After two years' residence in Granbury and after re-election at a substantial salary increase, Professor Sandefer received a telegram from the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, J. S. Kendall, offering him the second position in John Tarleton College at Stephenville, Texas. Reluctantly, he accepted this challenge and in 1901, he and his family of four took up residence in Stephenville. He began his service as professor of history and Latin and assistant to the president, a position which he held for six years.

The first fall after he entered the faculty of John Tarleton College, he was invited to address a group of people in a rural meeting house in the area of Thurber, Texas. He hired a team of horses and a buggy and drove to the appointment. A group of friends in the community had written him that they would pay his expenses if he would come out and stir up some religious and educational interest in the community.

His address was a great success and his listeners' enthusiasm was unbounded. They rushed up to him and shook his hand and proclaimed their interest in his vocation. One mother asked Professor Sandefer to meet her son and told him that she was planning to let the boy enter the academic department of the school at the beginning of the next term.
When the term opened the boy enrolled and chose Professor Sandefer’s room as his “home room” and would sit in no other room during his three or four years as a student there. He was an unpretentious looking boy with only ordinary ability; however he studied hard and did the best he could.

Years later, after Professor Sandefer became president of Simmons College, he received a letter from Washington, D. C., written in a large, bold handwriting. It was from this boy, and he told the president that he held a position as one of the assistants in the Department of Treasury and that he was receiving a yearly salary of five thousand dollars.

He wrote, “I asked myself the question. How did a poor, obscure, country boy ever find his way to Washington, much less have a position such as I am holding? I answered the question in less than a second; it was the talk Professor Sandefer made in the rural community in the days when I was young and ambitious, but without a ray of hope of ever becoming anything except a hired hand on a farm or ranch, in the section where I had been reared.”

Professor Sandefer was from the beginning of his career a very popular teacher. His room was always crowded to capacity and some of the boys and girls refused to sit in any room other than his. It might be well to relate here a story indicative of his popularity and Christian influence.

There were two girls who always insisted on having his room as their “home room”; they were named Lula Russell and Ethel Greenwood. During the time they were students in the school, they contracted a deadly fever and after they went to their homes they both died.
Jefferson Davis Sandefer

Both requested that Professor Sandefer speak at their funeral. Lula Russell had become a Christian before she started to college and was a member of the Baptist church of Stephenville. The other girl was not supposed to be a Christian, but she told her family that she had found the way to Christ and had been converted while sitting in Professor Sandefer's room.

He says, "I do not know exactly what I said that led her to Christ, but I have always been happy in the thought that the privilege was mine."

In 1904, he did summer work in the University of Chicago. Returning to Stephenville, he continued as professor of Latin and history. During that time he was broadening his acquaintance and acquiring much fame as a public speaker.

He was made chairman of the prohibition forces of Stephenville, and while serving in that capacity, Tom Long, an old cowman who was one of the leaders of the opposition, became very bitter toward him. The old man would not even speak to him when they would chance to pass on the streets. When school opened in the fall the old man's sons entered the college. They were seated in Professor Sandefer's classes. Knowing that their father was rather peculiar and that he was an advocate of the open saloon, Professor Sandefer gave the boys an unusual amount of attention and won their undying devotion.

After two or three months had passed, Professor Sandefer was walking along the street one day, when the old man approached him and held out his hand in a very friendly attitude and gave him a cordial welcome. He said, "Professor, I do not know what I am going to do with my boys. I believe they think more of you than they do of me. They spend much time bragging about
you and I am getting jealous.'" Professor Sandefer said, "I don't want them to think more of me than they do of you, but I am happy to have their confidence and love."

They chatted for a few minutes longer and Professor Sandefer returned to his home feeling that he had won a great victory. He never saw Tom alive again. Two or three nights after this, before he had a chance to talk to Tom about his becoming a Christian, he took sick very suddenly and was dead before Professor Sandefer knew of his illness.

