

The other children are Mary Virginia Wine (Mrs. Wm. S. Blair), Martinsville, Va.; Edward Lee Wine, Jr., Olathe, Kansas; Ellen Lucille Wine (Mrs. G. L. Nicely), Lynhurst, Va.; Billy James Wine, Charlottesville, Va.; Mae Marie Wine (Mrs. Herbert Gutshall), Fishersville, Va.; and Fae Louise Wine (Mrs. William Fleming), Arlington, Va. Mr. and Mrs. Wine took Beulah Armentrout (now Mrs. C. A. Garber, Marlow Heights, Md.) into their home as a foster child, and she made her home with them for five happy years.

Brother Wine attended the North Point public school in Augusta County, a private school near his home, Dunsmore Business College in Staunton, Va., Randolph-Macon Academy at Front Royal, Va., and Blue Ridge College at Union Bridge, Md. Before he was a student at The Academy at Front Royal, Va., he had mastered the touch system of typing. Often without light in his room he would compose his English compositions in his mind and type them out to be turned in the next day. During his years at The Academy he spoke at the Y.M.C.A. meetings very often. In this manner and in the literary society he developed his ability as a speaker. The students were always glad to hear him. He used the subject, "Just Men Made Perfect," (Heg. 12:23), many times. Many people gave him encouragement. He was a thorough student.

Mr. and Mrs. Wine were received as members of the New Hope Methodist Church on Profession of Faith by the Rev. Byron W. John, on October 3, 1920, as recorded in the Church Register for the New Hope Charge of the M.E. Church, South (Volume 1910-1923). The Minutes of the Quarterly Conference give other information about him as follows:-- Feb. 19, 1921, President of the Epworth League; April 10, 1921, Charge Lay Leader; August 3, 1921, recommended for License to Preach; and on Sept. 6, 1921, he was given License to Preach by the Rockingham District Conference in session at Bridgewater, Va. On December 11, 1921, the pastor, the Rev. M.C. Weikele, reported, "Brother Wine has brought the League out in a wonderful way in the last few months."

The Church Register (1910-1923) shows that the Rev. Edward Lee Wine was the pastor of the New Hope Charge from October 1922 to April 1923, while the Rev. George W. Richardson was the Presiding Elder. Mr. Wine served as pastor of the Collierstown Circuit, near Lexington, Va., June 1923 to April 1924. His Family Bible shows that three of his young children were baptized while he was the minister at Collierstown.

Because of physical handicap of very poor vision he was not able to continue in the active pastorate. But even before that his wife did much of his reading to him. He had a very keen mind and retentive memory so that he could then write out his sermons with the help of the typewriter.

Mr. Wine married his second wife, Miss Edith Spitzer of Crimora, Va., October 3, 1926. They lived near his boyhood home. He had learned to repair chairs and other hand work, that did not require eyesight, and during the later years of his life he worked at this trade in a shop at their home.

Mr. Wine's widow has a number of his sermons that are highly prized. Among his manuscripts some of the sermon topics included The Holy Spirit, God's Wonderful Love, Liberty, The Cross, Who Is My Neighbor?, The New Birth, Life of Stephen, Education, The Tears of Jesus, The Gospel of Peace and Mother's Day. He delivered a series of seven sermons, bearing dates in July and August 1937, at Buck Island, in Fluvanna County, Va. Concerning this experience and others his daughter, Mrs. Mae (H.S.) Gutshall of Fishersville, Va., wrote that her father was "assisting the late Mr. William Early of Charlottesville, Va. I believe Buck Island was a mission church. He and Mr. Early quite often held services for the prisoners in the jail at Charlottesville, Va., and spoke at the Salvation Army several times."

Among these papers, loaned by his widow, Mrs. Edith Wine, there were 36 sermons beautifully typewritten. Six others were written with heavy black pencil in outline form in large block like letters, so that even with his increasing blindness he could use such notes as he spoke, from the pulpit. Of this group of six outlines, four of them are labeled as used at Buck Island.

Mr. Wine's notes on the manuscripts show that he preached at the following list of local churches: New Hope, Pleasant Grove, Crimora, and Lynhurst in Augusta County. And at Cedar Grove, Mt. Horeb, Mt. Moreland, Elliots Hill, Collierstown, and West Lexington, all in Rockbridge County. Also at Hinton Avenue in the Belmont area of Charlottesville, and Buck Island.

His foster-daughter, Mrs. Beula M. Garber, wrote her appraisal of Mr. Wine and his first wife, Emma, as follows: They "were a real God-send to me. They took me in to live with them, and always treated me as if I were their own child." Mrs. Garber said, "I could never express my feelings and thankfulness to them, for letting me live in their good Christian home. I'm so grateful for what they did for me, and I only wish so much they could have lived much longer, so I could have shown how grateful I am for the five happy years I lived in their home."

"It was very sad when his eyes gave out and he could not continue in the ministry. He used to say so many times that was what he had always wanted to do, from a very small boy. He was a very fine minister, too. Anything that describes him as one of the very best men, husband and father, will surely do him justice." by **Nat. G. Barnhart** Minutes for 1960. James Edward Brooks. Surely here was one of "God's own Christian gentlemen"--a brotherly, kind, and gracious man who loved people and, like The Master, concerned himself about their welfare. By nature he was a minister. Named for the beloved pastor by whom he was baptized and by whom his family in Mathews County was served, James Edwards Brooks seems never for long to have doubted God's intent for his life. Accounts are extant of how as a young student, frequently he assembled his little schoolmates in a fence corner, and with a broken rail laid up for a pulpit, held forth until they were brought to tears. Then he would call them to the "mourner's bench" and to prayer. So manifestly do coming events sometimes cast their shadows before us! And yet the way to the pulpit for James Edward Brooks was to be circuitous and rather difficult.

"Brother Eddie," as he was affectionately called throughout his adult life, was born at Mathews, Va., July 3, 1867. His parents, James D. and Lucy E. Brooks, were both devout Methodists and his boyhood was spent largely within the community of his birth where as an early writer declared "almost everything is Methodist." Under the friendly encouragement of the Rev. George C. Vanderslice and at the turn of his sixteenth year he joined Salem Church by profession of faith.

As a young man, Mr. Brooks was employed in the mercantile business where all who knew him esteemed him for his fine judgment and his splendid character. But the call to preach would not be downed and at the age of twenty-seven, following a personal re-consecration of self in a revival service, "Eddie" Brooks began serious preparation for the ministry. In November, 1897, after three sessions as a student at Randolph Macon Academy, he was received into the Virginia Conference on trial but continued his studies by correspondence with Vanderbilt University.

His first three appointments were in Maryland--at Madison, Allen, and Berlin. In January, 1898, he became happily married to Miss Jennie Harrington of Madison, whose devotion both to him and to the Church was greatly to insure his success in the ministry. God blessed this union with three children: Edward Harrington, Eleanor Keene (now Mrs. W. J. Manry), and Paul Whitehead (now deceased).

In 1900 the Brookses received their appointment to Wicomico, and in succession served in Franklin County, at Chatham, Cartersville, Emporia, Alberta, Courtland, Driver, Deep Creek, Stuart, Campostella, and Colonial Beach. By 1942 time and the laws of the Church had overtaken this valiant apostle of the Lord, and he had to retire though, like Moses of old "his eye was not dim, nor his natural force abated." In fact, it was after retirement that as supply pastor at Community Church, Portsmouth, he was instrumental in the construction of a new church building!

The ministers and laymen of the Norfolk District will long remember "Brother Eddie" with brotherly love and affectionate esteem. It was in their midst that he lived out "the golden years" of his retirement. They will delight to recall this tall, stately, gentleman with his bat-wing collar and black string tie, whose ready wit and sparkling eyes made him always such pleasant company. "E'en down to old age" the concern for people manifested so early in his youth persisted. He not only understood people; he loved them. And because he first loved them, most people greatly loved him. It is ever so.

When, on November 20, 1959, after ninety-two years, The Lord called James Edward Brooks to "come up a little closer," he went expectantly, as one will go to meet a dear

and long time friend. He left behind him a great and lonely place in the hearts of those who had traveled awhile in his company.

Funeral services were conducted in the Methodist Church at Courtland, Va., by John R. Hendricks, Rev. C. W. Gibson, Jr., Dr. Walter C. Gum, and the author. His body rests in the Riverside Cemetery, to the rear of the church. **by Joseph S. Johnston**
Daniel Mason Brown. Born October 30, 1869, in Halltown, a village between Harper's Ferry and Charles Towne, Jefferson County, W.Va. The father, Thomas Brown, was a native of Loudon County, Va.; the mother, Lucinda C. Finnell, native of Rappahannock County, Va.

The subject of this sketch was the youngest of ten children. He was reared on a farm, and the early years were spent at Blakeley, an estate of Lawrence Washington, owned at that time by Col. R. P. Chew of Civil War fame. Elementary education was received in the schools of Jefferson County, supplemented by instruction in a private school.

In 1888 the remnant of the family moved to Martinsburg, W.Va. This marked a distinctive stage in the life of this youth. The inclination to study, the love of books and learning developed through individual initiative that led to the acquirement of a teacher's certificate in the public schools of Berkeley County, W.Va. Six years were spent in this congenial employment. In the meantime romance had woven its influence into the life of this youthful teacher, which romance was destined to give character to the subsequent career of two young souls. The counterpart of this incident was Miss Ida Crim, a native of Berkeley County, who became the wife of the aspiring young teacher on April 1, 1891.

Through the more than half-century that followed, the wife proved her fitness as a helpmate to her husband, exhibiting devotion to the home and adaptation to changing situations incident to the itinerant life.

In early childhood the subject of this sketch was taught and trained in the way of faith. His mother breathed the atmosphere of the heavenly life. By precept and example she made the way of prayer to become a normal pattern of the daily experience. As the result of her teaching there was never a time that he did not feel himself to be a child of the heavenly Father. Often unworthily so; sometimes in the "far country;" ever conscious of the "Father's House" and of the loving welcome awaiting the returning son.

At the age of eighteen, he made public profession of faith in Christ and joined the Trinity M.E. Church, South, in Martinsburg, Rev. J. R. Andrews, pastor. This signal step identified him with the people of the church and admitted him to the circle of the more active members of the same. He taught in the Sunday school and shared the work of the young people.

Having felt in childhood the urge to preach the gospel--the answer of the mother's prayer--he was licensed to preach March 13, 1893, by the Quarterly Conference of the Martinsburg station, Rev. A. M. Cackley, pastor; David Bush, presiding elder. He was admitted on trial into the Baltimore Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, meeting in Fredericksburg, Va., March 28, 1894, Bishop John C. Granbery, presiding. He pursued the prescribed course of study for traveling preachers in the four years following and was admitted into full connection at the Roanoke, Va., Conference March 25, 1896, and ordained Deacon by Bishop Granbery; ordained elder at the conference in Hinton, W.Va., March 23, 1898.

The following charges were served by conference appointment without intermission: Listonburg (Penn.) 1894-98; Flintstone (Md.) 1898-1900; Moorefield (W.Va.) 1900-04; Greenbank (W.Va.) 1904-05; Charles and St. Mary's (Md.) 1905-09; Lewisburg (W.Va.) 1909-11; Salem (Va.) 1911-13; Blacksburg (Va.) 1913-17; St. Paul (Washington, D.C.) 1917-21; Gaithersburg (Md.) 1921-23; Cumberland (Md.) 1923-26; Warrenton (Va.) 1926-31; Herndon (Va.) 1931-33; Marvin (Washington, D.C.) 1933-34; Fairview (Roanoke) 1934-38; Grace (Roanoke) 1938-39.

The Baltimore Annual Conference, meeting in Roanoke, Va., October 2, 1939, by unanimous vote dissolved its status as an organization to conform to the plan of unification of Methodism. It was at this conference that Mr. Brown, having attained the age of 70 years, requested and was granted the Superannuate relation.

The following, in substance, is the reason for asking for the retired relation: I have been a traveling preacher by appointment in this Conference for forty-six successive years. I have come to this good day when I can adopt the words of Simeon of Old, Now Lord, lettest thou thy servant depart in peace for mine eyes have seen what my heart has long desired--the unification of the Methodist Church.

I am deeply grateful to God for the many years of service I have been permitted to render in the Conference and have a consideration for young men who are now offering themselves for the ministry and must have places to serve.

I came into the Conference with so little; I complete my tenure with so much. We have been privileged to rear our family in the atmosphere of the parsonage and the religious environment of the Church. This has resulted in the urge to secure the best obtainable in the matter of education for the children to fit them for home builders and citizens. Still another benefit has come to us in the itinerant work: viz., the enduring friendship formed in the wide areas of our Conference territory, which has been of inestimable worth. To these values must be added the kindly consideration of my brethren of the Conference. Without this the experiences of the itinerant life would have been wanting in an essential element, "the fellowship of kindred minds."

It is not easy to take this course. The habits of a lifetime are upon me. But I cherish the hope of continued service in some helpful capacity, finding somewhere a corner I can brighten or a little patch I can weed and cultivate.

Addendum: Upon retirement, Mr. and Mrs. Brown decided to spend what years remained to them in Warrenton, Va. It proved to be a happy decision--for never have church friends or a community been kinder, more thoughtful and loving than those in Warrenton or have ministers of the church been more considerate to a superannuate. In 1952 Mrs. Brown became ill. She died January 16, 1953. The fourth day after the funeral Mr. Brown had a cerebral hemorrhage. God spared him physical pain, and the morning of January 30, 1960, at 90 years of age, he just slept on. He and Mrs. Brown are buried in the Warrenton Cemetery.

Survivors: Mrs. Frank A. Buchanan, Johnson City, Tenn.; Mrs. George W. Cobb, New Wilmington, Penn.; Mrs. William G. Bartenstein, Warrenton, Va.; Mr. Ernest M. Brown, Roanoke, Va.

by D. M. Brown

James Herbert Brown, Jr., son of James H. and Barbara E. Brown, was born in the city of Baltimore, July 24, 1900, and passed peacefully into the life eternal from the parsonage of Central church, Staunton, Va., December 28, 1959, after an illness of three months. Bishop Paul N. Garber, Dr. W. W. McIntyre and Rev. W. S. Thomas conducted the funeral from Central Church, and interment was in Roanoke, Va.

At an early age Brother Brown gave his heart to God and became a devoted member of the church. In his eighteenth year he responded to the call of God and dedicated himself to the ministry of the Methodist church. Convinced that the call to preach was a call to earnest preparation he enrolled at Randolph-Macon Military Academy, Front Royal, to complete his secondary education. An indomitable determination to reach self-appointed goals plus an unwavering trust in God's Providence was manifest in this decision, for Jim had no financial resources except what he could gain by his own efforts. This determination and faith were characteristics of all his later life in the ministry.

He entered Randolph-Macon College, Ashland, in 1921, where he found it necessary to divide his study time with the care of churches, and he was appointed to serve the Charles City circuits and later Bishop Memorial in Richmond. He fulfilled his pastoral duties ably while also making an enviable record as a student, being graduated in 1925 with the Bachelor of Arts degree and being elected to Phi Beta Kappa.

He was admitted on trial into the Baltimore Conference of the Southern Methodist Church in 1925 and served pastorates at Richlands in Greenbrier County, W. Va., and Sudbrook, Md. Still seeking the best preparation for his high calling he entered Candler School of Theology, Emory University, in the fall of 1927, and was admitted into full connection in October of that same year. He was graduated from Emory University in August of 1929, with the Bachelor of Divinity Degree, and was married in October of that year to Margaret Phillip Mahood of Roanoke, Va.

Their family life was singularly happy. The devotion of each to the other was manifest by sincere affection and a deep mutual considerateness which did not escape the notice of visitors in their home. God blessed them with an attractive family, one son and three daughters, Margaret Mahood, James Barton, and the twins, Jane Grant and Julia Canter Brown.

In the latter years of the old Baltimore Conference, M. E. Church, South, Jim and Margaret served at Shawsville and Berryville in Virginia, in Cumberland, Md. and Keyser, W. Va. They were having a highly successful pastorate at Keyser when Methodist union came, and the Browns became members of the West Virginia Conference. They were in their fifth year at Keyser when our national became involved in World War II.

Our nation at war produced a spiritual crisis in Jim's life which he shared with Margaret and which they worked out together. He felt called to the Naval chaplaincy and left his pastorate in 1942 to become a lieutenant, senior grade, in the United States Navy. His capacity, developed as pastor, to identify himself deeply with the emotional and intellectual needs of others enabled him to render effective service as a pastor to sailormen, and he left the service at war's end as a Lieutenant Commander. The work with men in the Navy was so much to his taste and on his heart that he remained as an active reservist in the Navy and was later promoted to the rank of Commander. Every other year he went on active duty for a month with the Navy, serving in Nova Scotia, Cuba, England, Ireland, and Germany where he spent the last summer of his life.

Because he wished to return to the Virginia Conference, Bishop W. W. Peele brought him back and appointed him to Franktown-Johnston's on the Eastern Shore where he served for two years and then was sent to Christiansburg. Brother Jim was a minister who wore well on people, his inner charm, a quality of out-going Christian love for them, added to very great gifts as a preacher, in which high intelligence and fervent imagination combined to weave a strong spell upon his hearers, endeared him deeply to the Christiansburg people.

After four years he was appointed to the Fort Hill church in Lynchburg in which pastorate his triumphs at Christiansburg were repeated, with the addition of bringing that fine church to careful preparation for a building program. His integrity as a man, his out-going warm-heartedness as a pastor and his strength as a preacher had brought him to the near climax of his mature power as a Methodist minister.

In 1954 James H. Brown, Jr., was appointed to Broad Street Methodist Church in Richmond, where he served three years in that challenging downtown situation with the same ability and effectiveness demonstrated in former pastorates. At Central Church, Staunton, in 1958, he was preaching to the largest congregations of his life and developing and broadening in many ways the already fascinating program of that great church. It was here that the fatal heart condition developed in the fall of 1959.

The story of his pastoral ministry does not exhaust the contribution Jim Brown made to his Conference and his brethren. In 1952 the Conference elected him to the Board of Ministerial Training and Qualifications, which elected him to be the Conference Registrar. In this office it became his duty to keep detailed records of all applicants for admission on trial, those already on Conference; to advise them, as to their progress through the classes, to counsel them regarding their problems, to represent them before Board and present them to the Conference for orders, admission into full connection, and advancement in their studies.

In this work Jim had the heaviest demands made upon him as a correspondent and as a sympathetic elder brother of every young minister. He kept in personal touch by correspondence with all these men and gave himself without stint to the work. Many of us associated with him during those years wondered how he could do so much so well. There are hundred now members of our Virginia Methodism who will always remember James H. Brown, Jr., with exceptional warmth in their hearts, as the one man who helped them most in making the all-important step and adjustment from student or layman into the ministry of the Methodist church.

As if to climax a full and rich life of service to God and his fellows, his Alma Mater, Randolph-Macon, conferred the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity upon him in the spring of 1958.

"We cannot think of him as dead
 Who walks with us no more;
 Along the paths of life we tread,
 He has but gone before;
 And still his silent ministry
 Within our hearts has place,
 As when on earth he walked with us
 And met us face to face."

by Edwin S. Sheppe

Oscar Bryant Carter. When our Heavenly Father called Oscar Bryant Carter to his eternal reward the Christian Cause lost a devoted disciple, and innumerable people whose lives had been touched by his ministry lost a true and trusted friend. Active, and in apparent good health, Brother Carter suffered a stroke only a few days before his death on Sunday, February 21, 1960.

Brother Carter took the superannuate relation at the 1959 Conference, and with his wife moved to their home in Richmond. Still anxious to be busy for his Lord, he joined the staff of the Ginter Park Methodist Church and was rendering effective service in the field of evangelism at the time of his passing.

During his thirty-six years of active ministry in the Virginia Conference, O. B. Carter served the following charges: Oakland (Richmond), South Halifax, Bassett, Lynnhaven, Cambridge Circuit, Brunswick Circuit, Gloucester, East Dinwiddie, Atlantic, Craddocksville-Belle Haven, Tabernacle (York County), Wesley (Petersburg), and Victoria.

In 1913 Oscar Bryant Carter and Sarah Ervin Sproules, of Wilmington, Delaware, were united in marriage. To this union were born two sons, Oscar Blair, of Richmond, and Thomas Eugene who followed his father into the ministry and is presently pastor of the Kilmarnock Methodist Church. Mr. Carter is survived by his wife, both sons and a grandson.

Brother Carter was deeply devoted to his calling. He was uncompromising with wrong and undeviating in his loyalty to high principles. He was straightforward in his approach to any problem, candid in his speech, and unyielding in his convictions; yet at the same time he was kindhearted and sympathetic, especially to anyone who evidenced repentance, or anyone in need. One of the deep concerns of his ministry was that every home should have and make constant use of the Holy Bible.

A few days after his passing the family found the following paper which speaks eloquently of the life and faith of this loyal servant of our Lord. It is quoted verbatim:

"Some special information for the writer of my obituary.

I was born in Wayne County, N.C., on March 1, 1893. My parents were David and Catherine Carter. I grew up on the farm, attending the public schools, then took a business course in Business Administration, then in Traffic Management. I entered the employment of the Dupont Company in the spring of 1915 at the beginning of World War I, at the Hopewell plant, Hopewell, Va. I was converted in the little Methodist Church at Hopewell when it was first organized and served it as steward, teacher, assistant superintendent, and president of the Epworth League. It was during this time that I felt a definite call to enter the ministry... I received my license to preach from the Petersburg District Conference which met at Alberta, Va. on Memorial Day in 1922. I was admitted on trial at the Conference meeting in the Broad Street Church, Richmond, in October, 1923, Bishop Warren A. Candler presiding. I was ordained Deacon by Bishop Candler in the same church at the Conference in October, 1925, and Elder by Bishop Collins Denny in the Main Street Church in Danville at the Conference in 1927.

The rest of my life is a matter of record, some of which has not been written which I hope will be in accordance to the will of the Heavenly Father and to the glory of His Son, my Saviour the Lord Jesus Christ."

Funeral services were conducted at the Ginter Park Methodist Church by Dr. Carl J. Sanders, Superintendent of the Richmond District, and the writer. Interment was in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Richmond, Va.

by Harold H. Fink

Otis Manson Clarke was born in South Boston, Va., July 10, 1881. He was the son of Dr. Alexander Trent Clarke, a physician, and Mattie Glover Clarke.

From the school in South Boston, he went to Hampden-Sydney College, graduating in 1900. He ranked among the first five in his class.

He entered the teaching profession. He was, at one time, a member of the faculty of Richmond High School.

Feeling his call to preach, he was licensed July 24, 1907, and in 1908 he was received into the Virginia Conference on trial. In due course, having been ordained deacon and elder, he was received into full connection. He served forty-four years in the active ministry, all in the Virginia Conference, with the exception of one year in his early ministry in the Pacific Conference. He retired in 1952.

Brother Clarke was a student. His studies carried him out in the far realms of scholarship. He was an associate member of the American Schools of Oriental Research.

November 26, 1913, Otis Manson Clarke married Nellie Christian Jones of Urbanna, Va. She died May 25, 1940, leaving three children. These children, now grown, Otis Manson Clarke, Junior, Mrs. W. P. Crutchfield, and Miss Nellie B. Clarke survive.

A deep sense of mission was felt by Brother Clarke. In his last illness, he quoted to me the Great Declaration of Saint Paul.

Among the appointments served by him were: Urbanna, West Point, Orange, Burkeville, Prospect, Gloucester, Westmoreland, Crittenden-Drivers, Montross and Heathsville. Most of these appointments were for four years or more.

Brother Clarke lived a quiet and unassuming life. Those who knew him best realized his worth. He was loyal to the highest traditions.

After several months illness, he passed away in the Mary Washington hospital, Fredericksburg, Va., November 24, 1959, and on the following Friday the funeral service was conducted in the Andrew Chapel Church in Montross where he had made his home after retirement. The ministers officiating were the pastor, Rev. F. D. James, assisted by the Rev. Dr. T.J. Hawkins, Rev. J. W. Smith, Rabbi Isadore Franzblau, and the writer of this memoir. The interment was in the family cemetery at Saluda, Va., beside his wife.

I shall miss Brother Clarke beyond all measure. I looked forward to seeing him at Conference. In his early ministry, he gave me two books by Dr. S. D. Gordon, one on Power and the other on Service. After his retirement there came to me from him his little poem--the sequel to the gift--beautiful in its simplicity, sublime in its faith, and eternal in its reach:

This day I want to walk with God awaking I must find him near,
The words He whispers I must hear for you and I must walk with God.
This day I want to walk with God so close that he may take my hand
And guide me to a better land which pilgrims reach who walk with God.
This day I want to walk with God that He may help my load to bear
The burdens that none else can share for they have strength who walk with God.
This day I want to walk with God, a never failing, helpful Friend,
When life begins, when life shall end, for God loves those who walk with God.
This day I want to walk with God for if I journey at his side
Those gates of pearl shall open wide when I through life have walked with God.

by H. C. Gregory

John C. Copenhaver. "Love and death are inseparable companions. Death is the baptism that love waits to be baptized with, vitalizing it from the moment of its birth with the foreboding of a tragic interruption.--A 'brotherhood of man' in which a brother's death makes no difference to the brethren is not an inspiring conception." L. P. Jacks, from The Inner Sentinel.

Many years ago Dr. Forrest J. Prettyman began a memoir, "It is the sacred duty and a sweet privilege to record at the session of our annual conference our appreciation of the life and work of those who have been called from us during the year."

Thus we pause to remember John C. Copenhaver who entered into life eternal Tuesday, March 22, 1960, and was buried in Druid Ridge cemetery, Baltimore, Friday, March 25, following a memorial service March 24 in the Fredericksburg Methodist church led by Bishop Paul N. Garber, assisted by Dr. Roland P. Riddick, James W. Smith, and the writer.

Dr. Copenhaver was born in Baltimore August 10, 1877, a son of the late Samuel H. and Mary Norris Copenhaver. On July 29, 1913, he was married to Miss Blanche Baker,

who survives him, as does their daughter, Mrs. John H. Gilliam, Jr., and John H. Gilliam III, of Fredericksburg. Also surviving is a sister, Miss Margie C. Copenhaver of the same city and a brother Thomas N. Copenhaver, of Baltimore, Md.

For forty-five years Dr. Copenhaver served our Lord fervently as a minister in the old Baltimore Conference, South, and the new Virginia Conference; he was admitted on trial into the former in 1905 and was superannuated in the latter at the age of 72 in 1950. Retirement was accepted as a necessity while his heart was still in the active pastorate. He had an unusual capacity for loving people to which they responded with friendship and trust, and as a result, when he was asked to complete a church year where vacancies had occurred, he accepted gladly and made some of the most lasting friendships of his life. During those ten years of retirement he served congregations at Virginia Beach, Blacksburg, Danville and Portsmouth.

Churches large and small throughout Maryland and Virginia, from Baltimore to Roanoke and from Tidewater to the Shenandoah Valley, were blessed by his warmly preached gospel of the saving Christ and were inspired by the happy devotion of his life to our Lord, lived out in a splendid and humble sincerity. He was pastor and friend to congregations at Sudbrook, Md., Rockville, Md., Central Church, Baltimore, and the great Francis Asbury and Epworth churches in Washington, D.C.

His effective ministry in Virginia, ever remembered by those who came under its influence was at Front Royal, Harrisonburg, West End Roanoke, in which city he also served four years as district superintendent, Central in Staunton, Grace in Newport News, and Bedford, from which he retired.

As a preacher Dr. Copenhaver was unique in many ways. He had a firm and convincing grasp of the fundamentals of the Christian faith, but he was not a doctrinal preacher in the strict sense of that term. His doctrine, like the bones of the body, was not seen, but was nonetheless manifest in the strength and orderliness of his thought. It was rather his purpose to take familiar beliefs and to make them winsome and appealing by a freshness of approach, an originality of presentation, and aptness of illustration. Thus his preaching appealed to his ministerial brethren, when they had the opportunity to hear him, as much as to the people in his congregation. As guest minister in a local church on Conference Sunday in other days the writer has seen dozens of ministers listening to "Cope," as they affectionately called him.

It was the human interest quality of his preaching garnished with deft humor and clarity of thought that led young people to hear him eagerly. He was often their choice to bring inspirational messages to the assemblies at Massanetta Springs and at Conference youth banquets. Twice he was Religious Emphasis Week speaker at the Virginia Military Institute, Lexington, and once each at Randolph-Macon College and Randolph-Macon Academy. He was inclined by temperament and conviction to love youth and the charm he held for them never faded, for often in his quiet retirement days at Fredericksburg the youth surrounded him after church to talk and laugh with him.

John Copenhaver never sought an honor but he was never without them. He was graduated from Randolph-Macon College in 1902 and his Alma Mater conferred the Doctor of Divinity degree upon him in 1926. The same year he was made a trustee of the college and served faithfully for nearly twenty-five years. Three times he was elected to represent the Baltimore Conference at General Conferences meeting in Dallas, Texas, Jackson, Miss., and Birmingham, Ala. He was chairman of the Board of Church Extension of the old Baltimore Conference for many years, and also a member of the Board of Managers of its weekly newspaper The Baltimore Southern Methodist. When the union of Methodism was effected he was elected a trustee of the Virginia Methodist Advocate. He was tireless wherever duty called him and he fulfilled his obligations with singleness of purpose and to the glory of God.

As fine as were his contributions as preacher, leader in church extension, education, the superintendency, General Conference delegate, and inspirational orator, his finest work was undoubtedly done in the pastoral relationship where he shared himself unstintedly with others. Where men found life bleak and forbidding he brought lightness and beauty, courage and faith to lead them into a happier way. When life's sorrows, often deep and piercing, overwhelmed men with appalling suffering, Dr. Copenhaver knew how to enfold them to his heart and through confidence in the triumphant Christ to

transmute sorrow into the sober joy of the convinced Christian. Men and women, youth and children sought him out as confident, counselor, and friend, and always departed renewed and strengthened in spirit, more pleased with life than when they came to him, and braced up within as if they had drunk from a fresh fountain of good cheer.

In everything, however, Dr. Copenhaver was essentially an evangelist. God was present in his consciousness habitually. The reality of the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit was his spiritual fare. He fed on God's word and received daily Christ's Spirit in a devotion that was his way of life. For him life had a surpassing joy and beauty because he had experienced the inner victory our Redeemer gives to those who "trust and obey." He wanted all men to come to Christ that they might experience the victory for themselves and thus enter into the joy, peace and beauty of Christ's Kingdom. As a result he preached Christ, and in all personal relationships presented Jesus to men by tactful word and living example.

His sincerity as a great Christian practicing the divine law of love ruled out of his nature all criticalness and the related evil spirits of censoriousness, fault-finding, envy, depreciation, and judgment-passing. His love for men left no room in his heart for these cankers of bitterness. Those who knew him best could never recall that he ever spoke disparagingly of a brother minister, or anyone for that matter.

Because his philosophy of life was so wholesome, happy, and rested firmly on a living relationship of love to God and his fellowmen, one of his most marked characteristics, and well beloved by his friends, was his spritely and joyous spirit. He was able to see life in perspective and to see it whole. Therefore he had a wonderfully kind and spacious sense of humor. It could erupt almost anywhere, yet he always held it to the best criteria of good taste. He could laugh at himself and the inverted feeling of importance with which most of us are invested at times. He was a master story teller which was used with good effect in the pulpit and in personal relationships to instruct and to entertain.

Not the least of this good man's virtues was his devotion to wife and family. Those who entered their home were immediately aware of love, harmony and peace, evidence by a tender bearing, considerate actions, and happy conversation. They lived for God and delighted in making each other happy. Visitors were made to feel wanted and comfortable and quickly caught the contagion of love and good cheer.

by Edwin S. Sheppe, Jr.

Lee Gary Crutchfield, the son of William Parks Crutchfield and Emma Wesley Wells, was born in Richmond, Va., January 1, 1875. He received his early religious training in old Clay Street Methodist Church of that city, where he later taught a Sunday school class and was active in leadership in the Epworth League. He attended the public schools of Richmond and graduated from John Marshall High School with highest honors.

Lee Crutchfield began his preparation for the ministry at Vanderbilt University. He transferred after one year to Randolph-Macon College. He graduated from Randolph-Macon in 1906 with distinction, being valedictorian of his class. He was the recipient of three awards granted by the college for superior academic achievement.

In 1907 Lee Crutchfield was married to Nannie Parker of Montross, Va. The marriage took place in Andrew Chapel with the Reverend Clayton O. Tuttle officiating. The first child of Lee and Nannie Crutchfield died in infancy. Their other children were Lee Gary, who lost his life in combat in World War II, Ruth Havey, William Parker, and Robert Reynolds.

Lee Crutchfield was licensed to preach by the West Richmond District Conference May 31, 1899. He was admitted into the Virginia Conference at Petersburg, Va., November, 1907, and was appointed to the Amherst Circuit, which then consisted of eight churches. Except for a brief period of service during World War I as Religious and Recreational Secretary at the Army Base at Norfolk, Va., Lee Crutchfield's entire ministry was served in appointments in the Virginia Conference. He served the following appointments: Amherst Circuit; Montross Circuit; Benns Church; Dinwiddie; Lekies, Norfolk; Williamsburg; Asbury, Richmond; Chesapeake Avenue, South Norfolk; East York; and Grace Church, Danville.

While serving Grace Church, Lee Crutchfield's health failed and at the Annual Conference held in Richmond, Va., October 1937, he retired from the itinerant ministry

after thirty years of dedicated service to God and the Methodist Church. He, with his devoted and faithful wife, Nannie, returned to her ancestral home at Montross, Va., where they continued to exert the leavening influence of godly living and devotion to the Church.

Friday, January 29, 1960, at the age of 85, Lee Crutchfield entered into eternal life, freed from the infirmities of mortal flesh, to dwell in peace with the redeemed of God. His funeral was held at Andrew Chapel, Sunday, January 31, in the presence of neighbors and friends who had known and loved him across the years, and his earthly body was laid to rest in the church yard. The service was conducted by his pastor, the Reverend Frank D. James, the Reverend Treadwell Davidson, Episcopal Rector at Montross, and the Reverend Thomas J. Hawkins, his District Superintendent.

Lee Crutchfield was a thorough student, a scholarly preacher, and a diligent pastor. Throughout his active ministry he maintained a lively interest in community and civic affairs. He was an honorary member of Masonic Lodge No. 17, Chuckatuck, Va. He had an abiding love for people and was tireless in his devotion to those whom he served as pastor. While serving the East York Charge, which consisted of two churches with a membership of 1,081, he visited his people daily without a car, walking from house to house. He was a devoted husband and father whose richest bequest to his family was a noble heritage of Christian Faith. He found beauty in all that God created, and expressed his love of the beautiful in many choice poems and prose writings. Lee Gary Crutchfield was a good minister of Jesus Christ and a faithful pastor of the Methodist Church.

"And I heard a great voice out of Heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain; for the former things are passed away."

by Thomas J. Hawkins

John William Gee. For forty-eight years the Virginia Conference was blessed with the stalwart and effective ministry of the Reverend John William Gee. Tall--physically and spiritually--he exerted a beneficent leadership among his brothers of the laity and clergy. Twice, he was elected as a member of the General Conference; and, for thirty years, he was a member of the Virginia Conference Mission Board. His executive ability and heart of compassion was clearly demonstrated as he helped to allocate and mail punctually checks of aid to fellow ministers on mission charges.

Brother Gee was born in Lunenburg County, Va., March 3, 1875. He was the son of Dr. Edward Crymes Gee and May Frances Webb Gee. Theirs was a large family, with a warmth of hospitality generated from true Christian conviction and practice. The neighbors and friends were constant visitors. The proverbial circuit preacher made this his home headquarters on his rounds. Godly parents and the influence of these ministers made a timid lad feel the call of God. At the age of 21 he was recommended by the Lunenburg Quarterly Conference, and he offered himself at the District Conference at Prospect, Va., for local Preacher's license. This was granted May 8, 1896. He was ordained Deacon at Norfolk, Va., 1900, and in 1904 was ordained elder. He brought to this ministry a well-trained mind, having received his formal education through the public schools, Hoge Academy at Blackstone, Randolph-Macon Academy at Bedford, and Randolph-Macon College from which he graduated in 1900 with the A.B. degree.

In 1902 he made a wise choice of a capable and devoted wife, Mary Richter Harris, who proved an able helper throughout his ministry. To this union was born three loyal children: J. W. Gee, Jr., Mary Frances Gee, and Margaret--now Mrs. W. B. Tucker, Jr.--all of whom survive. The same Christianity and hospitality which pervaded the home of his parents was characteristic of this dedicated home.

The following charges were served: Richmond County, W. Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, Carterville, Prospect, Franktown, Lawrenceville, McKendree in Norfolk, Onley, Drakes Branch, Capeville, Prospect, McKenney, Chesterfield Heights in Norfolk.

In 1948 he moved to Pinewell, the location of homes in Norfolk provided for retired ministers. For several years he was in good health and became the volunteer and efficient helper of all other families in these homes. He was in constant demand for the supply of pulpits until he was no longer physically able to meet the call.

On December 15, 1959, he answered the call of God to leave a worn-out body and come up higher, and his graduation service was conducted in Norfolk by his pastor, John H. Hendricks, and Edgar A. Potts. Here, the latter gave this tribute:

"If I kept silence at this point, I have a feeling I would be lacking in gratitude and 'the very stones would cry out.' In 1937-40, Brother Gee and I served adjoining pastorates in the Farmville District. An abiding friendship was formed from which I received lasting benefits. He has made an impression on my ministry. This friendship grew out of a genuine respect and admiration for him as a rugged personality, an independent thinker, a tireless worker, and a thoroughly dedicated servant of God. "What the Lord said of Nathaniel could be well said of Brother Gee, he was a man 'in whom there is no guile.' He "was what he was"--no pretense whatever, for he was every bit a man. He told you what he thought without any evasion of subterfuge. He knew in whom he believed and what he believed. What he believed was good. That, he talked, preached and lived. He was clean in his personal life, humble before God, and both positive and fearless before men. When he spoke, he carried his congregation with him, for there was no cold pharisaism since his heart was the heart of a man who loved God and man devotedly. This sincerity and love radiated through every action of his life. He was helped immeasurably by his lovely, devoted wife and fine family.

"This morning I picture many who are welcoming him in God's great heaven. His preaching and living has shown them the way, pointed them to the Saviour and made sure their entrance. I am confident at this hour that he is saying--

"Lord, I am ready for my next job."

Freed from the body which he had dedicated to God and had worn out in His service, he is now clothed with an immortal, celestial, incorruptible body eternal in the heavens which will help him to do the bidding of the Master.

Breathe on me breath of God,
So shall I never die;
But live with Thee the perfect life
Of thine eternity.
I'll praise the Maker while I've breath;
And when my voice is lost in death,
Praise shall employ my nobler powers:
My days of praise shall ne'er be past
While life and thought and being last,
Or immortality endures."

How many times Brother Gee has said at services like this:
Let not your heart be troubled
You believe in God, believe also in me.
In my Father's house are many mansions
If it were not so I would have told you.
I go to prepare a place for you; and if
I go I will come again

and take you unto myself.

Once more the Christ has come--this time, to claim another of his faithful, and Brother Gee knew Him when He came. by Edgar A. Potts

Oscar Lee Haga, man of God, devoted to the Methodist Church to whose ministry he was called. He was born April 23, 1873, in Rockingham County, in the beautiful Valley of Va. His early childhood was spent among the rolling hills of scenic grandeur which must have touched his life deeply even from early years, and gave him the consciousness of the abiding presence of God.

Though his educational advantages were limited, Oscar Haga made good use of the opportunities afforded by the public schools and the Conference Course of study which was required at the time. Through his reading and self education, particularly in his close study of the Bible as a guidebook for life for him and for men everywhere, he added to and enriched his store of knowledge. It as a high moment in the life of this sincere man when he answered the call to the ministry and united with the Virginia Conference in 1908. He was serious in mind and purpose, devoted in heart, loyal in spirit and determined in will to give his best to his Master and his beloved church.

On February 26, 1902, he took for his bride, Maude F. Turnes, who survives him after long years of happiness in home and church. Four sons also survive, Harvey V., Clarence W., and twin boys, Stafford M. and Joseph B. Haga.

Brother Haga was a devoted member of the Masonic Lodge in Sandston, in which he rendered service as frequently as he was called upon. During an active ministry of 38 years and 3 years as a retired supply, he served a number of Charges beginning with Essex as his first and closing with Orange Circuit which was his last appointment. Among other Charges served were Amherst, Schoolfield, Cumberland, Gloucester, Beaverdam, Greene Circuit, Albemarle, Culpeper Circuit and Mount Pleasant Circuit. Upon his ministry at the last-named appointment he always looked with a keen appreciation of the accomplishments, for he felt he had reached the maximum in his service among these devoted mountain people. The primary note in his preaching was evangelism with the result that he was in demand over a long period of years as an evangelist assisting his brethren wherever he was called and to the extent of his ability without slighting the work over which he had the charge.

A ripe old age may be measured by the calendar, but length of days is not enough by which to count the true worth of a man and the service that he renders to the Kingdom of God in the ministry. Nor are his achievements to be measured by statistics alone but rather by the love he had for the people among whom he served, the touch of his hand upon the lives of youth and age alike as he visited faithfully among his people in every Charge he served and by the example he set in his own home, in the church and in the communities in which he lived.

Brother Haga was called to his reward on December 26, 1959, and his remains laid to rest in Washington Memorial Park. The funeral services were held in Corinth Methodist Church, Sandston, conducted by the Rev. Ralph Haga, a nephew of the deceased, and the Rev. E. W. Rawlings, pastor of the church.

Oscar Lee Haga, a servant of God, a loyal minister of the Christian faith in the Methodist Church, a Christian now crowned by the Master whose hand in blessing would say, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the Joy of Thy Lord."

by Bernard S. Via

James Spotswood Keene, a faithful minister, loyal churchman, and consecrated Christian gentleman, was born June 29, 1888, in Fredericksburg, Va. His father, Samuel Keene, a merchant and a layman in the Episcopal Church, died when Jimmy was only six years old. His mother, Fannie Ellen Mills Keene, was a devout Methodist and known as a staunch advocate and supporter of the cause of temperance.

After attending private schools in Fredericksburg, he entered Randolph-Macon College in 1904, intending to study law, but in his third year he felt a definite call to the ministry. He received the B.A. degree in 1908 and was awarded the coveted Bennett Historical Medal. He also engaged in debating and Y.M.C.A. activities, and was President of the Franklin Literary Society. Those of us who knew him at Ashland would have been justified in predicting for him a large place of leadership and influence in the church.

Following two years as a circuit pastor, he entered Vanderbilt University where he earned the B.D. degree. While in Nashville he worked in the Correspondence School office and served as the pastor of a small, struggling church which offered rich rewards in human experience. When he was ready for full-time appointment he was recommended by Dean Tillett for a promising church in Oklahoma, and one of our bishops wanted to send him to Brazil to teach in a mission college, but he was determined to devote himself to the Methodist ministry in the Baltimore Conference, which he had joined back in 1908.

His pastoral appointments were as follows: Loudoun Circuit, in Va.; Frederick Avenue Church in Baltimore; Tilghman's and Royal Oak; and Goldsboro in Maryland. In the meantime he had married his college sweetheart, Martha Hughes, of Ashland. Then, in 1916, tragedy struck their home. Martha's health became impaired and Jimmy suffered a physical breakdown from which he never fully recovered.

After a long period of inactivity, he was employed for several years as an instructor in a private school in Manassas. It was my privilege to renew our fellowship in 1938 when he was engaged in government research in Hampton, and I was pastor of

First Church, which he attended quite regularly. Later, during World War II, he was connected with the Induction Center in Richmond, and for ten years he worked in the Chemical Laboratory at the University of Richmond, retiring from that field in 1957. For many years prior to his last illness he rendered valuable service as one of the teachers of the Mastin Bible Class in Trinity Church, Richmond, and frequently assisted his pastor, Rev. H. B. Easton, in the morning service in the sanctuary.

He was hospitalized in July, 1959, and went to his eternal reward on August 24. He loved life and to the last was so eager to regain his health, but he expressed to me and to his relatives a readiness to answer the last roll call. Brother Easton and I conducted the funeral services on August 26, followed by interment at Ashland, with members of the Mastin Bible Class serving as pall-bearers. He is survived by Mrs. Keene, by a brother, Rev. W. D. Keene, Sr., and several nieces and nephews.

All who knew him must have been impressed by his gentle and uncomplaining spirit, and his serene faith, especially at the time of the tragic death in 1952 of his only son, Spotswood Hughes Keene, a successful young attorney of Richmond and an active Methodist layman. I believe he would have voiced personally the thought expressed by Rev. David H. Tribou when he delivered the Conference sermon in Maine, in 1922, after completing fifty years as a minister and naval chaplain. It was just a few days before his death, and the verses he quoted in conclusion seemed prophetic:

Sometimes at eve, when the tide is low and the voices call in the water's flow,
And the night stoops down to embrace the day, I shall slip my moorings and sail
away.

Through the purpling shadows that darkly trail o'er the ebbing tide of the unknown
sea.

I shall fare me away with a dip of the sail, and a ripple of water to tell the
tale

Of a lonely voyager sailing away to the mystic isles, where at anchor lay
The craft of those who have sailed before o'er the unknown sea to the unseen
shore.

A few who have watched me sail away will miss my craft in the busy bay,
Some friendly barks that were anchored near, some loving souls whom my heart held
dear,

In silent sorrow will drop a tear.

But I shall have peacefully furled my sail in moorings sheltered from storm and
gale,

And greeted the friends who have gone before o'er the unknown sea to the unseen
shore.

by Joseph S. Gresham

Earnest L. Overby was born April 21, 1876, in Coweta County, Georgia. At an early age his family moved to South Georgia, where he grew up. In early youth, he felt a call to the ministry, but because of his limited education and his sense of family responsibility (he was the eldest of ten brothers and sisters) he felt that he could not fulfill the calling of a minister.

In 1906 he joined the Postal Service; in 1908 he married Zoe Belle Proctor. His wife developed malaria and caused him to seek work in the north. In 1910 he transferred to the Richmond Post Office. By 1923 he felt that he could resist the call to the ministry no longer; he made application to the Virginia Conference and was accepted as a supply. By 1930 he was received into full connection.

Brother Overby served the following charges during his ministry: Nottoway, Skipwith, Phenix, and Palmyra in Virginia and Hooper's Island and St. Martin on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. In 1936, much to his sorrow, he was retired, because appointments were not available--a condition which is non-existent today. He and his family returned to Richmond and became active in the life and leadership of Pace Memorial Church. He found a further opportunity for service through preaching at the Richmond City Home; he also assisted often in the services and pastoral work of Pace Memorial. When Mrs. Overby died in 1944, he assumed the responsibility of teaching her class of ladies in the Church School. For twelve years he was the beloved teacher of this group--at his funeral the members of his class served as honorary pall-bearers.

In 1956 his health became so broken that he could not take active part in the life of his church. He suffered many slight strokes until the time of his death, March 21, 1960. Throughout his long illness he retained his sense of humor and his deep faith. He continued to keep in touch with his church he took every opportunity to read widely in books and periodicals that stimulated his faith. Though Brother Overby never had opportunity for a formal education, his reading and study habits would have been inspiring to the most learned of men. He was constantly surrounded by books; though the recurring strokes dulled his mental powers, one would find him during his clearer moments with his nose in a book! Despite his physical limitations, there was that within him--a "beyond within him"--which was constantly reaching out. At his death, his family and friends were comforted by the fact that such a spirit as his goes "from glory to glory" and finds home in Him who made us for Himself.

He is survived by three daughters: Misses Sarah and Margaret Overby of Richmond and Miss Elizabeth Overby who is serving as a missionary in Nadiad, India; he is also survived by three brothers and two sisters.

His funeral was held in Pace Memorial Church by Dr. R. P. Edwards and the writer. His body was laid to rest in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Richmond, and his eternal spirit commended to God his Father.

"For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

by Carl L. Douglas, Jr.

Hugh Jeffreys Paylor, son of John Davis Paylor and Ida Jones Whitaker Paylor was born in Thomasville, Davidson County, N.C., July 16, 1876. He departed this life January 29, 1960.

The early part of his life was spent in Winston, N.C., where he attended Winston Graded School and graduated at the age of 15. He early manifested an interest in church work and was converted under the ministry of Rev. J. R. Scroggs, pastor of Centenary Methodist Church of Winston.

In January 1892 he moved with his parents to High Point, N.C. In the early Fall of 1895 he accepted the position of bookkeeper and cashier of the Farmer's Mfg. Co., of Norfolk, Va. In 1900 he entered Randolph-Macon College, Ashland, Va., as a student for the ministry. While in Norfolk he was active in the religious work of the Y.M.C.A. and the Church. He found here the experiences and the persons that decisively affected his life. Particularly so were the influences of Chas. R. Towson, Sec'y of the Y.M.C.A. and Dr. W. J. Young and Dr. Coke Smith, successive pastors of Epworth Methodist Church.

He was twice married. On December 23, 1898, he was married Anna Elvira Odell of Norfolk, Va. To them three children were born: Elizabeth (Mrs. J. O. Hart) of Farmville, Va.; Earl W., of Danville, Va.; and Hugh J., Jr., of Charlottesville, Va. There are five grandchildren, one of whom is the Rev. Earl W. Paylor, Jr., of the Virginia Conference. There are two great-grandsons.

Mr. Paylor temporarily transferred his church membership from Epworth to his old home church in High Point, N.C. In 1900 he was recommended by this Quarterly Conference for a license to preach. This was granted by the District Conference and on Sunday, July 26, 1900, he preached his first sermon in the pulpit of Rev. J. R. Scroggs, High Point Methodist Church. His morning text was "God so loved the world." At night his theme was "The Prodigal Son."

Brother Paylor joined the Virginia Conference at its annual session in Newport News, Va., in 1901. His first appointment was Cartersville Circuit, and he also served pastorates in Richmond, Chase City, Emporia, and White Stone, as well as other pastorates, all of the Virginia Conference. White Stone was his last appointment, Rappahannock District. He retired at the Conference held in Richmond 1936 and lived in Richmond until 1950. Brother Paylor was a faithful, spiritual, gospel preacher, and beloved pastor. His wife, Anna Elvira Odell, passed away August 28, 1946, in Richmond, Va. He was married on March 12, 1949, to Lonnelle Hawthorne Stith, of Richmond, who survives him.

Brother Paylor moved from Richmond, Va., to St. Petersburg, Fla., 10 years ago. From there he went Home to his Heavenly Father.

"We cannot think of them as dead, Who walk with us no more,
Along the path of life we tread, They have but gone before.
The Father's house is mansioned fair, Beyond our vision dim;
All souls are his, and here or there, Are living unto Him."

by E. B. Loving

Nathaniel Lee Scott, son of Elisha Scott and Mary Jane Fee Scott, was born in Lee County, Va., on March 24, 1913.

On October 28, 1922, he was married to Miss Mary Farris. To them were born two daughters, Patricia Faye and Sue Frances.

Mr. Scott graduated from Union College, Barbourville, Kentucky, in 1948 with an A.B. degree. His seminary work was done at Westminster Theological Seminary, Westminster, Md., from which he received an STB degree in 1951.

He was received on trial in the Kentucky Conference, in which he was ordained a Deacon in 1949. He was received into full connection in the Virginia Conference, where he was ordained an Elder in 1951. While in college, Mr. Scott served Second Methodist Church, Corbin, Kentucky. In seminary he served the Airville Methodist Charge in the Central Pennsylvania Conference.

In the Virginia Conference he served the Charlotte Charge of the Farmville District (1951-54); the East Franklin Charge of the Danville District (1954-57); and the Design Church in Danville from June 1957 to the time of his death (March 9, 1960). In all his appointments church property and parsonages were remodeled and improved. An outstanding achievement of his ministry was the building of the new church at Penhook on the East Franklin Charge--a result of the consolidation of three small churches into one church. As a result of his work on this project and other qualities of ministerial leadership, he was selected as Rural Minister of 1956 for the State of Virginia. Into his work he poured body, mind and soul--as in all of his appointments.

He served on the Advance Committee for the Virginia Annual Conference for four years (1952-55). He also served as Danville District Director of Temperance for three years (1957-60).

The writer spent much time with Lee Scott; upon many occasions. We saw him at work as a planner, a builder, a pastor, a preacher, and a man. We were in his home and saw him as husband and parent. He was always the same--quiet, patient, faithful, and dedicated. No better passage of Scripture to illustrate his life can be found than Zachariah 4:6--"Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit," saith the Lord of hosts."

On Wednesday, March 9th, Lee Scott was stricken with his second and fatal heart attack, while watching the birds eat some food that he had put out on the snow for them. He went to his eternal home as he had lived--quietly and lovingly.

He is survived by his widow; his two daughters: Fay (Mrs. William Smeltzer of Airville, Pennsylvania) and Sue (Mrs. William Thomas Stephens of Broqueville, Pennsylvania); his grandchildren; and his father.

Funeral services were conducted at Design Church in Danville on Friday, March 11, 1960, at 4 p.m. by Rev. J. A. McKenry, his District Superintendent, and the writer. His interment was on Sunday, March 13, 1960, at 3:30 p.m. in the cemetery of the McKendree Methodist Church, Airville, Pennsylvania, conducted by the pastor, the Reverend Mr. Edward S. Hayes.

The earth and its people are much better because Lee Scott spent his days here.

by James E. Scott, Jr.

Reuben Eldridge Shaw. A sense of gratitude wells up within our hearts as we think of Reuben Eldridge Shaw who was born June 14, 1891, at Mt. Airy, N.C. He was married to the former Minnie Frances Moore of Stuart, Va., May 3, 1913. To this union was born one daughter and five sons: Virginia, William R., Haymond E., Dee Bee Moore, Bernard B., and Herbert E.

Brother Shaw's first service in the ministry of Christ was as a Salvation Army officer. He entered the Salvation Army in September, 1923, and served in the following places: Columbia, S.C., Staunton, Va., Norton, Va., Portsmouth, Va., Petersburg, Va., Pulaski, Va., Suffolk, Va., Martinsville, Va., and Hopewell, Va. At Norton he introduced the work of the Salvation Army and opened a corps there. In Petersburg he was

engaged in a building program and the purchase of a new citadel. While in Suffolk he was also engaged in a building program and the purchase of a new citadel. He left the Salvation Army in 1939 with the rank of Captain.

Brother Shaw entered the Virginia Methodist Conference in October, 1943, and served the following appointments: Pinners Point, Portsmouth, Va., 1943-52; Wallace Memorial, Fox Hill, Va., 1952-54; New Church Charge, New Church, Va., 1954-56; Greenville Charge, Emporia, Va., 1956-57; Claremont Charge, Claremont, Va., 1957-59. He was retired at the session of the Annual Conference June 1959.

Only those who knew him could ever know the depth of his dedication to God and to his calling. He was a quiet humble servant of Jesus Christ. To know him was to love and admire him. Funeral services were held in Broad Street Methodist Church, Portsmouth, Va., January 29, 1960, conducted by W. Kenneth Haddock, Lewis W. Darst, and J. Floyd Carroll.

Surely it may be said of him:

"Servant of God, well done;
Thy glorious warfare past;
The battles fought, the race is won,
And Thou art crowned at last."

by Lewis W. Darst

George William Martin Taylor, "son of George William Taylor and Emma Sue Martin, born in Accomack County, Va., ("The Sycamores"--the ancestral home of the Taylor Family 1640-1910) April 10, 1876. His parents having died before he was two years old he was reared in the home of his Grandfather, William Milby Taylor and Grandmother, Sallie Chandler Taylor, whose gentle care and training in a Christian home supplied his every need with love and affection that was denied him in the passing of his parents. He was educated in the public schools of Accomack County, Randolph-Macon Academy, Bedford City, Va., and Randolph-Macon College, Ashland, Va., having graduated with the A.B. degree conferred in 1903. When he was 15 years old his Grandfather died (1891) and the following year, the family left the farm and moved to the village of Pungoteague. It was at that time he started on his own and in the following four years, working for others, and in business for himself. Money was earned during these years to enable him to begin to lay the foundation for a higher education. Accordingly, January 1, 1897, he entered Randolph-Macon Academy for preparatory work for entering college. He entered Randolph-Macon College 1898 and for four years remained there to complete his academic work for the A.B. Degree." (copied from Brother Taylor's own works)

George W. M. Taylor was not a man of small stature. He towered among men. His great stature came because of his intimate knowledge of God. He not only recognized this himself but also gave evidence of such to those who knew him.

God called him into the Christian Ministry. It was in the old Cumberland Street Methodist Church, South, Norfolk, Va., that Brother Taylor entered the Virginia Conference on Trial in 1900. From this hour until the time of his death, which came May 29th, 1960, in the hospital, Hampton, Va., by the waters of the Hampton Roads, which he loved dearly, he continued to love and to serve his God.

His Christian Ministries were in the Virginia Conference except four years spent in Edgefield, S.C., by the appointment of Bishop Darlington, years 1919-23, and the ministry of First World War Chaplain in Europe from 1917-19.

This man's life cannot be complete without the story of his family. He married Miss Florence Watson, from Albemarle County, June 5th, 1905. She walked with Brother George in the paths of service to God and man until the very hour of his death. She lives today to testify to his noble life. These dear people were blessed with three boys, namely: Robert Edward, George William, and Martin Watson. He was justly proud of these boys, who gave him much happiness.

George Taylor was a real man. A man among men he was. A person of vision, of purpose, of strength was this humble yet powerful child of God. He served as National Chaplain of the 29th Division almost to his last hour. He raised money and built church after church. These stand as monuments to him. However, the Christian character built in the hearts of others will linger longer to tell of his leadership.

Brother George W. M. Taylor was "born well"--noble ancestry; he "lived well"--preached Christ; he "died well"--in the faith. On the night of May 29th he went on

another visit with his God. From this trip he will not return to us, for Eternity and God are his Companions.

by Claude F. Moseley

Razzie W. Truitt. Chaplain Razzie W. Truitt, Captain USN, was born 2 December 1888 in Campbells, Md. After completion of his High School work he entered Randolph-Macon College in 1911 and received the Bachelor of Arts degree in 1915 after which he studied at Yale University Divinity School for two years. He married Miss Nannie Potts, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Thomas N. Potts, and they were the proud parents of a daughter, Eleanor, and two sons, Ross and Lawrence.

Mr. Truitt was called to active duty as a chaplain in the United States Navy on October 23, 1918, and served with distinction until his retirement on December 31, 1950. He was first stationed at Boston, Massachusetts, and from there roamed the world serving on such famous ships as the USS SAVANNAH, MARYLAND, IDAHO, SARATOGA, and the USS INDIANAPOLIS. From 28 April 1942 until 4 September 1943 he served as Pacific Fleet Chaplain and in recognition of his work he was presented with the Bronze Star Medal. The citation which accompanied the medal said, in part, "His personal example of limitless faith and tireless efforts in spiritual guidance were an inspiration and bulwark of strength to all who were charged with the grave responsibilities of carrying on the war. His exemplary conduct and unswerving devotion to duty were at all times in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service."

Chaplain Truitt's name is always used with affection. He was greatly beloved as a Chaplain's Chaplain. At heart, he was a pastor. His interest in his men and their families was a source of strength, comfort and consolation.

After his retirement, Chaplain Truitt enjoyed good health until the Fall of 1957 when he suffered a heart attack. However, he seemed to recover and to be in fair health until the spring of 1960. He died 23 April 1960.

John Edward White, son of the Reverend and Mrs. John Francis White, of York County, Va., was born August 26, 1865, and passed away June 6, 1960. Within two months and twenty days he would have been ninety-five years of age. Born a few months after the curtain fell at Appomattox, April 9, 1865, he grew up amidst the departed splendor of the Old South, experienced the tragedy and suffering of the generation of reconstruction, lived through the two greatest World Wars of all history, and witnessed the convulsions of the New South as it struggled to be born. Truly the poet of ancient Israel who voiced the promise of God made to His faithful servant, "With long life will I satisfy him, and show him my salvation," could have been referring to this faithful and lovable minister of Christ.

Brother White was educated in the private and public schools of York County, and at Randolph-Macon College. After teaching school for several years, he was admitted on trial to the Virginia Annual Conference in 1896. During the forty-three years of his ministry he served the following charges: Cheriton; Berlin, Md.; Wicomico, Md.; Henrico; Toano; South Norfolk; Surry; Pungoteague; Hilton Village; Pamplin, and Lunenburg. He was the fourth pastor of the Hilton Village Methodist Church, now First Methodist Church of Newport News. At the time of his pastorate this charge was a circuit composed of Hilton Village, Morrison and Denbigh.

In May 1899, Brother White was happily married to Miss Lillian Wilson of Cheriton, Va., who for more than fifty years was his faithful and beloved wife and companion.

Upon retirement at the age of seventy-four, in 1939, Brother White made his home at 59 Cedar Lane, Newport News. His gracious sister, Mrs. L. H. Hall, herself now eighty-five years of age and the only survivor of a family of eight children, kept house and made a home for him during the ten years following Mrs. White's death.

John E. White was a gentle soul who loved God and loved his fellowman. Even those of us who knew him only during his very advanced age easily learned to love him.

Brother White possessed the heart of a poet, and writing poetry was his avocation for more than fifty years of his life. He wrote poems on varied themes, and on many anniversary and special occasions, some of which he set to the music of our familiar Methodist hymns. In 1952 he published a book of his poems entitled, "As The Years Go By." He wrote a poem each year on his birthday. Even though it by no means measures up in quality to some of his earlier poems, perhaps a good way to close this brief

statement of tribute to God's good servant, John Edward White, will be to quote the poem he wrote for his ninety-fourth and last birthday, August 16, 1959.

Another birthday, yes, one more; This time it numbers ninety-four.

A birthday is a milestone we pass on life's road;

The road beginning at our birth, with tender care bestowed

Upon our helpless babyhood by those who love us best;

The road that ends when God says come, and from Earth's labors rest.

The road we travel here below until the journey ends,

Is not as rough as it would be had we no faithful friends;

And whether long or short the road from cradle to the grave,

Amidst life's care and victories, true friends are what we crave.

Of course we know that God is Love, And His dear Son was given

That all who follow Him below may dwell with Him in Heaven.

God also gives us earthly friends, yes faithful, kind and true;

And on the list of our dear friends, we surely number you.

Brother White's funeral was conducted at First Methodist Church, Newport News, Thursday, June 9, by the pastor, the Rev. A. B. Clarke. Interment was in the family plot at Providence Church, Dare, Va., in his beloved York County.

Minutes for 1961. **Wade Hampton Fletcher.** At Deals Island, Md., on 1 December 1878, was born to William C. Fletcher and his wife, Louisauna Washburn Fletcher, a son. Christened Wade Hampton Fletcher, this boy was to have other hands laid upon him in the church with the passing years. God laid His hands upon Brother Fletcher one day and called him for his work in the John H. Dulany Canning Company to preach the gospel.

Beginning his ministry in 1911, he was admitted on trial in Virginia Annual Conference in 1914. On 15 October 1922 the hands of Bishop Warren A. Candler were laid upon Brother Fletcher and he was made an elder in the church.

A pastor for 39 years, Brother Fletcher served Wachapreague, Andrew Chapel, Cheriton (when the present church was built), Oak Hill, Pungoteague, Cambridge (Md.), and Greenbush charges in Eastern Shore District; Newsoms and Benns charges in Portsmouth District; Disputanta Charge in Petersburg District; and Cartersville Charge in Farmville District.

In Salisbury, Md., on 17 December 1901, Brother Fletcher was married to Miss Daisie Mae Kibble of that city. This was a happy union and marked the beginning of a beautiful home. Mrs. Fletcher, a refined and lovely lady, made their several parsonages a delightful Christian home in which their children were born and reared in love and blessed with Christian training.

Closing his active ministry at Greenbush, Va., in the autumn of 1950, Brother Fletcher retired. Their children reared, educated, and living in their own homes, he and Mrs. Fletcher moved again to Cheriton and lived in the home for retired preachers at that place. Mrs. Fletcher's health began to fail, but her devoted husband gave her his own strength in loving care through her remaining years, until at length she outran him to the Father's house. On 12 July 1960, now in the home of his firstborn, Mrs. B.F. McCready, at Onley, Va., Brother Fletcher was graduated into the life triumphant.

Remaining to witness this final victory of their beloved father were Mrs. B. F. McCready of Onley, Mrs. S. E. Sturgis of Pungoteague, Mrs. B. W. Yeoman, Jr. of Smithfield, and Wade Hampton Fletcher, Jr. of Key West, Florida.

A man and minister of refinement and friendliness, Brother Wade Hampton Fletcher earned and enjoyed the respect and the love of his wife and children, of the people whom he, as pastor, served with affection and fidelity, and of his fellow-pastors who found him to be a faithful undershepherd of "the flock of Christ."

Though Brother Fletcher's absence from us is saddening to all who love him, there is rejoicing of heart that he has been released from the limitations of a failing body into the presence of Him whom he loved and served.

"Shapeless and grim,

A Shadow dim,

O'erhung my ways

And darkened all my days.

And all who saw

"And I, in weakness,

Slipping toward the night,

In sore affright

Looked up. And lo'--

No Specter grim,

With bated breath,
Said, "It is Death!"

But just a dim,
Sweet face,

A sweet, high mother-face,
A face like Christ's own mother's face
Alight with tenderness
And grace.

"Thou art not Death," I cried--
For Life's supremest fantasy
Had never thus envisaged Death to me--
'Thou art not Death, the End!'

"In accents winning
Came the answer: 'Friend,
There is no Death!
I am the Beginning,
Not the End!'"--John Oxenham

by W. Kenneth Haddock

Hampden Harrison Smith, Sr. The subject of this sketch, Hampden Harrison Smith, Sr., was the son of Hampden Harrison and Emily Simms Smith. He was born in Somerset County near the town of Princess Anne, Md., on September 26, 1872. His life and service indicate that he must have had a happy childhood under the direction of Christian parents who desired good things for their son.

His education was gained through attendance in the public schools of the County and in 1893 he entered Randolph-Macon College from which he graduated with an A.B. degree in 1898. Like many others who have come into the ministry, he engaged in other business as a telegrapher. This became a sideline during his college years. During summer vacations he worked in the Western Union Office in Philadelphia which enabled him to help meet his college expenses.

Washington Street Church, Petersburg, was the seat of the Conference November 1899 when he was admitted on trial into the Virginia Conference which at the time was under the jurisdiction of Bishop Alpheus W. Wilson.

The writer was a frequent visitor in his home after retirement and testimony is borne to the fact that he was greatly blessed in his home life. On November 22, 1900, his marriage to Miss Carrie Lee Jeter of Powhatan County was indeed a step taken evidently under divine guidance. She was a devout Christian woman and admirably qualified to be a minister's wife. She greatly enriched his ministry in numerous ways. They enjoyed a long and happy wedded life. Their 55th wedding anniversary was celebrated in November 1955. Mrs. Smith went to her heavenly reward on May 8, 1956, shortly after observing her 83rd birthday. Six children were born to this couple, four of whom survive, namely Mrs. Grace Lee Sutherland of Richmond, Rev. Hampden H. Smith, Jr., D.D., of Suffolk, Miss Annie Jeter Smith and Mrs. J. W. Blincoe of Ashland. The family was closely knit together in bonds of love and each member of the home made a contribution, not only to the family life but to the church life as well.

Brother Smith was appointed pastor of the following charges which he served effectively: Montross, Caroline, King and Queen, Westmoreland, Shackleford's, West Brunswick, West Dinwiddie and Hanover. Surely a part of the testimony of a man's service to his people is shown by the interest and concern they have in him, particularly after his retirement. For twenty-four years he labored faithfully as a pastor, observing the disciplinary injunction of visiting from house to house and preaching the word of God. Because of failing hearing he asked for and was given the superannuate relationship. This necessitated quite a change for the family. It was a difficult decision to make and one that he made reluctantly after realizing the difficulty it would be to carry on the ministry he wished to render. For three years the family lived in Blackstone during which time Brother Smith used his talent in aiding his fellow pastors in revival services. In 1926 he moved to Ashland and occupied one of the retirement homes, first on College Avenue, and later he was given the keys to a residence which had been built on Maple Street. Here he lived with his wife and one daughter who gave attention to his every need and wish.

Like many others who have reached the age of retirement he continued to be active despite the difficulty in hearing. He was a worthy writer and a close observer of

trends of the times so his fruitful ministry was prolonged through use of the pen. He was a frequent contributor to religious periodicals, more especially the denominational weeklies. His gift for writing and the manner in which the subject matter was treated made him quite popular in this field and his contributions were well received and had a wide circulation.

One prominent editor recently said: "Almost every week or so for a period of many years I saw an article by Brother Smith in one religious journal or another. He thought clearly and expressed himself well. It is safe to say that even after official retirement from the active ministry, he wielded a wide influence through the written word."

The writer was his pastor for four years and can bear testimony to the strength of his character, his devotion to his Lord, his loyalty to the Church, his kindly consideration of his family and the high esteem in which he was held by all who knew him. Although he could not hear a sound nor a spoken word from the pulpit, nor music by the choir, yet Brother Smith was always in attendance unless providentially hindered. He was in his usual place and paid close attention to everything that was done. He could get much from lip reading but far more from being in the atmosphere of worship and finding the comfort and consolation of God by being in the sanctuary.

How is life to be measured? Some would measure it by length of days, others by the accumulation of wealth, others by popularity, power, or prestige, but here was a man who followed so closely the footsteps of the Master that it may be said of him that his crowning achievement was a character undefiled exemplified in a life of devotion and service.

Brother Smith passed away in a Richmond hospital on August 13, 1960. The funeral services were held in the lovely Randolph-Macon Chapel, conducted by the pastor, Rev. Harris Kessler, assisted by Dr. Carl Sanders, Superintendent of the Richmond District. His frail body was laid to rest in Woodlawn Cemetery, Ashland. This is not all, for his spirit went home to God and through the eternities the joy of the Lord will be his as he glories in the heavenly sunlight of divine love as one of the crowned sons of God!

by Bernard S. Via

Laxton Cleveland Smart, the son of John Lytle and Martha Matilda Merrell Smart, was born at Fairview, in Buncombe County, N.C., March 3, 1885. After graduation from Fairview High School, he entered Trinity College (now Duke University) from which he graduated on June 4, 1913, with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. During the year 1913-14, he was principal of a high school in Heywood County, N.C. The following year, he entered Vanderbilt University where he completed his work for the Bachelor of Divinity degree in two years and two summer sessions, graduating on June 4, 1916.

