

BRIEF
IN BEHALF OF
ABILENE, TEXAS
TO THE
HONORABLE COMMITTEE
TO LOCATE
The
Texas Technological College

INDEX

	PAGE		PAGE
Accessibility	17	Libraries	9
Agriculture	28	Light and Power	19
Automobile Highways	18	Manufacturing	32
Boarding Facilities	23	Market, Wholesale and Retail ..	27
Churches	8	Paving Street	22
Climate	12	Population	18
Coal	21	Power	19
College Atmosphere	30	Railroad	17
Crops	28	Rainfall	15
Death Rate	24	Restaurants	8
Electric Service	19	Sanitariums	26
Factories	32	Sanitary Regulations	25
Faculty Surroundings	25	Schools	30
Farming and Livestock	28	Sewer	21
Fire Protection	9	Sites	10
Freight Rates	8	Social Advantages	25
Fuel	21	Soil Survey	28
Gas	21	Street Paving	22
Health	24	Street Railway	22
Highways, Automobile	18	Temperature	15
Hospitals	26	Water Supply	16
Hotels	8	Weather Bureau	9
Industries	32	West Texas Fair	9
Insurance Key Rate	9	Wind Velocity	13
Lake Abilene	16		

TO THE
LOCATING COMMITTEE
FOR THE
TEXAS TECHNOLOGICAL COLLEGE
AUSTIN, TEXAS

Abilene desires and earnestly solicits the location of the Texas Technological College. We seek this location in the belief that Abilene fully meets the requirements as set forth in the bill creating the school, and beg leave to submit herewith for your consideration a description of the sites and an outline of the advantages offered by this city.

Abilene, Texas, April 16, 1923.

SYNOPSIS

LAND

Abilene offers for the school a choice of two tracts of 2,000 acres each of as fine land as can be found in the territory designated for the location. These tracts present a variety of soils and conditions, as well as being located in close proximity to the city so that students attending may readily obtain adequate boarding facilities without the State providing dormitories.

(For detailed report on land offered, its qualities and its location, see Maps Nos. 1 and 6, and remarks under Section 1).

CLIMATE

Climatic conditions in Abilene are ideal for such an institution as this school. Abilene is located well above the malarial section and below the excessive sand-storm belt. It is outside the gypsum area; has a sufficient rainfall for ordinary farming and is sufficiently dry for best results under irrigation. The altitude is 1717 feet, not high enough to materially affect a person coming from the Coast country and not low enough to be uncomfortable for a person coming from the higher plains country. With an average wind velocity of 10.1 miles per hour, as against 10.7 as the average of all Texas cities, Abilene has a great preponderance of fair days and uniformly pleasant weather.

(See detailed statement under Section 2).

WATER SUPPLY

Abilene's water supply is the pride of the community and the foundation upon which our municipality is built. We have a present available supply of seven billion gallons stored in the hills 17 miles from the city, fed by everlasting and bountiful mountain springs, furnishing the purest water that can be had, and connected with the city by a twenty-inch cast iron pipe line with gravity flow. The water plant is owned in its entirety by the city, and it agrees to furnish this school water in any quantity not to exceed five cents per thousand gallons, and as much less as any competing city cares to offer. In addition thereto, one of the tracts which we offer contains an excellent lake site on which the State could build a splendid reservoir if it so desires.

(See detailed statement under Section 3).

ACCESSIBILITY

Abilene has three railroads: the Texas & Pacific, the Wichita Valley and the Abilene & Southern, affording outlets to the North, South, East and West. In addition the Santa Fe traverses the county, twelve miles to the south of Abilene, with direct bus and automobile connection furnishing 30 minute passenger service over a first-class pike. There are many State and National highways passing through Abilene and radiating in all directions. These highways include such well-known routes as the Bankhead, the Jefferson, the Dixie, the Puget Sound & Gulf and the Roger Q. Mills Highways.

(See Maps Nos. 2 and 3 and detailed statement under Section 4).

POPULATION

The total population of the statutory district north of the 29th parallel and west of the 98th meridian is 1,254,179, of which more than one-third live within a radius of 100 miles of Abilene, and approximately 1,000,000 within a radius of 150 miles. The population of the district with Abilene as a center is from three to four times as dense as that surrounding any point in the Panhandle-Plains territory.

(See Map No. 4 and detailed statement under Section 5).

LIGHT AND POWER

The greatest electric power plant in all West Texas, and one of the largest in the State, is located at Abilene which will furnish power and light at a rate of less than three cents per kilowatt, which is cheaper than the school could provide it, even if owned and operated its own plant.

(See detailed statement under Section 6).

FUEL

Abilene can furnish this college with natural gas for all purposes at 17 cents per thousand cubic feet. This will save the State at least half its fuel bill over any other fuel that could be used in this district. Coal in abundance is mined at Thurber, Strawn and Mingus, less than 100 miles to the east, and can be delivered in Abilene at a haulage rate of 8 cents per hundred pounds.

(See detailed statement under Section 7).

SEWER

The City of Abilene owns and operates an adequate sewage disposal plant, and will furnish connections and disposal service to the school.

(See detailed statement under Section 8).

STREET PAVING

Abilene is a well paved city and offers a first class paving to the door of the school at either of the two sites presented, making direct connection with all parts of the city.

(See Map No. 1 and detailed statement under Section 9).

STREET RAILWAY

Abilene offers a first-class street railway to the door of the school at either of the two sites presented, which, together with paved streets brings the entire city within quick and easy reach of students, faculty and visitors.

(See Map No. 1, and detailed statement under Section 10).

RAILROAD TRACKAGE TO SITE

Both of the sites offered by Abilene are directly located on main line railroad trackage. The main line of the Abilene & Southern passes through the northern end of Site No. 1, very near the proposed building site, while Site No. 2 borders the main line of the Texas & Pacific for more than one mile. At either site, therefore, building materials and freight of all kinds could be unloaded directly from the cars at a great saving in drayage charges. It is probably not over-estimating to say that this saving to the State will amount to approximately \$100,000 on the total cost of the school, to say nothing of the savings in drayage that will be made through the years to come in the delivery of supplies and materials to the institution.

(See Map No. 1 and detailed statement on LAND under Sec. 1).

BOARDING FACILITIES

Abilene, with a population of approximately 15,000, has an unusually large number of boarding houses, besides hundreds of homes in which students can easily find rooms and meals at very reason-

able rates. The average price paid by students here for board and room is \$27.00 per month.

(See detailed statement under Section 11).

HEALTH

On account of its supply of pure water and by reason of climatic conditions and intelligent sanitary regulations, the health record of Abilene is one of which the city has always been proud. There has never been a record of death in this city directly attributable to contaminated water supply.

(See detailed statement under Section 12).

FACULTY SURROUNDINGS

In order to secure desirable faculty members it is necessary to offer a good location in which to live. From every standpoint Abilene can meet that requirement. The social and recreational life of Abilene is abundant and pleasant. The Abilene Country Club and the Abilene Golf Club have authorized this committee to extend an invitation to the members of the faculty of the new school to participate in all activities and privileges of these Clubs without becoming stockholders. Abilene is situated geographically between Fort Worth and El Paso so that the great artists can and do frequently stop here, and culture in this community is so well developed that attractions of this kind are freely and abundantly patronized by the community.

(See detailed statement under Section 13).