On the morning after his death, a boy came to Professor Sandefer's door and handed him a note. It was from the poor heartbroken wife and the message was as follows: "Tom died this morning at three o'clock and his last request was that you conduct his funeral. He wanted the boys to continue their education with you, if possible. He told me that you were the best man he had ever known and that your ideals were the ideals that he hoped the boys would have when they were grown."

Family hardships and financial conditions made it impossible for the boys to continue in college. President Sandefer says, "I do not know what type of citizens the boys made. I do know that I lost an opportunity, as many other Christians do, of rendering a service to one whose soul was sick and who was certainly ready to listen to me on any subject I wanted to discuss, when once he realized I had the love and confidence of his boys. I doubt if there is any sinner who could not be reached under circumstances like the above, if the opportunity is seized."

When Alton B. Parker of New York was to be nominated in St. Louis at the National Democratic Convention for the presidency of the United States, Pro-
Professor Sandefer heard that Martin W. Littleton, his boyhood and student friend, had been chosen to nominate him. He immediately notified Littleton that he would be there and that he wanted to see him. He slipped away from his manifold duties and attended the convention.

This was the convention when William Jennings Bryan, who had been a candidate twice for the presidency of the United States, opposed with all his powerful influence and personality the nomination of Parker. Bryan nominated Senator Cockrell of Missouri for the presidency. Senator Cockrell was a brother of Congressman Cockrell from the Abilene, Texas, district.

Littleton and the New York delegation were the centers of political interest at the convention. Professor Sandefer found it very difficult to reach Littleton, since the doorkeeper of their suite had been instructed to admit no one during a certain period, as their delegation was drafting a platform upon which to present Parker to the convention. Professor Sandefer told the doorkeeper that he was a boyhood friend of Littleton and had notified Littleton that he wanted to meet him there. The doorkeeper insisted that Littleton could not be disturbed. Professor Sandefer asked him if he would hand Littleton a slip of paper with his name on it. This, the doorkeeper agreed to do. He wrote the words “Dave Sandefer” on the note and sent it in. Littleton came to the door in less than a minute and grasped his hand and gave him a big “bear” hug and invited him into his suite.

After a few moments felicitations, Littleton turned to the leaders of his delegation, including David Bennett Hill (Governor of New York and candidate for the presidency), Richard Croker (former head of Tammany Hall), and Charles F. Murphy (active head of Tammany
Hall), and introduced them to Professor Sandefer. He told them that he and Sandefer had been boys together in Parker County, Texas.

Professor Sandefer felt that this was a distinct epoch in his political contacts, the fact that he had the pleasure of meeting these national celebrities about whom he had read during almost his entire adult life. The next highest points to him of this national political convention were the nominating speeches for Parker and for Senator Cockrell.

On January the sixth, 1906, another child came to live in the Sandefer home. This child was a boy, and destined to be the baby of the family; they named him Gilbert Bryan Sandefer. He now resides in Abilene, Texas, and is manager of athletics, band, and artists' courses at Hardin-Simmons University.

In the summer of 1906, the family journeyed to Chicago to live, while the husband and father was completing his work in the university there.

The school from which he had graduated in Texas, Parker Institute, had become defunct and the University of Chicago would give no credit to students entering there, coming from such institutions. So he registered as a “Special,” choosing heads of graduate departments for his work.

He had work in international law under Dr. Harry Pratt Judson, who was graduate dean and who later succeeded Dr. Harper, as president. He did a full year's work under Dr. James Rowland Angell. Dr. Angell later became president of Yale University, and has become president emeritus there within the last year or so. He had his work in history with Dr. Andrew J. McLaughlin, head of the history department.
President Sandefer says, "Dr. McLaughlin took a peculiar interest in me because I bore the name of Jefferson Davis. He had me as a guest for Sunday dinner on two occasions in order that his boys might get a chance to hear my Southern "lingo" and hear me talk about the South and her ways."

