

KANSAS CITY OR BUST:

The Methodist Plan to Relocate Baker University, 1927-1939

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¹In early 1931, the quiet campus of Baker University in the small community of Baldwin City, Kansas was visited by a series of gentlemen tasked with assessing the school. Each of the three men assigned to evaluate Baker represented the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, the highest Methodist association in the nation. The men belonged to an organization, known as the Commission on Survey, which published a *Report of a Survey of Baker University* in July of that year.² Within its assessment, the report argued that Baker University should reconsider its chosen location in Baldwin City and move to a more advantageous location—Kansas City.³ The Commission on Survey asked Baker University to consider moving for several reasons including: the merger between Baker University and Missouri Wesleyan College, the threat of competition by surrounding schools, the Methodist concept of the Social Creed, and the hazardous economic effects of the Great Depression.

The Commission on Survey claimed their repetitive argument of relocation as a panacea for Baker University's challenges—the implications of the merger, outside competition, serving the Church, and maintaining economic stability—was aimed purely toward Baker University's preservation. However, it quickly becomes apparent that the push to change the location was primarily driven by the interest of the Commission on Survey in furthering the influence of the Church. This incident has implications for the relationship between the Methodist Episcopal Church and its member institutions because it provides an example of a small school whose loyalty to its denomination, its identity, and its community were tested by the interests of the broader Church authorities.

By the time of the survey, Baker University had operated in Baldwin City for seventy-three years. When Baker University was first established, its location in Baldwin City—called Palmyra at the time—was considered exceedingly appropriate for the purposes of the school and the

Methodist Episcopal Church. A printed circular from the Office of Baker University in 1863 described its location in the kindest terms:

Our town is improving rapidly, with a population remarkable for its high moral character. We have no liquor shops or gaming saloons, they being prohibited in our deeds of conveyance of real estate; and already we have one of the pleasantest villages in Kansas. The location is healthy, and the scenery pleasant, having variety of prairie and timber, so blended as to make the surroundings beautiful and picturesque. Our facilities for travel are as good as any interior town in the State.⁴

Besides the perceived moral character, beauty, and accessibility of the region, there was also hope among the school's founders that the town would one day become a major urban center along the Santa Fe Trail.⁵ All of these elements made the Palmyra site a promising location for Baker University. Because of the chosen location, Baker's future seemed secure.

Before detailing the arguments in favor of a location change for Baker, a brief history of the Commission on Survey is warranted. This summary outlines the origins and scope of the Commission on Survey. According to the foreword in the *Report of a Survey of Baker University*, the impetus to create what would become the Commission on Survey began with a meeting of the Educational Association of the Methodist Episcopal Church in January of 1927. This organization was composed of volunteer members from the staff of Methodist colleges. At the meeting, the attendees read a paper that called for "scientific study of the member institutions" of the Church.⁶ On May 17, 1928, the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church endorsed the idea of creating and administering a survey by ordering the formation of one or more commissions to achieve this end. According to the General Conference, the information collected by the survey would be used in order to complete two vital elements of church-school relations:

First: To furnish the bases to determine the nature and quality of the service rendered the cause of Christian Education by our Educational Institutions, to appraise their work and suggest improvements in it, to co-operate in formulating a constructive, statesmanlike policy for them, to inform the Church so that it may be inspired to increased confidence and more generous support.

Second: The findings of the commission are to be taken into consideration by the Board of Education in making their annual appropriations, and utilized by the institutions as they solicit support.⁷

These goals explicitly demonstrate the level of authority delegated to the Commission on Survey; the Church empowered its new commission to decide which educational institutions were most worthy of financial support from the Methodist Episcopal Church based on their performance. In the upcoming Depression years, the economic leverage the Commission on Survey possessed would be an influential presence for any struggling institution and make the schools more persuadable to the given recommendations.

Following the initial authorization of the survey by the General Conference, the Board of Education appointed the Commission on Survey on February 1, 1929. The members of the Commission on Survey met for the first time on March 27, 1929 to elect officers from amongst themselves. The Commission determined that Dr. Floyd Wesley Reeves would act as Director of the survey.⁸ The Commission on Survey's base of operations became Chicago and the University of Chicago Press printed all of their publications because of Dr. Reeves' connection to the school.⁹ In the summer of 1929, Dr. Reeves assembled a team of staff for the Commission on Survey.¹⁰ His selections included the three men who would eventually survey Baker University: Assistant Director John D. Russell, the Associate Professor of Education for the University of Kentucky; Hugh C. Gregg, the Business Manager of Albion College; and L. E. Blauch, Professor of Education for North Carolina College for Women.