SANITARIUMS

Not only for Abilene citizens but for this entire section of the State, Abilene has constructed some of the best hospitals that can be built. The New West Texas Baptist Sanitarium with \$250,000 invested in a five-story building now nearing completion, will be one of the best equipped and most modern institutions of its kind in the South. It will be placed in operation early this fall. There are in addition three other hospitals served by a corps of highly trained specialists that are of state-wide reputation in the medical profession. The hospital facilities and equipment of this city will be adequate to meet any emergency.

(See detailed statement under Section 14).

MARKET AND SOURCE OF SUPPLY

As the largest wholesale and jobbing center between Fort Worth and El Paso, and one of the most important distributing points of the entire State, Abilene offers special attractions as a convenient and economical market in which to purchase those supplies that will be necessary for the conduct and maintenance of the school.

(See detailed statement under Section 15).

FARMING AND LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY

Abilene is located to the best natural advantage to teach agriculture from the standpoint of either ordinary farming, dry farming, or farming by irrigation, and is well situated for livestock raising of all kinds. A wide diversity of soils (26 types in Taylor County) and climatic conditions furnish ideal conditions for a wide range of experimentation. Agriculture is already well developed in this district. Farms occupy 78.4 per cent of the entire land area of Taylor County on which was produced in 1920 farm products valued by the U. S. Census Bureau at \$11,313,463.00.

See Maps Nos. 5 and 6 and detailed statement under Section 16.)

SCHOOLS

Abilene is already one of the largest and most widely known educational centers of Texas. In addition to a first class system of public schools in which the city has invested capital of more than three quarters of a million dollars, there are now located here three colleges, two of which have been in operation for many years and the third to be opened within the present year. One academy and two large business colleges are additional educational institutions here. By reason of these schools Abilene has attained a high place in the public regard as an educational center and as such offers distinct attractions to any student in search of the utmost in advantages and environment.

(See detailed statement under Section 17.)

COLLEGE ATMOSPHERE

Abilene has already developed a high public appreciation of culture and is thoroughly imbued with college sentiment, a condition brought about through thirty-two years of experience as a college center. The Abilene public has been educated through many

years to support college activities and athletics and can be depended upon to furnish sufficiently large patronage to assure financial success to all kinds of collegiate and intercollegiate sports and entertainments.

(See detailed statement under Section 17).

FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIES

The teaching of technological subjects will necessarily require access to factory plants of various kinds for demonstration and instruction. Abilene now has factories manufacturing a variety of products and plans are rapidly maturing for the establishment of other large plants in the near future.

(See detailed statement under Section 18.)

FREIGHT RATES

Abilene is in what is known as common point territory for the computation of freight rates and takes the same rate on interstate shipments as Fort Worth and Dallas. In addition Abilene is a preferred point on certain perishable commodities over other points in this territory. As a result of this merchandise and supplies of all kinds can be delivered here as cheaply as at any point in the state of Texas with the exception of those gulf ports enjoying water transportation rates.

HOTELS

Abilene has fifteen hotels and twenty-six restaurants, and is thoroughly equipped in every way to care for the large crowds that would gather for special events, such as athletic contests, commencement exercises, and similar occasions. Abilene's hotels are modern and well equipped in every way and will compare favorably with the best to be found in Texas.

CHURCHES

In Abilene have been built some of the finest churches of Texas. The city is now served by fifteen complete church plants representing all major denominations. The aggregate seating capacity of these churches is 9,800. And three other large churches are now building. The real value of church properties already established in Abilene is placed at slightly more than one million dollars.

LIBRARIES

Abilene has a Carnegie Library with over 9000 volumes which is one of the best in this state, as well as magnificent libraries at both Simmons College and Abilene Christian College all of which would be open to use by the students of the new school.

THE WEST TEXAS FAIR

Of considerable interest and benefit to both the school and students and faculty, if located in Abilene, would be the West Texas Fair, held annually in the early Autumn and ranking as the third or fourth largest regional exposition held in Texas. The West Texas Fair owns a complete plant valued at nearly a quarter of a million dollars, and gathered here annually is one of the State's notable exhibits of fine livestock and agricultural products. This would be of especial interest and benefit to students enrolled in agricultural courses. More than 50,000 visitors saw the West Texas Fair of 1922 and the number is expected to be doubled this year.

WEATHER BUREAU

The United States maintains and has maintained for 37 years a weather observatory at Abilene which is always ready and willing to furnish statistical data and forecasts for the benefit of agricultural and horticultural industries. This source of information should be of great value to any scientific school in conducting its experiments.

FIRE PROTECTION

If built on either of the two sites offered by Abilene, the property of Texas Technological College would at all times be under the protection afforded by the Abilene Fire Department, fully motorized, fully paid, and rated as one of the most efficient to be found in all the cities of Texas. The excellent record made by Abilene in the matter of fire prevention and control is reflected in the key rate of 26 cents enjoyed by this city, which is one of the lowest in the State.

DETAIL

SECTION 1

LAND

Two tracts of land are offered for your consideration, both of which are well suited as a location for this institution and both of which offer many special advantages. The locations of these tracts with respect to the City of Abilene, railroads, street car lines, paved streets, and other important factors, are shown in detail on Map No. 1, attached hereto and to which attention is invited.

The tract lying immediately south of the city is designated as Site No. 1, while the tract lying to the east is designated Site No. 2.

Site No. 1

This tract of land, comprising slightly more than 2,000 acres, includes some of the best agricultural land to be found in Taylor County. It begins within the corporate limits at the south side of the city and immediately adjacent to one of the most desirable and rapidly growing residential sections, and runs south between two piked roads, approximately one mile wide and four miles long. The building site proposed is on high ground overlooking the city and within 18 blocks, or approximately one mile of the Texas & Pacific passenger depot, which is in the heart of the business section. A bitulithic paved street is already laid from the railroad station to the northwest corner of this tract, while the street railway, by building an extension of nine blocks of trackage will be at the door of the college. The land is located directly on the water main supplying the city from Lake Abilene, and is served by gas and sewer lines already laid.

For a distance of more than one mile the northern end of the tract is traversed by the main line of the Abilene & Southern Railway, serving the double purpose of making possible the delivery of building materials to the site with no expense for drayage and the subsequent delivery of supplies throughout the years at a vast saving in transportation costs.

The land embraced in this section is virtually all high class

farm land, with a variety of soils and unlimited possibilities for development in diversified experimentation. It is traversed and drained by Cedar Creek, one of the main water courses of the County, and includes a site selected several years ago by engineers as highly desirable for the building of a great reservoir, should this ever be desired by the State. The diversity of soil included is readily seen by a glance at the soil survey map (Map No. 6) hereto attached.

In addition to being adjacent to one of the most desirable residential sections of the city this site almost surrounds and lies between the grounds and buildings of the Abilene Country Club and the city and is closely adjacent to a rapidly developing suburban district made desirable by the proximity of McMurtry College and the Country Club, water, sewer and gas mains and street railway service.

Site No. 1 offers many advantages and attractive features that can only be appreciated by an actual inspection.

Site No. 2

East of the city and bordering the main line of the Texas & Pacific Railway for more than one mile, lies a commanding elevation the summit of which, with adjacent farm lands is offered as another choice for the location of Texas Technological College. Included in this tract we have blocked out and secured options on approximately 5,000 acres from which the committee may choose that considered most desirable for the purpose intended.