On one occasion Dr. Albert Bushnell Hart of Harvard University visited in the University of Chicago and delivered a series of lectures to Dr. McLaughlin's graduate students. Dr. McLaughlin gave them all an opportunity to meet him. When he introduced Sandefer, he said, "This is my unreconstructed rebel, whose father was a Confederate soldier, and whose name is Jefferson Davis. This rebel contends that the South never seceded from the Union, but on the other hand, wore itself out, after four years, trying to make the North respect the Constitution, as it was adopted by our forefathers."

Dr. Hart's reply was, "Dr. McLaughlin, you are just about the only historian of university rank, in this section of the country, who does not agree with the young gentleman."

Adding to this list of noted scholars, we find that Professor Sandefer had additional training under Dr. George E. Vincent, who later became president of the University of Minnesota and then president of the Rockefeller Foundation; Dr. Alvin W. Small, who was head of the department of sociology; and Dr. Nathaniel Butler, head of the school of education.

After completing the required work of all these educators, the officials of the university required him to submit in typewritten form courses that he had taken at Parker Institute, and the University of Texas. They also asked for some courses he had taught, but never studied
in school as basis for a degree. Much to his surprise they were accepted, and he was granted a Bachelor of Philosophy degree and had more than enough credits left to take a Master of Arts degree. He had made an "A" record under all these graduate heads and the committee dealt with him much more generously than he had anticipated. Since it was their general rule not to grant a candidate more credits than he asked for and not to open the case after it was once closed, he made no effort to take his Master of Arts degree.

This pursuit of education in Chicago had come during the time of his professorship at John Tarleton College. Returning to Stephenville he became superintendent of the city schools, which position he held for one year. It was during that year that the present high school building was built. Two of his predecessors had been asked to resign and one was indicted for punishing the children, as patrons thought, unmercifully. About one thousand students were enrolled in the school system at that time. The year's administration ran so smoothly that corporal punishment was not administered to a single student in the system. Many superintendents and principals from that section of the state visited the school system and sought to find the recipe for controlling students without resort to physical pain.

In the summer of 1907, following Professor Sandefier's return from Chicago University, he again became active in normal work; in fact, he conducted normals each summer. The summer normal served as a training school for teachers or prospective teachers who were interested in securing or renewing certificates. At that time the State Department of Education issued third grade, second grade, first grade, and teacher's permanent certificates. The summer normal was under the direction of the state superintendent and was carried on
by a chosen conductor and a staff of leading teachers in the individual areas throughout the state.

Some of the places where normals were conducted were: Strawn, Mineral Wells, Weatherford, Granbury, Stephenville, and Miami. In addition to conducting these normals he was invited to visit other normals of Central and West Texas and deliver a series of talks to the teachers on their administrative and pedagogical problems.

During the time he was conducting the Miami normal, he was invited to deliver a fourth of July oration at Mobeetie, Wheeler County, on the plains. The Mobeetie Texan says of the speech:

Our program committee may well congratulate themselves on securing the able service of Professor Jefferson Davis Sandefer, to deliver the national oration, which was done at eleven o'clock in the large auditorium at the courthouse; he is superintendent of the public schools at Stephenville, now Conductor of the Miami normal, is an orator of ability and power. His eloquence, logic, and oratory are equaled by few speakers in Texas. And he held the large throng spell bound for over an hour by his magical power of speech.

Professor Sandefer did not display the 'bloody shirt' but paid the good people of the Southland and Texas, too, a glowing tribute on their liberty-loving, patriotic, educational, industrial, and higher ideal attitude toward free institutions.

While he was in that section of the state he continued on to the Confederate Reunion at Canyon City and there delivered an address, and the Canyon City News had the following to say concerning his speech:

The platform feature of the third day was the address of Jefferson Davis Sandefer, superintendent of the public schools at Stephenville. It was a good one in both substance and delivery and well worthy to be placed alongside of those delivered by the three congressmen who preceded him. In
fact Mr. Sandefer is congressional timber; he came near it once in Gillespie’s district and he will break in the Capitol circle yet if he doesn’t look out.