On June 15, 1916, he married Miss Legie Lavinia Morgan who survives him. Through the fifty-two years of his active ministry, Mrs. Smart graced his home, blessed his life, and helped him faithfully in the work of the Church. To this happy union two children were born--Virginia Lee, now the wife of Dr. Ray Holder, rector of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Highland Park, Illinois; and Reverend Morgan S. Smart, a member of the Virginia Conference and pastor of Beulah-St. Paul Charge on the Rappahannock District.

Immediately following his marriage, he served the Whitestone and Irvington Charge as supply pastor until he was received into the Virginia Annual Conference in November 1916. During his fifty-two years of service in the Virginia Annual Conference, he served as pastor of the following charges: Henrico, Bowling Green, Lynnhaven, Hilton Village, Guilford, Cheriton; Grace, Danville; Southview, Lynchburg; Wright Memorial, Portsmouth; LeKies, Norfolk; and Ettrick, where he was pastor for the last thirteen years of his ministry until his retirement in 1958.

Following his retirement in June, 1958, Brother and Mrs. Smart made their home in Colonial Heights, Va. During the year following his retirement, he supplied the Surry Charge and Ivey Memorial Church on the Petersburg District, for several months, and preached whenever the opportunity came to him.

It was my privilege to know Brother Smart for thirty years. He was a good student all his life, a fine preacher, and a faithful pastor to his people. He was a man of strong convictions, a stalwart Methodist, and a dedicated servant of the Church through all his years. He was no exhibitionist as a preacher, but he rendered faithful

service and did constructive work in every charge. We shall miss his cheerful manner, his hearty laughter, and shall long remember the warmth and loyalty of his friendship.

He died suddenly while he was delivering the morning sermon at Saint Marks Methodist Church in Petersburg, on Sunday, August 28, 1960. He was faithful unto death, and came to the end of his life bearing witness to his faith tremendous!

Funeral services were conducted at the J.T. Morris Funeral Home in Petersburg on Tuesday, August 30, by Bishop Paul Neff Garber, Dr. J. Aubrey Hughes, the District Superintendent, Reverend B.T. Leonard, pastor of Ettrick Methodist Church, and Rev. D. Edgar Wood, pastor of Ettrick Baptist Church. Interment was in Southlawn Memorial Park, Prince George County, Va.

"And I heard a voice from heaven, saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them." **by Hugh M. Burleigh**
Eugene Bernard Loving, fourth son but fifth child of Samuel Benjamin Rush Loving and M. Alice Loving (formerly M. Alice Mann) was born on Friday about half after four o'clock, October 31, 1879, at Oak Cottage, Amelia County, Va., about three miles from Mannboro postoffice. He attended a one-room public school taught by Miss Mary Coleman. His father was a farmer; so were his children.

At the age of sixteen years, E. Bernard Loving quit farming and went to work in a country store at Beaver Pond, Va., for a Mr. Gus Wilson, where he stayed for two years. Then, in March of 1898, he went to Richmond, Va., and got a job with the Richmond Locomotive Works, and there he learned the trade of a machinist. After learning his trade, he worked as a machinist for the Southern Railway Shops in Richmond. He remained there for four years, leaving in 1906.

He attended Sunday School and Church all his life as a child and youth. He united with Central Methodist Church, in South Richmond, when he was eighteen years old, and under the ministry of Rev. R. M. Chandler, in 1905, he felt the call to the ministry.

In September of 1906 he entered Randolph-Macon Academy, at Bedford, to study for the ministry. He graduated from the Academy in June, 1909.

He was licensed to preach by West Richmond District Conference in July, 1907. On July 24, 1909, he became Supply Pastor of Epworth Church, Richmond; and in September of the same year he entered Richmond College, from which he graduated in June 1914 with an A.B. degree. While at Richmond College, he acted as Supply Pastor of Epworth Church and West Chesterfield Circuit.

He joined the Virginia Conference in November, 1914, and served the following charges as an active Methodist minister until his retirement in 1952: Epworth, West Chesterfield, South Dinwiddie, Sussex, East Nottoway, Kenbridge, Wright Memorial, Portsmouth, Central of Hampton, Greenwood on the Richmond District, Urbanna, Louisa, Boykins, Mecklenburg Circuit and West Brunswick. After his retirement, he served as Supply Pastor at Toano from 1952 to 1956, and this proved to be one of his most fruitful pastorates.

In June, 1956, Brother Loving moved from Toano to Richmond, and he and his wife became members of Lakeside Methodist Church. His last residence was at 2328 Fleet Avenue, Richmond.

On December 7, 1915, he married Miss Esther Strader, of Richmond. To this union there were born four children, two boys and two girls. The oldest son, Eugene Bernard Loving, Jr., died on January 26, 1952, while a Major in the United States Air Force. Donald Lee Loving, the other son, is married and is now living in Newport News, and working as an Aeronautical Research Engineer for the National Aeronautical and Space Administration. Ruth Vivian Loving is married to Commander S.R. Weed, of the United States Navy. Mary Anne Loving, the second daughter, is married to Commander P.E. Arbo, of the United States Navy. There are eleven grandchildren. Brother Loving is also survived by one brother, Dr. J. G. Loving, of Richmond, Va.

His surviving son, Donald Lee Loving, has this to say of his father: "Wherever my father lived, he made a garden and worked it by hand. He loved to see the vegetables grow, and enjoyed sharing them with others. He was most fond of children and seemed to take a particular interest in the young people of the churches he served. He

loved to sing the hymns of the church. One of his pet projects, as we moved from place to place, was to fix up and repair the parsonage. He seemed destined to move into places that needed repairing and put them in near perfect condition for the next preacher to move into. He kept his tools in working order, his books up to date, and his business straight. He was a methodical Methodist. He loved the church and belonged to the people as much as he did to his family. The world is a better place for his having lived here. We all miss him."

Those of us who knew him well could bear testimony that this tribute was deserved.

Eugene Bernard Loving passed on to this eternal reward on August 31, 1960, in Richmond. His funeral was held at Lakeside Church, with Rev. L. J. Derby officiating, assisted by Rev. Frank VanDyck and Rev. T. W. Ogden.

As he came to the end of the way, Bernard Loving could have well appropriated the words of the Great Apostle as his farewell, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: henceforth there is laid up for me a crown."

by C. A. Tucker

E. Carroll DeJarnette. "This one thing I do," was truly the guiding principle in the life of Carroll DeJarnette. Because of this his ministry for Christ was a glorious victory. It was not by his human powers nor by the techniques of the church that this ministry was such a power, but the ever compelling force in his life was a dedication to the will of Christ that made it a reality that Christ truly lived in him. His ministry was an apostolic ministry.

He was more than a church mechanic. He brought to bear upon his churches the power of the Holy Spirit, interpreting to his people the mind of God, convincing them of the truth of the gospel. His life was not a program of reforms, but a witness in which group there lived a Peter, a John, a Paul. The Methodist Church and the world are richer because Carroll DeJarnette became a minister of Christ.

No man can number the friends who knew him, who loved him, and who mourned his going. A vast host on earth and in heaven have enjoyed the Kingdom of God because this man of Christ passed their way. A number of churches in the Virginia Conference were blessed by his ministry. East Pittsylvania, Surry, Chesterfield, Sussex, Branch Memorial and Clarksville are today more like true New Testament Churches because he has been their pastor.

Carroll brought to his ministry the vigor of young manhood. He was born in South Boston, Va., November 11, 1908, the son of John Fleming DeJarnette and Annie Oakes DeJarnette. He died in South Boston, November 10, 1960--a young man. Of these years on earth twenty-nine were in the Virginia Conference. He entered the Conference October 1931 and was ordained an elder in 1935.

This ministry in the Virginia Conference was enriched by an unusual Christian family. He married Stella Ellen Ford of Blairs, Va., July 8, 1935. God gave them a lovely daughter, Anne Ellen, now a student at Greensboro College. It would be difficult to find a more lovely Christian home. There was the home of Mary and Martha where Jesus loved to go. In the same spirit the people of the churches loved to go to the home of Carroll, Stella and Anne DeJarnette. Here they found not only a welcome, but that devotion to Christ, like the home of Mary and Martha. From such a home he went daily to his God-given tasks.

His ministry was rich not only in his pastorate, but his brethren recognized his talents and dedication to service. They called him to a district and conference-wide service. He served as Director of Church Camps for sixteen years. He was active in Boy Scout work for fifteen years. He was Youth Director of the Farmville District for nine years. He served on the Board of Conference Claimants for two terms. The Farmville District was represented by him on the Board of Evangelism and the Board of Education.

The climax of this marvelous ministry was his ten-year pastorate at Jameson Methodist Church, Clarksville. Few ministers have ever been loved and respected as he was by that church. An editorial in the Clarksville paper revealed the sentiment of the whole community upon his passing.

"The untimely and unexpected passing of the Rev. E. Carroll De Jarnette, pastor of Jameson Memorial Methodist Church, brought a canopy of sadness over the entire community, and especially among his parishioners whom he had served during the past decade.

"A great spiritual influence has been suddenly called to a higher service and a just reward. His ten years of living with us will always serve as an inspiration, for a man ever lives within the deeds he has done, the life he has lived, and the service he has rendered; such a man was E. Carroll De Jarnette, and the pages within his book of life were blessedly full to overflowing.

"We will miss seeing this fine Christian, and with others of the community we join in expressing our heartfelt sadness at his early demise."

Carroll had conducted many funerals over and over. He had proclaimed Christ to be the resurrection and the life. His own funeral, conducted by Dr. Thomas F. Carroll and the Rev. R. H. Nelson, was at 2 p.m. November 12, 1960, in Jameson Memorial Methodist Church. The words that Carroll so often had offered as the supreme comfort, "I am the resurrection and the life," were said for him. For him Christ broke up the funeral. He took out of death the sting and placed upon the brow of this faithful servant a crown of eternal life. "Well done, Carroll," were the words of our own blessed Redeemer. As He lives, Carroll lives too. by C. Cooper Bell

James Calvin Dugger was born January 26, 1894, in Burlington, W.Va. He was the son of John Brancon Dugger and Elmirah Cannon Dugger. He was educated in the public schools of W.Va., Potomac State College, and Emory University.

On March 12, 1914, he was united in marriage to Olive Grace Ward, who was a constant inspiration and source of strength in maintaining a truly happy home with dominant Christian principles. Her devotion both to him and to the Church contributed in a large way to the success of his ministry. God blessed this union with seven children: Anna Katherine (Mrs. Horace R. Hiner) of Lynchburg, Va.; Eva Myree (deceased); Carlotta Lee (Mrs. Frank R. Mann, Jr.) of McRae, Georgia; James Calvin, Jr. of Charlotte, N.C.; Bertha Maxine (Mrs. Leonard A. Karadin) of Oberlin, Ohio; John Baker of Newport News, Va.; and Jane Grace (Mrs. A. T. Wiatt) of Hampton, Va.

He was received into the Baltimore Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, at its annual session, April 7-12, 1920, and entered upon a happy and successful ministry. He served the following appointments in the Baltimore Conference: Wardensville, Elk Garden, East Fairfax, Herndon, and Marshall. He was serving Main Street Church, Waynesboro at the time Methodist Union was consummated and thus became a member of the Virginia Conference of the Methodist Church. From Waynesboro, he served the following appointments in succession: Emporia and Hilton Village, now First Church, Newport News. After completing a successful six-year term as superintendent of the Winchester District, he was appointed to Central Church, Hampton in June of 1960.

James Calvin Dugger was a good minister of Jesus Christ. He was conscious of the fact that he had a message from God, and, when he entered the pulpit, he delivered that message to the glory of God and the edification of His heavens. God gave him a happy and fruitful ministry in every assignment that he ever received. Truly it may be said of him, "The Spirit of the Lord was upon him; because the Lord hath anointed him to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent him to bind up the broken hearted, and to comfort those who mourn." His heart and voice were so in tune with the Infinite that those unto whom he spoke, through tired, weary, lonely, and sad of heart, were encouraged and comforted.

Although people in all walks of life heard him gladly as he proclaimed from the pulpit the unsearchable riches of God, Calvin Dugger will long be remembered as a great pastor. He had the shepherd heart, with a sympathetic soul, sharing alike the joys and sorrows of his people. They loved him with a passionate devotion and he loved them.

In his last pastorate, which extended for a brief period of seven months, he greatly endeared himself to his people. The whole Peninsula was shocked on December 29th when it became known that this beloved minister had suffered another heart attack and had suddenly slipped away.

The funeral service was conducted in the church of which he had been pastor on Sunday afternoon, January 1, 1961, by the writer assisted by Rev. Howard R. Peters,

pastor of First Methodist Church, Hampton. The ministers of the Peninsula District attended in a body and served as pallbearers. Interment was in Peninsula Memorial Park. The large attendance that overflowed the church bore witness to the high esteem with which this minister had been held by a host of devoted friends who mourned his passing.

The one great consolation we may have in his removal from our midst is the sure hope to come. From the sounding board of the centuries, we would hear again Jesus' words: "Because I live, ye shall live also. He that liveth and believeth in me shall never die."

by R. Orman Bryant

Wyatt Aiken Smart. In Wyatt Aiken Smart a long line of preachers flowered into a noble Christian character, a convincing preacher, and an inspiring teacher. He was born at Newbury, S.C., October 22, 1883, the son of Richard Davis and Ella Aiken Smart. His father was a distinguished minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. His mother, the daughter of a Colonel in the Confederate Army, who afterward represented South Carolina in the Congress of the United States, was a gentle-woman of refinement and many graces. His home furnished such an atmosphere of culture and devout living as to provide the stuff out of which greatness comes. He was prepared for college at Webb School in Bell Buckle, Tennessee, did his undergraduate work at Vanderbilt University, and pursued his graduate studies at Union Theological Seminary, New York and Chicago University. That his record at school was superior is attested by his election to both Phi Beta Kappa and Omicron Delta Kappa honorary fraternities. The degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon him by Southern Methodist University in 1919 and by Ohio Wesleyan in 1930.

In 1907 Dr. Smart was admitted to the Virginia Annual Conference. At the time not many young ministers were seminary graduates. Because of his extraordinary equipment and his attractive personality, his ability was quickly recognized. His first pastorate was Trinity, Lynchburg, from which after four effective years he went to Park View, Portsmouth. Then First Church, Charlottesville, one of the strong appointments of the Conference, which his father had served, asked for him and he was sent there. In the meantime on December 30, 1909, he married Miss Ethel Bradshaw Chappell, who was descended from several generations of notable preachers. The Charlottesville appointment was interrupted in 1914 by an invitation to become a member of the faculty of the new Candler School of Theology of Emory University, which was accepted. For nearly forty years Dr. Smart was a vital and dynamic member of the faculty of that school, serving with distinction as Professor of Biblical Theology, Associate Dean of Candler School of Theology, and Chaplain of Emory University. He retired in 1952, but by popular demand continued to teach some classes.

Dr. Smart was so much in demand as a preacher and lecturer that he could fill only a small portion of the invitations he received. Probably no man in his time influenced college students more than he did. He knew their problems as well as their hopes and aspirations and he spoke a language they understood and to which they responded. He was flooded with calls for commencement sermons and addresses, for religious emphasis services, and for student conferences. Year after year he was invited back to the same campuses to share his rich insights on religion and life with faculties and students. For a quarter of a century he went annually to the summer school of Peabody Teacher's College to speak to teachers from many states. He delivered the Fronden Lectures at Southern Methodist University, the Cole Lectures at Vanderbilt University, and the Quillian Lectures at his own Emory.

Over many years Dr. Smart contributed to the Church School literature of his Church. His notes on the lesson in periodicals for adults were read by thousands gratefully. He had a way of taking the best findings of Biblical scholarship and putting them into terms the average teacher could understand and use. So highly was his service in this field valued that an issue of one of the magazines of the Board of Education was dedicated to him in 1955. He was author of four rich and readable little volumes, too few for one who had so much he could say helpfully to his contemporaries. His books were "The Contemporary Christ," "The Spiritual Gospel," "Still the Bible Speaks," and "Preaching in These Times." The books came late in his years, when he was able to speak out of a full experience and a ripe scholarship.

Dr. Smart represented Methodism at the Third World Conference on Faith and Order in Stockholm in 1952. Four times he was a delegate to the General Conference and three times he was sent to the Jurisdictional Conference of his Church. Twice he fell little short of election to the episcopacy. On both occasions he received a majority of the votes cast, but not the required majority. Several factors operated against his election, the chief of which was his utter indifference to becoming a bishop. He frankly told some of his friends he preferred his place in the classroom to any office the Church had to offer. He had admirers who took him seriously. They felt the Church would lose something precious, if he were diverted from his creative task to become an administrator. Then there were those who opposed his election, because "he was too liberal." Quite well they knew that, even had he aspired to the episcopacy, he would never compromise his integrity in pursuit of it.

Early in Dr. Smart's teaching career the fundamentalist controversy broke upon the Church. Self-appointed guardians of orthodoxy repudiated the wealth of new truth released by devout students of Biblical materials. They sought to discredit and defame all who accepted and proclaimed any of it. The fight was bitter and at times cruel. Many men who found inspiration and enrichment in the fresh insights of dedicated scholars, for reasons of prudence, kept silence. Dr. Smart and his colleague, Dr. Andrew Sleed, felt impelled to let the Church know the truth, assured that by it men would be made free. These men spoke out courageously, nor did they heed the scurrilous attacks made upon them. It would be wrong to say they led a fight. They simply shared their convictions with any and all who would hear. In the classroom, on the lecture platform, in the pulpit, through Church School literature, in pastor's schools, and in conversation, they spoke out in candor, not so much for a cause, as for the furtherance of truth. They lived to see the approach to the Bible and religion they so eagerly espoused generally accepted by the Church they loved.

At the time of Dr. Smart's retirement in 1952, students he had taught across the years had a portrait of him hung in the Candler School of Theology. It was their way of emphasizing his excellence as a teacher. From his classroom at Emory and in Pastor's schools has flown a stream of influence that has given tone and quality to the Church throughout the South and beyond. Versatile as he was, his eminence was in the field of teaching. One of his students thus described his method: "He lectured systematically and attractively. His desk never had on it a note, a folder, or a book. He would enter the classroom and at the first note of the bell begin lecturing at the point at which the previous lecture closed. This meant meticulous preparation in his office, though it appeared to the class spontaneous or "off the cuff." He was never dispassionate. He spoke with conviction and sought to generate conviction in his students—he succeeded. He was passionately religious and felt the presentation of the Biblical message in the spirit of the authors would make religion vital and contagious. He unflinchingly did this."

Dr. Smart was a dynamic and inspiring preacher. He would have graced any pulpit on the continent. He was equally at ease in the college chapel, or in some great Church to which leaders of thought and action came to worship, or in some one-room chapel to which one of his students invited him to preach. He was thrilled with preaching; his was the art of bringing alive the ancient prophets and the great Nazarene and making them contemporary. His sermons were wrought as carefully as a Florentine mosaic, though to the casual listener they seemed ex-tempore. After a Chief Justice of the District of Columbia Court heard him several times, he remarked to a friend, "It has been my hobby to listen to great speakers. Never have I heard any man who thinks as clearly and presents his message as forcefully as Dr. Smart. His style was what Phillips-Brooks called animated conversation. The air of assurance together with elevated thought carried conviction to his hearers. At times his keen sense of humor broke through, not as a diversion, but to bring clarity and emphasis to his thought. His sermons were surcharged with zeal to have men live righteously after the patterns of Jesus."

The image Aiken Smart left with those who knew him was that of a man, tall, erect, well-groomed, the soul of grace and courtesy, sprightly in action, engaging in conversation, very much alive in every part of his being. It is difficult to think of

him as the victim of disease. In 1958 his arteries caught up with his years and he became enfeebled. In the early part of 1961 he had to be hospitalized. He lingered till April 8, when he went quietly out of the years. He left somewhat extensive files of notes he had made over many years of things that concerned and interested him. They reveal the mood of a man serene in spirit with a deep devotion to right and spurred by hope and expectancy.

Funeral services were conducted in Emory Theology Chapel. Participating ministers were Dr. H.B. Trimble, Dr. Boone Bowen, Dr. Eugene T. Drinkard, and Dr. Hugh H. Harris. His remains rest in Decatur Cemetery. Dr. Smart is survived by his widow, Mrs. Ethel Chappell Smart, a daughter, Mrs. Millard Rewis, Jr., of Roanoke, Va., a brother, Dr. Frank P. Smart of Norfolk, Va., a sister, Miss Ella Aiken Smart of Palm Beach, Florida, and two grandchildren, Richard and Carolyn Rewis.

by J. Callaway Robertson

Claude Mitchell Hesser was a good man, a Christian gentleman, a true servant of God. In face, in speech, in deed, he gave evidence God was in his heart.

The son of Andrew Mason Hesser and Anna McCormack Origsby, he was born in Clarke County, Va., August 26, 1873. He died at this home in Roanoke, Va., April 24, 1961.

At an early age, Brother Hesser dedicated his life to God and became a devoted member of the Methodist Church. It was his boyhood dream to be a minister. When playmates and companions would tell of their dreams concerning their life's work, he would always say, "I am going to be a preacher." But a definite commitment to this calling did not come until his middle teens; and it was made in a quiet moment one night as he was riding horseback through the woods near his home. The voice of God spoke compellingly and he dismounted and, kneeling at a tree stump, yielded his life into the hands of God, dedicating himself to serve in the Christian ministry. The vision never faded, and for forty-three years he was one of the most consecrated and effective ministers of the Old Baltimore Conference and, after Unification, of the Virginia Conference.

He was educated at the public schools of Winchester, Va.; at Randolph-Macon Academy, and Randolph-Macon College. He was licensed to preach at Middletown, Va.; admitted on trial to the Baltimore Conference in 1901; ordained Deacon in 1904, and Elder in 1906. He retired in 1944. The intervening years were spent in fellowship with God and in the work of a faithful servant of Jesus Christ.

On June 22, 1904, he was married to Mary Elizabeth Williams, and for nearly 57 years this devoted couple traveled the road of life together. All who knew them were aware of the love, harmony and peace in the home and family established by this union. Friends quickly caught the contagion of their love and good cheer, and sensed their mutual devotion to Christ and his Church. Two children were born to them, and survive him—James M. Hesser of Roanoke, and Miss Elizabeth Hesser of Wilkes Barre, Pa. He was proud of his wife and family, and he often confessed that much of his success in the ministry was due to his wife's cooperation and inspiration. Mrs. Hesser survives her husband and will continue to live in Roanoke.

Brother Hesser's first full-time appointment was at Frostburg, Md. Next, he served Taylor's Circuit, near Baltimore; then followed pastorates at Arlington; St. Paul's, Baltimore; Marvin, Washington; Central, Staunton; presiding Elder of the Moorefield District; West End Church, Roanoke; Del Ray, Alexandria; Union Station, Richmond. Since retirement, he has lived in Roanoke.

During his active ministry in the Conference, he served with distinction on the Board of Missions, the Corporate Board of Finance, the Board of the Baltimore Southern Methodist, and the Virginia Methodist Advocate; and as Trustee of Asbury Home for the Aged, Gaithersburg, Md., and of Ferrum Junior College. For many years, he was president of the Board of Church Extension of the Baltimore Conference.

Brother Hesser was a very practical man, a clear thinker, and a man of strong convictions. He was an able protagonist in debate, and determined fighter for causes in which he believed. His good judgment and leadership ability were recognized and used by the Conference, as evidenced by the many posts to which he was assigned in the Conference organization and the large and strong churches to which he was appointed as pastor.

He was an excellent preacher, logical and forceful; a fearless prophet. He

preached with power against sin and offered the word of forgiveness and salvation through Jesus Christ. No one could ever say he compromised the Gospel. As a pastor, he was diligent, systematic and faithful. His heart was large enough to embrace all classes and conditions of mankind. As his dear companion said, "He loved his fellow-men." With Henry Dodge, he could say:

"What man so ere I chance to see

Amazing thought, is kin to me,

And if a man, my brother."

A ministry of service, extending to every phase and sphere of life, was his all-absorbing purpose and desire. His spirit is expressed in this verse by Mande Ray:

"To love someone more dearly every day

To help a wandering child to find his way

To ponder o'er a noble thought and pray

And smile when evening comes--

This is my task."

Quietly and in peace, he met his Lord as he crossed the river of death on April 24, 1961. We are sure there are many saints in heaven because of Claude Hesser, and that they greeted him with joyous welcome when he joined the celestial band. We think we can hear our Lord, as he looked over Brother Hesser's earthly record as husband, father, preacher, pastor and servant of his Church, saying, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of thy Lord."

Funeral services were conducted at West End Church, Roanoke, April 26, by Dr. Frank H. VanDyck, a former pastor; assisted by the pastor, Rev. Percy D. White. His body was laid to rest in Evergreen Cemetery.

by John F. Owens

Minutes for 1962. **Frederic Christian Bismark Mohr.** On January 21, 1887 there was born to Frederic Mohr and his wife Elizabeth Laber Mohr a son whom they named Frederic Christian Bismark Mohr. When young Frederic was three years of age his father died. His mother's choice of a second husband provided her children with a good stepfather and a happy childhood.

Brother Mohr was educated in the public schools in East Palestine, Ohio. In 1908 he took as his wife Blanche Evans of East Palestine. Their home was blessed with three children who survive him. They are Mrs. Carl Sommers, Mrs. Ross Baker and Carroll D. Mohr. Brother Mohr was again married in 1934; this time to Marguerite Allen who survives him, along with their son, Frederic Allen Mohr.

As a young man F. C. B. Mohr felt a call to preach. While living in Erwin, Tenn., from 1917-21, he associated himself with the pastor of the Methodist Church there and went out to a community called Rocky Creek where they started a mission church. The church came to be called the Worley-Mohr Chapel, after its two founders.

Nineteen years passed before Bro. Mohr took up again his ministry of preaching. During this time he served as a civil service worker of our National Government. Shortly before the outbreak of the Second World War, Bro. Mohr was given the approved supply relationship and appointed to Blandford Church in Petersburg. When his four years were completed there, he was sent to seven churches of the Chesterfield Circuit where he served for five years. From there he was appointed to Ivey Memorial Church on the Petersburg District from which charge he retired from the active ministry in 1954.

Frederic C. B. Mohr's ministry for his Master continued, however, in the life of the newly organized Wesley Church in Hopewell, where he and Mrs. Mohr associated themselves. As the teacher of a large church school class, composed primarily of young adult parents, he brought to the budding congregation the Christian maturity that had characterized all of his ministry. The closing years of his life were merged with the opening years of a vigorous new church. Gentle in manner, thorough in preparation, co-operative in action, dedicated in spirit, the witness of this servant of God will long bless Wesley Church.

Though in failing health for several years, Bro. Mohr continued to take his place in the religious leadership in the community. His last sermon was preached two weeks before his death at the First Christian Church in Hopewell. His topic and text was an appropriate summary of his own life. He preached on "Witnessing for Christ," and the text was Mark 5:19-20, "...Go home to your friends, and tell them how much the Lord

has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you!' And he went away and began to proclaim in the Dicapolis how much Jesus had done for him; and all men marveled."

On July 4, 1961, Frederic C. B. Mohr answered his Heavenly Father's call to transfer to the Church Triumphant. Services were conducted from Wesley Church in Hopewell on July 9, conducted by Dr. J. Aubrey Hughes and the Rev. Bernard S. Via, Jr. Interment was in Southlawn Memorial Park in Prince George County. **by Bernard S. Via, Jr.** **Linwood Roscoe Whitten** served his God and his fellow man well and faithfully. It was not until 1950, however, that he began to devote all his time to the Christian ministry, at this time becoming an approved supply pastor of the Virginia Conference. In this relationship he became an ordained Elder. His first pastoral Charge was on the Callaghan Charge near Covington, where he doubled church membership, more than doubled the financial worth of the church property, and was responsible for the construction of educational buildings for two of the churches. Following a period as associate pastor of the Granbery Memorial Methodist Church in Covington, Brother Whitten organized the new St. Marks Methodist Church in Waynesboro. He served the Woodridge Charge in the Charlottesville District, from which he was appointed to the Rapidan Charge. Here he erected a new parsonage. Later he was pastor of the Green Mountain Charge, from which he retired. Following retirement he accepted his last appointment to the Orange Circuit. He was a member of the Charlottesville Ministerial Association.

Reverend Mr. Whitten was born in Amherst County, January 10, 1888, the son of the late William Thomas and Martha Ann Whitten. He was educated in the Nelson County public schools. In the year 1907, Brother Whitten was married to Susie E. Alcock of Amherst County. To this blessed union were born nine children. Of these, seven survived: Mrs. Dorothy W. Smith, Mrs. Gladys W. Kinser, Mrs. Cletus W. Lowe, Harold B. Whitten, Mrs. Frances W. Morrow, Jesse Ross Whitten, and Thomas M. Whitten. Deceased are William Roscoe and Robert Wesley. Until he entered the ministry, he was engaged in various business enterprises, and about forty years ago was on the Charlottesville City Council.

Brother Whitten was a man of many interests and activities, but they were all secondary to his God and his Church. He faced each day with faith, courage, hope, and unfailing good humor. He was a great lover of flowers, and nearly always wore a rose or a carnation in this buttonhole. He often took flowers to people he knew as an expression of appreciation and regard. As indicated above, our brother was blessed with a large family and a large heart, and it might be said that the whole world was his congregation; for he loved everyone, and everyone loved him.

Our brother unexpectedly departed this life at the age of 73 on July 17, 1961, following a full day of Sunday services. He continues to live in the hearts of those he leaves behind him, especially that of his wife, a lovely and dedicated woman who was his constant companion and inspiration. He did a great deal of good and helped a great many people. He will not be forgotten. His funeral was held at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, July 19, 1961, at Rock Spring Methodist Church at Faber, Va. Burial was in the church cemetery. The service was conducted by Dr. Owen T. Kelly, his District Superintendent, and The Reverend Price N. Moore, local pastor.

This tribute concludes with a stanza from Brother Whitten's favorite hymn:

"My times are in Thy hand;
My God I wish them there;
My life, my friends, my soul,
I leave entirely to Thy care." -- William F. Lloyd

by Garland Ross and J.H. Davidson

Starke Jett II. He who takes upon himself the ministry of Christ assumes the greatest responsibility, yet, the greatest privilege on earth. The great of the earth have been in this ministry. They have eagerly made the world, at least, a bit like the Kingdom of Christ. To pass through this world, so briefly and, yet, be so honored by Christ as to be assigned by Him to a place in His ministry is the supreme privilege of the fleeting life. Time may pass, but the work we do in the ministry will never pass. Through time and eternity it will abide.

Starke Jett, II was so honored by Christ. He was called to this holy ministry, and he made full proof of that ministry. He was truly called by God to this work. His

spirit until the end was: "Woe be unto me, if I preach not the gospel." He could not have been anything but a minister of Christ. If he had not heard the Call of Christ, there would not have been a happy day in his life. Always would there have been the voice of conscience rebuking him because he failed to heed Christ. Truly could he say with Paul of long ago: "I was not disobedient to the Heavenly vision."

Throughout all of his ministry there was the glorious certainty that he was doing the will of Christ. This certainty brought to him confidence that only victory would be his. It brought the glorious reality that whether in the pulpit, in the home, by the death bed, or anywhere down the road of life, he was under the guidance of Christ. Really to know him was to know his Lord. The motto of his life might well have been: "This one thing I do." His ministry was an apostolic ministry of the highest order.

He was more than a church mechanic. He brought to bear upon his churches and all his work the power of the Holy Spirit. Thus, he taught the people the truth of God. His life was not a program of reforms, but it was a witness to Christ. In this group he was with Peter, John, Paul, and the great company of noble souls who have preached the riches of Christ to a poor world.

The Methodist Church and the world are richer because Starke Jett became a minister of Christ. To know him was to love him. God let him live on this earth for eighty-five years. They were eighty-five years without a blemish. Never was there a stain upon his name. Never was there a cloud over his soul. His character was really hewn from the Rock of Ages. It was solid and no tempest of this earth ever shook the life of Starke Jett. To live so long with a life as pure as the snow and as beautiful and sweet as the blossoms upon a tree in Spring is, indeed, a glory that comes from the other world. God was in his life, hence it could not have been otherwise.

A number of charges and two districts were blessed by his ministry. Richmond Circuit, Altavista, Trinity-Richmond, two years in the Navy, Grace, Newport News, Rocky Mount, Culpeper, Highland Park, Richmond, First Church, Martinsville, Chestnut Avenue, Newport News, Broad Street are now stronger churches because this man of God was their pastor. A number of young men entered the ministry during these pastorates. If Starke Jett typified the ministry, many wanted to be in such a ministry. Considerable building was done under his ministry, and a parsonage was built under his guidance. How many souls entered the kingdom under his ministry, we do not know. But of this we may be sure, that many, many souls are in heaven and on earth redeemed by Christ under the preaching of this apostle of Christ. A company in the Father's house welcomed him when he entered that heavenly home. They were directed that way by this preacher of Christ.

With distinction he served two districts as Superintendent. The Rappahannock and Farmville. There he was truly a leader. All the preachers realized his worth. They knew that their friend was in the cabinet. They knew that their lives were in most capable hands. He loved his preachers and churches and they loved him. Nothing finer can be said for any one.

His life was not only one of high dedication, great faith in God, and a love for people, but this life was ever sweetened by a wonderful sense of humor. Starke was a big smile. In his soul there was peace, and his face revealed that peace by the smile that ever adorned it. Words of cheer and good will for all were ever upon his tongue.

This ministry in the Virginia Conference was enriched by an unusual Christian family. He was born into a family at Reedville, Va., September 18, 1876, the son of Theodore Augustus Jett and Florence Covington. His grandfather Starke Jett I was a minister. For him, Starke was named. He married Miss Leigh Arthur November 16, 1913. This marriage was blessed with four children--Starke, III, deceased, Florence Leigh, now Mrs. Richard Ragean Hamlin, New York City, NY, Starke IV, Columbus, Ohio, and Clarice Arthur, now Mrs. Martin Williams, III, Ithaca, New York. Their home was like the home of Mary and Martha, where Jesus loved to go. Here they found not only a welcome, but a devotion to Christ that was ever a benediction. He and his wife together for many long years served the Lord and the people of the Conference. From his home in Richmond, Va., he went to heaven on July 25, 1961. The funeral service was at Reville Methodist Church, Richmond, Va., July 27, 1961, conducted by Bishop Paul N. Garber, Dr. Harry Backhus, Dr. Bernard Via, and Dr. George Reamey. His body rests with other illustrious dead in Hollywood Cemetery, Richmond, Va.

Starke many times had comforted others in the Valley of death with the glorious words: "I am the Resurrection and the Life." Now they were spoken for him. For him Christ took out of death the sting and placed upon his brow the crown of eternal life.

The world may truly thank God for this prophet and apostle of Christ. As Christ lives, so lives Starke Jett, II.

by C. Cooper Bell

S. Otto Wright. When two devout Methodist parents of Canton, Penn., looked upon the face of their newborn son on October 24, 1877, the joy of their hearts was quite sufficient without too much anticipation as to what would develop through 83 years of life which lay before the infant whom they named S. Otto Wright. The child grew and waxed strong in mind and spirit as well as body. He developed into a normal child, beautiful to his parents, happy in his childhood home life, and perhaps unconsciously was preparing for services and experiences which led him to distant parts of the world. His public school education was completed in Pennsylvania before his family moved to Barton Heights section of Richmond, Va. From here he entered Randolph-Macon College, from which he graduated in 1900 with the Bachelor of Arts degree. Later he attended Vanderbilt University from which institution he received his Bachelor of Divinity Degree in 1905. He had been admitted to the Virginia Annual Conference on trial in November 1900.

Brother Wright was married to the former Anne DeLashmutt of Howard County, Md., on April 29, 1911. She shared his ministries both in the pastorate and during the period of his service in the Army, proving always to be a comfort and support to him in all of his work. After sharing life together for 48 years, this good woman passed away on November 3, 1959.

He entered upon his ministry with high hope and with a keen sense of responsibility. He filled his appointments in the spirit of dedication to God and devotion to the church, and pastoral concern for his parishioners. He manifested a kindly spirit, not only to the people whom he served in the various charges, but to those of the community as well. Among his appointments were: Powhatan, Blandford, East Halifax, Sledd Memorial, Wachapreague, Cottage Place, West Point, Chestnut Avenue and Ferrum.

When World War I began he felt called to minister to those in uniform, so in 1917 he entered the United States Army as 1st Lt., serving as Chaplain. He was assigned to the 79th Division at Camp Meade, Md. While in action in France, he was wounded and was awarded the Purple Heart for valor.

After the war, having received his discharge from the Army, he was appointed to Ferrum and remained there until he entered the regular Army as Chaplain in 1920. During the next twelve years he served at the following Army Stations: Fort Brown, Texas; Fort Warren, Wyoming; Fort Kamehameha, Hawaii, and Fitzsimmons General Hospital, Denver, Colorado. He retired from the Army, October 31, 1932, because of disabilities which resulted from service in line of duty.

During tour duty in Hawaii he served as President of the Chaplains' Association Department of Hawaii, also Vice-President and President of Evangelical Association, Oahu, Hawaii, which included in its membership all the Evangelical churches with activities on the Island of Oahu.

In 1939, following his retirement, he moved with his wife to Charlottesville, Va., where they lived happily for 20 years. During the period when the writer was serving the Charlottesville District, Brother Wright was always ready to be of assistance, and supplied the pulpits on many occasions. Sometimes this was for one service, and at others, for a period of weeks. His willingness and kindly manner endeared him to those among whom he moved and his service was contributing to the enrichment of the spiritual lives of those to whom he ministered. After the death of his wife, and because of failing health, he realized that he could not live alone, and after considering the best arrangements to be made for his welfare he decided to go with his son in Pennsville, N.J., with whom he stayed for the last year of his life. During the year his physical needs made necessary his removal to the Veterans Administration Hospital in Wilmington, Del. On Sunday, July 23, 1961, this soldier of the cross laid down his arms and his spirit wended its way homeward to God. Surviving is one son, Bernard H. Wright and three grandsons of Pennsville, N.J. Also, one sister survives, Mrs. Charles E. Richardson of Richmond, Va.

Funeral services were held from the Bennett Funeral Home, Richmond, Va. They were conducted by the writer on Thursday, July 27, 1961. The tired body of our friend was laid to rest in Riverview Cemetery at Richmond, but his pure spirit ascended to the Father's house where he rejoined those who had preceded him and awaits the coming glory of the redeemed.

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints." **by Bernard S. Via**
Charles Edward Green. "After Death--What?" was the question Charles Edward Green took as the subject of one of his sermons. Like the sound of a trumpet, he sounded forth the promises given to those who love the Lord. "God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave." "Thou shalt guide me with Thy counsel and afterwards receive me into glory." "I know that my Redeemer liveth. . . out of my flesh shall I see God." "I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever." On July 29, 1961, he took the hand of Christ who said, "I will come again and take you unto myself," and claimed the promise rightly his.

Brother Green was born in Petersburg, Va., January 3, 1881, son of James Thomas and Martha Browder Green. On receiving his call to the ministry he declared his intention of obtaining the best possible education which intention he pursued. He was a student at Randolph-Macon Academy at Bedford, Randolph-Macon College and Vanderbilt University. He started his ministry with the Virginia Conference in 1908 and in 1909 added to his effectiveness in the ministry by choosing as his devoted wife Nannie W. Morgan. To this union were born two children, Charles E. Green, Jr. and Ethel Green Wills. His brother J. T. Green, Jr. has been an effective minister of the Virginia Conference. All of these survive him. Some of the Churches which he served were: Central, Hampton; St. Paul's, Richmond; Grace, Newport News; Reedsville Methodist; Chesapeake Avenue, Norfolk; Capeville; Lawrenceville; Union Station, Richmond; Lane Memorial, Altavista; Memorial, Norfolk; and the Arlington Community Church.

While at St. Paul's, he was so anxious to liquidate the indebtedness that he not only solicited all the funds he could, but secured another job in addition to his pastoral duties and used the money obtained for this purpose.

He was a warm hearted minister and was a real shepherd of the flock. He was interested in every phase of activity. During his college days, he was a member of the clericus and a good player on the ball team. In retirement, he taught Sunday School, supplied pulpits, helped keep books at his son's drugstore, met people on the streets with his winsome personality that invited them to share their troubles for counsel.

He always looked on Dr. W. Kenneth Haddock as one of his boys. Dr. Haddock states, "Dr. Green was a strong preacher, a faithful pastor, and a warm personal friend. I greatly appreciated my associations with him in Union Station Church and in the Virginia Conference."

Colonel W. R. Phelps, who got to know him quite well in Bedford, pays this tribute to him. "On many occasions he filled our pulpit. He preached with ability, enthusiasm and vigor and our people were highly pleased with his messages. He was a familiar figure in the store, Church, and on the streets and was held in high esteem by all the citizens of town and country. On his retirement his love of sports led to croquet. He organized a team and drew players from the surrounding cities. He was affectionately known as Dr. Green of the Croquet Court."

Rev. Peter K. Helmtoller, the pastor who knew him well at Bedford said, "He was loved and respected. He was my warm, personal friend. His heart was always filled with hope and faith. He had personal power in prayer and spent much time in both study of prayer and practice. He was a firm believer in the text: 'My God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.' His tenderness, his prayers and his kind brotherly presence have been shared with many in the course of his long and useful ministry."

His funeral service was conducted by his pastor, the Reverend William A. Lyons and the District Superintendent, The Reverend Edgar A. Potts at Main Street Methodist Church in Bedford.

I am certain that as he met his Master, he said in his characteristic manner, "Lord, I am ready for my next work."

by Edgar A. Potts

John Spears Maxey. The brief appraisal of a life is never an easy task. To compress the record of eighty years of a life so singularly beautiful into a few words, one cannot attempt to relate the complete story of that life--only to pay tribute to it. Fidelity, courage, hope, and an unmistakable sense of dedication in their highest meaning encompass the years of our brother's life.

John Spears Maxey was born in Powhatan County, Va., November 29, 1880, the son of Joseph Ellett Maxey and Octavia Augusta Ellett Maxey. Both were highly respected and loyal to the church. His father was a farmer, merchant, and surveyor. The subject of this memoir was one of fourteen children. Only one survives him, a sister, Mrs. Helen Maxey Harlan, of Powhatan.

The inheritance of a godly home and his early training there laid the foundation for the sturdy character for which he was so widely known. At an early age, he made a profession of his faith in God, and became a member of Rocky Oak Methodist Church. When the growing youth finished the rural school of his neighborhood, a desire to make the most of his life was already burning in his breast. His deeply religious nature was greatly stirred, and he resolved to prepare himself to be used as God might direct. He, therefore, entered Randolph-Macon Academy at Bedford, Va., and continued his preparation at Randolph-Macon College at Ashland, Va. Here he studied three years, until increasing blindness made it impossible for him to further pursue his studies as a resident student. Brother Maxey was not discouraged by affliction, but was rather challenged by it. He was responsive to the leadership of the Holy Spirit.

John Spears Maxey was married to Miss Estelle Mundie of Essex County, Va., July 6, 1910, in Hermon Church on the Essex Charge. Mrs. Maxey walked with her husband through fifty-one happy years. It was a beautiful companionship. She walked by his side, yet leading the way, seeing for him, and rendering every possible assistance in his ministry.

Their only child, Mrs. Mary Augusta Maxey Powell, died when a young woman. Their intense sorrow at her untimely death was deep, but borne by the Christian fortitude so characteristic of them both.

Brother Maxey was licensed to preach in 1906 and served as supply pastor of the Branch Memorial and Highland Springs Charge in 1906-7. He was admitted on trial into the Virginia Annual Conference in 1907. He was ordained a deacon in 1909 by Bishop H.C. Morrison in Trinity Church, Newport News, and was ordained an elder in 1913 by Bishop Collins Denny in Mount Vernon Church, Danville. As a member of the Annual Conference Brother Maxey served the following appointments: Sledd Memorial, Danville, 1908-11. Following this pastorate he found it necessary to retire, however, he resumed his active ministry the following year and served Trinity Church, Skipwith, 1912-16; Cartersville Circuit 1916-18; Orange Circuit 1918-23; Prince Edward Circuit 1923-27; Whaleyville and Somerton 1927-35; Oaklette Church, Norfolk County, 1935 until he retired in 1939.

Upon retirement he and Mrs. Maxey made their home in Franklin, Va., and he became assistant pastor of High Street Church and teacher of the Men's Bible Class which was named The Spears Maxey Bible Class in his honor. He served the church and the class twenty-one years.

Brother Maxey was beloved by all the people of all the churches in Franklin. In 1956, he was given the "First Citizen of Franklin" award by the Business and Professional Woman's Club of Franklin. At the banquet in his honor the Reverend James W. Turner, his pastor, said "He has given this community the radiance of his wonderful life."

On July 6, 1960, Mr. and Mrs. Maxey celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary. At the time Brother Maxey was a patient in the Raiford Memorial Hospital in Franklin.

Brother Maxey's ministry, during the years of his active years as pastor and during the busy years of his retirement, was one of continuous devotion to God, and to the spiritual needs of his fellow man. He knew well that real peace was only to be found in being at peace with God, and that life was to be discovered and kept by surrendering it. He lived a dedicated life. His daily prayer was "Lord, save me from myself for Thyself." He lived for others. A man's life is his real message. The following lines were among some of his papers.

Guide of My Life

The Word of God has been the strength of my life.
Preaching has been my passion.
The church has been my hobby.
The fellowship of my brethren has been my recreation.
My country has been my pride.
My home has been my joy.

The writer believes it can truly be said of his friend and brother, who loved righteousness and truth, that he was blessed with life's greatest possession, a vision of God. He had this vision because he was pure in heart. He saw God in time and now he sees Him where time is no more. He saw God as God is; the Father, and in conscious sonship he lived until his death, August 20, 1961.

The funeral service was conducted at the grave in Poplar Springs cemetery in Franklin, August 21, 1961, by his pastor, the Reverend Gilliam C. Bentley, C. Richard Scott, C. C. Blythe, Jr., and the writer.

Brother Maxey is survived by his companion of the years and a grandson, Ferrell Franklin Powell, Jr. In peaceful sleep lies the mortal remains of the true servant of God, devoted husband, affectionate father, true brother and friend, awaiting the Resurrection Morning. Surely, it may be said of John Spears Maxey, He belonged to the aristocracy of Christian piety.

by E. Ernest Renn

Charles Eugene Johnson was born September 6, 1873, in Prince George County, Va. He was the son of Richard Wingfield Johnson and Martha Elizabeth West Johnson. He graduated from the Disputanta High School at Disputanta, Va. His advanced training consisted of a four year correspondence course and the conference course of study.

On January, 1896, he was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Jane Epps, who was a constant inspiration and source of strength in maintaining a truly happy home with dedicated Christian principles. Her devotion both to him and to the Church contributed in a very positive way to the spiritual success of his ministry. God blessed this union with two daughters: Margaret Johnson and Ruth Epps Johnson.

This union came to an end when Mrs. Johnson passed on to be with the Lord on October 11, 1931. Her home going was a great loss to him, but he continued looking to the Lord and serving in His kingdom.

On July 10, 1934, he married Miss Beulah Gertrude Magee of Petersburg, Va., who also was a blessing and inspiration in health and in sickness. She was a real help mate in the ministry and after his stroke on July 31, 1959, she went beyond the call of duty during his over two years of illness.

Besides his wife, who lives in Danville, Va., he is survived by one daughter, Miss Ruth Johnson of Colonial Heights, Petersburg, Va., and one sister, Mrs. Carrie Sneed of Copperhill, Tenn.

Shortly after his conversion he felt the call of God upon his heart to preach the glorious gospel of Jesus Christ. He entered the ministry from Trinity Methodist Church (Prince George Circuit) and was licensed to preach at the Petersburg District Conference in 1906. He was received on trial in 1906, and was appointed in Blandford Church, Petersburg, as his first appointment. From there he served the Brunswick Charge 1908-11; Mecklenburg Charge 1911-12; the Isle of Wight Charge 1912-16; Epworth, Richmond 1916-20; Memorial, Richmond 1920-24; Grace, Danville 1924-29; Wesley, Petersburg 1929-33; Chester and Ivey Memorial 1933-35; Schoolfield, Danville 1935-45. After retiring in 1945 he served Greenbackville Church as retired supply for two years, and Piney Forrest Church for one year. His last eleven years were spent in Danville, Va., where he attended Grace Methodist Church and taught the Men's Bible Class.

He was a good man, a faithful preacher, and a lover of people. He said, "Every appointment I ever had was a providence of God." To the children he was a real friend, to his fellow ministers he was a beloved brother, to his parishioners he was a real servant of God. His testimony at the Wednesday's Prayer Meeting just before he was stricken ill was: "It is Well With My Soul."

Quietly and in peace he met his Lord as he crossed the river of life on October 5, 1961. We are sure there are many saints in heaven because of the faithfulness of C.E. Johnson, and that they greeted him with joy unspeakable when he joined that celestial

band. We think we can hear our Lord, as he looked over Brother Johnson's early record as son, husband, father, preacher, pastor, priest, and servant of his church, saying, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of thy Lord."

Funeral services were conducted at Grace Methodist Church, Danville, October 6, by Emmet Gowin, pastor, and the Reverends Charles O. Kidd, District Superintendent, Alfred R. Mays, W. E. Suddarth, Fred Wyand, and James W. Rush. His body was laid to rest in the Blandford Cemetery, Petersburg, Va.

by **Emmett William Seay Gowin**

James Sidney Burleigh. The Apostle Paul counseled his young friend Timothy: "Always be steady, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry." II Timothy 4:5. One might suspect these words to have been etched upon James Burleigh's mind, so admirably did he live up to them.

Born the 26th day of July, 1909, in Norwood, N.C., James was one of a set of twins, the fourth and fifth of six sons born to Hugh Kendall and Mabel Turner Burleigh. He was raised on a farm and early learned, as farm boys do, the meaning of labor; to assume his proper portion of family responsibility; to be patient; to get along with others; and to do in a right way whatever he undertook. Such lessons were an important prelude to the more formal learning which later he avidly was to pursue. His large family, close-knit by ties of deep affection, taught him other things as well. He learned not only to plant, to hoe, and to harvest but to see in this immemorial process his own relationship to the Creator in creative activity. In the process he developed skills which later would help him in human relations. His father and his older brothers were his mentors. With patience and understanding they shared their insights and encouraged the disciplines which hastened the boy into manhood. There was also the influence upon his growth which stemmed from the nature of the relationships which prevailed within the family group, creating the environment of a deeply Christian home. For the loveliness and high Christian character of his home, I am sure James largely would credit his mother. Until her death October 16, 1951, at the age of 77 Mabel Turner Burleigh provided her family with both the security of a pleasant home and the inspiration of her own Christian piety and idealism.

Brother Burleigh received his early training in the schools at Concord, Va., and in the fall of 1930 entered Lynchburg College. While at Lynchburg College, James married Amalia M. Moore, a childhood playmate and fellow student with him until his graduation from college. The two were married December 20, 1932, by the Reverend Hugh M. Burleigh at Boonesboro, Bedford County. One son, William James, was born to this union on May 31, 1941, and is presently a pre-ministerial student at Lynchburg College.

Before graduation and the receipt of his A.B. degree from Lynchburg, the decision to follow his older brother's example and enter the ministry of The Methodist Church had been made. Thirteen years earlier, in company with three of his brothers, James had given himself to Christ. It was following a summer revival service, at which the Reverend N. L. Loflin, a Baptist minister, preached, that the brothers were baptized and received into the church by the Reverend J. W. Bouldin, then serving Bethlehem Methodist Church on the Concord Charge. The decision to enter the ministry was but further confirmation of the commitment he had made at that time.

As a seminarian he studied at the Candler School of Theology, Emory University, two years and then transferred to Yale Divinity School where Hugh, his brother, was already a student. The two brothers received their B.D. degrees at the same commencement in 1937 and walked together in the commencement procession.

James was ordained a deacon in the Virginia Annual Conference October 23, 1938, and received his Elder's orders October 20, 1940. His appointments began with assignment for three years to the Phenix Charge in Charlotte County. In succession he then served the Buckingham Charge (1940-47); Prospect Charge (1947-50); Byrd Park (now Park Avenue) in Richmond (1950-56); Oak Grove, Norfolk (1956-60); and Main Street, South Boston.

It was in his South Boston appointment, at which he greatly endeared himself to the people, that physical exertion finally brought on a heart attack too serious for him to survive. He passed away quickly while resting in the living room of the parsonage. Funeral services were conducted on December 10, 1961, in Main Street Methodist Church, South Boston, by Reverend C. O. Kidd, Superintendent of the Danville District,

assisted by Dr. Edgar A. Potts, Superintendent of the Lynchburg District. Interment was in Fort Hill Burial Park, Lynchburg.

James Sidney Burleigh was indeed one of God's Good Christian gentlemen. Endowed with a happy and friendly disposition he found it easy to win the trust and confidence of people. They knew he was interested in them as individuals and found him eager to help them whenever he could. In short he was a fine pastor of the flock. He knew his sheep and called them by name. More, he was an exceptional preacher, always at home in the pulpits of the Conference. These he graced by his natural dignity and pleasing voice, but especially by the obvious quality and spiritual discernment of the sermons he preached. James has outrun many of his contemporaries and already reached the Father's House. He will be perfectly at home. In the Virginia Annual Conference he is enshrined in our hearts. We shall remember him; and in remembering, thank God for his rich ministry among us.

by Joseph S. Johnston

Lewis Otmer Rose was born at Paint Bank, Craig County, Va., June 11, 1883, a son of Allen Jackson Rose and Mary Elizabeth Cummings Rose. He died December 19, 1961, in the C & O Hospital, Clifton Forge, Va., at the age of seventy-eight. Funeral services were conducted in the Goshen Methodist Church December 22, 1961, by the Revs. W. W. Whittington, W. R. Goodman, Jr., C. J. Tilley and D. L. Bays. He was buried in the Thornrose Cemetery, Staunton, Va.

Beside his wife, Mrs. Mildred Rose, and a brother, Marshall F. Rose, Orange Park, Fla., he is survived by the following children--Mrs. Thelma Ryan Burton, Warden Otmer Rose and Lewis Dwight Rose; also nine grandchildren and either great-grandchildren.

Bro. Rose served as an accepted supply the following charges--Paint Bank, Va., Peterstown, W. Va., Durbin, W. Va., and Talcott, W. Va. He was admitted into full connection in Roanoke, Va., Oct. 2, 1931. He was ordained a deacon by Bishop Collins Denny, and an elder by Bishop W. F. McMurry. Subsequently he served the following appointments. Goshen, Va., two pastorates--Mt. Solon, Va., two pastorates--Batesville, Va., and McDowell, Va., from which appointment he retired 1951.

Bro. Rose's call to the ministry was clear and unmistakable, and like one of old, he rose up, forsook all and following his Lord. The writer of this memoir, having served as Bro. Rose's Superintendent on the Staunton District, knows whereof he speaks when he says that this man, while limited academically speaking, seemed to be unlimited in his devotion to his church and his Lord. The appointments he served afforded small pecuniary compensations, but he was never heard to complain, responding to any call that came by day or by night to minister to those in trouble. The words recorded in the BOOK, "Be thou faithful unto death," surely apply to Bro. Rose, and we feel sure that he has received the crown of life.

by T. M. Swann

John William Lillaston, son of John William and Lucy Diggs Lillaston, was born in Gloucester County near Sarah's Creek on August 26, 1865. He was reared in the home of his grandfather, Alexander Diggs, who was a faithful steward and class-leader in the Bethlehem Methodist Church on the Gloucester Circuit, to which experience Brother Lillaston attributes a great deal of his call and devotion to the membership and ministry of the Methodist Church.

He was converted and united with Bethlehem Church in 1885, during the pastorate of Rev. James C. Martin, and soon gave concern to his divine call. In 1890 he enrolled in Randolph-Macon Academy and after graduation he attended Randolph-Macon College at Ashland for four years.

He was licensed to preach in 1893 in Bethlehem Church at the Quarterly Conference conducted by Dr. Paul Whitehead with Rev. W. H. Gregory as pastor. In 1899 he was admitted into membership in the Virginia Conference and served effectively and faithfully for thirty-seven years.

On December 14, 1910, Brother Lillaston and Miss Lura Bacon were united in Holy Matrimony and to this happy union one son, John Bacon Lillaston, was born.

Brother Lillaston served the following charges in this order: Grace, Newport News; Charles City; Asbury, Richmond; New Kent; Grace and Sledd Memorial, Danville; Gloucester Point; Pocomoke; Bedford Springs; Ferrum; Nottoway; Cartersville; Prince Edward and East Nottoway.

He was a man of great humor, but always more concerned about the deeper things of the spirit. He was a great student of the Bible and he loved and read the best books available. He served the Conference well, not only in his pastorates, but as a member of the Conference Bible Society Board and the Committee on Examinations for young men entering the Conference.

After his retirement in 1936 he and his good wife, who survives him, moved to Arlington with their son and spent the evening of a long and useful life. These were years of keen interest and support of the church where he attended, as well as, the welfare of all his brethren.

On Thursday, January 18, 1962, Brother Lillaston left the ranks of the faithful here and entered the larger life of fulfillment and complete joy in fellowship with His living Lord. The mortal remains were laid to rest in Riverview Cemetery in Richmond, Va., on January 23rd, where the service was conducted by Dr. Roland P. Riddick, his District Superintendent, and assisted by the writer.

He leaves to mourn his going, his devoted wife of more than half a century, his devoted son, John, a brother Alexander and a host of loyal friends.

Servant of God, well done;

Thy glorious warfare past;

The battle fought, the race is won;

And thou art crowned at last.

by Herbert William Landrum

William Daniel King. On January 17, 1962, William Daniel King received the summons to come live forever in the Father's House. Thus ended the earthly phase of a life of devoted service to his Lord and Master which had begun January 20, 1880.

Born in Buchanan, Va., the son of William Daniel and Paulina Noftsinger King, he began his schooling in Fincastle, Va. In his early teens he was converted in a revival meeting in Andrew Chapel Church on the Buchanan Charge. Very soon he exhibited definite evidence of a fine potential for Christian service and became active in his local church leading prayer meetings and teaching Sunday School classes.

Before completing high school he felt a definite call to the ministry and after graduation continued his preparation for the ministry at Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md., and the Theological Seminary of Vanderbilt University. He was admitted into the Baltimore Conference in 1902 and was appointed Junior Preacher to Rev. C. M. Hesser on Taylors Circuit, where he served Lorely Church.

While there he was married to Miss Iphagenia Leonard, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Leonard of Royal Oak, Md. Two sons were born to this union, Leonard Carlisle King of Roanoke and Carlton Noftsinger King of Baltimore, Md.

In 1904 he was appointed to the Coverdale Charge in the Roanoke District where he served four years. After serving several charges in Maryland, he was appointed to Caenarvon Charge in Baltimore in 1915. During his first year his wife died. On September 11, 1917 he was married to Miss Grayce L. Voohees of Rochester, N.Y. In 1919 he was appointed to Wesley Grove Circuit and here his daughter Eula Mae (now Mrs. L. L. Mullican of Silver Spring, Md.) was born.

There followed fruitful and effective pastorates at Piedmont, W.Va.; Thrasher Memorial, Vinton, Va.; Elkton, Va.; St. Paul, Washington, D. C.; Poolesville, Md.; Falls Church, Va.; Gaithersburg, Md.; Buchanan, Va., and Middleburg, Va. After a splendid pastorate of five years in Middleburg, failing health made it necessary for him to ask for the retired relationship in 1947.

At a time when other men similarly situated are inclined to feel that their usefulness is behind them, Brother King entered into one of the most significant phases of his ministry. At the conference at which he asked to be relieved of the full responsibility of a pastoral charge, the congregation of the South Roanoke Church in Roanoke, Va., requested that he be appointed Associate Pastor. Into this labor he and his wife threw themselves to the full extent that health and strength would permit. His service here was particularly effective in the pastoral ministry where he assisted a succession of pastors meet the pastoral needs in this growing parish. The older members of the Church were his special concern and his ministry to them evoked the undying gratitude of those to whom he brought comfort, hope and spiritual strength to meet the problems of aging. As he himself expressed it, this relationship gave him a people to love, and

as one who shared the ministry to this congregation with him, this writer may add, and a people who loved him abundantly in return.

As one surveys the ministry of William D. King through its many years, one can truthfully say that his was a well-rounded ministry in which no facet of service to Christ and His people was neglected. Two qualities of his life and ministry are especially worthy of note.

First, his was the heart of a true pastor. The needs of his people always came first. There were no lengths to which he would not go in an effort to meet the spiritual needs of his people. His compassionate heart was apparent to all who knew him and a steady stream of people turned to him for help. Nor were they ever disappointed in the zeal and sincerity with which he gave himself to their problems.

Second, his was the passion of a true evangelist. His heart was aflame with the Good News of God's redeeming love. He yearned for other men to know of it and to share the peace that God had brought to his own heart. Across the years of his ministry his pastor's report to the annual conference always revealed large numbers received into the church on profession of faith, and as an evangelistic preacher he was unusually effective.

For seven years Brother King was listed as the Associate Pastor to the writer while he served South Roanoke Church. He was infinitely more than that. He was a friend. He was a father confessor, and a brother beloved. There are many words of praise that might be heaped upon his life and ministry, but what higher accolade could be given him than to say in the words of St. Paul, "he was a good minister of Jesus Christ."

Funeral services for Brother King were conducted in South Roanoke Methodist Church to which he had given fifteen years of service. Dr. James W. Turner, pastor of South Roanoke Church, officiated, assisted by Dr. T. E. Landis, pastor of Greene Memorial. Survivors include his wife, Grayce Voohees King, and his two sons and daughter mentioned above.

by R. Kern Eutsler

Jesse Agbionly Engle. Jefferson County, W.Va., is not large in population, as counties go, but out of that population it has given one very fine son, born there on March 12, 1901. On that date Alice Bell Engle, wife of Rosser Lee Engle, gave birth to a baby boy and named him Jesse Agbionly.

The Methodist Church around the world was enriched that day. For this baby was to have a heart of service for people that was to make him a true missionary leader of his church.

They called him Jesse, but friends soon shortened it to Jess, and finally it was simply "Jack." Across the Methodist Church and in the mission fields throughout the world he was Jack Engle. Bishops of the Church, leaders of the great agencies of the Church, pastors in Churches of all sizes, chairmen of local Church Commissions--all came to know him just as Jack Engle. To his only grandchild, the parents gave the name "Raymond Jack."

This was as it ought to be, for no one loved people more, or longed more to be a part of their lives than Jack Engle did. Whether it was a chieftain along an African trail, a Dyak in a long house in Sarawak, a Methodist pastor in Poland, or the boy who brought the newspaper--one and all were close to Doctor Engle and he to them.

For several years he occupied the offices at 150 Fifth Avenue in New York City, out of whose windows Dr. Frank Mason North looked at an earlier date and wrote the challenging hymn--"Where Cross The Crowded Ways of Life." No person had a surer right to this heritage than Dr. Jack Engle. He moved among people at the crowded crossways, he understood their problems, and gave himself in limitless ways in their service.

This characteristic of helpfulness became apparent to his fellow students in college and seminary. It marked his pastoral ministry. It entered into his administrative duties. And when the Church called him to wider responsibilities with the Board of Missions, he never broke his close ties with people. The greatness of his contribution as a General Secretary of the Board was due to the intimate relationships that were maintained with the people of the Church on all levels of service.

Jack Engle began his schooling in the West Virginia Elementary School at Shenandoah Junction. He accomplished his secondary education in Randolph-Macon Academy at

Front Royal, Va., and then went on to receive the Bachelor of Arts degree at Randolph-Macon College in 1927. This school also awarded him the degree of Doctor of Divinity in 1944. From the Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Va., he received the Bachelor of Divinity degree in 1930.

He joined the Virginia Conference in 1928, serving student pastorates at Blandford Church, Petersburg, and on the West Chesterfield charge. After graduation from the Seminary he was appointed to Churches within the Conference--Trinity in Hopewell, Trinity in Petersburg. Highland Park in Richmond, Park Place in Norfolk, and to the Superintendency of the Richmond District, which he left when he entered upon his duties with the General Board of Missions.

Jack met his wife, Nancy DuPuy Johnston, while pastor in Hopewell where she taught in the schools of the community. Together they moved out into the rich ministry of the Church, for in Nancy Jack had found one who had much to give of love and of understanding and who contributed greatly in the fields of service that were to open to him. In pastorate, District Superintendency and in the varied and important responsibilities of the Board of Missions, Jack found in his wife those traits that strengthened all the work of his ministry. Two daughters were given to this home, Mary Ann Engle now of Richmond and Nancy Prentiss ("Penny") Engle, now Mrs. Raymond Mohl of Tarrytown, New York.

Doctor Engle was called to assume wider services in the Church when in 1950, the General Board of Missions selected him to lead in its work of Education and Cultivation, serving as Executive Secretary. The position changed its name with developing responsibilities, and since 1954, Doctor Engle was the General Secretary of the Joint Section of Education and Cultivation.

While serving as a member of the Joint Section of Education and Cultivation, the writer of this Memoir has had large opportunity to observe the magnificent leadership which Doctor Engle gave to this work. How well he understood his own staff, as well as those persons who served on the staffs of the other Divisions. How he contributed to unity and mutual understanding throughout the Board. How great was his vision of the missionary enterprise, and how diligent he was in interpreting this vision adequately and accurately to the whole Church. How painstaking he was in preparation of programs, and how determined he was that nothing should be overlooked that would assure success.

W.W. Reid, writer and poet, long a friend of Doctor Engle, and a member of his staff, evaluated his work in these words:

"It was he, more than anyone else in Methodism, who gave stature and purpose to the Commission on Missions in every parish. It was he who geared the activities of the Section (and of its staff and departments) to reach out in service to the local church and especially in its missionary plans, programs, and education. The warmth and genuineness of his personality and consecration radiated wherever he spoke, or wrote, or counselled. And his enthusiasm and spirit were contagious: secretaries of other boards will attest that his ideas, and faith, and example inspired them also in the development of their relations with local Churches, pastors and laymen. In the Church's Council of Secretaries, he required not special 'portfolio' to be a leader."

Many places of leadership turned to Doctor Engle for his help within the Methodist church and beyond its bounds. He served as Vice President of the Virginia Conference Board of Missions, as Trustee of Lake Junaluska Assembly, the schools of the Randolph-Macon System, Ferrum Junior College, Interdenominational Foundation for Religion in State Institutions, and of Memorial Hospital, Richmond. He was a member of the Board of Evangelism of The Methodist church, and of the Board of Directors, Joint Committee on Missionary Education of the National Council of Churches for Christ. He was also a member of the Television, Radio, and Film Commission of the Methodist Church and Broadcasting and Film Commission, National Council.

Doctor Engle died in the Phelps Memorial Hospital, Tarrytown, New York, on Wednesday, February 14, 1962. Funeral services were conducted Friday, February 16 at the Methodist church of The Tarrytowns, with Bishop Paul N. Garber officiating, assisted by the pastor of the Church, Reverend Ralph Spoor. Staff members of the

General Section served as honorary pallbearers. Interment was made at Ferncliff Cemetery, Hartsdale, New York.

Jack Engle was close to the heart of the writer of this Memoir. Like many another, the writer had his life made better and his vision made higher, and his faith made stronger because he knew Jack as a friend.

And when he fell--

He went down as when a lordly cedar, green with boughs,

Goes down with a great shout upon the hills,

And leaves a lonesome place against the sky.

Harold H. Hughes

Jesse B. Lavinder was born at Sydnorsville in Franklin County, Va., on September 15, 1873 and entered his heavenly home on April 12, 1962. He was the son of Wingfield Taylor and Almyra Jane Lavinder. Being reared on a farm he was privileged to live close to nature from which he drew many valuable lessons. He was educated in the public schools of Virginia.

He was married to Miss Nettie Ella Nash of Calloway, Va., June 23, 1898. To this union were born two sons, Thomas W., who survives him and Jesse B. Lavinder, Jr., preceding him in death on February 13, 1960. He had one adopted daughter who passed away October, 1947. He also reared her adopted daughter who lives in Kingsport, Tenn. His wife was a gifted worker and a real help in his ministry. A great deal of his success was due to her consecrated and devoted life to the work. She carried a full share of the load to the end and went home to be with her Lord on December 14, 1957.

He was converted under the ministry of the late Rev. J.W. Carroll and united with the Campbellite Church with his father and mother at the age of fifteen. He transferred to the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in March 1894 and was licensed to preach April 7, 1894. He assisted his pastor in all their meetings for two years. He was received into the Virginia Conference in the fall of 1896 and served the following charges:

Albemarle Circuit as junior preacher under Rev. D.G.C. Butts for one year, 1896-97. Then he was sent to what then was known as the Meadows of Dan where he served three years, 1897-1900 and built one new church; he served East Halifax, two years (1900-1902); Middle Bedford, two years (1902-04); West Bedford, four years (1904-08), where he built a parsonage; South Amherst, three years (1908-11) where he built a new parsonage; Schuyler, one year (1911-12); Green Circuit, three years (1912-15); Fluvanna, three years (1915-18); Brookneal (1918-1922); Appomattox (1922-1926); Hoopers Island, Md., one year (1926-27); Cambridge Circuit, two years (1927-29); Lynnhaven Circuit, two years (1929-1931); Culpeper Circuit, six years (1931-37); and served the Green Circuit for the second time (1937-38).

There were two outstanding things that characterized the life of Brother Lavinder. He loved and believed in people, regardless of their status in life. He was never too busy to minister in any way possible for their needs, to comfort them when there was sorrow, to counsel when they had problems, to point them always to the Christ whom he loved with all his heart. People in turn loved and respected him. His many friends were counted among all denominations in the communities where he served.

He loved the Church, and served the Church with devotion throughout his life. His earnest prayer was that God would bless the work of the Church, and throughout his ministry he gave all that he had: time, talent and means, to see the work realized wherever he was. Because of his hearing he requested to be superannuated. This did not stop him from preaching at every opportunity. He assisted many of his brethren by preaching for them at vacation time. In 1939 he moved to Kingsport, Tenn., where he spent the rest of his days with his children. He visited his brethren in rivals and during his ministry was a successful evangelist having had more than one thousand conversions and accessions to the Methodist church.