After surveying several colleges in 1929 and 1930, the Commission on Survey arrived at Baker in January of 1931. According to the report, "Mr. Russell, Mr. Gregg, and Mr. Blauch, each made independent visits and spent a total of seven days at Baker University, inspecting the plant and conferring with university officials, members of the faculty, and students."¹¹ It was during this period that the Commission on Survey concluded that Baker University's location as an institution

was unsuitable. Fieldwork ended in March, and by June of 1931, the survey report was published. The following statement was among the suggestions for improvement: “it is recommended that those who have at heart the future of Baker University give serious consideration to moving the institution to a more favorable location.”¹² This concludes the outline of the Commission on Survey’s history up until they asked for a reconsideration of Baker University’s location. The following passages detail the argument they made in support of their recommendation.

The merger between Baker University and Missouri Wesleyan College influenced the Commission on Survey’s assertion that Baker should move. Missouri Wesleyan College, once located in Cameron, Missouri, merged with Baker University in 1930. The decline of the school began in 1928 as it shifted from a four-year college to a two-year junior college which forced 25 upperclassmen to move over to Baker University.¹³ In the following years of 1929 and 1930, evacuees from Missouri Wesleyan made up the majority of transfer students.¹⁴ While it might seem that the absorption of Missouri Wesleyan College was altruistic in nature, Baker University certainly benefitted.

By the time of the survey in 1931, the merger was already complete; Baker was starting to experience the beneficial effects of the decision. The endowment was successfully expanded, plans for new buildings developed, and the Missouri Conference adopted Baker University as its own official college.¹⁵ However, this adoption caused a problem from the view of the Commission on Survey staff. According to the survey report, “Baker University is fairly well located from the point of view of the Kansas Conference. It should be borne in mind, however, that following the merger of Missouri Wesleyan College and Baker University, the Missouri Conference has accepted the latter as its institution. From the point of view of the larger constituency, the University is not ideally located.”¹⁶ The survey utilized the connection to Missouri Wesleyan to argue that Baker University should migrate to Kansas City. This proposed location would have

allowed the University to be close to both constituencies rather than just the Kansas Conference.¹⁷ The relocation of Baker University, in these terms, was framed as a tug-of-war between the Kansas Conference and the Missouri Conference since both considered it to be their own official college.

Besides using the merger to justify their recommendation of relocation, the Commission on Survey also contended that Baker University's location threatened its ability to retain students coming from afar because of nearby competition. They defined "competing institutions" as "...any educational institution offering work of the same level, for similar vocational or cultural objectives, and so situated as to recruit students from a portion of the area served by the college under consideration."¹⁸ Although Baker University prominently proclaims its position as the oldest university in Kansas, many schools developed in proximity to Baker University and threatened to lure prospective students away from the isolated campus in Baldwin City.¹⁹ According to the Commission on Survey, this competition highlighted the inadequacies of Baker's location. The survey staff argued that Baldwin City's small population size and relative isolation was a detriment to the school.²⁰ Even though many students proved their willingness and interest in traveling to Baker because they attended the school from distant areas, the commute would purportedly increase their chances of being driven away by the problematic location.²¹ The small community was framed as a deterrent to potential and current students.

This concept was based primarily on the transportation facilities available to reach Baldwin City. The survey report states that, "the University was erected on its present site on a famous trail, before Kansas was well developed. Great changes have taken place since the establishment of the University, with the result that the institution is now off the main lines of communication and consequently is seriously hampered in its service."²² Although there was a train station in Baldwin City, the survey report noted that, "it is not on the main line of a railroad, but a branch between two main lines affords Baldwin City daily train connections. Students who travel by train must

change trains in one of two towns, Lawrence or Ottawa, in each of which is located an institution of higher learning.”²³ From the perspective of the Commission on Survey, Baker University was in desperate need of access to a large population with more available modes of transportation and fewer competing schools nearby.

The interest in acquiring closer vicinity to a populated part of the state was also linked to the Church’s concept of the Social Creed. This code of belief for the Methodist Episcopal Church aimed at initiating friendly labor relations in order to broaden the appeal of the Church among the poor as well as improve conditions for those less fortunate. During the 1930s the creed was further developed, expanding its commitment to ensuring “the fullest possible development of every child, especially by the provision of proper education and recreation.”²⁴ This suggests that in the 1930s, the principal goal of the Church’s educational institutions was to provide a means of upward mobility for the working classes and to disseminate Methodist moral teachings within that population.