This site also includes some of the best farming lands in this county and also has the advantage of a wide diversity of soil types and topography. The building site offered is especially attractive, giving as it does a commanding view of the entire city and the surrounding country. The buildings of the college placed on this hill and standing in relief against the sky line, could be seen for many miles in every direction, and tens of thousands of travelers each year passing on the trains of the Texas & Pacific would carry away a vivid impression of this great institution.

The site offered is within easy access of the city and if selected would be served, before any building could be completed, with paved streets, a street railway extension, as indicated on Map No. 1, sewer and gas mains, and all other city conveniences.

Options on the lands included in both of these surveys offered have been secured by this committee, which guarantees to deliver

title to all properties indicated within either of the two areas, not to exceed 2,000 acres, at a total cost to the state of not more than \$150,000.

SECTION 2 CLIMATE

That altitude and climatic conditions in Abilene very nearly approach perfection from the standpoint of both healthfulness and agricultural needs, is a statement borne out by official records. Abilene is especially fortunate in being able to present the official records of the United States Weather Bureau, in constant operation here for 37 years, which are hereto attached and made a part of this report.

The altitude of Abilene at the Texas & Pacific passenger depot which is near the center of the city, is 1717 feet. Competent and disinterested medical authority advises that this altitude is most conducive to health and comfort, especially so insofar as it concerns those persons moving abruptly from higher or lower altitudes. It strikes a happy mean between the altitudes in excess of 3,000 feet found further north and west and the very low altitudes of the coast country.

Temperature, rainfall, relative humidity and wind velocity are factors that very largely determine the desirability or undesirability of climate as affecting health and physical comfort. From the chart furnished by the Weather Bureau hereto attached it may be seen that an even, moderate temperature is an outstanding feature. The mean temperature for 37 years has been 64.1 degrees; the highest mean temperature 66.6 degrees and the lowest mean 61.4. While the average number of days per year in which a temperature of 32 degrees or lower has been recorded for thirty seven years has been 43. July, the hottest month, shows an average temperature over this period of only 82.8, while January, the coldest month, has shown an average of 44.6.

Rainfall in this section, except for a few years of excessive drouth suffered by the entire State, has been abundant but not excessive. The average for 37 years has been 24.13 inches per year and the chart shows that this annual rainfall is well distributed for both health and comfort and crop growing, most of the precipitation coming in the Spring and summer months.

The uniformly dry, healthful atmosphere prevailing is shown

by the relative humidity which has averaged 62 per cent during the 37-year period.

Abilene is happily situated with respect to wind movement between the excessively blustery climate of the gulf coast and the sand-storm areas further north and west. The average wind velocity is seen to be 10.1 miles per hour, while the average for all other Texas cities where records have been kept is 10.7 miles per hour. The following table will show how this wind velocity compares with other cities of the United States, this chart being furnished by the United States Weather Bureau.

Abilene, Texas	10.1	Fr. Smith, Ark.	6.8	North Platte, Neb.	9.8
Albany, N. Y.	8.2	Grand Haven, Mich.	10.4	Oklahoma City, Ok.	9.7
Amarillo, Texas	16.5	Green Bay, Wis.	8.1	Omaha, Neb.	7.8
Atlanta, Ga.	9.4	Hannibal, Mo.	9.3	Palestine, Texas	6.9
Augusta, Ga.	5.5	Harrisburg, Pa.	7.5	Phoenix, Ariz.	4.6
Baltimore, Md.	6.9	Havre, Mont.	8.6	Pierre, S. D.	9.4
Bismark, N. D.	9.6	Hellena, Mont.	7.4	Port Huron, Mich.	11.2
Boston, Mass.	11.8	Huron, S. D.	12.0	Portland, Me.	7.7
Buffalo, N. Y.	14.2	Idaho Falls, Idaho	8.3	Portland, Ore.	8.5
Calro, Ill.	8.2	Indianapolis, Ind.	7.2	Rapid City, S. D.	9.6
Charleston, S. C.	8.3	Jacksonville, Fla.	7.2	Sacramento, Calif.	8.8
Charlotte, N. C.	6.8	Kansas City, Mo.	8.6	St. Louis, Mo.	10.8
Chattanooga, Tenn.	6.7	Koosuk, Ia.	7.9	Salt Lake City, Utah	6.0
Cheyenne, Wyo.	11.4	La Crosse, Wis.	7.0	San Antonio, Tex.	8.6
Chicago, Ill.	17.0	Lexington, Ky.	11.6	San Francisco, Calif.	10.6
Cincinnati, O.	7.7	Little Rock, Ark.	7.0	Santa Fe, N. M.	7.0
Cleveland, O.	13.4	Louisville, Ky.	9.0	Savannah, Ga.	7.8
Columbia, Mo.	8.7	Los Angeles, Calif.	3.8	Seattle, Wash.	5.6
Columbus, O.	7.0	Memphis, Tenn.	9.4	Sioux City, Ia.	10.8
Concordia, Kan.	7.5	Miles City, Mont.	7.0	Spokane, Wash.	6.0
Corpus Christi, Tex.	12.3	Milwaukee, Wis.	10.2	Springfield, Mo.	9.6
Davenport, Ia.	5.2	Minneapolis, Minn.	10.9	Springfield, Mo.	10.4
Denver, Colo.	8.1	Mobile, Ala.	7.4	Toledo, O.	10.0
Des Moines, Ia.	8.1	Morehead, Minn.	10.6	Washington, D. C.	7.0
Dodge City, Kan.	12.6	Natick, Mass.	12.6	Wichita, Kan.	9.2
Duluth, Minn.	10.0	New Haven, Conn.	9.8	Williston, N. D.	8.0
El Paso, Tex.	11.0	New Orleans, La.	8.4	Winemucca, Neb.	10.0

As affecting agriculture and the livestock industry, it may be seen from the statistical information furnished, that the climate here is well suited to varied experimentation. The rainfall is sufficient to permit of highly satisfactory farming of the ordinary kind, and is still not so excessive as to make irrigation experimentation difficult. The average growing season for thirty-seven years has been 232 days per year, measured from the last killing frost in spring to the first killing frost in autumn.

Sunshine is abundant and fogs are virtually unknown. The average number of cloudy days has been only 89 per year.

An analysis of the following report furnished by the Weather Bureau at this station, will indicate the desirability of the climate in respect to those phases of particular interest in connection with the location of an educational institution of the character of the Texas Technological College.

U. S. Department of Agriculture
WEATHER BUREAU
Abilene, Texas

April 4, 1923.

HON. DALLAS SCARBOROUGH,
Abilene, Texas

Dear Sir: Replying to your recent request for information concerning various phases of the climate at Abilene, Texas, I inclose you herewith the following tabulated statement prepared from the official records of the U. S. Weather Bureau station at Abilene:

1. Monthly and annual mean temperature.
2. Highest mean temperature for each month and highest mean for all years of record.
3. Lowest mean temperature for each month and lowest mean for all years of record.
4. Average daily mean temperature range.
5. Highest temperature on record.
6. Lowest temperature on record.
7. Average number of days with freezing temperature (32 degrees or below.)
8. Average monthly and annual precipitation.
9. Greatest precipitation for each month and for all years.
10. Least precipitation for each month and for all years.
11. Greatest precipitation during 24 consecutive hours.
12. Average monthly and annual snowfall.
13. Greatest snowfall for each month and for all years.
14. Average and extreme dates of last killing frost in spring and first killing frost in autumn, and average length of growing season.
15. Average number of days with .01 inch or more precipitation.
16. Average number of days with 0.1 inch or more of snow.
17. Average number of days with thunderstorms.
18. Average number of days with dense fog.
19. Average monthly and annual cloudiness (basis of 0 to 10).
20. Average number of clear days.
21. Average number of partly cloudy days.

