

Rev. E. C. DeJernett

(local preacher)

(18 Jan 1857 - 1 Sep 1929)

8-May-02jja

- 18 Jan 1857 born: Cherokee County, Alabama ¹ the son of Dr. Reuben DeJernett, a pioneer Greenville doctor ²
- 11 Jul 1860 resident of Greenville, Hunt County, TX ³
(Ruben DeJernett, 36 years old, male, physician, born SC;
Avy F., 25 years old, female, born GA;
Eugene C., 3 years old, male, born AL;
Warren B., 1 year old, male, born TX)
- 11 Jul 1870 resident of Jefferson, Marion County, TX ⁴
(Reuben DeJernett, 46 years old, male, white, physician, born SC;
Ada F., 38 years old, female, white, keeping house, born GA;
Euegine (sic) C., 13 years old, male, white, born AL;
Warren B., 11 years old, male, white, born TX)
- Sep 1870 converted at Jefferson, TX; joined the church ⁵
- Jun 1877 graduated Emory and Henry College ⁶
- 1878 attended Vanderbilt University ⁷
- Oct 1878 licensed to preach by Rev. R. K. Hargrove, P.E. ⁸
- 1879 received on trial in North Texas Conference ⁹
- Nov 1879 received on trial in North Texas Conference at Sherman, TX ¹⁰
- 1879-80 appointment: Paris Circuit (Junior) ¹¹
- 1880-81 appointment: Linden Circuit ¹²
- 4 Dec 1881 ordained deacon at Greenville, TX, by Bishop Hubbard H. Kavanaugh ¹³
- 1881-84 appointment: Decatur Station ¹⁴
- 18 Nov 1883 ordained elder at McKinney, TX, by Bishop Linus Parker ¹⁵
- 1884-88 appointment: Whitewright Circuit ¹⁶
- 23 Dec 1885 married: Lutie Worsham ¹⁷, daughter of Dr. Worsham ¹⁸
- 1888-90 appointment: Blossum Circuit ¹⁹
- 1888 appointment: Paris District, Blossom Station ²⁰
- 1889 appointment: Paris District, Blossom Station ²¹
- 1890 appointment: Bonham District, Wolfe City ²²
- 1890-92 appointment: Wolfe City Station ²³
- 1892-94 appointment: Commerce Circuit ²⁴
- Nov 1893 purchased a grove of woodland just north of Greenville ²⁵
- 1894 --- located (In with "Second Blessing.") ²⁶, located ²⁷
- 8 Aug 1895 promoted a Holiness camp meeting north of Greenville ²⁸
- sum. 1895 held Holiness camp meetings on the woodland north of Greenville ²⁹
- Nov 1897 expelled at Wesley Quarterly Conference ³⁰
- 1899 chaired the board of trustees of Texas Holiness University ³¹
- 1 Sep 1929 died Hunt County ³²; died Greenville when hit by Katy train ³³
survived by: children, Brodie DeJernett, Ira DeJernett, Vera DeJernett;
brother, Dr. W. B. DeJernett ³⁴

Rev. E. C. DeJernett

(18 Jan 1857 - 1 Sep 1929)

(local preacher)

8-May-02jja

Biographies of the North Texas Conference Clergy, page 64, "E. C. DeJernett": (transcription)

"E. C. DeJernett

Birth	Born Jan. 18, 1857, in Cherokee County, Alabama.
Conversion	Converted Sept. 1870, at Jefferson, Texas, under the ministry of Rev. R. S. Finley. Joined the church at the same time.
License	Licensed to preach Oct. 1878, Rev. R. K. Hargrove, P.C.
On trial	Received on trial in the North Texas Conference, at Sherman, Texas, Nov., 1879.
Deacon	Ordained deacon at Greenville, Texas, Dec. 4, 1881, by Bishop Hubbard H. Kavanaugh.
Elder	Ordained elder at McKinney, Texas, Nov. 18, 1883, by Bishop Linus Parker.
Education	Graduated at Emory and Henry College, June, 1877. Attended Vanderbilt University in 1878.
Labors	They were the following charges: 1879 to 1880; Paris Circuit (Junior) 1880 " 1881; Linden " 1881 " 1884; Decatur Station 1884 " 1888; Whitewright Circuit 1888 " 1890; Blossum " 1890 " 1892; Wolfe City Station 1892 " 1894; Commerce Circuit 1894 -----; Located (In with "Second Blessing.")"