Funeral services were conducted at Vermont Methodist church in Kingsport, Tenn., April 14, 1962 by the Rev. Ogleva Street and Rev. Francis Canty. His body was laid to rest in the East Lawn Cemetery, Bristol Highway.

Ogleva Street

Minutes for 1963. **John Lee Alvis** was born February 5, 1884 in Campbell County, Va., the son of John David and Susan Mandlen Alvis. At an early age, he went to Lynchburg where he was employed by the Telephone Company. Later his work took him to Chatham.

In 1904 he married Sarah Emma Whorley of Bedford County, who was his constant companion until her death in an automobile accident on January 8, 1959. God blessed this union with the following children: Mrs. Edward A. Price of Petersburg; Miss Edith Alvis of Arlington; and a son, Robert L. Alvis of Baltimore. Also surviving are four grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Brother Alvis entered the City Mission work in 1916 with Pat Withrow. He and his wife engaged in this kind of a ministry for a total of about thirteen years in Charleston, W.Va.; Akron, Ohio; Petersburg, Va.; and in Buffalo, New York. It was in this connection that they came to Petersburg in 1920. They united with High Street Church and he was licensed to preach from this Church.

In November 1923 he was appointed to the Dinwiddie Charge, where he served for two years and then was appointed to the South Sussex Charge for one year. He returned to City Mission work until 1935, when he was appointed to Matoaca for the first time where he served for three years. For ten years he served the Greenville Charge and then returned to Matoaca for another three years. From 1951 until the time of his retirement in 1956, he served the East Dinwiddie Charge, living at Carson.

After retirement, he occupied his home in Emporia until the death of his wife in 1959. His health failed and he moved to Petersburg with his son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Edward A. Price, where he spent his last days.

Brother Alvis was a minister in the Virginia Conference for a total of twenty-four years. All of these years were served on the Petersburg District and in five appointments.

Our friend was one who attracted people to him because he loved them and understood the elements in their character which made them what they were. He knew the effect of sin and the cure for it. He shared his life and his love with everyone. He had a poet's heart and wrote verse on every occasion. Always in everything he was the "Ambassador of his Father." Brother Alvis and his wife were constant companions in everything, they visited from house to house together. They had the heart of shepherds.

His last illness was lengthy and he was confined to his bed for quite sometime. Yet, in the midst of suffering, he was a witness to God's blessing.

John Lee Alvis left this world on Saturday, July 7, 1962. His funeral service was held in the Chapel of J.T. Morriss and Son in Petersburg at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 10, 1962. The officiating ministers were the author of this memoir, the Rev. Murray A. Carson, pastor of Matoaca Methodist Church and the Rev. James L. Clements, pastor of Memorial Methodist church, Petersburg. Burial was in Blandford Cemetery.

by J. Aubrey Hughes

Roswell Vernon Whitehurst. In Baltimore, Md., on April 5, 1884, a son was born to James R. and Laura Bishop Whitehurst. Named Roswell Vernon Whitehurst, this son was educated in the Baltimore public schools and the course of his life was set to enter the business world. He attended the Maryland Institute School of Architecture and Strayer's Business College and was later certified as a Public Accountant.

But God moves in mysterious ways. The gentle winds of The Holy Spirit were persistent and Roswell Vernon Whitehurst found the course of his life being changed. He entered the Baltimore Conference "on trial" in 1922, was ordained Deacon in 1925, and ordained Elder in 1927. Because of ill health he was forced to retire from active service in 1933 and with his wife, Amy Amelia Chaney, to whom he was married April 12, 1911, lived in Winchester until his death July 19, 1962. He is survived by Mrs. Whitehurst and two daughters, Mrs. William Nuerdenburg and Mrs. Gerald Bostic.

During his active ministry Brother Whitehurst served the following charges: Trappe, Md.; Royal Oak, Md.; Queen Anne, Md.; Monterey, Va.; Linden, Va.; Middletown, Va.; Fort Ashby, West Va.; and Wardensville, W. Va.

How inadequate is a list of names, dates, and places! The value of a man, his convictions, the reality of a spirit aflame for righteousness--these and other qualities are so much more--and to know these is to know the man.

Truly, the life of Roswell Vernon Whitehurst was ruled by the spirit expressed in the words of I Corinthians 2:2, "For I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and his crucified." And now that his faith has become sight and his body

free of pain and illness, we know that he may also speak with Paul the words, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." (II Timothy 4:7).

Henry Thoreau wrote, "If you would convince a man that he does wrong, do right. Men will believe what they see. Let them see." A life of deep consecration is always both convincing and inspiring. To have known Roswell Vernon Whitehurst was to have seen the power of faith and to have moved within the inspiring atmosphere of the love of God.

by Jacob W. Mast

Charles Thomas Harrell was born October 13, 1886, at Adams Grove, Sussex County, Va. He was the son of Redmond S. and Mrs. Redmond S. Harrell of Adams Grove, Va. Charles had the good fortune to have been born of good Christian parents, who were for many years faithful Christians, and members of Persons Methodist Church at Adams Grove, Va. They taught Charles both by precept and example to live for and to love the Lord. It was during those early years, in his home, in his church school and during the hours of his church worship in Persons Methodist Church, that the quiet unassuming Charles Thomas Harrell began thinking of the true meaning of Christian living, and his call to the Christian ministry.

A call to preach to Charles meant first, among other things, preparation for the ministry. So, at or about the age of eighteen, he entered Randolph-Macon Academy, then located at Front Royal, Va., in 1907, graduating therefrom in 1911. In the fall of the same year, Charles appeared on the campus at Randolph-Macon College at the close of the college year of 1915, with his A.B. degree. The following year in 1916, Charles returned to Randolph-Macon College for his fifth year. At the close of college that year, Randolph-Macon College awarded Charles Thomas Harrell his Master, M.A. degree.

Though careful and deliberate in his manner of expression, and the delivery of his thoughts, this scholarly Christian gentleman always had something fine to say to anyone with whom he may be in conversation; and to any classroom in which he may be teaching; or any congregation from whose pulpit he may be preaching.

In his college annual, for the year of 1916, I found what I believe to be one of the finest tributes paid to the character of Charles Thomas Harrell. "Frequently one finds those who though living apparently isolated and secluded lives justly claim recognition and praise for their meritorious endeavors and accomplishments. Such a one is Charles Thomas Harrell. While not entering into the social life of the college, yet choosing a few companions, he has admirably fulfilled the expectations and hopes of his friends.

--Quietly, sincerely, earnestly and persistently, Charles has studied until he has become master of the most difficult subjects presented in the classrooms. French, German, Latin, and Greek were too easy to study, he attended class--that was sufficient. He was bold enough to enter the theological department this year when all about him were discouraging voices. No doubt numerous difficulties arose, but his grim determination and indefatigability have won for him in these classes an envious record.

Added to his scholarly attainments Charles is serious minded, meditative and never loses the opportunity of reflection--an exceedingly difficult thing to do with a crowded curriculum such as we have. His steadfastness of purpose and his untiring energy we feel will lead him to the good of his ambition. Unassuming, humble, enthusiastic, Charles entered the broad field of service to mankind. He leaves with the best wishes of the student body."

Charles Thomas Harrell was accepted into our Virginia Conference on trial at the fall conference in 1914. He was ordained deacon in 1917, elder in 1919. He served Branch Memorial, Sledd Memorial Churches; Halifax, Fluvanna, and Orange circuits, and our Allen Methodist Church at Allen, Md. He also taught school at several of those appointments, including one of the branch schools of our Ferrum College, while serving a near-by pastorate. Our Virginia Conference Annual shows Charles Thomas Harrell to have served eighteen years before, as a minister of the Virginia Conference, ill health forced him to take the supernumerary relation, and later the superannuate relation in 1952.

It was during his pastorate at Sledd Memorial Methodist Church in Danville, Va., that Charles met Miss Edna Leola Phillips, lovely daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Franklin

Sumers Phillips of Yanceyville, N.C. Later he and she were united in marriage, December 11, 1918, and moved into the Halifax parsonage at the beginning of the conference year. Children born to this union are: Charles Owen of Concord, N.C.; Elmo Phillips of W. Va.; an Mrs. Leola Kathlyn Booth, of near Danville, Va.

In 1951, after his retirement, Charles Thomas Harrell moved with his wife to Concord, N.C. to live near the family of one of his sons. After a year of illness, during which Charles was in and out of the Cabarrus Hospital, Concord, N.C., our good friend and brother departed this life to live with the Lord, during the night of August, 1962.

Funeral services were conducted in Olive Branch Methodist Church, Mr. Carmel, Va. --the body was laid to rest in the church cemetery by the pastor of the church, Dr. O.B. Newton, and the writer of this memoir.

"Calm is thy slumber as an infant's sleep, but
thou shalt wake no more to tire and weep, Thine is a
perfect rest, sure and deep;

Goodnight! Goodnight! Goodnight! until the shadows
from the earth are cast, until He gathers in His sheaves
at last, Until twilight gloom is over past;

Goodnight! Goodnight! Goodnight!

by Charles Lester Ledford, Sr.

Millard Fillmore Draper was born in Pendleton, N.C. on October 13, 1890. He was the son of David Thomas and Ella Britton Draper. When young Millard was five years of age, the Drapers moved to Winborne Mill community, Southampton County, Va. The family became affiliated with New Hope Methodist Church, Newsoms Charge. In his late teens he exhibited evidence of fine promise for Christian service and became active in his local church leading prayer meetings and teaching Sunday School classes. It wasn't surprising to his friends when he informed them that he felt God was calling him into the Christian ministry.

His education had been limited to the rural public schools of the county. But a call to preach meant to this young man a call to prepare himself and arrangements were made for his enrollment in Randolph-Macon Academy, Bedford. During the last year of the Academy, upon recommendations of Principal E. Sumpter Smith, who had been impressed with the unusual ability of this ministerial student, Millard was appointed as student pastor to fill a vacancy in the pastorate of the Amherst Charge.

Upon graduation from the Academy, he enrolled at Randolph-Macon College. It was during his second year in college that a vacancy occurred in the pastorate of East Hampton Charge, and young Draper was requested by the Presiding Elder of the Norfolk District to supply the pulpit until Conference. This he did continuing his college work and commuting to Hampton over the weekends.

This arrangement proved most fortunate for the young preacher, for it was here that he met an attractive young lady, who was the organist of the East Hampton Church. A courtship ensued that culminated in his marriage to Miss Ruby Anne Diggs on October 16, 1918. Thus was consummated a union that was to continue through forty-four years, and leave in its wake an example of marital happiness and a partnership in service that served as an inspiration to those who had the privilege of their friendship. They worked in the church side by side. They bore a common witness to their Saviour's love. To them one son was born, Robert Russell, who died on October 9, 1922, having lived to three years of age.

Millard Fillmore Draper was admitted on trial into the Virginia Annual Conference in 1917. He was ordained a Deacon in 1919 and an Elder in 1921. He labored faithfully as an itinerant preacher serving in succession the following charges: Charles City; South Brunswick; Exmore; Cape Charles; Cradock; Culpeper; McKendree, Norfolk; Fairmont, Richmond; Rocky Mount; Manassas; Byrd Park, Richmond; Chesapeake Avenue, Norfolk; and Cherrydale. Having completed four successful years at Cherrydale and experiencing a decline in health, he asked for the retired relationship at the Annual Conference in 1956. Thus ended thirty-nine years of active service in the ministry of our Conference.

He served well in all of his appointments. He was a good preacher, a faithful pastor, and an able administrator. His ministry was characterized by a spirit of

dedication to God and by a deep devotion to the Church. He never shirked a task that was laid upon him or failed to perform it well. He gave attention to every detail of the church's program. He fed his congregation upon the bread of heaven. His people loved him and placed high value upon his unselfish service. He burned up the vital energies of his body and soul in the service of his Lord. We shall miss him, but our lives shall continue to be enriched by our associations with him.

Upon retirement, he and his good wife returned to Hampton, Va., to make their home and affiliated themselves with the East Hampton Church where they first met. His health did not permit him to be very active in the work of the church, but he was regular in attendance and gave support to every good cause. His pastor said of him: "He was my understanding friend. I appreciated my associations with him. His presence in our church was an inspiration to me. To his Lord, he was faithful to the end."

He came to the end of his earthly journey on the morning of September 5, 1962. The funeral service was conducted by Rev. Amos L. Laine, his pastor, and the writer, who had been his life long friend. His body was laid to rest in Oakland Cemetery, Hampton, Va.

His voice is silent, but his spirit lives on in that "Home not made with hands Eternal in the Heavens."

"There is no death for those who are the Lord's
But just a passing through the gates to be
Eternally with Him, the Living Word
Oh radiant thought, to live with Thee
Our Saviour and our Lord."

by R. Orman Bryant

Benjamin T. Candler. Kindness, gentleness, consideration and understanding were prevailing characteristics of this diligent and faithful pastor, Rev. Benjamin T. Candler. One of his members was taken suddenly ill and rushed to the hospital. When the patient arrived, there was "Brother Ben" waiting at the emergency door. This type of ministry was habitual and the outgrowth of a deep pastoral concern embedded in his soul. He was a true son of consolation. He was good company with a wholesome sense of humor and an optimistic spirit. He saw the best in people and thus encouraged them to live up to their best.

Early he courted the presence of his Lord and learned the tremendous resources of prayer. He sought guidance continually and kept his heart open for the leading of the Spirit. Preaching was a joy to him and he was never happier than when proclaiming the riches of God in Christ Jesus. His was a true balance between the enlightened mind and the warm heart.

While I was pastor of Epworth Norfolk, Brother Ben was the Director of Social Service of the Wesleymen Bible Class. This post he held for four years. It was a pleasure to see him during this time almost daily and the foregoing summary is an evaluation of the man which was made during that time.

Descendant of Quaker families, who settled in the community around South River meeting house near Lynchburg, Benjamin T. Candler was the son of Leslie Ward and Mallie A. Candler and was born in Lynchburg June 16, 1880. In 1910 he married Miss Iva Scott Ayres of the same city. To this marriage was born a daughter, Miss Iva Louise Candler. These three made a very happy family and Iva's achievement in the field of library science was always a source of gratification to the parents. Mrs. Candler was a brilliant woman and perfect helpmeet until illness struck and then for several years she was a complete invalid. During this time Brother Candler carried a double responsibility. He executed the full load of the ministry, neglecting nothing or anybody, but also cared for his wife diligently and tenderly. He never lost patience though this illness caused him much heartache and many sleepless nights.

The Public schools of Lynchburg, Randolph-Macon Academy of Bedford and Vanderbilt University all contributed to his education. His ministerial service spanned forty-eight years plus the four years with the Wesleymen. His appointments included: District Superintendent of the Charlottesville District and the pastor of the following Churches: Staunton River Circuit; Trinity, Lynchburg; Cape Charles; Broad Street, Portsmouth; Rocky Mount; Trinity, Richmond; Main Street and Monumental, Emporia;

Trinity, Salisbury, Md.; Memorial, Petersburg; Lawrenceville; Berryman, Richmond; Trinity, Lexington; and Memorial, Norfolk.

In 1956 he and his wife went to live at Pinewell, Norfolk, in one of the homes for superannuates. This group of superannuates is a closely knit fellowship and Brother Ben added to the cohesiveness of the group with his warmth of personality and Christian concern for the others.

Our heavenly Father called him home on September 13, 1962. Funeral services were conducted at Epworth Church, Norfolk, by Dr. Joseph S. Johnston, his District Superintendent, Reverend Rubin Blevens, one of the ministers of Epworth and Reverend R. Bayard Proctor, one of his brothers in retirement. His body was interred beside that of his wife in Lynchburg. Graveside services were conducted by Reverend Victor B. Anthony, III and the writer of this memoir.

Again and again he had preached his favorite sermon, "They that wait upon the Lord shall mount up with wings of eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint." At any time in his life had God called him, he would have been ready. He lived near God and this moment was no exception. He too mounted up with wings of the spirit. Brother Proctor read these words at the service:

Thy day has come, not gone;
Thy sun has risen, not set;
Thy life is now beyond
The reach of death and change,
Not ended—but begun.
Oh, noble soul! Oh, gentle heart!
Hail and farewell!

Brother Candler is survived by his daughter, Miss Iva Candler. **by Edgar A. Potts**
Gene Ralph Holdredge. He was a man, take him for all in all; I shall not look on his like again. Shakespeare wrote the words, but Gene Holdredge made them mine, for he made them forever true. When Gene left this world a truly unique person departed from our midst. He was more like the Master in the latter's days upon the earth than any other person I have ever known. That is not to say that he is greater than other saints. (He would have smiled at the idea of being called a saint at all.) It is to say that like his Master's his earthly life was short on days, but long on accomplishments; that like his Master he was always busy about his Father's business, but never too busy for individual children of God; and that like his Master he died in his prime, but not before finishing the work on earth which God intended him to do.

When one can have such said of him, extent of days whether long or short means little. There are many of us left behind who will pray for length of days in the hope of accomplishing as much as Gene. I am sure that he never thought of the following words in reference to himself, but I am equally sure that they are true: "I have finished the work which Thou gavest me to do." We are all sent to earth to give ourselves. Gene was so busy giving himself that he did not need the usual amount of time. Wherever he was, he thought of that as his special place of service, and was happy to serve there, whether in pulpit or classroom, home or field, crowd of private counsel.

Gene's ministry was filled to the brim with love, kindness, sympathy, concern—Concern. Yes, that's the word for Gene Holdredge. Concern led him to war with the Friends, took him to Okinawa, sent him to work with migrants, and helped him hear God's call to the rural ministry. Concern made him friend to all the poor, underprivileged, handicapped, and struggling. Concern made him God's man and a man of God.

As a boy Gene never lived in the country; but from the time of that first pastorate in the rural area of East Tennessee he loved rural folk and found rural life very appealing. As early as that appointment he felt called in the rural ministry, and he was happy in it. He fitted it too, for he was chosen Rural Minister of the Year before his bishop moved him to another charge. It may seem strange that one so fitted for a work he loved should be called—for he felt a definite call—to the faculty of one college and then a second. But actually his noteworthy service in rural parishes eminently fitted him to be professor of rural sociology and director of rural extension work, and he looked on his services at the two colleges as being part of the rural ministry

to which he was called. He took the post at Ferrum Junior College as a bishop's appointment, and intended to give four years to it. He stayed a fifth by special request, and then asked for a rural parish. But before Conference convened, an urgent call came from Scarritt College to fill a temporary need of two years on the faculty. He stayed longer by special request; yet during the months preceding his death he was looking forward to a rural appointment in June of 1963. In the meantime a call to the greatest appointment came; and obediently and willingly, as always, he moved on to the Father's house.

"The passing of Gene Holdredge," wrote Rev. Ralph Jacks, of the Western North Carolina Conference, in a church paper, "removed one of Methodism's finest minds and most sensitive spirits from our midst. His analytical mind produced some valuable evaluations. His essentially gentle spirit never deterred him from moving courageously and forthrightly into a problem that needed solution. He had learned the art of co-operation and practiced it consistently as a true yokefellow of the Master. His marked qualities of leadership were not attained through commandeering his fellow-men, but in the spirit of 'Come on, fellows; let's . . .'. Through his brief years he has proved again life's blessedness to be not in length of days, but in quality of life. In princely living with the Prince of men, Gene has left a large legacy--larger than he ever knew--and a priceless one to all those privileged to walk even a short while of the way with him."

Gene was born in Lenoir City, Tennessee, on 25 October 1919, the son of Leo Holdredge, later a professor at the University of Tennessee, and of Metta Cardwell Holdredge, the daughter of a minister in the Holston Conference. He was graduated from the University of Tennessee and from the Yale Divinity School. He did advanced work at American, Northwestern, and Boston Universities. He joined the New York East Conference while at Yale, went back to Holston after his graduation, and later transferred to Virginia when at Ferrum Junior College. He remained a member of the Virginia Conference while teaching at Scarritt and until his death.

When serving with the Friends Service Committee during World War II, Gene met Phyllis Dettweller, a Quaker maid also serving. They recognized each other almost immediately as kindred souls. On 9 September 1944 they were married. Phyllis brought to their union a typically quiet, gentle, concerned Friends' spirit, and to Gene an abiding love and understanding--contributions that helped to bring out the best in Gene. Three children are left now to mourn so young the loss of a father so wonderful: Faith Ann, 12, Mark Leo, 8, and Ralph Jacob, 6.

Gene died in Nashville, Tenn., on 7 October 1962; and his body was laid to rest in the family burial plot at Lenoir City. Services were conducted by his academic dean at Scarritt, Dr. John W. Johannaber, and his family's pastor in Nashville, Rev. John C. Hight.

We who knew him feel that Gene did great things for the Lord, but further thinking about him reveals that paradoxically it was the little things he did each day wherever he was for whomever he met that added up to greatness. He was never too busy to give time and help in any way he could. For that reason many have risen up since his death to call him blessed. His motto seemed to be--Any good that I can do . . . Let me do it now.

Even in Heaven, Gene, I have an idea, will make a notable contribution. I don't know just how; but he will find a way. He always did. **by Raymond Cardwell DeWitt Aldine Beery.** A human life cleansed by the grace of God, empowered by the spirit of God and motivated by the will of God is the most beautiful thing in this world. It is the incarnation of eternal values and is a channel of heavenly light and inspiration upon our human paths.

A couple by the name of DeWitt Coffman Beery and Anna Brunk Beery migrated from the state of Virginia in 1871 to the state of Missouri. To this couple was born a son in Ray county, July 9, 1872, and named DeWitt Aldine Beery, the subject of this memoir. The father later often told this son, when mature years should come, to go back to Virginia, "The garden spot of the World," which admonition the son in time followed.

Brother Beery attended the public schools and later graduated from the Morrisville College of Morrisville, Missouri. He felt the certain call to preach the Gospel of

Christ and in May, 1895, he was licensed to preach and later was received "On Trial" into the Southwest Missouri Conference. The salary he received during his first year in this Conference was \$266. Out of this he paid his board, bought a buggy and harness, borrowed a horse and, in his own words, "Married the finest girl in the state of Missouri!" After five years as a member of the Southwest Missouri Conference he felt the need of further educational preparation. In those days a minister who felt the urge or had the experience of a higher education was an exception. "So," quoting him again, "with my wife and two children I landed at Drew Theological Seminary in Madison, N.J., in the fall of 1902, a thousand miles from home with \$75, beginning a 3-year course. I finished with the class of 1905." These eloquent and dynamic words speak of a rare and high quality in this exceptional man.

Upon the completion of his work in Drew Theological Seminary brother Beery obeyed the suggestion of his father and in 1905 he was transferred into the Baltimore Conference of the former Methodist Episcopal Church, South. He held pastorates in Virginia, in West Virginia communities and in Washington, D.C. Faithful to his appointments, loyal to his high calling, devoted to his friends and radiant in his love for his family this man of God moved through forty-eight years of active duty and privilege. He said he did not miss an appointment during that time on account of his health. To quote him another time, "We have gone to every appointment, although frequently we went out 'not knowing whither we went.' Only once have we known before Conference where we were going, and we did not go there."

On August 23, 1889, brother Beery was married to Miss Gona Slavens, "the finest girl in the state of Missouri." This lovely wife and mother was known always for her marked devotion and faithfulness to her family and to her church. This union was blessed with six children, one son and five daughters, all of whom survive their parents: DeWitt Candler Beery of Norfolk, Va.; Mrs. James E. Stuart of Loveland, Ohio; Miss Ruth Beery of Richmond, Va.; Mrs. George Mufson of Morristown, N.J.; Mrs. Elmer Lee Houck and Mrs. Joseph M. Darnell of Lewisburg, W.Va. Each of these children is a college graduate and four have taken University courses. The wife and the mother of this notable group died June 20, 1945. In 1949 brother Beery was married to the gracious Mrs. Martha Sterrett of Monterey, Va., who survives him and who is active in Huntington Court Methodist Church of Roanoke.

Here are a few of the outstanding features of this Christian man which we remember with appreciation:

First, his deep and genuine spiritual integrity as an individual and as a minister of Christ. We recognize this as one's supreme gift to society. Along with this went his devotion to each member of his family, a trait which illustrates the application of his principles of love and fairness to the domestic circle.

Second, his intellectual interest and ability were constantly under development. There was no stopping place in his process of growth. This is a rare quality in any adult and is to be admired where it is found. He continued to read his New Testament in the Greek right up to about two years of his death, even then he would take his magnifying glass and slowly and tediously separate the Greek letters in the words he was reading.

Third, brother Beery was a true lover of music and himself possessed a fine voice for singing. In all his appointments as an active minister he encouraged and participated in this aspect of the congregation's worship. He was a faithful member of the choir in Huntington Court Methodist Church in Roanoke up to and including his eighty-fifth year. In the Old Baltimore Conference this man and brother T.J. Lambert and brother C.I. Flory, and the writer of this memoir were constituted as the Conference quartet and did some memorable singing. During the Billy Sunday Evangelistic Campaign in Roanoke some forty years ago, each of the four being then stationed as a minister in Roanoke, we by invitation sang several times in that meeting. Two of this group are now singing in heaven and two by reason of age have ceased singing on earth but are looking forward to singing in heaven.

Fourth, his preaching of the Gospel was done without any question marks about the Christian faith. A note of strong certainty marked his sermons and each congregation knew that the speaker both possessed and lived the truth he declared.

Brother Beery retired from the active ministry at the session of our Conference held in Lynchburg in October, 1944, Bishop W. W. Peele presiding. Upon being asked if he wanted to make any statement to the Conference he arose and in his usual attractive manner and in well chosen words he briefly summarized his ministry and expressed his gratitude to God and to his church for the privileges of Christian service. He then recited the following poem written by Dr. Goodnight, to the delight of the Conference:

In savage tribes where skulls were thick	But we in this enlightened age
And primal passions rage,	Are made of nobler stuff.
They have a system, sure and quick,	And so we look with righteous rage
To cure the blight of age.	On deeds so harsh and rough.

For when a native's youth has fled
And years have sapped his vim,
They simply knock him on the head
And put an end to him.

For when a man is old and gray
And weak and out of breath,
We simply take his job away
And let him starve to death.

This farewell message was of so high character that the Conference requested that it be published in our Virginia Methodist Advocate and this was done.

For the greater part of the eighteen years of his life remaining to him he was a regular attendant upon divine worship on Sundays and at many other assemblies of church members and committees. He attended his last church service in 1961, a few months before his death.

This faithful minister died in the home of his daughter, Mrs. E. L. Houck, Lewisburg, W. Va., on Sunday, October 28, 1962, three months beyond his ninetieth birthday. His funeral was held in Huntington Court Methodist Church of Roanoke on October 30, 1962. This service was conducted by Dr. W. Carroll Freeman, Superintendent of the Roanoke District, Rev. Ray Cardwell and Rev. Ross Evans. His body was laid to rest in the Magic City of Roanoke, surrounded by the everlasting hills which speak of the eternity of God and of the heavenly security of departed spirits.

"There is no death! The stars go down
To rise upon some fairer shore;
And bright, in heaven's jeweled crown,
They shine for ever more.

by J. J. Rives

William Leonard Murphy was born at Salem, Princess Anne County, Va., September 26, 1872. He was the son of William John and Anne Elizabeth Brown Murphy. At the age of fifteen he was converted in a meeting held at Salem Church, Princess Anne County by the Rev. Mr. McSparren. In his book, "Joyful Living," Dr. Murphy records, "—I went to the altar and prayed earnestly to God. When I arose—I was never so happy in all my life. I could see only the brightest light it seemed I had ever beheld. Heaven shone down into my soul. My mother and father both came and threw their arms about me and shouted for joy. I loved everyone. I felt so light it seemed I could almost rise up and fly. My heart went out with a deep yearning, wishing that everyone would accept the Lord Jesus Christ and be saved."

That paragraph seems to the writer to characterize Dr. Murphy's subsequent life. Soundly converted with a great religious experience, his was a life of "Joyful Living" indeed as that book recounting his ministry reveals. He did genuinely "love everyone." During thirty years of acquaintance with him, some of these in close association, the writer never heard Dr. Murphy express anything but good will toward anyone.

The "deep yearning, wishing that everyone would accept the Lord Jesus Christ and be saved" never left him. Wherever he served large numbers were led to Christ through his ministry and he was in demand as a revival preacher in charges other than his own. The records show that Dr. Murphy's evangelistic work was always fruitful whether in his own or other charges.

Four years after his conversion in a meeting held in the same Salem Church, Dr. Murphy made the final decision to enter the Christian ministry. He had been debating this step for some time and it seems Providential that he should come to this final decision in the same home church in which he had been born again. For him there was a definite call from God and the Christian ministry was the only course. The well-attested effectiveness of his entire ministry evidences that. "E'en down to old age" and always with boundless enthusiasm and earnestness he was "about his Father's busi-

ness." Once, after his retirement, he engaged in business, but only because he was restless for some activity. But business was not his metier and he soon welcomed a chance to get back into the active ministry. To Dr. Murphy the ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ was not a burden but a delight. He continued in it to the end which came soon after his ninetieth birthday anniversary.

Following his decision to enter the ministry he worked hard to acquire sufficient education for entrance into the conference. He sold books, worked in stores, taught school and at one time held a position with the Norfolk Southern Railway. He attended the public schools of Princess Anne County and Randolph-Macon College. In June 1931, while he was pastor of Grace M. E. Church, South in Cambridge, Md., Washington College at Chestertown conferred on Mr. Murphy the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity.

Dr. Murphy did not cease to study with the completion of his formal education. He could be found almost any time that he was not busy visiting and administering the work of his church reading, studying and preparing to preach.

In November, 1898, after having been recommended by the Norfolk District Conference, Dr. Murphy was admitted on trial into the Virginia Conference of the (former) Methodist Episcopal Church, South. He was sent that year to the South Hill, Va., Charge. He records that there they "found some of the best Christians we have ever known." This indicates another characteristic of Dr. Murphy. He not only found good people wherever he went, but he also found the good in all people. They in turn could but see the good in him and as a consequence he was beloved wherever he went.

After four successful years at South Hill the Murphys served with equal success the following charges: Emporia, three years; Appomattox, four years; Pungoteague, four years; Cabell Street (now Mosely Memorial), Danville, two years; Atlantic, two years; Chestnut Avenue, Newport News, two years; Broad Street, Portsmouth, four years; Grace, Cambridge, Md., four years; Laurel Street, Richmond, four years; Central Portsmouth, four years; Williamsburg, two years. At one time Dr. Murphy was appointed conference evangelist but the shortage of ministers dictated that he take a charge instead.

At the close of two years at Williamsburg Mrs. Murphy's health was such that it seemed best for them to retire. They moved to Oceana, Va., where they had a daughter and a son living. This was in 1941.

An inactive retired life was not for Dr. Murphy. On the advice of his friend Mr. Floyd Kellam, now deceased, he went into the real estate business with Mr. Sidney Kellam. But the ministry still beckoned. In January, 1942, on request of Dr. Walter Gum, District Superintendent, Dr. Murphy took charge of Chesterfield Heights Church in Norfolk. He remained in continuous service, serving Broad Creek Village in Princess Anne County, 1943-1944, Associate at Epworth, Norfolk, 1944-1946, until Mrs. Murphy's health again worsened and he had to give up the active ministry once more.

For six months during 1948 Dr. Murphy served Oak Grove Church, Norfolk District. In 1950 he became Pastor of an interdenominational church in Princess Anne County. In 1956 he helped organize and became Pastor of another interdenominational church in the Great Neck section of Princess Anne County. He served for one year, 1958-1959, as Pastor of the newly-organized Asbury Methodist Church in Princess Anne County.

It would be interesting to review the many accomplishments of Dr. Murphy's long ministry, but space forbids. Suffice it to say that he gave attention to the total program of his church. He built up the membership of the churches, built church buildings and parsonages, taught in the church school, promoted missionary interests, influenced the lives of young ministers, exercised a stewardship of all of life for his Lord. Words are inadequate to describe fully the life, qualities and ministry of Dr. William Leonard Murphy.

In June 1960 Dr. Murphy was appointed Associate Minister of Laurel Street Church, Richmond. He served with zeal and effectiveness in this capacity until about the close of 1961 when his health began to fail. But so great was the esteem of the church for him that it was requested that he be re-appointed in 1962, which was done.

The portals of the Eternal Land opened for him on Monday, October 29, 1962 and he passed through to welcome and be welcomed by the God whom he loved and the many friends and loved ones who had gone before. Funeral services were conducted in Scott Memorial

Church, Oceana, by the writer, assisted by the Rev. Lee H. Richcreek, Pastor of the Church, Burial was in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Norfolk.

Dr. Murphy was thrice married. On June 3, 1897, he was married to Miss Harriett Isabella Stewart of Carsonville, Michigan. Of her he testified that for "fifty years she stood side by side with her husband," doing the work of a minister's wife and making life worth while in every way at the parsonage. To this union were born six children, Edith, who died in childhood, Allen Milton and William Leonard, Jr., of Virginia Beach, Mrs. Mabel Owen of Oceana, Mrs. Everett (Alma) Hemphill of Haddonfield, N.J., and Mrs. Theodore W. (Kathleen) Woodruff of Largo, Florida. Five grandchildren also survive him. Mrs. Murphy preceded her husband in death June 8, 1948. In January 1949 he was married to Mrs. Elizabeth Brock of Oceana. She made a fine companion for him until her death in November 1958. In December 1959 Dr. Murphy married Mrs. Theo Rise-brook of Richmond, who survives him.

Association with Dr. Murphy has meant more to the writer than he can tell. Let me just say that he was a Christlike spirit, a genuine friend, a faithful pastor and a true preacher. The world, the church and all who knew him are richer because William Leonard Murphy was for ninety years a part of them.

"Servant of God, well done!

Thy glorious warfare's past;

The battle's fought, the race is won,

And thou art crowned at last." --Charles Wesley by Asbury A. McNeer

J. Shenton Lodge was born in a Methodist parsonage and, as destiny would have it, he lived in one most of his life. His father, Wilson Wesley Lodge, was a Canadian and Methodist minister. When this son was born to him and his wife, Harriet Estabrook Lodge, on January 1, 1889, they were living in Salisbury, New Brunswick, Canada. The son grew to manhood there and was educated at Prince of Wales College, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, and at Mt. Allison University located at Sackville, New Brunswick. He came to Virginia in 1913 and in 1922 was admitted on trial in the Virginia Conference in the same class with the writer of this biography.

During the 25 years he served before retirement, he held pastorates in Altavista, Stuart, Richmond, South Norfolk, Onancock, Craddock, Petersburg and Leesburg. At the conclusion of his ministry in Leesburg in 1947, he asked for retirement.

Brother Lodge was not only a dedicated and conscientious minister, pressing the various causes of the church before his congregation, but he was widely known for his newspaper writings and for his poetic talent. While he was minister at Leesburg, his writings in the local newspaper and also in the Onancock paper attracted the attention of the publisher of the Newport News Daily Press and Times-Herald. When his retirement was announced, he was invited to come to the Peninsula papers as a columnist and editorial writer.

While with these papers, he thrice won the Virginia Press Association Awards for the best column among Virginia dailies. During this time he also won the coveted Christopher Award for column writing. During the Korean episode, his column in one of the Newport News papers, "Letters to a Son at War," attracted wide attention. These letters were widely reprinted particularly in magazines and papers in various theaters of war overseas.

These letters were written to his son, Capt. Shenton B. Lodge, an engineer who helped build the Lede Road into China in World War II, and who later saw service in Korea. A book containing many of the writings of Brother Lodge is now being published and some of the letters just referred to will be included in the book. (We are indebted to Mr. John Borum, who wrote an introduction to the new book, for most of the information contained in this sketch.)

Due to ill health, Brother Lodge retired from his newspaper position in 1954 and he and his wife, Frances Billups Lodge, a native of Norfolk whom he married in 1911, went to Norfolk to live. In July 1961 Mrs. Lodge died suddenly while visiting her daughters on the Eastern Shore.

Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Lodge: Mrs. Peter Davis Copes of Craddockville, Mrs. William T. James of Onancock, Shenton B. Lodge, Major U. S. Army, retired, Petersburg, and Billups E. Lodge, Lieutenant-Commander, U.S. Navy, now

stationed in Norfolk. Following the death of his wife he made his home in a little cottage at Whispering Pines on the Eastern Shore where he could be near his daughters.

Not many weeks before death claimed this highly respected servant of God on December 25, 1962, he sent the following poem to the Advocate; a poem which beautifully reflects the deep and abiding faith that was his throughout life.

My Aldersgate

by J. Shenton Lodge

My Aldersgate is not a street--
A street confines; its prisoned clamor calls
From length and breadth that die at city walls
And in its noisy lanes men rush and cry
As clumsy, driven wheels crash madly by
My Aldersgate can never be
Mere treasured memory
Of long-lost meeting house beside the way,
Where holy men were wont to pause and pray
A house stands but a year;
Time speaks and houses disappear,
And only fancy clothes them in the mind
With tattered garments they left behind

But he who seeks the Master's face
In any quiet meeting place,
Because he yearns to know Him in his heart--
Who builds with shining faith a shrine apart
Where he may be with God, and know
That He is there--his heart shall glow,
And he will meet
With God and Wesley on that quiet street,

When I have yearned to watch and pray--and wait,
I know that I shall find My Aldersgate.

by George S. Reamey

Benjamin Kenworthy Chappell was born on January 10, 1891, in Stalybridge, Lancaster County, England. At the age of eight he came with his entire family to America. They settled on "Apple Grove" farm near Bestland in Essex County, Va.

In preparation for his work in the ministry, Reverend Chappell graduated from Randolph-Macon College in Ashland, Va. He then attended Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, Va. Upon his graduation from Seminary, he became a member of the Virginia Conference where he served for thirty-seven years.

He began his ministry at Maple Grove in the Richmond District. He is still remembered for his work there and a Bible class bore his name for many years. While serving at Schuyler, he was Missionary Secretary of the Charlottesville District. During his ministry Reverend Chappell was active in the Masonic Lodge and radio work.

Reverend Chappell passed on to his eternal reward in the early morning of January 1, 1963, at Emory University Hospital. Surviving him are his wife, the former Allie May Simpson of Marietta, Ga.; two daughters, Mrs. William Harbut Randall of Atlanta and Mrs. George Amos Carter, Martinsville, Va.; five grandchildren; two sisters, Mrs. J.H. Wright, Sumter, S.C., and Mrs. R.H. Boner, Montebello, California.

At the age of sixty-eight Reverend and Mrs. Chappell retired to their home in Chamblee. Here he became very active in the Oglethorpe Methodist Church and lived to see and preach in the new Sanctuary. As a token of their love and esteem for him, the Church just previous to his death dedicated its new Communion table in his honor. After his passing the Sunday School Class that he taught was named in his memory.

Reverend Chappell was a student till the end. He had read the entire circulating library at Emory University and at the time of his death was taking a correspondence course from Union Theological Seminary.

Reverend Chappell's memorial cannot be given in words--it is still living because of the influence of his life.

Servant of God, well done!

Thy glorious war-fare's past;
The battles fought, the race is won,
And Thou art crowned at last--.

by Claude E. Smithmier

Norman Henry Tucker, son of Walter Henry Tucker and Georgia Higgenbotham Tucker, was born January 27, 1907. He attended the public schools of Lynchburg, Ferrum High School and Ferrum Junior College. His theological course was taken through The Methodist Correspondence School. He was a Local Elder of the Methodist Church.

On November 14, 1925, Norman was married to Miss Annie Coleman. There were four children born to this couple. They are: Mrs. Jean Tucker (Howard) Higgins; Mrs. Doris Tucker (James) Higgins; Mrs. Joyce Tucker (Lloyd) Smith and Norman Henry Tucker, Jr. His wife, all four children and nine grandchildren survive him. All of his grandchildren were baptized by their grandfather.

As a child Norman Tucker attended the Methodist Church with his parents. He was converted during a revival conducted by Rev. William ("Billy") Sunday and felt a definite call to the ministry which he did not answer at the time, but never forgot.

While a member of the Methodist Protestant Church in Lynchburg--now the First Methodist Church--Norman rendered valuable service as teacher of the Men's Bible Class for thirteen years and as a participant in the musical program of the church. He was an accomplished organist and choir director, which enabled him to make a significant contribution to the churches which he served. His work with young people in his own church was of great value in its effective program.

Norman became a local preacher of the Methodist Church on August 3, 1936, while still working for the Lynchburg Transit Company. In his first pastoral work, he was in charge of Providence Church on a part time basis. In 1950 I had the privilege of appointing him as pastor of Huddleston Charge, where one of his greatest contributions was to build the new church at Huddleston.

Four years later Norman was appointed pastor of the Boonesboro Charge, Lynchburg District, and while there gave dynamic leadership to the charge, laying the foundations for its later development. Norman was in the North Mecklenburg Charge when I was assigned to the Farmville District, and I was happy to have so faithful a minister under my supervision. On that charge he stood steadfastly for progress and led his people in a number of forward movements, among the most notable of which was the improvement of Zion Church at a cost of approximately fifteen thousand dollars.

In 1960, Norman was appointed pastor of five churches on the West Buckingham Charge and served effectively until the newly formed James River Charge became his next appointment in 1961. Two of the three churches of the West Buckingham Charge and Arvon Church constitute the new circuit. To weld this new charge into an effective unit was no easy task, yet it was accomplished, and Norman's leadership was greatly appreciated. Centenary Church was remodeled and a new parsonage built, with no indebtedness being left, after a pastorate of two years.

Norman Tucker was a devoted husband and father, who was appreciated by all the members of his family. His influence among them was felt greatly and caused them to become interested and active Christians. They loved Norman Tucker and showed the greatest affection toward him at all times.

One who knew Norman could not help loving him, for he radiated the spirit of love in his own life. He loved God, his fellowman, his family, The Methodist Church, the members of his church, and especially those whom he could serve for Christ's sake. He loved people into the kingdom, into the church, and into active service. A number were led into the ministry through his influence. Such a spirit could not but win souls to Christ, and Norman was always in the forefront of those who led in accessions to the Church on profession of faith. His loving spirit was expressed in service to all who were in need of his ministry.

One of Norman's leading characteristics was his humor. Always cheerful, smiling, ready for a good joke, he led a radiant life, which endeared him to all who knew him.

One of the rarest and noblest of Christian qualities is Christian humility, and such a spirit Norman Tucker possessed. He was never demanding for himself, never boastful of his own achievements, always willing to give due credit to others for work well

done. Working on a minimum salary, he never complained, but went quietly about his work, avoiding embarrassing debts, serving Christ and the Church faithfully to the end.

The last two years of Norman's ministry were for him years of ill health and weakness. But he carried on his duties to the best of his ability. Just before his death he insisted, over the protests of friends and his Superintendent, on attending the quarterly conference and meeting his preaching engagements.

Norman passed away in peace on February 9, 1963, in the University of Virginia Hospital. Funeral services were conducted at the First Methodist Church, Lynchburg, by the writer, assisted by Rev. H.F. Justis. Interment was made in the Presbyterian Cemetery.

It is the conviction of the writer that, when Norman Tucker appears before the throne of Christ to give an account of the deeds done in the body, this loyal minister, who "lived in the glorious certainty that he was doing the will of Christ," will hear the Master say: "Well done thou good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of the Lord."

It was an honor and an inspiration to work with a servant of the Lord like Norman Tucker; and his sterling character and Christian influence will linger long in the memory of those who knew him.

by Thomas F. Carroll

Eugene Lester Hylton was born at Floyd, Va., on July 21, 1908 to Eugene Hathaway and Mary Bond Hylton. On July 1, 1933, Lester was married to Miss Mary Elizabeth Harris, a lovely young lady who had grown up in the same community with him across their years of youth. To their marriage was born three lovely children: Richard Ellsworth Hylton, Dana Nerine Hylton, and Gloria Elaine Hylton. Anyone who had the privilege of visiting in this home well knows the joy and pride which Lester felt toward and in his home. He home was a constant source of inspiration to him throughout the entire length of his life and ministry.

The call to the ministry for Lester was not one which was answered quickly or lightly. Across several years in his life he pushed back his felt call to preach the Word and continued his work in non-church related vocations until one summer day in the year of 1936. He was then working for the Highway Department of Roads and had attained some success and promotions in this field of endeavor. That day he resigned from this job and decided to give his all to a church related vocation, namely, that of preaching the Word. Lester had not yet completed his high school education. He was married and they had one child. He drove over to Ferrum Training School and Junior College and there laid his heart and situation before Dr. J.A. Chapman. Dr. Chapman encouraged him to move right ahead in the direction in which he felt God was leading him and assured him that he and the school would do everything they could to help him achieve his goals. The family moved to Ferrum. That first year he completed his six credits needed to get his high school diploma. In June of 1934 he registered as a junior at Roanoke College, Salem, Va. In June of 1941 he was graduated with the B.A. degree from Roanoke College. The road was a hard and trying one in many ways but he never flagged in his efforts and determination to earn his college education. Lester was a good student and had the ability to think things through which reflected itself so very keenly in his preaching of the Word from the pulpit.

Brother Hylton was licensed as a Local Preacher in The Methodist Episcopal Church, South on June 2, 1937. The session was held on the campus of Ferrum Junior College. He began his ministry as a Supply Pastor on the West Franklin Charge of the Danville District at Callaway, Va. He was admitted into the Virginia Conference on October 16, 1941 and was received into Full Connection on October 21, 1943. In 1941 he was assigned to the McDowell Charge on the Staunton District. Here as elsewhere he built for himself a rich and warm spot in the hearts of the people to whom he ministered. During the years of World War II he felt the call to serve his country as a chaplain in the armed forces and did serve as chaplain in the United States Army for several months. Due to a health factor he was given an honorable discharge. This was one of the disappointments of his life.

His further pastorates were: Edgemont-South Covington; the Campbell Charge on the Lynchburg District; Parksley on the Eastern Shore District; Fairview Heights, Lynchburg; Memorial, Norfolk; Calvary, Danville and Crossman on the Alexandria and Arlington

Districts. Through his fine Christian spirit of dedication and a consecration he brought a wonderful spirit to all the pastorates which he served. Lester was much loved by the people over whom he was shepherd.

During these years of his ministry it was my privilege to have him preach in revivals for me in four different churches. As was said earlier, his ability to think things through and his fine spirit of consecration made him a very effective preacher and proclaimer of the Word of God. His sermons were challenging, daring, and always made one feel like he wanted to be a richer part of the Kingdom. Not only was Lester able in the pulpit as a proclaimer of the gospel, he was a wonderful pastor to his people. His people quickly knew the understanding heart he carried in his body and they brought their problems and felt needs quickly to him and laid them upon his shoulders and heart. Every appointment he served was stronger when he left it than when he came. His courage, compassion, spirit of understanding and dedication made him a leader among men. His convictions were written very deeply into his life and when he arrived as them it was there that he stood. This would not intimate or imply that he was not Christian at all times in contending his point and in stating his position. He never ran from any situation because it might be a trying one. Always he would give it his best and leave the results in the hands of God. All of us were challenged to stand a little taller as witnesses of the Kingdom when we were in his presence. Across Virginia Methodism today there rises up a great host of people whose lives have been touched and enriched by his ministry and witness. The Kingdom is stronger because he came our way. We give thanks to Almighty God for his life, his witness, his ministry and his example. His life was linked with God and we believe still is.

On March 4, 1963 his immortal soul slipped out of the tenement of clay and made its way home to God. While his ministry was not so long in terms of years as are many others, he crammed a lot of witnessing into it. We give thanks unto Almighty God for the many rich memories which have been added to our lives because he came our way.

Funeral services were held in the Crossman Methodist church, Falls Church, Va., of which he was pastor at the time of his death on the afternoon of March 7, 1953 with the following brethren participating: The Rev. R.A. Blasdell, The Rev. A.A. Nagay, The Rev. John W. Myers and The Rev. John A. McKenry, Jr. Interment of the body of the soldier of the cross was made in Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Va. Survivors include his wife, son, two daughters, one granddaughter, one grandson, a sister, Mrs. Archie Heinline, and his mother, Mrs. E.H. Hylton.

William Earl Barber, son of William Simpson Barber and Annie Murphy Barber, was born in Dalton, Ga., May 18, 1919. Bill's mother was a very devout woman who saw to it that from early childhood all seven of her children attended Sunday School and church regularly. Bill made his dedication to Christ in Morris Street Methodist church, Dalton, at the age of 16. In his sophomore year at Asbury College he made his decision for the ministry.

He graduated from Asbury Seminary in 1946 and was married to Louise Craw in Edgewood Methodist church, Indianapolis, Indiana on March 13 of that same year. His devotion to her and to their children (William Stephen, 15, Deborah Susan, 12, and John David, 11) was such that a session of the Annual Conference could not pass without his telephoning home to be assured of their wellbeing.

In addition to his mother, wife and children Brother Barber is survived by four sisters, Mrs. Delsie Mae Arnold, Mrs. Louise Dewberry, Mrs. Annabelle Stacey, and Mrs. Betty Jean Keen, and by two brothers, Jack and Harold. Bill was a beloved pastor to the people of each of the following appointments: 1944-46 Crothersville Circuit, Indiana Conference; 1946-49 Patrick charge; 1949-52 Pittsylvania charge; 1952-55 South Princess Anne charge; 1955-1960 Wesley Memorial, Martinsville; 1960-63 Grace, Manassas. He had the unique experience of being responsible for the building of two new parsonages simultaneously during his final year on the South Princess Anne charge, making possible the division of that circuit. He then threw himself unreservedly into giving leadership to the building of the lovely new sanctuary at Wesley Memorial, Martinsville. It was during this unusually strenuous effort that his health visibly became affected.

Bill's family and his churches were his life. He maintained an exhausting schedule and was seemingly an indefatigable worker. His preparations for his administrative duties were meticulous. A frequent visitor in the homes of his people, he felt a keen sense of personal responsibility for their shortcomings and failures.

New life emerged in each of the churches for which he was pastor. His parishioners had complete confidence in his life and leadership.

His funeral service was conducted by the Rev. Ed. Padgett, pastor of First Methodist church of Dalton, Ga., on Sunday, April 28, 1963. He is buried in the West Hill cemetery of that city. A memorial service was conducted the following Sunday in Grace Methodist church, Manassas by Dr. Harry W. Backhus, III, superintendent of the Alexandria District, assisted by the Rev. Leonard Hazelwood of St. Mark's Methodist Church, Manassas and the Rev. Carl Smith of the Manassas Church of the Brethren.

by Walter S. Green

Andrew Gladys Lynch. Our friend has gone--to be with God. He was among the best that has come to our Methodist union (1939) from the Methodist Protestant Church. He, who knew God so well, has helped us to know Him better. We loved this man of God. His friends called him--Andy.

Andrew Gladys Lynch was born in Opelika, Alabama, January 29, 1901, the son of Scribner Herschel and Nora Louise Jones Lynch. He was the third of six children born to this parsonage family. His father was an honored member of the Alabama Conference of The Methodist Protestant Church.

Andy Lynch could not recall the day when his ministry began. It seemed that he grew up with the Lord's work in his hands. His preaching began in the tender years of his youth as he assisted his father in the Church. While a mere lad of 19 he was admitted on trial to the Alabama Conference and assigned to his sick father's work, The Elmore Charge, Wetumpka, Alabama.

Returning from the Conference and meeting his mother at the end of his journey, he exclaimed,

"Mama, they have assigned Papa's work to me, and I don't know whether I can do it or not."

The little woman put her arms around her son and said,

"Yes, you can, my son; God will help you."

In the months that followed she would sit in the pew with her face bathed in tears as this, her boy, was learning to preach the gospel that for so long had belonged to his father.

It was in June of that following year (1921) that Andy Lynch graduated from the Wetumpka High School and immediately went to Birmingham Southern College. He supported himself in these critical years as a student-pastor in rural Alabama.

Four years later he came to Westminster, Md., where he continued his studies at Westminster Theological Seminary (now Wesley Seminary, Washington). It was during these eventful years that he served a little church at Texas, Md.). Here he met his first wife, the former Helen Olivia Galloway, whom he married in June 1927. One year later he graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Sacred Theology.

The Methodist Protestant Church at Little Five Forks, Atlanta, Ga. was his first full-time appointment. Here he was to serve for the next three years with both bereavement and joy entering his life. It was on May 14, 1929 that his first child, Helen Gladys Lynch was born, but it took the young mother's life. The deep sorrow of this young minister as he held his motherless infant was ever to haunt his later memory. Such anguish brought to him an understanding heart for the many bereaved persons of his later ministry.

More than a year was to pass before God gave him the answer to his need. It was back in Birmingham, Alabama that Andy found Hazel Seay Sharpe, the present Mrs. Lynch, and made her his wife on August 30, 1930. What a loyal and devoted team they have been across these years! From the day Andy married Hazel he began to get up and to rise to new heights. All the grandeur and power of his ministry was yet ahead.

In June, 1931 he was loaned to the Board of Missions and was assigned to the Capitol Hill Methodist Protestant Church, Seattle, Washington. In the far west the Lynch family had four happy years. Andy often spoke of his Seattle days.

In June 1937, they were back in Maryland and the Conference assigned them to Wesley Chapel at Kent, Rock Hill, Md.

Just before Methodist union (1939) our young minister was assigned to Grace Church, Parksley, Va. It was here that we found him as a fellow member of the newly reorganized Virginia Conference. Those were great days for Andy. He was a natural preacher, fervent and compassionate. His Church grew under his ministry and it came to be a leading congregation in Eastern Shore Methodism. At Parksley his third child was born, Jane Ann Lynch.

The nine-year pastorate at Mount Olivet, Arlington began in the fall, 1943. This was an old, historical former MP Church. The population was now booming in Arlington and Andy knew best what to do for Mount Olivet as it grew from 250 to 1200 members. He built a beautiful new church sanctuary and gave this great old Church a new orientation to the future. A fourth child, Martha Sue Lynch, was born near the beginning of this pastorate.

Granbery Church, Covington, Va., was next in the ministry of this beloved servant of Christ. A new building debt was soon paid and old Granbery flourished. For six years this, a favorite pastor, ministered a delighted and happy people.

It was in June 1958, Bishop Paul Neff Garber lifted Andy to a cabinet post and made him the Superintendent of the Eastern Shore District. Returning after fifteen years to his beloved Parksley, this time to occupy the district parsonage, his ministry entered a new and broader phase. He brought to the Eastern Shore a new spirit. Both laymen and ministers loved their new District superintendent.

It was in June 1961, Andrew Gladys Lynch received his last appointment and was sent to First Church, Hopewell, Va. Once again a new building debt was rapidly paid off and a new parsonage purchased. These were happy days for our friend now arriving at the zenith of his ministry. Andy Lynch was always ready to meet God. It was on Saturday evening, June 1, 1963 that he had gone to make preparations for Sunday. They found him unconscious and soon he was gone. It happened so quickly. The prophet had died with his boots on.

It was like Andy to want it that way. God was so ever present with him in everything that he did. There never was a fear; always a quiet confidence, a childlike trust. He lived as he preached and he preached the things God had put in his heart.

This humble and gentle man was strong. He had the courage of his convictions, a loyalty to right. At the center of his life was his own deep dedication to God in Jesus Christ. This he knew, proclaimed and lived.

What was it that Jesus said when he saw Nathaniel, --"Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no guile!" Andy Lynch never possessed a low or mean thought. His largeness of spirit was born of infinite grace. He believed in his fellow-man and he trusted him. It was his purity of heart that helped others to see God.

Beyond the sturdy virtue of this good life there was his rich humor, his infectious laugh and his twinkling eyes. We think of him as good cheer and we hear the gales of his wholesome laughter ringing in our ears. This was the Andy we loved.

A visit to his parsonage was a touch with heaven. There was always love and understanding. From this happy parsonage family there have come four children: Helen Gladys--now Mrs. Harry L. Mills of Honolulu with her four children; Herschel Jackson--who is our own Rev. Jack Lynch, serving at the Epiphany Church, Arlington District; Jane Ann--a teacher in the Fairfax County Public Schools; Martha Sue--a recent graduate of the Pan-American Business College in Richmond.

Andy is survived by his beloved wife Hazel, his four children and six grandchildren. His minister brother, the Rev. W.O. Lynch, is now retiring from Oak Grove, La. There are two sisters, Mrs. W.E. Williams, Venice, Florida, and Mrs. F.H. Alverdes, Seattle, Washington.

On Tuesday, June 4, 1963 10:00 a.m. his funeral was conducted by his Bishop Paul Neff Barger and assisted by his Superintendent the Rev. Dr. J. Aubrey Hughes. From the church of his last assignment, First Methodist, Hopewell, they carried his body back to the Eastern Shore that he loved so well and he was buried in the Methodist Cemetery at Rock Hill, Md.

by John Wynn Myers

Minutes for 1964. **Walter Samuel Thomas.** 1883-1963. Christianity is not the result of an argument. It did not come out of the halls of philosophy. It is not a worshipper of scientism. These disciplines have a place in human effort and life but we must always recognize this place. Christianity is a revelation of the nature of God through One who offered himself as a willing and capable channel for this revelation. The highest privilege offered to any person in this world is that of being a channel for this revelation. The subject of this memoir, the Rev. Walter Samuel Thomas, was such a channel. He counted this as his supreme honor and delight and never wavered from this purpose.

He was born on October 17, 1883, near Dayton, Va., Rockingham county, the fifth of eleven children. His parents were Henry Thomas and Elizabeth Wine Thomas. Beginning at thirteen years of age and continuing until he was twenty-seven years of age he kept a daily Journal without missing one entry. He attended the primary and grade schools of the Montezuma district. Along with this desire for an education he had a busy schedule of farm chores and was always faithful in his attendance and participation of church services, singing school and Literary Societies. He learned the trade of brick masonry which he used at odd times to further his education.

When thirteen years of age he united with the Beaver Creek congregation of the Church of the Brethren. On July 26, 1904, he transferred his membership to the Lewis Street Brethren church in Staunton, Va. In this congregation he successively advanced to the order of deacon, was chosen minister and reached the second degree of the ministry.

Brother Thomas attended Bridgewater College and in 1910 he transferred his membership to Central Methodist Church in Staunton, former M. E. Church, South. Three years later he applied and was accepted on trial in the Baltimore Annual Conference of the former M. E. Church, South. He was ordained deacon by Bishop Warren A. Candler, March 28, 1915, at a session of the Conference held in Washington, D.C. He was ordained elder by Bishop W. B. Murrah, April 1, 1917, at the session of the Conference held in Roanoke. He attended the Candler School of Theology and also graduated in business from the Dunsmore Business College of Staunton. He had four years of correspondence courses with Vanderbilt University and extension courses of the University of Virginia.

His work as an active minister included appointments to the Highland charge and later to the Basic church in Waynesboro, each in the Staunton district. He served in the Army Y.M.C.A. during World War I, was Religious Work Secretary at Fort Oglethorpe in Georgia, Camp Secretary at Souther Field, Americus, Georgia, Assistant Pastor of Central church, Staunton. He was Chaplain of the Staunton Military Academy from October 1920 till June 1936, a period of almost thirteen years. He was then appointed to the Churchville charge which he served for five years. He was called to duty as Chaplain in World War II, being stationed at Camp Lee, spent one month in the Chaplain's School of Harvard University, time in the Woodrow Wilson General Hospital of Staunton, Post Chaplain at Harmon General Hospital at Longview, Texas, followed by pastorates of six years at Mint Springs charge, and five years at Burkeville charge, Farmville district.

Brother Thomas retired from the active ministry at a session of our Conference held in Harrisonburg in June, 1956. From this time until his death he was constantly busy serving his church, his community and his fellow men. He was Chaplain of Western State Hospital, Staunton, filled a temporary vacancy on the staff of the Staunton Military Academy temporary supply in several churches, a member of the Board of Directors of the Wesley Foundation serving the Virginia Military Institute and the Washington and Lee University, both in Lexington. Also Chaplain of the Staunton Lodge No. 13, AF and AM, Chaplain and Honorary Member of the Staunton Union Royal Arch Chapter No. 2, District Deputy Grand Master for the 19th Masonic District of Virginia, President of the Older Adult Conference of Blackstone. Also a member of the Staunton Y.M.C.A., Military Chaplains' Association, Protestants and Others United for the Separation of Church and State, American Association of Retired Persons, Senior Citizens of America, National Sojourners, Thrice Illustrious Masters and Honorary Reserves (AUS) in the grade of Lieut. Colonel.

Brother Thomas was first married to Mary Cupp Carroll on November 5, 1910. His wife died on June 22, 1938. On October 18, 1941, he was married to Mary Leola Brown, who survives him. There were no children of these marriages. A few years before his death he built a lovely home in an attractive section of Staunton where his widow now lives. He died on June 6, 1963. His funeral was held in Central Church of Staunton. The service was conducted by Rev. M. C. Wilkerson and Rev. Clemmer E. Matheny. His body was buried in the beautiful Thornrose Cemetery of Staunton.

No account of the life of this man of God could be complete without some observations of his disposition, character and ministry. He was a man of truly Christian spirit at all times and under all circumstances. He had a deep interest and concern for all persons regardless of age, race, creed or station in life. He was a loving, kind and patient husband, a daily inspiration to a noble and glowing way of life in a quiet and unassuming manner. In his ministry of fifty years he accepted every assignment and undertaking as an opportunity to serve as a Christian witness. He considered every work worthy of his best effort and interest and was always willing and eager for one more opportunity to be of service. His last sermon was preached on June 2, 1963, "The Abundant Life," based on John 10:10. The sermon he was preparing for the following Sunday was "Who Is My Neighbor?" from Luke 10:29. He was a Christian gentleman! The writer of this memoir had the pleasure and the profit of close friendship with brother Thomas for almost fifty years. Each contact with him deepened the conviction of his genuine humility, his conscientious service and his Christian-gentlemanly conduct.

"'Tis human fortune's happiest height to be

A spirit melodious, lucid, poised, and whole;

Second in order of felicity

To walk with such a soul."

by J. J. Rives

Dewey Nixon Weiford. 1897-1963. Dewey Nixon Weiford, the child of a Methodist parsonage, was the eleventh child in family of twelve children. His father, the Rev. G. S. Weiford, wanted him to be a minister, and in his adult life Dewey would say: "My father blessed me to enter the ministry and follow in his footsteps." The hard life which his father experienced in serving large circuits on horse-back discouraged Dewey Weiford from becoming a minister. He, therefore, established himself in the retail business and became quite successful. The ministry kept tugging at his heart, but as he said, "I fled from the call." Dr. Harry Coffey, while pastor of Granbery Memorial Church, Covington, Va., encouraged him toward the ministry. The large men's class at Granbery and the teacher of this class, Charles Snead, gave encouragement.

So, in November, 1937, following the session of the Baltimore Annual Conference, Dewey Weiford complied with the request of the Rev. Charles W. Fink, Presiding Elder of the Lewisburg District of the Baltimore Conference and agreed to fill out the Conference year at Iron Gate, near Clifton Forge.

At the next Conference session Dewey was appointed to South Covington-Iron Gate where he served until 1941. For the next nine years, the World War II years, he served Beverley Street Church, Staunton, and for four of these years also served the Fishersville Church. Then followed New Market; Austin Avenue, Richmond; Mt. Pleasant, Roanoke; Craddockville-Belle Haven; First Church, Covington, which he was serving at the time of his illness in the fall of 1962. He continued as pastor of this church until Annual Conference of June, 1963, when he superannuated. The church did have the services of an assistant, Mr. Lester Frank, since Dewey was not able to carry on his duties for more than half of that Conference year. The people of First Church expressed their love for their pastor and his family in many tangible ways.

Dewey Weiford was a most effective minister. His total commitment, pastor's heart, and evangelistic zeal drew people to him in an unusual way. He was classified as an "approved supply" and we know his work received not only the approval of men but of God. He was an inspiration to many in the ministry. Dr. John Myers, in writing to Mrs. Weiford said: "Dewey was a man I loved across the years. He always brought joy to me when I would see him at Annual Conference."

A review of the results of Dewey's ministry in the several churches which he served will reveal unusual success. Every two-point work he served became stations under his ministry. At least two men who are now ministers in the Virginia Conference

were influenced toward the ministry because of the vitality of Dewey's life and witness.

Dewey and Maude Weiford moved to the superannuate home in Bridgewater following his retirement. He lived there a relatively short while, but the people of the two responded to him and ministered to him in many ways. The Sunday after his death the following was carried in the bulletin of the Bridgewater Methodist Church: "The Church and its corporate ministry join in mourning the death of the Reverend D. N. Weiford, who died in the Lord on September 18, 1963. Husband and father, preacher and pastor, a stranger to none but a friend to all, he fought a good fight, he finished his course, and he kept the faith. The world is a better place because, for fleeting, transitory moment, the Reverend Dewey Weiford made an appearance in its life."

Dewey Weiford married Maude Geiger on February 25, 1920. She worked faithfully and effectively with him throughout his varied career. She did both love and cherish in sickness and in health, and her tender attention cheered Dewey in many trying experiences. Dewey Weiford is survived not only by his wife, Maude, but also by their three children: Dewey N., Jr., Douglas G., and Jewell Kolchum. **by Hampden H. Smith, Jr. Joseph Montague Dameron.** 1916-1963. On February 12, 1916, a boy was born to Virginia Richards Dameron and Rufus Bailey Dameron at Oldhams, Westmoreland County, Va. They named this boy Joseph Montague Dameron. Later, John S. Dameron and Raymond E. Dameron completed their trio of sons.

Joe was graduated from Cople High School in 1933, after having been active in baseball and basketball and having taken first place in the public speaking contests for Southern Regional High Schools. In the Ebenezer Church at Oldhams Joe was always active in the church life. He served as President of the Young People and from this church the Quarterly Conference recommended Joe for license to preach.

He worked for two years after high school before making his decision for the ministry. After the interval Joe began his studies at the University of Richmond and graduated in 1939. While at the University he served on the Honor Council and was President of the Y.M.C.A.

He entered Union Theological Seminary of Virginia in the Fall of 1939 and received his diploma from Union in 1942. He was ordained a Deacon in the Virginia Conference of the Methodist Church on 1940 and received the ordination of Elder in 1941. While in Seminary Brother Dameron served Lebanon and Providence Churches on the Rappahannock District. He served the following charges: Kilmarok Charge in Kilmarok, Va., (1942-46); Bethany Church at Reedville, Va., (1946-51); Lane Memorial Church at Altavista, Va., (1951-58); Christ Church at Arlington, Va., (1958-59); Highland Park Church, Richmond, Va., (1959-61); and Trinity Church at Richmond, Va. (1961-63).

On June 27, 1942, Brother Dameron married Miss Frances English at Ebenezer Methodist Church in Westmoreland County where both of them had been members since childhood. From this happy marriage two daughters were born: Frances English Dameron and Anne Montague Dameron. Many of us who knew Joe intimately felt that the great energy he gave his work in the ministry came from his devotional life, and the fine home and family who supported his evangelistic interests.

His fellow ministers acknowledged his leadership by electing him to many places of responsibility, such as President of the District Ministers of the Rappahannock District and of the Lynchburg District, and President of the Area Ministerial Association of Altavista and Campbell County.

One of his many loves was the service that he gave as a Trustee of our Methodist Children's Home in Richmond. During his years of service with the Home he served as the Vice President of the Board of Trustees and as Chairman of the Executive Committee and Finance Committee. All areas of service in the church and community life received his attention and time. Evangelism was his major interest. He served on the Virginia Conference Board of Evangelism and was elected to its Executive Committee. He was also a member of the Council of Evangelism of the Methodist Church.

The last thing he did in this connection before his passing, was to speak to the Methodist Ministers in Richmond concerning the program of evangelism on the District at Barton Heights Church where we had the monthly meeting on October 3, 1963... the day of his death. At that time, Brother Dameron was serving as the Director of Evangelism for

the Richmond District. On the way home from the meeting he suffered a heart attack and died at Richmond Memorial Hospital. He was assisted to the hospital by his Associate Minister at Trinity Church, the Rev. Benjamin T. Price.

Joseph Montague Dameron was a man with many friends because he was a friend to all. He had been my friend since Seminary days. As a fellow pastor, and as his District Superintendent, I called upon him often for advice and counsel. Joe literally gave his life to the church, even after a serious coronary in his earlier ministry he determined that his life was in God's hands and without fear or personal care he never let up his severe pace.

Joe was a personal friend to many of the youth in communities he served. He encouraged many boys and girls to further their education, and there are many students who will say that he inspired them to continue their education when the future looked most difficult. He knew his young people by name, he knew their parents, he could be severe in discipline, yet, prayerful that his instructions were Christ-centered.

The funeral for Brother Dameron was held at Trinity Church on October 5, 1963, and was conducted by the District Superintendent, A. Purnell Bailey. Interment was at Ebenezer Methodist Church in Westmoreland County, his beloved home church. The attendance at the funeral was one of the largest in the history of the church with people standing in the aisles and almost every Methodist minister from the area standing in respect to him throughout the entire service. Brother Dameron's family received over a thousand letters following his death and these testified to the dedication of Joe's work, his intense enthusiasm and great concern for others and their problems. Many of these letters spoke of the time he had spent in counseling and his personal feeling for those with whom he worked.

He was remembered for his firm handclasp and his warm friendly greeting. It would seem that Joe was loved because he gave so much love to troubled and disturbed individuals, and even though he could not provide the answers for some, he would take the time to patiently listen, then pray an intercessory petition for the relief that only God could provide.

One of the finest tributes to Brother Dameron was the establishment of the Joseph M. Dameron Memorial Fund to be used for the education of his daughters. Hundreds of ministers and laymen contributed to this fund.

Joe was a member of the Lancaster Union Lodge AF and AM, and the Royal Arch Chapter, Westmoreland No. 41. He was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity, and a member of the Scottish Rite of Roanoke, Va. He had been active in Rotary, Lions, and Kiwanis, and took many civic responsibilities.