22. Average number of cloudy days.
23. Monthly and annual percentage of relative humidity.
24. Average hourly velocity (miles.)
25. Maximum velocity and direction.
26. Prevailing wind direction.
27. Average number of days wind reaching 40 miles per hour for 5-minute period.

All the above data are for the full period of records, October 1885 to December 1922, inclusive, except No. 19, average cloudiness, and No. 23, which is for the period 1888 to 1922, inclusive.

Respectfully,

W. H. GREEN, Observer.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WEATHER BUREAU

Station, Abilene, County, Taylor, State, Texas. Latitude, 32 degrees 23 minutes N Longitude, 99 degrees 40 minutes W. elevation, 1738 feet. Date, as per headings below.

	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.
	Monthly mean temperature.	Highest monthly mean temperature.	Lowest monthly mean temperature	Daily mean temperature range.	Highest temperature on record.	Lowest temperature on record.	Average number days with temp. 32° or below.	Monthly precipitation	Greatest monthly precipitation	Least Monthly precipitation	Greatest 24-hour precipitation	Monthly snowfall	Greatest monthly snowfall
Length of Record	37.25	37.25	37.25	37.25	37.25	37.25	37.25	37.25	37.25	37.25	37.25	37.25	37.25
Oct 1885	44.8	53.0	36.9	22.2	90	-5	17	5.87	3.02	T	1.35	1.6	2.1
January	47.0	52.7	33.2	23.8	94	-6	10	0.91	4.07	0	2.17	1.2	10.8
Feb	48.4	55.5	44.8	24.2	98	10	4	1.15	4.02	0	2.33	0.3	35
Mar	58.4	65.6	61.2	22.4	99	25	0	2.61	9.89	28	4.63	T	T
April	70.1	78.8	65.6	21.8	105	32	0	3.85	8.38	99	6.78	0	0
May	82.8	87.1	7.85	21.7	110	44	0	1.96	7.82	28	2.81	0	0
June	82.1	87.1	76.4	21.8	108	48	0	2.43	13.70	95	4.06	0	0
July	75.6	81.0	69.3	21.2	104	40	0	2.56	9.65	95	4.76	0	0
Aug	65.2	69.3	58.5	22.9	97	33	0	2.49	8.98	T	4.85	0	0
Sep	64.0	69.3	47.8	21.8	88	13	0	1.37	5.82	T	2.14	6.3	8.2
Oct	46.1	53.0	38.6	21.2	82	1	17	1.17	6.62	4	4.87	0.8	7.0
Dec	46.1	53.0	38.6	21.2	82	1	17	1.17	6.62	4	4.87	0.8	7.0
Year	65.1	66.6	61.4	22.2	110	-6	42	14.13	41.60	10.85	6.78	4.0	18.4

"T", amount to small to measure. *Less than 1.

14. Average date of last killing frost in spring, March 22nd.

Latest date of last killing frost in spring, April 22, 1907.

Average date of first killing frost in autumn, November 9th.

Earliest date of first killing frost in autumn, October 19, 1917.

Average length of growing season for the 37-year period of records from 1886 to 1922, inclusive, (last killing frost in spring to first killing frost in autumn, 222 days.)

	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	21.	22.	23.	24.	25.	26.	27.
Number of day with .01 inch or more precipitation.													
Number of days with .01 inch or more precipitation.													
Number of days with thunderstorms													
Number of days with dense fog													
Average monthly cloudiness													
Average number of clear days													
Average number of partly cloudy days													
Average number of cloudy days													
Monthly percentage of relative humidity													
Average hourly velocity (miles)													
Maximum velocity and direction													
Prevailing wind direction													
Average number of days wind velocity of miles per hour for 5-minute period.													
Jan	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Feb	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Mar	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Apr	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
May	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
June	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
July	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Aug	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Sep	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Oct	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Nov	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Dec	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Year	66	3	38	3	4.5	157	119	89	62	10.1	66aw	7	7

*Less than 1.

SECTION 3 WATER SUPPLY

Some Facts and Figures About Lake Abilene.

Location: 17 miles south of Abilene in mountains near Buffalo Gap.

Built and Owned By: The City of Abilene.

Total Length of Dam: One and one-quarter miles.

Maximum Height of Dam: 56½ Feet.

Maximum Width of Dam at Base: 350 Feet.

Maximum Width of Dam at Crest: 20 Feet.

Present Storage Capacity: 7½ Billion Gallons.

Total Area Covered by Lake Water: 800 Acres.

Ultimate Planned Capacity: 17 Billion Gallons.

Area of Watershed Serving Lake: 124 Square Miles.

Depth of Water at Spillway: 45½ Feet.

Altitude of Water Level at Outlet Valve: 2,015.45 Feet Above Sea Level.

Altitude of Abilene at Texas & Pacific Ry. Station: 1,717 Feet.

Delivery of Water to City by All-Gravity Flow Through 50,000 Feet of 18-Inch Cast Iron Pipe, One Mile of Settling Basins and 35,664 Feet of 20-Inch Cast Iron Pipe.

Total Cost of Dam, Pipeline and Distribution System: \$880,000.
Dam Begun August 1, 1918; Completed April 6, 1921.
Pipeline Completed and Placed in Service: February 8, 1922.

Abilene submits that in the matter of water supply, its quality, its abundance, its permanency and its cheapness of delivery, no city in Texas could offer the Texas Technological College a more attractive proposition.

The figures set forth above in this section will indicate the extent to which Abilene has gone in providing a water supply that cannot fail and that can be delivered in the city mains at a maximum of efficiency and a minimum of expense.

Special attention is invited to the fact that in the 124 square miles of watershed which serves Lake Abilene, there is less than one square mile of land that could be called arable. It is rough mountain land that will always be virgin and uninhabited, thus assuring the purity of the supply for all time to come.

Lake Abilene at the present time has approximately the same storage capacity as White Rock Reservoir which supplies the major portion of the water used by the City of Dallas, and with a watershed that is much larger and far superior in every respect. With the addition of ten feet to the dam which is planned by the engineers, and which could be accomplished at an expenditure of less than \$100,000, its capacity can be increased to seventeen billion gallons, just a little larger than that of Lake Worth at Fort Worth.

The delivery of water from Lake Abilene to Abilene by all-gravity flow makes possible unusual cheapness as well as assuring uninterrupted service and constant pressure.

For the use of the Texas Technological College, if located at Abilene, the City of Abilene offers water at a price not to exceed five cents per thousand gallons delivered, with the additional proposal that should any city seeking the location of this school care to offer water at a less price than that named, this city will meet the price named by that city.

SECTION 4 ACCESSIBILITY

Located near the geographical center of the State, Abilene is easily accessible over four railroads and numerous Class A State and National automobile highways.