Before the scholastic year had closed, the president of John Tarleton College had resigned and a telegram was sent to Superintendent Sandefer by the state superintendent and the governor tendering him the presidency of the college. This offer was quite a pleasing one, as neither Sandefer nor any of his close friends had sought the job for him. He accepted the place and thus became the president of a college of senior standing in Texas.

During his first year as president, the student body doubled in enrollment and a new dormitory for girls was erected. The funds for this building were procured by President Sandefer from a good Methodist woman, Mrs. Mary Corn Wilkerson. President Sandefer says, in recalling the incident, “Some of my friends were given to saying that it was the first time, and only time in Texas history, where a Baptist deacon secured a gift from a Methodist woman, to provide a building on a state school campus.”

When they started the building, the town in general, including Mrs. Wilkerson, turned out for the laying of the cornerstone. Before they set the stone, she asked the builders what names were chiseled on the stone. When she found that only the state board members’ names

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*Sandefer, President J. D.: Personal Interview. Mr. and Mrs. Wilkerson lived only three blocks from where President Sandefer and his family resided. They were extensive property holders of Erath County. They were very pious and devoted Methodists and always came to hear President Sandefer lecture on subjects of interest to them, such as prohibition, religion, or educational problems. Mr. Wilkerson died during President Sandefer’s last year as president and Mrs. Wilkerson built the dormitory as a memorial to her husband.*
were on, and all local board members' names, including President Sandefer's name, had been left off, she had them return the stone to the mason and put President Sandefer's name on it. She told them that if there had been no Sandefer, there would have been no girls' dormitory.

She had built in the southeast corner of the dormitory, on the first floor, a beautiful suite of rooms for President Sandefer and his family.

President Sandefer made his annual report on the school to Governor Joseph D. Sayers and R. B. Cousins (at that time state superintendent). He gave the report about the middle of June, in the governor's office. Because of the excellent report made, the governor insisted on raising President Sandefer's salary four hundred dollars for the ensuing year. The school was seemingly on the road to a very promising future.

"Both my family and I were perfectly happy in our new home, its environment, and the outlook for John Tarleton College," remarks President Sandefer.

There are many interesting sidelights to his years of service as a professor in Stephenville, Texas. From an early age he had accepted every opportunity afforded him for public speaking. Beginning with Sunday school talks, he branched out into the field of prohibition, where he later found his largest field for service. The mass audiences were very generous. He began addressing Confederate reunions, a procedure which was very popular some thirty-five to forty years ago.

A clipping of the day gives the following information:

Professor J. D. Sandefer's speech last Friday was pronounced the best of the many he made in Hood County.
His almost religious devotion to the old-time Southern ideals, with his bold words in their defense, always secure the sympathy of his hearers. On this occasion he discussed historical questions in a masterly manner, showing a thorough acquaintance with the facts of history, as well as the underlying forces tending to shape the historical events.

It was on these occasions that he really found himself a public speaker. It was more or less accidental. He began accepting invitations to address old soldiers, and the fact that his name was Jefferson Davis added charm for them; and often after an address they would rush up and embrace him and declare that he resembled the original Jefferson Davis himself, whose leadership they followed for four bloody years.