Brother Joe, as many of us affectionately called him, was a good pastor. He loved his people and they returned that love. He served conscientiously. He was a disciple of Jesus Christ and his devotion to the Master showed in his service. There is no higher praise. Many of us who knew him best feel that the words he himself so often quoted would be the final words spoken of Joe's life:

To serve the present age,
My calling to fulfill;
O may it all my powers engage
To do my Master's will! --Charles Wesley

by A. Purnell Bailey

Lloyd Carleton Moore. 1874-1963. Lloyd Carleton Moore was born in Appomattox County on January 19, 1874, and crossed the portals to his heavenly home on Friday, November 15, 1963. He was the son of Wesley and Susie Grow Moore, who welcomed him into the loyal and fervent atmosphere of a dedicated Methodist home. His early life was on the farm where he learned the ways of nature and began his formal education in the local schools. At the age of 18 he gave his heart to God and with this conversion came the conviction that he must preach the gospel.

In 1896 he graduated from Randolph-Macon Academy at Bedford City. He received an A. B. Degree from Randolph-Macon College in 1901 and spent a year in Seminary in preparation for the Christian Ministry. He was admitted on trial into the Virginia Conference, November 17, 1899, and was ordained an Elder on November 20, 1904. For 46 1/2 years he gave himself to the Ministry until he retired in 1945 but never lost his keen interest and deep concern for the ministry and the church to which he gave his

life. His appointments began at Amherst and were completed at Franconia-Lincolnia in Arlington. He served faithfully and successfully the following appointments: Blanford, Matoaca, Barton Heights, Richmond, Greenville, West St. Petersburg, Memorial, Petersburg, West End, Richmond, Hinton Ave., Charlottesville, Broad Water-Bethel, Atlantic, Buckingham, Matthews, Newsom, Hopewell, Colonial Beach-King George, Colonial Heights, Amherst, Wesley, Petersburg and Hampton Roads.

On September 14, 1904, he was united in marriage to Miss Sara Lillian Ivey and to this happy union were born two lovely daughters. The mother of his children preceded him to the heavenly home in 1954.

On December 28, 1955, he was united in marriage to Mrs. Ella Davenport Clark who shared with him in his retired years.

The last rites were conducted by his pastor, Rev. Charles T. Boyd and the mortal remains rest in historic Blanford Cemetery in Petersburg. He leaves to mourn his going his devoted wife, two devoted daughters, Mrs. Otto A. Holden and Mrs. Robert Craighill Potts and two grandchildren, Sarah Lloyd Holden and Allen Holden, all of Hopewell, Va., and host of friends.

Mr. Moore was an organizer, a builder and a strong gospel preacher. The influence of his dedicated life made a difference in every church he served and in every life he touched.

Servant of God, well done;

Thy glorious warfare's past;

The battle's fought, the race is won,

And thou art crowned at last.

by Herbert W. Landrum

William Milton Compton. 1874-1963. A life of deep consecration is always convincing and inspiring. Without this, words are but echoes. To have known well William Milton Compton was to have moved in the atmosphere of God; his life was an inspiration, and his ministry a benediction to countless thousands.

Mr. Compton was born in 1874 at Great Cacapon, W. Va., the son of William and Martha Compton. In 1905 he married Miss Josie McClung. To this union was born the following children: Francis M. Compton of Lynchburg, Silas M. Compton of Upper Tract, W. Va., Archie P. Compton of Jacksonville, Fla., J. Denny Compton of Wilmington, Del., William Milton Compton, Jr., of Richlands, Washington, a daughter Mrs. John Mulford of Haverford, Pa. Two brothers, Smith Compton of Washington and N. T. Compton of Berkeley Springs, W. Va., a sister, Mrs. James Alderton of Washington, 13 grandchildren, and 3 great-grandsons also survive him.

He graduated from R.M.C. in 1906. He was a member of the Baltimore Conference at the time of union in Roanoke in 1939. He served the following appointments: Marquis Memorial in Staunton, New Hope, Main Street in Waynesboro, Roncerverte, W. Va., Piedmont, Md., Jefferson Circuit, Jarrettsville, Md., Shepherdstown, Md., Elkton, Manassas, White Sulphur Springs, and Port Republic. He served Bedford Circuit on the Lynchburg District after his retirement in 1945 until he moved to Lynchburg in 1952 where he was living at the time of his death.

Mr. Compton went to his eternal home on Christmas Day of 1963. The funeral service was conducted in Chestnut Hill Methodist Church by Dr. Edward Potts, and Rev. L.H. Youell, his pastor. He was buried in Bedford, Oakhill Cemetery.

He was a good man, consecrated to His Master, and devoted to the ministry of the Methodist Church, and to them he gave the best he possessed. He will be remembered by those who knew him best as a man of a humble and contrite heart whose faith was as simple as that of a child. He was devoted to his family; his life was truly centered around his home and the church. It was truly a blessing that he and his wife were privileged to live in their modern home at 4708 Fort Ave., Lynchburg, Va., and to make a "Little bit of Heaven" here on earth where their children and friends always found a welcome, and never left it without being a better person.

"E'en as he trod

That day to God

So walked he from his birth

In simpleness

And gentleness

And honor and clean worth."

by H. S. Coffey

Otto Washington Brittingham. 1888-1964. Late in the spring, on March 14, 1888, a child was born to George Washington Brittingham and his wife, Prudence Ann Jarman Brittingham. It is reasonable to assume that the humble farm family of Sussex County, Delaware, stopped all work in field or barn to rejoice and give thanks to God for this first child. The child was named Otto Washington Brittingham.

The years that followed were happy ones as five brothers and two sisters came into the home to complete the family circle. Each child assumed an assigned chore within the demands of the farm and his own capability. Daily attendance at the public school was encouraged, if not demanded, by the parents who valued education highly. The oldest child developed an appreciation for knowledge early in his school life. When the local school could offer no further training, O. W. Brittingham enrolled in the Wilmington Conference Academy, now Wesley Collegiate Institute, Dover, Delaware. He was graduated from this school in 1911.

Brother Brittingham was recommended for a Local Preacher license by his home Quarterly Conference, Dagsboro Methodist Church, Dagsboro, Delaware, in 1908. From that time onward his hopes of a place of service in The Methodist Episcopal Church grew and matured. When Bishop Earl Cranston read the appointments of the 128th session of The Baltimore Conference, The Methodist Episcopal Church, April 2, 1912, the name of O. W. Brittingham, supply, appeared opposite the Carrollton Circuit, West Baltimore District. During this year and the one to follow, the young preacher pursued his education at Western Maryland College.

Meantime, O. W. Brittingham and M. Pansy Hudson were joined in matrimony on June 5, 1912. Until the last day of his life this man and woman lived and labored as one, each assisting and complementing the other in the work of the Kingdom. Many times the writer heard Brother Brittingham refer to his home in the most complementary terms. Together the young couple worked and studied. Johns Hopkins University conferred upon O. W. Brittingham both the A.B. and M.A. degrees and guided his efforts to the completion of all requirements for the degree, Doctor of Philosophy.

The record indicates that O.W. Brittingham was ordained Deacon at Foundry Methodist Church, Washington, D. C., April 1916, by Bishop Earl Cranston, two years later, April 1918, he was ordained Elder, at Caroline Street Church, Baltimore, Md., by Bishop William F. McDowell.

In keeping with his great love for our Lord and His church, this servant of Christ loved music, beautiful flowers and people. He would travel far to hear good music, instrumental or vocal. He would expend any effort necessary to make good music available to the people he served. In his pastoral ministry, he demonstrated a keen ability to detect dormant ability in his young people. Many of these he inspired and assisted in academic preparation for a life of service to God and Man. The same desire for improvement was exercised by him in the cultivation and care of flowers, especially in the years immediately following retirement. At one time he mentioned having over two hundred mums ready to adorn some home or other beautiful setting.

This man sought always to grow in knowledge of God and many hours of his week were spent in effort to relate his fellowman to our heavenly Father. For the most part this effort was expended in service on the following charges: East Cranston Circuit, Patapsco Circuit, Severn, Summerfield Circuit, Hillsdale, Memorial (Baltimore), Brunswick, West Baltimore, Gatch Memorial, Piedmont (W.Va.), Arlington (Va.), Trinity (Alexandria), all of the Baltimore Conference, The Methodist Episcopal Church; and Wallace Memorial (Hampton), Stuart, Branch Memorial, Oakland, and Nokesville, all of the Virginia Conference, The Methodist Church.

Until his death on January 7, 1964, Brother Brittingham lived a faith in Jesus Christ which may be expressed in the words of John Greenleaf Whittier:

"I know not what the future hath

Of marvel or surprise,

Assured alone that life and death

God's mercy underlies."

"I know not where His islands lift

Their fronded palms in air;

I only know I cannot drift

Beyond His love and Care."

His funeral service was conducted on January 10, 1964, by Roland P. Riddick and Paul D. Martin, Jr., and his body was laid to rest in Columbia Gardens Cemetery, Arlington, Va. **by Paul Douglas Martin, Jr.**

Allen William Linthicum. 1888-1964. Not many years before the turn of the century, April 28, 1888, the people of Dorchester County, Md. saw the beginning of the life of a boy who would bring benediction to the lives of those he touched. The seed of a good life sown early flowered in the years of his manhood.

Allen William Linthicum felt the call to enter the ministry in the Methodist Church. After attending Randolph-Macon College he was received on trial in the Virginia Methodist Conference in 1912. Over a period of forty-six years he served the following appointments--South Halifax, Cascade, Churchland, Deep Creek, Dendron, Montvale, Middlesex, Gloucester Point, Kinsale, Capron and Haygood. It was his desire to serve in the rural areas of the Conference.

In 1907, the 17th day of December, this Christian gentleman and Mary Estelle Hubbard of Cambridge, Md., were united in marriage. Four daughters were given to them, Mrs. J. E. Spruill of Richmond, Va., Mrs. J. Carlyle Brown of Bena, Va., Mrs. Charles L. Chick, Fredericksburg, Va., and Mrs. William W. Huffman, Staunton, Va. In much of their married life Mrs. Linthicum was an invalid and the gentle patience of this man as he cared for her is a cherished memory of his children. There are seven grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

During the time of a financial depression in our nation Mr. Linthicum was receiving a salary of fifteen hundred dollars. The bank in his community failed and his salary was reduced to eleven hundred dollars. At this time two of his daughters were in college and another was planning to enter the next fall. When questioned as to whether he could support three he replied, "Yes, you all must receive a college education and we cannot wait. The Lord will provide a way." I quote from a letter from one of his daughters, "That was my Dad's philosophy. He had faith to know that the Lord would provide the help and direct the way when necessary and that faith never failed him. All through life he never was concerned about material wealth because he knew a way would be provided for God's own. And I can truthfully testify that up through the last this strong faith sustained him."

Brother Linthicum was an avid reader of good literature and he felt that his children should enjoy such books. On an evening at home with nothing to do one of his daughters, then in her early teens, remarked that life was so dull. He suggested that she read a book. When she asked, "What book?", he replied, "The Rise and Fall of the Roman Empire." His love of good books and preaching did not prevent time to be with people, visiting not only the members of his churches, but anyone whom he felt might be in need. While serving one of his appointments he became interested in a tribe of Indians living in the vicinity and to them he gave a great deal of his time.

It was the privilege of this writer to have a close relationship with my friend in several appointments. In his retired years, which began in October 1953, he lived in his own home in Bena, Va., surrounded by the trees and flowers that he had planted and cared for. He took delight in God's gifts in nature and when we would find a bunch of flowers at our door we knew that he had been to see us. Faithful to his calling he responded to the need of the ministry in his declining years and served a charge without a pastor, Mt. Zion-Singleton, 1962-1963.

The Rappahannock District and the Virginia Conference were made poorer on January 24, 1964, when Allen William Linthicum went to live with the Father. We shall think of him in the words of St. Paul, "Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things."

by H. Bernard Lipscomb, Jr.

Forrest B. Oglesby. 1892-1964. It has been the privilege of the writer to have associated with many Saintly men. In this long list Forrest Oglesby stands as a Prince. He was, indeed, a prince in the church. An apostolic ministry has ever been one of earth's greatest benedictions. It is a supreme need of the church today. To be able to come to the close of life and say with Christ's Chief Apostle "I have fought a good fight; I have finished my course; I have kept the faith;" is the crowning event in the life of any minister. It is a certification that Christ had ordained him to a ministry like unto that of the Apostles. Forrest Oglesby truly finished the course assigned to him by Christ. His faith in Him never faltered and from the day his Lord called him to

this service until time for him was no more he ever fought the good fight. He fought evil; he fought for the church; he fought for his Lord. Truly he was a Christian soldier. God honored this mighty effort. How many souls he won for Christ I do not know, but I do know that because of his ministry there are many today in the church on earth and in heaven redeemed by the grace of the Lord. At the end of his course on earth he was ready to receive the crown of life.

This ministry was undergirded by a saintly life. Truly, he was a saint among men. He was that in his home as a husband, a father, and a loved one. His home was an oasis in life where certainly one could ever find rest and love. The greatest sermon he ever preached was his life. When the angels placed about him the robes for the eternal world, there was neither spot nor wrinkle in them. His life had been redeemed by Christ. While on earth he preached the spoken word of power, but that power came from the indwelling spirit of Christ. That spirit was able to abide there because of the saintly life and supreme dedication to His lord. His will was his will. It was a privilege to listen to him because what he was ever permeated his spoken word.

Christ honored him by calling him to His ministry and at last when the sun began to set upon that ministry and there came the clear call for him, he was not afraid, for he saw his pilot face to face and realized that He had taken the sting out of death and would swallow the grave in victory. God can richly bless the church and world by raising up more ministers like Forrest Oglesby. He was an apostle in the church, a true friend to mankind, a benediction in his home; and a true servant of the Lord.

God let him live seventy-one years. He was a native of Nashville, Tenn., born July 9, 1892. He was the son of George Robert Oglesby and Jennie Bernard Oglesby. He was educated at Montgomery Bell Academy, Nashville, Southern Y.M.C.A. College at Black Mountain, N.C. and Scarritt College, Nashville, Tenn.

July 9, 1913, was a high day in his life. On that day he married Susie A. Bear-den. For over fifty years, hand in hand, and heart to heart they labored for their Lord. What a service they did render! The Virginia Conference thanks God for them. We are grateful that Susie is still with us, to share the grace of the Oglesby home. Two sons were born to them, Forrest Elliott Oglesby, Jr., now a distinguished physician in Richmond, Va., and George Dowles Oglesby who died at the age of seven in Suffolk, Va.

God used Forrest Oglesby in a large way. His grace and talents were employed by Him in not only the Virginia Conference, but far beyond. He served as "Y" activities secretary at Camp Hancock, Ga., and the Charleston, S.C., Naval Base during World War I. He served, also, as Industrial Secretary of the Newport News Ship Building and Dry Dock Company. In that City he organized a boy's branch of the Y.M.C.A. and was Secretary. While he was serving as pastor of Oxford Methodist Church in Suffolk, Va., he was Judge of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court there.

Many churches in the Virginia Conference were blessed by him as their pastor from 1921 until 1964. Among the highlights of his ministry was his superintendency of the Winchester District, 1947-1953. His wife served with him in a glorious way as Director of Children's Work of the district. In his most recent appointment, Calvary, Arlington, Va., he spent much more than a year with the Building Committee formulating plans for a new sanctuary. As a Trustee of the conference and in his work with the Board of Evangelism he rendered great service. The Methodist Church and the Kingdom of God are richer because of the service of this Saint of God.

February 22, 1964, was the day God took him home. He heard Him say, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant." A Masonic Memorial service was conducted for him in Alexandria on February 23rd. Funeral services were held at Calvary Methodist Church, February 24th. Dr. Harold H. Hughes assisted by Dr. Roland P. Riddick, and Dr. John W. Myers conducted the service. A eulogy was delivered by Bishop Paul N. Garber. A service was also held at Westover Hills Methodist Church, Richmond, Va., February 26th. Dr. C. C. Bell, Rev. Arthur Roach, Rev. C. T. Boyd, Rev. Roscoe Johnson and Rev. Linwood Jordan conducted this service. Burial was in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Richmond, Va.

He is survived by his wife, Susie B. Oglesby, a son, Dr. Forrest Elliott Oglesby, four grandchildren, Forrest Elliott Oglesby, Jr., Thomas Garrett Oglesby, Virginia Anne Oglesby, and Jeffrey Stuart Oglesby all of Richmond, Va.; two sisters, Mrs. Leon Booker, Nashville, Tenn., and Mrs. E. M. Oden, Washington, D.C.; three brothers, Clyde

B. Oglesby, Nashville, Tenn., Lyman D. Oglesby, Decatur, Ga., and Roy R. Oglesby, Columbia, Tenn.

Forrest many times had comforted others with the eternal words: "I am the Resurrection and the Life." They were spoken for him. Christ made out of his departure from this world a glorious welcome into the eternal home. As Christ lives, so lives Forrest Oglesby.

by C. C. Bell

Leofra Branch Wiblin. 1915-1964. In recent years West Virginia has given a number of ministers to the Virginia Methodist Conference, thus enabling us to keep our pulpits filled. Among them was Leofra Branch Wiblin. Lee, as he was usually called, was born December 14, 1915, in Jackson County, W.Va., the son of Benjamin F. and Perlina Cummings Wiblin. In 1936, August 29, he married Dorothy Modesitt and to them was given a daughter, Judith Anne Bryant of Arlington, Va., and two grandchildren.

Prior to the beginning of his ministry Lee worked with the United States Civil Service Commission. Later he felt the call to preach and, in preparation, attended the University of West Virginia. As a Local Preacher he served several appointments in the West Virginia Conference over a period of thirteen years. In 1959 he transferred to Virginia and held his first appointment, the Callaghan Charge on the Staunton District. Following this appointment he served two other charges, the Patrick Charge on the Danville District and the Northumberland Charge on the Rappahannock District. Lee had received his Local Deacon's and his Elder's Orders before coming to Virginia. In June 1963 he was admitted on trial in the Virginia Conference.

During the second year of Lee's ministry on the Northumberland Charge he became ill and had to undergo a major operation. Though the operation seemed to be successful other complications developed and in the early hours of Tuesday morning, March 10, 1964, he went home to the Father. Services were held at one of his churches, Wicomico, for internment. His widow will make her home temporarily with her daughter in Arlington, Va.

Though laboring under physical disability for many months, Lee's last year in his ministry seemed to be the most fruitful. Under his leadership and inspiration the three churches of his charge entered into an extensive building and improvement program. He lived long enough to see most of this realized.

One of Lee's favorite passages in the Bible was first Corinthians, the thirteenth chapter, with verses twelve and thirteen holding for him a special meaning--

"For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall understand fully, even as I have been fully understood. So faith, hope, love abide, these three; but the greatest is love."

by H. Bernard Lipscomb, Jr.

James Lawrence Early. 1882-1964. James L. Early was a Christian gentleman of the first order. He cultivated the fruits of the spirit, "Love, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance." He was loved, trusted and confided in wherever he served. He learned early in life to face insurmountable difficulties with a faith that refused to turn back. He knew the value of a dollar, and through hard work and thrift he was able to raise a large family, and to give each one a good education. He had unusual ability as an evangelist, and because of his ability as a preacher, and his love for people he was able, with God's help, to win souls for Christ and His Kingdom. The members of Bassett Memorial Methodist Church remember him as one of the most effective ministers to serve the Church as pastor. It was during this pastorate that Stanleytown Methodist Church was built.

James Lawrence Early and Miss Charlotte Ney Lucas were married Dec. 8, 1908; to this union was born five children: Byron Early, Roanoke, Va., Paul L. Early, Petersburg, Va., Mrs. K. C. Rice, Jr., Courtland, Va., Dr. J. Q. Early, Bristol, Va., and Mrs. M. C. Cobb, Alexandria, Louisiana.

He was admitted on trial in the Virginia Conference, March 1918, and received into full connection on April 11, 1921. He retired on October 18, 1938. He served Mt. Jackson Charge for 4 years, and Willis Charge, Richmond District, for 2 years after his retirement. It was during his pastorate at Mt. Jackson that he gave valuable leadership in helping to establish the Shenandoah County Memorial Hospital, which is located at Woodstock, Va., the County seat of Shenandoah County. He made his home in

Petersburg, Va., from 1952 to 1959. He entered the Hermitage in Richmond in 1959 where he lived until his death March 12, 1964.

Burial services were held in J. T. Morris Funeral Home, Petersburg, Va., Saturday, March 14th, conducted by his life-long friend, Dr. H. S. Coffey, assisted by Rev. Roscoe Johnson and Rev. C. Warner Crumb. Burial was in Blandford Cemetery.

Adieu--sweet friends--I have waited long
To hear the message that calls me home;
And now it comes like a low, sweet song
Of welcome over the river's foam,
And my heart shall ache and my feet shall roam
No more--no more; I am going home.

Home, where no storm--no tempest raves
In the light of the calm, eternal day;
Where no willows weep over lonely graves
And the tears from our eye-lids are kissed away,
And my soul shall sigh, and my feet shall roam
No more--no more; I am going home.

--Frank L. Stanton by H. S. Coffey

Samuel Ford Fridley. 1882-1964. Samuel Ford Fridley was born in August County, Va., July 21, 1882, and died in Norfolk, Va., March 19, 1964. At the age of 10 years he began to work to support his widowed mother. From this time his schools were the school of home and job. At home his mother taught him, and on the job he would study as any odd time or occasion would permit.

He was married to Laura Annie Jenkins in 1906, and to this marriage were born five sons and three daughters, who along with Mrs. Fridley survive him. It was while he was working in his native county that Brother Fridley was convinced that God had called him into the ministry, and the opportunity came to him in 1921 to enter the full-time ministry of the church. Throughout his long life he never doubted the validity of this call.

He served in the old Baltimore Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, until unification, and served the rest of his ministry in the Virginia Conference. Among the charges he served in the Virginia Conference were: Blue Ridge on the Winchester District from 1922-26 and again in 1940-43; Catawba and Cambria on the Roanoke District; and Collierstown on the Staunton District. He retired from the Cascade Charge on the Danville District in 1954. From this time until his death he and Mrs. Fridley made their home in Norfolk.

His primary interest was evangelism and there was a note of urgency in his preaching that gave it the flavor of early Methodism. The New Testament and Wesleyan theology formed the bases of all his preaching. To him these were the criteria by which the Christian life was to be measured and molded. This conviction gave him a sense of vocation that caused his ministry always to be characterized by great energy and enthusiasm.

Funeral services were held in March 21 in the Elkton Methodist Church for Brother Fridley by the pastor of the church, the Reverend Charles K. Blalock. Burial was in the Elk Run Cemetery, Elkton, Va.

The character of his faith might well be expressed by these two stanzas from one of the well-known hymns of the church:

"Jesus, Saviour, pilot me
Over life's tempestuous sea;
Unknown waves before me roll,
Hiding rock and treacherous shoal;
Chart and Compass come from Thee:

Jesus, Saviour, pilot me.
"When at last I near the shore,
And the fearful breakers roar
'Twixt me and the peaceful rest,
Then, while leaning on Thy breast,
May I hear Thee say to me,
'Fear not, I will pilot thee."

by John Teter

Minutes for 1965. Obed Lee Gochenour. 1886-1964. Obed Lee Gochenour was born near Woodstock in the lovely Shenandoah Valley of Virginia on October 7, 1886. He was the son of Henry and Ellen Stultz Gochenour. He was educated in the public schools of

Shenandoah County and Roanoke College. It was during his college years that he met Miss Lottie Littrell of Salem, Va. A courtship ensued that culminated in a happy marriage on June 20, 1910. She proved to be a most congenial and devoted wife, sharing with him his varied experiences and making for him a home of peace and comfort.

After having engaged in business for several years, he heard the call to preach and was admitted on trial in the old Baltimore Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South at its 1915 session in Baltimore, Md. He was ordained a deacon in 1917 and an elder in 1919. When Methodist union was consummated in 1939, he became a member of the Virginia Conference. During a ministry of forty-seven years he served the following charges: Fincastle, Elliston, Cloverdale, Newport, Buchanan, Upperville, Hamilton, Manassas, Durbin, W.Va., Newcastle, Cascade, North Mathews, Gloucester Point, Newsoms, and Northumberland.

He went to every charge with the purpose of leaving it better than he found it. Just before going to Buchanan, the church was destroyed by fire, and the congregation was meeting in the Episcopal church. Within a short time, a building program was undertaken, and the church was rebuilt. At Purcellville, he found a discouraged membership because a building program had been discontinued due to lack of funds. He immediately rallied his forces, the work was resumed, and a lovely church was erected with all the furnishings provided including a pipe organ. At the Manassas pastorate, he found the church building under construction with the congregation meeting in the basement. In less than a year, the project was completed with sanctuary and educational building. It isn't surprising that he was known in the old Baltimore Conference as "the building preacher." Wherever he went, parsonages and church buildings received his attention, and the whole program of the church was advanced.

He was a man of strong convictions. He took his stand on the basic questions related to truth and righteousness, always without regard to popularity or personal advancement. His sermons gave evidence not only of a thoughtful mind, but also a soul that was ever quickened by the Spirit of God. He presented Jesus Christ and Him crucified as the Saviour of men, and he did it with convicting power.

He is remembered in the churches he served as a diligent, systematic, and faithful pastor. Many persons will acknowledge gratefully that they were stronger in their faith, more established in their hopes, because in time of frustration, sorrow, and bereavement, he led them to Him who gives balm to the brokenhearted and rest to the weary.

The highest tribute that can be paid to any man is to say to him that he is a consistent Christian gentleman. This was emphatically true of Obed Lee Gochenour. His life was developed and inspired by the word of God, which "was a lamp unto his feet and a light unto his path."

Because of failing health, he was forced to give up the pastoral duties at the Annual Conference in 1962. He and his devoted companion of fifty-four years went to live in the house in Richmond which they had previously purchased for retirement. It was from here that he answered the call to His Heavenly Father, "Come Home" on July 7, 1964. When the summons came he was ready, for his faith in Christ and loyalty to Him above all others, had kept him ready through the years. He is survived by his widow and seven of their eight children: Curtis Darden Gochenour of St. Petersburg, Florida; Mrs. W.C. (Hazel Arlene) Grinnan of Richmond, Va.; Wilbur Byron Gochenour of Salem, Va.; Mrs. R.S. (Glenna Elvin) Bigham of Charlotte, N.C.; Ned Littrell Gochenour of Kenilworth, New Jersey; Dennis Marvin Gochenour of Fort Worth, Texas; Glenn Virgil Gochenour of Lustin, California. Another daughter, Marie Zelma, is deceased.

The funeral service was conducted in Westhampton Methodist Church, Richmond, Va., by Rev. Wm. D. Parrish. Interment was in East Hill Cemetery, Salem, Va., with Rev. George D. Coffey conducting the service.

He has gone from us to the Eternal Land, but his memory and influence will abide through the years.

"Now the laborer's task is o'er;
Now the battle day is past;
Now upon the farther shore
Lands the voyager at last.

Father, in Thy gracious keeping
Leave we now Thy servant sleeping."

by R. Orman Bryant

Charles Wesley Bragg, Jr. 1915-1964. An effective ministerial career was brought to a close in the sudden death of The Reverend Charles Welsey Bragg, Jr. At forty-nine years of age he was ministering with great devotion to the membership and community of Dumfries Methodist Church, when at the conclusion of dinner on July 21, 1864, he suffered a cerebral hemorrhage, was rushed to Fredericksburg Memorial Hospital and on July 23, 1964, answered the call of His Heavenly Father to come up higher.

Reared in the church with his devoted parents, he felt the call to the ministry at an early age and answered without hesitation. He prepared for his life work by obtaining a fine education. He was graduated from the following institutions: Washington and Lee High School, Arlington, Va.; Emory and Henry College where he was honored with the Blue Key National Honor Society award and membership in Tau Kappa Alpha; and Candler School of Theology at Emory University by which he was awarded the B.D. degree.

He was a devoted and energetic servant of the church. His sermons were thoughtful, well prepared, fervent and convincing. Pastoral work was always methodically and diligently done. He was a good church administrator and had the pleasure of seeing two worshipful, beautiful and serviceable Church buildings erected: Forest Road, Lynchburg and Centenary, Portsmouth, the latter of which was a relocation project from Churchland. He served the following charges: Lee Mission, now Christ Church, Arlington; Sherando, Staunton; The Halifax Charge; Forest Road, Lynchburg; Copeland Park, Newport News; Clarkesville; Associate pastor of Greene Memorial, Roanoke; Centenary, Portsmouth; Central, Fox Hill, Hampton; and Dumfries.

On December 25, 1942, he was joined in marriage to Miss Martha Lee Martin, the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. G.G. Martin. Dr. Martin was a distinguished member of the Baltimore and Virginia Conferences. To the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Bragg two sons were born: David Gordon, now a student at the College of William and Mary and Jonathan Lee, who is at home with his mother, attending school in Newport News, Va.

In one of his sermons Charles has several quotations which he seized upon with conviction: "We all have traveler's instincts and are never satisfied until we have visited the capitol of the soul-country which we familiarly call 'heaven'." As Paul said, "We must see Rome." Again:

"So can I

Laugh as my spirit flies

Into the purple skies!

Fearless I fly and fly,

On through the heavenly sky;

Breaking all prison bars,

My soul sleeps with the stars!"

Besides his wife and children, he is survived by his step mother, Mrs. Charles W. Bragg, Sr., and a sister, Mrs. Albert H. Tillson, Arlington, Va. His funeral services were conducted at Dumfries Methodist Church by his District Superintendent, Dr. Harry Wardell Backhus, III, Dr. R. Orman Bryant and Dr. Edgar A. Potts. **by Edgar A. Potts**
Robert Thornton Lovelace. 1888-1964. Born in 1888 of Christian parents in Pittsylvania County, Danville, Va., Robert Thornton Lovelace came at an early age to the city of Lynchburg to live. It was at the Craddock-Terry Shoe Company that he learned his trade, beginning his work there in 1903.

In 1905 he was married to Miss Annie Mays, who became his faithful helpmate for the first half of his life. Very soon he was in business for himself, operating a shoe repair shop in Lynchburg until the year 1929, at which time he moved to Farmville and continued in the shoe repair business until 1953.

Brother Lovelace always marked a revival held at the city of Lynchburg, under the leadership of the late Rev. William Sunday, in 1922 as his spiritual birthday. He said of this event, "Billy Sunday literally shook me over hell for three weeks until I was scorched." He was soundly converted and with so vivid and transforming work of Divine Grace that it characterized his entire life experience thereafter.

He became a man of dynamic faith and vital prayer. After his conversion and throughout his life, he was much in demand as a leader of prayer groups and evangelis-

tic services in and around the communities of both Lynchburg and Farmville. Churches of all denominations, including The Salvation Army and life-saving mission groups, called upon him for witness and exhortation.

His shoe shop became a meeting place for people with personal problems. Little children would never tire of watching him spit tacks from his mouth as he worked while talking to them about Jesus Christ. There was always the back room in his shop where he would take people for prayer. His favorite subjects were: How to Become Saved; How to Help the Alcoholic; and, Jesus is the Cure of All Human Frailty and Sin.

When the writer first knew Brother Bob Lovelace, it was in his last days behind the shoe counter and just before his entering the full-time ministry of the Methodist Church. His spiritual strength and power in the community of Farmville were formidable. Like the Apostle Paul with his tent-making business, Brother Lovelace supported his work of winning souls for Christ by operating a shoe shop. Men in need knew where to come for spiritual help. They loved and trusted him and beat a track to his door.

In 1943 his beloved wife, Annie Mays Lovelace, died. He married Miss Anna Simms in 1945 who died in 1947. It was in 1951 that he was married to the former Mrs. Zada Mayton, a very Christian lady who shared fully and enthusiastically with Brother Lovelace in all of his evangelistic work and overwhelming concern for human souls. They became as a team working together for Christ, and she ever remained his faithful help-mate and inspiration throughout the remaining years of his life.

It was in 1953 that Robert Thornton Lovelace, a long-time, local preacher in the Methodist Church, offered his services to become a full-time Accepted-Supply pastor serving within the Virginia Conference. He held pastoral charges within the Roanoke, Farmville, and Charlottesville Districts. Ever alert and growing in both knowledge and skill, he received in-service training at V.P.I., Blacksburg; Duke University, Durham, N.C.; and the Candler School of Theology at Emory University, Atlanta.

He retired from his full-time, Supply ministry in 1960 due to a heart condition. Since that time, he was in much demand rendering substitute services to neighboring churches. In May 1964 he became totally disabled and from that time grew progressively worse, dying in the Southside Hospital, Farmville, October 25, 1964 at 4 p.m.

He died quietly. The smile on his face reflected the peace that was in his heart. He was like a little child walking into his Father's house, a place he had already learned to call "home." Brother Lovelace had a rich, strong faith, born of vivid and continued religious experience. He could always tell of his own "saving experience" as he spoke so frequently from Acts 16:31—"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ." In his preaching from Ephesians 6:11-18 on "The whole armour of God" he would stress that if one piece was left off, the devil would attack.

The secret of his reaching people was found in the great depth of his understanding and compassion for their human need. He knew the depth and tragedy of sin. He always got a thrill in lifting up the fallen. There was a sternness in his dealing with sin, yet a tenderness and forgiveness in his dealing with the sinner.

A very gentle man in spirit, he was constantly striving for a closer walk with his Lord. He sought for himself a more complete and entire surrender. In his preaching, he held forth the reality of the new creature born in Christ, II Corinthians 5:17.

As he lived, so he died—in simple faith and surrender to the Father's will. His funeral service was held at the Farmville Methodist Church—Tuesday afternoon, October 27, 1964, at 3 p.m., attended by his devoted family and a host of friends who knew him so well; and conducted by the Farmville pastor, The Rev. Elmer N. Hassell, and assisted by the writer. His burial was in the Farmville Cemetery.

The blessings and glory of this ministry are found in those who are faithful to their trust in the Lord.

by John Wynn Myers

Louis Oakey Wilburn. 1900-1964. Our good friend and fellow worker passed away November 19, 1964. For me and for his countless friends and close family circle a shining light has departed from this earth, but only physically, because the name of Oakey Wilburn and the great faith which was his, will be perpetuated through the lives he touched and the impact for good which he made upon the causes of Christ through his work as a minister of The Methodist Church.

His quality of performance as a preacher, a pastor, and as an administrator was always the quality of a great Christian statesman. When we think of Oakey, we feel a warm rush of pleasure in our hearts and minds at our instant recall of his integrity, his honesty, his total dedication, his selfless devotion to his work, to his family, and to his many friends.

Oakey was a successful man, as the world appraises "success." He served outstanding Church appointments: Benns Church, Portsmouth District; LeKies, Chesapeake Avenue, Colonial Avenue Churches on the Norfolk District; Trinity Church, Petersburg; Memorial Church and Fort Hill, Lynchburg District; the Superintendency of the Petersburg District from 1949 to 1955. At the time of Home-Going, he was giving brilliant leadership to the work of the Winchester District as Superintendent. On the high-level Boards and Agencies of his denomination, he gave generously of his time and served with skill and distinction as District Missionary Secretary, Conference Missionary Secretary, Member of the World Service Commission, and Secretary of the Bishop's Cabinet from 1952-1955 and from 1960 to 1964.

Endowed with a fine mind, educated in good schools, he never lost the common touch. He was known and loved as a studious and warm-hearted scholar during his years at William and Mary College, Emory University, and North Carolina State College. Emory University recognized his academic achievements with degrees, B.Ph. and B.D. Randolph-Macon College honored him for the credit he reflected upon Virginia Conference Methodism in all that he did by conferring upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity in 1949.

Oakey was born on June 10, 1900, in Portsmouth, Va., the son of William Green Wilburn and Mary Lucinda Oakey Wilburn. In Upper Darby, Penn., on April 20, 1932, he married Dorothea Collins Baxter. Their one child, Margaret Louise Wilburn, was born during their years in Norfolk, Va. She is married now to Benjamin Reed Smith, Jr., and her daughter's name is Elizabeth Wilburn Smith, born April 14, 1964.

I am proud and happy to have been asked to pay tribute to this man, Louis Oakey Wilburn, who walked unflinching in the faith. The older I get, the stronger will be my memories of my close personal contacts with him which have brought me so much joy and inspiration. Mrs. Kelly and I have been grateful through the years for the splendid Christian witness of Oakey and Dorothea Wilburn, and for their gracious fellowship in the service of our Lord.

Oakey stood tall in that "endless line" of splendid servants of Christ and His Church, that "line" in which we all seek to march with the glorious conviction and depth of spirit which marked every step of the way for him. The life of Oakey Wilburn was expressive of the faith of Micah who summed up the good life in the unforgettable words:

"It hath been told thee, O man, who is good, and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God."

by Dr. Owen T. Kelly

Richard Garland Pullen. 1904-1964. Richard Garland Pullen was born September 18, 1904, in Franklin, Va., Southampton County. He was the son of the late Reverend Thomas Granville Pullen and Annie Brown Hildrup. He was the youngest of eight children born to this couple.

This young son of the parsonage had the usual wide experience of the children of Methodist ministers in having residence in the state from the mountains to the sea. His parents always gave due attention to the truths as taught in the Bible. They were also parents who loved to make for the children a pleasant and happy home so that life for them was normal for a home which followed practical Christian principles.

Since the family moved from place to place, Richard's educational advantages differed according to the locality in which he lived. His early training, therefore, was in the public schools of the Commonwealth. His high school work, begun in Martinsville, was completed in Saluda, Va. He began his college work at William and Mary. Then he secured employment with the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway in the General Offices in Richmond. During this period he also took night courses in commercial law at the T.C. Williams Law School. From early life, he had felt that the ministry might be his chosen field, but not positive that it was God's call he went into secular employment.

During the ten years of his service with the railroad, the thought of the ministry was constantly, if not uppermost, in his thinking.

In 1925 he was married to Julia Amanda Carrett of Powhatan County. It was indeed a happy union for she was a co-worker with him during the years when he himself was uncertain about entering the ministry; but this splendid Christian couple, active in the Church and in service that could be rendered together, reached the conclusion that their joint service could be more effective in the Christian ministry.

Richard attended Randolph-Macon College for the sole purpose of preparing himself for the ministry (1932-1934). It was here that the writer and his family became intimately acquainted with the Pullens, which close friendship continued through the years.

While still a student at Randolph-Macon, Richard was appointed as supply pastor of the Richmond Circuit, Rappahannock District, which he served most acceptably for six months. Then he returned to the college to continue his study. The next year, while still attending Randolph-Macon, Mr. Pullen enjoyed a very effective ministry on the Greene Charge in Stanardsville. During this pastorate, he took special courses at the University of Virginia.

His Conference course work was done through the correspondence department at the Candler School of Theology of Emory University. His first appointment from the Conference was the Greenville Circuit of Emporia, Va., which work he served for two years. Mr. Pullen was admitted to the Conference in the fall of 1934. The following charges were served during his thirty-one years of active service: Richmond Circuit, 1933; Greene, 1934; Greenville, 1934-36; Dinwiddie, 1936-40; Bowling Green, 1940-45; Hinton Avenue, Charlottesville, 1945-49; Vinton, Thrasher Memorial, 1949-52; Lawrenceville, 1952-56; Franconia, 1956-61; Blackstone, 1961-64.

Mr. Pullen's sermons were well constructed and evidenced his own experience and sound Christian faith. He loved people, and his jovial and sincere spirit enabled him to give a meaningful pastoral service. He was also deeply interested in church building. His ability along this line was manifested in the renovation of the sanctuary at Lawrenceville, the construction of the Hinton Avenue Church, Charlottesville, and the erection of the Church School facilities at Franconia.

In addition to his pastoral work, this good brother served on the Advocate Board, as chairman, from May 20, 1961, up to the time of his death. He was also chairman of the Committee on Time and Place of the Meeting of the Annual Conference. He rendered conspicuous service as a member of the Hermitage Board, serving as chairman of the Nominating Committee and secretary of the Personnel Committee. He was quite active in the beginning of the construction of the Hermitage in Northern Virginia while pastor at Franconia. For a number of years he served with the Statistical Secretaries, which is recognized as one of the most sacrificial services rendered at the Conference, which at that time meant being absent from practically all of the Conference Sessions.

Mr. Pullen was a member of the Blackstone College Board of Managers and was deeply interested in the reactivation of the College, sensing as he did along with many others the tremendous need for additional college space. He was also a member of the Inter-Board Council of the Conference, representing the Advocate Board.

After a lingering illness, he died December 12, 1964, in a Richmond Hospital. During this long, trying period every visitor was impressed by the constant vigil on the part of his devoted wife whose faith and courage were a comforting support to him.

Funeral services were held December 14 in Crenshaw Methodist Church, Blackstone, Va., led by the District Superintendent, the Reverend George H. Boyd, assisted by Dr. George S. Reamey, the Reverend Ralph W. Johnson, and the writer of this memoir. His body was laid to rest in the church cemetery at Flint Hill. Besides his wife, he is survived by a daughter, Frances Amanda Pullen, and the following sisters and brothers: Mrs. Edwin Eastham of Flint Hill, Mrs. F. D. Eastham of Arlington, Rev. J. Powers Pullen of Danville, Dr. Thomas Granville Pullen, Jr., of Catonsville, Md., Mr. William E. Pullen, of Flint Hill.

While serving the Bowling Green Charge, and being closely associated with Colonel Lester Kyle, Richard became deeply interested in the religious activities at Camp A. P. Hill. Colonel Kyle said that in his opinion a true estimate of our brother's life can be found in the following quotation from Psalm 37:23:

"The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighteth in his way."

And yet a man's life is not measured by years, nor by enumerating certain specific accomplishments. The true measurement is by character--character that expresses itself through following the ideals that one has learned through the Christian religion and that is expressed in all that one is and does. **by Bernard S. Via, Sr.**

William Edward Canoles. 1890-1965. William Edward Canoles was born January 28, 1890, at Raville, Md. His father was W.C. Canoles and his mother was Fannie Matthews Canoles. He was the second born of fifteen children.

After completing his secondary education, he attended Lebanon Valley College at Annville, Penn., for two years. Before entering the Methodist ministry, Mr. Canoles served Evangelical United Brethren churches in Pennsylvania five years.

He completed his training for the Methodist ministry by taking four years of Correspondence work through Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta, Ga. He began his ministry in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South by Bishop Warren A. Candler in Washington, D.C. (It so happened that the writer of this memoir was also ordained Deacon at that conference and thus began a friendship of the two families which has lived through the years.)

Brother Canoles' first appointment in the Baltimore Conference of The Southern Methodist Church was the Warren Circuit and he served this church for five years. He was then appointed to Richlands Circuit in Greenbrier County, W.Va., and he served this charge two years.

Due to the health of one of his children, Brother Canoles asked for location and his character was passed and location granted at his request. This was at the Baltimore Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, held at Cumberland, Md., September 24, 1929.

In California, Mr. Canoles soon found a place to preach. He served a station appointment in the Town of Colfax until the health of his family was so improved that he could return to Virginia. So the Canoles left California and returned to Warren County where he owned a farm. But this minister of the Gospel wanted to preach. It was his constant desire to serve his Lord through a church. Because there was no appointment open in the Methodist Church at that time, Mr. Canoles accepted the pulpit of Tom's Brook Evangelical United Brethren Church in Tom's Brook, Va., for three years.

He moved from there to Mathias Evangelical United Brethren Church, in Mathias, W.Va., for a three-year pastorate. From Mathias he moved to Antioch Evangelical United Brethren Church, in Antioch, W.Va., where he was pastor of six churches for four years.

Finally, Brother Canoles returned to the church that held first place in his heart. In 1951 he left Antioch, was re-instated in The Methodist Church and appointed to the Hillsboro-Bluemont charge. He served there for three years.

From this circuit, he moved to the West Frederick Charge on the Winchester District to remain two years. From the Winchester District, the Canoles moved east of the mountains to the Stanardsville Circuit for three years. Following this appointment, Mr. Canoles retired in 1959, but subsequently took an appointment on the Amherst Charge for six months. Due to illness, he could not complete the year and had to retire from the active ministry. In spite of being ill, Brother Canoles gave of his time and energy to be a supply pastor for six months on the Cokesbury Circuit in Warren County.

Mr. Canoles and Ruth Ann Baker were married in February 17, 1914, at Hagerstown, Md., in The First Evangelical United Brethren Church. Seven children were born of this happy and enduring marriage. Today all seven children are living and there are nineteen grandchildren and ten great grandchildren.

On January 5, 1965, Mr. Canoles died peacefully at Warren Memorial Hospital in Front Royal, Va. His funeral took place January 8, 1965. The Reverend Messrs, Durward Fox of the Warren Circuit, Clyde D. Nuchols of the Riverton Church and Gilliam Bentley of the Front Royal Church officiated. The funeral was held at Bennett's Chapel Church and Mr. Canoles was buried in the cemetery of this church. Although it was a cold and windy day in this beautiful mountainous area, many old friends came to pay their last tribute to this Servant of God. He was a faithful minister in the Name of his Saviour for fifty-one years.

He is survived by his wife, Ruth Ann Baker Canoles and his children: William E. Canoles, Jr., Margaret Smedley, Henry B. Canoles, Virginia Dean, Sarah Samelson, Laura Emery, and Hazel Mathews. There are six brothers and two sisters yet living in California.

Brother Canoles' life as a minister was characterized by those virtues necessary for a man of God who preaches the Gospel: Love for God and Love for fellowmen; humility, sincerity, kindness, patience, perseverance, hope, courage, and faith. No wonder his flock loved him! They could not help but respond to his love for them and his God. May we follow in his train!

by John H. Pearson

Boyd Ellyson Hudson. 1877-1965. On March 2, 1965, at nine o'clock the Reverend Boyd Ellyson Hudson was suddenly called to the Father's many-mansioned house. Thus ended a devoted career in the Methodist ministry which had begun almost 70 years before. Just two days earlier he had driven his own car to Ginter Park Methodist Church for Sunday worship where during his years of retirement his presence and wholehearted participation in the program of the church had been a real benediction.

Mr. Hudson was born near Lawesville, Amherst County, Va., on September 26, 1877, the son of Daniel Richard Hudson and Lucy Anne Hudson. His parents provided him with an environment where his education began in serious fashion even before he entered public school. He attended the public schools of Amherst County where he early revealed a studious turn of mind and a special fondness for religious and theological studies as well as history and poetry.

At the age of 12 he became the superintendent of the Sunday School and served continuously in this capacity until he left home to prepare for the ministry. Six years later when he was 18 years old he received his local preacher's license. Realizing the importance of adequate preparation for the ministry, young Boyd Hudson began by reading under the direction of the Rev. Joseph W. Shackford. There followed two years of study at Randolph-Macon Academy at Bedford and three years at Randolph-Macon College. He was a close student of the Bible and read it in Greek and Latin as well as in English.

On May 24, 1906, Mr. Hudson was united in marriage with Miss Nellie Maye Cheatham of Richmond, whom he described as a "beautiful and saintly woman." To them were born three children, Richard Page, Helen Evadne (now Mrs. M. G. Willey) and Boyd Ellyson, Jr. Theirs was a closely knit family and their father took great pride in the outstanding scholastic achievements of each of his children.

For forty-four years Mr. Hudson served in the active relationship in the Virginia Conference. The charges served are as follows: Ashland Circuit; Asbury, Richmond; West Point; Westmoreland; Gloucester; Mathews; Albemarle; Rappahannock District Superintendent; Franktown; South Hill; Belle Haven; East York; Toano; Wallace Memorial. Following his retirement in 1942 he also rendered extended service on the North Mathews, Mount Jackson and White Post charges.

A scrutiny of the statistical reports of the charges he served reveals the character of his work. He loved the pastorate and especially rural work. Many were converted and united with the church under his ministry, some two thousand or more. His preaching was scriptural and dealt with fundamentals. His professed aim ever was to inculcate Christian truth.

In addition to evangelism he was keenly interested in missions and contributed sacrificially to missions even in his years of retirement. He gave dynamic leadership to the Centenary Campaign on the Rappahannock District while serving as a pastor there in the absence of the Presiding Elder who was ill. So closely did he attend to his work that he took only two vacations in his more than forty years in the ministry.

Mrs. Hudson died April 26, 1943. On September 24, 1955, he was married to Mrs. Evelyn Marshall, the widow of a Methodist minister. Together they shared the years of retirement and built a devoted Christian home. Mrs. Hudson survives him, as well as the children listed above; seven grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Mr. Hudson's funeral was held from Ginter Park Methodist Church and was conducted by the writer, who was helped by the words of encouragement and appreciation which came constantly from him as he took part in the life of the Church. The Rev. William E. Cooley, Associate Pastor of Ginter Park Methodist Church, assisted. Mr. Hudson's body was laid to rest in the Peninsula Memorial Park, Newport News, Va. His daughter's

pastor, Rev. R. Beverly Watkins, took part in the graveside service. Boyd Hudson was "a good minister of Jesus Christ" and served his Lord faithfully to the end.

by R. Kern Eutsler

Alvin Kenneth Lambdin. 1879-1965. Charles Haddon Spurgeon once said, "The best thing is to go from nature's God down to nature; and if you once get to nature's God, and believe Him, and love Him, it is surprising how easy it is to hear music in the waves, and songs in the wild whisperings of the winds; to see God everywhere in the stones, in the rocks, in the rippling brooks, and hear Him everywhere, in the lowing of cattle, in the rolling of thunder, and in the fury of tempests." Alvin Kenneth Lambdin began his earthly pilgrimage on the shore of the beautiful Chesapeake Bay and he loved it to the end.

Our brother was born at Holland Point, on Taylor's Island, in Dorchester County, Md., May 1, 1879. He was the son of James William and Margaret Virginia Marshall Lambdin and was the eleventh of twelve children. His mother, a wonderful woman, was from Virginia and his father, a ship builder and a man of God, was a member of the Maryland Legislature for four terms.

Brother Lambdin lost his parents when he was quite young, so he was raised by his older sister, Mrs. Rose Thomas. Her husband, Joseph Thomas, was particularly fond of him and encouraged him to study for the ministry, and even went so far as to defray his expenses at Randolph-Macon Academy in Bedford, Va. He graduated from the Academy in 1905, having made a splendid record as an excellent student and an outstanding athlete. He was an active participant in football and in track meets. Several years after graduation he returned for a reunion and was awarded a gold star medal for the Best All Around Athlete. For several years after completing his work at Randolph-Macon Academy he worked and studied at Carlisle College.

There is no telling how much the world owes to religion. There are many of these and without doubt some of them have been productive of much that is good and influential in the lives of millions of people. But the Christian faith towers above them all, for here we find the finest type of manhood and womanhood that has ever been created. The hope it inspires is beyond all other and its purpose is the highest. It teaches that the Bible is the living Word of God and, through its pages, presents Jesus Christ as God's son and the Savior of all men. History has portrayed the lives of many great men, but none can compare with the Master in character, in teaching, in wisdom, in power, or in influence over others. Through Christ God has offered Himself freely unto us, so we call Him our Counselor, our Guide, and our Father. Since we are so indebted to Him, it is our responsibility to proclaim His truth to our fellow men. Realizing this, Brother Lambdin answered the call of God to enter the Christian ministry, and from the spirit manifested throughout his career, could well have used the language of George Whitefield, who, in referring to his ordination, said, "I call heaven and earth to witness that when the Bishop laid his hands upon me, I gave myself up to be a martyr for him who hung upon the cross for me. I have thrown myself blindfolded and without reserve into His Almighty hands."

Brother Lambdin served in the Virginia Conference for 43 years. His appointments included churches in the Lynchburg, Roanoke, Eastern Shore, Portsmouth, Petersburg, and Danville Districts. His first pastorate was in Trinity Church, Lynchburg. While serving this charge, he assisted Dr. Asa Driscoll in a revival and, in doing so, met Miss Margaret Elizabeth Arthur of Campbell County, to whom he was married on December 7, 1910. There were five children born to this union and, through their parents' determination, faith, and the will of God, all received a good education in spite of a great depression. One became a minister, two entered the medical profession, and two became school teachers. Their names are as follows: The Rev. A. Kenneth Lambdin, Jr., Pastor of Oak Hall Charge, Eastern Shore District; Dr. J. W. Lambdin, of Franklin, Va.; Dr. Morris A. Lambdin, of Ellsworth, Maine; Mrs. Robert R. Erskine, of Claremont, California; and Mrs. Julian M. Weaver, of Richmond. In addition to the above children there are 18 grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Our brother was a minister who practiced what he preached, lived his creed, and set a fine example for his children and for his neighbors' children. He was a wonderful husband and father. He felt rich beyond all measure in the priceless treasure of

his family. He never lost his boyhood love of the Chesapeake Bay and often told his children stories of the days when he worked on a boat tonging for oysters. Through his love of the beauties of nature he received inspiration for his sermons. He was not only a fisherman, but a "fisher of men" as well. Truth, honesty, purity, gentility, and love for his fellow man are qualities in which he abounded.

Brother Lambdin's sermons, though not elaborate, were inspirational, grammatically perfect, and beautiful in thought. They usually contained selections of poetry. He loved music, especially the old familiar hymns. He often sang solos and led his own choir. Tennyson's "Crossing The Bar" reflected his early life on the water and his love of the sea. His reference to it often seemed to depict his philosophy of meeting "the sunset of his life."

In October, 1953, our brother and his good wife moved to Selby Place, Norfolk, from his last charge at Forest, Va. For a good many years he was a regular attendant at Miles Memorial Church. Finally, after a long illness, he responded to the call of the death angel and, at the ripe age of 85, passed away in Williamsburg, on March 29, 1965, a little over fourteen months after Mrs. Lambdin's death. His funeral service and interment took place at White's Methodist Church, Wards' Road, Lynchburg. Dr. Edgar A. Potts, Lynchburg District Superintendent, and the Rev. Earl A. Martin, Pastor of White's Church, officiated at the service, assisted by members of the Masonic Lodge of Forest, Va.

Formed on the good old plan,
A true and brave and downright honest man!
He blew no trumpet in the market-place,
Nor in the church with hypocritic face
Supplied with cant the lack of Christian grace;
Loathing pretense, he did with cheerful will
What others talked of while their hands were still. --Whittier

by R. Bayard Proctor

Theodore M. Swann. 1885-1965. Dr. Theodore Magruder Swann preached during Holy Week at Park View Methodist Church in Lynchburg recounting Palm Sunday, the Upper Room, Gethsemane, and the death of our Lord for our salvation. After Good Friday service, he went home. At an early service on a beautiful Easter day, he attended Church as a worshipper, pronounced the benediction and went home. At approximately noon he asked Mrs. Swann to call the Doctor, he was rushed to the hospital (the first time in his adult life he had been ill enough to be in bed), and "as the sun sank low in the west, leaving a glow of radiant beauty in the sky, his soul slipped quietly and peacefully away to his eternal home." "He left behind a glow and warmth, touched with sadness, in the hearts and lives of many friends and loved ones who had been brightened and strengthened by his wife counsel, his understanding heart, and perhaps, most of all by his unswerving allegiance to and belief in God he served and loved."

Dr. Swann was born March 4, 1885, in St. Mary's County, Md., the child of Phillip McGuire and Georgianna Mattingly Swann. On February 8, 1913, he married Miss Mary Davis of Arlington. Chaplain Edgar Allen Swann, his oldest son, became a member of the Virginia Conference in 1939 upon his graduation from Duke University. He lost his life on February 18, 1944, in line of duty while serving as a Chaplain with the 13th Airborne Division of the Army. Dr. Swann is survived by his widow, two sons, T. M. Swann, Jr., of Clio, S.C., Fred L. Swann of New York City, three daughters, Mrs. J.T. Helm, Arlington, Va., Mrs. G.D. Rice of Roanoke, Va., Mrs. Russell Bailey of Alexandria, Va., and seven grandchildren.

Dr. Swann had a prototype, Nathaniel, one of the first followers of our Lord, "in whom was no guile." Dr. Swann was one of the most honest men God ever made. No pretense or shadow of hypocrisy ever emanated from him. He felt that he must diagnose and prescribe in his conversation, administration, preaching and ministry as he saw things. There was a compulsion of sincerity from which he never deviated. If you desired to know what he thought, then ask him. It never occurred to him to "trim his sails" to say what you would have him say. This was the absolute integrity of the man. In this he was refreshing.

He had a deep sense of the presence of God. One morning, quite early, I received a call from him by phone to come quickly to his home. I was pastor at Central, Staunton, and he was my District Superintendent. On arriving there he was waiting at the door. He put his arm around my shoulder and led me into the living room. He pointed to the picture of his Chaplain son, Edgar, and said to me, "Son, he's gone." An airplane accident had sent his craft plummeting to the earth and he and a Catholic chaplain were crushed by a jeep, which was being carried in the craft. Dr. Swann and Edgar were necessarily very close having chosen the same calling. The scriptures with which he had comforted others, now took on new meaning. I watched him lean heavily on them and preach them with renewed fervor. I heard him say many times "the waters are deep, but there's a hand under my chin supporting me." We were discussing our favorite hymns while riding along the road soon after this. He said, "I like most of the hymns, but if I had to pick on now it would be

"My times are in Thy hand;
My God, I wish them there;
My life, my friends, my soul, I leave
Entirely in thy care.

My times are in Thy hand;
I'll always trust in Thee;
And, after death, at Thy right hand
I shall forever be."

by Edgar A. Potts

This is the victory!

Robert Orvil Hipes. 1876-1965. Robert Orvil Hipes was born near Cloverdale, Botetourt County, Va., on August 27, 1876, a son of the late Jacob and Mary Elizabeth Cox Hipes. When he was a young man he gave his heart to God during a "protracted meeting" and united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, near his boyhood home. There was never any doubt as to the genuineness of his conversion and like the Apostle Paul, he often related his experience to others.

The subject of this memoir spent his early life on his father's farm and attended public schools in his native Botetourt County at Troutville. On February 14, 1899, he was happily married to Miss Gertrude Craft of Botetourt County who preceded him in death several years ago. To this union were born three children all of whom survive: Willie Vista (Mrs. W. B. Dunlaney), Richmond, Va.; Leonora Virginia (Mrs. Floyd Larue), Rt. 4, Staunton, Va.; and one son, Gilcrest Miles Hipes, Churchville, Va., with whom he made his home during the latter days of his earthly existence.

While he was employed by the Weller Lumber Company he felt the divine call to devote full time to the "ministry of the word." At the age of 37 he appeared at the session of the Baltimore Conference, M.E., South, held at Central Church, Staunton, Va., on March 26-31, 1913, and was appointed supply preacher of the Alvon, W.Va., circuit on the Lewisburg District. For the following forty-three years, he faithfully served his Lord as a Herald of the Word, never receiving more than \$2,000 annually from his charge.

After serving as Supply Pastor for thirteen years, he was admitted into Full Connection in the Baltimore Conference, M.E., South, and ordained a Deacon by Bishop Warren A. Candler at Winchester, Va., in March 1926. In 1928, he was ordained an Elder in the church he loved by Bishop Collins Denny at Roanoke, Va.

During his ministry, Brother Hipes served the following appointments: Alvon, W.Va., 1913-17; Peterstown, W.Va., 1917-19; Hot Springs, Va., 1919-23; Levelton, W.Va., 1923-27; Linden, Va., 1927-31; Tom Brook, Va., 1931-36; New Hope, Va., 1936-46; Highland at Blue Grass, Va., 1946-48; and Collierstown, Va., 1948-56.

He became a member of the Virginia Conference in 1939 at the Unification of the three branches of Methodism. At the Conference held at Norfolk in 1948 he asked for and was granted superannuation. However, he continued for another eight years--until nearing his eightieth birthday--to serve as pastor to people whom he loved. In 1957, he identified himself with the Quarterly Conference of the Fishersville Church, Staunton District, where he taught the Men's Bible Class until a month before his death.

Before bringing this brief sketch to a close, a word needs to be said as to his disposition, character and lengthy ministry. He was a Christian gentleman in spirit and conduct at all times and in every circumstance. He was always interested in his fellow man and shared a deep concern for all persons. As a husband and father he was a kind, gentle, and loving man. As a minister he believed that his chief task was to correctly divide the Word of God, and distribute it to his hearers. To this end, he devoted several hours each week in prayer and to the study of the Bible which he believed to be the infallible Word of God.

In declining health and a ripe old age, Brother Hipes was admitted to King's Daughters' Hospital, Staunton, Va., on April 10, from where he entered eternal rest on May 2, 1965. His funeral was conducted in the Fishersville Methodist Church, Fishersville on May 5, by the Rev. Conley A. McMullen and the Rev. Denzil R. Daniel. His body was then taken to New Hope where, surrounded by his family and a host of friends was laid to rest beside that of his wife in the Methodist Cemetery. "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them."

by Denzil R. Daniel

Minutes for 1966. **Charles Lewis Stillwell.** 1889-1965. Charles Lewis Stillwell, preacher, pastor, poet, and devoted servant of the Methodist Church, went out to his Christian reward July 12, 1965. Born in Amherst County, June 28, 1889, he was the son of Lewis Davis and Willie Clark Stillwell. He was educated in the public schools of Virginia and at Richmond College.

For several years after his graduation, Mr. Stillwell taught school. Then he engaged in clerical work in the business world till the fall of 1917 when he entered the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in which holy service he spent the remainder of his years as a Methodist minister. He served several charges in the Virginia Conference and was in 1921 transferred to the Southwest Missouri Conference.

In 1926 Bishop McMurray asked him to go to Plattsburg in the Missouri Conference, where he served four years. In this conference he also held pastorates at Louisiana and Winfield. In 1936 he returned to his home conference, where he had effective pastorates at East Halifax, Pittsylvania, Spotsylvania, Bellevue, and Oakton, and Vienna. He was pastor of the two church charge for three years. The charge was then divided into two stations and Mr. Stillwell continued at Oakton for three more years where under his leadership the first unit of a new church was constructed. In 1953 he was assigned to Copeland Park, now known as Tyler Memorial, in Hampton. Here he led the people in the erection of a parsonage.

In 1957 Mr. Stillwell retired, but upon request of Bishop Garber he accepted an appointment at Laurel Park near Richmond with no property, no organization, and no membership. He soon enlisted interest of a few persons and in the home of one of them organized Laurel Park Methodist Church with a membership of thirty-three persons. Guided by his counsels they purchased a site and put up the first unit of what has become a thriving church. After two years he decided to retire from supply work. He had a home in Lakeside where he settled. He and his faithful wife became active participants in the Lakeside Methodist Church. He was in demand as a preacher in the churches of Richmond and vicinity, serving Mount Pisgah once for a period of three months.

In 1912 Mr. Stillwell married Miss Lola Morris of Accomac County. Two children were born of this union, Kenneth Brant and Mary Jo. Mrs. Stillwell passed away in 1942. In 1945 he married Miss Lucy Rogers of Richmond who survives him. There are also two grandchildren, Lola Ann and Lawson W. Osborne, Jr.

Mr. Stillwell was at home in the pulpit. He had gifts as a preacher. His sermons were replete with Biblical material and were illuminated with apt illustrations from the current scene and from his dedicated ministry. He found delight in his pastoral ministrations, visiting from house to house and giving tender care where there was sickness or distress. He was also meticulous in keeping the record of charges he served.

Mr. Stillwell was a poet. He wrote verse as a pastime not only but as a vehicle of his deep religious devotion. In 1953 he had a small volume of his poems put into a

mimeographed booklet. Many copies were purchased by friends and parishioners and are a treasured possession of those who loved and appreciated him.

For several years, Mr. Stillwell's health had deteriorated, though he continued active, preaching for his brethren, caring for his yard and making a garden. On July 12, 1965 he went to his physician for a checkup. While there he had a mild heart attack and was sent by ambulance to the hospital. Early in the evening of that day he suffered a second heart attack and lapsed into unconsciousness. In less than one hour he passed away. He had arranged for his eyes to be taken for the eye bank and Mrs. Stillwell had this request carried out. He also asked that in lieu of flowers his friends contribute to his favorite charity, the American Cancer Society. This too was done as he had asked. Funeral services were conducted at the Lakeside Methodist Church by the pastor, Rev. C. T. Topping. The coinciding part of the service was the reading of one of Mr. Stillwell's poems:

"I will believe though earthly dreams are shattered
And long as life shall last I'll dream again
For though my hopes like storm tossed sails lie tattered
I'll still believe those hopes were not in vain.

I will not doubt, if hopeless seems my task
I will believe though earthly dreams are shattered
That prayer brings aid for greater than we ask,
I must dream on though dreams have often flattered.

I will have faith although my ship is battered
And even wide, uncharted seas must sail;
I will believe, though earthly dreams are shattered,
The strong arm of my Pilot will prevail.

I still will dream, and hope and pray,
For nothing else in all of life has mattered:
My ship will sail into the port some day
I will believe though earthly dreams are shattered."

by J. Calloway Robertson

Charles Albert McCormick, Jr. 1910-1965. Charles Albert McCormick, Jr., was serving in his third year as pastor of the Calvary Methodist Church, Danville, when on August 12, 1965 our Heavenly Father called him from his earthly place of service to a higher service above. Death came swiftly in the late evening following a stroke in the early morning.

The oldest of ten children, Albert was the son of Charles Albert and Cora Amanda Noel McCormick of Buena Vista. When he graduated from high school in 1929 he was called "...typical of the all around successful high school student, on the athletic field as well as in the classroom." Albert entered Emory and Henry College in the fall of 1931 and graduated in 1934. He was active in the Hermesian Literary Society and was a member of the track team.

While in college he met Claribel Pettyjohn, and on June 7, 1934, they were married at her home near Bristol, Va. To this union there were born three daughters: Cora Lee, now Mrs. Jonathan Edwards, Jr., Baltimore, Md.; Anita Lucille, now Mrs. Charles Scott Pugh, Jr., Toledo, Ohio; and Mary Frances, assistant librarian at the Lynchburg Public Library.

Albert was granted a Local Preacher's license by the Roanoke District Conference on September 6, 1932, and was admitted On Trial into the Baltimore Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in October, 1934. He was ordained a Deacon by Bishop Edwin D. Mouzon, October, 1936; and an Elder by Bishop W.W. Peele October, 1938.

During his thirty-one years as an active minister of The Methodist Church, Brother McCormick served nine pastoral charges, including Cambria, Eagle Rock, East Pittsylvania, Toano, Gretna, Courtland, Haygood-Norfolk, St. James-Richmond, and Calvary-Danville.

"Mac," as he was affectionately known by his friends, was a diligent and faithful minister. He was always devoted to his task and never allowed himself to be preoccupied by anything that would detract from his work. He did not divulge in the spectacu-

lar; his strength as a minister was in doing his everyday tasks in a worthwhile and acceptable manner. He was respected by his fellow ministers and on several occasions was chosen by them to serve as president and vice president of District Ministers' Associations. Nature and the great out-of-doors were his principal outside interests. Gardening was his hobby, and in this field he became skillful.

Three characteristics were recognized by his friends. First, his interest in people, and especially youth. He always encouraged wholesome activities for the young people in the community in which he served, and was frequently in attendance at youth conferences and workshops. Second, he endeavored to grow mentally and spiritually. He attended Pastors' Schools and Spiritual Life Retreats without fail, and was a constant reader of religious and devotional literature. And third, his keen sense of humor. "Mac" was no jokester, but could always find the humorous side in many of the situations in which he and his friends found themselves. This lifted the burden time and again from others as well as himself.

Funeral services were conducted at Calvary Methodist Church, Danville, by three of his college schoolmates who were friends across the years, all of whom were serving together in the Danville District: his District Superintendent, who is the writer of this memoir; the Rev. Lance K. Knowles, pastor at Chatham; the Rev. Sidney L. Willis, pastor of Bassett. Burial was in the family plot, Green Hill Cemetery, Buena Vista, Va., with the service there being conducted by the writer, assisted by Dr. Lewis W. Darst, pastor of Main Street Church, South Boston; Dr. Carl W. Haley, pastor of Trinity Church, Newport News; and the Rev. Elwyn R. Burke, pastor of the family's home church.

Servant of God, well done!

Thy glorious warfare's past;

The battle's fought, the race is won,

And thou art crowned at last.

by Harold H. Fine

Clark Hannon Wood. 1891-1965. There comes a time in every man's life when he has finished his earthly pilgrimage and must answer the Divine summons, which, to the servants of God, ministerial and laity, means he shall hear: "Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord" (Matt. 25:23). Clark Hannon Wood was summoned to report to his Creator on August 6, 1965, to receive the rulership over "many things." Funeral services for Brother Wood were conducted on August 9 at Fort Hill Methodist Church by the Reverends F.O. Briggs and H.L. Coffman. Burial was in Spring Hill Cemetery, Lynchburg, Va.

Brother Wood was born in Lynchburg, Va., September 18, 1891, the son of the late George Washington and Sarah Jane Wood. He was named for that saint of God, John Hannon, an illustrious preacher of the Virginia Annual Conference, who, to this day, is remembered by the elder citizens of Lynchburg and the surrounding counties. Clark Hannon Wood was not named amiss, but by his good works on the charges he served, he gave honor and prestige to the honoree.

He was married to Mable Kelly Wood of Radford, Va., with the Rev. J.T. Showalter, officiating. Three sons were born to Clark and Mable: Clark H. Wood, Jr., Washington, D.C.; Randolph M. Wood, deceased; Frank J. Wood, Lynchburg, Va.

He was an excellent business man and used his talents and gifts in whatever he did with enthusiasm. He was employed by the American Express Company for a number of years. He was a successful insurance agent for many years. Many widows and children have been better off financially because Brother Wood presented insurance to husbands and fathers.

He received his local license to preach on the Lynchburg District. The conference was held at Bellevue Church, May 1924. Col. E. Sumpter Smith was chairman of the examining committee approving his license. So great an impression did Brother Wood make on the venerable E. Sumpter Smith, during the years of his ministry, that Colonel Smith requested his friend to have a part in his memorial service.

He was admitted on trial at the October Conference 1925, Richmond, Va.; admitted into full connection at the November Conference 1927, Danville, Va.; ordained deacon at the October Conference 1926, Norfolk, Va.; and ordained elder at the October Conference 1930, Norfolk, Va. Appointments: North Pittsylvania, two years; Middle Bedford, two

years; Fairview Heights, four years; Exmore, two years; Stuart, one year; Chatham, four years; District Evangelist, one year; Superannuated, one year; Fort Hill, Jr. Preacher, one year; Sudley, three years; Annandale, three years; Dumfries, eleven years from which he retired.

He graduated from Randolph-Macon Academy, Bedford, Va., 1924. He was active in the ministerial organizations on all charges served. He was a member of the Mannasseh Masonic Lodge No. 182, AF & AM, the Scottish Rite Body and Acca Shrine Temple in Richmond. He built new churches at Fairview Heights and Annandale, he started a new church while at Exmore.