Rev. E. C. DeJernett

(18 Jan 1857 - 1 Sep 1929)

(local preacher)

8-May-02jja

History of Hunt County-Cassles, page 140:
(transcription)

...
“There were other camp-meeting grounds, but none were like the Harrell’s, and one on such a scale. The Holiness Camp Meeting at Peniel, Texas, which was held each year from 1894 to 1925, represented types of the old camp meeting. The Holiness meeting was first held under a tent, but in 1895 a great tabernacle which covered more than an acre of ground was constructed. This camp ground was created through the efforts of Reverend E. C. DeJernette (sic). People came from all over Texas and from other states to hear him preach and to worship with those of their belief. Out of the Holiness camp meeting grew the Holiness University ...”

Greenville Messenger, Thursday, 8 Aug 1895, page 3: (transcription)

“A Holiness Campmeeting

Rev. E. C. DeJernett has handed us a circular announcing this meeting which will begin August 17th and continue to the 27th inclusive. It will be held at a grove on the White Rock road, one and a half miles north of this city. A portion of the circular reads “It will be a self-supporting meeting. All except regular pastors or evangelists of the different denominations, are expected to bring food and covering with them. There will be shelters under which you may sleep. There will be a lunch house on the ground at which you may get meals at reasonable rates, or, if you prefer, you can board and lodge in the city. If you cannot remain over nights, bring you dinner and spend the days. There will be services all day.

Dr. H. C. Morrision, editor of the “Methodist,” Louisville, Ky., H. G.

Scudday, Tyler, Texas, E. G. Kilgore, Greenville, Texas and others will do the preaching.””

A History of Hunt County, Thesis, The University of Texas at Austin, Ethel Cassles, June 1935, page 128, speaking of the atmosphere at Texas Holiness University in 1901-02 in a meeting held by Seth C. Rees:

“It was impossible to have school much of the time for a week. People would pray in the chapel for hours after the regular service, and we just let God have the right of way and let religion roll on like waves of salvation over the people.

Friday for fourteen successive hours, the voice of prayer was never stilled in the chapel. People were prostrate here and there, surrounded by groups of praying ones, so that the janitor could not sweep.

Services after services, from fifty to seventy-five people would rush to the altar as if wild for salvation and throw up their hands and pray and scream and roar and roll on the floor, then shout and laugh, and jump, climb over benches, hunt relatives and hug and pound each other on the back. The wickedest, hardest boys in college cried the loudest and pounded the floor the hardest. Many people were converted and sanctified. We will never get over this meeting. All glory to God of Battles! He alone is worthy, and we give him all the glory!”

internet:

<http://www.snu.edu/informat/index.htm>, speaking of the history of Southern Nazarene University the successor to the college connected to Rev. DeJernett (4 Mar 1999):

‘In the formative days of the Church of the Nazarene, the need for Christian education was viewed as paramount -- with an uncompromising position taken by the Church relative to the credibility of the Bible, thus preparing workers to meet the needs of the growing church and society as a whole. As a result, Rev. B. A. Cordell, in the early

Rev. E. C. DeJernett

(18 Jan 1857 - 1 Sep 1929)

(local preacher)

8-May-02jja

days of 1899, donated 20 acres in Peniel, Texas, for the formation of Peniel College.

Within a decade, five other church-related institutions in Texas, Arkansas, Kansas and Oklahoma were preparing students at Central Nazarene University, Arkansas Holiness College, Bresee College, Beulah Heights College, and Oklahoma Holiness College. Our present university was formed through a series of mergers of these institutions.

By 1940, they were incorporated under the name of Bethany Peniel College. The name was changed to Bethany Nazarene College in 1955 and to Southern Nazarene University in 1986.

During the past nine decades, SNU has exhibited a high order of Christian standards and scholarship. She has developed into one of the nation's outstanding Christian colleges, preparing alumni who are "making a difference" around the globe.'

Greenville Morning Herald, Tuesday, 3 Sep 1929, page 1: (transcription)

“TRAIN KILLS AGED MINISTER REV. E. C. DeJERNETT, RETIRED NAZARENE MINISTER, HIT BY KATY SUNDAY

While meditating walking to religious services Sunday morning, the Rev. E. C. DeJernett, aged Nazarene minister, was struck dead at 7:30 o'clock when a southbound Katy passenger train hit him at the Sayle street crossing.

Funeral services for Mr. DeJernett who served his church for more than 40 years will be conducted at 10 o'clock this morning from the Peniel tabernacle where the annual Peniel campmeetings are held, the campmeetings he inaugurated 37 years ago while serving his first pastorate in Texas,

with the Nazarene church in that community. The Rev. S. M. King of Sherman, and the Rev. Frank Farmer of Peniel will officiate at the funeral, with interment in East Mount cemetery beside the aged pastor's wife who died 15 years ago.