With this directive in mind, the Commission on Survey’s emphasis on relocating Baker University can be interpreted as an extension of the Social Creed’s national mission. As the survey report explains, “the outstanding center of population in the eastern part of the state which is without a four-year college or university is Kansas City. At various times in the past efforts have been made to establish an institution in that center, but so far they have not been successful.”²⁵ Relocating Baker University to Kansas City would ensure the Methodist Episcopal Church could reach the largest untapped population of Kansans in need of educational opportunities. Baker University’s prominent reputation would have made it a particularly esteemed candidate for such work. The Church’s expectation that educational institutions should seek to occupy the most advantageous position in the program of the Methodist Social Creed was alluded to by the Commission on Survey when they included in their report that, “it is difficult for an institution as

isolated as Baker University to reach the number of people which its resources warrant. In other words, an isolated institution finds it difficult to live up to its obligations to society.”²⁶

As the Great Depression settled in, Baker University certainly began to feel the stress brought on by financial hardship. President Fleming’s report for the 1929-1930 school year reads, “progress has been made in Baker’s finances as will be shown by the treasurer’s report; however, the sudden depression in the financial world has made it extremely difficult to secure gifts... We are hoping that conditions in the business world may improve for the second half of the present year in such a way as to enable us to secure the [Rockefeller] grant in full.”²⁷ The Commission on Survey also made note of the Depression’s effect on Baker, “In 1929-1930 the enrolment [sic]... increased. For the first semester of 1930-1931 there was, however, a decrease. Undoubtedly the economic depression has been partly responsible for the situation during the past year.”²⁸ Clearly Baker University and the Commission on Survey staff were aware of the threat the Great Depression posed on educational institutions.

However, while President Fleming sought to acquire monetary gifts, the Commission on Survey suggested relocation would remove these financial difficulties. In the survey report, they wrote, “the small enrolment [sic] within commuting distance is due in part to the fact that the University is not located in a large center of population.”²⁹ In their report, the Commission on Survey constantly used the relocation plan as the ultimate solution regarding separate constituencies, competitors, fulfillment of the Social Creed, and financial difficulties. With the school struggling and receiving pressure from the Methodist Episcopal Church to consider resettlement, the odds were seemingly against Baker University remaining in Baldwin City.

In the end, Baker University did not concede to the Commission on Survey’s proposal; the school’s leaders resolved that Baker would stay in Baldwin City. Baker was not receptive to the

Commission on Survey's suggestion for historical, infrastructural, and community reasons. First there was the historical aspect to Baker University's location. The year 1931 was just three years away from the Diamond Jubilee year at Baker commemorating seventy-five years of its educational program in Baldwin City. According to Homer Kingsley Ebright's *History of Baker University*, "in spite of the great depression which struck the whole nation in 1929, Baker people looked forward with confidence and enthusiasm to the celebration of the seventy-fifth birthday of the old school."³⁰ In this way, the celebration of Baker University's historic nature carried them through the turmoil of the Depression Era and negated any suggestion of altering the historic location of the campus. Relocating would be tantamount to abandoning that history.

In addition, Baker's historical location was irreversibly tied to Baldwin City for legal reasons. The Commission on Survey even admitted when making their case for relocation that, "...the survey staff has not gone deeply into the question of the legal difficulties which might be encountered in moving the University. A change of location would probably require a change in the charter, inasmuch as the charter of the University states that the University 'shall be, and hereby is, permanently located at Baldwin City in the territory of Kansas.' The disadvantages of the present location are very important, however, and would justify an effort to change the charter."³¹ Because the charter stipulated that Baker was tied to Baldwin City, to move to another location would be to create an entirely different school from scratch. The Commission on Survey willingly overlooked the historical reasons for why Baker was unable to relocate.