One of the greatest centers for the assembling of old soldiers was under a huge tabernacle that seated several thousand people, located in Dublin, Texas. Professor Sandefer who was still teaching history and Latin in John Tarleton College attended the reunion, for the purpose of listening to an address, to be delivered by the senior senator of Texas, Charles S. Culberson. The crowd was huge. Several thousand people were anxiously awaiting the senator's arrival for the eleven o'clock address. President Sandefer slipped into the audience and found a seat near the front. The band played martial airs and a few old soldiers made brief talks, waiting for the senator. One of the leading officials of the organization espied Professor Sandefer and whispered to the commander to call him to the platform and invite him to address the reunion until the senator arrived. Naturally, he had no thought of being called upon for an address. However, he was thoroughly familiar with Southern history, and had given much thought to a constitutional defense of the South's right to secede, under the Constitution as adopted by our forefathers; so he was ready for the emergency.
He went to the platform and was presented as "Jeff Davis." The old soldiers gave him a tremendous "rebel reception." He spoke for more than an hour and when he was through the band struck up "Dixie," and the old wearers of the gray went wild. They carried him on their heads about the tabernacle, and it was impossible to go on with the other program until they brought him back to the platform. The commander in charge then told them who he was. Senator Culberson never arrived. The generous expressions on that occasion as they found the public press fixed forever Professor Sandefer's popularity and leadership among those followers of Davis, Lee, Jackson, and other heroes, who gave themselves for a cause that to them was dearer than life.

When a student in the University of Chicago, under the great Dr. George E. Vincent, President Sandefer was assigned a four thousand word paper on some phase of "Mob Psychology." He simply described the scene just referred to, where he had played a part. He never revealed to Dr. Vincent that he was the country lad who stirred the old soldiers to a level which no one there had ever seen before. President Sandefer says, "I do not know whether he ever read the paper or not, but it was marked 'A'."

On another very similar occasion at Hico, Texas, he addressed several thousand Confederate Veterans and at the close, he received an ovation rivaling the one at Dublin. It took several minutes for the crowd to get back, after their rush to greet him and express their appreciation. While he was reaching his sophomoric climax on this occasion he saw three distinguished looking citizens join the outskirts of the crowd; they had stood and listened to the address and seemed to be greatly impressed by the responses of the audience.
The subject of this address was "Constitutional Defense of the Southern Confederacy." After the address was finished and the crowd had dispersed enough, so that the gentlemen could make their way to the presence of Professor Sandefer, they requested an introduction and pressed him for a brief conference. The distinguished visitors were Congressman R. L. Henry, who later ran for the senate; Colonel N. B. Harris district orator and an outstanding writer of his day; and Colonel R. E. Taylor, eminent jurist, who was a graduate of Washington and Lee University and had a diploma with the name of General Robert E. Lee affixed thereto. All the men were from Waco, Texas.

Congressman Henry was the spokesman and of course he was very complimentary. He said, "The part of the address which I heard was one of the greatest to which I have ever listened. Judge, (addressing Professor Sandefer) where did you practice law?"

President Sandefer answered, "I live in Stephenville."

He said, "I know practically all the bar there and I do not see how I have escaped meeting you."

"I am not a lawyer," replied President Sandefer.

Mr. Henry asked, "What are you?"

President Sandefer replied, "I am only a school teacher."

Quite a change came over the faces of the three men and it was apparent that their estimate of Professor Sandefer's ability had dropped to a low level, since they put their emphasis for a legal discussion where only lawyers could qualify.
There were many subsequent and similar occasions during this era of President Sandefer's life, but his dealings in the field of prohibition overshadow them.

The high ideals inculcated in President Sandefer from his religious background enabled him to differentiate and to direct in activities of public question, where moral issues were involved. He never compromised on an issue, nor hesitated to express himself fearlessly wheresoever the opportunity was afforded. During the time he was in Stephenville, either as professor, superintendent, or president, and for some forty years succeeding this period of his life, he was a crusader in the field of prohibition; and has been called "one of the finest platform speakers in this part of the country."

This issue took the form of precinct and county option campaigns for some three years in Texas, before it became a state issue; it was of such importance as to mold public sentiment where a majority of the electorate was on the side of statewide, and later, nationwide prohibition.

At this time, he took part in a number of county campaigns and could later raise his estimate to some fifty counties in Texas, in which he had participated. Along with this tremendous strain, he was carrying on all of his educational responsibilities without neglect. In this two fold activity he was gradually weaving a public moral conscience around the institution in which he taught, or later presided over. This made it possible for him to command the respect of all fathers and mothers who loved the real welfare of their children.