Situated 407 miles from Texarkana on the east, and 457 miles from El Paso on the west, Abilene is very nearly a half-way point

on the Texas & Pacific Railroad as it traverses the State from east to west. The Wichita Valley Railroad furnishes the outlet to the north, terminating 152 miles away at Wichita Falls, where connection is made with the Fort Worth & Denver City and the Missouri, Kansas & Texas. To the south runs the Abilene & Southern, terminating 55 miles away at Ballinger, where connection is made with the Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe.

In addition the Santa Fe passes within fourteen miles of Abilene to the south, a special motor bus service running on a thirty-minute schedule being maintained between Abilene and Buffalo Gap, the nearest point. Attention is invited to Map No. 2 on which is indicated the railway facilities serving this city.

On Map No. 3 may be seen the system of cardinal automobile highways over which many thousands of motorists annually visit Abilene. The Bankhead Highway, the main east and west automobile trail across the State, the Jefferson Highway, the Puget Sound & Gulf, the Dixie, and the Bankhead Highways, all of which pass through this city, are well-known routes of major automobile traffic. Eight highly improved piked roads radiate from Abilene in all directions, there being in Taylor County at this time a total of 175 miles of improved and surfaced highways built by the County with State and Federal aid.

SECTION 5

POPULATION

Careful consideration is especially invited of Map No. 4, attached hereto, on which is graphically shown salient facts with regard to distribution of population in the State as a whole, and within the territory designated by the bill creating this school.

The total population of that section of the State north of the 29th parallel and west of the 98th meridian is shown by the 1920 Government Census to be 1,254,179. The center of population for this area, using 1920 census figures, falls in the southwest corner of Callahan County, thirty miles to the southeast of Abilene.

With Abilene as a center a circle drawn with a radius of 100 miles embraces a territory in which reside 431,000 people, or approximately one-third of the total population of the statutory district. Enlarged to 150 mile radius this circle takes in territory in which live, in round figures, 1,000,000 people, or approximately five-sixths of the total population of the statutory district.

How this density of population with Abilene as a center com-

pares with other sections of the State under consideration, is shown on this map by taking a point as near the center of the Panhandle-Plains district as can be approximated. With this point as a center a circle of 100 miles embraces a population of 149,000. Enlarged to a radius of 150 miles the circle takes in only 350,000 inhabitants of the State of Texas.

In other words, it is here conclusively shown that the population of the territory computed with Abilene as a center is from three to four times as dense as it is surrounding points further west or north.

SECTION 6

LIGHT AND POWER

Electric energy for power and lighting purposes can be furnished in Abilene cheaper than any other city within the district designated for the location of the college. This is due to the fact that in Abilene is located the largest central power station in West Texas, and one of the largest in the entire State.

This great power station, representing an investment of approximately one and one half million dollars, is owned and operated by the West Texas Utilities Company, a subsidiary of one of the greatest electrical operating organizations in the world—the American Public Service Company. This station is capable of supplying with its present equipment electrical energy for a city four times the size of Abilene. The surplus energy is distributed over high-voltage lines to thirty-two West Texas towns and cities, and the capacity of the station can be increased at any time by the installation of additional units without disturbing the existing equipment or the obtaining service. Continuous service is further assured by the installation of duplicate auxiliary equipment.

By reason of the large volume of electric energy thus produced and economies made possible by centralization, this station can offer current at rates which make the operation of a private power plant within its territory a needless burden. Power from this station, in fact, can and will be furnished to the Texas Technological College if located in Abilene, cheaper than the State could produce this power even if it already owned its own plant. In other words, the location of the college at Abilene will mean an initial saving in invested capital of from \$150,000 to \$200,000, that being the amount that would be required to install a power station that would adequately supply the needs of the institution.

That current can be supplied to the State by the Abilene station cheaper than the State can manufacture its own power, even where it already owns its plant, is indicated by the fact that a contract is now being considered by the state with this station to furnish current for the State Epileptic Colony, located here. Ever since its establishment nearly twenty years ago, the Epileptic Colony has supplied its own power from its own power station. This power plant represents an investment of about \$150,000, and recent tests made by engineers establishes that the price for current quoted by the West Texas Utilities Company is cheaper than the cost of manufacturing current has been.

The opportunity presented for the use of this great power plant as a demonstrating laboratory in connection with scientific courses offered in the school is discussed in another section of this brief.

Quoted herewith is letter from the West Texas Utilities Company setting forth the rates offered the Texas Technological College for electric energy requirements if located in Abilene:

Abilene, Texas, April 4th, 1923.

Mr. Dallas Scarborough,
Abilene.

Dear Sir:—

As per our telephone conversation this morning, I am listing below, tentative rate covering electric service which we could offer to the Texas Technological College. This is the same rate that we are offering to the Colony and is a better rate than the State is obtaining on their other installations.

Due to the high load factor this rate nets 3.3c per KWH. This is for demand load of near 20 H. P.

\$1.50 per H. P. of demand, which includes 15 KWH per H. P. of demand per month plus an energy charge, for KWH in excess of that included above of

6c KWH Next 25 KWH per H. P. of demand per month.
4c KWH Next 1500 KWH
2c KWH 8000 KWH
1.5c KWH excess

Gas rate for industrial purposes is fixed by the Texas Gas Company, and is 17c per 1000 cubic feet.

Very truly yours,
WEST TEXAS UTILITIES COMPANY,
Price Campbell, District Supt.

SECTION 7

FUEL

Less than fifty miles from Abilene lie the world's greatest oil and gas fields, virtually bringing to Abilene's door the best and cheapest fuel known to man. Abilene relies almost exclusively on natural gas as fuel for domestic and industrial purposes. The present supply comes to this city from the Moran district, 45 miles to the northeast and is delivered through a six inch pile line under heavy pressure from the Moran pumping stations. The supply is abundantly adequate for all purposes. Engineers estimate that the present equipment and supply will care for this city for the next ten years, and the available supply has scarcely been more than scratched. There is sufficient natural gas underlying the great oil fields to the South, East and North to supply all needs for countless years to come.

For the Texas Technological College, if located in Abilene, a rate of 17 cents per thousand cubic feet is offered. At this price the State can be supplied with all fuel requirements at about one half the cost of any other fuel that could be used in this district.

While as a further safeguard for the future, attention is invited to the fact that less than 100 miles away are located the great coal deposits, now being mined at Strawn, Thurber and Mingus. Coal from these mines can be delivered in Abilene at a rate of 8 cents per hundred pounds, a very cheap rate and one that assures substantial savings should it ever be necessary to resort to the use of this fuel

SECTION 8

SEWER

The sewer system of Abilene is owned and operated by the city with an abundant fund derived from the sale of sewer bonds to care for all necessary extensions and improvements for many years to come. The system at this time consists of a thoroughly modern and adequate sewage disposal plant operated by a competent corps of sanitary engineers, with connecting mains covering the entire city and aggregating in length more than 32½ miles. The system is being steadily enlarged to care for the growing needs of the city and connection with the mains is now compulsory in all parts of the municipality.

The service of this system is placed at the disposal of Texas Tech.

nological College at either of the two sites offered. At Site No. 1 the sewer mains already reach to within one block of the property offered and could be extended to the building site in a matter of a very few working days.

The service thus offered would mean a saving of several thousand dollars to the State through elimination of the necessity of providing private sewage disposal equipment.