His evangelistic fervor was great in the pulpit, and many requests came each year to hold revivals for his brethren. He was equally as careful to reach individuals for the righteous life. The spirit of humbleness was ever present with Brother Wood. Whether rich or poor, with or without influence, he asked for their prayers as people constantly solicited his.

To conclude, the poem of James Montgomery expresses the life of Clark Hannon Wood both past and future.

Servant of God, well done!

Rest from thy loved employ;

The battle fought, the victory won,

Enter thy Master's joy.

The pains of death are past,

Labor and sorrow cease,

And Life's long warfare closed at last,

Thy soul is found in peace.

by Ferol O. Briggs, Sr.

Lewis W. Gordon. 1882-1965. The Rev. Lewis W. Gordon was born in Manorville, Long Island, New York, June 15, 1882, on a small farm. He was the son of John L. Gordon and Emily Randall Gordon. When Brother Gordon was a very small boy, his father became the superintendent of a cranberry marsh. It was at Riverhead, New York, that Lewis Gordon received his common school education and two years in high school. For a number of years, he worked on the farm during summer vacations and one summer he rented land and farmed himself.

For four years he taught school in the district schools of Suffolk County, N.Y. Lewis Gordon was converted in a revival service conducted by the Rev. William J. Cody, Pastor of the Methodist Protestant Church at Manorville, N.Y. In the autumn of 1906, he entered Westminster Theological Seminary at Westminster, Md., and graduated in May 1909. Upon graduation, he returned to the New York Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church having been received as a probationary member of that body just prior to entering the Seminary. It was on Sunday, October 10, 1909, that he was received into full conference membership and ordained.

While a student at Westminster, he met Miss Ida May Price, daughter of Abraham Price of that city. On July 28, 1909, they were married at Grace Lutheran Church at Westminster, Md. From this union there came two little daughters, Emily Saranda, born August 20, 1920, and Dorothy May, born April 16, 1914. On Friday, April 17, 1914, Mrs. Gordon died suddenly.

On August 31, 1915, Mr. Gordon was married to Miss Mary Louise Carman of Baldwin, N.Y. The ceremony took place in the parsonage of the Methodist Protestant Church at North Tarrytown, N.Y. From this union, a son was born in September 24, 1917, and named Lewis Carman; on June 12, 1921, a little daughter, Sylvia Elizabeth, was born in Carmichael, Md. The second Mrs. Gordon preceded her husband in death by almost 20 years--January 12, 1947.

In his long and faithful years of service, Mr. Gordon's appointments read like an annual conference list. In the Methodist Protestant Church, he served as a supply in Eastwoods, N.Y.; Fairfax, Va.; Springfield Gardens, N.Y.; and, following his admission into the Annual Conference as a member of the New York Conference, he served Baldwin, N.Y.; Berwick, Penn.; Pleasantville, Barnesboro, and Bloomingdale, all in New Jersey. On May 25, 1917, he transferred from the New York Conference to the Maryland Conference where he served Chincoteague, Va.; Carmichael, Md.; Mannboro, Va.; Warwick, Md.; Dagsboro and Harbeson, both in Delaware; Northumberland, Va.; and Poplar Springs, Md. He

was the Methodist Protestant minister at Greenbackville, Va., when unification came in 1939, and continued to serve this Church until 1941. From 1941 to 1953, Mr. Gordon served Pungoteague, Wachapreague (Eastern Shore District); Bellevue (Lynchburg District); Batesville; and Mount Pleasant (Charlottesville District)--all in the Virginia Conference. In 1953, he retired to 9609 Selby Place, Norfolk, Va., a place that he truly loved and whose neighbors loved him.

Lewis Gordon was a man of many gifts and abilities. He loved young people and taught school with great effectiveness. He could engage in sports along with the best of them. Music was a very vital part of his life. He and his family supplied the "extra" music for church services again and again. It is not strange, therefore, that all his grandchildren are proficient on musical instruments. Two of them have degrees in music education.

Brother Lewis W. Gordon died on July 28, 1965. Funeral services were held at Beaver Dam Methodist Church, Harbeson, Del., where he had once served as pastor. Burial was in Georgetown, Del., July 31, 1965.

Crowded into these 83 years were countless acts of love and goodwill which endeared him to a circle of friends on this eastern seaboard. He stood tall with God and man. In his realm, he was a giant, but as humble and gentle as a child. Wherever he went, God and Methodism and brotherly love had a strong advocate.

John Oxenham wrote in one of his poems:

"Think not of me as dead,
But rather...
He has gone home to God,
His Father."

by Carl J. Sanders

James Elpherson Hodges. 1906-1965. James Elpherson Hodges was born in Reba, Va., Bedford County, the eldest of six children, the son of Bettie Lieu Wight and Junious Francis Hodges. As a child, he united with the family church, Centerville Methodist Church on the Bedford Charge. He attended Randolph-Macon Academy, and later on in his life he attended West Virginia Wesleyan College in Buckhannon, W.Va., and also Longwood College in Farmville, Va.

In 1925 he moved to Roanoke, Va., with his family, where he was employed as an electrician by the Norfolk & Western Railroad. He transferred his church membership to Green Memorial Methodist Church. He had a sincere interest in the work of his church, so much so that the quarterly conference recommended him for Local Preacher's License, and the Roanoke District Conference conferred this license upon him on April 12, 1928.

Before the meeting of the Baltimore Annual Conference M.E.C., S. in 1928, his Presiding Elder asked him about taking an appointment as a Methodist preacher. On October 2, 1928, he received his first appointment to the Riverview Charge, Lewisburg District, Alderson, W.Va. Shortly after receiving his first appointment on October 10, 1928, he united in marriage with Ruth Elizabeth Morgan of Roanoke. Ruth was to work faithfully by his side through thirty-seven years of ministerial appointments.

Other charges served in the Baltimore Conference included Garrett, in the Moorefield District (1929-30), Catawba, Roanoke District (1930-34), Bath, Staunton District (1934-37), Page-Stanley, Winchester District (1937-39).

At the annual conference held during the Unification of Methodism, Brother Hodges was appointed to the Peterstown Church, Lewisburg District, W. Va. Conference (1939-40), then to the Hardy Charge, Moorefield District (1940-44), Gorman Charge, Moorefield District (1944-50), Upper tract Charge, Moorefield District (1950-51), following which he was transferred back to the Virginia Conference, where he served the Mt. Jackson Charge, Winchester District (1951-53), Dillwyn Charge, Farmville District (1953-54), and the West Mecklenburg Charge, Farmville District (1954-55), after which he transferred to the North Carolina Conference. In that conference, he served Chadburn Church (1955-56) and Selma Church (1956-57), both in the Wilmington District. Brother Hodges then transferred back to the Virginia Conference where he served New Church Charge, Eastern Shore District (1957-58), Caroline Charge, Richmond District (1958-59), Knott's Island, Norfolk District (1959-61), Isle of Wight Charge, Portsmouth District (1961-65) and Pinners Point Church, Portsmouth District (1965).

Brother Hodges followed the Approved Supply route in the ministry. He was ordained Local Deacon on September 24, 1944, by Bishop James H. Straughn, during the West Virginia Annual Conference. He was ordained Local Elder in Roanoke on October 21, 1951, by Bishop Paul N. Garber. During the annual conference held in Harrisonburg in 1956, he was Admitted into Full Connection.

He was a member of the John Dove Masonic Lodge and also of Lodge No. 38, Order of the Eastern Star, both of Warm Springs, Va.

Bro. Hodges was a big, friendly man. He made many friends wherever he went. He conducted his church services with poise and dignity. His messages were always down to earth and simple, yet filled with wisdom and deep spiritual insight. In his everyday life, he would do everything in his power to help all who needed him. He had a deep concern for the aged, the sick, and those who were in distress. His friendly disposition and cheerfulness were a blessing to all who came near him. The writer was the District Superintendent during his last four-year appointment in the Isle of Wight Charge, Smithfield. His ministry there was a crowning exclamation point to all of his years in the ministry. Fourth Quarterly Conferences found large crowds of officers and other members giving excellent reports in all phases of the work. Some of the older members present made the remark that these conferences were the best held in the charge within their memory. Brother Hodges completed his ministry as pastor of the Pinners Point Methodist Church in Portsmouth. Although he was there only a short time before his death, the people of that church learned to love him and his family and to regard his ministry as one holding the promise of success within that appointment.

Brother Hodges became ill and was hospitalized in the Portsmouth General Hospital. He died there on November 15, 1965, after an illness of three weeks. He was fifty-nine years of age.

Besides his wife, others surviving include two sons, James E. Hodges, Jr., of Virginia Beach, and Joseph M. Hodges of Portsmouth; six daughters, Mrs. Ruth H. Branson of Norfolk, Mrs. Willie Lieu Lewis of Quinton, Mrs. Cleo Thornton of Hallwood, Mrs. Veda Hayes of Raleigh, N.C., Mrs. Frances Smith of Smithfield, and Mrs. Mary Patricia West of Portsmouth; seven grandchildren; and four sisters, Lucy J. Hodges of Roanoke, Mrs. Belle Rakes of Rocky Mount, Mrs. Sarah Murray of Roanoke, and Mrs. Mary Lou Welles of Tampa, Florida.

The funeral service was held in Pinners Point Methodist Church at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 17, 1965. It was conducted by the District Superintendent, Dr. John R. Hendricks, assisted by the Rev. David B. Lewis, Pastor of the New Kent Charge, and a son-in-law of Brother Hodges. Interment was in Evergreen Cemetery at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 18, 1965.

For those we love within the veil
Who once were comrades of our way,
We thank Thee, Lord; for they have won
To cloudless day;

And life for them is life indeed,
The splendid goal of earth's strait race;
And where no shadows intervene,
They see Thy face.

by John R. Hendricks

Bart Dannelly Stephens. 1888-1965. Captain Bart Dannelly Stephens, Chaplain Corps, US Navy, Retired, was born 1 August 1888 in Louisville, Alabama. He graduated from Alabama Polytechnic with a B.S. degree in 1909, Vanderbilt University with a B.D. degree in 1912 and Princeton Seminary with a Th.M. degree in 1916. He joined the Virginia Conference and was ordained by Bishop Waterhouse 20 November 1917. He married Lura Lee Cannon, daughter of the late Bishop Cannon, 15 January 1923. His wife passed away in December 1961. They had one son, Nelson, who is now living with his family in McLean, Va.

Bart was commissioned Acting Chaplain in the United States Navy with the rank of Lieut. (jg), 8 December 1917. At that time he was serving as pastor of the Colonial Beach Methodist Church, Virginia Conference. Chaplain Stephens passed through the various ranks and was selected Captain 14 June 1942. (This was the highest rank given to chaplains at that time). His duties embraced the U.S. Training Station, Norfolk,

Va.; USS ILLINOIS; USS BROOKLYN; US Naval Hospital, Norfolk, Va.; US Marines, Haiti; US Naval Station, Samoa; USS WHITNEY; Fleet Chaplain of the Asiatic Fleet; US Submarine Base, New London, Conn.; USS WEST VIRGINIA; US Naval Training Station, Newport, Rhode Island; US Naval Training Station, San Diego, California, and the US Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Florida. He was retired 1 January 1948. After his retirement he and Mrs. Stephens lived in Fredericksburg, Va., and later moved to Orlando, Florida.

Chaplain Stephens had a distinguished career as a Navy Chaplain. He was loved, honored and respected by all who knew him. He was loyal, faithful and true. He was really one of God's noblemen. To have known him was an honor. To have been counted as his friend was a rare privilege. He loved his Country and Church and served them both with zeal, honor and distinction.

Chaplain Stephens married Mrs. Josephine Alberta Clark on the 18th of February, 1965. They lived in Wesley Manor, Jacksonville, Florida. While on a trip Bart had a stroke and was taken to the Haywood County Hospital at Waynesville, N.C. He lingered a few days and passed away the 29th of August 1965. His son, Nelson with the US Embassy in Poland, flew back to the States. Funeral services were held in the Memorial Chapel, Lake Junaluska, N.C., conducted by the Dean. The pall bearers were all local ministers. Many friends were present. Interment was made at the Arlington National Cemetery with military honors.

by H. Grady Gatlin

E. Benjamin Joyner. 1884-1965. The Rev. E. Benjamin Joyner went to his blessed retirement on December 19, 1965, after four months of illness. He died at the Lakeland General Hospital in Lakeland, Florida. He was born on September 1, 1884, to Madison Joyner and Mary Ethridge Joyner. A native of Alabama, he was educated at Beasons Military School, at Meridian, Mississippi, Alabama Southern College at Greensboro, Alabama, and Candler School of Theology at Atlanta.

He served as an Army Chaplain for the United States during World War I. His service took him to England and France, and after the Armistice he sailed for Mesopotamia to do special work with the army of Great Britain. In addition to his many services to the English soldiers, he had the opportunity to do some voluntary excavating around Ur, the old garden of Eden and Babylon under the guidance of Dr. Hall, an archeologist for Great Britain. After a year's service, Brother Joyner returned to his Conference--Alabama. Bishop Candler appointed him to a church in Mobile, Alabama. While at this appointment, he married Cona Louise Holloway, a former native of Alabama, in New York on June 10, 1920.

Three sons were born to Brother and Mrs. Joyner: Col. William Holloway Joyner (April 11, 1921); Eugene Benjamin Joyner (in Calcutta, December 23, 1924); and Edward Madison Joyner (November 30, 1931).

In 1922 Brother and Mrs. Joyner left with their nine-month-old son for Calcutta to serve under the Board of Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church at the Thoburn Methodist Church. Here they served the boys and girls of our Calcutta schools, the Asiatics, the missionaries and the needy Anglo-Indians of Calcutta. After the birth of their second son, the health of Mrs. Joyner and the young lad was such that the physicians advised them to return to the United States.

When he returned to the United States, Brother Joyner was appointed to serve part of one year at Mount Vernon Church in Danville during the illness of the pastor, Dr. Newberry. Following the appointment he spent 38 years in service in the Virginia Conference at the following churches: Central, Portsmouth; First, Norfolk; Fort Hill, Lynchburg; Lane Memorial, Altavista; Duncan Memorial, Ashland; Del Ray, Alexandria; West End, Roanoke; Asbury, Richmond; High Street, Petersburg; and Oak Grove, Chesapeake, where he retired. After his retirement he was asked by the bishop to serve nine months on the Lively Charge, Rappahannock District.

While Brother Joyner was at Asbury Church in Richmond, the beloved lay leader of the Richmond District, Mr. Walter R. Bishop as an introduction to his broadcast of services over WRVA wrote: The Rev. Mr. Joyner served as the popular chaplain at Randolph-Macon College and at many pastorates in this Virginia Conference. An effective and sincere speaker with a friendly personality and a fruitful ministerial background, the Rev. Mr. Joyner is a worthy successor to beloved pastors who have served the Asbury congregation for nearly six decades."

During his service at Duncan Memorial Church and as Chaplain of Randolph-Macon College, Brother and Mrs. Joyner brought two young men from India to receive their education in this country. One became a doctor, the other a minister. It would be interesting to know just how many students Brother and Mrs. Joyner have educated in the schools of India and the United States.

In their retirement, Brother and Mrs. Joyner lived in Richmond, Potomac Shores near Colonial Beach, and in Lakeland, Florida. Mrs Joyner is living in Lakeland at this time.

I knew Brother and Mrs. Joyner while I was a student at Randolph-Macon College. He was a good man, a devoted pastor, and an earnest preacher of the Word. His loyalty to our Lord Jesus Christ has always been an inspiration to me. His wife had an excellent influence along with him through her loyalty to his ministry and her love and service to people of the community. Their sons have evidenced through their accomplishments and work the fruits of a good Christian home. Typical of Brother Joyner's spirit was his decision to relinquish his furlough salary so that another missionary could be sent to India on that income!

Servant of God, well done;
Thy glorious warfare past;
The battle fought, the race is won;
And thou art crowned at last.

by A. Purnell Bailey

Claude Vance Bellamy. 1886-1965. Claude Vance Bellamy, beloved pastor and faithful servant of Jesus Christ, was born in Washington County, Va., July 15, 1886, to James Meredith and Eliza Andis Bellamy, and his soul returned to its Maker December 31, 1965. Funeral services were conducted in the Broad Street Methodist Church, Kingsport, Tenn., by Dr. Harold Harris, Dr. R. Frank Porter and the Reverend John Ripley.

Brother Bellamy was retired from the Virginia Conference October 20, 1946, moved to Kingsport, and for eleven years was a teacher of the Men's Bible Class of the Broad Street Church and saw it develop into one of the largest men's classes in the city.

From a very early age he made his home with an aunt, Miss Mary Ballamy, who, through her own spiritual life and teaching was instrumental in leading him into the Methodist ministry. He felt the call to the Holy Spirit in his eleventh year and was soon walking three miles to a small church where he conducted prayer services in the absence of the circuit rider. He was licensed to preach very early and embarked on his high calling as opportunity presented itself.

During these early days he was preaching a revival at Pigeon Forge, Tenn., when a young man, perplexed about his own call to the ministry, stopped by to attend the service. Rev. George J. Creswell, later to preach sixty years as a Methodist minister, tells the story: "I was greatly impressed with the sincerity and earnestness of Brother Bellamy. He used as a text, 'The door was shut'. Very clearly and with great appeal he pleaded not only for decisions for Christ, but for Christians to enter the open door for life service. The Holy Spirit spoke vividly to me in that service... Since then I have thanked God for the life and work of Brother Bellamy. I have loved him with a great love. Now, after sixty years of preaching, I am exceedingly grateful that I heard a young preacher who helped me see and enter through the wide open door."

Brother Bellamy began his fruitful ministry in the Holston Conference at the East Cleveland Charge and spent twenty-seven years there serving appointments in Chattanooga, Clinton, Mountain City, Pennington Gap, Jefferson City, Knoxville, and others. One year was spent at Boaz in the North Alabama Conference. He was transferred into the Virginia Conference in 1939, where he served Villa Heights in Roanoke, Shenandoah, Elkton, and Selma.

Deep under the surface of a devoted Christian life as minister was the basic conviction that our God is the Living God and Jesus Christ is His Son, risen from the dead, whose Holy Spirit infuses our very being. Impelled by such conviction, our brother was a convincing evangelist, leading ninety-eight souls to our Lord in one year while on the Mountain City Charge. Twice he was named Conference Evangelist in Holston, and the fire of evangelism was never dimmed throughout his ministry. When I knew him in the latter days of his ministry in Roanoke, the fine quality of his spirit was evident in all he did.

A few months before his death, when he had been a helpless invalid for many months, his good wife who had been caring for him with selfless devotion night and day, wrote me that he said to her: "How great a pity it is that we who love each other so dearly should ever be separated." He felt the relentless approach of death and clung to her in whose life he found the dearest treasure next to heaven.

God relieved him of his suffering and took him to the heavenly home where he awaits his loved ones and is united with the saints who have preceded him. He was laid to rest in Oak Hill Cemetery, Kingsport, but his "spiritual wake" lives on in the lives blest by him throughout his Christian ministry.

by Edwin S. Sheppe, Jr.

Robert Edmund Garrison. 1909-1965. Two outstanding qualities characterized his ministry. He had power in prayer; he had the shepherd heart. His prayers in the pulpit and in the home of his people lifted them up to the presence of God. And he cared with pastoral zeal for those committed to his charge. He is missed among us for his quiet faith, his steadiness, his dry wit, and his abundant good humor.

Robert Edmund Garrison was born in Buckingham County, near Dillwyn Va., on March 5, 1909, the son of George Wesley and Rosa Harris Garrison. His parents were devout Methodists and faithful members of Rocky Mount Church on the Buckingham charge. When he was nine years old his father died, and his mother was left with the care of Robert and four other children. At the age of twelve he felt the very definite call to the ministry, but there seemed to be no resources for a college education, and he regretfully put the thought aside. Instead, on leaving high school he went to stay with an aunt in Staunton, and attended Dunsmore Business College there. On finishing, he worked for a while in a mine commissary at Kimball, W.Va., and then moved to Richmond, Va., where he worked as an accountant, and took further business training at the Virginia Mechanics' Institute.

He immediately identified himself with Monument Methodist Church and became active in the Sunday School and the Epworth League. His pastor was Dr. Costen J. Harrell, now a retired bishop of the Methodist Church. Bishop Harrell has written: "He was a member of Monument Church while I was pastor there, and entered the ministry under my direction and guidance. I have carried him in my heart all these long years, ever finding satisfaction in remembering that he went into the ministry from my old Richmond congregation... The notice of his taking leave causes me to think of him more vividly--a modest, noble fellow and faithful in all his ways."

Through the Epworth League especially he won a host of friends throughout the Virginia Conference. To them, as to his later colleagues in the ministry, he became "Mike."

The call to the ministry could not be denied, and in 1932 he matriculated in Randolph-Macon College, receiving his A.B. in 1937. He continued his preparation at the Divinity School of Duke University and finished his residency work in 1940. He supplied the South Franklin Charge pending the completion of his thesis, and received his B.D. in 1941.

The attack on Pearl Harbor took place shortly afterward, and Mr. Garrison worked as an accountant with the Army Corps of Engineers in Richmond, Camp Patrick Henry, and in Norfolk. In Norfolk he became active in Lekies Church. In the war days many Methodists gravitated to Epworth Church in addition to their other affiliations, and on a communion Sunday he found himself helping gather up glasses after the service. Another Methodist, serving as organist at Court Street Baptist Church, Portsmouth, also dropped in following her own service, and the Rev. Harry B. Eaton, then the executive secretary of the Wesleyman's Bible Class, introduced her to him as Miss Mary Stone, of Crewe.

It was not too long afterward that they were married on the same spot they met, before the altar of Epworth Church. A member of an outstanding family and an able organist, Mrs. Garrison has served at the console of a number of our churches.

Mr. Garrison was received on trial and ordained a deacon at the session of the Virginia Conference in Roanoke in 1943, and assigned to the church at Broad Creek Village, a burgeoning wartime housing project just outside of Norfolk. In 1944 he was sent to Chesterfield Heights, Norfolk, and in 1945 was received into full connection and ordained elder at the Conference session in Richmond. Subsequent appointments were:

1946, Amelia; 1948, Stokesland; 1950, Beverly Street, Staunton, where he served six years; 1956, St. John's, Buena Vista; 1960, Chester; and 1963, Central, Salem.

In 1946 the Church began to make use of his ample business training and ability, as a dependable and efficient member of the Conference statistical staff. He served through 1956, and again from 1962 through 1964, fourteen years in all.

He was taken ill in November, 1964, and received treatment at Lewis-Gale Hospital, Roanoke, and at the University of Virginia Hospital. After a time he was brought home, but was admitted several times, for varying periods, to be treated at the Lewis-Gale Hospital. At the Conference Session of 1965 Mr. Garrison asked for and was granted the retired relationship on account of his health. He and Mrs. Garrison made their home at 420 Valleydale Avenue, Salem.

He enjoyed periods of recuperation. On one occasion he was able to attend the Roanoke District Minister's Meeting. On another he startled his family by proposing that they attend the World's Fair then in progress in New York. He would not give up, and he fought long and courageously against the disease in his body. Even when he could hardly speak, when friends inquired how he was, his response was "I hope!" On the last day of 1965 he quietly slipped away, courageous and confident to the last.

A congregation that thronged the sanctuary attended the funeral in Central Church, Salem, his last charge, on January 3, 1966. The service was conducted by his district superintendent, Dr. George S. Lightner, assisted by the Rev. Lee R. Jamison, the Rev. Francis H. Strieby, and the Rev. Roscoe C. Johnson. "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" was pealed by the organ as the cortege entered, and in the service one of his favorites, "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need," was rendered by the A Cappella Choir of the Andrew Lewis High School, located just across the street from the church he had served. His body was laid to rest in Sherwood Memorial Park, Salem.

He is survived by his faithful wife, Mrs. Mary Stone Garrison; two sons, Robert Edmund Garrison, Jr., United States Navy and James Stone Garrison, a prospective student at Purdue University; a sister, Mrs. Hunter H. Phaup, of Richmond; and a brother, George Bennett Garrison, also of Richmond.

Ledford C. Vaughan, Sr. 1905-1966. I'll praise my Maker while I've breath...." The words were John Wesley's as he lay dying. These words are also a summary of the life of the Reverend Ledford C. Vaughan. On January 9, 1966, he walked into the Crozet Methodist Church to praise his Maker, and died moments later. The heart attack which formed the basis for his illness came on November 19, 1965--the 38th anniversary of his admission on trial to the Conference--as he stood in the pulpit of Crozet Church, preaching.

As preacher, pastor, counsellor, leader of his people--Ledford Vaughan filled a place among God's elect. It was my privilege to enjoy a rather intimate acquaintance with him during the 38 years of his service as a minister of the Virginia Conference, and I knew him to be a distinct credit to his noble profession. Those of us who knew him best honored and loved him not only for what he did, but for what he was! With sincerity and convincing eloquence, he exalted Christ in all that he said and did, and he led many people into the Way Everlasting.

He was born in Bedford County, Va., Mary 10, 1905, the son of Clinton Davis Vaughan and Mary Jane Mayhew. He was educated in the Bedford public schools and graduated from Randolph-Macon College with a B.A. degree in 1928. On August 8, 1928, he married Annie Laurie Eubank, of Hanover County, Va., and their lives were blessed with a son, Ledford C. Vaughan, Jr., who is pastor of Deep Creek Methodist Church, Portsmouth District.

Admitted on trial to the Conference on November 14, 1927, Mr. Vaughan served with grace and skill the following appointments: Powhatan Circuit, Phenix, Fluvanna, Waverly, Greene Circuit, Rappahannock, North Garden, and Ceriton; Trinity, Lynchburg; Forest Road, Lynchburg; Charity, Phoebus, and Crozet. He served his church on many boards and committees, including the Conference Board of Statisticians for 20 years.

To all this work, and to every personal relationship, he brought a vivacious, warmly extroverted personality. People followed him. They loved him. They believed in him.

He died as he lived, a dedicated servant of God, gloriously aware that the grave is not a blind alley but a thoroughfare: it closes on the twilight but it opens on the dawn!

His funeral service was conducted January 11, 1966, at 12 o'clock noon, in Crozet Methodist Church. His close friends and fellow ministers leading the service of praise and thanksgiving to God for his life and service were: Hugh M. Burleigh, Charles K. Blalock, and Owen T. Kelly. He was buried in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Richmond, Va. He is survived by his widow and son and two grand-daughters, Patricia Page Vaughan and Susan Ledford Vaughan.

by Owen T. Kelly

Olin Bain Michael. 1894-1966. Olin Bain Michael was born June 24, 1894 at Lexington, N.C., the son of Albert Allison Michael and Josephine Fritz Michael. His parents were devout church members and were leading citizens of the area. Early in life Dr. Michael accepted the call to the ministry of the Reformed Church. He was a firm believer in education and throughout his life never ceased to be interested in scholarly pursuits. On the day of his death he completed work on the history of the Keezletown Methodist Church and the Rockingham Circuit. He had recently written a "Historical Sketch of the Winchester Methodist Church District."

The books, "Who's Who in the Clergy" and "Religious Leaders in America" have published the following statistics on the life of Dr. Michael: B.S., 1919, Catawba College; B.A., 1920, University of North Carolina; B.D. 1923, Central-Eden Theological Seminary; S.T.M., Chicago Lutheran School of Theology, affiliated with the University of Chicago; S.T.D., 1932, Wesley Theological Seminary.

As a minister of the Reformed Church he served pastorates in Winston-Salem, N.C., Edinburg, Va., Startown, N.C., Newton, N.C. and Mount Jackson, Va. Dr. Michael entered the Methodist Ministry and joined the Virginia Conference serving appointments in the following locations: Powhatan, New Church, Bedford, and Keezletown.

Dr. Michael was elected to positions of administration and instruction by Rutherford College, Yadkin College (now High Point College), and Catawba College. He wrote the histories of High Point College and Catawba College and served as secretary of the Virginia Methodist Historical Society from 1954 to 1960.

In 1960 Dr. Michael suffered a severe heart attack and was forced to retire from the active pastorate.

On October 30, 1923 he married Miss Alberta Hunsucker of North Carolina. He is survived by his widow and three children, Mrs. Kenneth F. Butler of Hagerstown, Md., Professor J.A. Michael of Vienna, Va., and Mrs. C.B. Fitzgerald, Jr. of Charlotte, N.C.

It would be superfluous for this writer to attempt to enumerate Dr. Michael's accomplishments. His life was characterized by a sincere desire to serve his Lord as a minister of the gospel, by an abiding interest in Christian higher education, and a deep appreciation of the influence of history upon the present generation. Who can measure the influence of his life as he has touched the lives of countless numbers of people through his ministry in the church and in her educational institutions? Many today rise up and call him blessed.

And yet a man's life is not measured by years, nor by a listing of certain specific actions. The true measurement is by character--character that shows itself through following the ideals that one has learned through the Christian religion and that is expressed in all that one is and does. Dr. Michael was a Christian gentleman and as such we honor his memory.

Dr. Michael was shopping in downtown Harrisonburg on March 16 and suffered a heart attack and died almost immediately. Funeral services were conducted from Asbury Memorial Methodist Church, Harrisonburg by the writer of this memorial and by the Rev. Kayle Kelly. Interment took place at East Lawn Memorial Gardens, Harrisonburg.

by Robert Harris Kesler

Jonathan William Leggett. 1886-1966. The roots of our Methodism as well as those of our nation were in England. From the first no one could visualize a new religious denomination nor a new political government. The Spirit cannot be put into a strait jacket.

God moves in a mysterious way
His wonders to perform;

He plants his footsteps in the sea

And rides upon the storm.

Jonathan William Leggett was born May 29, 1886 in Watton, Norfolk, England, the son of Eliza and William Leggett. He was a promising child whose development justified the fondest desires of his parents. He enjoyed the education of English youth including his graduation from Hartley College. He answered the definite call to the Christian ministry and began at once his work in the Methodist Church.

On December 22, 1915 Mr. Leggett was joined in holy matrimony to Miss Edith Wood, an attractive, consecrated and capable young woman. Two days following this wedding this couple sailed from their native land for America, arriving here in the first week of January, 1916. As a traveling preacher from England he was received into full connection by the former Baltimore Conference, M.E. Church, South, in March, 1916. At the time this Conference lay in the states of Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland and a strip of Pennsylvania. He served with his usual devotion and ability Huntersville, Luray, Christiansburg, Blackstone, Fairlington, Union Station (Richmond), all in Virginia; White Sulphur Springs in West Virginia; Central in Cumberland, Md., and Central in Baltimore. In the spring of 1924 this minister was assigned to Thrasher Memorial Methodist Church in Vinton, Va. He served here for five and a half years, made possible by change of time from March to October for meeting of the Baltimore Conference. When he first arrived in Vinton the citizens were attempting unsuccessfully to organize a cemetery. Mr. Leggett purchased a country cemetery and organized what is known as Mountain View Cemetery, where his body now rests.

This man's ministry had definite social aspects, the whole of life was his field not merely one restricted parish. He retired from the active work in October, 1958 at the session of the Virginia Conference held in Richmond. He and his wife returned to Vinton to live. He explained at the time that he was "excited at Vinton's prospects for the future." A lovely spot, it is!

This beautiful mountain section just east of Roanoke bears the marks of the genius and ability of this devoted man of God. Through his foresight and cooperation with other citizens they won the passage of a \$100,000 bond issue for streets, sewers and the courthouse. After his retirement he was named the first executive secretary of the Vinton Chamber of Commerce. He helped to form the Vinton Athletic Association and bought for a community Athletic field the land where William Byrd High School now stands. He was president of the Roanoke-Vinton Baseball League and Manager of the Vinton baseball club. Also he was called out of retirement to serve for a time, five months in all, as pastor of Southview Methodist Church, a new enterprise. His service here culminated in June, 1959 with the appointment by Bishop Garber of a regular pastor. Mr. Leggett later wrote the history of this Southview Church, actually writing the last part of it on the day before his death. He wrote earlier the complete and impressive history of the Thrasher Memorial Church of Vinton.

The writer of this memoir and his daughter enjoyed attending the Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Leggett on December 23, 1965 in the lovely home of their daughter in Richmond.

After more than fifty years of active life as a minister of the Gospel this devoted and capable man, still alert and busy, was suddenly stricken with a heart attack in his home and within a few moments his immortal spirit was with God. He was about six weeks from his eightieth birthday. This was Friday, April 8, 1966. The funeral service was held in Southview Methodist Church, so close and so dear to his heart, on Monday, April 11, 1966, at eleven o'clock in the morning. The ministers officiating were Rev. Dr. G.S. Lightner, Superintendent of the Roanoke District, Rev. R. Marvin White, Rev. James W. Tinney, Rev. G.C. Smith and Rev. E.N. Tarpley. Burial was in another spot sacred to him, Mountain View Cemetery in Vinton, Va.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Edith W. Leggett; a daughters, Mrs. I.F. Kennedy of Richmond; a son, Thomas William Leggett of South Hill; six grandchildren; two sisters, Mrs. Lyla Grainger and Mrs. Edith Culpin, each in England.

This brief memoir is inscribed by one who knew him well and loved and admired him much.

by J. J. Rives

Shirley Roland Wade. 1924-1966. Shirley Roland Wade, son of Captain Andrew Wade, and Josie Tomlin Wade, was born at Batesville, Albemarle County, Va., on February 5, 1924. As a child and youth he attended the Batesville Methodist Church with his devout parents. The Batesville Charge has sent several of her sons into the ministry of the Methodist church. These are Shirley R. Wade, Raleigh H. Mann, Anderson D. Goodson, William A. Layman, and B.B. Kent.

In preparation for the work of the ministry Shirley attended the public schools of Albemarle County, and Ferrum Junior College.

On June 7, 1947 he married Vera Lee Critzer of Batesville. From this happy union three children were born: William A., Virginia Gay and Karen. In addition to his wife and children he is survived by one brother, and four sisters: Eugene Wade, Mrs. Ira Sullivan, Mrs. Norman Robinson, Mrs. Clarence Henderson, Mrs. Percy Kirby, and Mrs. Edward Peters.

He received his local Preacher's license on September 2, 1953 and was given his first appointment by his District Superintendent, Dr. J. Aubrey Hughes. He became an approved supply pastor in 1953 and was ordained deacon in 1956 and elder in 1960. He was to be received on trial into the Virginia Annual Conference in June 1966. During his ministry as an approved supply pastor he served the following appointments on the Charlottesville District: Orange Circuit, Mountain Chapel, North Louisa, and Mount Pleasant. Wherever Shirley Wade served as pastor he was loved by all his people. The good laymen of the Mount Pleasant Charge have told me again and again that they have never heard a word of criticism of their pastor's work and ministry in six years. This is a real tribute to a faithful pastor whose dedication to his Christ and the Church he loved was complete. Twelve years is a brief ministry when it is measured by its duration, but the later Peter Marshall reminded us that "a man's life is not measured by its duration, but by its donation." We do not measure Shirley Wade's ministry by the number of years he preached, but by the donation he made to the Kingdom of God, the unreserved dedication he brought to the task, his well remembered deeds of kindness and of love, and the memory he left in the hearts of all who knew and loved him. We shall long remember how he served and walked among us with dignity and honor like a true child of the King. As his District Superintendent, I can honestly say that he was one of the finest Christian gentlemen and one of the best pastors I have ever known. Shirley and Vera Wade were known to all as dedicated leaders in the Church, and I am confident, Vera will continue this same loyalty and dedication through the years.

Shirley left a sermon that was incomplete and partially written. It was to be delivered on May 1st. His life like his last sermon was partial and unfinished. Death is not a period, but only a comma in the long sentence of life and we never see the end of any life in this world.

On Thursday night, April 28th, Shirley Wade lay down and went to sleep and was not, for God took him. He died as he had lived, in quietness and serenity. His funeral service was held at Mount Pleasant Methodist Church on Monday, May 2, at 11:00 A.M. and was conducted by Dr. J. Aubrey Hughes, Dr. Owen T. Kelly, and the author of this memoir. Burial was in the Wild Rose Cemetery at Batesville.

"Servant of God, well done!

Thy glorious warfare's past;

The battle's fought, the race is won

And thou art crowned at last."

by Hugh M. Burleigh

Joseph Samuel Peebles. 1907-1966. The Reverend Joseph Samuel Peebles was born at Brodnax, Brunswick County, Va., on December 21, 1907 and died in Southampton Memorial Hospital in Franklin, Va., on May 9, 1966. His father was John William Peebles and his mother was Laura Maude Lucy Peebles.

At the time of his death Brother Peebles was pastor of the Whaleyville-Somerton Charge, serving there in the second year of his appointment. On Sunday, May 8, he had preached at both churches and was spending a quiet afternoon with his family when he was stricken. He was taken to the hospital where he died in the early hours of May 9.

"One morn I missed him on the custom'd hill,

Along the heath, and near his favorite tree;

Another came,--nor yet beside the rill,

Nor up the lawn, nor at the wood was he;

"The next with dirges due, in sad array,

Slowly through the church-way path saw him borne..."

May 11 was one of those perfect Spring days when God speaks so beautifully of renewal and rebirth in nature. It was on the afternoon of this day that we assembled in Pleasant Vale churchyard in Brunswick County, Va., and here, hard by the homestead hewn out of the forest by his forebears, we committed his body back to the soil that had nurtured it. The funeral had been conducted in the church at Whaleyville by Dr. John R. Hendricks, District Superintendent. Eight men who shared with him the common tasks of the Methodist ministry and who esteemed him in life and revere his memory were given the honor of bearing his body to its resting place among the people he knew in childhood and youth, and who no doubt had helped to guide his life toward useful service in the Kingdom of God.

Brother Peebles received his early scholastic training in the public schools of Brunswick County. He then attended Ferrum College at Ferrum, Va. From here he went to Lincoln Memorial University in Harrogate, Tennessee, where he was awarded the degree of Bachelor of Arts.

He began his pastoral ministry in the Holston Conference and served in that conference twelve years. The ties of home drew him back to his native state, and he served in the Virginia Conference seventeen years. The infrequency of his moves as a Methodist Minister speaks of the effectiveness of his ministry. He served four charges in the Virginia Conference including the "almost two years" he served at Whaleyville-Somerton. His other appointments were Middletown, Brucetown and Capron.

On October 30, 1942 while he was serving in the Holston Conference, he married Miss Mildred Reed of Gate City, Tennessee, who survives him along with their three children Charles, Karen and David. He is also survived by two brothers and three sisters.

Brother Peebles' work was based on his belief that an effective ministry must be a personal ministry. The effectiveness of his work was attested by the love that people had for him. He identified himself with his people and took unto himself their problems, their sorrows and their failures, and shared thankfully and gladly their joys and accomplishments. They responded with love, interest and concern for him and his family. He will be gratefully remembered by many Virginia Methodists who "rise up and call him blessed." This personal interest in his people extended his labors into the field of community service, and his work in this area endeared him to many people of other faiths. He made a large place for himself wherever he lived and worked.

He was lavish in his love for his home and family. This was a part of the nature of the man. He was at his best by his own hearthstone. His home to him was "a haven of blessing and a place of peace." Love's benediction was always there, and the visitor always got the feeling that the family felt strong and secure because of his love; that he in turn received encouragement and strength from such close family ties.

Love for the earth was evident in the life of this good man. He was born and raised on a farm, and he always liked to work in the soil and to see things grow. He left a large plot prepared for planting a vegetable garden, and had spent a large part of the Saturday preceding his death working there in the soil. To him such work was recreation, creativity, and the fulfillment of his desire to be close to the soil.

Now he is with us no more, but we shall not soon forget his genial spirit, his warm friendliness, his jovial laugh. Nor shall we forget his dedication to God, and his labors for the cause of righteousness. When we think of him now our thoughts are turned toward our Father's house for we know that when this earthly tent we live in is folded we have a building—a house built by God in the eternal heaven.

by Robert D. Fridley

Minutes for 1967. **Henry Claiborne Gregory.** 1878-1966. Henry Claiborne Gregory was born in Nelson County, Va., December 30, 1878, a son of Sallie James Payne and Wherter Hancock Gregory. This was a happy day at the Arrington Methodist Parsonage. He attended Randolph-Macon College, Ashland, and graduated with a B.A. degree in 1906.

Mr. Gregory was received into the Virginia Conference in 1901. He served pastorates for 49-1/2 years. Some of the appointments are: Western Hanover Circuit; Blandford, Petersburg; Saint James, Richmond; Kenbridge; Boydton; West Point; Amherst; Onley; Drake's Branch, McCanless Memorial, South Boston; and Richmond Circuit. He retired in 1950 due to the declining health of his beloved wife and settled at King George Court House where he remained until his death.

Though retired, Brother Gregory was still a busy man. He was in constant care of his wife and active in community life. King George County had its first Ministerial Fellowship organized under the inspiration of this man. He taught Sunday School classes, preached in Baptist and Episcopal churches as well as Methodist churches until a few months before his passing. While not wanting to be far from his life's mate, he taught school, counseled young people and did coaching in school work. He was always interested in helping young people.

On November 21, 1916, Brother Gregory was married to Annie Badger Duncan from Raleigh, N.C., who preceded him in death in 1956. By this union there were two children. A son, Claiborne Duncan Gregory, who married Norine Campbell, and resides in Hanover County, Va., with their three children. A daughter, Delia Bryan Gregory is now Mrs. George Harwood Hall and resides in King George County with their two children. He is also survived by one brother, Frank Hancock Gregory, who resides in Roanoke, Va.

Brother Gregory died in Johnston-Willis Hospital of Richmond, Va., October 19, 1966. His funeral was held two days later in Saint Paul's Episcopal Church, King George County, Va., and conducted by Rev. Harrison Simons, Rector, and Rev. Martin K. Spillman, minister of King George Circuit. His body was laid at rest by that of his wife in the beautiful cemetery of Saint Paul's Episcopal Church.

The writer of this memoir was pastor of the King George Circuit during the early years of Brother Gregory's retirement and worked with him on many community activities and came to know him intimately. He was a man whose friendships were deep and warm. He was quiet in speech and manner and possessed a lively sense of humor. Two qualities were outstanding in his character. The first, the depth and extent of his study and scholarship. He was a constant student of the deep things of life and of eternity. Second, his excellent preaching. He delivered no superficial sermon. Into each sermon went profound thought, sympathy and prayer. He was true always to the high demands made upon him by the Christian ministry.

What was spoken of another departed can be truly said of Henry Claiborne Gregory, "He kept the Faith. He kept faith with his family. He kept faith with God." He was not afraid to live nobly and gloriously. He was not afraid to die. I am certain that when his eyes were closed in death his spirit went immediately to be with God. In the presence of his Lord, where he shall live eternally, he awaits the coming of his loved ones.

We bid adieu to another pilgrim along King's Highway and while we continue this journey the Celestial City is made more bright and alluring because he is there.

by Carl Jay Yow

John Timothy Mills. 1882-1966. John Timothy Mills, son of John Thomas Mills and Mary Allmond Mills, was born at Allmondsville, Gloucester County, Va., on December 23, 1882, in the home of his grandparents, Captain and Mrs. John Timothy Allmond. He grew to young manhood in the home of his parents, "Capahosie," in Gloucester County. He attended the public schools of the county and Norfolk Business College. At an early age he united with Bellamy Church and evidenced a deep interest in the church.

For a number of years he was employed in Newport News--first, by the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad as a Yardmaster Clerk and later with the Furness Withy Steamship Company. It was while living in Newport News that he was united in marriage with Miss Lottie Lee Giddings, who became his devoted companion for more than sixty years.

In 1908, Mr. and Mrs. Mills moved to Gloucester County, where he followed in the footsteps of his father and grandfather and became the captain of sailing vessels, the "Maggie Davis" out of West Point and later the "Sunflower" out of Claybank. He loved the sea as did his forebears but somehow he felt very definitely the call to preach the gospel. He conferred with his pastor and the Reverend Finley Gayle, presiding elder of

the Rappahannock District, who guided him in the course of study for Local Preacher's License, which he received from the Rappahannock District on May 29, 1919.

He moved to Hampton in 1920, purchased a ship chandler's business, and was very successful. He and his family united with Central Methodist church of that city, and he became very active in the church--preaching upon the invitation of ministers from different denominations. The call to a full-time ministry became more compelling. He sold his business and applied for admission into the Conference. He was admitted "on trial" in 1924, and ordained a deacon by Bishop Warren A. Candler. He was ordained an elder by Bishop Collins Denny in 1928. His first appointment was the Lynnhaven Charge on the Norfolk District. Brother Mills said, "This was the beginning of the happiest years of my life." After serving four years in the Lynnhaven Charge, he was sent to the South Norfolk Circuit. Other appointments served by Brother Mills were Danville Circuit, York and North Mathews. It was during the latter pastorate that his health became greatly impaired, and he was forced to ask for Superannuation at the 1939 session of the Annual Conference.

Brother Mills selected Seaford, Va., as the place for his retirement, where he would live among his relatives and much-beloved former parishioners. He built a home on a beautiful waterfront site which he had previously acquired, and immediately identified himself with Zion Church, where he had previously served as pastor. For a while he was active, becoming Chairman of the Building Committee, which supervised the erection of the lovely new Zion Church. When no longer able to take an active part in the church he continued to be regular in attendance. It was one of the great joys of his later years when he could no longer engage in the active work of the ministry, to listen to his brother ministers proclaim the glorious gospel of his Saviour. Every service he was able to attend in the House of God was food to his soul, and an inspiration to the preacher.

Brother Mills was a faithful minister of Jesus Christ, expounding the words with power and pleading with people to give their hearts to Him. He had a remarkable vocabulary that was used in proclaiming the good news of the Gospel. His sermons appealed to the reason and touched the heart, while the fire of his own soul kindled the emotions of his hearers. Because his was the shepherd heart, he watched over his people in every way encouraging and comforting them. His business background enabled him to give excellent leadership in the area of administration. Thus, the work of the kingdom prospered in his hands. The congregations he was privileged to serve esteemed him highly and loved him devotedly.

He departed this life on October 31, 1966 at Newport News Nursing Home. He is survived by his devoted wife, two daughters, Mrs. B.M. Rush and Mrs. R.E. Meredith, and three sons, Francis W. Mills, Curtis M. Mills, and John C. Mills, all of whom live in the Seaford Community. His oldest daughter, Helen Louise Mills, died March 24, 1929.

Funeral services were held at Zion Methodist Church, Seaford, with the Reverend John T. Scarborough, Pastor, assisted by the Reverend William S. Ferguson and the Reverend Harwood B. Owen. His body was laid to rest by the graveside of his daughter in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Norfolk, Va.

For one who loved the sea as did he, the lines of Alfred Tennyson are most appropriate:

Sunset and evening star,

And one clear call for me!

And may there be no moaning of the bar,

When I put out to sea,

But such a tide as moving seems asleep,

Too full for sound and foam,

When that which drew from out the boundless deep

Turns again home.

Twilight and evening bell,

And after that the dark!

And may there be no sadness of farewell,

When I embark;

For tho' from out our bourne of Time and Place

The flood may bear me far,

I hope to see my Pilot face to face

When I have crossed the bar.

by R. Orman Bryant

Millard Rewis, Jr. 1913-1966. The hymn writer speaks of those "we have loved long since and lost awhile." We feel this way about Millard Rewis. He gave much to those who came to know and love him, and by his gifts to others he shared a bit of immortality which will find fuller fruition at a later time, although we have lost him for awhile.

The great state of Texas gave us Millard. He was born in Dallas, October 19, 1913, child of Millard and Elizabeth Rewis. His schooling was largely in Georgia. In Atlanta he was graduated from Boys High School, after which he received his Bachelor of Arts degree at Emory University, 1936. Here also he looked for his theological training. He attended Candler School of Theology of the University and was awarded his Bachelor of Divinity degree in 1940.

His ties with the great University were strengthened more surely when he took as his bride the daughter of one of its professors who was a minister of the Virginia Conference--Wyatt Aiken Smart. Helen Aiken Smart and Willard were married December 30, 1936, at the Chapel, Emory University. To this marriage two children were born, Richard Smart and Carolyn Dean. Carolyn is now Mrs. James S. Key.

Millard became a full member of the Virginia Conference of the Methodist Church in 1941 after having been in the On Trial relationship for two years. He was ordained as a Deacon in 1941, and received ordination as an Elder the following year. His service as a minister carried him from the wonder of the ocean to the glory of the mountains. The "days of his years" as a minister follow--Oaklette 1939-42; Oceana 1942-44; Vienna-Oakton 1945-46; Orange 1947-50; Strasburg 1951-53; Market Street 1954-57; Associate, Greene Memorial 1958-60; Warrenton, 1961 until his death.

Death overtook him on a winter's evening as the old year was coming to a close. On a visit to his son's home in Middlebury, Conn., on December 29, 1966, he was struck by an automobile and killed instantly. Although he was in the midst of a most active life that seemed to have so much ahead--we suddenly became aware that he had "outrun us to the Father's house."

Funeral services were conducted by the writer at the Warrenton Methodist Church on January 2, 1967.

Much could be said of his full ministry and the thoroughness with which he approached every part of it. In the pulpit his messages carried great meaning, couched in well thought-out terms. He was a genuine pastor who loved and cared for his people. To all he gave himself lavishly, so that one and all, whatever their need, found him concerned about them, and ready to bring to them the help of a God who was concerned, too.

Likewise, many knew him for the music that was a rich part of his life and very soul. He belonged in that rare group who could rejoice in saying--

"We are the music makers,

And we are the dreamers of dreams,

Wandering by lone sea-breakers,

And sitting by desolate streams;

World-losers and world-forsakers,

On whom the pale moon gleams:

Yet we are the movers and shakers

Of the world forever, it seems."

by Harold H. Hughes

Leon Edward Whitley. 1908-1966. A search for words to encompass the life of Leon "Dutch" Whitley will reveal none that so nearly say all things about this man as do the words of the Master, spoken in the Gospel of John 15:13: "Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

Late in the year of 1922, a small, alien, orphaned boy came ashore to the docks of New York City. Passing time with incomplete information was to give his age that day to be less than fifteen years. The same information was to reveal that this little boy, with the adopted name of Leon Edward Whitley was born in Germany in January 1908. In

the words of this beloved man--- "he that day began a search for an identity, an education, an attachment to other humans and a purpose." He lived to see the dreams of his search become a reality, though he began his American journey, with his own confession, in a spirit of rebellion against a world that he felt had deprived him of too many human heritages. His identity was established when his adopted name became a legal name.

Leon Whitley sought and found ways to an education. Though much self-education was involved, eventually he became an engineer and was thus led to a very successful business career. He never let his passion for learning grow dim and very often displayed an amazing brilliance with his knowledge of so many things. His search for education was a rewarding search though it began with so many handicaps.

In the year of 1933, the lovely lady who was to become his wife entered his life, and on November 2, 1933, he was joined in marriage to Miss Elsie Lee. From the marriage came four fine children and now Dutch Whitley had found his attachment in his family. He never forgot his duty to nor his love for these who supplied such a great need in his life.

A search for purpose carried our friend in many directions. He was a business man, a flyer and once a commercial pilot, a sportsman and traveled extensively. He served with honor in the armed forces of his adopted country. None of these achievements satisfied his longing for a purpose, but in 1950, out of a great personal confrontation with Jesus Christ, came the real purpose he sought in life. He entered the ministry of our church in October of 1950 and the words of his beloved Master became the rule of his daily living. While serving appointments in Unionville, Richmond County Circuit, South View and Marsh Memorial in Lynchburg, Lynch Station and finally Memorial Methodist at Charles City, Va., his love and influence spread over an ever-widening circle. During his too brief ministry, he became nationally known and spoke in many states and areas of America. He worked untiringly to proclaim his Lord's love and grace, especially in the field of alcoholic rehabilitation. His purpose was indeed found.

At his burial, this writer could say with the greatest sincerity and certainty of truth, "Dear God, this servant did teach me the real meaning of friendship and with the gift of his love surely made my life a better thing." I realized, perhaps for the first time, that though my friend "Dutch" Whitley never actually knew who he was, God and every man who had shared his life knew what he was. Truly this was a friend of Christ and a servant of God who did lay down his life for his friends.

On December 30, 1966, a great heart was stilled. Leon Edward Whitley died in his parsonage at Charles City, Va. He was buried from Memorial Methodist Church with interment at Washington Memorial Park near Richmond. He is survived by his wife, Elsie Lee Whitley, and two sons, Albert and Charles, and two daughters, Mrs. Patricia Croxton and Mrs. Jo Ann Ralston. Services were conducted by the Rev. Purnell Bailey and the writer.

by Thomas Y. Lovern, Jr.

George Edward Powell. 1893-1967. George Edward Powell, the son of Robert Ballard Powell and Mary Elizabeth Frith Powell, was born in Franklin County, Va., May 30, 1893. He was educated in Franklin County Public Schools and graduated from Ferrum Junior College in 1924.

On December 28, 1913, he married Miss Pearl Estelle Chaney of Farmville, Va., who survives him. Through fifty years of his active ministry, Mrs. Powell, a devout Christian woman, graced his home, blessed his life, and enriched his ministry in the Methodist Church. To this happy union two children were born: Robert Edward, a pilot who was killed in Italy in World War II, and Virginia, the wife of Reverend A. Virgil Harris, pastor of the Scottsville Methodist Church, Charlottesville District. There is one grandson, George Edward Harris, a student at Randolph-Macon College.

He entered the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church in W. Va. in 1918 and was appointed to the East River Charge, where he served until his transfer to the Virginia Conference in 1921. He was admitted on trial in 1922 and served as pastor of the following churches: Bassett, South Amherst, Louisa, Montross, North Garden and New Church. In 1948, he was appointed again to Louisa where he served an additional ten years until his retirement in 1958, making a total of sixteen years of service at

Louisa. After his retirement in 1958, he served as pastor of Ellisville, Macedonia, and as associate pastor at Louisa.

It was my privilege to know Mr. Powell for sixteen years. After serving as student pastor in the same county with him and later co-pastor at Louisa, I can bear testimony to the fact that he was a strong preacher of the gospel, a diligent and devoted pastor, one who loved his people and was held in high esteem and affection by all who knew him. He shall long be remembered for his crowning achievement, a character undefiled, and for the way he walked among us with dignity and honor like a child of the King.

He died on January 4, 1967, at Louisa, where he had served as pastor for more than one-third of his entire active ministry. Funeral services were conducted at Louisa Methodist Church, on January 6, by Reverend Joe T. Carson, Jr., pastor, Dr. Hugh M. Burleigh, District Superintendent, and Reverend R. A. Atkins, pastor of the Louisa Christian Church. Interment was at Hillcrest Cemetery in Louisa.

"Servant of God, well done!

Thy glorious warfare's past;

The battle's fought, the race is won,

And thou art crowned at last."

by Joseph T. Carson, Jr.

Thomas Warren Ogden. 1875-1967. Rev. Thomas Warren Ogden was born in Amherst County March 14, 1875, the son of John Wyatt and Celicia Ann Adaway Ogden. His earliest religious impressions were made by hearing his father read aloud from the family Bible and sing the old time hymns. It was through the influence of a Mr. O.G. Burford, who conducted a Sunday School five miles north of Lynchburg, that Brother Ogden took the first steps toward the church. He was converted in April 1891 and joined Burford's Chapel Methodist Church. He became active in the work of the church and the Sunday School and was Sunday School Superintendent when he was 17 years of age.

Feeling the call to preach the Christian gospel and the need to prepare himself for this great work, in 1894 he entered Randolph-Macon Academy at Bedford. After three years at the Academy he continued his preparation for the ministry at Randolph-Macon College and at Vanderbilt University. He was licensed to preach in 1896, and in 1899 at Petersburg he was received on trial into the Virginia Conference and sent to the North Nelson Mission, a new field with one church and 15 members. After North Nelson he served the following appointments in our Conference: Woodville, Hinton Avenue, Hyco, Fluvanna, Gordonsville, West Matthews, Surry, South Norfolk, Oceana and Virginia Beach, Westmoreland, Charles City, Hanover, West Dinwiddie, Sussex, and Richmond Circuit. In 1947, after 48 years as an active member of our Conference, he retired. At the same Conference he was appointed to the Middlesex Charge as a retired supply pastor where he served for four more years.

Brother Ogden was married November 11, 1903, to Miss Jugurtha White of Culpeper, a cultured and refined Christian woman. She was a devoted and sympathetic companion throughout his long ministry and during the years of his retirement. To them were born two children: Thomas Warren, Jr. and Dorothy Jugurtha (now Mrs. Dorothy O. Keener) both of whom live in Richmond.

After 52 years as a Methodist pastor, Brother Ogden came to the Lakeside community of Richmond to live. As long as he was physically able he was active in the work of our Lakeside Church. Until his last illness it was unusual for him to miss a Sunday morning service. When he could no longer preach or teach a Sunday School class he took to his typewriter. Every ill person whose name was carried in our church bulletin received a personal letter from him. Scores of people, many whom he did not know personally and who did not know him, were cheered, encouraged, and uplifted by his warm and friendly letters. He was honored, respected and loved by the people of Lakeside Church. His very presence on a Sunday morning was an inspiration and a benediction to our people.

It was many years ago that I first met Brother Ogden. He was attending a District Conference at Tabernacle Church in Poquoson, and he was a guest in my home. I remember him then as being tall and straight of stature. My associations with him since then have convinced me that he was also tall in manhood and straight in character.

He was a strong and convincing preacher. His sermons were carefully prepared and

he proclaimed the gospel truths with such winsomeness and power that sinners were convicted of their sins and the saints were edified and made glad.

He was a true itinerant preacher. His vow that he would go where he was sent was sacred and he kept it. He accepted every appointment cheerfully and filled it to the very best of his ability. The year he retired, when asked by his District Superintendent where he would like to go as a retired supply pastor, he answered, "I'll go wherever you want me to serve."

He was a good pastor. He kept in touch with his people. He knew their needs, and he ministered to them. His favorite hobby was gardening, and he was an excellent gardener. He loved the soil and he loved the people who tilled the soil.

The world has been made a better and happier place because Thomas Warren Ogden passed through it. No man will ever know how many hearts have been made to rejoice and how souls have been enriched by his sincere preaching, his earnest prayers, and his consecrated living.

On November 16, 1966, he was stricken with heart failure and carried to Johnston-Willis Hospital where on February 7, 1967, just one month and seven days before his 92nd birthday, he quietly slipped away to be with those whom he "Had loved long since and lost a while."

His funeral service was conducted in Lakeside Methodist Church by Dr. A. Purnell Bailey and the writer of this memoir. It was a cold winter afternoon with the earth covered with a blanket of snow when we laid his body to rest in Westhampton Cemetery, his spirit had already made its flight to that eternal land where winter and clouds are no more.

"Servant of God, well done!

Thy glorious warfare's past;

The battle's fought, the race is won,

And thou art crowned at last."

by C. Traynham Topping

Manuel Theodore Hartsoe. 1882-1967. The brief appraisal of a life is never an easy task. To compress the record of eighty-four years, nine months and ten days of a life so singularly beautiful into a few words is not possible. One can only pay tribute to it.

One of the sacred duties of this session of the Virginia Annual Conference is to inscribe on the roll of our honored dead the name of Manuel Theodore Hartsoe who was born on May 8, 1882 in Catawba County, N.C., the son of Emmanuel Elcania Hartsoe and Josephine Bumgardner.

Early in life young Budd, as he was known to his many close friends, professed faith in Christ. Like Matthew sitting at the seat of custom amid the den and dust of everyday toil, he heard the Master's voice calling him to surrender his young life. Before his eighteenth birthday he was converted in the evening of August 6, 1900 in tent meeting in Lincolnton, N.C., under the evangelist, the Reverend B.L. Padgett, a Wesleyan Methodist minister. Young Budd realized that his conversion had wrought a miracle in his life but could not claim complete victory until he had laid everything on the altar. He sought the second blessing and was gloriously sanctified six days later on August 12, 1900.

He graduated from Clinton High School, Clinton, N.C., and entered Wesleyan College, central South Carolina. His deeply religious nature was greatly stirred and he resolved to answer the call to the ministry and to be used as God might direct. He was licensed to preach in the fall of 1902 and received his ordination in November of 1906. He held pastorates in the Wesleyan Methodist Church until 1922. He became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South and was received under Bishop Warren Aken Candler, October 15, 1922. After he became a member of the Virginia Conference, he served the following appointments: South Halifax, East Pittsylvania, Gloucester Point, Deep Creek, Brookneal, King William, Charles City, Churchland, King George, Fox Hill (Wallace Memorial), Prince George, Pinners Point, and Branch Memorial.

One June 6, 1900 Mr. Hartsoe was joined in matrimony to Miss Martha Ellen Norket of Lincolnton, N.C., a daughter of a Baptist minister. Miss Norket was an attractive, consecrated, capable help-mate and a wonderful mother. From this union God blessed this home with five children, three sons and two daughters. One son died at birth; one son, Paul John Wesley, died at two months; Jennings Clayton died at the age of fifty-

six, January 22, 1965. Two daughters survive his passing, Mrs. Amos W. (Anna Lois) Walker and Miss Ellen Pauline Hartsoe. Their mother died earlier. Interment was in Green Lawn Cemetery, Newport News, Va.

Many, many years later Mr. Hartsoe married Miss Lena Adams of Harnett, Charles City County, Va., on June 10, 1933. Miss Adams was a public school teacher in Charles City and Henrico Counties before her marriage. "Miss Lena," as she was better known, was a woman of many admirable qualities. Her gracious, cordial spirit won her a host of friends. She walked beside her husband and served as parsonage wife for twenty-three years. After several months of illness death came on March 16, 1956. Her burial service was conducted by Dr. R. Orman Bryant, District Superintendent of the Peninsula District and was assisted by the Reverend James L. Blankenship, Jr., Pastor of the Shackelford parish. Interment was in Green Lawn Cemetery, Newport News, Va.

"Uncle Budd" Hartsoe was close to the heart of the writer of this memoir. Like many others, the writer has had his life made better, his vision made higher and his faith made stronger. I have seldom found men that could measure up to his stature, physically and spiritually. "Uncle Budd" was endowed with a fine physique, a deep voice that stirred the souls of his listeners. "He was indeed one of the most masculine men I have ever known," said the Reverend A. Purnell Bailey at his funeral service.

Mr. Hartsoe was truly an evangelist at heart with a deep passion for the souls of men and women, boys and girls. He held revivals all across the State of North Carolina and throughout the Virginia Conference. It was my joy to have him in my home year after year as he held evangelistic meetings in every parish I have served, save one, during the past thirty years.

His life was not only one of high dedication, great faith in a living God, but a life of love. His many outstanding qualities characterize his ministry. His prayers in the pulpit and in the homes lifted his people up to the presence of God. His quiet faith, courage, hope and fidelity were proclaimed always in down to earth, simple but profound gospel preaching. His messages were filled with wisdom and deep spiritual insight, steeped in a vast storehouse of the knowledge of the Holy Scriptures. "Uncle Budd" would quote long passages of God's Word with unction and power. His masculine, robust messages were tempered with tenderness and love. His loyalty to our Lord Jesus Christ has always inspired me.

After retirement he made his home with his younger daughter Pauline. He was very active in the years of retirement, filling the pulpits of all denominations, driving his car to distant places, holding evangelistic meetings, and attending as many camp meetings as possible from Maryland to Florida. In the sixty-six years of his ministry, he failed to preach only four Sabbath days from a pulpit. During the closing months of his life, while confined to his bed as an invalid, he felt the relentless approach of death but never questioned God, knowing that his passage to the other side had been bought with the price of the shed blood of Christ from Calvary's cross.

Funeral services were held from Chestnut Avenue Methodist Church, Newport News, Va. The service was conducted by his daughter's pastor, the Reverend J.G. Weaver, his District Superintendent, the Reverend M. Douglas Newman of the Peninsula District. Interment was in Green Lawn Cemetery, Newport News, Va. His body was placed to rest between the graves of his two wives.

There is no doubt that he "stepped on shore and found it--Heaven;

Took hold a hand and found it--God's hand

Breathed new aid and found it--Celestial air;

Felt invigorated and found it--Immortality;

Rose from the care and turmoil of death

Into one unbroken calm;

Woke up and found it--Glory!"

by James L. Blankenship, Jr.

Alfred Ray Mays. 1899-1967. "He hath showed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?" In Brother Alfred Ray Mays was seen a man who worthily lived by this Old Testament concept of personal goodness. He was born at Roseland, Nelson County, Va., July 1, 1899. He was the son of Robert and Annie Kyle Mays. As a young boy he heard

the call of his Saviour and opened his heart to receive Him as the Lord of his life. As a young man he heard the same Voice calling him to be a minister of the everlasting gospel of the grace of God. As before, he was obedient to the Divine call. To him God's call was a glorious certainty, and his commitment was wholehearted. None who knew him every doubted that the Lord had called him, nor that his heart was in his ministry. At that time he was a member of Bethlehem Church on the Charlottesville District.

In his preparation for his ministerial career Brother Mays entered Randolph-Macon Academy at Bedford, Va. Completing his studies there he enrolled in Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, Va. In October 1923 he was appointed supply pastor for the Montross Circuit on the Rappahannock District. At the 1925 session of our Annual Conference he was admitted on trial. In 1930 he was happily married to Miss Maria Bland Brooke of Center Cross, Va. They had no children.

Brother Mays served the following appointments in our Virginia Methodism: Montross Circuit, Lebanon and Providence Circuit, Schoolfield in Danville, Wesley in Petersburg, Elm Avenue in Portsmouth, Brambleton Avenue in Norfolk, Hopewell, Fall's Church, Highland Springs in Colonial Heights, Berryville, Moseley Memorial in Danville, and Belmont in Roanoke. From the last named appointment he retired in 1966 after forty-two years of faithful and fruitful service.

Alfred Mays was a quiet and mild mannered man of God. He impressed people as one who sat at the Master's feet and then followed in His footsteps. He was in every sense of the word a dedicated man. One could assuredly describe him as St. Luke described Barnabas. "He was a good man, and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith." He believed in prayer and this faith kept him close to the throne of grace. His ministry majored in introducing men to Jesus Christ. He had that concern for souls without which no man can "do the work of an evangelist." Witnessing for Christ was a vital part of his ministry and resulted in many people being added to the Church wherever he served.

Upon retirement Brother Mays moved to Danville. Here at Moseley Memorial Church he had served his longest appointment. It was also one of the happiest and most fruitful of his pastorates. Here, close to a host of friends, he had built a lovely home. Hardly had he and his devoted wife moved into this new home when his health completely failed. Nearly all of his retired days were spent in the hospital. Though receiving all the help medical science could give, his condition did not improve. On Thursday, March 23 he quietly laid down his cross of suffering to receive a crown of glory. God had a newer and more beautiful home awaiting him in heaven.

On Saturday March 25 our friend's funeral service was held in Moseley Memorial Church. It was conducted by the Rev. W. Carroll Freeman, assisted by the Rev. Harold H. Fink and the writer. His body was laid to rest in Highland Park Cemetery in Danville.

Alfred Mays "fought a good fight, finished his course, and kept the faith." All of his friends and fellow-preachers who knew him thank God for his life and ministry. We rejoice in having experienced the warmth and fidelity of his friendship. That friendship will be renewed in our Father's House.

by **Graham S. Carlton**

Asbury Augustus McNeer. 1900-1967. Asbury Augustus McNeer, who retired from the active ministry in June 1966, moved to a lovely little home in Richmond near one of his sons and assumed work as a retired supply of the nearby Powhatan Circuit, passed away after a brief illness on April 25, 1967. The funeral service was conducted by a friend of many years, the Reverend John T. Brown. Interment was in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Richmond, Va.

Brother McNeer was descended from a long line of ministers who had their origin in Scotland in the fourteenth century. His father was the Reverend Asbury Caperton McNeer, and his great grandfather was also a Methodist minister. A half-brother, Rembert D. McNeer, who served in the old Baltimore and Virginia Conferences, is now enjoying the retired relationship.

Burnsville, Va., was his birthplace October 27, 1900. He was graduated from the Morris Harvey Academy, Barboursville, W.Va., in 1922, and from Morris Harvey College with the Bachelor of Arts degree in 1925. He completed the work required for the

Bachelor of Divinity degree and was graduated from Candler School of Theology, Emory University in 1930.

Brother McNeer was married to Gertrude Alma Sampson September 17, 1929 and into their home were born three sons, Asbury C. McNeer, and doctors Keith W. and Paul R. McNeer. Sons and wife survive him.

Scotland is full of McNeers, many of whom were Presbyterian ministers. Three McNeer brothers emigrated to the American colonies because of religious differences from the English established church and fought in the Revolutionary War. One of these, the former Earl of Aberdeen, was the direct ancestor of Asbury Augustus McNeer.

The family history of strong religious convictions and hardy independence when one's principles are threatened by authority is mentioned here because this trait stood out strongly in Asbury A. McNeer. The writer of this memoir was a friend from the year he transferred into the old Baltimore Conference from West Virginia, and through the years can bear testimony to the fact that Asbury was never a disciple of "expediency for the sake of personal enhancement," but only changed his mind when the logic of a situation or intellectual factors made him believe that it was the thing to do. This sturdiness of "standing by his convictions" endeared him to all those who knew him well. Such a man is respected by his peers.

When eighteen years of age "Mac," as we knew him, was licensed to preach in First Methodist Church, Barboursville, W.Va. He preached one year in Kentucky after being received on trial in the West Virginia Conference in 1923. He was ordained deacon (1925) and elder (1927) in that Conference and served for seven years in West Virginia. He served one year in the Peninsula Conference and three years in the old Baltimore Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

"Mac" came into the Virginia Conference with Church unification and has served for nearly thirty-one years within the State. His happy and successful pastorates have been Bridgewater; Lawrenceville; West Point; Cottage Place, Portsmouth; Highland Springs and Laurel Street in Richmond and Grace-Calvary, Parksley on the Eastern Shore.

As would be indicated by his educational preparation mentioned above, and the further fact that he did graduate work in American University in 1960 and 1963, Asbury was of a scholarly turn of mind. He assisted in teaching Greek while at Candler School of Theology and church history at Bridgewater College. His character was not to make a display of his knowledge and accomplishments and few of those who knew him casually were aware of his intellectual gifts.