Many times after he had led in these campaigns, fathers and mothers would bring their sons and daughters to his institution and give as their reason for choosing it his stand and courageous leadership in defense of the
homes of their counties. Often those whose influence
was against President Sandefer in the campaign brought
their sons and daughters to his office to enter his school.
When he would ask them why they chose his school in
which to educate their children, they would uniformly
answer that they would not want to place them under his
tutelage if his influence had been on the other side of
the liquor question.

He took part in only one campaign in all his crusade
for prohibition that was lost to the anti-prohibitionist
cause. The campaign in Tom Green County was first
won by the anti-prohibitionists, but within two years
the tide was turned, and it was put in the prohibition
column.

An outstanding local option contest of the day
was one which involved the little town of Thurber, which
was the largest mining camp in the South. The miners
were practically all Italian, Polish, and Slavonian and
accustomed to drinking beer and liquor.

Professor Sandefer was county chairman in the
three campaigns that had to be conducted before the
prohibitionists won an election that would stand the
test of the higher courts. Thurber was left out of
their territory. The higher courts ruled against the
legality of their election on the grounds of the tech-
nicality of the boundaries between the precincts. When
they called for the third election, sentiment had grown
so strong in their favor that they were of the opinion
they could carry the county and include Thurber.

The anti-prohibition leaders of Thurber became
very much alarmed, feeling that they could not hold their
coal miners if beer and liquor were denied them. They
appealed to the president of the company in New York
City, Mr. Edgar L. Marston and asked him to get in
touch with the county prohibition chairman with headquarters at Stephenville. Mr. Marston immediately wired Professor Sandefer asking for a conference. Upon receipt of the telegram, Professor Sandefer wired an acceptance.

Leaving New York, as soon as possible, Mr. Marston came by train to Stephenville, traveling in a special car. He met Professor Sandefer and they spent some two or three hours together. Professor Sandefer endeavored to show him that all their past troubles in establishing a prohibition county had been due to some of the leaders in his coal camp at Thurber.

However, he was persistent in having Professor Sandefer call his committee together to try to get it to reconsider, and ask the commissioner's court to order another election. The idea was to leave Thurber out of the territory which was to be voted on. He said that it would ruin his coal mines if the town went dry. The only alternative would be to move his saloons, which were called "snakes" and "lizards" some two or three miles across into Palo Pinto County, which at that time was wet.

Mr. Marston told Professor Sandefer that he would put up a ten thousand dollar guarantee if they would leave Thurber out. This guarantee was to be used to defray any and all expenses of holding the election. He said also, that he would pay all court charges through the Supreme Court to protect the coal miners' interests. He told Professor Sandefer that this was a personal agreement (ein mann, ein wort), adding further, that his father was a minister and that he was a Baptist layman. Professor Sandefer says, "I found him then, as I did on many subsequent occasions to be one of the princeliest Christian gentlemen I have ever known."
The local situation was further complicated in that Mr. Marston had given John Tarleton College a building, known as Marston Science Hall. The anti-prohibitionists charged that it would be the grossest ingratitude for them not to grant his every request.

Professor Sandefer called his committee together and submitted Mr. Marston's request. They voted unanimously against yielding to his wishes and when Professor Sandefer acquainted Mr. Marston with his efforts to deal with the matter on the highest equitable basis, Mr. Marston thanked him and assured him that there was no ill feeling on his part touching his and the committee's point of view.

The election was held and the prohibitionists carried the entire county by a large majority. Naturally the "diggers" were more prosperous than they had been under the old saloon days, as they had more money for the essentials of life.

President Sandefer had many debates with some of the strongest lawyers in the state, where the merits and demerits of temperance were laid bare to the thinking of the electorate.