SECTION 9

STREET PAVING

Within a period of less than three years Abilene has invested in permanent, hard-surfaced street paving approximately One Million Dollars, and now ranks as one of the best paved small cities in the State. Counting only those streets already paved, or pavement now actually under construction and to be finished in less than 90 days from this date, Abilene has a present total of 168 blocks, or approximately ten miles of hard surfaced paved streets within the corporate limits. This paving is either brick, concrete, or bitulithic. In addition there are within the corporate limits twenty miles of graveled connecting streets.

In other words Abilene is thoroughly paved, from end to end and side to side, making every nook and corner of the city easily accessible and opening the entire city to service in the care of students attending the colleges here.

Site No. 1 offered by Abilene is directly at the end of Butternut Street, which is paved over its entire length of 18 blocks with bitulithic on a concrete base. This paving is new, having been in service less than three months. (See Map No. 1)

SECTION 10

STREET RAILWAY

There is in operation in Abilene at the present time one of the most complete and efficient street railway systems to be found in a city of similar size in the Southwest. The Abilene Traction Company, operators of the system, is a branch of the West Texas Utilities Company, owners of the great central power station here, and the street railway is maintained at a standard commensurate with the other holdings of this company.

In use at this time there is five miles of high grade trackage,

furnishing rapid and convenient transportation to and from all principal parts of the city, with an additional two miles of trackage now under construction designed especially to care for the needs of McMurtry College.

The street railway runs from the business district to the door of Simmons College on the North and from the business district to the door of McMurtry College on the South. If located in Abilene The Texas Technological College will likewise be served by street railway direct to the door of the institution at either of the two sites offered.

Adequate street railway service of the kind offered, together with the extensive system of paved streets, places the entire residential and business section of Abilene at the immediate command of the school and opens up unlimited boarding accommodations for students and faculty. (See Map No. 1.)

SECTION 11

BOARDING FACILITIES

Abilene, like all college towns, has attracted to it hundreds of families desirous of making their homes and rearing their children in the wholesome and advantageous environment characteristic of such communities. A great many of such families, being of moderate financial means, avail themselves of the opportunity offered here to augment their incomes by taking as boarders students attending the schools.

The result of this process and the mental attitude it has built up in the community is twofold. Students find it easy to obtain rooms and board in highly desirable locations and among highly desirable people, and the price asked, due to the abundance of space available, is very reasonable.

A recent survey made among the students of Simmons College and Abilene Christian College, shows that the average price paid for room and board by students attending these schools, is \$27 per month.

At the present time building in the residential portions of this city is being carried on at a more rapid rate than ever before in its history.

On account of these things it is submitted that no city in Texas offers for college students more attractive, more abundant or more economical boarding facilities than does Abilene.

SECTION 12

HEALTH

With a moderately high altitude, a moderately dry climate, an abundant supply of pure water, and an intelligent sanitary code intelligently administered, Abilene maintains a health record which needs no apology and no excuse.

Insofar as records show there has never been a death in this city the cause of which could be directly traced to contaminated water supply. The isolated cases of typhoid fever which have been recorded have invariably been due to personal carelessness or lack of personal hygiene. No deaths at all from fever have been recorded in this city for two years.

In 1922 the city death rate was 5.2 per thousand of population, a remarkably low record for a city of this size.

The remarkable healthfulness of the city is indicated in records of the two colleges already established here. At Simmons College records for the last fifteen years, (which was as far back as could accurately be secured) show there have been but three deaths in the student body. One of these was from pneumonia, contracted through unnecessary exposure, another from appendicitis, and the third from typhoid. The case of typhoid was contracted by a young man student keeping bachelor quarters and doing his own cooking in a distant suburb of the city and whose illness was not discovered by the school authorities until he was near death.

At Abilene Christian College, records for the last twelve years, show that in the student body there has been only one death. This was a case of diptheria, contracted by one of the very young students in the preparatory department, who was living with his family in the city and not quartered at the school dormitory.

There has never been a death at either of the two schools among students quartered in the school dormitories.

Official vital statistics for 1922 for this city indicate the remarkable character of the health of the citizenship. There were in all 119 deaths recorded, divided as follows as to cause:

Heart Disease	14	Blood Poison	3
Stillborn	13	Pellagra	2
Tuberculosis	11	Carbuncle	2
Cancer	10	Appendicitis	2
Influenza	10	Menengitis	1
Accident	9	Endocarditis, rheumatis	1
Intestinal (Infants under 3)	3	Intestinal Obstruction	1
Pneumonia	8	Gall Bladder	1
Senility	6	Paralysis	1
Bright's Disease	6	Leucaemia	1
Uremia	4	Erysipelas	1
Apoplexy	3		
TOTALS	119		

The City of Abilene maintains an efficient public health department and strictly enforces intelligent ordinances with regard to sanitation, both in the residential and business districts of the city. Restaurants, cold drink fountains, dairies, abattoirs, and all businesses dealing in foodstuffs are regularly and carefully inspected. The city owns and operates an adequate and efficient sewer system and connection therewith by all residents is compulsory.

Two public health nurses, operating under direction of the American Red Cross, are maintained on full time in the City and county for the purposes of teaching home hygiene and promoting general healthfulness among those classes where supervision is particularly needed. The Red Cross also operates a free clinic and dispensary at the County Court House.

It is submitted that nowhere could the health of a student body be better safeguarded than in Abilene.

SECTION 13

FACULTY SURROUNDINGS

To professional men and women sought as faculty members for Texas Technological College, special inducements and unusual attractions can be offered if this school is located in Abilene. Besides holding forth the attractive features to be found in the many metropolitan comforts and conveniences available here, school men and women will find an exceptionally congenial atmosphere in which to live and work, due, of course, to the already large circle of people assembled here engaged in professional education. An

accurate count of faculty members of the schools and colleges here recently made placed the number at 168. And this, of course, is not taking into consideration the additional number of educators who will come with the opening next September of McMurry College.

The highest type of social and recreational life is to be found here and of course the best of the civic organizations and social clubs of the city are open to all faculty members.

The Abilene Country Club, whose grounds immediately adjoin Site No. 1 offered for the new college, is one of the best appointed and equipped in the State. A handsome, modern club house erected last year at a cost of more than \$50,000, a spacious swimming pool and a magnificent golf course are among the outstanding assets of this club which offers to all faculty members of the Texas Technological College full privileges without the necessity of becoming share holders in the properties. This invitation likewise is extended by the Abilene Golf Club which maintains a nine hole course in another section of the city.

The geographical location of Abilene between Fort Worth and El Paso, and the fact that the city is located on the Texas & Pacific, the main artery of East and West travel, results in the appearance here annually of many of the world's best artists in music, drama and literature. Abilene, recognized as a college town which liberally patronizes these high class entertainments, is always favored in the making of such contracts.

These are some of the things that make Abilene especially attractive as a home to men and women engaged professionally in education.

SECTION 14

SANITARIUMS

No factor could well be considered of more vital importance in seeking a location for such an institution as the Texas Technological College than hospital service. It is presumed that the State will not care to build, for many years at least, a hospital for the care of students attending this institution. It seems an essential therefore, that whatever location is selected should be in such a place as to be immediately adjacent to a first class hospital.

And here Abilene is justly proud of what she has to offer. With three first class hospitals already in operation and in which medical attention of the highest type is already available, this city is preparing to open within the next six months one of the greatest

Christian medical institutions of the Southwest.