Our Brother was not only a man of hearty convictions, gifted intelligence, loyalty as a friend and a dedicated pastor and preacher, but he was also ready and able to lend a strong hand with the Conference program on either the district or conference level. In the districts where he preached he was used as Director of Youth Work, Director of Adult Work, Director of General Church School work and Director of Leadership Training, and Missionary Secretary. Throughout a long ministry he served the Conference as Chairman of the Conference Committee on Publishing Interests; on the Conference Board of Ministerial Training and Qualifications, the Conference Committee on Memoirs, and a Director of the Preacher's Relief Society. He assumed his civic responsibilities also by serving as Chairman of two County Councils on Religious Education, as well as working with the citizens of the community in a large variety of helpful ways.

Asbury A. McNeer was not a "sentimentalist," quick to give way to emotion, but I came to learn in later years that he had depth of feeling that was truly surprising. This trait is not unusual in men whose convictions are logically arrived at and strengthened by an immeasurable personal faith in the God who reveals himself in Jesus Christ. "Mac" had a personal faith in the God who is immediately present in the Holy Spirit. Preaching for him in Holy Week services his last year in Parksley, I discovered this deep undercurrent of emotion that was a basic factor in his personality. He was ready for anything because, as John Wesley stated on his deathbed, "The best of all is, God is with us."

Henceforth, whenever I join congregations in singing, "How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, Is laid for your faith in His excellent word,--When through the deep waters I cause thee to go, The rivers of woe shall not thee o'erflow," etc., I

shall always think of "Mac," and other "Good ministers of Christ Jesus," who, like him have served well and "entered into the heavenly rest." **by Edwin S. Sheppe, Jr.**

Thomas Fitzgerald Carroll. 1893-1967. Now and then in life there comes along a quiet, unassuming man of exceptional personal dimensions whose real quality and stature we fail fully to appreciate until he has been removed from our company. Few of us have the gift for accurately appraising greatness of character, of mind, or of spirit except in retrospect. It may be that Thomas Fitzgerald Carroll is a case in point.

Tom Carroll, as he was affectionately called by a wide circle of friends, was born October 23, 1893, in Princess Anne County, Va., the son of Rev. John W. Carroll and Alice Shearer Carroll. He obtained his undergraduate education at Randolph Macon Academy, Bedford and at Randolph-Macon College, Ashland. After four years at this latter institution, where he served as an assistant in the Department of Chemistry, his studies were rewarded with an A.B. degree. In 1918 he received a M.A. degree from the University of Virginia and was elected a member of Phi Beta Kappa. In the next two years he pursued graduate work at Princeton. By 1923 Tom Carroll had compiled sufficient credit so that, in that year, American University awarded him a Ph.D. degree. All through his academic career he garnered honors by the excellence of his work--first, Phi Beta Kappa, and a Raven Society membership at Virginia, then Political Science fellowships at both Princeton and American Universities. The last of such honors came to him when his Alma Mater, Randolph-Macon College in 1942 bestowed upon him the honorary Doctor of Divinity degree.

Along the way, Dr. Carroll had flirted briefly with careers both in business and in teaching (he taught at Dartmouth College), but in 1923 he decided to follow his father's example and become a minister of The Methodist Church. Entering the Virginia Conference in the fall of that year he was assigned to the White Stone Charge in Lancaster County. Soon to this work he was to bring the vivacious and many talented Frances Price Carroll as his charming wife. The two complemented each other admirably. Charges thereafter, to which the Carrolls were appointed, always enjoyed a highly effective "team ministry."

In the years that followed Dr. Carroll held pastorates in Martinsville, Danville, Norfolk, and Staunton--always in the principal church. These appointments were interspersed with years served as District Superintendent in Charlottesville, Norfolk, Richmond, Lynchburg and Farmville. It was possible in the role of a District Superintendent that Dr. Carroll shone at his best. His understanding of human nature; his deep concern for each of the churches under his supervision; and his genuine integrity in dealing with appointments afforded him the trust and respect of all.

Like other men of true ability Dr. Carroll could always find time and strength to shoulder additional responsibilities. Across the years he is found serving as President of ministerial associations in Danville and Norfolk, the Bishop's Cabinet, and the Board of Managers, Blackstone College. He was for periods a trustee of Blackstone College, Randolph-Macon College, the Episcopal Residence, and the Children's Home. His committee responsibilities within the Conference were as a member of the Board of Education, the Board of Missions, the Commission on Higher Education and conference Group Insurance. In addition he had been a member of the Jurisdictional Conference, the Jurisdictional Board of Deaconess Work, the General Board of Publication and the General Board of Deaconess Work. On one occasion he had the honor of bearing greetings as Fraternal Delegate from Virginia to the North Carolina Conference.

In short, for four decades and more Thomas Fitzgerald Carroll enjoyed an exceptionally able and gifted ministry among us, carrying every responsibility requested of him; supporting to the full every facet of the Church's work; and leaving upon all he undertook the hallmark of fine workmanship. The passing of time can but bring luster to his achievements as a minister of the Methodist Church.

However, as significant as were his achievements in public life, it will be the quality and general Christian character of the man which will longest be remembered. It will be his interest in every individual person he knew, as having inherent worth and great potential value to Christ's Kingdom, for which many will cherish his memory. Throughout the expanse of our Virginia Conference there are those in number who, as young men or women, he touched with his influence, guided and encouraged by his wise

advice or helped with his own finances. He believed in people, especially young people, and kept in his concern at all times two or three younger men whom he felt he could help to greater skill and maturity in their chosen field of service.

In his great love for people Tom Carroll never grew impatient. An inordinately wise man, he understood that concerning the outworking of some issues even God in His wisdom, waits. He does not require that men's problems be solved quickly but that they be solved rightly. While Dr. Carroll found himself many times in the midst of great moral and intellectual confusion, where things did not go as he personally would have liked them to go, or thought they should go, he kept his poise. He did not cry havoc or give himself to expressions of frustration. Rather, with patience and with gentleness of spirit he renewed his efforts to find a new, reasonable, and perhaps more desirable solution than any of his friends yet had thought of. Always he seemed confident that "in the fullness of time" God's will would be achieved. Enough that he himself kept walking in the best light given him.

Tom Carroll lived in a big world; he was never parochial in his ideas or interests. His sympathies were with all kinds of people and embraced the world. One of the last things he arranged to do before illness overtook him was to go around the world and to see eye to eye the varied peoples with whom all his life he had identified himself as brother.

And when at last, after a rich and meaningful life, Thomas Fitzgerald Carroll—one of God's good Christian gentlemen and ministers—came on May 5, 1967 to the end of his earthly pilgrimage thousands in the Conference were saddened and hundreds came to pay to him their last respects.

The funeral on May 8th was conducted at Farmville, Va., by Bishop Paul Neff Garber, Bishop Walter Clark Gum, and the Rev. George H. Boyd. Dr. Elmer Hiles Hassell, Pastor of the Church, presided. A graveside service was held in Salisbury, Md., the following day at which Dr. Hassell presided assisted by Rev. Roy L. Tawes of Salisbury.

Here indeed was a man who studied "to show himself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." Like another man, he will be remembered more for what he stood for than for the offices he held; more for the ideals he embodied than the positions in which he served. He will not be without his reward either in the affections of men or the blessings of Our Father in Heaven.

by Joseph S. Johnston

Robert Junius Brooks. 1875-1967. On March 15, 1875, a child was born to George T. and Dorothy Brooks at Dunbrook in Essex County, Va. This son was born on a farm and remained there for forty-eight years. He went to school in the community and took all the education he could get. Just before he married he went back to school and took two more years of high school work which had been added.

On January 7, 1897, Mr. Brooks married Miss Eva Fogg. God blessed this union with four children: Ruth who died at the age of ten, Wesley who died at the age of five years, Mrs. Leonard Lumpkin of Lane View, Essex County, Va., and Leonard W. Brooks of Richmond, Va.

Through the early years of his life he was very active in his local church, often conducting the services. He divided his time between farming and revival meetings. He was a real supporter and active worker in the Essex County Camp Meeting located near his home. A Christian home, his activity in the local church, and the influence of the Camp Meeting brought this man to a conviction that he had to preach the gospel. Thus, he went to the R.P. Nugent Bible School in Richmond for two years. Then at the age of forty-eight he offered himself to the Virginia Conference as a supply pastor. In 1923 Brother Brooks received his first appointment to the Middlesex Circuit. His appointments were as follows: Middlesex Circuit, 1923-24; South Bedford Charge 1925-26; West Bedford Charge 1927-28; Moneta Circuit 1929-30; North Pittsylvania Charge 1931-32; West Amherst Charge 1933-34; Moneta Circuit 1935, Franklin Circuit 1936; East Franklin Circuit 1937-40; White Post 1941; Phenix 1942; West Mathews 1943-44; Huddleston Circuit 1945-46; Spotsylvania 1947-48.

It was at Moneta, where he served twice, that he had the joy of leading his congregation in building a new church. After twenty-five years of serving as Supply Pastor, Brother Brooks retired at the Conference in 1948. Upon retirement Mr. and Mrs.

Brooks moved to Richmond living at 5516 Bloomingdale Avenue, Lakeside.

Mr. Brooks loved the church and attended the services when he could. The Brooks observed their 70th Wedding Anniversary on January 7, 1967. Brother Brooks died on May 11, 1967. He is survived by his wife, Eva Fogg Brooks, his daughter and son, as mentioned above, and seven grandchildren and thirteen great grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted at the J.W. Billey Funeral Home on Saturday, May 13, by the Reverend C.T. Topping, Pastor of Lakeside Methodist Church. He was interred at his home church, Trinity in Essex County.

Brother Brooks loved the hymns of the church of which his favorite was "How Firm a Foundation." His favorite quotation was "Holiness without which no man shall see the Lord." Brother Brooks was a good man and a faithful pastor. He loved the people committed to his care and his greatest joy was to serve them.

As pastor of this family, the writer loved to visit in their home where there was humor and encouragement. They always wanted the pastor to have prayer with them. Truly, they had a "church within their house."

Now the Laborer's task is o'er,

Now the battle day is past;

Now upon the farther shore,

Lands the Voyager at last.

Father, in thy gracious keeping,

Leave we now Thy servant sleeping.

by Luther J. Derby

Minutes for 1968. **William Allen McAllister.** 1878-1967. William Allen McAllister, the son of William Turner and Lucy Mayo McAllister, was born near Charlottesville, Va., July 18, 1878. He was educated at the Jefferson Preparatory School for Boys, and the University of Virginia, where he received his training in Biblical History and Literature. Having been reared in a Christian home, he became interested in religious music at an early age and displayed exceptional vocal talent. As a youth, this talent was put to use in Hinton Avenue Methodist Church in Charlottesville, where he sang with the choir and was featured in duets with his sister, Mrs. Lucy McAllister Rolley.

After hearing the call to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ, he pursued the necessary courses of study at the University of Virginia while working as a rural mail carrier to earn his way. Those were the horse and buggy days, and many nights he studied until almost morning and then got up after a few hours of sleep to carry the mail.

He received his first appointment in the Virginia Conference in 1911 when he went to serve at Charles City. Other appointments in chronological order included Mount Vernon (Norfolk), Broadwater, North Bedford, Cascade. Greenville, West Buckingham, Brightwood and Huddleston from which he retired in 1931. Upon his retirement the McAllisters moved to Danville and associated with Moseley Memorial Methodist Church, in which Quarterly Conference he maintained his ministerial relationship.

During the hardships of the depression and with a very limited retirement income, Brother McAllister was not known to complain of his lot in life and even in declining health, and during the last critical months, helpless and suffering from untold pain, he lay in his bed and sang his beloved hymns in a voice loud and clear. His sister, Mrs. Rolley, has since expressed it in her lovely poem, the last verse of which, reads:

"We are thankful for a life like his

For a soul so sweet and pure

For a heart so interlocked with God

And a faith that is secure."

Brother McAllister not only loved beautiful hymns and poetry, but he was a writer himself. One of his poems entitled: "Faith In Time of Stress" sung to the tune of "Sun Of My Soul" won such favorable acceptance that it was used by the choir in the church of one of his dear clergy friends, The Rev. Alfred R. Mays, a few years ago, as well as being read at his own service. A timely verse from this poem reads:

"Some men believe through sunny days,

When life flows like a cheerful song;

But gives me faith in crisis too,

When all the world seems sad and wrong."

As a friend and his former District Superintendent, I join heartedly with those who would say that this worthy servant's life was characterized by: FAITH, KINDNESS AND HUMILITY. It is so appropriate to say of him: "Well done thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of Thy Lord."

Funeral services were conducted at his beloved church, Moseley Memorial, in Danville, June 21, 1967, by his District Superintendent, The Rev. Dr. Harold H. Fink and his Pastor, the Rev. Harry L. Kidd, and the body was laid to rest in Mountain View Cemetery. One of his favorite poems which deeply impressed him, also impresses us in closing:

"My home is in Heaven, my rest is not here,
Then why should I murmur when trials appear
Be hushed my dark spirit, the worst that can come,
But shortens thy journey, and hastens thee Home."

by John A. McKenry, Jr.

Leonard Reid Black. 1889-1967. Leonard Reid Black was born March 5, 1889 at Stuart's Draft, Va. As a boy he attended Central Methodist Church in Staunton. In May 1910 he was married to Miss Gladys Whitmore of Lynchburg, Va. From this marriage there were three sons and one daughter, all of which survive him.

In 1914 Mr. and Mrs. Black moved to Fort Worth, Texas, where Mr. Black was employed as manager of one of the F. W. Woolworth Company's stores. It was in Fort Worth that Mr. Black heard and answered God's call into the Christian Ministry. He was granted a Local Preacher's license by the Abilene District of the Northwest Texas Annual Conference on July 8, 1915, and appointed as a supply pastor to the Turkey Charge in that Conference.

A transfer was requested and granted in 1916 which brought Mr. Black into Virginia Methodism. He was appointed to the Montvale Charge in the Lynchburg District. Then came the First World War, and he was given an appointment to special Y.M.C.A. work.

During his active ministry in the Virginia Conference Mr. Black served the following appointments--Montvale; Driver; Boykins; Brambleton Avenue, Norfolk; Chesapeake Avenue, South Norfolk; Calvary, Danville; Ocean View, Norfolk; Waynesboro; Colonial Avenue, Norfolk; and Central Hampton. From this last named charge he retired in 1956 and moved to 9634 Selby Place, Norfolk. Here he lived through the sunset years of his life with his loyal and devoted wife. On August 1, 1967, this faithful servant of Christ received his divine summons as God called for him to "Come up Higher." His funeral service was conducted in Colonial Avenue Church by Rev. Carl J. Sanders, D.D. and the writer. His body was committed to its resting place in Forest Lawn Cemetery in Norfolk.

Leonard Black did not choose the ministry as his life's work. He preached Christ's glorious gospel in obedience to God's call. To him that call was as real as life itself. The indwelling of the Holy Spirit plus his whole-hearted dedication qualified him for a ministry which God honored with abundant fruit through the forty years of his labors. Evangelistic preaching was the field in which he was specially forceful and effective. It was his joy and privilege to have preached in one hundred twenty-five series of revival services for his brethren of the Virginia Conference. Only Heaven's record will reveal the number of souls who confessed Christ as their Saviour under his ministry. Harry Van Dyck wrote--

"Four things a man must learn to do
If he would make his record true:
To think without confusion clearly;
To love his fellowmen sincerely;
To act from honest motives purely;
To trust in God and Heaven securely."

Mr. Black fervently wanted a true record before God and his fellowman. I believe he learned and practiced these requirements. He thought clearly and was able to express his thoughts fluently and impressively. He loved sincerely, and this love gave him a deep concern for the happiness and well-being of others. Honest motives were always the inspiration and strength of his actions. His trust in God and Heaven gave him a blessed and abiding sense of security. He closed his life as he lived it--victorious in the Christian faith. He shared with the Apostle Paul this magnificent testimony of

assurance--"I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day."

by Graham S. Carlton

Wallace Rockwell Evans. 1876-1967. Wallace Rockwell Evans, son of Richard and Betty Evans, was born in Petersburg, Va., January 8, 1876. Six months after Wallace's birth the family moved to Murfreesboro, N.C. He attended the town schools, among them, The Murfreesboro Male Academy, which was one of the best preparatory schools at this time. He joined the church at the age of ten, and felt even at that early age he must preach the gospel.

In 1893, being then seventeen, he left Murfreesboro for Richmond, Va. He became active in St. James Methodist Church and was granted a local preacher's license by the Richmond District Conference in 1896. In the autumn of that year he gave up his position with a business firm and entered Richmond College to prepare himself for the ministry. The Epworth League of Laurel Street Methodist Church had begun a mission in what was then Richmond's west end. At the request of the Presiding Elder, Wallace began working with the group. Under his leadership a revival was held which resulted in eighty professions of faith. With the impetus of the revival this mission was organized into a church to be known as Epworth, which afterwards became Byrd Park and is now Park Avenue.

Wallace Evans was received in the Virginia Annual Conference on the 29th of November, 1897. He was ordained a deacon in 1899 and an elder in 1901. He served West Street, Petersburg and Trinity, Lynchburg before transferring to the West Texas Conference because of his health. After serving in West Texas, Western Carolina and Florida Conferences, he returned to the Virginia Conference in 1917 and was appointed to the Newsoms Circuit in the Portsmouth District and became the pastor of the writer of this memoir. From 1919 until 1949 the year of his retirement he served the following Virginia Conference Charges: Chesapeake Avenue, Norfolk; Reidsville; Asbury, Richmond; West Point; Capeville; Sledd Memorial, Danville; Cumberland; Kenbridge; Boydton; Chesterfield Heights, Norfolk. It was at Chesterfield Heights following the erection of a new sanctuary, that his health failed and upon the advice of his physician and friends he decided to superannuate.

He and his wife moved to Richmond and became affiliated with Highland Park Church. Soon thereafter the need for a new church was developing in the Mechanicsville area. Dr. J.A. Engle, Superintendent of the Richmond District, called Brother Evans and said to him, "I would like for you to go out to Mechanicsville, get together a congregation and start a new church." He accepted the challenge, and gave constructive, dynamic and devoted leadership which resulted in getting together a good congregation and building the first unit of a new church. But again health would not permit him to continue. He returned to Highland Park Church, serving as teacher and substitute teacher in the Sunday School. In Highland Park as elsewhere in his pastorates he was held in the highest esteem and greatly beloved.

Brother Evans' ministry was remarkable in many ways for its length and for its intensity. In the pulpit he was thoughtful, pleasing, forceful. In his pastoral labors he was diligent. His various pastorates were made memorable by substantial property improvements and good increases in membership. In the home he was a devoted husband and an affectionate father. In his personal life he was a man of great faith who loved God with a passionate devotion. The young and the old found in him understanding, counsel and sympathy. There are many today in places of leadership in the church who received much of their early training and inspiration from this beloved minister.

His latter years were spent in the Hermitage in Richmond. When physically unable to attend worship services in the church or chapel, he would remain in his room at the eleven o'clock hour each Sunday morning and pray for his brethren in the ministry. He never ceased to be interested in the work of the Master and his friends.

Brother Evans was twice married. First to Miss Lillian Dearing Marshall who lived only a short time. In 1903 he was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Strickland of Ozona, Texas, who was his beloved "Maggie." Seldom has a minister's wife entered more devotedly, faithfully or helpfully in the labors of her husband. She proved a worthy companion and a true helpmate in all the varied experiences of his ministry. To this

union six children were born: Graham Lambuth Evans, deceased; John Roland Evans, Lancaster, S.C.; Mrs. Margaret Squires, Richmond, Va.; Mrs. John S. Procter (Ann), Charlotte, N.C.; Wallace Rockwell Evans, Jr., Rock Hill, S.C.; and Dr. Emory Gibbone Evans, DeKalb, Ill.

This good minister of Jesus Christ died at the Hermitage in Richmond on September 3, 1967. At his request the funeral service was conducted by the Rev. Luther J. Derby, the Rev. Lee Roy Brown and the writer of this memoir, ministers of the Conference who had been guided into the ministry under his wise counsel and understanding leadership.

Lines from the pen of Harry Emerson Fosdick are most appropriate as the writer thinks of his relationship with Wallace R. Evans.

"So we bid him farewell with endless gratitude for the long day we have had with him, and with faith too that sunset is a true figure of his going. For sunset is only our limited way of seeing things. Nothing happens to the sun. All is well there--and always after sunset, sunrise!"

by R. Orman Bryant

Albert Vandevander. 1876-1967. Albert VanDevander, the son of Wesley and Sarah Lambert VanDevander, was born on February 3, 1876 in Circleville, W.Va. He departed this life on September 21, 1967.

Early in his life Mr. VanDevander accepted the call to preach the Gospel. He graduated from Randolph-Macon Academy and was licensed to preach on August 24, 1900. On March 30, 1907 he was admitted into full connection in the Baltimore Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. He was ordained a traveling Elder on March 29, 1909.

Mr. VanDevander served, among others, pastorates at Alvon, W.Va.; Fincastle, Va.; Newport, Va.; Shenandoah, Va.; Loudon, Church Hill-Ellington; Arlington; Elkton, Fishersville, and South Nelson, Va.

He retired from the active ministry on October 31, 1942 and moved to Harrisonburg, Va., where he owned a home at 454 East Rock Street.

Albert VanDevander was twice married. In 1905 he married Miss Alice Pullin who preceded him in death in October, 1953. On August 2, 1955 he married Mrs. Mary Adams Wheatley who survives him.

Besides his wife, he is survived by one daughter, Mrs. T.B. Hanna of Hollywood, Florida, two granddaughters, five great-grandchildren, and two great-great grandchildren. He also left six step-children: Mrs. Irene Dodge of Stuarts Draft, Paul Wheatley, Mrs. Dorothy Quesenberry, and Mrs. Hanna Brown, all of Waynesboro, Va., Mrs. Evelyn Brown of Arlington, and Mrs. Edith Paxton of New Hope, Va. Also surviving are seven step-grandchildren and ten step-great grandchildren, and one foster son, Albert R. Collins of Hollywood, Florida.

Mr. VanDevander was the surviving member of a family of nine children.

Funeral services for Mr. VanDevander were conducted from Asbury Memorial Methodist Church, Harrisonburg, Va., on Sunday, September 24, 1967 at four o'clock in the afternoon. Interment was in the Community Mausoleum, Woodbine Cemetery, Harrisonburg.

The Rev. Albert VanDevander was a man of high principles and firm convictions. He loved his Lord with all his being and was devoted to the Methodist Church. He served faithfully and well in every pastorate to which he was appointed. No man can measure the influence for good of this long dedicated to the proclamation of the Christian gospel by word and by deed!

During his early retirement Mr. VanDevander was frequently called on to preach and to teach in the churches of the Harrisonburg area. In his latter years his activities were necessarily limited to regular attendance at worship and church school. Right up to his final illness, Mr. VanDevander was always in his pew at Asbury Memorial Church on Sunday morning.

The memory of his strong Christian faith rests like a benediction upon the church he loved and served so unselfishly.

"Servant of God, well done!

Thy glorious warfare's past;

The battle fought, the race is won,

And thou art crowned at last." ---Charles Wesley

by Robert Harris Kesler

Edgar Garlicke Hill. 1886-1967. Edgar Garlicke Hill, son of Philip Lancelot and Lucy Ellen Hill, was born in Carolina County, Va., December 3, 1886. He departed this life at his home in Lancaster County, October 20, 1967.

Edgar Hill's preparation for the ministry was thorough and exceeded the preparation of most Methodist Ministers of his generation. He graduated from Randolph-Macon College with an A.B. degree in 1913 and from Vanderbilt University with a B.D. degree in 1916. In 1915 he was admitted "on Trial" in the Virginia Annual Conference of the Methodist Church and for 42 years he enjoyed a fruitful ministry of active service in the Conference. In 1957 he was retired and moved with his wife into Mrs. Hill's ancestral home, "Saratoga," in Lancaster County. During retirement years, the Hills have been active in the life and ministry of White Marsh Methodist Church, Mrs. Hill's home church, and the mother Church of Methodism on the Northern Neck. Mr. Hill's interest in White Marsh Methodist Church and the history of this part of Virginia made him a natural for membership in the Northern Neck Historical Society. He was a member of this society at the time of his death.

On September 17, 1967, Brother Hill participated in special services at White Marsh Methodist Church, commemorating the 175th anniversary of this historic church. A little more than a month later, October 23, at 1 p.m., his funeral service was conducted in this church by his pastor, the Rev. Trueman R. Tremble, and the District Superintendent, Lewis W. Darst. Graveside rites were held that same afternoon at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Richmond, Va., at 4 p.m.

During his active ministry, Brother Hill served the following appointments: Bowling Green, Lancaster, Oaklett in Norfolk, Grace in Newport News, Broad Street in Altavista, Bethany in Reedville, Calvary in Danville, Bedford, Fort Hill in Lynchburg, Laurel Street in Richmond, Crewe, Basic in Waynesboro, Market Street in Winchester, and Middleburg.

During the 42 years of his active ministry, Brother Hill served the Church as a member of Conference Boards and District Committees. He was elected and served as a trustee of the METHODIST CHILDREN'S Home, Richmond, Va., for a number of years. He gave enthusiastic support in all the causes of his Church, and maintained this interest and concern to the end of his life. At the last meeting of the ministers on the Rappahannock District, prior to his death, he expressed his interest in special evangelistic efforts planned for the District, and said that he still desired to be used of God to win men to Christ.

While serving his second appointment, the Lancaster Charge, Edgar Hill met Miss Linda Newcombe, a member of White Marsh Methodist church. Soon there was a flowering romance, and Edgar and Linda were married on November 10, 1917. This was a happy marriage that lasted almost 50 years (just 21 days short of a planned observance of a 50th anniversary). Invitations had already been sent to friends (invitations sent by Mr. and Mrs. Hill's children) to attend a reception at "Tides Inn," November 10, 1967. Brother Hill was not able to keep this appointment, but during his 42 years of active ministry he did not fail to answer a roll call of The Virginia Annual Conference.

Edgar Garlicke Hill is survived by his wife and three children, Mrs. James H. Vaughan, Jr., of Hampton, Mrs. John K. Parker of Philadelphia, Dr. Douglass O. Hill of Winchester, a brother, Frank H. Hill, and seven grandchildren.

Many more things could be said about this quiet man of God, but space will not permit. I think it sufficient to say that he was held in high esteem by all who knew him. He was a faithful servant of Jesus Christ, a sincere preacher of the Word of God, a counselor to the troubled, a comforter to the sorrowing, and a seeker after the souls of men. His heart was filled with love for God and mankind, and his sympathy went out to all in need. He was a devoted husband, a good father, and a kind friend.

Parting with friends and loved ones is a sorrowful and painful experience, but our sorrow is not as those who are without hope. Indeed, hope fills our hearts, and we rejoice in the victory of the Children of God over death and the grave. Our hope is in Christ "who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel (11 Tim. 1:10)." Edgar Garlicke Hill is not dead! He lives now with Christ in that place prepared by Christ for all who love and serve Him.

"Servant of God, well done

Thy glorious warfare's past
The battle's fought, the race is run
And thou art crowned at last."

by Lewis W. Darst

Howard Vernon Shenton. 1876-1967. "I am no longer at home here and live each day with the hope that God will soon see fit to call me so that I may once more be united with my wife who had the good fortune to go on before me." This was the eager hope that kept Brother Shenton going those last days during this writer's pastorate in Lovington, Va. Having kept the faith for ninety-one years, he was at last able to lay down his armor and join that mighty army that no man can number.

Death came quietly to Reverend Howard Vernon Shenton, on October 25, 1967, as he lay abed in the home that he had built with his own hands after his retirement. Brother Shenton was born in Golden Hill, Md., the son of Charles William and Margaret Wallace Shenton. Having lost his father at an early age, Brother Shenton learned early to make his own way in life and for some years owned his own boat with which he hauled freight up and down the Atlantic Coast. His call to the ministry was stronger than the call of the sea and he entered Randolph-Macon Academy in Bedford City and later attended Randolph-Macon College.

His first appointment was at the Woodville Charge, and it was here that he met the one who became his co-worker for the next fifty or more years, Mrs. Elsie Rosson Shenton. From here he went on to serve the church for over 30 years having been ordained a Deacon in 1907 and retiring in 1937. Even in retirement he continued to serve the Lord. During the Second World War he filled the empty pulpit of the Baptist Church in Lovington and in addition drew blue prints for several churches and parsonages in the area.

During the thirty-some years of service he served in the following areas of the Virginia Conference; Rappahannock Schuyler, Princess Anne, Culpeper, Mount Pleasant of Amherst, Hanover, Madison, Nelson Circuit, Northumberland, Isle of Wight, Gordonsville, Dillwyn in Buckingham, and Nottoway.

A lover of children and so much loved by them, he could never seem to tire of having them around. He loved the out of doors and took pride in sharing the produce of his garden with the neighborhood. This writer's life and ministry was deepened by the advice and love of Brother Shenton during his later retirement years. He loved and supported his ministers through his daily prayers in their behalf and in his willingness to do anything possible for them.

His request of a private funeral was carried out by his surviving daughters, Mrs. Browning Shenton Levine and Miss Elsie Vernon Shenton. Burial was in the Fairview Cemetery at Culpeper, Va.

by Anderson D. Goodson

Henry Bernard Lipscomb, Jr. 1899-1967. A gentleness of manner and of spirit, supported by a deep devotion to Christ and to the Church, might well characterize the life of Henry Bernard Lipscomb, Jr. who left us for a closer walk with God on November 4, 1967, at Charlottesville, Va.

Bernard was born in the closing days of the 19th century--October 12, 1899--at Richmond (Manchester), Va. He was the child of Henry Bernard Lipscomb and Florence Clary Lipscomb. He had one brother--Wallace B. In his youth, he attended Randolph-Macon Academy at Bedford and later was graduated from Randolph-Macon College in 1926. Randolph-Macon recognized his fine ministry in 1943 by awarding him the degree of Doctor of Divinity.

He entered Union Theological Seminary in Richmond in 1926. While in Union Theological Seminary--as also in Randolph-Macon College--he served student appointments in Richmond at Bishop Memorial and Branch Memorial Churches.

While in his middle year at Union Theological Seminary, Bernard was appointed to the Chase City Church where he remained four years. Thus began a full time ministry in the Methodist Church which he loved so well--a ministry fraught with rich blessings for all whose lives were touched by his. He served nine other appointments after Chase City--Farmville; Boulevard, Richmond; Monumental, Portsmouth; First Church, Charlottesville, Trinity, Newport News; Superintendency of Portsmouth-Newport News District; Centenary, Richmond; Raleigh Court, Roanoke; Superintendency of Rappahannock District.

Bernard married Virginia Leigh Jones, daughter of Dr. George Wesley Jones--long a leader in Virginia Methodism. The marriage took place September 15, 1926 in the District parsonage in Norfolk. To this union were born two children--Virginia Leigh, now Mrs. Harry Paul Austin of Charlottesville, and Henry Bernard Lipscomb, III of New York City. There are two grandchildren--Randall and Sarah Austin.

No two lives were ever more truly intertwined in the deep and wonderful love of Christian marriage than those of Bernard and Virginia. From the beginning, their lives merged into that oneness which brings strength and happiness and joy to a home. Into the union, both brought unusual talents, splendid personalities and Christian convictions. Those of us who have been privileged to share in their lives and home, across the years, have marvelled at their closeness and at how much they had to give to their family and their friends and, above all, to their Church. They seemed to have been always married! You could not--and still cannot--think of one without the other.

After six fine years on the Rappahannock District Bernard chose the retired relationship. In their retirement, Bernard and Virginia built a home on the outskirts of Charlottesville--a home that reflects the character of these two wonderful people. They built their personality into it. From this home, one night in November 1967, they went to visit their daughter and son-in-law who lived not too far away. That night, Bernard left to enter another wonderful home that he had been building across the years.

Funeral services were held at First Methodist Church, Charlottesville, on November 6, 1967 and were conducted by Dr. Hugh Burleigh and Reverend Howard Peters. His body was interred in the Monticello Memorial Park of Charlottesville.

We have said he was gentle. Others speak of this when asked about him. His was a gentleness of strength--of appreciation and concern for others. You knew that he could be trusted completely--because you knew that he--like the Master he served so well--deeply cared for people.

Shakespeare said of Brutus--words that well belong to Bernard Lipscomb--
His life was gentle, and the elements

So mix'd in him that Nature might stand up

And say to all the world, "This was a man."

He has "outrun us to the Father's house"--and now "more homelike seems the vast
unknown since he has entered there."

by Harold H. Hughes

Christopher Columbus Jones. 1871-1968. Christopher Columbus Jones was born in Nansemond County, near Holland, Va., September 27, 1871, the son of Thomas and Angeline Holland Jones.

He attended the one room school of the area. Christopher worked until he answered the call to the ministry. In order to prepare for his call, he entered Elon College where he received his B.A. and M.A. Degrees. He also completed work toward a doctorate but was hindered because of a lack of money.

Brother Jones began his ministry as an elder in the Disciples of Christ Church in 1900, serving churches at Harrisonburg, Va., Dayton, Ohio and Waverly, Va.

On November 22, 1901 he married Miss Cammie Ellington of Chatham Hill, N.C. Cammie was a devoted wife and companion, a good manager and provider. Five children blessed their union: Mrs. Dessie J. King, Mrs. Oscar B. Harry, Mrs. J.E. Rouzie, Mrs. D.H. Allen and Dr. J. Bernard Jones.

In the late fall of 1912, C.C. Jones was accepted on trial as an Elder into the Virginia Annual Conference, and upon completion of the course of study, was admitted into full connection in 1916. His appointments in Virginia Methodism were as follows: Ettrick, Schoolfield, Henry, Lancaster, St. Martins, Rappahannock, Courtland, Wachapreague, White Stone and Halifax.

Christopher was an avid Bible scholar, which served as the foundation of all his preaching. He was a man of deep conviction resulting in firm positions on moral and spiritual issues which he defended graciously but uncompromisingly. He sought always to augment his sermons by his conduct and spirit. He loved his parish and was unselfish with his time, energy and material possessions, often serving without full salary because he felt that others had greater need.

Until his last conscious moments, his devotion was to his family. He spoke with great tenderness of his late wife and in great respect for his five children. He enjoyed the fellowship of his friends and visitors, and maintained a wonderful Christian spirit.

On February 24, 1968 at the age of 96 years and 4 months, Brother Jones fell asleep. The funeral service was held at Ginter Park Methodist Church and his interment was in Forest Lawn Cemetery. Officiating were Bishop Walter C. Gum, T.E. Landis, W.E. Cooley and E.S. Sheppe.

He is not dead—Christ has but set him free!

by T.E. Landis

Theodore G. Laughon. 1887-1968. Theodore Gilbert Laughon, the youngest of five children who blessed the home of Walter Earl Laughon and Ella Wildman Laughon, was born March 7, 1887. His father was a small contractor who was able to provide for his family in a modest way but above this, the family had the luxury of a genuine Christian atmosphere and training. His early education was in the London Academy and Randolph-Macon Academy in Bedford and later his studies were continued at Randolph-Macon College.

Theodore was of strong, robust physique and an active mind which enabled him to acquire skill in the use of tools and to participate in recreational activities along with his studies.

He was admitted to the Virginia Annual Conference on trial in 1910 and completed all of his work in due time and was appointed to the West Lancaster Circuit where he served with purposeful planning for a ministry that was to extend over a period of more than forty years. Among the charges which he served were Montross, where he had a very happy, fruitful pastorate of five years; West Lancaster; Heathsville; Bloxom; Cheriton; Centenary, Lynchburg; Drakes Branch; Onley; King George; West Chesterfield; Shacklesford; Amherst, where he also served five years during which time the writer had the high privilege of serving as his District Superintendent. During these years there was a close bond of friendship and cooperation in the service in which he was engaged. Following this pastorate, health conditions required him to retire and he remained on the inactive list for seven years. He rejoined the active ranks and was appointed to Montvale where he served until 1957, at which time he accepted permanent retirement. In addition to serving the pastorates to which he was assigned and for which he felt keen responsibility, he was active in evangelistic work aiding other ministers as time permitted. His talents were used to good advantage in this field. His next major interest was with the young people during the days of the Epworth League, he was encouraging to his young people to participate and profit by the training given through this arm of the Church.

It can be said of this good man that he was faithful in all his work. He endeavored to build the church materially and spiritually and in so doing advanced the Kingdom of God.

He loved to work with tools and also had a deep interest in horticulture. During the years of his first retirement, he had a small nursery and proved his love for flowers and shrubs by the success of this enterprise. He had a realization of the oneness of life whether a person was working with his hands, his head, alone or in cooperation with others, for all belonged to the Father of us all and all work was to be done in such a manner as to glorify God.

On December 15, 1959 he was married to Adelaide E. Coulbourn. Together this devoted couple served as one in the churches. This union was blessed with three children—one son, Samuel Walter, and two daughters, Dorothy Elizabeth and Ella Roache. It was a happy, congenial family cooperating together in making an exceptionally fine Christian home, serving as a unit wherever the home was located. The family ties were broken during World War II when the son gave his life while serving in the United States Navy. After retirement, Brother Laughon and his family moved in the vicinity of Providence Church. During his residence there he assisted in the work of the church, particularly as teacher of the Men's Class as long as his health would permit.

Mr. and Mrs. Laughon entered the Hermitage Home in Richmond on February 28, 1968, where he remained until his death which occurred March 29, 1968. He is survived by his widow and two daughters, Mrs. Richard R. Whitt, Sr. and Mrs. Scott H. Wermuth, six

grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Impressive funeral services were conducted by Reverend Earl R. Collie, pastor of Providence Church and the Reverend C. Warner Crumb, Administrator of the Hermitage Home in Richmond. The remains were laid to rest in Providence Church Cemetery.

How wonderful it is to labor in the Lord's name for nearly half a century without regard to place or preferment. This servant of God loved his fellowman and with consecrated ability served in every way. He has now received the crown of righteousness which our Lord gives to those who love and serve him. Glory to God for this blessed hope through our Lord Jesus Christ!

Charles L. DeLong. 1875-1967. When God called Charles L. DeLong to the ministry, he called a man who was destined to be "a Christian gentleman of the highest order, a good preacher, an able executive, a beloved pastor, and one whose Christian home was a constant example for his parishioners of Christian living at its best."

He was born July 14, 1875 at Lithia, Va., one of eight children to George T. and Elizabeth L. DeLong. He was blessed in his home for this father was Superintendent of the Sunday School, Adult Teacher, Steward and Secretary of his Quarterly Conference. His father took the initiative to erect and furnish much of the material for the Lithia Church and it was affectionately known as DeLong's Appointment for some time.

Ministers visiting in his home and preaching made a profound impression on him and he imitated them frequently. When his little bird and animal friends died, he buried them with careful and reverent ceremonies. He relates, "at about age nine years my brother and I attended preaching services at Old Back Creek Church on a snowy morning. I felt a definite call to preach when Rev. K.L. Henderson, the pastor, preached from the story of Daniel. I can never forget the impression he made on me. He was so dramatic in representing the coming of the King before daybreak calling, 'O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God, whom thou servest continually able to deliver thee from the lions?' Then said Daniel unto the King, 'O King, live forever. My God hath sent His angels and hath shut the lions mouths that they have not hurt me. The God whom I serve, He is able.'"

"I was at the altar of this church about three years later at a revival when my Father spoke to me and went immediately to the altar and I was converted. My conversion was so real I have never forgotten the experience."

He was graduated from National Business College and Elizabeth College where he received his A.B. degree. His education did not stop after graduation. His keen mind was kept alert for he was an avid reader and assiduous student all his life, even to the month before his last illness. He was intensely interested in the EUB and Methodist merger and the current political scene as it would affect his nation's future. His wisdom and faculties remained with him despite his advanced age.

He served in Cuba as a civilian secretary under General Fitzhugh Lee in the Spanish-American War.

He received his license to preach under Rev. James E. Armstrong, Presiding Elder at Lexington in 1904. At the Baltimore Conference of the M.E. Church South 1905, he was appointed to Taylor Circuit as Assistant Pastor to Rev. Claude M. Hesser, where he served three years. His father sent him a horse which he finally sold in order to be married to Miss Dora E. Cole of Baltimore, Md. She was his charming and faithful companion, collaborator and inspiration until her death in January 1962.

He was forceful in his evangelistic preaching. The first week of his ministry effected the conversion of a layman who became a great influence in his change. He was in great demand for revivals. While pastor at Melrose, Roanoke, in a three-week revival there were 137 conversions and 100 persons were received into membership in one week. At Brentwood, Hyattsville, Md., 51 persons were converted at one service.

During his pastorate 5 young ministers joined the Conference: Revs. James H. and John T. Brown, Harry Craver, Roy Curtis and Ernest Cochran. He also served as Conference Evangelist.

At Keyser, W. Va., he led in the construction of a beautiful brick and stone church. At Leesburg, Va., and Fredericksburg he built parsonages and at Hinton, W. Va., a new educational building.

He served as Presiding Elder of the Lewisburg District for four years and gave excellent leadership in the conference. He was at Christiansburg for four years and then at Mt. Olivet, Arlington, at the time of Unification. From here he went to Rocky Mount where he retired.

It was my privilege and pleasure to know them well, as in his retirement he and Mrs. DeLong served Southview Church. It was a blessing to see their happiness and joy of Christian living. Dr. John H. Blakemore well said, "His love and devotion to his family was a most impressive characteristic."

In memory of this devoted couple, a scholarship was established at American University. He established a scholarship in memory of his sister at Randolph-Macon Woman's College. Surviving him is Mrs. Carlotta Blakemore, Mrs. Dennett Guthrie, 7 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren.

by Edgar A. Potts

Richard Harrison Marks. 1874-1968. As one looks at the life of Richard Harrison Marks and tries to express Capron's love for their senior minister, we would use a passage of scripture from Proverbs to describe his philosophy of life: "My son, forget not my law, but let thine heart keep my commandments: for length of days and long life and peace shall they add to thee." One would think these words were written to honor Capron's favorite minister.

Richard Harrison Marks was born November 1, 1874 at Burleigh, his grandfather's home in Prince George County. His mother was Helen Peebles Harrison and his father Charles Harrison Marks. He had four brothers and two sisters, all of whom are now deceased. He attended Randolph-Macon College and a school in Chicago and joined the Virginia Methodist Conference in 1897 where he served for 43 years in the Methodist Pastorage. A few of the charges served by him were Hanover County, Charlotte County, Lawrenceville, Stoney Creek, Urbanna, South Hill, Newsoms, Capron, Scottsville, and Union Level. One of the proudest moments in his life was when he was chosen as a delegate to the General Conference in Jacksonville, Mississippi in 1934.

In 1934, Mr. Marks and his wife, Sally Watt Marks, with their four children, Charles, Harrison, Rachael and Swann moved to Capron where he served for four years. He was appointed to Union Level in 1938 where his wife died. In 1941 he retired from the active pastorate and returned to Capron to make his home where he married Miss Nell Barham. Her death in 1962 brought much sadness to him.

In speaking of this great man's life we could find many statistics but statistics, however vital, are cold things and tell little of the real person. We need to examine the little things to tell about such a man. Ask any child who attended the Capron Elementary School and he will say, "Mr. Marks--Oh! he's that nice man who comes to school and talks to us and tells us great stories--and sometimes he gives us ice cream for lunch--every single one of us." Or ask any bride about him and she will proudly tell you about the nice dust pan with the long handle he gave her when she was married and he shaped it with his own hands. Or ask anybody who has hurt his foot or leg and you'll be shown a sturdy walking stick, hand made by Reverend Marks and polished to a beautiful finish and ask those who have reached the age when some support gives a feeling of safety and they will tell you that his gift to them of a walking stick is such a help and joy.

Richard Marks was active in the church through all his retirement years attending its meetings and taking part in its programs. He was a teacher of the Big Brother's Bible Class and taught longer than its members could remember. He was rarely absent and it was noted that he truly lived by the principles he sought to instill in those intrusted to his care.

Richard Harrison Marks departed this life May 27, 1968. He was survived by his four children, Charles and Harrison of Richmond, Rachael of Chicago and Swann of Waynesboro. Funeral services were conducted the Reverend Dr. Purnell Bailey and the Reverend Charles B. Spivey in Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond, Va., on May 28, 1968.

It could be said of Mr. Marks that he walked among us in friendliness and good will for his allotted span of years and then quietly, as he lived, he took his departure. His life had a strong influence upon his home community and although he has departed from us physically, his spirit of love and friendship will remain with us.

Widow and two daughters, Mrs. Richard E. White, Sr. and Mrs. Scott H. Veruth, six

Truly, it can be said that "he fought a good fight, he finished the course, and he kept the faith." What greater tribute can be given any man. **by Charles B. Spivey, Jr.**
Roy D. Clarke. 1875-1968. Brother Roy D. Clarke came to the Virginia Methodist Conference in 1946 as an Approved Supply Pastor having been a Baptist minister in Tenn. from the time of his student days at Texas Southwestern Baptist Seminary. During eleven years of service in the Virginia Conference, he served the following churches: Caroline Charge, Richmond District; Lunenburg Charge, Farmville District; Warsaw Charge, Rappahannock District; and the South Amherst Charge, Charlottesville District from where he retired.

Members of his churches loved him as a pastor and appreciated his love for them and his love for the soil. Especially his hobby of "fixing-up" the parsonages wherever he and his family lived was noted by his members.

Brother Clarke was born in Columbia, Alabama, on December 20, 1875. He answered the Father's call to his heavenly home on January 7, 1968, in Lynchburg General Hospital. He was buried two days later in the Kenbridge Cemetery.

Following the death of his first wife, Dora Harrison of Clearwater, Florida, he married her sister, Cathryn. Upon the death of his second wife, Brother Clarke married Nell Cunningham Clarke who survives him. Also surviving are two adopted daughters, Mrs. John J. (Cathy) Winstead, Charlottesville, Va., and Mrs. Hardy C. (Mariam) Barnes, Kenbridge, Va. Six stepsons and five grandchildren also survive this good man.

by Jerry O. Campbell

David William Persinger. 1880-1967. "It is not given to many men in a community to touch as many lives as did the late Reverend David William Persinger of Roanoke. The opportunities to influence lives came to Mr. Persinger primarily as an Educator and as a Methodist Minister," stated an editorial in a Roanoke newspaper, and further added "his generation has contributed immeasurably to the enrichment of life in the Roanoke area."

A great segment of his life was dedicated to the school system of Roanoke in which he served as principal of old Roanoke High School, as chairman of the City School Board and later as a teacher of History, at Jefferson Senior High School. He also taught in Franklin County, University of Memphis, Roanoke Memorial, Lewis Gale and Jefferson Hospital Nursing Schools. His popularity with the students was attested in that three Annuals were dedicated to him. Also Persinger Hall at Patrick Henry High School is named for him.

He loved his church, which he joined when nine years of age and his devotion to her grew with his years. For twenty-five years he taught the large Baraca Men's class at Greene Memorial Methodist Church, of which his average weekly attendance was over one hundred. Often on Sundays he would supply pulpits.

On June 1943, Dr. Harry Coffey, District Superintendent of the Danville District, prevailed on him to take the South Franklin Circuit to relieve an ill minister. This he served effectively until Conference. Dr. Coffey impressed with his consecration and ability believed he could carry the work of a charge in addition to his regular duties in teaching school. This Mr. Persinger consented to do and was appointed at Conference to the East Franklin Charge which he served for five years. Next he was appointed to the Franklin Charge.

As he approached retirement from his school work he felt a divine urge to give his remaining years full time to the ministry and his Church needed him. He had already received his deacon's orders in 1925 and been ordained elder in 1931.

He was now able to give more effectively of his rich ministry to the Franklin Charge. In 1952 he was moved to Montgomery Parish, then Pamplin, then Campbell, and in 1956 he asked the retired relationship.

Born on January 23, 1880, on an ancestral farm now in Roanoke, his father died when he was only five years old and his mother "made up her mind that nothing should interfere with his education." She taught him his letters with Bible stories and McGuffey's 2nd Reader. He went through private schools, Randolph Academy at Front Royal and received his Bachelor and Masters degrees at the University of Virginia before he was 21. He did post graduate work at the University of Chicago. He was a wide reader of divergent areas and reflected his ability to impart his knowledge in an

unusually effective manner. He was gifted with a keen mind, quiet manner, keen sense of humor, deep piety and high sense of Christian ethics. His influence was felt by hundreds who knew him and profited by his teaching and preaching, and living. His pattern of teaching was that of his Master, simplicity of teaching yet deeply profound.

He was first married to Lillian Staples. To this union two children were born, David William Persinger, Jr., now of Falls Church, Va., and Miss Mary Staples Persinger who now resides in Cranford, N.J. He was married in 1950 to Miss Eloise Howard. She shared with him most of his work in the ministry as an effective helpmate.

He died on November 16, 1967, in a Roanoke Hospital. The funeral services were conducted on November 18, 1967, in his beloved Greene Memorial Church by his pastors, Dr. Edgar A. Potts, Rev. Gerald P. Coleman and Dr. John W. Newman, D.S. His body was laid to rest in Evergreen Cemetery in Roanoke, Va. **by Edgar A. Potts**

Minutes for 1969. Kenneth McConnell King. 1899-1968. The record of the life and ministry of Kenneth McConnell King cannot be adequately inscribed upon the printed page. His true and enduring memoir is written in the life of his church, his family, and his friends.

Kenneth McConnell King, son of Edwin Cyrus King and Sallie F. King, was born at Abingdon, Va., on July 23, 1899. He was educated in Abingdon High School, King College, and Union Theological Seminary.

On July 23, 1930, Kenneth M. King was married to Miss Florance Bell of Richmond, Va. Surviving him are his widow who continues to reside in Powhatan; a son, Lewis E. King of Richmond, and a daughter, Mrs. Audrey K. Missimer of Richmond.

Brother King's first appointments were in the Holston Conference. These were Tazewell, Bluefield, Wytheville, and Rich Creek Circuits, and St. Charles Church. On September 21, 1953, he transferred to the Virginia Conference and served the following appointments: Cambria Circuit (Roanoke District), Keysville Church (Farmville District), White's Church (Lynchburg District), Wallace Memorial Church (Peninsula District), and Centenary Church (Petersburg District). Following his retirement in June, 1966, he made his home in Powhatan and served old Rocky Oak Church until the time of his death.

Brother King was a genuine pastor who loved and cared for his people. To all he gave himself lavishly, so that one and all, whatever their need, found him concerned about them, and ready to bring to them the help of their loving Heavenly Father.

His retirement years were greatly enriched by his skill in woodworking. Many homes and churches now possess beautiful walnut candlesticks made by this craftsman.

Brother King was stricken on the day before Conference last year and departed this life on June 13, 1968, the closing day of Conference. funeral services were conducted in the Powhatan United Methodist Church by The Reverend Mr. George T. Boyd, Farmville District Superintendent, and this writer. Interment was in the Powhatan Cemetery, Powhatan.

Having served adjoining appointments with this man of God and living next door to him and his gracious wife in their retirement, I know that his favorite hymn was truly a personal testimony of his way of life. May we, too, be challenged anew by these words which we offer as a tribute to the memory of this faithful servant of Jesus Christ.

"Have Thine own way, Lord!

Have Thine own way!

Thou art the Potter; I am the clay

Mould me and make me After Thy will,

While I am waiting, Yielded and still...

Have Thine own way, Lord!

Have Thine own way!

Hold o'er my being Absolute sway!

Fill with Thy Spirit

Till all shall see

Christ only, always, living in me!"

by Robert J. Callis, Jr.

William Jennings Bookman. 1914-1968. William Jennings Bookman, son of Charles Gilmore and Hettie Ellis Bookman, was born on September 21, 1914, in Richmond, Va. He lived all of his life in Richmond until the time when he felt a call to the ministry. On

June 23, 1934, he was married to Miriam S. Price, who survives him. Upon reaching adulthood, he went into business in Richmond and continued there until 1953.

As a result of a very definite call to the ministry, he applied for the approved Supply relationship, which was granted him and which he held the rest of his life. He served the following charges: Surry, LaCrosse, Emporia, Greenville, Whitepost, and Gretna. He had not been in the ministry long before signs of heart trouble began to develop. There were several heart attacks, several periods of long duration in the hospital, both in private hospitals and in veterans' hospitals. In June 1964, he retired from his relationship to the Conference and moved to Florida, thinking that this would improve his health, and it did. He resumed the Supply relationship in the Florida Conference, serving Christ Church, Orlando. In 1966, he decided to try to come back to Virginia to resume his work here, and was appointed to the Magnolia Church in Suffolk, but soon was incapacitated again. He retired again from the active ministry at the 1968 Annual Conference and died on June 19, 1968. His funeral service was conducted at Magnolia Church on June 21 by the Rev. John Teter and the Rev. R. Beverly Watkins.

His wife still resides in Suffolk. Surviving in addition to his wife are William J. Bookman, Jr. of Emporia, Robert Vernon Bookman of Gainesville, Florida, and Ann Gilmore Wokosky of Hampton.

Everyone who knew him refers to his deep dedication to Christ and to Christ's ministry, and of his willingness to work untiringly for the welfare of the Church. He was a faithful servant of Jesus Christ and a sincere preacher of the Word of God. His heart was filled with love for God and for his fellow man. He was a devoted husband, a good father and a kind friend. While our hearts are still filled with a sense of sorrow over his parting, his life and the Love of God combine to give us a great hope for his future. The words of Charles Wesley come to mind:

"Servant of God well done
Thy glorious warfare's past
The battle's fought, the race is run
And thou art crowned at last."

by R. Beverly Watkins

George W. Amos. 1901-1968. "It is given to you to know the mysteries of the Kingdom."—Matthew 13:11. Dr. George W. Amos, native of Franklin County, Va., son of Albert Watts and Isabel Washington Amos, student of Roanoke College, graduate of Ferrum Junior College, Elon and Asbury Colleges, became a faithful and effective minister of the Virginia Conference. He was honored by Asbury Theological Seminary with the Doctor of Divinity Degree. He was married to Eva Akers and to this union was born Everett. These three, as a family team, served many fine churches in Richmond, Roanoke, Danville, Clifton Forge, Arlington, Norfolk, Stanleytown, Portsmouth and Poquoson. Mrs. Amos served by his side as wife, prayer partner, church leader and preacher.

Dr. Amos served his Conference as chairman of the Board of Pensions and the Board of Evangelism and also as a trustee of Asbury College. Before he entered the ministry he taught in the Pittsylvania County schools for several years.

Whenever anyone had the privilege of seeing Dr. George W. Amos he was greeted with a great big wholesome smile, a smile that seemed to reflect an inner radiance, a smile that seemed to say "I know a secret and I'm eager to tell it to you." I have a feeling that it was the same secret another great Christian had learned in the poem by that name:

"So I think I know the secret learned from many a troubled way
You must meet God in the morning if you want Him through the day."

George truly lived with his Master every minute of every day. There are certain great passages of scripture that leap into your mind to sum up the life of this great Christian, pastor, preacher, student, evangelist, administrator and homemaker.

"Thy word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against Thee." George was a walking Bible. He read, studied, quoted and recited the words of the Holy Book. No driving sense of duty forced him to study. He loved the word of God with a holy passion for in them he found life. When the present proliferation of various versions of the Bible poured from the press and became so popular I often told him I was going to have to get a revised version of George Amos. God's word was the light that guided

every path upon which he traveled. Every issue was examined and guidance was sought through the revelation of God's word.

In everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. As the saints of old used to say, "truly this man was on praying ground." He was at home with his Heavenly Father. More than once those of us who knew him called him up and said, "George, I have some decisions to make today," or "I have some problems that are difficult for me," or "a friend or member is facing surgery" won't you join me in prayer? You were assured of the fact that one who knew the Lord and talked with him regularly took this burden seriously and shared with you. Strength came to you and not alone did you feel closer to you God but also to this his servant. Whenever you went to pray with George you always asked him to pray also and you went away immeasurably strengthened.

"I know whom I have believed," "For me to live in Christ," "I am crucified with Christ, nevertheless I live yet not I but Christ liveth in me." "I am come that you might have life." All of these passages leap top mind when we think of the loyalty to our Lord which this man of God possessed. He truly wore the breastplate of St. Patrick.

He that converteth the sinner from the error of his way, shall save a soul from death. He constantly carried the flame of evangelism from the pulpit, in the homes, on the street, in places of business and in his social life. He organized his Church and for years led evangelism in the Virginia Conference. His was the interest of the individual person as a child of God who needed redemption. He loved all ages of people. Little children loved him dearly.

"Be of good cheer, I have overcome the World" "Thy will be done" "For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me." And He said, "My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest in me," All of these speak to us of George as he bore the "thorn in the flesh." George said, "The last four years of my ministry have been more effective than any of the others." God gloriously used him in these days of his suffering from cancer to minister to fellow sufferers and he pointed many through this experience to the "suffering servant" who redeems. He never lost patience. He knew Him whom "to know aright is life eternal."

"There is a natural body and there is a spiritual body." The last time I saw George in the flesh he asked me to come and talk with him about his funeral service. He said "the time is soon coming when I will be moving out of this old body. The spiritual body is awaiting me. The last time they operated they assuredly prolonged my life but now the body is further deteriorated and seemingly getting beyond repair. I will gladly move out when the time comes. I do not want my service to be by anything but a triumphal one. I love the hymns and two especially. "O God our Help in Ages Past" and "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing." The Hallelujah Chorus I would like to be played." We feel his funeral service was his graduation service in which he moved out of his mortal and terrestrial body to his immortal and celestial body. Death is swallowed up in victory.

His last thoughts were of others. He said, "So many people are suffering from cancer." "I have seen so much of it. Somewhere God has placed a cure. It is only up to man to find it. Many advancements have been made in the treatment and we are on the threshold of achieving greater progress. I am wondering if you have ever heard of taking a collection at the funeral? People who come would certainly like to contribute to the Cancer Society to aid in the fight against cancer, and that a cure might be found." Yes, his last thoughts were of others. The suffering and the ill elicited his sympathy and in this he was again like his Master.

Even as Elijah placed his mantle on Elisha so George has placed his mantle on thirteen younger ministers six of whom serve in the Virginia Conference. Christ's and George's ministry will go on in multiplied ways in many Churches and homes because George gave the call to the Christian ministry and many heard his call. "Children of the Heavenly King as we journey let us sing, sing our worthy Savior's praise, glorious

in his words and ways. We are traveling home to God in the paths our Fathers trod. They are happy now and we soon their happiness shall see."

Yes, George W. Amos knew "The Secret."

Bishop Ralph Spaulding Cushman once spent a week in the Amos home. George and Eva often told me how Bishop Cushman who wrote the poem "I Met God in the Morning" was such a radiant personality. Well, so are the Amos family radiant personalities. They met God in the morning and in the glad morning of eternity, by God's grace, we shall meet George again.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Eva Akers Amos, also an ordained minister; a son, Everett Amos of Lakeland, Fla.; a granddaughter, Nancy Virginia Amos; three sisters, Mrs. W.S. Layne of Lynchburg, Mrs. G.A. Adkins and Mrs. J.E. Turner, both of Danville, and two brothers, Noel Amos of Danville and Oscar Amos of Collinsville.

Funeral services, following death on June 24, 1968, were conducted in Trinity United Methodist Church, Poquoson, with Dr. R. Ormon Bryant, Rev. W. Dabney Walters, Dr. M. Douglas Newman and Rev. P.D. Martin, Jr. officiating; and in Greene Memorial United Methodist Church, Roanoke, with Dr. Edgar A. Potts, Dr. John W. Newman, Rev. C.D. Martin, Jr. and Rev. Roscoe C. Johnson officiating. Burial was in Evergreen Cemetery, Roanoke, Va. **by Edgar A. Potts**

Richard E. Weingart. 1936-1968. The Rev. Richard Ernest Weingart, 32, Dean of the Hartford Seminary Foundation, was killed in an automobile accident on July 17, 1968. He had been named Dean of the Foundation on July 1.

The Rev. Dr. Weingart, who lived at 69 Sherman Street, Hartford, was one of the youngest deans in graduate education. He joined the faculty of the Hartford Seminary Foundation in 1964 as Assistant Professor of Theology. In 1968, he was named Associate Professor, Chairman of the Council for Advanced Studies, and Chairman of the Faculty Committee on Academic Design.

A native of Alexandria, Va., he was graduated from Hampden-Sydney College summa cum laude. He received a Bachelor of Divinity degree from The Divinity School, Duke University, and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Yale University.

While at Duke he studied under a National Merit Scholarship. He studied at Yale under a Dempster Graduate Fellowship, administered by the Board of Education of the Methodist Church.

The Rev. Dr. Weingart was a member of Phi Beta Kappa; Omicron Delta Kappa, national leadership society; the American Society of Church History; the American Academy of Religion; and the Medieval Academy of America.

He was the author of several articles and book reviews for The Hartford Quarterly, published by the Hartford Seminary Foundation. His study of Peter Abelard had recently been accepted for publication by the Oxford Press.

He leaves his wife, Mrs. Merle Ridinger Weingart; a daughter, Karen R. Weingart; his mother, Mrs. Ruth E. Weingart of Alexandria, Va.; and a brother, Ronald C. Weingart, also of Alexandria, Va.

The Richard E. Weingart Fellowship for Graduate Research in Theology was established in his memory by the Hartford Seminary Foundation.

The faculty of the Seminary passed a memorial resolution, excerpts of which follows:

"We hold close the memory of a warm and congenial friend, an able scholar, and a gifted teacher. Within the span of a brief four-year tenure on this Faculty his competence in his chosen discipline of Historical Theology was repeatedly demonstrated. We rejoice that a documentation of his scholarly gifts will be preserved in the anticipated publication of his work on Abelard by the Oxford University Press. During these years Dick's active interest in administrative concerns and his administrative talents demonstrated especially by his work as editor of the 1967-68 catalogue and in his service as Chairman of the Council for Advanced Studies during that same year, as well as his blossoming vision with respect to new frontiers in theological education, easily commended him as a most appropriate choice to fill the office of Academic Dean. His promise with respect to this office was manifestly fulfilled in undue proportion to the unfortunate brevity of his official service as Dean.

Grateful for his many gifts and talents freely shared with Faculty and students alike, we remember with special appreciation his spirit of openness and congeniality and his example of scholarly and administrative industry.

Dean Weingart knew the freedom of the Christian man--the freedom of not having himself on his hands--which comes only to those who know that every man's life is in the hand of God, who know they are new man in Christ, by God's grace.

(The final paragraph is taken from a memorial tribute by Dr. James N. Gettemy, President of the Hartford Seminary Foundation, which was presented at a Memorial Service at the Seminary on September 30, 1968.)

by Mrs. Elizabeth Gross and Hartford Seminary Faculty

Huron Gilbert Collins. 1927-1968. Huron Gilbert Collins, the son of Ruel Clark Collins and Myrtle Rice Collins, was born February 14, 1927 at Big Island, Va. He graduated from Big Island High School in 1944. After 18 months of service in the U.S. Navy, he entered Ferrum Junior College. While at Ferrum, he met Frances Etta Beck who was later to become his wife. He graduated from Ferrum in 1949. He enrolled at Randolph-Macon College and received his B.A. degree in 1951. He received his B.D. degree from Duke University in 1963.

On June 4, 1949 he married Frances Etta Beck, who survives him. To this marriage were born the following children: Stephen Huron, Miriam Glenette, Michael Edward, Gilbert Allen, Evelyn Hope, James Clark and Thomas Eric. All of the children are at home.

He served the following charges during his ministry: Spottsylvania Circuit on the Richmond District--6 years; Nottoway-Lunenburg Circuit on the Farmville District--5-1/2 years; Port Republic Charge on the Staunton District--4-1/2 years. In addition to his ministry, he taught in public schools and was a principal for 3 years.

His ministry was marked by building programs at all of the charges he served. These included a new parsonage, renovation of a sanctuary, and a new educational plant. He was active in many community activities. His best work was in the pulpit ministry. He loved to preach. His heart was with the rural people and his entire ministry was spent there.

It was my privilege to know Huron for twenty years, having met him while a student at Ferrum. He impressed me as one deeply dedicated to Christ and the Church. He worked hard at every task he undertook. He was loved by his people in every place he served.

He died unexpectedly on July 24, 1968 of a heart attack. His life and ministry were so short, yet so filled with meaning and purpose. He left a deep impression on the lives of all he touched. Funeral services were conducted at the Port Republic United Methodist Church, Port Republic, Va., on July 25, 1968, by Dr. Alpheus W. Potts, District Superintendent, Rev. Earl Mitchell, pastor of Mill Creek Church of the Brethren, Rev. Harold Skelton, retired Methodist minister, and the writer. Interment was at Big Island Cemetery, Big Island, Va., on July 26, 1968.

"On journeys high his spirit fares,

Of realms of sunless light is free;

The triumph of the saints he shares,

He standards beside the Crystal Sea."

by Howard C. Smith

James Henry Holland. 1889-1968. The Rev. James Henry Holland died on July 8, 1968 at his home in Augusta County, Va., near New Hope, in his eightieth year.

Brother Holland, son of Hensley and Agnes Jackson Holland, was born on June 16, 1889. He was called to preach and in 1921 joined the Washington Conference of the former Methodist Episcopal Church. He passed through the classes and was ordained Deacon and Elder and served faithfully for thirty-three and one-fourth years. His appointments were in the three-state area of his Conference. He was appointed successively to Upperville, Brownsburg, West Staunton, Waynesboro, Bridgewater, Highland-Palmyra, Bedford-Bedford Springs, all in Virginia; Hedgesville in West Virginia; Pittsville, Va.; Harpers Ferry and Colesville in Maryland. He returned to Waynesboro, Va., and Bridgewater at which he retired in 1958. His services were acceptable and he continued at Bridgewater as a Retired Supply until poor health forced him to retire to

his home near New Hope. He settled among people he knew and loved. They ministered to him in his last years with loving care.

His wife, Laura, who served faithfully with him through the years, preceded him in death on February 13, 1966 after a severe illness and amputation. Brother Holland was faithful to her and a thoughtful husband. No children were born to this union but the couple had two foster children to share their home. Bernice E. at the age of thirty-four preceded them in death and brought great sorrow to the home. Ray Bolden, a foster son, of Detroit, Michigan, survives.

After the death of his wife he was married to Elizabeth Veeney Salisbury who with her son also survive and make their home at Fishersville, Va.

Brother Holland was a faithful pastor to his people. Being naturally congenial, his people loved him. Other non-members in the several communities he served regarded him highly. He was evangelistic in his preaching and had good success in his endeavors, winning many souls for Christ. He had several pastorates that extended beyond four years. He was at Colesville, Md., for eight years, at Harpers Ferry, six, and Bridgewater for eight.

His funeral was conducted by the Rev. R.L. Clifford, his former District Superintendent assisted by Rev. Ernest E. Arter and Rev. Walter Hurd, and laid to rest in the churchyard at Mt. Tabor United Methodist Church in Augusta County, Va. The presence of a large group of friends and former parishioners attested to his faithful ministry.

by Walter H. Hurd and Alpheus W. Potts

William I. Johnson. 1905-1968. The Reverend William I. Johnson was born in Glen Burnie, Md., July 5, 1905 and became a member of John Wesley Methodist Church, Furnace Branch, Md., in his early childhood. After his marriage in 1939, he joined the Ames Methodist Church in Baltimore, Md.

He was married to Lena Johnson in 1939. This happy union was blessed with a daughter. He was a devoted husband and a kind and respected father.

He became an accepted supply minister of the Washington Annual Conference in 1939. He completed his ministerial training and education. Among the schools he attended were Princess Anne College in Princess Anne, Md., and Morristown College in Morristown, Tenn.

He pastored at Parole, Md., for five years from 1939 to 1946. Leesville from 1946 to August 10, 1968. He departed this life doing all he could for people.

His labors were characterized by noble faith, high courage and full devotion. He knew in whom he believed. He was a good minister of Jesus Christ, preaching the gospel of good news wherever he was sent, oftentimes in the face of great difficulty.

Many persons are living epistles of the gospel he preached. His departure has saddened many hearts. There is a sense of loneliness today as we realize that he is gone. We also realize that death is but a natural part of our total experience. It is not the end, but a beginning.

Rest on, dear one, your work is done.

Your glorious home in heaven is won.

We too, will strive to live our best

That we may join you in that rest.

by Otis L. Jasper

Elmer Le Roy Thompson. 1895-1968. Elmer Le Roy Thompson, the first of nine children of Thomas E. and Florence Thompson, was born at Old Paper Mill near Phoenix, Md., September 2, 1895. He died December 21, 1968 in Ashland, Va.

He was married to Emma Elizabeth Murray on September 8, 1917 and they were blessed in a dedicated Christian home with three sons: Howard G. (now of Ashland, Va., Elma A. (a Methodist minister serving as associate Conference Program Director for Training) and Willis W. (now of Ellicott City, Md.).

Brother Thompson was educated in the public schools of Maryland. He was a graduate of the Conference Course of Study. He became a local preacher in the Baltimore Conference in 1929; he was ordained a Deacon in the Virginia Conference in 1945; an Elder in 1947.

The following appointments received his love and pastoral care: Baltimore Conference-Perry Hall 1936-41; Flintstone 1941-42, Virginia Conference-Andrew Chapel, Eastern Shore 1942-49; Painter, Eastern Shore 1949-53; Dillwyn, Farmville District

1953-56; Southview, Lynchburg District 1956-57. Brother Thompson retired for health reasons in November 1957. After his health improved he gave four years of excellent service at Hopewell, Woodford on the Richmond District 1961-65. I was his district superintendent at the time, and I have never served with a more consecrated pastor. He retired again for health reasons, and after regaining better health came back to serve the same church for 1966-67.

In 1965 this dedicated minister of the Gospel was chosen as the Virginia Conference Rural Minister of the year. He was a veteran of World War I, and served as the National Chaplain of the Twenty-Ninth Division Association for four years.

Brother Thompson was a department manager in a store before he studied for Local Preacher's license at thirty-four years of age. When he entered the ministry he brought the skills he had learned as a layman and he promoted every phase of the program of the church. He was a rural preacher at heart, but he had the gifts to serve anywhere. Every year of his ministry he received members of profession of faith. He always did more than was requested of him; this was his trademark! He had the pastor-spirit and the gift to share it with all who needed him. In a most unusual way his life fulfilled the thoughts of Maude Ray:

"To love someone more dearly every day
To help a wandering child to find his way
To ponder o'er a noble thought and pray
And smile when evening comes--
This is my task."