Perhaps, the most outstanding personality whom he ever met in debate was the Honorable "Stump" Ashby. This able lawyer was recognized as one of two or three of the ablest debaters in Texas. When he came into the vicinity of Stephenville and issued a challenge to anyone to meet him, a committee of prohibition lawyers called on Professor Sandefer and asked him if he would accept his challenge. He accepted and dictated a note to Mr. Ashby informing him of his acceptance.

The debate was held at the courthouse and there were hundreds of people who were unable to get in.
Professor Sandefer very ably commanded the situation. When the debate was over, this district anti-prohibitionist slipped out with a committee of friends and as he was leaving the courthouse, he said that he was leaving the county. He added, that nobody could gain a point by discussing liquor with that schoolteacher.

In another local contest, where interest ran high and bloodshed was almost manifest, the opposition was so humiliated when the debate was over that the next morning a group of their representatives went before the grand jury and sought to have Professor Sandefer indicted for describing some conditions too base to be brought before an intelligent Christian audience. They did not charge him with using foul language. They said his descriptive adjectives were such that, though they were in the choicest and most classical English, men, women, and children could understand the cesspool of sin in which young men out of choice homes in the community were engaged.

The liquor representatives on more than one occasion appealed to Governor Sayers, who was chairman of the John Tarleton College Board, to request Professor Sandefer to discontinue his activities in a contest in which the patrons of the institution were divided. Governor Sayers was not an ardent prohibitionist, but he very readily answered their importunities with the following statement: “I would not want a professor or a president in any State Institution that did not throw his influence, as he is throwing his, for temperance and sobriety.”

After the late William Jennings Bryan had made his first race for the presidency of the United States and had toured the world, he visited Stephenville as a lyceum lecturer. Mr. Bryan at that time was perhaps the most popular citizen of the United States and the
most powerful orator and platform man of his day. The lawyers in the city held a conference and discussed who should introduce him. They finally agreed to ask President Sandefer to introduce him and they made him chairman of the committee to meet Mr. Bryan at the train and take him to his hotel.

President Sandefer says, "It was the first time I had ever seen this citizen, who was from the time he made his 'Cross of gold' speech my ideal in the field of national politics.

"We met him at the train, and after we had seated ourselves in the cab, I looked Mr. Bryan over and found that he was wearing an inexpensive black alpaca coat, a pair of pantaloons to match, a fifty or seventy-five cent straw hat, a (three for a quarter) black necktie, and about a two and a half, or three dollar pair of shoes. I can recall to this day how his plain, simple, inexpensive democratic apparel impressed me as I had never been impressed—that clothes do not make the man."

When three o'clock came, the hour for the address, there were thousands of people from many counties waiting to hear the world-famed orator who had polled at the last political election the largest popular vote tabulated up to that time for a president of the United States; even though he was badly defeated in the electoral college.

There were many distinguished citizens, especially lawyers, on the platform. President Sandefer had chosen the best words in the field of a layman's address for his introductory speech, on that hot fourth of July day. He had outlined in his mind what he wanted to say—touching this, the greatest personality, he had ever presented to a popular audience."
Jefferson Davis Sandefer

The following interesting notation taken from the local paper is self-explanatory:

At three o'clock Colonel Bryan made his appearance on the platform. The speaker was introduced by Professor Sandefer in his own happy, inimitable, eloquent style. He played with the stars, walked with the Pharaohs of Egypt, and the philosophers and poets of Greece and told us of the Caesars of Rome. He said Germany had her Bismark, England her Gladstone, while we have our Bryan. He wound up his grand peroration by introducing Colonel Bryan as the Cincinnatus of the West. Colonel Bryan rose amid thundering applause saying, it was a good thing he did not believe all the nice things his friends said about him, but he was like the homely girl who when her sweetheart took her in his arms and said she was the prettiest girl he ever saw, thanked God that love was blind.

Turning from President Sandefer's delving in politics and addressing Confederate Veterans, we touch briefly a phase of his life in which he has been very popular. He was at that time and for many subsequent years known as one of the outstanding commencement speakers of the state.