The West Texas Baptist Sanitarium, now nearing completion and to be opened not later than next October, will rank with the best hospitals in the State of Texas. The first unit of this magnificent sanitarium will occupy a five-story, fireproof building of steel, concrete and brick, costing \$175,000 subscribed by the citizens of Abilene and the Baptists of this district. It is to be equipped with the finest scientific instruments, the best laboratories, and the best operating rooms that money can provide. The initial capacity of this hospital will be 120 beds, which will be increased later by the addition of two wings. The entire fifth floor, reached by two electric elevators, will be given over to laboratories and operating rooms.

The Baptist Sanitarium will be open for the use of the public and will be operated on the "open staff policy." That is to say it will be open for the use and practice of any reputable physician certified to be of sufficient standing in the profession.

At the present time Abilene has in operation three hospitals of the first class: The Alexander Sanitarium with a state wide reputation, having a capacity of 50 beds; the Hollis Sanitarium with a capacity of 20 beds and the Abilene Hospital with a capacity of 25 beds.

Abilene hospitals serve a clientele covering a large territory in this section of the State.

SECTION 15

MARKET AND SOURCE OF SUPPLY

Abilene, the largest wholesale and jobbing center between Fort Worth and El Paso, offers especial advantages as a market in which can be readily and cheaply bought supplies for such an institution as Texas Technological College, as well as the retail requirements of students and faculty members.

Abilene, as has been pointed out herein, is a common point for interstate shipments of freight, by reason, of which merchandise of all kinds from Eastern and Northern markets can be laid down here as cheaply as in any city in the State. The result is that not only are all kinds of products abundant here but can be bought at advantageous prices. Abilene's retail establishments are of the first order, carrying stocks that cannot be excelled in any city of similar proportions in the South. Virtually anything that can be bought in any of the larger cities of the state can be bought

in Abilene retail establishments and at prices as low or lower.

Wholesale houses of all kinds are numerous here and supplies of all kinds for the college could be purchased from these houses at a great saving to the State. There are four of the largest wholesale grocery houses of Texas located here, and in addition a wholesale produce house that would do credit to any city in Texas. This produce house owns and operates its own cold storage plant recently completed and said by engineers to be one of the finest and most thoroughly equipped plants of the kind in the United States.

Other products distributed by Abilene wholesale firms are: paper and paper products, automobiles and automobile supplies, meat and packing house products, oils and gasoline, hardware, furniture, lumber and building materials, sheet metal products, plumbing supplies, dry goods and clothing, implements and farm tools, office and printing supplies.

SECTION 16

FARMING AND LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY

Attached hereto is a geological map (Map No. 5) by which it may be seen that Abilene is situated in the heart of the Clear Fork Beds of the Carboniferous area of Western Texas, just west of the heavy limestone deposits formed by the Wichita-Albany Beds and a full forty miles to the east of the eastern limit of the great gypsiferous area. These facts have an important bearing on the suitability of soil for purposes of agricultural experiment.

The soil survey map (Map No. 6) attached hereto, which is issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, shows that there are mapped in Taylor County twenty-six types of soil, exclusive of rough stony lands found on the high plateaus in the southern part of the county. These types represent nine soil series, the Crawford, Brackett, Vernon, Miles, Abilene, Bastrop, Simmons, Miller and Frio. This variety of soil types is of especial importance in consideration of a location where agricultural experimentation is one of the prime objects in view.

The climate of Abilene has been fully discussed under Section 2 hereof, and reference to that section is now made in consideration of the suitability of this as a location for an agricultural school. The average annual rainfall of 24.13 inches is almost an ideal mean to permit the teaching of all kinds of farming, including the ordinary methods of cultivation, dry farming and irrigation. All

three of these methods are now, in fact, employed successfully by practical farmers of this and adjoining counties.

Abilene is situated in the heart of one of the finest and richest agricultural and livestock districts of Texas, a district already noted for progress in the important factor of diversification. Cereals, cotton and grain-sorghum feedstuffs are the principal field crops grown, while livestock and poultry raising and dairying have been developed on a large commercial scale.

The extent to which this territory has been developed as a farming country may readily be seen by glancing at the following statistics, taken from Volume VI of the 1920 government census of Taylor County:

Number of farms, 1920—1,892.

Total Land area of County—581,120 acres.

Land in farms—455,441 acres.

Percent of land area in farms—78.4.

Total value of farm property, 1920—\$20,015,423.00.

Total value domestic animals, 1920—\$2,024,539.00.

Milk produced, 1920—951,880 gallons.

Value of dairy products, 1920—\$164,413.00.

Eggs produced, 1920—284,903 dozens.

Value of Chickens and Eggs produced, 1920—\$211,412.00.

Total value of farm crops produced, 1920—\$11,313,463.00.

Total cereals produced, 1920—2,432,802 bushels.

Total hay and forage produced, 1920—14,294 tons.

Total cotton produced, 1920—38,190 bales.

These figures, it will be found, compare favorably with those shown for any county in the State of Texas, and the total value of farm products produced places Taylor County as twenty-third in rank among the 257 counties of the state.

SECTION 17

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGE ATMOSPHERE

Why Abilene is Called an Educational Center

	.. Total	
	Land Owned	Land Value
Abilene Public Schools (Ward)	12 Acres	\$60,000.00
Abilene High School	4 Acres	\$20,000.00
St. Joseph's Academy	5 Acres	\$10,000.00
Simmons College	40 Acres	\$80,000.00
Abilene Christian College	42 Acres	\$75,000.00
McMurry College	40 Acres	\$60,000.00
Draydon's Business College	NONE	
National Business College	NONE	
TOTALS	143 Acres	305,000.00

Number of Buildings	Total Value		Total Students Enrolled	Number Employed In Faculty
	Bldgs. and Equipment	School Plant		
5	\$250,000.00	\$310,000.00	2,400	52
1	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 70,000.00	910	23
1	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	175	6
10	\$496,000.00	\$576,000.00	936	42
10	\$250,000.00	\$325,000.00	727	36
2	\$225,000.00	\$285,000.00	Not yet open	
1 (Rent)	500	7
1 (Rent)	350	3
31	\$1,321,000.00	\$1,626,000.00	5,998	168

Thirty-two years ago Abilene entered the ranks of the college cities of Texas with the founding here of Simmons College, today grown into one of the outstanding denominational educational institutions of the Southwest. And for thirty-two years there has been growing and expanding in Abilene that thing of slow growth but tremendous significance known as cultural atmosphere.

Year by year Abilene has taken on added attractions for young men and young women in search of the best in educational advantage and environment. Like has attracted like until at the present time Abilene has come to be recognized as a "college town" offering inducements of an educational and cultural character seldom excelled in any city of the United States.

Abilene Christian College, the second denominational school to choose Abilene as a location, has a record of seventeen years of clean and steady growth, until today it is crowding close on the heels of its sister school in point of student enrollment and attractiveness.

McMurry College, the third denominational school to be located here, is preparing to open its doors for service next September with a new, modern school plant that will equal anything of its kind in the State.

Abilene's public schools are keeping pace with the development of the higher institutions of learning. With enrollment of well over 3,000 pupils and total property valuations of \$380,000 the Abilene public school system is rated as one of the most efficient in Texas. Three of the four ward school buildings now in use were completed in 1922, and are of the latest and most modern fireproof construction and equipment in every detail. While a contract has already been let for the first unit of a \$250,000 High School building that will supplant the present building before the opening of the next school term.