He discussed with me several times how fortunate he had been in having the fellowship, guidance and love of his gracious wife. What a blessing she has been to his ministry! They were a team from the very beginning and she loved his purpose and mission and gave her strength and mind to supporting him in it. No wonder his ministry was so fruitful in evangelism, his pastoral care so effective, and his people so spiritually strengthened. He had a helpmate, indeed! She survives him and lives in Ashland, Va.

A memorial service was held for Brother Thompson in Ashland on December 22, 1968. The funeral service followed on December 23 in the Deer Park United Methodist Church, Reisterstown, Md. He was buried in the cemetery at the church. **by A. Purnell Bailey**
Mason Hundley Armistead. 1900-1968. Mason Hundley Armistead was born in Mathews County, Va., September 30, 1900 and died in a Norfolk hospital December 24, 1968. His funeral was held in Miles Memorial United Methodist Church on December 26, 1968 and the body was interred in Edgewood Cemetery, Augusta County, near Grottoes, the next day.

Brother Armistead was the son of John A. and Ellie Vaden Hudgins Armistead. He was twice married. His first wife was Miss Janie Scott Miller of Mathews. By her he had one son, Edward Byrd Armistead, who survives him and is now living in Richmond. His second wife was Miss Claudie Randall of Grottoes, Va., whom he married in 1962. They lived in one of the Conference homes in Norfolk for five years, during which time both of them were active in Miles Memorial Church and in club affairs.

Brother Armistead was received on trial into the Virginia Conference in 1923, following which he served churches in Norfolk, Tappahannock, Colonial Beach, South Boston, Gloucester Point and Orange. In 1942 while pastor in Orange County, he was stricken with total blindness and found it necessary to take the retired relation. But he continued to be active and became public relations director of the Goodwill Industries in Richmond, from which position he withdrew in 1960.

Our brother was an excellent student. Mathews High School, Ferrum Junior College, Madison College, William and Mary College, Vanderbilt University and Emory University all shared in providing him his educational training. In addition to these he was awarded a B.A. degree, which is earned by private study. It was his intention, later on, to study his post-retirement period, included history, psychology, education and literature. He was an ardent lover of good music which led to an accumulation of many high class recordings.

Before moving from Richmond to Norfolk Brother Armistead had a radio program for fourteen years and a TV program for nine years. During this time he wrote several dramas. For many years he was an active member of the Lions Club. In the five years

he lived in Norfolk he taught the Asbury Class of Young Adults in Miles Memorial Church Sunday School and maintained a fine fellowship with them to the end. He would not let his affliction interfere with his usefulness, but spent himself in independent and self-confident service for others in seeking to advance the kingdom of God. To use his words, "blindness is not the handicap some would think. It's more of an inconvenience—one that can be gotten around. One must turn this inconvenience into a convenience." He also said, "I've always remembered a quote I once read—'If you can't see the light on the outside, you must look for the light within.' The blind man who said that became a United States Senator."

The Reverend L.O. Mortzfeldt, who conducted Brother Armistead's funeral and sustained a pastoral relation with him, quite aptly said, "Selby Place will not be the same with the passing of this man of high principles and firm convictions. We felt that we had a neighbor on Selby Place who loved his Lord and was completely devoted to the Methodist Church. He never said an unkind word about the church he had served as minister. He made allowances for all of her shortcomings, but praised her with every breath. He did not have the opportunity to serve in the active ministry as long as some of his colleagues, but a careful check of his appointments will show that he served every pastorate assigned to him with faithfulness and perfection."

It was necessary, of course, for our brother to depend upon other people in his pursuit of learning and in many other activities in daily life. Week after week friends would read to him so that he could prepare his lessons and his sermons. He developed a splendid memory and demonstrated conspicuous patience and deep appreciation toward those who regularly aided him. He knew the meaning of perseverance and whole-some courage, which enabled him to achieve worthwhile results in his effort to reach his objectives. When he arose to speak he showed plainly that he was prepared. His messages were free from murmuring and complaint and characterized by instruction, comfort, cheerfulness and salvation. This man was no pessimist, as his hearers could testify.

Years ago the Oxford Conference declared: "In large tracts of their lives Christians have failed to make their discipleship a reality; they have made clear neither to themselves nor to others the meaning of the gospel of redemption for the corporate life of mankind. Thus whether the church is treated outwardly with respect or with contempt it has ceased to affect vitally the lives of the larger part of the population even in the Christian West. It does not seem to them to have anything to say that is really relevant to the major interests and concerns. Thus the Christian religion is too commonly regarded neither with veneration nor with active hostility but with a tolerant indifference, as merely the hobby of those who happen to be inclined that way." The call here is to make discipleship real. Mason Armistead heard the call and served as Christ's ambassador through the years. He was his Master's witness, not altogether by what he said, but more so by the way he lived for this, we are reminded, is successful witnessing. He could say with George Matheson, noted blind hymn writer and preacher, "I trace the rainbow through the rain," for that he most certainly did. He refused to allow difficulties to obstruct possibilities. Thus, in spite of the fact that he lived in darkness many years, his faithfulness to God and to his fellowmen will never be forgotten.

by R. Bayard Proctor

John Thomas Brown. 1900-1969. John Thomas Brown, son of James H. and Barbara E. Brown, was born in the city of Baltimore, Md., July 24, 1900. While assisting in a funeral in Richmond he was stricken with a cerebral hemorrhage and went peacefully to his "Heavenly Home" on January 6, 1969. Funeral services were conducted by the Rev. Dr. H. Conrad Blackwell and the Rev. Oscar S. Good and interment was in the Westhampton Memorial Park, Richmond, Va.

John was a twin brother of the late Rev. James H. Brown of the Virginia Conference. At an early age his mother died and his maternal grandparents took him to the Eastern Shore of Maryland at Rock Hall, Md. At the age of seven his father brought him back to Baltimore where he entered the public school. John and Jim would spend the summer with their grandparents on the Shore until their father married again. The twin boys, Jim and John, and Mr. Brown were faithful members of the Wilkins Avenue M.E. Church, South and were active in the Sunday School and Epworth League. John felt the

"Call to Preach" about a year after Jim. He entered the Randolph-Macon Academy at Front Royal in the fall of 1919 to prepare himself for college and his life's work. After graduating from the Academy he entered Randolph-Macon College at Ashland. John was received "on trial" in 1927 in the Baltimore Conference of the M.E. Church, South, and was ordained by Bishop Edwin D. Mouzon, October 4, 1931.

He served Epworth and East Baltimore in Baltimore, Md.; Burlington, W.Va., 4 years; Franklin-Richlands, W.Va., 3 years; Asbury Circuit, W.Va., 1 year; Wesley Chapel, Va., on Rockbridge Circuit, 3 years; Middletown, Va., 4 years; Keezletown-McGaheysville, 3 years; Irvington, 5 years; Fox Hill, Hampton (Central), 3 years; Trinity, Orange, 4 years; Centenary, Chase City, 4 years; McGuire Park, Richmond, 4 years; Brookland, Richmond, Va., 4 years. After his retirement in June 1967 he served Mt. Hope-Doswell, 1 year, and Prospect in the Richmond District.

He married Della Mae Overly of Richmond, Va., on December 30, 1926 who now resides in Richmond. The children of this happy marriage are Mrs. C.H. Luckham of Irvington, Va.; Mrs. E.L. Tucker of Orange, Va., and one son, Hugh Thomas Brown of Richmond, Va., and seven grandchildren.

To look back in memory some fifty years and see a teenage class of boys in a small church in Southwest Baltimore from which went several outstanding ministers of the Methodist Church stirs one's heart. From this class and Sunday School eight young men received and answered the "call to preach." Among the first to respond was Jim Brown and the writer of this Memoir. We entered Randolph-Macon Academy in the fall of 1918 and a year later John joined us at Randolph-Macon Academy. This formed a close friendship which reached down through the years. We studied together, we worked together (serving in the dining room) and played together at Randolph-Macon Academy, and at Randolph-Macon College. We joined the old Baltimore Conference about the same time but it was not our lot to serve close to each other in appointments. It was a real joy to greet Jim and John at Conference time and inquire of the welfare of each other and our families and friends.

What more can we say of John!...he was called of God and was God's man...a sincere and thoughtful Pastor and Preacher...he loved people...faithful to his work in his Church and Conference...thoughtful and kind in his manners...Who can forget his winsome smile? He served his God faithfully and sacrificially. He was devoted to "Mae" his devout companion of the years and an example of what a Christian father should be to his children. The memory we have of John is everlasting.

Until the time of the "Great Conference" when we shall report "Had a good life, Master," we say "Farewell," looking forward to hearing the Glorious Salutation, "Well done thou good and faithful servant."

"Now the Labor's task is o'er, Now the battle day is past,
Now upon the farther shore, Lands the voyager at last.
Father, to Thy gracious keeping!

Leave we now Thy servant sleeping."

by Harry W. Craver

Sherrill Ammon Witt. 1943-1969. Sherrill Witt died February 28, 1969 of a post-operative infection at the age of 25 while a student at Wesley Seminary--after an effective ministry. That phrase must not be denied Sherrill even though he was an ordained minister for only 2 months, for the intensity of his caring for persons and his concern that the Gospel be affirmed in whatever situation happened to be at hand gave him a ministry wherever he was.

A resolution adopted by his fellow students at Wesley reveals the depth of his ministry in these words:

Sherrill was an extremist in the cause of community. He was uncompromising in his conviction that Christian love is an either/or reality. By his definition friendship always goes all the way. Those who knew him well were aware, sometimes to their embarrassment and chagrin, that he actually was willing to lay down his life for a friend. He was fundamentalist about 1 CORINTHIANS 13 and 1 JOHN 4:7-12. With considered naivete he crusaded for education in which Christlikeness is prior in principle and practice. He contended impatiently for a seminary which is above all else a church. He could not tolerate piety or pedagogy unless they derived from the kind of caring for persons manifest in the life and death and resurrection of Jesus. He was painfully

conscious that his view of Christianity as a love affair was an offense to all who were content with moralistic codes or academic attainments. In spite of fears and interruptions of anger he tried to live the love of Christ; in this he was often reckless, sometimes stubborn, easily hurt, occasionally defiant always tenderhearted; but through all his weaknesses he set his jaw towards the New Jerusalem. Sherrill was born November 29, 1943 in Lynchburg, Va., the son of Jasper Duval and Inez Witt. He graduated from E.C. Glass High School in 1962 after starring in football and serving as president of the Student Council. He entered VMI on an athletic scholarship but soon discovered his concern for persons demanding priority both as to time and interest.

He married Joanne Marshall Witt of Lynchburg on August 20, 1966 and entered Wesley Seminary in September. A friend remarked that Sherrill could enter a room full of strangers and in five minutes be elected president. Indeed, in only slightly more time he was made president of his first year class. The next year he was instrumental in restructuring the student body at Wesley to form a Community Council and served as its first president.

He was received on trial and ordained deacon in the Virginia Annual Conference in 1967 and was appointed Assistant Minister at St. John's United Methodist Church, Springfield. Here he related himself to all aspects of the church's life and became a respected leader among us.

His major interest was in young people, and he was instrumental in establishing an ecumenical coffee house ministry to youth of the community. He insisted that the coffee house be a place where all types of young people might be accepted as persons and thereby, without any pseudo-evangelistic exploitation, enabled Christian love to reach redemptively in the lives of many troubled teenagers.

Sherrill was an outspoken liberal both in the interpretation and application of the Gospel, but he was first of all a lover of persons. For one of his age he was unusually sensitive to the viewpoints and feelings of those who differed with him. His mark remains in evidence at St. John's both in the lives of those he touched and more concretely in changes he initiated in forms of work and worship.

Sherrill's lifestyle was wholly consistent with his favorite text, I John 4:7-12.

"Beloved, let us love one another;
for love is of God, and he who loves
is born of God and knows God...."

by William Archer Wright, Jr.

James David Kelly. 1902-1969. James David Kelly, the son of a Methodist minister, William Thaddeus Kelly and his wife Eloise, was born in Indianapolis, Indiana on July 18, 1902. He departed this life on Sunday, March 16, 1969 at Richmond Community Hospital.

David Kelly attended public school in Indiana and in Pennsylvania. He received the Bachelor of Arts degree and the Bachelor of Divinity degree from Lincoln University in Lincoln, Penn. He also did graduate work in business administration at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, and was awarded the Doctor of Divinity degree by Western University in Kansas City, Kansas.

In 1922 David Kelly was married to the late Mamie Bryant who preceded him in death. To this union were born three children. Two daughters, Mrs. Katie Logan of Landrum, S.C.; Miss Ruth Kelly of Philadelphia, Penn.; and one son, William Kelly of Chester, Penn., survive their father. Surviving him also are Leontine Turpea Current Kelly, to whom he was married in October 1956 and the following stepchildren: Miss Angella Current of Washington, D.C.; Lt. Gloster Current, stationed in Istanbul, Turkey; and John David Current Kelly of Heathsville, Va. He also leaves bereaved a sister, Mrs. Eloise Coger, and a brother, Wilson Kelly, both of Atlantic City, New Jersey, and a host of other relatives and friends.

In 1924 David Kelly was ordained to the ministry of the African Methodist Episcopal Church in Indianapolis, Indiana. He thereafter served parishes in both the Western North Carolina and the Kansas Annual Conferences of that Church. During his pastorate at the St. Luke A.M.E. Church in Lawrence, Kansas, he was active in civic and university affairs and also conducted a radio ministry from that city. In 1946 he returned to his father's denomination and became a member of the Delaware Annual Conference of

the Methodist Church. In this relationship he surveyed an area of Jamaica, New York, and finding a need for a Methodist Church, organized and built the St. Paul United Methodist Church.

Throughout his ministry David Kelly's greatest joy and challenge was the building of new churches or the relocation of old ones. His special talent for this kind of ministry led to his transfer in 1954 to the East Tennessee Annual Conference. He served as District Superintendent in this Conference and under his pastorate of the East Vine Avenue Methodist Church, the congregation purchased a parsonage and a new church building.

In 1958 David Kelly was transferred to the Washington Annual Conference and appointed to the Leigh Street Methodist Church in Richmond, Va. Under his leadership this congregation, in 1962, purchased the Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church and a new parsonage. During his last pastorate at Galilee United Methodist Church in Edwarsville, Va., his desire for the building and the expansion of the church continued as he launched this historic rural congregation on a building program.

The life of the Church in the years ahead will be enriched by David Kelly's many significant contributions. In 1966 he served as alternate delegate to the World Methodist Council, London, England. In 1968 he was the alternate delegate to the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference. He served as President of the Historical Society and as Chairman of the Board of Evangelism of the North Carolina-Virginia Annual Conference, and as Vice President of the Historical Society of the Virginia Annual Conference. He especially treasured his experience as instructor in the Baltimore Area Pastor's Schools at Morgan College, Baltimore, Md., and at Bennett College in Greensboro, N.C.

Active in many other areas of the work of the church, David Kelly will be remembered for his forthright position on behalf of the inclusive church in Methodism and in Virginia. His dramatic oratory on the floor of the old Annual Conference inspired us all to work for an to envision the inclusive church. To this end he served with Dr. John Blakemore as co-chairman of the Inter-conference Committee on Merger. David Kelly never ceased to actively strive for true brotherhood within Virginia Methodism. He was privileged to see the first fruits of his labors in the convening of the first Virginia Annual Conference of the newly merged United Methodist Church in June of 1968 where he delivered the report of the Historical Society.

For forty-five years James David Kelly loved and served the church as a faithful servant of our Lord. His labors are now ended, but the banner of Christian love he carried for so long will not fall in the heat of the struggle. We who knew him and were privileged to work with him and to love him shall rededicate ourselves anew to the end that the church that we know will be the Church Triumphant.

For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. 2 Corinthians 5:1 (KJV)

by James M. Pannell

George Arthur Harris. 1909-1969. Charles Kingsley, who once passed through an exceeding hard place in life explained that he came through "Because I had a friend." In Brother Arthur Harris this writer had a friend whose heart is saddened by his going and who will be sorely missed.

The light of God often shines in strange places. His life was a case in point. He was born May 30, 1909 in one of the most isolated mountain areas of Patrick County, Va., the son of George G. and Julia Trent Harris. Here the religious and educational opportunities were few. Nevertheless the light reached him and as a youth he was soundly converted to Christ and much to his own amazement a little while later felt a call to preach. With little encouragement and even with lesser funds he began the well-nigh impossible task of obtaining an education. This was accomplished against great odds by first entering Ferrum. As a student here he became active in religious work and was instrumental in founding the Maple Grove Church, now a part of the Fairystone Charge. He was later to return as pastor. He then entered Emory and Henry College where he earned a B.A. degree. After college he enrolled in Asbury Theological Seminary earning here a B.D. degree. It was at this last institution that I came to

know Brother Arthur in intimacy and appreciation. Many great hours we shared together. The saga of his past life led me to know he was a miracle of divine grace and his presence at a Theological Seminary was in itself a wonder to admire. He graced each institution he attended with competent scholarship, leadership abilities, and genuine Christian character.

Following his seminary training he was most wise and fortunate in the choice of a mate. He married Miss Reva Aylor of Madison, Va., December 19, 1943. This fine, consecrated young woman with musical talent and devout life blessed his life and complemented his ministry wherever he went. To this union was born one son, George Arthur Harris, II, both of whom survive him.

The active ministry of George Arthur Harris was only a brief one. Admitted on trial in 1944, his first work was the Cascade Charge (Danville District) where he served two years (1944-46). The Rev. Fletcher R. Hardy of our Conference was converted and called to preach under his ministry here. He was then appointed to the Fairystone Charge (Danville District), where he served six years (1946-52). Here doubtless the most substantial part of his ministry was wrought, not only in length of time, but in its contribution. He ever felt a special call to mountain people and he was among them. These were his people and he was one of them. He spoke their language and he preached on their level and they loved and appreciated his labors. The charge made great strides under his administration. A new parsonage was built, a church building was completed and many lives changed. Doubtless to this day many peoples of this charge still feel the impact of his ministry. Following this pastorate fate destined he give only one more full year to the regular ministry; four months at Tappahannock, the other eight months at Mount Crawford. Ill health then forced his retirement.

It was actually, however, the exchange of one type of ministry for another. Like ancient Job he was to become a ministry and witness for Christ in affliction. A little while later his condition was diagnosed as multiple sclerosis and many long years of suffering lay ahead for him. It was my privilege to visit him occasionally during these years and it was a grief to witness the gradual erosion of his physical powers. But I can attest there was none in his mind, in his spirit and faith, or even his sense of humor. His wife faithfully ministered to him during these years at their home at Madison, Va. His condition became such that finally he had to be admitted to the Leland Nursing Home, Charlottesville, Va., where he spent the last 2-1/2 years of his life. He was patient in suffering, never questioning God's wisdom, and even when the power of speech was gone his face still reflected God's light and peace. The end came March 24, 1969. The long ordeal was over.

Brother Harris ever maintained the evangelistic heart. He had a zeal and passion many of us need to recapture. To him the Christian faith was not an argument or philosophy only, but life, experience, conviction. In the Wesleyan tradition his heart burned within him as he spread the news. The reality of the fullness of the Holy Spirit was actual in his life. He confided to me once how this experience came to him after a period of prayer and fasting. It was something he never forgot. Even in his sufferings he spoke of it. Doubtless many will rise up to bless his name because his life touched theirs.

Funeral services were conducted for him in the Oak Grove Church, North Madison Charge by this writer and Dr. Hugh M. Burleigh, District Superintendent. Interment was in the church cemetery where he now sleeps.

One of the best known American epitaphs was written by Benjamin Franklin for himself and appeared in a 1771 almanac. To me these words seem appealing and appropriate for him too. Here they are:

"The Body of Benjamin Franklin, Printer.

Like the Covering of an old Book, Its contents
torn out, and stript of its lettering and gilding,
lies here, food for worms; But the work shall not
be lost, It will (as he believed) appear once more,
In a new and more beautiful edition.

Corrected and amended by the author."

With these words we say farewell to a faithful and true servant of Christ.

Great duties are before us, and great sorrows;

And whether crowned or crownless when we fall;

It matters not, so as God's work is done.

by Aaron D. Smith

John Westfall Morrison. 1916-1969. John Westfall Morrison was born in Burlington, W.Va., on May 31, 1914, the son of Rev. Floyd L. Morrison and Audrey Webb Morrison. While living in Monterey, Va., John attended Bridgewater College for two years as a pre-medical student but transferred to Randolph-Macon College, Ashland in his junior year. While a student at Randolph-Macon he decided to enter the ministry of The Methodist Church and in 1936 he was appointed as student pastor at Bishop Memorial Church, Richmond. While serving this appointment he returned to Occoquan and was married on February 28, 1938 to Miss Jane Selectman. In October of 1939 he was ordained deacon and received into membership of the Virginia Conference.

For more than thirty years, he served with distinction and popularity in the following churches: Bishop Memorial, Richmond; Newsoms, Va.; Westhampton, Richmond; Whaleyville; Urbanna; Charity, Back Bay; Urbanna, Hinton Ave., Charlottesville; St. Paul, Woodbridge; Community, Norfolk.

While at Community Church, he was granted sick leave due to illness and he was granted sabbatical leave for one year. In the eleventh month of this leave, he received his final appointment when death came suddenly from a massive coronary while sitting in his car preparing to leave for work on the morning of May 6, 1969.

During his ministry, Brother Morrison had an unusual influence on the lives of many young people who expressed their gratitude for his guidance and counsel.

Four children were born to John and Jane Morrison during their ministerial life: John W. Jr.--a member of the Virginia Conference currently serving as Associate Minister at First Church, Charlottesville, Va.; Linda--now Mrs. David Douglas of Lawton, Oklahoma; Carol--who now resides in Woodbridge, Va.; Judy--a student at Baker University, Baldwin, Kansas.

The funeral was conducted on May 10, 1969 at St. Paul Church, Woodbridge by Charles O. Kidd, Superintendent of the Alexandria District, Dr. Owen Kelly, Minister of Epworth Church, Norfolk and Rev. Wrightson Tongue, Pastor of St. Paul with burial in the family cemetery in Monterey, Va.

The following hymn, which was a favorite of his and expressed his deep faith, concluded the service:

Hymn 322

My times are in Thy hand: My God, I wish them there;

My life, my friends, my soul, I leave Entirely to Thy care.

My times are in Thy hand, Whatever they may be;

Pleasing or painful, dark or bright, As best may seem to Thee.

My times are in Thy hand; Why should I doubt or fear?

My Father's hand will never cause His child a needless tear.

My times are in Thy hand; I'll always trust in Thee;

And, after death, at Thy right hand I shall forever be. Amen.

The writer is proud to have called him friend and grateful for the privilege of walking a little way with him.

by Charles O. Kidd

Walter Clarke Gum. 1898-1969. Walter Clarke Gum was born July 4, 1898 in the small village of Monterey, Va., and became a world figure. He was married to Mary Lucille Hendricks who was his constant source of strength and support. Their daughter, Mrs. John Wiley Mason, Jr., held a unique place in his life and love. Their four grandchildren and one great-grandchild were his delight and joy.

He was admitted to the Virginia Annual Conference in 1918 and served as pastor at South Sussex, Irvington, Chatham, South Boston, First Church-Norfolk, Monumental, Ghent, Barton Heights. In 1940 he became Superintendent of the Norfolk District where he served for five years, then to Richmond and a five-year pastorate at Centenary. In 1950 he became Superintendent of the Richmond District, leaving in 1956 to become the pastor of Park Place, where he remained until he was elected a bishop in the Methodist church at the Jurisdictional Conference in 1960. For four years he served as the pre-

siding bishop of the Louisville, Kentucky Area, returning to his beloved Virginia for his last quadrennium as an active Bishop.

At the Jurisdictional Conference in 1968, the calendar caught up with him, and retirement was his lot. Upon retirement he returned to Norfolk--among friends and family. Here he lived--loved by all. Here he died--mourned by all.

To list his honors alone would take many pages.

To attempt an account of his accomplishments would require far more time than allotted.

These things must be said, however:

WALTER CLARKE GUM WAS A PRODUCT OF THE CHURCH. His early life was influenced by the Sunday School and the Church of his boyhood days. It was the Church that gave him his educational background at Randolph-Macon College and Emory University--schools that make no apology for their Church ties. It was the Church that gave him a pulpit in which to preach and a parish in which to serve.

You cannot even think of Walter Gum apart from the Church he loved and served. For 50 years he gave himself in tireless devotion as pastor, District Superintendent and Bishop. Truly, if any man was ever a product of the Church, this man was. He was a big man--big in body, big in mind, big in spirit, big in friendship and love--and the church had all that there was of him.

WALTER CLARKE GUM WAS A GOOD WITNESS FOR THE CHURCH. There is not an area in the life of the Church that he did not reach--and help to mold.

Evangelism: You can't speak of missions in the Methodist Church, and especially in the Southeastern Jurisdiction, without having Walter Gum's name come into the conversation. As Chairman of the Committee on Missions of the Southeastern Jurisdiction, new heights in mission work were reached under his leadership. He was honored by the General Board of Missions in his election as Vice Chairman of the National Division and Chairman of the Church Extension Section.

Education: The Church educational institutions that molded the life of Walter Gum were also molded by him. For 24 years he was a Trustee of Randolph-Macon College and for many years served as Chairman. One of his last duties he performed was the signing of the diplomas given only yesterday. He was also chairman of the Trustees at Randolph-Macon Academy.

He served as Trustee at Randolph-Macon Woman's College, Virginia Wesleyan College, and Ferrum Junior College.

Walter Gum was instrumental in establishing the Alaska Methodist University and served as Trustee from its beginning.

As a testimony of his interest in and concern for education, it can be noted that honorary degrees were conferred upon him by Randolph-Macon College, Kentucky Wesleyan College, and Union College.

Truly, there was no area in the life of the Church that his life did not touch.

But he was also a good witness for the Church beyond her walls. He was active in Civic Clubs, Fraternal Orders, and in all kinds of sports. As a Mason, he served as Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Virginia probably longer than any other man has ever served.

In everyday life he was a good witness for the Church and those with whom he was associated never doubted that they were in the presence of a man of God. He was never "preachy" in words, but a man who constantly marched to the sound of a different drummer.

WALTER CLARKE GUM'S LIFE IS A MESSAGE TO THE CHURCH. His was a life that was genuine. There was no pretense--no sham. He was honored in many ways but flattery never turned his head. He was in constant company with the great men of the Church, business and state--but he was at home in the humblest parsonage, vitally concerned with the smallest church, and a friend to all, high and low. He was a Bishop in the Methodist Church--but, he was still WALTER GUM.

One experience will suffice. After a short stay in the hospital about the middle of May, he was released on Wednesday, May 14. He had accepted an invitation to preach for the Homecoming at Knotts Island on his District for Sunday, May 18. All counsel to the contrary, he went--and he preached. He said to me, "This is a small Church and I

can't let them down. They are counting on me."

Walter Gum's life is saying something to the Church, something we need to hear. His love, loyalty and devotion to the Church of God compels us to examine our own. Warm friendship, genuine humility, unselfish service--all these he had--and more.

All these we need--and more.

Even in death--Walter Gum's life speaks. He that hath an ear, let him hear.

by Carl J. Sanders

Oscar Moore Blackwell. 1891-1969. We are all mindful of how different individuals are in capacity, interest or service that may be rendered whether it be in the family, business, industry or church. We know, also, that it is good we are different for different needs arise in every area of activity whether it is business or profession. Oscar Moore Blackwell was different, and had exceptional gifts which belonged to him and which he used for the good of the church and service to humanity. It was the writer's privilege to know him over a long period and to be closely associated with him during the two years of his service in the Charlottesville District. He loved his work because he loved his people and wished to serve them in the most effective manner for the advancement of the Kingdom. He could not be content to follow the usual parish routine and therefore was always on the alert to do more than this. He was interested particularly in the building or improvement of the physical property of the church.

He was never idle. His imagination worked overtime to formulate plans and ideas that would advance the work in which he was engaged. Sometimes this commendable trait led him to undertake burdens beyond those usually expected of a pastor. He never spared himself where the service of the church was involved. He visited among his people giving encouragement, comfort and help seeking to inspire in them higher ideals.

Oscar Moore Blackwell was born in South Boston, Va., November 12, 1891. He was the son of Joseph C. and Harriett Lee Blackwell. Early he went to Randolph-Macon College and Peabody College in Nashville, Tenn., for his academic training. In 1923 he received the certificate of graduation from Candler School of Theology of Emory University which completed the preparation for the ministry upon which he then entered. He was licensed to preach on August 16, 1913 and was ordained a deacon by Bishop Eugene R. Hendrix at the First Methodist Church, Charlottesville, Va., December 8, 1918. He was ordained an elder on October 22, 1922 by Bishop Warren A. Candler at the Candler School of Theology of Emory University. For fifty-six years he gave his service to the ministry of the Methodist Church.

Among the charges faithfully served were: Crittenden, Mecklenburg, Woodland Heights, Lekies Memorial, Exmore, Fairview Heights, Powhatan, West Buckingham, Boydton, Chase City Circuit, and Greene Circuit where this writer knew him best as his district superintendent. In 1957 he took the retired relationship and continued to serve as supply pastor in other charges. Among them were Epworth in Danville, after which he moved to the Holston Conference where he served several other charges. He was serving in the Morristown District at the time of his death.

Brother Blackwell was twice married. His first wife was Mary Duval Stephens of Winchester, Va. One child, a son, came to bless this union, O.M. Blackwell, Jr. Mrs. Blackwell died in December 1948.

In 1950 Brother Blackwell was married to Mrs. Anne White of Knoxville, Tenn. She and the son by the former marriage are the survivors together with three grandchildren. He is survived also by a brother, Dr. H. Conrad Blackwell, an esteemed member of the Virginia Conference.

Funeral services were held in Morristown, Tenn., on June 5, 1969 by Dr. H.M. Russell, District Superintendent of the Morristown District, assisted by Dr. C.F. Watkins, Pastor of the First Methodist church of Morristown, and the Reverend Odell Brown of the Virginia Conference. His body was laid to rest in Oak Ridge Memorial Gardens, Oak Ridge, Tenn.

"My struggling soul may never reach the prize it covets so,
My weary feet may never tread the golden street at sunsets slow,
But I have faith that at the set of sun I shall be judged,
By what I've tried to do, not by what I've done."

by Bernard S. Via

Minutes for 1970. **Wilhelm Volskis.** 1898-1969. Rev. Wilhelm Volskis was born on May 7, 1898, the son of Friedrich and Ernestine Volskis in the ancient and far away township of Volynia, Russia. He died peacefully at the Hermitage in Northern Virginia on July 24, 1969. His body was removed to Ashland, Va., where funeral services were conducted at Duncan Memorial United Methodist Church on the afternoon of July 27, 1969. The writer of this statement, who served for many years as Pastor and friend of Mr. Volskis, conducted the services with interment in Woodlawn Cemetery beside his faithful wife who had preceded him in death by a few years.

Early in his life the Volskis family moved to Riga, Latvia, where Mr. Volskis became actively identified with the Methodist Church and later dedicated himself to the ministry through the Methodist Church. In preparation for his chosen profession, he entered the Riga Methodist Seminary and thereafter served for many years as faithful Pastor in the ranks of our Methodist Ministry. To properly support his family, he worked in secular jobs but this in no way diminished his devotion to those who were committed to his spiritual care. He has often related to the writer his experiences of traveling more than twenty miles on bicycle to serve his scattered parish yet he never missed an appointment.

The ravages of World War II drove this disciplined Christian with his little family across the face of Europe and in spite of the tortuous suffering involved in such a journey, his faith remained firm. Under the auspices of our Methodist Church, the family was repatriated to America where after a brief stay on a farm near Ashland he became a member of the staff of Highland Park United Methodist Church. Mr. Volskis served well in this capacity until ill health forced his retirement and after a brief stay with his children he found a comfortable and happy Home at The Hermitage in Northern Virginia.

The agonies of the old world nor the inconsistencies of the new were sufficient to destroy his hope in mankind nor his faith in God. The arduous task of serving as a Methodist Minister in Latvia with the disciplined devotion it required is quite beyond the comforts of our managed ministry. Even during the days of his retirement he forced a frail body to continue a ministry in which he was thoroughly devoted. Through the help of many believing friends, he was able to purchase and distribute more than 40,000 religious tracts each year in the Metropolitan Washington area. In addition to this, he conducted many services for our members at The Hermitage and was always available for those in need of spiritual guidance.

My own life has been made infinitely richer for having lived and worked with Wilhelm Volskis over a period of nearly 14 years. I have never known him to shirk a duty nor have I ever heard him speak an unkind word toward anyone. His opinions on any subject were never expressed apart from his own deep religious convictions and those of us who knew and loved him will ever be grateful for the privilege of knowing one whose total life was lived in the purpose of God.

Mr. Volskis was extremely fortunate in having a loyal and devoted family. Among his immediate survivors are his son, Siegfried, a devoted and capable minister of our Conference, now serving a distinguished pastorate at our Emmanuel United Methodist Church, Amherst, Va. Surviving him also is a daughter, Mrs. Paul Bishop, Richmond, Va., and three grandchildren who were a source of great comfort to Mr. Volskis and continued to exercise great love and concern for him as long as he lived.

by James. L. Robertson

Charles Ernest Nevill Hall. 1881-1969. Charles Ernest Nevill Hall was born May 17, 1881, in Warwickshire, Birmingham, England, of deeply religious parentage. A son of Nevill James Hall and Emma Brearley Hall, he was educated in private schools in Birmingham and received his undergraduate diploma from the Bible Training Institute of Glasgow, Scotland. He also studied at the Diocesan Theological College of Montreal, Canada, and at the Virginia Episcopal Seminary at Alexandria, Va. He received his Local Preacher's License from the Lewisburg District of the Baltimore Conference on March 16, 1911. His elder's orders were received in Roanoke, Va., on April 1, 1917.

His first preaching assignment was at Prince Rupert, British Columbia, N.W. Canada. He was at various times a member of the Baltimore Conference, West Virginia Conference and the Virginia Conference. He served appointments at Louisa, Goshen-

Craigsville, Elk Garden, Bassett and Pittsylvania Charge. In October, 1929, he took the retired relationship and settled at Tumble Inn, a small motor court in Verona, Va.

Brother Hall was married to Miss Kathryn Waltman of Loudoun County in 1912. After her death in 1940, he was married in 1947 to Miss E. Bouchelle Allen of Goshen, Va. She and an adopted daughter, Millicent H. Leach, of the first marriage survive him as does also a brother, W. A. Hall, of Birmingham, England.

The earthly life of Brother Hall closed in Kings Daughters Hospital of Staunton, Va., August 21, 1969. Funeral services were conducted by his pastor, Samuel A. Stanley, Jr., from St. John's Church and his body was laid to rest in River View Cemetery, Goshen, Va.

All his life Brother Hall felt keenly the call to pastor and minister in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Tumble Inn was a place of witness and ministry to many as they travelled the Valley Pike. In his own characteristic way Brother Hall left behind memories of a person vital, alive, seeking, and desiring above all the adventure of eternity. God bless and keep us all who seek to follow the trail he has gone.

by Samuel A. Stanley, Jr.

Merrill Hamby Barton. 1894-1969. Jackson County, Ohio, gave us Merrill Hamby Barton--and the Methodist ministry in Virginia has every reason to be most grateful for this gift. He was born there on May 13, 1894, the child of Ross Allison Barton and Myrtle Booth Barton. The family moved to Hampton, Va., when Merrill was seventeen years old. Virginia was his home from that time on except the years spent overseas in World War I and three years (1925-28) teaching school in the State of New York.

Merrill Barton married Helen Irene Adkins in 1927, and to this union were born a son and two daughters--Merrill Hemby, Jr., Mary Ashton (now Mrs. James Athearn), and Barbara Louise (now Mrs. Charles L. Thomas). In his death he is survived by his widow, the three children, and seven grandchildren. One brother and three sisters also survive.

Merrill entered Randolph-Macon College in 1921 and was graduated in 1925. In preparation for the ministry he enrolled in Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, in 1928, but reasons of health required him to leave a short time after enrollment. He entered the Virginia Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, On Trial, in 1930 and continued actively until his retirement in 1959 at the age of 65. In these years he served charges in Buckingham, Blackstone, Powhatan, Charlotte, Middlesex, York, Westmoreland, and at New Hope. For awhile he taught Bible and Religious Education at Blackstone College for Girls.

In his ten years of retirement he resided at Kinsale, Va. Death came August 31, 1969. He was buried in Carmel Methodist Church Cemetery, Kinsale, September 2, 1969, after funeral services conducted at the Kinsale Methodist Church.

The ties of this writer with Merrill were very close. They began with the deepening friendships of college, and passed along the meaningful paths of teaching school together, playing tennis, climbing mountains, fishing and singing together, and knowing the unique and intimate fellowship of the Methodist ministry. In such ties you learn much about a man, and I discovered in Merrill Barton one of God's choice souls.

There were no flaws in the character of Merrill Barton. He returned from the tragic experiences of the war with many sad memories but no scars of bitterness. His was the kind of religion that was a deep and personal thing, which gave him a sweet and gentle spirit, and the disposition of the Christ he loved and served.

His ministry was largely in the rural areas--and no one ever more surely belonged in this environment. He loved country people and the genuineness of their character. He spoke their language and shared in their struggles. He lived close to the soil. His garden was a rich and creative part of his life. He loved Nature with her many gifts--and Nature did much to care out his fine and lovable character.

Some lines of Edwin Markham's great poem on Abraham Lincoln apply so well to Merrill Barton:

"The color of the ground was in him, the red earth,
The smack and tang of elemental things:
The rectitude and patience of the cliff,
The good will of the rain that loves all leaves,

The friendly welcome of the wayside well,
The courage of the bird that dares the sea,
The gladness of the wind that shakes the corn."

He did live close to the earth and was a part of its wonders. We all have many things to be grateful for. Those who knew Merrill Barton can joyously say with the hymn writer: "Thanks be to God that such have been though they are here no more."

by Harold H. Hughes

Claude Byron Larrick. 1878-1969. Claude Byron Larrick, a good minister of Jesus Christ and a former minister in the Baltimore Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was taken to his heavenly home on September 19, 1969. His death occurred in a rest home in Winchester, Va., where he had been under practically intensive care for nine years due to amputations from diabetes. Brother Larrick endured the extreme physical hardships of his condition and the loneliness of his situation with the patient grace of God bestowed upon him by the Holy Spirit.

Brother Larrick was born at Capon Springs, W.Va., April 17, 1878, the son of Theodore and Martha Wilson Larrick. His early years were spent in that community. He committed his life to our Lord and united with the Evangelical United Brethren Church in Capon Springs in 1898 and remained a member there until 1914 when he transferred to the Shiloh Methodist Church.

A very important step in his life was taken July 19, 1899 when Miss Daisy Good became his wife and served with him in unfailing loyalty and devotion until her passing May 28, 1958. One daughter was born to this union, Mrs. Pauline Larrick Good, Winchester, Va., who survives him along with one granddaughter, a great granddaughter and several nieces and nephews.

Brother Larrick became a local preacher in 1921 and served as a supply at Barnum, W.Va., and Somerfield, Penn. He was admitted into the Conference as a probationer April 7, 1924. He became a full member of the old Baltimore Conference March 28, 1926 and was elected deacon at the same time. Two years later he was received into full connection and ordained elder.

After being admitted on trial, Brother Larrick served churches in West Virginia for four years, and in Virginia fifteen and one-half years. He was forty-three years old when he became a local preacher and he retired from the Conference October 24, 1943. This writer knew him well. He was happy to be a Methodist preacher. He accepted modest appointments with appreciation and gave himself to them with great zeal and zest. He was one of that great multitude of Methodist ministers who never gained fame or high position in the Church, but who by their assiduity to the everyday duties of a gospel minister, their faith and devotion to Christ, and their true love for their fellowmen have made the Methodist church greater than most of us realize. Everyone who knew him respected him highly for his integrity and his good nature.

He served well the following charges: Garrett, Listonburg, Springfield, West Fauquier, Nokesville, Blue Ridge, Peterstown and Gainsboro. There are many persons in those communities who may not know it, but whose lives are still being influenced by the Christian life and service of this good man. He himself was greatly influenced in the ministry by the late Reverend J.C. Dugger. Thus it goes, each Christian leaving an aura of glory with those he touches, and the blessing is passed from one life to another.

A memorial service was held in the Omps funeral home in Winchester and burial was in the Mount Hebron Cemetery. His body has returned to Mother Nature's endless care, but his Spirit continues in triumph among those who have "washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."

by Edwin S. Sheppe, Jr.

John Walter Shackford. 1787-1969. Surely in all the world there is a no more convincing witness to the presence and power of God than is to be found in a truly good man! The world measures greatness by many standards but concerning goodness it holds only one.

John Walter Shackford was above all else a thoroughly good man. Born on January 10, 1878 in King and Queen County, Va., he was the oldest of five children born to Reverend Joseph Wesley and Cora Kingsbury Shackford. All five children lived to become adults though their mother died when they were very young. Joseph Shackford, who never

remarried, played the tender roles of both mother and father to his children and John learned from his father and from experiences within the home the way of patience and the gentle manner of consideration for others. Those lessons he never forgot.

In John's early years his father was a teacher—a profession from which he could garner very little financial support. The life of the family imposed a high degree of self-discipline upon each member. I have in my possession a letter written in 1890 by John's father which implies as much: "To keep the children from exposure (to the weather and to communicable disease) as well as to obviate irregularity in attendance, I have concluded to keep them at home—giving myself to Sally and John, instructions in Latin, algebra, philosophy and arithmetic, while they recite alternately to each other in geography and spelling and they also teach the three smaller ones—the whole being under my general supervision."

John, having studied with his father and at several academies including the Randolph-Macon Academy at Bedford, went on to Randolph-Macon College, from which he received his A.B. degree, and won both the Sutherlin Medal for oratory and Phi Beta Kappa honors.

By 1903 he had earned his B.D. degree from Vanderbilt, had been licensed to preach and ordained Deacon. During the period of his graduate studies he served as Student Y.M.C.A. Secretary of Schools, Colleges and Universities in Tennessee. Upon graduation he became a secretary of the Board of Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, with responsibility for the missionary education of youth. Always interested in the pastoral ministry, he had reached agreement with the Board that his employment by them would terminate with the end of the quadrennium and that then he would enter the pastorate. This was not to happen, however, before he had grasped the need to establish missionary education as one of the primary thrusts of the church and had shaped the legislation necessary to create the Department of Missionary Education within the Board of Missions. He argued for this Department in the General Conference of 1906 and won its acceptance. Elmore Brown, in his book on Dr. Shackford, says that he was at that time one of the youngest men ever to conceive and guide a major piece of legislation through a General Conference.

That year he presented himself for an appointment in the Virginia Conference and was sent to Rivermont Avenue Church, Lynchburg. It was here that he became concerned over the poor materials and lack of educationally acceptable teaching techniques among the adult Bible classes. As a consequence of his interest in the matter, the 1910 General Conference launched the Wesley Bible Class movement which brought a higher degree of uniformity into Adult Bible Class programs.

Dr. Shackford's next appointment was to Centenary Church, Norfolk, which was moved during his pastorate from downtown into the Ghent section. The name of the church was changed to Colonial Avenue. The unusual floor plan of this building, he once told me, came to him one morning while he was eating a half grapefruit! Those who are familiar with the church will readily see the similarity. The most significant portion of his ministry in Norfolk was undoubtedly Dr. Shackford's leadership of the clergy of Norfolk in a powerful effort to clean up the political corruption in city government and rid the city of its houses of prostitution. Unfortunately, before this endeavor was entirely completed, Dr. Shackford was appointed to Broad Street Church, Richmond.

In Richmond, interestingly enough, his job was not to move a church as he had done in Norfolk, but to keep a congregation which was bent on "moving West," in a continuing ministry to the needs of the downtown community. He was successful in this and for forty-five more years, Broad Street Church in its original location exerted a wholesome influence upon life in the business section of the city.

All of these experiences were but prologue to a ministry through the General Board of Education which was to make profound contributions to the Church, and particularly to the developing Methodist Church. Dr. Shackford was called by the General Sunday School Board of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in 1915 to be the Superintendent of Teacher Training—a role which became rapidly more significant. He was quickly appointed to serve on a special interdenominational committee charged with the development of the first graded literature for Sunday School use and worked out within his own

denomination a course for training teachers to teach the new materials. Out of his labors evolved the training courses for leadership which continue to the present time.

In 1922 Dr. Shackford was elected the General Secretary of the Board of Education and served in this capacity until 1930. Sharing the conviction of other progressive educators, he laid emphasis upon the truth that Christian education not only "should develop faith in God as revealed in Jesus Christ and develop Christian ideals and attitudes, but that it should also reinterpret Christian doctrines in the light of new knowledge and make practical application of Christian principles to modern society." This emphasis which today is taken for granted by more people, appeared at that time to his more conservative brothers to be quite radical and was strongly resisted. Fortunately these ideas were, by invitation, shared with representatives of other churches, especially with those from the Methodist Episcopal Church. During the years he served as General Secretary of the Board of Education. Dr. Shackford, working with Bishop McConnell, laid many educational foundations which were to make easier the ultimate reunion of Methodists in 1939. With the coming of "Unification" the new church took over, almost without alteration, the educational program he had developed in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Dr. Shackford pioneered in the first city-wide training school, making use of professional talent in nearby colleges and universities. He established the first demonstration school to train conference and district leaders in the conduct of training schools. He pioneered in getting religious education as credit courses into church-related colleges. In short, the achievement of a sound educational training program in Methodism was probably Dr. Shackford's greatest contribution to his Church.

During his years in Nashville, where the offices of the Board of Education were located, Dr. and Mrs. Shackford were busy also raising their family of seven children--John, Atkins, Joseph, Ella, Love, Margaret, and Elizabeth. Of these, all but Atkins are still living. There are now eighteen grandchildren and four great grandchildren. Mrs. Shackford died in April, 1969.

With the feeling in 1930 that he had completed his work for the Church as a general officer and wanting more time to be at home with Mrs. Shackford who was frequently in poor health, he returned to the pastorate and in succession served Central Church, Albemarle, N.C. (1930-31); Hawthorne Lane Church, Charlotte, N.C. (1931-34); St. John's Church, Rock Hill, S.C. (1934-36); Washington Street Church, Columbia, S.C. (1936-38); Buncombe Street Church, Greenville, S.C. (1943-45). From 1938-43 he was District Superintendent of the Rock Hill District of the South Carolina Conference.

Dr. Shackford returned to the Virginia Conference in 1945 as the pastor of Chestnut Avenue Church, Newport News and continued his ministry after 1950 at Churchland and West Norfolk, and at Churchville, near Staunton. Never did he serve a church but that he was greatly loved by the people he served.

In retirement he and Mrs. Shackford lived at Waynesville, near Junaluska, N.C., where as the daughter of Bishop James Atkins Mrs. Shackford had spent her childhood years. Later, because of growing physical infirmity they moved near their daughter in Newport News, Va., where, until the hour of his death at 91 years of age he maintained his broad interests in every aspect of community and church affairs. The day before his death he dictated to his daughter the last of recollections he had hoped to publish!

The author of at least two significant books in the field of Christian education, Dr. Shackford was also the author of more than 100 hymns, one of which, O Thou Who Art the Shepherd, is included in the new Methodist Hymnal. He also greatly enjoyed painting landscape scenes--often with improvised materials like peanut butter, toothpaste colored with ink, burnt cork, etc. and in old age frequently at night used the painting of these scenes, on shirt cardboards, as his prelude to sleep.

At long last, after a marvelously creative, richly fruitful life of service to his Master through the Methodist Church, John Walter Shackford's sharply discerning, inquisitive mind rested. His great compassionate heart grew still. And his spirit returned to God to whom he had belonged from the first. He was a good man because he was God's man. No one who ever knew him doubted that.

The time of his going from us was October 15. In addition to the funeral service at Chestnut Avenue Church in Newport News, a memorial service was held on October 19 at the United Methodist Assembly Center in Junaluska, N.C. Here, nestled among the beautiful Great Smoky Mountains that he loved and painted so often, stands Shackford Hall, an educational center and an enduring expression of esteem for him from "the people called Methodist."

by Joseph S. Johnston

William Shelby Gardner. 1909-1969. The church had a profound influence on the life of William Shelby Gardner. He was born to the Rev. and Mrs. Albert Gardner on the 12th day of January 1909 in Cartersville, S.C. Like his father and his brother Carlis, Shelby accepted the call to the ministry as his life's work. He was educated in the public schools of South Carolina and in 1926 entered Wofford College. From there, he went on to Randolph-Macon College where he earned his A.B. After graduating from Randolph-Macon, he entered Emory University and received his B.D.

His first pastoral appointment took him to Liberty Chapel in Florence, S.C. After serving that appointment and one at Lugoff, Shelby transferred to the Virginia Conference. Upon his arrival in Virginia, he was appointed to the Henry Circuit at Martinsville, then to Branch Memorial in Richmond, and Crozet. During World War II he served as a Chaplain in the United States Army. Upon his return to the active pastorate his church appointments included Hot Springs, Wachapreague, Hickory, Schoolfield and Stuart. In 1961 ill health forced him to retire from the Stuart pastorate. Upon his retirement, he moved to Surry where he spent the last six years of his life. In early December Shelby suffered his sixth heart attack and was taken to McGuire Veterans Hospital in Richmond, where on December 20 our Heavenly Father called him home.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Dorothy P. Gardner, who was a constant source of strength and support; one daughter, Mrs. Anne G. Sterling; one son, William S. Gardner, Jr., and three grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted Monday, December 22, at 11 o'clock in the Surry United Methodist Church by the Pastor, Rev. R.B. Moore, his nephew, the Rev. Carlis Gardner, Jr., Rev. James E. Scott, Jr., and the writer of this memoir. "Onward Christian Soldiers" was pealed by the organ as the cortege left the church. The hymn had been selected by him for the occasion. Final graveside services with full military honors were conducted on Tuesday in Florence National Cemetery, Florence, S.C., by his nephew and the writer of this memoir.

He was known to his friends as Shelby. Those of us who knew him best loved him not only for the things he did, but for what he was! Shelby was at home with people, and he found a great joy in ministering to the needs of God's children. Of all his great qualities, the greatest was humility. The rich and the poor, those with and without influence, the young and the old found in him a friend. His interest in young people inspired them to a greater height of living. He conducted his services with dignity and poise. His jovial laugh, his warm friendliness, and his dedication to the Church of our Lord Jesus Christ will be remembered and cherished throughout eternity.

It was my pleasure to know him the last four years of his life. He was my neighbor during my first pastorate. His warmth, his interest, and his advice was a great help to me, and I wish it were possible for every young man entering the ministry to have as his neighbor and friend a man like Shelby Gardner.

If one word could describe his life it would be proud. He was proud of his family. He was proud of his friends. He was proud of his country and for the opportunity to serve it. But he was even prouder to be a soldier in the army of Christ's Church. Throughout his life, he "endured the hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ." He took his stand "Beneath the Cross of Jesus." The words to that great old hymn fit his life completely.

"I take, O cross, thy shadow for my abiding place

I ask no other sunshine than, the sunshine of his face;

Content to let the world go by. To know no gain nor loss,

My sinful self my only shame, My glory all the Cross."

That was Shelby Gardner! Because he took his stand "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" he could say with Paul, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have

kept the Faith." While we mourn his death, may we be grateful for his life, and thank God for the privilege of walking with him part of the way. **by Gene C. Tatum**

Dwight Lamar Sherertz. 1893-1970. Dwight Lamar Sherertz, for many years a missionary in China and Rhodesia and retired member of the Virginia Conference, died in Silver Spring, Md., on January 19, 1970. During his years in China, 1918-1950, he had lived and worked through some of the most significant periods of Chinese history.

He was born in Radford, March 18, 1893, then spent much of his early in Roanoke. He attended Roanoke College (B.A. and D.D.), Princeton (M.A.), Candler School of Theology and Union, New York.

He went as a high school teacher of English to China in 1918. There he met and in October 1919 married Margarita Park, a kindergarten teacher. She was of distinguished missionary background through her parents, Dr. and Mrs. Wm. Hector Park, and her uncle, Bishop Walter R. Lambuth.

Lamar taught in the junior and senior high school of Soochow University. He found keen satisfaction in this work and was using linguistic approaches long before such methods became popularized. His Christian experience found expression in deep personal piety and in strong outreach. He preached periodically in Chinese and was usually involved with some Bible Study or Fellowship Group with students. He loved music sang in the choir and wrote some hymns. Through all was a note of deep devotion.

In 1941, with the family located in America, he returned to teach in the refugee quarters of his high school in Shanghai. Following the Japanese takeover of that city, he was placed in internment camp for eight months before being repatriated on the Gripsholm in 1943.

After a time with the family, he returned to China as a liaison officer between the Nationalist Chinese and the American armed forces, using his knowledge of language and people to facilitate communication and understanding. After VJ Day he moved rapidly to East China and was one of the first on the campus in Soochow, where he assisted in the reopening of the university and its high schools.

He was joined by his family, and they went through difficult days together. There were shortages of food and other necessities, run-away inflation, and the growing threat from the advancing Communist Armies. They stayed faithfully by their jobs through the takeover, and returned to the U.S.A. in 1950.

When it became clear that China would not open, they sought service elsewhere and were appointed to Rhodesia where Lamar and Rita spent six years until retirement in 1958.

They spent their retirement in Silver Spring, Md., where married daughters Olive and Margarita were living. Lamar kept busy writing letters and stimulating a number of relief and literature projects. Illness struck, and over a two-year period, 1963-64, he had five operations, one a leg amputation just above the knee. He bounced back with amazing vitality, and soon was manifesting the same joy and zest, the same interested outlook on life and people that characterized him. After our last visit with them we came away warmed by their presence, marveling at his spirit, and reassured about the future.

On October 25, 1969, Lamar and Rita celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. Married sons Hector, Paul and Walter, married daughters, husbands, wives and grandchildren were there, a merry 23 in all.

Then in January came death, which he and all met with fortitude and faith. A memorial service was held in a church very dear to him. Melrose Avenue United Methodist Church, Roanoke, May 30, 1970 with Rev. Paul E. Trimpey of that church conducting and son Hector, a minister, speaking. Before his death Lamar expressed the hope that sometime, somehow, his ashes find their final resting place in his beloved China.

by M.O. Williams, Jr.

James C. Weaver. 1907-1970. For a number of years James Calvin Weaver devoted his life to public education, first as a teacher and later, for nine years, as principal at Chincoteague High School on Virginia's Eastern Shore. At the same time, being active in his church, he was conscious of the church's need for men of his training and experience in the ministry of the church. In 1937 he responded to God's call, resigned his position and began specific preparation for the Christian ministry.

He had received a B.A. degree from Lynchburg College and a Masters degree in Education from Duke. His theological studies were done through Emory University. He joined the Conference on Trial in 1938 and for more than thirty years served the church as one of its most dedicated pastors, always making a notable contribution to the local church program of education. He served Cashville, Painter and Oak Hall Churches on the Eastern Shore District, Phoenix and Prospect Charges on the Farmville District, St. James in Richmond, Oxford at Suffolk in the Portsmouth District, and Chestnut Avenue in the Peninsula District. During his pastorate, education buildings were erected at Downings and Temperanceville Churches, and entire new church plants were constructed at St. James and Chestnut Memorial Churches where in both instances, he was instrumental in strategic relocation of the congregations.

"Jim" Weaver was born on May 6, 1907, son of George N. and Katherine Weaver of Saxis, Va. In due time he married Elizabeth Bonawell, also of the Eastern Shore, who along with a daughter Mary Elizabeth, survives. In the fine tradition of Christian Commitment which was characteristic of her family, the daughter has registered at Scarritt College where she will prepare herself to be a Director of Christian Education.

On February 13, 1970, James Calvin Weaver, after a brief illness, accepted his last appointment. This time it was to be forever and in the full fellowship of that One whom he has all his life served so well.

While he served here, "Jim" Weaver was a quiet man, yet a strong and courageous leader. Never "up front," he played the role of enabler and encourager, helping his people to find direction and to become meaningful witnesses of the faith. Loved and admired by both young people and adults of his congregation and communities, he served them well as a counsellor and friend. He could be depended upon and trusted in time of trouble. He was thoroughly Christian, even to the point that one man said, "He was the best man I ever knew."

by M.D. Newman

William Sherman Tussey. 1884-1970. William Sherman Tussey, the son of George and Lucinda Brock Tussey, was born in Tasewell, Indiana, October 18, 1884. He was about eight years of age when he and his parents moved to Missouri.

For some years Brother Tussey worked on passenger trains and did milling and logging. He was talented in manual arts.

Mr. Tussey married Miss Ida Goggin in 1903 and she was of great inspiration and help to him. Into their happy Christian home there were born three children, George Tussey, Independence, Missouri who died in June, 1963, Arthur R. Tussey, Richmond, Va., and Mrs. William A. Ramsey, South Boston, Va. Also, there were six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. The Rev. W.S. Tussey's wife died in June 1963.

At thirty years of age Brother Tussey entered the ministry. Much of his preparation was done by correspondence work.

It is interesting to note that W.S. Tussey's brother, John David Tussey, served for fifty years as a fully ordained minister in the Missouri Conference.

The Rev. W.S. Tussey served in the Missouri and North Arkansas Conferences from 1914 to 1944 and then in the Virginia Conference from 1944 to 1955. From 1919 to 1923 he did printing work in addition to doing much evangelistic work. As an evangelist, Mr. Tussey believed that revival services should continue two or more weeks in length. He preached in many revivals for various fellow ministers, and he was instrumental in helping many persons to accept Jesus Christ as Savior. In addition to preaching with great fervor, Brother Tussey sang solos in a number of the revivals.

Some of the favorite hymns for Mr. Tussey were "Life's Railway to Heaven," "How Beautiful Heaven Must Be," "The King's Business" and "When They Ring Those Golden Bells."

In the Virginia Conference the Rev. W.S. Tussey served faithfully as approved supply pastor of the following charges: Orange, Unionville; West Mathews, Mathews County; Hyco, Halifax County; Cambria, Montgomery County; Keezletown, Rockingham County; and Blue Grass, Highland County.

In 1955 the Rev. Mr. Tussey became a member of the McCanless Memorial United Methodist Church, South Boston, Va.

The Rev. Herbert P. Hall, the Rev. W.S. Tussey's pastor, expresses his appreciation for this beloved retired minister who was very helpful. Inspiring minutes were shared as he helped to administer the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper many times.

Across the years Brother Tussey had a special love for children, young people, and aged people. Also, he was engaged in many church and parsonage building programs. He did much of the work himself.

The Rev. William Sherman Tussey died on February 14, 1970. His funeral was conducted by his pastor, the Rev. Mr. Hall on February 17, 1970 in the McCanless Memorial United Methodist Church. Interment was in the Halifax Memorial Gardens Cemetery.

At Brother Tussey's funeral, Mrs. Carlton Stevens sang as a solo the hymn entitled "How Beautiful Heaven Must Be" by the Rev. A.S. Bridgewater. The first verse helps us to know that heaven has been made for Brother Tussey and all others who are prepared.

"We read of a place called heaven,

It's made for the pure and the free;

These truths in God's word He has given,

How beautiful heaven must be."

by Herbert P. Hall

Herbert W. Landrum. 1898-1970. Herbert W. Landrum was born in Halifax County on April 14, 1898. His father died when the son was four years old. Herbert and a younger brother grew up in the home of their grandmother and an aunt. Since he was the older of the two boys, he in time became responsible for making the living on the farm, and frequently his education was interrupted so that he could help with the tobacco and other crops. While a very young boy he felt the call to the Christian ministry, therefore the acquiring of a good education became a very definite goal. Many people at Union Methodist Church, Halifax, were interested in him and encouraged him in this direction. He walked to school when he had the opportunity to go and did chores in one of the stores in South Boston to help him in his plans. One day Dr. B.M. Beckam, President of Ferrum, came in and asked for Herbert Landrum. Upon seeing Herbert, he announced, "I have a place for you at Ferrum." Herbert immediately went home, packed his trunk and left for Ferrum. This was just about the time the Armistice was signed in November 1918.

He worked on the farm, helped with the slaughtering, ran the grist mill and did whatever he could to help with expenses. He was there four years and was graduated with honors.

From Ferrum Herbert went to Randolph-Macon College and was graduated in 1926. Following his graduation he attended Union Theological Seminary in Richmond from which he received his degree. In May 1948 Randolph-Macon College honored him with the degree of Doctor of Divinity.

While at Randolph-Macon, and while he was supplying the Carolina Circuit, he married Miss Annie Tulloh of Halifax County. To this union was born a daughter, Ann, now Mrs. Jack Attkisson, Richmond, Va.

This family worked happily with many of the fine churches in the Virginia Conference until the death of Mrs. Landrum, generally known as "Miss Annie," which occurred while they were at Del Ray in Alexandria, Va. In June 1960 Herbert married Miss Ida Bilger, a deaconess at Bethlehem Center, Richmond, and continued a most successful ministry until his retirement in 1967.

Looking back we would say that his ministry was rich and fruitful. He was admitted on trial into the Virginia Conference in 1923 and ordained deacon by Bishop Warren A. Candler; then four years later in Danville he was ordained Elder by Bishop Collins Denny. Through the years Herbert served the following churches: Powhatan Circuit, Farmville District; West Franklin Circuit, Danville District; Caroline, Richmond; Hanover, Richmond; Zion, Norfolk; Hopewell, Petersburg District; Cape Charles, Eastern Shore District; Chase City, Farmville District; Lawrenceville, Petersburg District; First Church, Hampton; Boulevard, Richmond; Harrisonburg, Winchester District; Calvary, Richmond, Del Ray, Alexandria; Barton Heights, Richmond; Laurel Hill, Richmond.

Herbert Landrum was a good student, an effective preacher, a helpful pastor, a loyal husband and father and a true friend. Each appointment was an opportunity and a sacred trust which he met and served to the best of his ability. He was dedicated to

his calling, he loved his Lord and through his messages, and the life he lived he gave testimony to his faith.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Ida Landrum, one daughter, Mrs. Jack Attkisson, his son-in-law and four grandchildren, J. William, Nancy, Virginia and Pamela. As a testimony to this fine Christian friend I would use this poem by Bishop Robert S. Cushman, which reflects his great faith.

I WANT THE FAITH

I want the faith
That envies not
The passing of the days;
That sees all times and ways
More endless than the stars;
That looks at life
Not as a little day
Of heat and strife,
But one eternal revel of delight
With God, the friend,
adventurer and light.

What matter if one chapter nears the end?
What matter if the silver deck the brow?
Chanting I go
Past crimson flaming
From the autumn hills.
Past winter's snow,
To find that glad new chapter
Where God's spring
Shall lift its everlasting voice to sing.
This is the faith I seek
It shall be mine,
A faith that strides across the peaks
of time!

Delford N. Calvert

Benjamin Weirman Coe. 1912-1970. Benjamin Weirman Coe was born September 2, 1912 and died May 20, 1970 at Edinburg, Va. He was the son of Reverend Henry Slicer and Frances Weirman Coe.

In April 1937 he was happily married to Miss Marian Wade who survives him. Four children followed this union, all of which are living in Virginia. They are John Walter Coe of Richmond, Judy Ann Hill of Herndon, Jeanne Sue Coe of Charlottesville, and Benjamin Wade Coe of Edinburg.

Ben Coe attended public school at Edinburg and later attended George Washington University and Emory University. His first appointment was Frostburg, Md., in 1936 in the Old Baltimore Conference Church, South. The following appointments in the Baltimore Conference were McLean, Va., and Capon Bridge, W.Va. In 1939 when the Methodist Church, North and the Methodist Church, South united he was serving at Talcott, W.Va., and thus became a member of the West Virginia Conference. In 1948 he transferred to Minutes for 1971. **Ernest Franklin Hall.** 1869-1970. Ernest Franklin Hall, son of James Ellis and Frances Cheatham Hall, was born in Manchester, Va., on June 5, 1869. His early boyhood was spent in Richmond. At the age of 14 he moved with his parents to Bedford City, then called Liberty, Va. At 16 years of age he was converted, joined the Methodist Church, and soon became deeply impressed that God had called him to preach the Gospel. After a real struggle, he finally gave himself up to God's will and enrolled in Randolph-Macon College in preparation for the ministry. He was received on trial in the Virginia Conference at Danville, Va., on November 23, 1863. He was ordained a deacon in November 1894, and an elder in 1897.

In 1897 he was happily married to Miss Emily Sandys of Montross, Westmoreland County, Va. To this union were born 5 daughters: Frances Mae (Mrs. Lloyd U. Lumpkin), Fort Lauderdale, Florida; Irma Sandys (Mrs. Edward Tucker), Richmond, Va.; Emily Ernestine (Mrs. William W. Patterson), Virginia Beach, Va.; Nell Virginia (Mrs. Robert H. Junnings, Jr.), of Virginia Beach, Va. Sarah Agnes, who was Mrs. Norris B. Richardson of Matthews, is deceased.

His first appointment was Henry Circuit. It is interesting that during this pastorate he gave John W. Shackford, son of the pastor at Martinsville, his first opportunity to preach. A friendship developed between these two ministers that lasted for three-quarters of a century. Other appointments served during the 48 years of an active itinerancy were: Montross, Orange, Amelia, Prospect, South Hill, Waverly, Hendersons, Grace-Danville, Le-Kies-Norfolk, Cashville, North Mecklenburg, Mathews, Charlotte and Nelson. During World War I he served two years as chaplain in the U.S. Army.

After 48 years of service and upon retirement from the active ministry, he moved back to his native city of Richmond. However, retirement wasn't for long, for soon he

was busily engaged as assistant to the chaplain at the Medical College of Virginia. At the age of 75 he enrolled in Massachusetts General Hospital to take a course for improvement of techniques in hospital chaplaincy. After three years, the failing health of his wife required that he devote more time in caring for her needs, and thus he resigned. Following her death, he moved to Virginia Beach where he could be near three of his daughters. The last four years of his life were spent in the Holmes Nursing Home. But even there, Ernest Hall could not be inactive. From his college days back in the '90s when he played quarterback on the Randolph-Macon Football team to his confinement in the nursing home, he had to be doing something. There each Sunday morning, assisted by members of his family, he conducted worship and preached to the residents of the Home. This service continued from his wheelchair after he had passed his one hundredth birthday. He understood Charles Wesley when he sang,

"Happy, if with my latest breath
I may but gasp His name;
Preach Him to all, and cry in death,
Behold! Behold the Lamb!"

Through his long and busy ministry he was an earnest and faithful preacher of the gospel. He declared the unsearchable riches of Christ with faith and fervor. He was a diligent pastor, friendly and warm-hearted. His life was spent in devotion to his family, his church, and his Lord.

Brother Hall departed this life June 15, 1970. Funeral services were held at Hollomon-Brown Funeral Home, Bayside Chapel, Virginia Beach, by the writer. His body was taken to Richmond, the place of his birth, and laid to rest in Riverview Cemetery beside his beloved companion with Rev. William R. Kyle officiating.

At his going we think of the lines of Samuel Coleridge--

"How well he fell asleep!
Like some proud river, widening toward the sea,
Calmly and grandly, silently and deeply,
Life joined Eternity."

by R. Orman Bryant

Walter C. Hook. 1893-1970. On April 16, 1893, Walter C. Hook was born the son of Robert C. and Sallie McDonald Hook in Hampshire County, W.Va. At the age of thirteen years he moved with his family to Winchester, Va. At Elon College, N.C., the young Mr. Hook earned his Bachelor of Arts Degree and later did graduate work in Union Theological Seminary, New York City.

He started preaching in 1915 the unsearchable riches of Christ as a student pastor serving churches both in Virginia and North Carolina and was ordained in 1918 at the age of twenty-five. During World War I with so many clergymen serving as chaplains, young Brother Hook filled their pulpits at home serving eleven churches in two states and six counties and teaching at the same time in the high school in Harrisonburg, Va.

By this time he had chosen his life's helpmate and had married Ethyl Fleming, Mt. Jackson, Va., in 1916. Along with their mother, the following children survive: Deyerle Louise, who is now Mrs. Donald Kernan of Washington, D.C.; Beverley, now Mrs. Dale Davidson of Philadelphia, Penn.; Walter C., Jr., and Dalton, two sons both living in Annandale, Va. Their first child, Rowland Fleming, died in infancy.

Brother Hook served in the active ministry for a total of fifty-five years, dividing his services between the Congregational and Methodist Church. His first twenty-five years were given to Congregational Churches in the following cities: Norfolk, Va.; Harrisonburg, Va.; Albany, NY; Waverly, Va.; Holland, Va.; Frostburg, Md.; and Washington, D.C. The next thirty years of his ministerial service were fulfilled as a member of the Virginia Methodist Conference, serving Tom's Brook Charge, Dumfries, Vienna, Oakton, three different churches in the Richmond District, a church in Fairfax, in Alexandria, the Franconia Methodist Church, Gunston Hall, Nokesville, and finally a church in Wardensville, W.Va. The Annual Conference minutes document a ministry of unusual dedication and achievement.

Brother Hook was also an unusual outdoorsman. His hobbies were deer hunting and recreational camps. For forty years he maintained a large camp on the Capon River in W.Va. which he freely shared with the people of his church both old and young. The expenses and the maintenance of the camp were his responsibilities and he gladly

involved himself in this way making many sacrifices in order that such a facility would benefit the lives of other people. Pastor Hook may well have been called "The Deer Slayer" among his people for during his hunting trips through the successive seasons he brought the meat home and with the help of the ladies of his churches he held annual feasts which were open to the public, a gesture of goodwill to all. His hunting skills and venison dinners were featured in the Washington Post sports section under the caption "The Outdoor Parson."

Brother Hook enjoyed the retired relationship of the Virginia Conference for several years residing with his beloved wife in Fairfax, Va. On July 13, he suffered a massive heart attack and died in the Fairfax Hospital July 14, 1970. Funeral services were conducted at the Everly Funeral Home, Fairfax, Va., on July 18, by the Reverend LeRoy Young of Pender United Methodist Church, assisted by Dr. Raymond W. Davis, a longtime personal friend, of the Truro Episcopal Church of Fairfax. He was buried in the Hook family plot, Mt. Hebron Cemetery, Winchester, Va. Besides his wife and four children, Brother Hook is survived by two brothers, Dr. A. L. Hook, Elon College, N.C., and R. M. Hook, Fairfield, Va., and one sister, Mrs. Hubert Whitmire, Winchester, Va.

