



Kerr Kronicles Volume XXXI

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Peek into the Past: In 1941 the need for more adequate church school space, which had been discussed as early as 1939, became more apparent. The congregation voted to undertake the erection of an Educational Building. The building committee consisting of R. J. McEwen, Chairman, John M. McEwen, Ned E. Dorton, and W.M. Junker was appointed. Ground was broken in November of 1941, and the educational addition to the rear of the sanctuary was completed in 1942, with dedicatory services held in 1944. At this time Mr. R. J. McEwen was recognized for his outstanding leadership in this endeavor. What had started out a two rooms, had grown into a two story building with a fellowship room, a kitchen and two rest rooms on the first floor and eight small classrooms and an assembly room on the second floor. (*The Presbyterian Gathering on Clear Creek*)

A Musical "Note": The addition planned to be back of the original building necessitated the removal of the space used for the choir to gather which has been added earlier. (*The Presbyterian Gathering on Clear Creek*)

Interesting Fact: Five weeks after the appointment of R.J. McEwen to be in charge of the addition the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor took place and the nation became part of a world-wide war. Work on the building did go forward. Some money had been saved in a Building Fund, but most of the work was done on a pay-as-you-go basis. As long as the work went on, an offering was received each Sunday. The supplies these funds could purchase were used that week, and another offering received the next Sunday. The members of the congregation contributed labor as well as money. (*The Presbyterian Gathering on Clear Creek*)

Important National Events:

1941 – Attack on Pearl Harbor; U.S. enters World War II by declaring war on Japan the next day on December 8; and three days later against Germany and Italy.

1944 – U.S. presidential election, 1944: Franklin D. Roosevelt reelection for a fourth term, becomes the only U.S. president elected four times. Harry S. Truman is elected vice president.