

Dr. Owen, Former Baptist Pastor Here, Dies At 85

Dr. Jesse C. Owen, former pastor of the First Baptist Church here, died November 7 in the Haywood County Hospital at the age of 85.

Retired, he had lived in Canton for several years. His 65 years of service to his church included time as a missionary to China, home mission board evangelist, secretary to the state mission board of New Mexico, president of the Florida Baptist Institute, professor of Bible at Chowan College, missionary to the Navajo Indians, and pastor of churches in North Carolina, South Carolina, Missouri, Mississippi, and Washington.

Dr. Owen was pastor here

when the present First Baptist Church was built. He left here about 1921.

Funeral services were conducted at the Old Macedonia Church in Transylvania County on November 9.

Dr. Owen, a native of Transylvania, was the author of several books, including the Romance of Soul-Winning, the Story of Tsin, and Southern Mountaineers. He went to China in 1899 as a missionary. As a memorial to his older son, who passed away in childhood, he had a building to house 24 lepers erected in the leper colony in Korea and established a scholarship for a ministerial student in the newly built seminary in Hwang Hsien.