

# Veteran Pastor Dies

Dr. John H. Bunn, 87, of 308 S. Pineview Ave., retired Baptist minister, died Wednesday night at Wayne Memorial Hospital.

A graduate of Wake Forest University where he received his Juris Doctorate degree, he received the Th. degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and the DD. degree from Chowan College.

Dr. Bunn served as professor of Bible at Chowan College from 1935-41.

Ordained in 1908, he had preached for 60 years and served the following churches: Mount Gilead Baptist Church, Mount Gilead, 1923-29; First Baptist Church, Lawrenceville, Va., 1930-34; First Baptist Church, Murfreesboro, 1935-41; First Baptist Church, Morehead City, 1941-58; and Edgemont Baptist Church, Durham, 1958-69, at which time he retired and moved to Goldsboro.

Dr. Bunn was a past member of the General Board of the N. C. Baptist State Convention, past vice president of the Virginia Baptist General



**DR. JOHN H. BUNN**

Association, past moderator of the Atlantic Baptist Association and past president of Yates Baptist Ministerial Association.

At the time of his death, he was teacher and president of the Men's Bible Class, First Baptist Church. He was also a

50-year member of the Blue Lodge at Morehead City.

Funeral services will be held Friday at 11 a.m. from the First Baptist Church with Dr. E. Leon Smith officiating. Burial and graveside services will be held at 3 p.m. at the Maple Springs Baptist Church Cemetery in Louisburg.

The body will lie in state in the First Baptist Church on Friday beginning at 9 a.m.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Fannie Finch Bunn; one son, Dr. John T. Bunn of Sylva; one daughter, Mrs. James T. (Elizabeth) Vinson of Goldsboro; one brother, Luther Bunn Sr. of Raleigh; one sister, Mrs. Everett Brown of Burlington; 12 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that contributions be made to the building fund of the First Baptist Church.

The family will be at the home of his daughter, 407 N. George St.

Arrangements are being handled by Shumate Funeral Home.

Fayetteville Observer  
Fayetteville Times  
Gastonia Gazette  
Goldsboro: News-Argus  
Greensboro Daily News

NOV 17 1977

Bunn, John Henry

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SOURCE: B/286.1756155/T21 page: 120

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# Historical Commission

Baptist State Convention

NORTH CAROLINA

## DATA FOR FILES

Give (for the printer) your full name..... *John Henry Burr*  
Date of birth—month, day, year..... *Oct. 12, 1890*  
Your father's name..... *D. Y. Burr*  
Your mother's maiden name..... *Annie Johnson*  
Where you were educated..... *Wake Forest + Lenoirville Seminary*  
Degrees received and the source..... *L. B. Wake Forest, Ph. D., S. B. D. D.*  
Where and when ordained..... *Burr, N. C. 1914.*  
When and where you were married..... *Henderson, N. C. 1919.*  
Give wife's maiden name in full..... *Hannie Mae Finch*  
Give date of her birth—month, day, year..... *1897.*  
Her parents' names..... *Geo. W. + Mary Finch*  
(If a second marriage, give like information).....

Where have been your activities?..... *Student pastor for five yrs. while in H. S. & college. All in N. C. Student pastor while in S. B. Seminary*  
Positions of honor and trust you have held—(Moderator, Trustee, Etc.)..... *Associational Director during 25 Million Copeigns - In Montgomery Association.*

You are the author of—(Books, Monographs, Special Articles, Etc.).....

Kindly give reference to any write-up, or other articles commendatory of your work which might aid in the preparation of a personal sketch.....

Give on back of this sheet any further information; nationality, remote ancestry, names of children, foreign travel, industrial engagements and other items of interest.

The information here sought is for use in the preparation of a Biographical Work of the North Carolina Baptist leaders. We hope no name will be omitted.

A personal sketch written by yourself or some friend will be greatly appreciated. Fill and send this blank now; the sketch may come later.

Mail to

J. T. ALDERMAN, Chairman,

Henderson, N. C.

It may be of interest to give the facts regarding my  
ancestry on my father's side:

A number of years before the Civil War my <sup>great</sup> grand-  
father, Burns, and two brothers, came from the  
highlands of Scotland, to the State of Arkansas.  
One of the brothers named Learner; the other  
one, Tom Burns, moved into North Carolina. Tom  
Burns Jr. moved or came to Franklin County, married  
and reared a family. My father, who is a minister, was  
the third Tom Burns in the family of Burns.

JOHN H. BUNN

The 1958 Minutes of the Atlantic Baptist Association are dedicated to Dr. John H. Bunn.

Dr. John H. Bunn served as pastor of the First Baptist Church of Morehead City from 1941 to 1958. Under his leadership, and blessed by the Holy Spirit, the church grew rapidly in membership, and gifts for all purposes increased proportionately.

Dr. Bunn served as Moderator of the Atlantic Baptist Association for two terms in 1956 and 1957. He was Clerk of the Association from 1941 through 1952. During this same period he also served as Treasurer. He preached the Annual Sermon in 1944 and 1951. He was President of the Pastors Conference and served on various committees and in other places of responsibility during these years.

Dr. Bunn's father served the Lord as a minister, and his son, Dr. John T. Bunn is now serving as a pastor in North Carolina.

Dr. Bunn possesses a wonderful Christian spirit, and served his Lord and his denomination well during the seventeen years of labor in our midst. These minutes are dedicated, therefore, to Dr. John H. Bunn.

ATLANTIC BAPTIST ASSOCIATION MINUTES, 1958, p. 2

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*A Century + a quarter of Service*  
*By: Hargis Taylor*

ROUNDING OUT A CENTURY OF SERVICE 61

An overriding concern during the one-year pastorate of J. C. Owen<sup>24</sup> and throughout the six years of the ministry of J. H. Bunn<sup>25</sup> remained that of liquidating the indebtedness on church properties. In the final analysis, it is the women of the church who must be credited with rescuing the congregation from despondency with regard to the debt, and — finally — with providing a way out of indebtedness. Mrs. G. R. Hollomon provides the following vivid account of the work of the women during these bleak days:

The 1929-1930 financial crash produced a great depression and the women were deeply concerned about the possibility of losing the new church and new parsonage. For some reason, there seems to have been a dearth of male leadership in the church at this time, but it was a "shining hour" for the women . . . . The Woman's Missionary Union assumed responsibility for paying the interest on the parsonage debt. Mrs. G. T. Underwood was Woman's Missionary Union treasurer at the time and her records show this. The Woman's Missionary Union and the Ladies Aid Society did everything imaginable to raise money. One farmer gave, and barbecued, a pig from which the ladies made sandwiches, and the teenagers were put on the streets to sell them. No one could ever forget Mrs. Ella Pearce presiding over her huge pan of chicken salad like a "queen in the counting house" as she doled out the serv-

<sup>24</sup>Jesse Coleman Owen (1870-1955) had entered upon missionary service in China, following his graduation from Wake Forest College in 1899. He remained in China until 1911, after which he served churches in western North Carolina for a time. He was the Corresponding Secretary-Treasurer of the Baptist Convention of New Mexico at the time of his call to Murfreesboro in April 1933. Owen later served churches in western North Carolina, and spent his retirement years in Florida, Washington, Virginia, and North Carolina.

<sup>25</sup>John Henry Bunn (1890- ) assumed pastoral charge of the church in July 1935, coming from the pastorate of the Lawrenceville and Warfield (Va.) Baptist churches. He later served lengthy pastorates with First Baptist Church, Morehead City, and with Edgemont Baptist Church, Durham. Now retired, he makes his home in Goldsboro, North Carolina.

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