The quaint old pioneer churchman was 72 years old and was one of the founders of the Peniel Holiness University, and has always taken a prominent part in the work of the Peniel Orphans Home.

For many years the veteran clergy man had plodded every Sunday morning to Greenville to conduct services in the jail and to take active part in other religious services. And it was while on that mission that he met his death Sunday morning when the passenger train hit him as he strolled to an early morning prayer service.

He was said to be slightly deaf and was no doubt wrapped in thought of his God when the passenger train came upon him. A Stringer & Sons ambulance arrived at the scene only a few minutes later, but life had left the body when the impact occurred, the shattered 'house of clay' indicated.

Mr. DeJernett is survived by two sons, Brodie and Ira DeJernett of Dallas, one daughter, Miss Veva DeJernett of Greenville, and one brother, Dr. W. B. DeJernett of Commerce.

Ganesbille (sic), Alabama was the old clergyman's birthplace in January 18, 1857. Following his first pastorate in Peniel he served pastorates in Decatur, Blossom, Wolfe City and Commerce.

Years ago he retired from active pastoral work and returned to Peniel, perhaps the community closest to his heart. There and in Greenville he spent the closing years of his life in work not much different from that of the days gone by. Besides his wife, one of his four children preceded him in death.”

Rev. E. C. DeJernett

(18 Jan 1857 - 1 Sep 1929)

(local preacher)

8-May-02jja

Greenville Morning Herald, Wednesday, 4 Sep 1929, page 2: (transcription)

“Rev. De Jernett Buried Beside Wife

The Rev. E. C. DeJernett, aged Nazarene minister who was killed Sunday when a southbound Katy passenger train hit him at the Sayle street crossing, was buried Wednesday morning beside his wife in the little cemetery at Peniel. His wife died 15 years ago.

The quaint old clergyman who founded the Peniel annual camp meeting 37 years ago, would have deeply appreciated the kind words that the Rev. S. K. King of Sherman and the Rev. Frank Farmer of Peniel said at his funeral which was conducted in the annual camp meeting tabernacle. A host of sympathetic friends who have known the old man and loved him were there. Floral offerings banked the altar, many of them from those he had aided down through the years.

T(h)e old man walking to an early morning prayer service when the train hit him and was no doubt deep in contemplation of his regular Sunday activities - prayer service, church, and conducting a service for the prisoners in the Hunt County jail at Greenville.

He is survived by one daughter, Miss Veva DeJernett of Greenville, two sons, Brodie and Ira of Dallas, and one brother, Dr. W. B. DeJernett of Commerce.”

Greenville Messenger, Thursday, 5 Sep 1929, page 1: (transcription)

“REV. DeJERNETT ACCIDENT VICTIM

Rev. E. C. DeJernett, of Peniel, one of the best known Christian workers in Hunt County, was the victim of a fatal accident when his life was crushed out by a Katy train last Sunday morning.

Rev. DeJernett, whose home was in Peniel was walking down the Katy track to attend an early morning prayer meeting for men at the First Presbyterian church and being a little short of hearing failed to note the approach of the fast moving train coming in from the north, directly behind him.

Rev. DeJernett was 72 years old and for a long term of years had been conspicuous by his very devotion and efforts to be of service to all whom he could serve in pointing the way to a pure Christian life.

For more than thirty years this writer had known Rev. DeJernett and during these years we knew him not as a seeker of this world's goods or even his own pleasure, but rather finding pleasure in serving others.

He was a regular visitor at the county jail and pointed those who had sinned and gone astray to that great Physician whose touch has healing power. In the service of his Master he was clearly at home whether in a Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian, Holiness or other church.

He had been a Methodist preacher and later was active with the Holiness and Nazarene church. But he was a Christian worker rather than a preacher of doctrines or creeds and this pious man was loved by all and himself appeared to be a stanger to any spirit of bitterness.

His death found him enroute to the house of prayer and his plans for the day including worship at other houses dedicated to

Rev. E. C. DeJernett

(18 Jan 1857 - 1 Sep 1929)

(local preacher)

8-May-02jja

worship of the Almighty God. His plans called also for a visit to the county jail, where for many years he had gone to tell men steeped in sin and lawless in spirit, along with small offenders and creatures of unfortunate circumstances, that the blood of Christ had cleansing power for all.

His wife, who was the daughter of the late Dr. Worsham, died (s)ome fifteen years ago. His is survived by the following children: Brodie DeJernett and Ira, of Dallas; and Miss Vera DeJernett, of Greenville and also a brother, Dr. W. B. DeJernett, of Commerce.

The death of Rev. DeJernett was evidently instantaneous. His neck was broken, his skull fractured, his legs broken and his body terribly bruised by the train which was as helpless as was he after failure to attract his attention as the train approached.”