From the beginning of his public career, President Sandefer has, with one exception, outlined his addresses in his mind and spoken without notes. The exception was during the latter months of 1908 or the early months of 1909 when he was delivering the commencement address for the Government Female Institute of Talkequah, Cherokee Indian Territory. There were thirty-three beautiful Cherokee girls in the senior class.

President Sandefer was introduced by Judge Brewer, full-blooded Cherokee Indian, who was a graduate of the University of Arkansas; and who later, was the first candidate for the senate, when the territory became Oklahoma.
President Sandefer admitted that he was embarrassed; Judge Brewer's introduction was so eloquent and his diction so superb. He had been speaking but a few moments, when a cyclonic cloud developed, and it seemed altogether possible that the building in which he was speaking would be wrecked. One can well imagine the tension and terror that gripped the audience. In the midst of this excitement he lost the memorized thread of his address.

He completed the address as best he could and later as he and the distinguished lawyer were going to his hotel, he asked Judge Brewer if he had noticed any break in the address. The host was very generous indeed and said, "Not in the slightest." President Sandefer confessed that he had forgotten much of the address and that during the last half of the delivery, he had not attempted to follow any prepared line of thought.

During the months of his connection with John Tarleton College, President Sandefer was many times solicited to become a candidate for congress and for governor. In fact we find that the following excerpt was carried in the local newspaper:

J. D. Sandefer, who has long been identified with educational and political interests of this section, late of John Tarleton College faculty of Stephenville, has formally announced his candidacy for Congress from this district. No man in the district stands higher intellectually, socially and morally than does Jefferson Davis Sandefer and his reputation as an orator has made him very popular with the people everywhere. He has a clean and enviable record, and will make a clean and honorable race and a hard one for somebody. J. D. is a brother of Dr. Sandefer of Lyra. Mr. Sandefer is well known in this section and we are all glad to learn of his candidacy for Congress. We are sure he will have an easy race in this precinct.

His friends from all the eight districts claimed that they had organized every county in the district
except one and declared they already had the election won if he would make the race. They informed him that they had already selected one of his friends, who was a very able attorney, to manage the campaign. His former students pressed him with the assurance that they would take care of all his expenses.

The district was overwhelmingly for prohibition, except Tarrant County, and President Sandefer had been one of the leaders in carrying all the counties in the district for county option, except Tarrant County.

Tarrant County had three candidates: Congressman Oscar W. Gillespie; Ex-mayor T. J. Powell; and Honorable James W. Swayne, who had been a partner with the illustrious Governor James S. Hogg in a number of business interests.

President Sandefer gives us the following facts concerning the campaign:

"Frankly, I was giving serious concern to the solicitations of my friends to become a candidate for membership in the fifty-sixth congress. A few days before the time when I had promised my friends that I would give them a definite answer, I received a report to the effect that a group of saloonkeepers had held a mass meeting in the rear of the saloon in the only wet city in the district and had discussed until the wee hours of the night something that they could announce on me as a true story. They planned a story to release a day or two before the election, hoping that it would come too late for an answer from my friends; and that it would turn the tide in favor of the wet candidate.

"The report gave me serious concern. I had been a Sunday school teacher, a school instructor, an administrator, and a college professor for many years and many
of my admirers from my youth up, among mothers, had held me up as an ideal for their sons. In spite of the fact that there could not have been a report circulated against me that had a basis of fact that could have embarrassed me, I could not bear the thought of anyone, friend or enemy, to think less of me for a brief time, before the real facts could be presented.

"I did not so much as speak to the friend who had been chosen to direct my campaign. I did not so much as mention it to my wife. I found myself worrying about the report and others that might be sprung, and got out of my bed somewhere around midnight and dictated a note to the leading dailies of the district. I set out in the note that after thinking the matter through, and viewing it from all angles, I had decided definitely not to be a candidate for Congress and from the deep of my soul I expressed my gratitude to friends who had manifested such interest and shown such felicity in my making this race."