St. Joseph's Academy and two business colleges are additional educational ventures that have thrived in Abilene and that are growing rapidly with each passing year.

The remarkable growth and success of the schools which have chosen Abilene as a location is the best evidence this city has to offer that it is a logical and desirable place for the establishment of a school. And it is submitted that the placing here of a technical and agricultural school would so fully and happily complement and round out the educational advantages already offered by this as an educational center that all of the units in the city would benefit enormously from increased prestige and the increased patronage that would inevitably result.

The building of a really intelligent and understanding college sentiment in any community is a matter that cannot be accomplished within a short space of time. Abilene citizens, by reason of more than a quarter century of education, have come to think in educational channels. Abilene people speak the language of the college student and understand and sympathize with his needs and notions. While the population of Abilene is large enough to guarantee that patronage of student activities and athletic contests, so important to the life of any such institution, will be ample for their financial and moral support.

SECTION 18

FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIES

While Abilene could hardly be called a "factory town" it is, nevertheless, probably the nearest approach to a general industrial center that can be found within the territory designated by the bill creating this school.

In addition to the magnificent central electric power station which would in itself serve as an invaluable source of information for students enrolled in technical courses, Abilene has a number of manufacturing plants among the more important products of which are flour, cotton seed oil products, brick and artificial building stone, sashes and doors, peanut oil products, brooms, storage batteries, books and bindings, lubricating oils, gasoline and petroleum products, soap, cigars, candy, ice cream, bottled drinks, automobile tops and parts, and leather goods. Eight modern cotton gins and one large compressing plant offer ample facilities for instruction in cotton handling and marketing.

Abilene, with its advantageous geographical location, its well established position as a distributing center, its water supply and cheap fuel and power, is rapidly developing along industrial lines and within the next decade seems destined to become one of the really important manufacturing points of Texas.

CONCLUSION

It is noted by this committee that some argument has been advanced against Abilene as a location for the new college on the ground that Abilene already has three colleges and that the location of a state school would injure these denominational institutions.

This Committee respectfully submits that such an idea is without justification. We of Abilene, who have contributed largely of our time and our money, and who will continue to contribute our time and our money to the upbuilding of these denominational schools, would certainly be the last to advocate any policy or any project that could remotely be calculated to impair or injure these valuable assets. On the contrary, however, we earnestly believe, after the most careful consideration and investigation, that the location here of the Texas Technological College would materially strengthen and assist these denominational schools that we have already built. We also urge that the presence of these schools

creates an educational prestige and an educational atmosphere that would be of inestimable advantage to the new State institution, and would contribute much to its immediate success and rapid development.

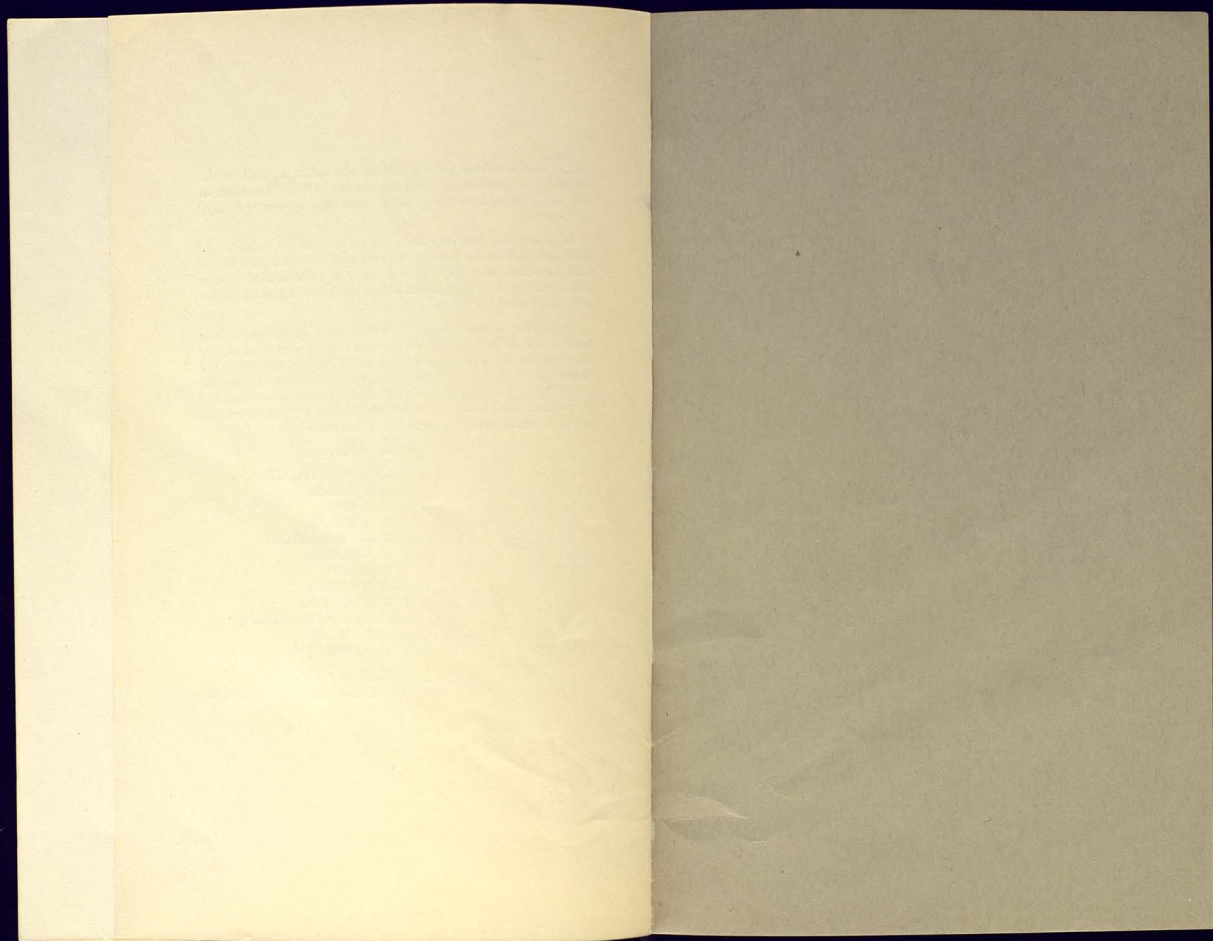
In order that you may know how the executive heads of the three denominational colleges located here view this matter, we have requested that they direct a letter to your honorable body. These letters we have attached hereto and made a part of this report, and especial attention is invited thereto.

In conclusion this Committee, whose names appear below, begs leave to advise that all statements appearing in this brief are the result of careful and painstaking investigation, and are true and correct to the best of their knowledge and belief. And this Committee furthermore binds itself to the fulfillment of the terms of all propositions herein laid down, should this city be selected by you as a location for this great Texas institution.

Respectfully submitted,

WILL A. MINTER, JR.
HENRY JAMES
R. D. GREEN
J. M. RADFORD
GEORGE L. PAXTON
J. P. SEWELL
J. W. HUNT
W. G. SWENSON
J. D. SANDEFER
DALLAS SCARBOROUGH
GEORGE W. FRY
W. G. KINSOLVING

Committee for the
Abilene Chamber of Commerce.



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