The dedicated plans for developing Baker University's infrastructure conflicted with the plan to relocate. In its report, the Commission on Survey made numerous recommendations for ways that Baker University could renovate and upgrade its facilities and buildings. However, they made the condition that, "before extensive improvements are made in the physical plant the desirability of locating the University, or part of it, in a large center of population should have full

consideration.”³² This impediment contradicted the University’s personal goals for developing its campus at the time. An article in the Baker Orange—the official university newspaper—dated February 3, 1931, declared the achievement of a successful endowment campaign and the shift of focus onto a new building program. According to the article:

The first to go up will be the central heating plant... The college is collaborating with the town’s people in erecting the new church, so it, too, can be included in the building program... The building of the church necessarily puts off the erection of the Presser Music Hall. This hall will contain a modern chapel with an ample stage... Following it will come a dormitory which will house a hundred men. Next will be another women’s dormitory and finally the Stadium project. It is the aim of the University to have this program completed by the Diamond Jubilee in 1933.³³

With such an ambitious building project and strong momentum to complete it before the Diamond Jubilee, the suggestion of abandoning Baker University’s campus and starting over was an unpopular notion. The infrastructural development of Baker University could not be delayed for the sake of the Commission on Survey’s cavalier plan to relocate.

Despite the fact that the Commission on Survey denounced the small community of Baldwin City as an impediment, the town was intrinsically attached to Baker University after more than half a century of coexistence. The survey report suggested, “possibly, if a decision is reached to relocate, a junior college division could be maintained for several years in the plant at Baldwin City. This plan would utilize the present plant and would serve to lessen the shock of moving on the local community.”³⁴ By making this statement, the Commission on Survey admitted that the residents of Baldwin City and Baker University were linked; removing Baker University would be traumatic for Baldwin City.

For their part, the residents of Baldwin City recognized their strong connection to the University with a full-page advertisement in the aforementioned February 3rd issue of the Baker

Orange which celebrated the successful endowment campaign. The message from local business owners in Baldwin City read:

The announcement Saturday that Baker had reached its goal of \$400,000 in increased endowment to secure the gift of \$200,000 of the Rockefeller money from the General Education Board is cause for rejoicing in Baldwin. That fact means much to Baldwin and Baker. It means that \$36,000 has been added to Baker's annual income-money which will largely be spent in Baldwin. It means that the college can now turn to the erection of Presser Music Hall and a new heating plant for the campus and a new church—projects which will bring men and money into Baldwin. It means that, with better instruction and more adequate equipment, more students will be attracted to Baker and Baldwin... It means, in a word, an assured future. A new Baker, improved in every way, and a finer Baldwin.³⁵

The enthusiasm of Baldwin City is expressed as solidarity, that Baker University's success is also Baldwin's success. While the advertisement stresses how Baker's presence in Baldwin helps the town, Baker University advertisements were quick to point out how the university also benefitted from its location in Baldwin City. In the records of the Kansas Annual Conference, the advertisements for Baker University during President Fleming's term listed positive and unique aspects of Baker University. Between the years 1926 and 1930 and in 1932, one of the principle items on this list described their location: "Baldwin is an ideal college town. It has all the conveniences of a city without the usual confusion and distractions. Its influences are refining and uplifting."³⁶ In the years between 1933 and 1936, the advertisements contained a different phrase expressing a similar idea, "Baldwin and Baker are almost synonymous. Baldwin is an ideal college town. It has all the conveniences of a city without the usual confusion and distractions."³⁷ In these advertisements, President Fleming argued that the same elements which the Commission on Survey considered a handicap to the University's educational program were actually advantageous.

Baker University embodied an identity which could not be removed from the school as a small institution located in a small community. The historical, infrastructural, and community

factors that kept Baker University in Baldwin City also deterred any chance of the Commission on Survey actually succeeding in relocating the University to Kansas City. Ultimately, their suggestion to transfer the school never progressed further than just that—a mere suggestion.

Although there were many reasons for Baker University's immobility, the Commission on Survey's arguments for relocation were compelling; the suggestion placed the onus upon the school to decide between the interests of the Methodist Episcopal Church or local interests. This pressure from the Commission on Survey reflected the belief that the odds were against Baker University if they chose to remain in Baldwin City. Regardless of these odds, Baker stood firm in its convictions and remained in Baldwin. In the end, the decision to stay was a prudent one as Baker University thrives today.³⁸ The school continues to operate out of Baldwin City, Kansas.

The Commission on Survey believed it presented a solution to Baker University which would also further the goals of the Methodist Episcopal Church to increase its influence in Kansas City, yet Baker University firmly resisted the pressure. These findings have significant implications for the true authority of the Methodist Episcopal Church over its member institutions. Although the Methodist Episcopal Church founded the colleges that it surveyed, its recommendations clearly were not treated as mandatory by Baker University. The Commission on Survey's suggestion was prompted by legitimate concerns such as merger politics, surrounding competition, the Social Creed, and the Great Depression. However, despite the Commission on Survey's insistence, historic, infrastructural, and community elements prevented the plan from receiving serious consideration. Ultimately, the fact that Baker University remained in Baldwin City and continues to flourish is a testament to the faith Baker's leaders placed in their location and the strong ties between the University and its small town.

