THE METHODIST CHURCH AT LONE OAK

We have from Authentic information obtained these facts pertaining to the origin and progress of the Methodist Church at Lone Oak, Georgia.

It seems that the first church was established several miles south of here near St. Marks. The building was constructed of hand hewn logs and while the membership was not large and consisted principally of those from this community, it was decided to build a frame structure here at Lone Oak and retain the membership and name of "PROSPECT" for the edifice. Deeds to the land was donated by Mr. William Owen Lee, grandfather to the present Lee generation who are still ardent supporters of the church.

And so the church was built and remained a bulwark of Methodism and Christianity until 1874 when it was deemed advisable to build a larger structure more modern and comfortable than the old one. This church still retained the name "PROSPECT". This was the church we all remember so fondly, and was a power for good and a tower of strength for the glory of God. Its pulpit was filled by some of the most prominent ministers of The North Georgia Conference: notable Dr. George W. Yarborough, Rev. Brinsfield, Dr. Bradley and others.

This was in the horse and buggy days yet large crowds came for miles around and filled the church to overflowing and everybody had religion.

On February 29, 1936 the new modern brick building was started. This was built by donations from former members and friends, the present membership and a lot of hard work. This was a memorial to those who had loved "OLD PROSPECT" and had passed on and was called "ALLEN LEE MEMORIAL" for Dr. Young J. Allen and Rev. James Lee.
The church was finished on December 24, 1939 and dedicated on June 28, 1942 when a grand home coming and barbecue climaxed the triumph of a cause we hold dear and a hope for a continuation of future influence for good.

Replete with the history of this section and having wielded an influence far reaching in its effect as a unit of Southern Methodism, Old Prospect Church at Lone Oak in Meriwether County, Georgia, after having stood for more than half a century on its present site, has been torn down and is being replaced by a modern brick structure as a memorial to the founders of the Old Church, to those buried in the nearby churchyard and as a reminder of the great and good men who received here their inspiration to go forth in the Master's Cause as ministers of the Gospel.

Here it was that Young J. Allen spent his boyhood and received his earliest impressions which influenced his whole life, this fact being appreciated by himself as well as the community in which his name is revered and which glories in his achievements in foreign fields. Here too Rev. J. W. Lee was reared and identified himself with the old church before he launched upon his brilliant career in the home field.

Contributions have come from far and near and although we are yet far from our goal, we feel that with the united efforts of the church members and others who have shown an interest in contributing that within a reasonably short time our object will have been attained and we will have a church worthy of those in whose honor it is being built.

Old Prospect as a landmark, dear to the hearts of all who have been blessed by its influence, is no more and a spirit of sadness is manifest as has been expressed in the following verses written as it was being demolished in December.

Then it was decided to do away with "OLD PROSPECT" it was a sad day for all of us, which was expressed by one of our members in the enclosed verses.