Greenville Morning Herald, Friday, 6 Sep 1929, section 1 page 4: (transcription)

“PAYS TRIBUTE TO MINISTER

PAYS TRIBUTE TO MINISTER WHO MET TRAGIC DEATH HERE LAST SUNDAY

Editor, The Herald:

Please grant me the courtesy of a brief reference to your editorial relating to the life and tragic death of Rev. E. C. DeJernett.

I knew him intimately more than thirty years and “with lips that would not belie their soul’s sincerity,” I can say that his life was one of the most chaste and blameless I have ever known.

In terms of wealth he had no rating, but money without culture and without virtue is but “sounding brass and tinkling cymbal.

The tragedy of our social fabric is that men’s lives are measured by the dollar mark. The only true method of appraising greatness is that predicted upon service to others.

The most fascinating chapter in the beautiful life of the wonderful Man of Galilee relates to his sacrificial death in order that we might have life and have it more abundantly.

In actuality, Rev. DeJernett gave his life in service to the church he loved and in preaching, in city street and countryside, the priceless gospel of his boundless faith in God.

May rest, peace, honor, and glory crown his departed spirit; and may his reward be without stint or limit in that crowning day that’s coming by and by.

A.E. Edwards”

Rev. E. C. DeJernett

(18 Jan 1857 - 1 Sep 1929)

(local preacher)

8-May-02jja

¹ Biographies of the North Texas Conference Clergy, page 64, "E. C. DeJernett"

² History of Hunt County-Harrison, page 174

³ 1860 U. S. Census, Texas, Hunt County, Greenville, Beat No. 4, page 306, 11 Jul 1860

⁴ 1870 U. S. Census, Texas, Marion County, Jefferson, page 441, 11 Jul 1870

⁵ Biographies of the North Texas Conference Clergy, page 64, "E. C. DeJernett"

⁶ Biographies of the North Texas Conference Clergy, page 64, "E. C. DeJernett"

⁷ Biographies of the North Texas Conference Clergy, page 64, "E. C. DeJernett"

⁸ Biographies of the North Texas Conference Clergy, page 64, "E. C. DeJernett"

⁹ 1916 JNTAC, page 18

¹⁰ Biographies of the North Texas Conference Clergy, page 64, "E. C. DeJernett"

¹¹ Biographies of the North Texas Conference Clergy, page 64, "E. C. DeJernett"

¹² Biographies of the North Texas Conference Clergy, page 64, "E. C. DeJernett"

¹³ Biographies of the North Texas Conference Clergy, page 64, "E. C. DeJernett"

¹⁴ Biographies of the North Texas Conference Clergy, page 64, "E. C. DeJernett"

¹⁵ Biographies of the North Texas Conference Clergy, page 64, "E. C. DeJernett"

¹⁶ Biographies of the North Texas Conference Clergy, page 64, "E. C. DeJernett"

¹⁷ Hunt County, Texas, Marriages, 1846-1911, page 116

¹⁸ Greenville Messenger, Thursday, 5 Sep ;1929, page 1, "REV. DeJERNETT ACCIDENT VICTIM"

¹⁹ Biographies of the North Texas Conference Clergy, page 64, "E. C. DeJernett"

²⁰ Texas Christian Advocate, Thursday, 22 Nov 1888, page 5

²¹ Texas Christian Advocate, Thursday, 28 Nov 1889, page 1

²² Texas Christian Advocate, Thursday, 27 Nov 1890, page 4

²³ Biographies of the North Texas Conference Clergy, page 64, "E. C. DeJernett"

²⁴ Biographies of the North Texas Conference Clergy, page 64, "E. C. DeJernett"

²⁵ History of Hunt County-Harrison, page 174

²⁶ Biographies of the North Texas Conference Clergy, page 64, "E. C. DeJernett"

²⁷ 1916 JNTAC, page 26

²⁸ Greenville Messenger, Thursday, 8 Aug 1895, page 3, "A Holiness Campmeeting"

²⁹ History of Hunt County-Harrison, page 174

³⁰ Greenville Messenger, Friday, 19 Nov 1897, page 7, untitled section

³¹ History of Hunt County-Harrison, page 174

³² Texas Death Index, "De Jernett, Eugene C., Hunt County, 9-1-1929, file 45265".

³³ Greenville Messenger, Thursday, 5 Sep ;1929, page 1, "REV. DeJERNETT ACCIDENT VICTIM"

³⁴ Greenville Messenger, Thursday, 5 Sep ;1929, page 1, "REV. DeJERNETT ACCIDENT VICTIM"