¹ Special thanks to Tath Haver, collection management coordinator of the University of Chicago; Frances Lyons, reference archivist of the General Commission on Archives and History; and Sara DeCaro, archivist of Baker University, for their contributions to the research of this paper.

² This shortened name for the document is used in place of the gratuitously lengthy actual title: “Report of a Survey of Baker University Under the Auspices of The Commission on Survey of Educational Institutions of the Methodist Episcopal Church.”

³ Reeves, Floyd W., Russell, John D., Gregg, Hugh C., and L. E. Blauch, “Chapter I. History and Service of Baker University” in *Report of a Survey of Baker University Under the Auspices of The Commission on Survey of Educational Institutions of the Methodist Episcopal Church*, (The Commission on Survey of Educational Institutions of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Chicago, IL: Chicago University Press, 1931), 16.

⁴ Schofield, William H., “Circular,” Office of Baker University, September 14, 1863, Abraham Lincoln Papers, Series 1, General Correspondence, 1833-1916, Baker University Archives.

⁵ Ebright, 40.

⁶ Reeves, Floyd W., Russell, John D., Gregg, Hugh C., and L. E. Blauch, “Foreword” in *Report of a Survey of Baker University Under the Auspices of The Commission on Survey of Educational Institutions of the Methodist Episcopal Church*, (The Commission on Survey of Educational Institutions of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Chicago, IL: Chicago University Press, 1931), vii.

⁷ *General Conference 1928*, (Methodist Episcopal Church, 1928), 664.

⁸ Additionally, they elected for Chairman Thomas Nicholson, the Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church; for Vice-Chairman they chose John L. Seaton, the President of Albion College; for Secretary they voted Joseph P. MacMillan. *General Conference 1932*, 1,464.

⁹ Dr. Reeves was a professor of education at the University of Chicago. Reeves, Floyd W., Russell, John D., Gregg, Hugh C., Brumbaugh, A. J., and L. E. Blauch, *The Liberal Arts College: Based upon surveys of thirty-five colleges related to the Methodist Episcopal Church*, (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1932), vi.

¹⁰ *General Conference 1932*, 1,464.

¹¹ Reeves, Russell, Gregg, & Blauch, "Foreword" in *Report of a Survey of Baker University*, ix.

¹² Reeves, Floyd W., Russell, John D., Gregg, Hugh C., and L. E. Blauch, "Chapter XIII. A Program of Service for Baker University" in *Report of a Survey of Baker University Under the Auspices of The Commission on Survey of Educational Institutions of the Methodist Episcopal Church*, (The Commission on Survey of Educational Institutions of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Chicago, IL: Chicago University Press, 1931), 7.

¹³ Holter, 192.

¹⁴ "Many Students Enroll at Baker This Year from Other Colleges," *The Baker Orange*, September 23, 1930.

¹⁵ Holter, 192.

¹⁶ Reeves, Russell, Gregg, & Blauch, "Chapter I. History and Service of Baker University" in *Report of a Survey of Baker University*, 14.

¹⁷ As the Commission on Survey phrased it: "this position would be central for Baker University from the point of view of its enlarged constituency." Reeves, Russell, Gregg, & Blauch, "Chapter I. History and Service of Baker University" in *Report of a Survey of Baker University*, 16.

¹⁸ Reeves, Russell, Gregg, Brumbaugh, & Blauch, *The Liberal Arts College*, 34.

¹⁹ This was the argument of the Commission on Survey when they wrote: "Baker University is located in an area which is well supplied with institutions of higher learning. Within fifteen miles is Ottawa University (Baptist), and within sixteen miles is the University of Kansas. Washburn College (non-sectarian) is located within forty-five miles, and Park College (Presbyterian) at Parkville, Missouri, is within sixty-five miles. At Emporia, within eighty miles of Baker University, are the College of Emporia (Presbyterian), and a state teachers college. Other four-year institutions of higher learning which offer distinct competition to Baker University are the Kansas State Agricultural College at Manhattan and the State Teachers College at Pittsburg. Seven public junior colleges in the eastern part of Kansas also help to create a problem for Baker University." Reeves, Russell, Gregg, & Blauch, "Chapter I. History and Service of Baker University" in *Report of a Survey of Baker University*, 15.

