mrs. (Members, Smyrna Baptist Church)- 1974
- 1-28. Mc Gehee, Joseph W. (Pastor, First Baptist Church, Lewisburg, Tennessee)- 1977
- 1-29. Mc Gehee, Timothy Alan (Pastor, Smyrna Baptist Church 1991-1999)
- 1-30. Map- Marshall County, Tennessee
- 1-31. Mealer, Newton (Member, Smyrna Baptist Church)
- 1-32. Mount Carmel Missionary Baptist Church (Lewisburg, Tennessee)- 1998
- 1-33. New Duck River Baptist Association (Tennessee)- Minutes- 1960
- 1-34. New Duck River Baptist Association (Tennessee)- Newsletter- May 1953
- 1-35. Odle, Joe T.- *Church Membership Handbook*- 1962
- 1-36. Pamphlets
- 1-37. Photographs
- 1-38. Primary Bible Lessons- 1954, 1955

## Box 2

- 2-1. Reynolds, Lessie Hopper- "Ten Years Ago Today"- 1931
- 2-2. Rutherford, J.F.- *Who Is God?*- 1932
- 2-3. Scrapbook Materials- 1934-1942
- 2-4. Sedberry, Leland Stanford (Pastor, First Baptist Church, Lewisburg, Tennessee)
- 2-5. Sermon on the Mount, The
- 2-6. Smyrna Baptist Church (Chapel Hill, Tennessee) (Folder 1 of 2)- 1908-2000
- 2-7. Smyrna Baptist Church (Chapel Hill, Tennessee) (Folder 2 of 2)- 1953-2001
- 2-8. Smyrna Baptist Church (Chapel Hill, Tennessee)- Baptist Training Union Quarterly Report- 1959-1960
- 2-9. Smyrna Baptist Church (Chapel Hill, Tennessee)- Church Bulletins- 1944-1999
- 2-10. Smyrna Baptist Church (Smyrna, Tennessee)
- 2-11. Sneed, James Mahlon (Member, Smyrna Baptist Church)- 1999
- 2-12. Southern Baptist Training Union Convention- 1959
- 2-13. *Storytime (Kind Words Series)*- March 1940
- 2-14. Sunday School Literature- 1966-1967
- 2-15. Tabor, C.D. and Mrs. (Associational Missionary, New Duck River Baptist Assocation)- 1971-1983

2-16. Training Union Literature- 1963-1967

2-17. Vardaman, Jerry- *Dedication Service and Translation of the Replica of the Code of Hammurabi in the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary*- 1967

A 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemorative plate for Smyrna Baptist Church, Chapel Hill is located in Range 72, Shelf 7, ART 006-017