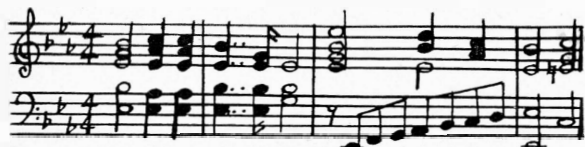


FIRST ALMA MATER



Hail S.T.C. all hail Noble and strong to



thee with one accord we raise our Song



Swelling to heavens height our praises ring



Hail S.T.C. all hail to thee we sing

WILLIAM J. McCONNELL



Nicknamed "Little Parson", William McConnell was a student at the University of the South and a lay reader for the Murfreesboro Episcopal Church when the Normal opened in 1911. The following year he enrolled at the Normal and became closely identified with campus music activities in addition to serving as manager of athletic teams. In 1914 at the insistence of Miss E. Mai Saunders he wrote the words for the first school song. Entitled "Hail, M.T.N., All Hail", the music was borrowed from an old Russian Hymn.

During World War I while engaged in overseas work for the American Red Cross, he contracted pneumonia and died from its effects.