²⁰ The report specifically had this to say regarding Baldwin City: "This location of the University offers serious handicap to it, since there can be no large community interests outside the institution. The social opportunities for the students and the faculty are distinctly limited. It is very difficult to provide much outside employment for students. There is little or no opportunity to study social institutions at first hand, except at considerable expense. The small population makes difficult the provision of adequate practice facilities in the teacher training program." Reeves, Russell, Gregg, & Blauch, "Chapter I. History and Service of Baker University" in *Report of a Survey of Baker University*, 14.

²¹ Homer K. Ebright noted the willingness of students to travel great distances to attend Baker in his *History of Baker University*: "many have wondered why young people from Kansas City are so glad when September comes and they can return to Baldwin. Why do students come from Chicago, and New York, and California to this little town?" Ebright, 2.

²² Reeves, Russell, Gregg, & Blauch, "Chapter XIII. A Program of Service for Baker University" in *Report of a Survey of Baker University*, 6.

²³ Reeves, Russell, Gregg, & Blauch, "Chapter I. History and Service of Baker University" in *Report of a Survey of Baker University*, 13-14.

²⁴ Muelder, 141.

²⁵ Reeves, Russell, Gregg, & Blauch, "Chapter I. History and Service of Baker University" in *Report of a Survey of Baker University*, 15-16.

²⁶ Reeves, Russell, Gregg, & Blauch, "Chapter I. History and Service of Baker University" in *Report of a Survey of Baker University*, 15.

²⁷ The Rockefeller grant refers to a sum of \$200,000 made available by the General Education Board of the Rockefeller Foundation provided that Baker University raise \$400,000 on its own first. Fleming, 5 & "College is to Receive Full Amount of Gift of Rockefeller Board," *The Baker Orange*, February 3, 1931.

²⁸ Reeves, Russell, Gregg, & Blauch, "Chapter I. History and Service of Baker University" in *Report of a Survey of Baker University*, 7.

²⁹ Reeves, Russell, Gregg, & Blauch, "Chapter I. History and Service of Baker University" in *Report of a Survey of Baker University*, 13.

³⁰ Ebright, 238.

³¹ Reeves, Russell, Gregg, & Blauch, "Chapter I. History and Service of Baker University" in *Report of a Survey of Baker University*, 16.

³² Reeves, Russell, Gregg, & Blauch, "Chapter XIII. A Program of Service for Baker University" in *Report of a Survey of Baker University*, 6.

³³ "College is to Receive Full Amount of Gift of Rockefeller Board," *The Baker Orange*, February 3, 1931.

³⁴ Reeves, Russell, Gregg, & Blauch, "Chapter XIII. A Program of Service for Baker University" in *Report of a Survey of Baker University*, 6.

³⁵ "The Merchants and Business Men of a Forward-Looking Baldwin Say: Congratulations Baker on the Success of the \$600,000 Endowment Drive," *The Baker Orange*, February 3, 1931.

³⁶ Keve, Wiley A., *Kansas Annual Conference 1926*, (Methodist Episcopal Church, 1926); Keve, Wiley A., *Kansas Annual Conference 1927*, (Methodist Episcopal Church, 1927); Keve, Wiley A., *Kansas Annual Conference 1928*, (Methodist Episcopal Church, 1928); Keve, Wiley A., *Kansas Annual Conference 1929*, (Methodist Episcopal Church, 1929); Keve, Wiley A., *Kansas Annual Conference 1930*, (Methodist Episcopal Church, 1930) & Keve, Wiley A., *Kansas Annual Conference 1932*. Page numbers inapplicable, advertisements are located on inside of cover page.

³⁷ Keve, Wiley A., *Kansas Annual Conference 1933*, (Methodist Episcopal Church, 1933); Pruitt, L. B., *Kansas Annual Conference 1934*, (Methodist Episcopal Church, 1934); Pruitt, L. B., *Kansas Annual Conference 1935*, (Methodist Episcopal Church, 1935) & Pruitt, L. B., *Kansas Annual Conference 1936*, (Methodist Episcopal Church, 1936). Page numbers inapplicable, advertisements are located on inside of cover page.

³⁸ "Meet Baker University," Baker University, Accessed December 23, 2020, <https://www.bakeru.edu/meet-baker-university/>.