

June 16, 1956

J. WILL HARRIS

Dr. Harris Dies, Founded Polytechnic Institute In 1912



Dr. J. Will Harris, founder of Polytechnic Institute at San German, died Thursday morning from injuries sustained in an automobile accident Wednesday in Dilley, Texas, college authorities announced last night.

Dr. Harris, born Jan. 12, 1876, founded Polytechnic Institute in 1912, six years after his arrival in Puerto Rico as a missionary. He served as president of the college until 1937 when he retired.

Dr. Harris returned to Puerto Rico this year for the installation of Dr. Ronald C. Bauer as president of Polytechnic on March 4.

Governor Muñoz Marin sent his condolences Thursday to the son of Dr. Harris, Donald Harris, at Dilley, Tex. In a cable, the Governor said:

"Please receive the heartfelt sympathy of the people of Puerto Rico, my family and myself for the loss of your father who rendered such distinguished service to Puerto Rico in the field of education."