It is significant to know that while Brother Hook was an outdoorsman and active in every phase of the church's life, he took such an interest in the preparation of his sermons that all of his sermons and sermon notes were requested by the library at Elon College, N.C., and are deposited there to be available especially for those who are in ministerial training at the college.

by C. Warner Crumb

Leslie Flintroy Callaham. 1882-1970. For more than 34 years, the Virginia Annual Conference profited from the ministry of The Rev. Leslie Flintroy Callaham who was born in Campbell County, January 26, 1882, and died at the Hermitage in Richmond, Va. July 15, 1970.

The son of Hillary Mosley and Mildred Maddox Callaham, Leslie Callaham was married in Lynchburg, Va., January 20, 1902, to Nora Bell Murray and to this union were born five sons and one daughter, four of whom survive, namely: Mrs. Nell Callaham Saylor of Alexandria, Va.; Elton of Louis, Va.; Robert of Richmond, Va.; and Claude of Boston, Mass. Brother Callaham was buried in Springhill Cemetery, Lynchburg, Va., beside his wife, who preceded him in death August 17, 1968.

Among the appointments served by Brother Callaham, were: Bedford Springs, Appomattox, La Crosse, Montvale, North Garden, Louisa, Amherst, Wakefield, Mecklenburg, Boykins and other churches near Lynchburg where the Callahams built their own retirement home and extended their ministry through many of the activities of Fort Hill United Methodist Church where he assisted the pastor and served as one of the teachers of the Jefferson Bible Class.

Brother Callaham served with dignity and distinction wherever he preached and employed his skills for the advancing of God's Kingdom. His many talents coupled with a genuine unselfish love for people combined to make a most impressive ministry. Nor did his love stop with people, for he loved animals, especially horses. Some of his friends fondly remember him making his "pastoral rounds" immaculately dressed with a Texas hat in a fancy buggy with a fringe top and drawn by a beautiful spirited horse which could pass every other vehicle on the road, and did!

While he was Admitted on Trial November 17, 1914, and formally retired October 17, 1949, his ministry goes marching on, for Christ gave him the vital assurance "THAT WHOSOEVER LIVETH AND BELIEVETH IN ME, SHALL NEVER DIE!" May God in His omnipotent wisdom, call more Leslie Callahams to work in His vineyards.

by John A. McKenry, Jr.

James Thomas Green. 1873-1970. James Thomas Green was born August 29, 1873, in Petersburg, Va. His parents were James Matthew Green and Elizabeth Browder Green. During his young manhood, he was very active in the High Street Methodist Church, Petersburg, Va., and it was while actively participating in this church's program at the age of twenty years, he received the call of God to preach the unsearchable riches of His Son, Jesus Christ. This call was so vivid that it lasted throughout the entire lifetime of this beloved pastor. Believing the call to the glorious ministry of the gospel of Christ implied thorough preparation for the greatest business on earth, James Green entered Randolph-Macon Academy in Bedford, Va., and after completing the first year, moved to Randolph-Macon at Ashland, where he completed three years of study. Brother

Green was ordained an Elder in the Virginia Conference in the year 1899. In 1903 he married Lucy Ann Hahn, Newport News, Va.

Among the churches and charges that were served by this good man were the following: Asbury, Richmond, the church being built during the time of his pastorate. Grace, Newport News, which was at the time of his ministry the Chapel on 42nd Street. He served next at Fox Hill and then Chestnut Avenue, Newport News, where he led in the building of a sanctuary. Appointments at Franklin, Wright Memorial, Portsmouth; Larchmont, Norfolk; St. James, Richmond; Brambleton Avenue, Norfolk; Park View, Portsmouth, where he led in the building of another sanctuary. Then followed assignments at Pace Memorial, Richmond, Henderson, Callao; Trinity, Smithfield; Mt. Vernon-Tabernacle-Toana; and Matoaca. On the Eastern Shore he served the Melfa Charge and crossed back over the bay to serve Centenary Church at Churchland. It was here the Christian Education Building was constructed during the ministry of Brother Green. In his last pastorate he celebrated his 80th birthday with the building of another beautiful sanctuary, Warwick Memorial, Denbigh (Deep Creek). Between the years of 1920 and 1930 he occupied the office of Secretary of the Board of Church Extension.

On August 19, 1970, James Thomas Green moved out of his house of clay into the place of many mansions. "The house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens!" Before his death he was the only surviving member of his class in the Conference.

Funeral services were conducted in the First United Methodist Church, Newport News, Va., at 2 p.m., August 17, 1970, with the Reverend James M. John and the Reverend Robert J. Callis officiating. Interment was in Blandford Cemetery, Petersburg, Va., with the ministers of the Petersburg District attending in a body at the graveside. Surviving this beloved minister are the following loved ones: Dr. James T. Green, Jr., Columbia, S.C.; Mrs. Andrew E. Landis, Portsmouth, Va.; Mrs. Dalton C. Mitchell, Newport News, Va.; ten grandchildren and four great grandchildren. Two brothers and two sisters predeceased him.

Brother Green was a very warm and personal friend of mine. I assisted him in revivals and had the high privilege of living in his home. I found him to be a most humble minister of our Lord and a faithful servant of the Methodist Church.

"I will not say he is dead. He is just away."

by George W. Ports

Harry Lewis Coffman. 1888-1970. Harry Lewis Coffman was born in Greenbrier County, W.Va., on March 6, 1888. He was the son of Price and Mary Vanstaven Coffman, who were active in the Mountain Gap Church on the Fort Spring Charge and reared their children in the Methodist tradition. He graduated from the Greenbrier High School, Ronceverte, W.Va., and was a student at Randolph-Macon College from 1914-17. While at Randolph-Macon he was an active member of the Washington Literary Society and this body awarded him the orator's medal in 1916. Also in 1916 he was licensed to preach in the Lewisburg District of the Baltimore Conference, and thereupon he began his preaching ministry as he accepted invitations from friendly pastors in the district to preach in their churches. Following his studies at Randolph-Macon he became a student at Union Theological Seminary in Richmond where he completed one year of seminary work. He was then appointed as a supply on the Riverview Charge of the Lewisburg District. In 1921 he was admitted on trial in the Baltimore Conference, enrolled in the four-year Conference Study Course by correspondence with the Emory Divinity School which he completed on schedule, and continued in the Methodist pastorate for a total of forty years, becoming a member of the Virginia Conference at the time of unification in 1940.

He became a member of the Masonic Lodge in 1920 and received his fifty year pin in 1970. During his Lynchburg residence he was a member of the City Hill Masonic Lodge.

In 1923 he was married to Hazel Rannenberger of Frederick, Md., and from this happy union there were born two sons, Harry Lewis, Jr., who now resides in Lynchburg, Va. and Robert Price, who now resides in Richmond, Va. Both sons are active Methodist laymen; Harry Lewis, Jr., in our Brookville Church, Lynchburg, and Robert in our Boulevard Church, Richmond. Mrs. Coffman survives her husband, continues to live at their home in Lynchburg and is regular in her attendance at our Fort Hill Church Services, Church School and Women's Society of Christian Service.

In 1934 he received his teacher training diploma from the General Board of Education and he later taught in a number of training schools in the Conference. He retired

from the active ministry in 1959 and moved to his newly acquired home on Daniel Avenue in Lynchburg, where he became an assistant visiting minister for Fort Hill Methodist Church. Failing health, which was the beginning of a long illness, caused him to relinquish this valuable work at our Fort Hill Church in 1968. God called him to his eternal home on September 1, 1970, while he was a patient at Lynchburg General Hospital.

During his active years in the Conference he served the following appointments: Riverview, Lewisburg District; Clarksburg, Md.; Potomac, Md.; New Hope, Va.; Mt. Airy, Md.; Fairfield, Va.; Hot Springs, Va.; Mt. Pleasant, Amherst County, Va.; Rustburg, Va.; and Hurt, Va.

From the time I met Harry Coffman in 1928 when I was his successor at Potomac, Md., until his death in 1970, I have known him as a Christian gentleman. He was a sincere and thoughtful pastor and preacher. He loved people, and one of his valuable contributions in each of his pastorates was visiting and praying for his people and helping them as a personal friend whenever they needed him. During his nine years as pastor of the Hot Springs Charge (my home charge) I discovered, just as I did at Potomac, Md., that he was a devoted friend of his parishioners, and was always ready and happy to serve them as their pastor. One of the tributes of his brotherly love and kindness has come to my attention since my retirement in 1968 and my visits in his home during his illness. There were many at Fort Hill Church who loved him and expressed their concern; and from his three most recent appointments, Mt. Pleasant, Rustburg, and Hurt, came former parishioners to bring a friendly word of cheer and frequently a gift of love.

He was also a friend to his brother ministers and loyal to his Conference. I knew him as a brother in Christ during the forty-two years of our friendship. Though he thoroughly enjoyed life, it was more than a good time. Life was a challenge to be faithful, to live constructively, to be a blessing to others and to do God's will. He loved his home and his family and he served God and his Church faithfully and sacrificially.

Brother Harry endured a long and trying illness as he came to the end of his earthly pilgrimage, but long before the death angel closed his lips to speech and his eyes to sight he was ready to step from time into eternity. He knew that when the Master calleth he could say, "I am ready." And although he loved life he was not afraid to enter eternity on the loving arms of God. The faith of St. Paul at the time of his departure had become the faith of Harry Coffman, who was sure there would be laid up for him "a crown of righteousness which would be given him on that day."

His funeral service at Fort Hill United Methodist Church on September 3, 1970, was conducted by the pastor, Dr. W.D. Williams, assisted by former pastor, Dr. John McKenry the District Superintendent, Dr. Lewis W. Darst and the writer of this memoir. He was laid to rest in Fort Hill Memorial Park.

James Montgomery's Hymn "Servant of God" expresses so well our concluding thoughts about Brother Coffman:

Servant of God well done
Rest from thy loved employ;
The battle's fought, the victory won,
Enter thy Master's joy.

The pains of death are past,
Labor and sorrow cease,
And life's long warfare closed at last,
Thy soul is found in peace.

by P. C. Helmtoller, Jr.

David Lee Carlton Wright. 1912-1970. Carlton Wright was born in Wytheville, Va., on March 7, 1912, in a Methodist parsonage. He was the son of the Rev. C. H. Wright and his mother was Minnie Smith Wright. He spent his childhood and youth as a typical minister's son living in a series of parsonages and towns all within the bounds of the Holston Conference in Tennessee and Virginia.

He received his education at Hiwassee College at Madisonville, Tenn., and then at King College at Bristol. He took seminary courses at Wesley Seminary at that time located at Westminster, Md.

Carlton married Miss Blanche Dishner of Clinchport, Va., who survives him. This was a wise choice as Blanche made an ideal minister's wife. They worked together as a team in their appointments. He is also survived by four married children: Paul H. Wright of Washington, D.C.; Mrs. John B. Murphy of Bowie, Md.; D. L. Carlton Wright, Jr. and Mrs. Leslie Carter, both of Richmond, Va. There are also a number of grandchildren.

Carlton began his ministry in the Holston Conference serving the following appointments: Evansville, Addilyn, Benhams and Coveton. He transferred to the Baltimore Conference and served at Shiloh and Bowie-Perkin's Chapel. After coming into the Virginia Conference he served Oak Hall, Craddockville-Belle Haven, Bowling Green, New Market, and Shiloh, Montpelier. He was serving his first year in this last appointment when God's call came suddenly and Carlton went home to be with God.

Carlton loved people and his friendly ready smile was greatly appreciated by those who knew him. He was greatly beloved on each charge and was known as a good preacher and pastor. In times of trouble and sorrow, his members found him to be a sympathetic pastor who was able to ease their sorrow as he walked with them through the valleys and shadows and pointed the way to the sunshine of God's love and presence.

While I served as his District Superintendent, I had the happy privilege of working and serving with Carlton and learned to appreciate his warm sincere personality and to know him as a minister of our Lord who was truly dedicated to his high calling. To visit in their lovely home where love was so evident was a benediction. Carlton and Blanche and the children knew how to show genuine hospitality.

Carlton took great pride in the appearance of the church and parsonage property. He spent much time and effort in renovating sanctuaries, educational buildings and parsonages. He accepted his responsibilities of leadership both in the Conference and on the Districts he served. He served on a number of committees in both areas. He was especially interested in youth work and took leadership in the development of the Youth Camp on the Eastern Shore District which was located within the bounds of Craddockville Church. He served as Camp Director for a number of its early years.

Carlton Wright died on September 18, 1970. His funeral services were conducted from Shiloh Church, Montpelier. Dr. Paul D. Martin, his District Superintendent, conducted the services. The interment was in the Holston Conference Cemetery at Emory, Va.

I think of Carlton as I read the last stanza of the poem, TO A COUNTRY PARSON, by J. Shenton Lodge.

"Through the years of glad, unselfish toil,
And service free, he gave his all;
He dwelt with those who tilled the soil,
And waited for the Master's call;
By fertile field, o'er hallowed clod,
A country parson walked with God."

Wherever he served, country or town, mountain or seashore, he truly walked with God.

by Richard H. Forrester

Robert Hale Shackelford. 1913-1970. Robert Hale Shackelford was born October 8, 1913, in Clarksburg, W.Va.; died September 28, 1970, the result of a heart attack. Survivors include his widow, three children, mother, Mrs. Hayes Shackelford, and one sister, Mrs. E. C. Teter.

On August 7, 1949, Rev. Shackelford was married to Betty Ruble of Folsom, W.Va. Three children in the family, Mrs. Joan Pasquali, Mrs. James Davis, and Robert, Jr., who is at home in Mt. Jackson with his mother.

Brother Bob felt the call to the gospel ministry and began his life of pastoral service in his native state of W.Va., in 1947. The necessity of helping provide support for his parents, due to illness of his father, prevented his completing formal education. He engaged and completed the Conference Course of Study and was ordained in Duff Street Church, Clarksburg, W.Va., August 20, 1945. One who was close to him says it thus: "As a young man Bob had been compelled to discontinue his education and seek employment, so he could help support his mother and disabled father. Many years later when he answered this deep call to the Christian ministry, he was unable to continue

formal studies because of a condition in his own health which handicapped him. However, he felt very deeply the need to 'study to show thyself approved, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.' So he continually read and studied on his own to enable him to better serve the people among whom he ministered."

Rev. Shackelford entered the ministry in the former E.U.B. Church, W.Va. Conference, where he served the following charges: Rhinehart; Freemansburg Charge; Buckhannon Charge; Parkersburg Charge; Huntington Charge; Huntington South; Peora Charge. In June, 1968, he transferred to the Virginia Conference and was assigned the Mt. Jackson Charge E.U.B. which is now Mt. Pleasant United Methodist. He was quite happy in the work at Mt. Jackson and was beginning plans to secure a home here in the Valley that he learned to love very much.

Through his ministry Rev. Shackelford experienced a close communion with his Lord and used every opportunity to share with others. He had a fervent evangelistic zeal and preached thus. He loved the outdoors and especially enjoyed fishing favorite spots.

In conversation with him on the day of his death he spoke excitedly of a week's meeting concluded the night before. He had preached on the Edinburg Charge, even though not feeling his best, and used as the closing sermon "The Victor's Crown." The text was from II Timothy 4:7-8. The sermon and text could not have been better chosen.

Thus another soldier of the cross assumes his final assignment. Funeral services were conducted in the Dellinger Funeral Chapel in Mt. Jackson, Va., Thursday, October 1, 1970, with the District Superintendent, Rev. Esdras Gruver, conducting the services, and giving the gospel message. Burial was in Elk View Masonic Cemetery in Clarksburg, W.Va. Mrs. Shackelford and son, Robert, continue to live in Mt. Jackson, Va.

by George S. Widmyer

C. Ralph Arthur. 1917-1970. Reckoned chronologically C. Ralph Arthur lived but briefly; reckoned otherwise he lived most completely—a short life, remarkably full. He was only 53 years old when he died, but the rest of us could well pray that we might do as much in three score years and ten—an accomplishment most unlikely.

Born in Roanoke, Va., on 5 August 1917, and reared in Richmond, he was the son of Davis Allen and his wife, Mary Esther Fitzpatrick Arthur, who gave him the priceless heritage of a Godly home. He was educated in the public schools, the University of Richmond (B.S.) and Duke Divinity School (B.D.). Later when he had proved himself a credit to his alma mater, he was awarded an honorary degree (LL.D.).

Ralph Arthur was, first of all, a dedicated minister of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. The real proof of his call was his love of people, beginning with those whom he was assigned to serve, but never ending there.

Appointed to a rural charge, Mount Pleasant, for his first pastoral assignment, he immediately fell in love with rural folk, recognized their needs and potentialities, and determined to give his life to the rural ministry. And he did in his own unique way, although he served only one other rural charge, Benns Church. From there he was called to head up the newly established office of the Conference Town and County Commission, where he served with distinction, making the office one of recognized importance and wide-spread service in the Conference.

While occupying that office he was asked to study and evaluate the role of a small, struggling Ferrum Junior College, a rural school for rural youth primarily, which the Conference was considering closing. His report centered not on the College, but on the needs of the western part of the Conference educationally speaking and the gigantic opportunities the proper school would seize. So convincing was his conclusion and so enthusiastic his presentation that he was seen as the man to build Ferrum into the college needed. As president, he raised Ferrum College from an obscure institution no longer needed for its original purpose into one of national renown with a student body of 1200 and a campus to match. But the real story is only suggested by the many new and impressive buildings, the lawns, the lake, and the new stadium. It is being told in the lives of the thousands of students to whom Ralph Arthur through the College gave a chance in life.

Ferrum Junior College was Dr. Arthur's life for the sixteen years of his ministry there. And there was much to show for those years and more. But Ferrum by no means represents all his life during that period; he lived abundantly, fully, and widely. A

country paper's editorial on his death suggested a secret of his full life: "Franklin County is a better place for his having been there...Not only was he a college builder; he was a community builder." In short, he took time to work toward the improvement of his community, which included Franklin County and much more. He was a leader in civic betterment locally. Beyond that position, he was organizer and first treasurer of the Virginia Conference Credit Union. He was a leading spirit in the organizing of the Conference Methodist Rural Fellowship, and as president established it as one of the forces for good in the town and country area. He was a founder of the Association of Educational Institutions of the Virginia Conference. And he more than anyone else was responsible for the birth of the Virginia Association of Junior Colleges, which he served as president.

But these accomplishments tell only half the story of his life. As just suggested, he was an innovator, a founder, an organizer--facts which suggest a truth: He was great not because of what he did, but because of what he was. He did great things because he was a great person. A leader in ideas and deeds, he was God's man in all areas of his life.

With all his activities, he never neglected his responsibilities as a Christian family-man. Where did he find the time? He never lost it; he used it all. He loved everyone, and those for whom he was most responsible came first. Fortunate in his marriage, he found in Mary Parker a true companion to share his ideals, his work, his home. If he could add a word here, he would be the first to say that if the new Ferrum Junior College was a monument, it was one to her as much as to him. Some called him an outdoor man, and certainly he enjoyed the open spaces, especially the waters. But if an outdoors man, he was an outdoors family-man, for his jaunts and boatings never seemed complete to him without whatever part of his family could and would go along. His four sons knew their father well--Ralph, Jr., Thomas, Richard and Parker. They are doubtless the ones who led him to see the need and beauty of devoting the bulk of his life's work to young people. His years as president of the College proved that he had what it takes for such a purpose: he could communicate with youth, disagree and be disagreed with, maintain his dignity, and retain their respect.

The basis of Ralph Arthur's great life was his great faith. It never seemed to waver. He felt that if an idea and subsequent acts were good, God would be in them. Although he had serious health problems for the several years immediately preceding his death, his faith never deserted him. "I just leave my problems in His hands," he told this writer less than a year before his physical death, "but if He gives me two more years..." That was Ralph Arthur.

He would have thoroughly approved the funeral plans. His last service was the first one in the new Vaughn Chapel, which he was extremely proud of and grateful for. He would have appreciated without end the way the craftsmen, students, and faculty worked to get the new sanctuary ready--some of them all through the night. He had looked forward to that opening service, but never to being the center of it. And he would have been pleased to know that he would be buried in the base of the tower that points men to God and says, "Here is God's house. Come in and worship."--that proclaims to youth, "We offer you an education founded on Truth." The memorial carillon since installed will ring out the praises of Ralph Arthur's God and God's Ralph Arthur.

by Raymond Cardwell

Walter Gurney Bates. 1887-1970. Not only in his family heritage, but also in his chosen profession, Walter Gurney Bates "was to the manor born." His father, Rev. W.G. Bates, Sr., was an honored member of the Virginia Methodist Conference for seventy-seven years, and Gurney was a member for sixty-one years. I doubt if this total record of one hundred and thirty-eight years was ever matched by a father and his son in the history of our Conference.

Gurney's mother, Annie Clay, was a daughter of Rev. and Mrs. A. P. Woodfin of Ashland. Following the death of her husband, Mrs. Woodfin was married to Mr. E. M. Walton of Ashland. Gurney had a room in the home of his grandmother, and I recall visiting there when we were at college together. I remember her as a gracious, queenly woman.

Gurney was born June 15, 1887, at Union Level, while his father was pastor of Franklin Circuit. He studied at Randolph-Macon Academy in Bedford, and later at our

college in Ashland. He served for five months in 1909 as Supply Pastor at our School-field Church in Danville, and also for ten months in 1910 at East Hampton. During that time he returned to Danville to claim Miss Lucile Murrie as his bride.

He was admitted to membership in the Virginia Conference in November 1910. During the ensuing fifty years he served in the following appointments: Essex, York, Cartersville, Prince Edward, Amelia, Appomattox, Orange, Rocky Mount, Ettrick, Chatham, Decatur Street in Richmond, White Stone, Wakefield, Mathews, Bridgewater, New Market, and Beverly Street in Staunton.

Lucile, his companion in the early years of his ministry, was an accomplished woman, active in church school and choir, in spite of frequent spells of asthma. During the first year of their appointment at White Stone she suffered a severe attack and died in 1937. She was the mother of two fine sons: Walter Murrie Bates, Principal of Ratcliffe Elementary School in Henrico County, and Frank Woodfin Bates, City Treasurer in Danville, Va.

In 1939, while he was still serving as pastor of the White Stone Church, Gurney was married to Miss Delma Conway at Byrdon, Va., near Kilmarnock, in Bluff Point Methodist Church, where she was an active leader. Gurney retired from active service in 1960, and he and Mrs. Bates remained in Staunton and affiliated with the Beverly Street Church, where Delma has continued her activities in the church school and in the program of the Women's Society of Christian Service.

During the next ten years Gurney was frequently invited to conduct services in the nearby Methodist pulpits and also in churches of other denominations. For a few months he served as a supply pastor in our Dayton Church on the Winchester District.

Our brother loved people and in his various pastorates he devoted a very large part of his time in pastoral visiting. And, he was loved by the people he served. When he died, December 29, 1970, a host of friends, including about twenty-five ministers and a large number of people from other churches in the Valley, attended the funeral services in the Beverly Street Church, conducted by the Pastor, Rev. William R. Withers and the District Superintendent, Dr. Alpheus W. Potts. Then a loyal group of his friends made the long journey to White Stone, where the burial service was conducted by Mr. Withers, assisted by Dr. Thomas J. Hawkins.

In addition to his widow and the sons referred to above, Gurney is survived by two grandchildren: Walter Murrie Bates, Jr., and Lucile, daughter of Frank Woodfin Bates, wife of Robert S. Ponton, Melbourne, Florida; also by a sister, Mrs. X.D. Murden, of Portsmouth, Va.

Sadly I bid farewell to an esteemed brother minister and a dear personal friend for more than sixty years.

"It singeth low in every heart We hear it each and all; A song of those who answer not, However we may call. They throng the silence of the breast, We see them as of yore, The kind, the true, the brave, the sweet, Who walk with us no more.	More homelike seems the vast unknown Since they have entered there; To follow them were not so hard, Wherever they may fare. They cannot be where God is not, On any sea or shore; Whate'er betides, Thy love abides, Our God, for evermore." by J. S. Gresham
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Ernest Stuart Cochran. 1903-1971. "In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He will direct thy paths." This was the guide for a life of service, seeking always to know and to do the Lord's will.

Ernest Stuart Cochran was born January 30, 1903, in Roanoke, Va., to Aurelius and Mattie Cochran, one of a family of twelve children. Theirs was a Christian home: the Father served as Local Preacher in the Methodist Church and worked seven days a week to support his family. At age fifteen, due to the failing health of his parents, Ernest had to quit school and go to work to help provide for the large family. He learned the trade of railroad machinist and was employed as such for several years.

He united with Melrose Avenue Methodist Church, Roanoke, on March 19, 1919, by profession of faith. While attending a summer assembly for Epworth Leaguers, he made a decision for full-time life service. He became a Steward, Chairman of the Official Board, Lay Delegate to Annual Conference, Associate Director of Lay Activities in

Roanoke District, and served on the Conference Board of Lay Activities. He received his Local Preacher's license in April, 1939.

Ernest was cut off from the railroad for seven years and during this time he learned the automobile business. For twenty-five years he was owner and operator of an automobile business in the heart of Roanoke's business district. In 1954, after a very successful career as a Christian businessman, he liquidated his business to devote full time to the work of the ministry. He used to say he went "from fixing motors to fixing men."

In order to meet the educational requirements for the ministry, he obtained his high school certificate by passing an examination. Then for six summers he attended Emory University and Duke University, completing his course of study for the ministry. He was ordained and received into the Virginia Methodist Conference in full connection in 1952.

In 1940, while engaged in the automobile business, Ernest served a seven-point circuit, the Floyd Parish, preaching two and three times a Sunday and driving on the average of 100 miles per Sunday. This was his first pastoral appointment. In 1943, he was appointed to Mount Pleasant Methodist Church, Roanoke, where he served for twelve years. His other appointments were Trinity Methodist, Lynchburg; Oakland Methodist, Richmond; Highland Springs Methodist, Richmond; and Fairview United Methodist, Lynchburg. He served on the Virginia Conference Board of Evangelism, the Conference Board of Temperance, and the Richmond District Board of Evangelism. He preached in 108 Evangelistic Services in Virginia, North Carolina, Kentucky, and Illinois. In June, 1970, because of health conditions, he retired from the pastoral ministry. After purchasing a new home in Highland Springs, he and Mrs. Cochran and Mrs. Marie Conger, who had been their friend and companion for seven years, moved back to the Richmond District.

During the six months of his so-called "retirement" he was always busy, doing what he could to help others, serving the church and the community in whatever capacity he was asked or wherever he saw a need. He was charter member of the "United Methodists for Evangelistic Faith" and worked hard in this connection; he also served the Conference as Evangelist-Prayer Clinic Leader, conducting several evangelistic services in different parts of the state.

Ernest Stuart Cochran and Cecil Mae Burger were married in 1924. They were a team, working together on the on-going of the Kingdom. As Ernest had written in one of his papers, "Mrs. Cochran is my right hand man--so to speak--helping me and encouraging me in every way possible." She continued to do so until her health failed in 1963.

Ernest knew God called him to preach; for as he wrote, "I fought the call to the ministry for about ten years and these were miserable years, for I was not happy or content. When my father's Bible, that he used as a preacher, came into my possession (and I know not how it happened to this day), it was as if he had passed the chalice to me saying, 'Here, son, I have taken it thus far and now it's yours to carry.' Then Rev. J. H. Billingsley, a friend of my father's and my Pastor, laid his hands on my shoulder one day and said, 'Ernest, God wants you for a preacher.' I decided then to get my Local Preacher's license, and I have never been sorry."

Rev. Cochran was one of the most energetic people I have ever known. He knew the secret of work--and rest; how to get other people to work, and how to accomplish much. Whatever he did, he did for God's glory and for the good of the people whom he served. The churches he served always grew and prospered, both physically and spiritually; for his main purpose was to bring the Kingdom into the hearts of men. He taught others by precept and example to love the Lord and, therefore, to work for the Lord. He was responsible for several young men going into the ministry, and others becoming Directors of Religious Education and Directors of Music in the Methodist Church.

On January 15, 1971, in the early morning, Ernest was found "asleep in Jesus." Funeral services were held on January 17 in the Highland Springs Church conducted by his District Superintendent, Dr. Paul D. Martin, Jr., and assisted by the Pastor, Rev. Clifford Ramsey. This was truly a Worship Service and we thrilled to the congregation, consisting of many of his brother-ministers, singing his favorite hymn, "I Love To Tell The Story." A similar service was held January 18 at Oakey's Funeral Home in Roanoke

with his long-time friend, the late Dr. Lewis W. Darst, District Superintendent of the Lynchburg District, conducting the service. Interment was at Fair View Cemetery, Roanoke.

In the words of a resolution sent to the Virginia Methodist Advocate by the Mount Pleasant Church, "our hearts are shrouded in grief at the loss of one of the most obedient servants of Christ we have been privileged to know;...there was a spiritual beauty and sweetness in his life and character which excites the most lively and gratifying recollections that we shall always cherish."

by Mrs. Margaret Lorencki
Frank Treat Fulcher. 1878-1971. The delicate but certain pile of shavings, sprinkled with the smallest particles of sawdust possible, fill the room with the aroma of ancient cedar and white pine. Their obvious design around the small vise indicates the carving and shaping tools nearby were regularly used by a skilled craftsman. Here and there, a clamp, a bottle of glue, paints, and brushes. From makeshift shelves, hand-carved water fowl, Indians, and miniature clocks in different stages of completion are more than obvious. Then your eyes fall upon his heavy apron, draped in the chair beside his tool bench, just as he left it. You think of the burial shrouds of Christ found by the Disciples in the empty tomb. You sit in the workshop of Brother Frank Fulcher in the Hermitage Methodist Home and feel you are visiting a shrine. You wish he could have lived longer here among us.

But, after all, long enough--way beyond his allowed three score and ten years: 93 full years to be exact. And what full years they were! Frank Treat Fulcher was born on Ocracoke Island of North Carolina's outer banks on January 25, 1878, the son of William Henry and Mary Gaskins Fulcher. With a mother the daughter of a sea captain and a father who served in the United States Coast Guard, it was natural for young Frank to take to the sea. He loved it and followed it, going to sea at the age of ten years on the Schooner Emiline.

By the age of twelve, he had sailed around Cape Hatteras and was earning a man's wages. Following several other voyages, one which ended in the sinking of his ship, "Mate" Fulcher traveled to New York to become third officer of a Russian ship bound for Hamburg, Germany. So, around the world, "the Seven Seas" and back to Ocracoke for his nineteenth birthday.

A few months later, June 2, 1897, Frank Treat Fulcher took as his bride Fannie Wayhab Ballance and settled down on his native island to serve as a pilot around Ocracoke Inlet and to develop an oyster and fishing business of his own.

A few years later, God wrought a wonderful change in Frank Fulcher's life. He became superintendent of his Sunday school, Steward of the church, and then Exhorter and a Local Preacher in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. In 1908 Bishop A. W. Wilson appointed Brother Fulcher pastor of the Pamlico Charge. Having eight preaching places, the new pastor soon built another.

After completing his studies at the Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Georgia, Brother Fulcher was ordained Deacon and Elder by Bishop Collins Denny. Then followed the disciplined ministry of the itinerancy during which in the last twenty-four years of his active ministry, he served six charges. Among his papers appear all of the notes of his sermons. He had preserved a complete record of all the couples he had married including marginal entries of each wedding fee!

His faithful wife, Fannie, died in February 1939. They are survived by two children: Mrs. Lizette F. White of Crewe, Va., and John Underwood Fulcher, Sanford, Va. Ten grandchildren also survive this union.

On June 14, 1970, Mr. Fulcher married Elizabeth Cornog of Philadelphia, Penn. Together in 1956 they moved from Sanford, Va., to the Hermitage Methodist Home, Richmond, described in Brother Fulcher's writings as "the dearest and most beautiful place in all the world to me!" (The writer of this memoir believes such declaration was never intended for the ears of any "Ocracoker," for Frank Fulcher was an Ocracoker, first, last and always. He just could not have been born in any other place!)

On February 14, 1971, with his second wife surviving him at the Hermitage besides others already mentioned above, Frank Treat Fulcher "went down to the shore" to take a figure of speech from his salty lore. This man whom God had blessed with physical strength, keen mind, unusual skills with his hands, a native love of music with talent

for the same, and a memory of instant recall with articulation in several languages was called to his heavenly home. A service was held in Sutherland and Brown Funeral Home in Richmond by this writer after which the Rev. Mr. Waller officiated in final services held in the Sanford United Methodist Church. Interment was in the cemetery of Downing's United Methodist Church, Oak Hall, on Virginia's Eastern Shore.

A sailor of the sea, a shepherd of the sheep, a spinner of yarns, a preacher of the Word, a carver of wood, a writer of poems--a man with the strength of ten has left us. But, by no means has he left us completely, nor shall he ever. **by C. Warner Crumb**
John Herman Carroll. 1887-1971. Born on November 12, 1887, at Temperanceville, Accomac County, Va., John Herman Carroll was one of six children born to the Rev. John W. and Alice Shearer Carroll. Of these six, two of the sons, John Herman and Thomas Fitzgerald, were destined to follow in the steps of their father and become beloved ministers of the Virginia Conference. The only daughter, Sallie Elizabeth, was to become a missionary to Japan from the Virginia Conference.

A graduate of Randolph-Macon Academy, Bedford, Herman Carroll went on to Randolph-Macon College, Ashland, where he completed his college work in 1909. For a number of years his life was given to the field of education, first as a teacher in the public schools of Campbell County and the City of Lynchburg, and later as the Division Superintendent of Schools in Princess Anne County, Va. Although he felt a call to the ministry early in his life, it was not until 1929 that he yielded fully to this call and became a minister in the Virginia Conference. For thirty years he was a beloved pastor of the following charges: Halifax, Wachapreague, Westmoreland, Phoebus, Central (Arlington), Christiansburg, Fieldale, Fairfax, and Tazewell Avenue (Roanoke).

On December 26, 1912, Herman was married to Miss Lillian Theresa Jones of Concord, Va. From this happy union were born two children, Mary Frances Carroll (now Mrs. Julian H. Martin of Arlington), and John Herman Carroll, Jr., of Roanoke. This wonderful partnership in the ministry was broken with the death of Lillian on August 26, 1953. On May 10, 1955, Herman and Miss Bessie Gardner Tune of Halifax, Va., were joined in marriage. This, too, was a happy partnership for the last three years of his ministry and through the years of retirement which he and Bessie spent in her home in Halifax from 1958 until his death on March 1, 1971. He is survived by his wife, his two children, five grandchildren, and his sister, Miss Sallie Carroll.

Born in a minister's home, he lived under the influence of a godly father and mother. This led him to a realization of the power of prayer, something which he never forgot and which became a significant factor in all his ministry. In that same atmosphere he discovered, on the part of his parents, a loving concern for all people. So he, too, came to love and minister to all kinds of people, young and old, and they looked to him as a compassionate minister and an understanding counselor. Seeing a humble mother and father who sought God's will for their lives each day, he too, made this his great aim, to know God's will and, humbly, to do it. Thus, for thirty years, he was, as another has expressed it, "a prophet of God's purpose and a priest of God's grace." What this meant to his people is shown in a poem that was once sent to him because it reminded the sender of Herman and his ministry to her and to others. It read, in part:

Not merely in the words you say,
Not only in your deeds confessed,
But in the most unconscious way
Is Christ expressed.

It wasn't in the truth you taught,
To you so clear, to me so dim.
But when you came, you brought
A sense of Him.

And from your eyes He beckons me,
And from your heart His love is shed,
Until I lose the sight of you
And see the Christ instead.

It was in Halifax that Herman began his ministry; it was there that his earthly life came to its close. A note of quiet triumph marked the funeral service which was

held for him on Wednesday, March 3, 1971, at the McKendree United Methodist Church in Halifax, conducted by his pastor, the Rev. H. Bryant Wilbourne, his brother-in-law, the Rev. James M. McNair, and the writer. Following the funeral service, his body was borne to its resting place in the quiet and beautiful cemetery of the New Concord Presbyterian Church.

It is altogether fitting to close this tribute with the words of the young and energetic pastor of McKendree Church, Bryant Wilbourne, who, writing a few months after Herman's death, said of his older friend in the ministry: "It was during the first eight months of my ministry that I became acquainted with Mr. Carroll. In these eight months I came to love and respect him as a brother minister... It is well that we passed each other's way, for the experience we shared and the guidance Mr. Carroll gave me have made a lasting impression on my life and ministry. He will be missed, but those whose lives he influenced will carry the memory of a man whose zeal for the Faith never lost its potency."

by George Wesley Jones

William Glenn Harris. 1904-1971. William Glenn Harris was born in a Methodist parsonage, the son of Walter C. and Marjorie Cassidy Harris, on February 20, 1904, in Prestonburg, Kentucky. His early life was lived under the daily influence of the church. He was educated in the public schools of Kentucky, at Washington Junior College, the school of Mining Engineering of West Virginia University, and at Duke Divinity School.

On the 24th of June, 1927, he was married to Virginia Pauline Curtin in Premier, W.Va. To them were born six sons and a daughter: Glenn Alvin, Paul Cassidy, Zuma Agnes (Mrs. Donald L. Truitt), Harry Adrian, Jay Foster, William Eugene and Larry James. He is survived by all his family and by ten grandchildren.

Brother Harris worked for in an A & P grocery store in W.Va. where he rose to the position of manager before going into coal mining where he worked for thirty-two years with the United States Steel Company. Illness brought on by his work in the mines caused him to dedicate what remained of his life to the work of the ministry. God blessed him with a number of years for further service. Beginning in 1955, he filled out a half-year as a supply in the Premier Charge at Roderfield, W.Va.

Then, beginning to apply himself seriously to the work of the course of study, he served in turn, Locust Grove Church on the Roanoke District, the church of Pikeville, N.C., the Mountain View Charge on the Roanoke District, the Bath Parish and the Natural Bridge Station Charges on the Staunton District, and the Onley charge of the Eastern Shore District.

During his life at various times Brother Harris was active in the Masonic Order, the Eastern Star, the Ruritan Club and the Lions Club. He received a Mine Safety Award from the United States Bureau of Mines and a Mine Rescue First Aid Citation for outstanding work in mine explosions.

On last February 18 he entered the Rehabilitation Center in Roanoke where cancer was diagnosed and his death came on March 20, 1971. His funeral was conducted by his District Superintendent, Dr. Floyd L. Fulk, and by Dr. John W. Newman in the Locust Grove Church. His body was laid to rest in the Roselawn Memorial Gardens nearby in Roanoke.

During the last illness Glenn hoped for health and strength so that he might have the opportunity once more to proclaim the message of Easter: Resurrection. In this hope we see something of the key to his Christian experience. His was a robust and forward-looking faith for which we give thanks. He was a friendly soul with a kind word or a question that helped one feel his interest in you. His ministry was marked by dedication and by a faith and love of God and man.

by Samuel A. Stanley, Jr.

Lewis Whitefield Darst. 1908-1971. Lewis Whitefield Darst, born June 24, 1908, died March 27, 1971--in these brief words so much is said of a life that meant much to Virginia Methodism, the Board of Evangelism, the Methodist Children's Home, The Home Corporation of Virginia, and most of all to his family and his countless friends throughout the Conference.

Lewis was born in Pearisburg, Va., the son of John Chandler Darst and Aline Grigsby Glendy. His education, after elementary school, was secured at Ferrum Training School, Roanoke College, and Burton College and Seminary. He received his A.B. from

Burton College and Seminary in 1940 and his B.D. in 1942. In 1955 Burton College honored him by awarding him an honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity.

In 1936 his life was made happy in his marriage to Annie Etta Denit. Later the birth of their daughter, Harriett Anne, and the coming of their foster daughter, Nancy Inez Mills, now Mrs. Robert Dale Straub of Albany, Georgia, made their family circle complete. Together these four found love and happiness in the ministry of the church.

He received his license to preach in 1929 through Belmont Methodist Church, the Roanoke District; was admitted on Trial into the Baltimore Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in 1933; was ordained a Deacon in 1934, received in Full Connection in 1935, and was ordained an Elder in 1937. He continued as a member of that Conference until unification of the Methodist churches, serving the following appointments: Flintstone, Listonburg, Ridgeley-Mt. Pleasant, and Elliston-Shawsville. Following unification he remained at Elliston-Shawsville, now in the Virginia Conference, and later served Stokesland-Fairview, Cottage Place in Portsmouth, Del Ray in Alexandria, Craddock in Portsmouth, Main Street in South Boston; in 1966 he was appointed District Superintendent of the Rappahannock District, serving for two years when he was transferred to the Superintendency of the Lynchburg District. He was in his third year on the Lynchburg District when he met his tragic death on March 27, 1971. His memorial service was held in the Centenary United Methodist Church in Lynchburg, conducted by Rev. Walter M. Lockett, Jr., Bishop William R. Cannon, Dr. George S. Lightner, Dr. Harold H. Fink, and Rev. George H. Boyd. The interment service was on the sloping hillside in East Hill Cemetery, Salem, Va.

As a pastor Lewis Darst set an example which any of us might follow. He never allowed any social, secular, or recreational activities to interfere with his pastoral work. His were not just casual pastoral visits, but they were always remembered because of his brotherly interest in the spiritual welfare of those whom he was visiting and because he had carried them to the throne of grace on the wings of his earnest prayer--"And glory crowned the mercy seat while Heaven came down their souls to greet."

He loved people and those whom he served learned readily not only to love him, but also to trust in his spiritual leadership. It was not a strained or reserved friendship but one that arose spontaneously out of a great heart of love for Christ's sake. Because of his abiding love for Christ, he wanted to win all men for Him. Because of his abiding love for people, he wanted all to know and love Him. It was not place he sought, but power to influence men to right living. The work of evangelism was his love and the Conference Board looked to him with confidence and trust as he served it in many capacities.

His relations with his fellow ministers were most cordial and brotherly. Lewis had his own views on questions pertaining to the policies and work of the church and frequently differed from some of his brethren, and did not hesitate to give voice to his convictions in a Christian and brotherly way.

Lewis was true as a friend. The many letters of condolence received by his family bore testimony not only to the number of his friends but to the depth of his influence. Their messages attested the hold he had upon the hearts of others. Friendship with him was a passion and primary in his makeup. His true worth was best known by those who knew him most intimately. I knew him for more than thirty-six years. Surely, no one in all that time could have taken his ministry more seriously than he did. He was unselfish in his devotion, both to his family and those to whom he ministered. His life might well be summed up in the words, "He was a good man, a friend to all, and a good minister of Jesus Christ." He did not claim perfection, but was one who was constantly "going on to perfection." It is no wonder his ministry was crowned with success.

We bid him farewell for the moment with the same words quoted by Bishop Cannon in his Memorial Address: "Good night, sweet prince; And flights of angels sing thee to thy rest!"

by George S. Lightner

Irving L. Llewellyn. 1884-1971. Irving L. Llewellyn returned on April 15, 1971 to the church where he made his commitment to Jesus Christ as a young boy. At Trinity United Methodist Church, Newport News, family and friends paid personal tribute to him who

began his service as a school principal, answered the call to his Lord's ministry, and maintained in retirement a devoted servant with a fond love for children and youth.

After an extended illness Irving L. Llewellyn walked through the "valley of the shadow" into the full vision of his faith and hope on April 11, 1971, at his home in Holly Hill, Florida. He was survived by his wife, Nodia Morrell, whom he married in Wrightsville, Georgia, in 1912. She remained through his ministry an inspiring "help-mate" whose ability in music added to the strength of his proclaiming the Word. They had one daughter, Mrs. Virginia Curry, with whom they resided at the time of his death. There is also one sister, Mrs. E. M. Duncan of Newport News, Va, and one brother, Mr. M. H. Llewellyn, of West Point, Va.

Life had not withheld its portion of fullness and wonder. He was born into the devout Christian home of James Edward Llewellyn and Cora Crockett on January 26, 1884, at Yorktown, Va. He entered Washington and Lee University and upon completion of his undergraduate work, he entered the field of education serving as school principal in two Georgia communities. Upon receiving his call into the ministry, he entered Candler School of Theology and was Received on Trial in the Georgia Conference in 1915. He completed his theological training in 1916 and continued to serve pastorates in the Georgia Conference until 1922 at which time he transferred to the Virginia Conference.

He maintained a strong interest in sharpening the tools of intellectual understanding and during the years to follow he enrolled in postgraduate courses at Roanoke College and the College of William and Mary. It was this keen interest in personal growth that led to his appointment to Ferrum Junior College where he served as pastor to the church and instructor in the college, teaching Bible, German, History and English. He returned, after a brief assignment away from the school, for a second term and served as Vice-President of the College for two years. This led most naturally into an active and successful ministry as Extension Secretary of the Virginia Conference Board of Education when he devoted considerable time to youth and children's work, traveling to teach in and direct Spiritual Life Conferences and Seminars.

Pastor Llewellyn served churches in City Point, Cheriton, Toano, Hilton Village, Orange, Stuart, Ferrum, Danville, South Covington, Oceana, Monroe, and Shenandoah. He retired from the active ministry in 1958 but while living in Florida he continued an active preaching ministry in many of the churches within and around the community of Holly Hill, Florida, and a personal ministry to the people who knew and loved him.

As a community servant he touched the people of each town to which he was appointed in many unique ways. He was an active worker with the Red Cross. His gift with children strengthened many boys through the Boy Scout Rotary International Clubs in those communities where one was not active. And his appreciation of faith and drama led into Masonic work when he joined the Lodge in Orange in 1929. His ability to organize was not turned only toward civic clubs, as there are many United Methodist Men's Clubs which attribute their initial organization and inspiration to Irving L. Llewellyn. Pastor and poet...teacher and writer...scholar and servant...Having served faithfully, he is still serving joyfully...Both an example and a guide. "Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: but in thy getting, get understanding." So he lived, served and received his reward.

by J. M. John

James Doss Burford. 1895-1971. As did the great missionary apostle whom he diligently studied and followed, James Doss Burford knew that "the time of his departure was at hand," and calmly launched his bark upon the sea of eternity confident of his safe arrival at the "Father's House of Many Mansions."

Born to Clifton and Etta Lipscomb Burford, September 5, 1895, in Lynchburg, Va., he attended Randolph-Macon Academy at Bedford, Va., Randolph-Macon College in Ashland, and the Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. He is listed in Who's Who in American Universities and Colleges. He was first licensed to preach in 1912 in Trinity Methodist Church, Lynchburg, Va., and served six years as a supply pastor. He entered the Virginia Conference on Trial, October 23, 1923, was received into full connection, November 14, 1927, and ordained Elder, October 20, 1929. He served well the following appointments: Middle Bedford, Halifax, Bedford Springs, Prince George, South Amherst, Nelson, Philadelphia, Warren-Riverton, South Covington, Bonsack, Shady Grove: Alexandria. He retired from the active pastorate June 16, 1966,

What the high reward I win?
Whose the name I glory in?
Jesus Christ, the crucified."

by H. S. Southgate

Harper Wark Curry. 1902-1971. Harper Wark Curry, son of William Henry and Minnie Willis Curry, was born in Richmond, Va., April 16, 1902. He departed this life in Wooster, Ohio, May 17, 1971. Wark, as he was familiarly known, grew up in the Capital of the Old Dominion where he attended the public schools and the University of Richmond. He had a tremendous amount of native ability which he used to the fullest.

On November 1, 1922, he was married to Elizabeth Butterworth, who preceded him to the grave having died on July 5, 1969. To this union two lovely daughters were born, who survive him; Elizabeth B., now Mrs. Richard A. Cohan, and Martha Jane, now Mrs. James W. Taggart. He is also survived by a sister, Mrs. Lelia C. Frye of Richmond and five grandchildren.

Brother Curry was admitted on Trial into the Virginia Annual Conference, October 15, 1922. He was received into Full Connection October 22, 1952, and served the following appointments, all in the Virginia Conference: Allen, Md., (now in the Peninsula Annual Conference); Corinth-Maple Grove, Richmond; Lunenburg Circuit; LeKies and Ocean View, Norfolk; Memorial, Richmond; Front Royal; First Church, Salem; Calvary, Arlington; Superintendent of the Rappahannock District; Park View, Portsmouth; Trinity, Roanoke; Scott Memorial, Virginia Beach. He retired from the active ministry at the 1968 Annual Conference in Richmond.

Wark Curry was a real man--a man's man, if you please. He knew the language of men and how to get close to them. While in the Norfolk area he acted as Navy Chaplain with an appeal to the men in the service. Also, the fact the he was a member of the Optimist Club indicates something of the nature of our friend.

Wark loved his family and was in turn loved by them. He was devoted to his wife, Elizabeth. Often, he would talk about his daughters whom he adored. Having been his District Superintendent on two districts I know whereof I speak.

God's great out-of-doors appealed to him. He was never happier than on a golf course, a game in which he excelled. However, he never allowed his zeal for golf to interfere with his ministerial responsibilities.

It was as a Churchman, however, that Wark was at his best. He was a good pastor, faithfully visiting from house to house. From the pulpit he always brought a helpful, thoughtful, and meaningful message. He knew, also, the Art of Administration. He served from time to time on many of these agencies of the Virginia Conference. Perhaps the crowning work of his ministry was the years that he led the Rappahannock District as its District Superintendent. During all his ministry he served his Lord and Master acceptably and proclaimed the unsearchable riches of His grace.

He was a brother beloved and a fine friend. "Thank God that such have been although they walk with us no more."

Brother Curry was buried from Reveille United Methodist Church with Dr. James W. Turner officiating. The pallbearers were chosen from his many friends in the ministry. Interment was made in Oakwood Cemetery in Richmond.

"We cannot think of him as dead

Who walk with us no more;

Along the path of life we tread,

He had but gone before;

And still his silent ministry,

Within our hearts has place,

As when on earth he walked with us

And met us face to face."

Roland P. Riddick

Minutes for 1972. Marvin W. Mann. 1892-1971. Marvin W. Mann was born March 25, 1892. He was married on May 18, 1914, to the lovely Miss Lucile Goode, a teacher of music at Rutherford College. They departed this life together in a fatal automobile crash on June 10, 1971, near Valdese, N.C.

Brother Mann was admitted on trial to the Western North Carolina Conference on November 16, 1914, and into full connection on November 27, 1916. He served appoint-

ments as follows: McDowell, Spruce Pine, Marion Circuit, Hanes-Clemmons, Walkertown, Gastonia: East End and Trinity.

In 1941 Mr. Mann joined the Virginia Conference in which he served Herndon, Drivers-Crittenden, Haygood-Lynn Haven, Crozer, and Collinsville. In 1957 he and Mrs. Mann retired to Rutherford College, N.C., where they maintained an active and vigorous interest in life across a broad front.

Our friend was endowed with a rich and resonant voice which enhanced his ministry immensely. He preached well, sang beautifully, and gained renown as a liturgist. He left a trail of altar centered chancels, seasonal garments, increased use in vestments, and heightened appreciation for the meaning and place of liturgy in the church. His boundless enthusiasm in this area earned for the church new beauty, dignity, and significance at a time when disordered religion was too often the mark of the age.

His mark of efficiency was seen in the stewardship emphases which he promoted. He utilized the best biblical and churchly methods to bring his churches into a truly serving relationship in the Kingdom.

He was fearless in speech, forthright in conversation, and aggressive in activity. He was a strong man who scarcely knew his strength. He sought to win no popularity contests but moved straight to the heart of a matter. Underneath his appearance of independence was a heart of gold and a remarkable sensitivity.

His presence in my congregation during the last quadrennium of his life was stimulating and rewarding. His faithfulness was encouraging. His high standards could only result in better preaching and more purposeful liturgy. He gave new faith for child rearing and believed youth could be trusted with the world's future. He helped minister to the elderly. His supportive role as friend, preacher, celebrant, or the word fitly spoken or written in season came to be highly cherished as the years passed. Indeed he was one of the most memorable persons that we have known. How grateful we are to have shared a bit of The Way Together!

A memorial service was conducted for Mr. and Mrs. Mann at Abernethy Memorial United Methodist Church, Rutherford College, N.C. by the pastor, the Rev. Clegg Avett.

by W. Ralph Jacks

Raymond Carl Maxwell. 1887-1971. A faithful lover of his Lord and an energetic lover of life, Raymond Carl Maxwell lived with enthusiasm and joy until, on July 13, 1971, at the age of eighty-four, he entered the ranks of the Church Triumphant.

Born in Comus, Md., on February 14, 1887, the son of Wesley Alexander and Esther Baker Maxwell, Carl was graduated from Randolph-Macon College in 1911. He led his class in scholarship and at his graduation was awarded the Scholarship Medal. He later continued his studies at the Candler School of Theology, Emory University, 1914-15. His zeal for knowledge stayed with him all his life and he was a good student to the end of his days. This showed in the content of his conversations and in the quality of his sermons and writings through the years.

On October 9, 1915, Carl was married to Miss Lula Alice Wimer. This happy marriage came to an end with the death of Mrs. Maxwell less than eight years later. To this union, however, were born two daughters and a son: Esther Jeanette Maxwell (now Mrs. Marshall Drake of New York City); Ruth Virginia Maxwell (now Mrs. Leo Moskowitz of New York City); and Raymond Carl Maxwell, Jr., of Jacksonville, Florida. On November 12, 1923, Carl and Miss Ida Lee Taylor of Washington, D.C. were joined in marriage. This, too, was a happy union as Ida Lee became a wonderful mother to the three children and a faithful and devoted wife and helper in his ministry through the years. He is survived by these, along with four grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

In 1913 Carl was admitted on trial into the Baltimore Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. In 1916 he was brought into full connection with deacon's orders and was ordained an elder in 1918. It was in that Conference that he served the first twenty-eight years of his ministry, from 1911 to 1939. Among his pastorates there were the Highland Charge, his first pastorate after seminary; Basic Church in Waynesboro; and Luray, where the church, a brick building, was destroyed by fire and he led the people in the building of a beautiful stone structure. He also served at Frostburg, Md., and at Frederick, Md., where, at the end of his earthly ministry, his body was laid to rest.

At the time of Unification in 1939, Carl was serving in Fairfax, Va. Following Unification and the formation of the present Virginia Conference, he served the following charges in our Conference: Capeville, Oak Hall, Branch Memorial (Richmond), Memorial (Appomattox), Stuarts Draft, Crozet, and Design (Danville). Following his retirement in 1957, the Maxwells moved to Bridgewater where they lived for eighteen months. In September of 1958 they moved to Farmville where they lived until his death in July of 1971, and where Mrs. Maxwell still resides. It is not quite accurate to speak of Carl's years from 1957 on as "retirement." His energy and vigor continued at a high peak through most of those years. He preached constantly and served in any other way he could, especially as he assisted his fellow ministers on the Farmville District, and, in particular, the minister of the Farmville church, where he and Mrs. Maxwell worked and worshipped regularly when he was not serving elsewhere. In addition to his preaching, he also filled his retirement years with writing, producing for publication a book of his mother's family line, the Bakers, and later, a similar book of his father's family line, the Maxwells. At the time of his death he was eagerly working on an inspirational book to which he had given the title, "The Singing Heart." He occasionally contributed to the pages of the Virginia Advocate and other periodicals. In his special concerns he was active in the field of temperance, both in his preaching and his writing.

Carl loved the out-of-doors. Swimming, fishing, and hiking were among his favorite pursuits. These became a part of his ministry as, for example, in his Waynesboro pastorate, he formed one of the first Boy Scout units in that town.

Death came for Carl on the afternoon of Tuesday, July 13, 1972, at the Southside Community Hospital in Farmville. A funeral service was held at the Farmville United Methodist Church on Friday morning, July 16, at 10:00, conducted by his District Superintendent, Dr. W. Carroll Freeman, and the writer. Interment took place that afternoon at 4:30 in the Mount Olivet Cemetery in Frederick, Md.

He lived fully and spent his life in a ministry of telling the good news of that full life to others. "Thanks be to God that such have been, Tho' they are here no more."

by George Wesley Jones

J. Joseph Rives. 1882-1971. Dr. J. Joseph Rives died in Richmond, Va., while visiting his daughter, Mrs. William H. Pitts, on August 16, 1971. Memorial Services were conducted on August 22 and 29 at Dulin Chapel, Falls Church, and Centenary, Richmond. Participants in the first service were Rev. Ferd Wagner, Rev. Richard Robertson, and Rev. W. Hedley Clews, as were Rev. George Harrison, Rev. James Douglas, Rev. Carl Douglass, Jr., and Rev. John Davidson in the Centenary service. Burial was at Ft. Lincoln Cemetery, Washington, D.C., on August 20, 1971, the ashes of his cremated body being placed in the grave with his beloved companion, Julia.

This memoir is in two parts, the first being verbatim quote from Dr. Rives' autobiographical account; the second written by one of the many so deeply touched by him.

I, J. Joseph Rives was born in Olin, N.C., son of Benjamin F. and Mary Marsh Rives, on November 27, 1882. When I was a baby the family moved to Asheville, N.C. I graduated from the high school of Asheville in 1900 at the head of my class and won a scholarship to the University of North Carolina. One week after I graduated, I moved to Washington, D.C. I fought for five years the call to preach and finally surrendered and entered George Washington University and graduated in 1910 with the degree of B.A. and a certificate in the theory and practice of teaching. I entered the Baltimore Conference in 1907 on trial and from Epworth Methodist Church in Washington. While pastor in Lexington, I received my Master of Arts degree from Washington and Lee University and taught two courses in the department of philosophy. I did further graduate work without a degree at Harvard University. I was given the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity by Randolph-Macon College in 1925.

I felt myself called to be a pastor-preacher and nothing else. I was offered a position as a teacher in a Methodist college, offered the outstanding Methodist pulpit of the state of Kentucky, offered a position in Nashville as a general officer in the education program of the church and also the position as the head of the program of Christian Education in the Baltimore Conference. Each and all of these offers I

declined. A pastor-preacher only, I served churches in Frederick and Baltimore, Md., Roanoke, Lynchburg, Lexington, and Harrisonburg, Va., and in Washington, D.C. In 1935 I was transferred into the Virginia Conference by Bishop Muzon and placed as pastor in Centenary Church, Richmond, where I remained for ten years. At the age of sixty-nine, I felt the call to retire as clearly as the call to preach in the first instance. Within the first eleven years of my retirement, taking me through eighty years of age, I traveled in my car 100,000 miles from Washington, D.C. and Key West, Fla., having been invited to each place visited. Including teaching in Leadership Schools I spoke in public these years 2,575 times, ate meals by invitation in more than 900 homes and read 700 books. I have taught in Leadership Schools and spoken in Boston, Mass., Newark, N.J., Wilmington, Del., and in many portions of Maryland, the District of Columbia, Va., W.Va., N.C., S.C., and some in Florida and Kentucky. I have made addresses and preached baccalaureate sermons and commencement speeches in Virginia Military Institute, Washington and Lee University, V.P.I., Radford College, Longwood College, Madison College, Randolph-Macon College in Ashland, Randolph-Macon Woman's College, Emory and Henry College, Salem College (Va.), and Science Hill College in Kentucky.

I was married to Julia E. Potter, organist of Epworth Methodist Church in Washington, on August 2, 1909. To this union were born two daughters--Mrs. Frank M. Abeel of Falls Church, Va., and Mrs. William H. Pitts of Richmond, Va.

My body will be cremated and the ashes placed within the grave of my wife in Fort Lincoln Cemetery, Washington, D.C.

We remember Dr. Rives with book in hand, don't we? He exemplified the aspiration of Lincoln, thus expressed: "What I want to know is in books." He read widely and methodically; he digested, reflected upon, and talked back on the ideas generated from his exploration of our intellectual heritage. The motives dominating such disciplines were never secondary; that is, not for economic accrual or to amass 1001 facts did he study. He was a Truth-seeker. He made quest fascinating.

How can we ever forget his humor? It was mirthful. Ours so often is repertoire--you know, page 141 in the toastmaster's manual. He chuckled, rarely guffawed. He was blithely sensitive to the incongruous, compassionately and humorously sensitive--never hurtful, never derisive. Ever his judgments were good-naturedly dispatched, as when: "She thought she was so good that she put rocks in her pocket to keep from going up." This is but paraphrase--isn't it?--of his Master's kindly but significant humor.

And my, what a preacher! Diction, voice, content, style--these he richly had. But more. He declared his affirmations, putting a period at the end of every sentence. There was in his utterance finality without dogma, certitude surpassing certainty, embracement of the new with respectful appreciation of the old. He preached easy and easily, no air-sawing, no Olympian thunder.

Above all, Dr. Rives was taller than he seemed to be. No matter how much you leaned in concession to his height, you still were always looking up because his stature demanded it. He was bigger than life, as the saying goes. "He grows on you" was proverb come to life in him. He took like Hamlet confronted the timeless proposition, "To be or not to be." He made the choice and, as Frost would say, "That has made all the difference." So much so, that he makes death itself seem incredible.

To the daughters, Mrs. Frank M. Abeel and Mrs. William H. Pitts and their families, and to the sister, Mrs. Ethel Watts, do we convey prayerful love.

by W. Hedley Clews

Linton Dunn Stables. 1883-1971. Linton Dunn Stables, tenth child of Alfred and Jane Stables, was born the eleventh year after this family arrived in this country from England. His great-great grandfather was converted under the preaching of Mr. John Wesley, M.A. There has been a minister in the Stables family for five generations.

Linton Dunn Stables was born in Lunenburg County, Va., Feb. 5, 1883, and grew up in Lunenburg County on the farm. When he was twenty, he received the call to the ministry. He enrolled at Hampden-Sydney College. After the first year he enrolled in Randolph-Macon College in Ashland, Va. While there attending college, he served churches in Powhatan County, pastorates in Pittsylvania County, Mathews, Gloucester, Accomac, South Norfolk, Richmond, Smithfield, Capron, North Mecklenburg, and Port

Republic. Brother Stables was greatly beloved in every Charge he served, and to this day many of our churches have been honored by loyal churchmen trained under his ministry and in their Christian lives are living monuments to his memory. Three years after his retirement he served as pastor, with distinction, the Meherren Charge as Supply.

During his retirement he lived in the bounds of the North Mecklenburg Charge, where he was active in the service of his Lord in Zion Methodist Church, and was greatly beloved by the entire community of all the denominations. His home was a gathering place for his family of six children and grandchildren. He was first married to Miss Florence Kersey in 1908, and after ten years of happy married life she died. His second wife was Miss Katherine May of Gloucester, who was devoted to his six children, a faithful wife and loyal companion the remainder of his life.

Rev. Linton Dunn Stables was a good man, his principles of life were well grounded, a man of his fellowmen and in every way a man of God. He never side-stepped a worthy cause, and always stood ready to help any one in need. The poor, the down-trodden, regardless of their station in life, received his full attention as well as his material gifts. His mission was to be an unfailing witness for his Lord, and to that purpose he gave a living witness.

"He met God in the morning when the day was at its best,

And His presence came like sunrise, like glory in his breast."

by Harry S. Coffey

John Hale Pearson. 1894-1971. John Hale Pearson had a vision of great service for his church, but he never let the glory of his dreams frighten him into inactivity. An intense concern for people made of him an unsurpassed builder of churches, a dedicated pastor both of laymen and of ministers, and a faithful servant of students and youth.

Born in Alabama, October 28, 1894, he was graduated from the University of Alabama and the Candler School of Theology at Emory University. After serving in the armed forces in World War I, he became minister to students at his alma mater in 1923. Two years later he transferred to the Baltimore Conference, which named him to Basic Church, Waynesboro (1925), Clarendon in Arlington (1930), and Trinity, Roanoke (1936), where he was stationed when that area was shifted to the Virginia Conference.

He served six other appointments in the Virginia Conference: Danville District Superintendent (1941), Mt. Vernon Church in Danville (1942), Ghent in Norfolk (1946), Alexandria District Superintendent (1950), Court Street in Lynchburg (1956), and Main Street, Waynesboro (1960). In 1966 he retired, closing his 40 years in the ministry in the same city where he had his first pastorate. The Pearsons then lived in Bedford, moving to the Methodist Home in Roanoke in 1970. He died in Roanoke, December 14, 1971.

In 1924 he married Eudora Maxwell Yerby, who through his career gave her energy, understanding, love, and support to his ministry. Their two children are Anne (Mrs. Volney Croswell), of New York, and John Hale, Jr., of Berkeley, California.

The Conference will probably remember John Pearson best as the superintendent of the Alexandria District, where he initiated a period of church expansion and growth which has seldom been equaled anywhere. In six years he developed the district Board of Missions from a paper organization into an effective structure for new church development with a budget of \$200,000 a year. He saw his district increase by one-half both in the number of its ministers and in its lay membership. He led in the founding of twelve new congregations--Graham Road, Mt. Vernon, Culmore, Cameron, Friendship, Springfield, Wesley, St. Mark's, St. Andrew's, St. Luke's, Aldergate, and St. John's--which stand today as memorials of his foresight, determination, and dedication. In the youngest of these, St. John's Church in Springfield, a bronze plaque honors John Hale Pearson as a district leader and founder of churches.

Another compelling interest was in Christian Education. After beginning his ministry on a college campus, he never lost his concern for young people and their education. He was for many years President of the Board of Trustees of Randolph-Macon Woman's College. During his service as a trustee, he was a member of the committee that built the award-winning Houston Chapel. Randolph-Macon College honored him with the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity.

John Pearson always had the vision, enthusiasm, and faith for any task set before him. He thought he had the energy, too, and he usually was right. Only time was limited. It says a great deal more about him than it does about me, that when he called me in 1953 to assist him in his ambitious church-expansion program, he referred to me usually not by any official title, but simply as his "full-time man." He then had 48 hours a day for his work. Of course, I did not work 24 hours a day--and Mrs. Pearson would not let him, either. But working with him was a happy experience, and one which enabled both of us to have a sense of real accomplishment. Indeed, he worked so hard, that in 10 years, it required two district superintendents, two executive secretaries, and three office secretaries to carry forward the work which he had begun in 1952, alone but for the help of a part-time secretary.

Earnest, dedicated, concerned, relentless in his demands upon his own energy, unacquainted with the idea that any worthwhile undertaking might be impossible, selfless in his devotion to his calling, sturdy in his faith in Almighty God--that was John Pearson.

by Raymond F. Wrenn

Edwin Samuels Sheppe, Jr. 1902-1971. Edwin Samuels Sheppe, Jr. was born in Enfield, N.C., March 14, 1902, the son of Edwin Samuels and Elizabeth Virginia Sheppe. His earliest days were spent in Rocky Mount, N.C., and Covington, Va., in which communities his father was principal of schools. However, he was reared mostly in Staunton, Va., his father then being Editor of the Staunton News Leader. As a youth, he worked on the newspaper and in the Planters Bank in Staunton.

"Ed," as he was better known, graduated from the Staunton High School in June, 1919. It was while working in the Planters Bank that he gave way to the call to preach, which he had been feeling for some time, and under the pastorate of the Rev. M.D. Mitchell he made a public acknowledgement of this call. He went to Randolph-Macon College in 1920, receiving his A.B. degree in 1924. Ed then attended Candler School of Theology at Emory University where he received his B.D. degree in 1926. Randolph-Macon later honored him with a degree of Doctor of Divinity in 1940.

In 1926, he married Mary Helen Smith of Franklin, Va. Three daughters were born to them: Betty Belle, now Mrs. Ralph W. McNinch; Nancy Carolyn, now Mrs. Adli A. Alliss of Norfolk; and Barbara Jean, now Mrs. Leo W. Alley, Spartansburg, S.C.

He was licensed to preach from Central Church, Staunton, January 1, 1921; was admitted On Trial into the Baltimore Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South in 1926; was ordained a Deacon in 1928 and was ordained an Elder and received into Full Connection in 1930. Prior to unification of the Methodist Churches, he served the following appointments with great success: Arlington-Lee Heights (Community); Ballston-Lee Heights (Central Church); Huntington Court, Roanoke; Rockville, Md.; and Raleigh Court, Roanoke. He remained at Raleigh Court following unification and later served Farmville; Boulevard, Richmond; First Church, Martinsville; Fredericksburg; Trinity, Newport News; Granbery Memorial, Covington; and Broad Street, Portsmouth in the Virginia Conference of The Methodist Church. In 1965, Ed was appointed to the office of Ministerial Services as Executive Secretary. With the organization of the Conference Program Council in 1967, this appointment was renamed Associate Conference Program Director for Personnel and Executive Secretary of the Virginia Methodist Pensions, Inc. This was his last appointment and from which he retired in 1970.

His life was an example in many areas of experience. As a follower of Wesley, he left his bed early in the morning and spent long periods in meditation, study and prayer. There was always a long list of names of those in whom he had a special interest or who had asked to be carried on his active prayer list.

For a number of years, Ed served on and later chaired the Board of Ministry of the Conference. He was especially interested in young men who were seeking membership in the Conference. Many of these were inspired and motivated to fuller service by this association. Nor did his concern stop here. Most of these young ministers were followed by the concerns of this man throughout the day of their service. It was he who encouraged the organization of an orientation conference in order that they be well prepared in knowledge of the conference into which they were entering.

The additional duties were performed in extended time for Ed never allowed extra duties to become a substitute for his work as a pastor. Preaching was his life and for

this task he prepared well. Not only did he keep up with the writings of the theologians of the day, he kept abreast of the time in the political, social, and economic arena in which all of us find ourselves today.

When the duties of the Board of Pensions, of which he was chairman in 1963, became too heavy for one man to assume in addition to his pastorate, Edwin S. Sheppe, Jr. became the first Executive Secretary of the Board of Pensions. To this position he brought the genius of his organizational ability, the compassion for people, and the dedication of time and energy that had characterized his work. He continued and enlarged the service to our honored retirees and encouraged the conference and younger preachers to a better job of preparing for retirement.

Edwin S. Sheppe, Jr. was a man for people, but more—he was a man whom God could use. As we were celebrating the season of Christmastide, December 28, 1971, he slipped away to join in the celebration in our Father's House. His going was characteristics of his life—his thoughts were of others and his interest was centered in the destination toward which he sped with a certainty born of an abiding faith in God.

The funeral service was at McKendree United Methodist Church, Norfolk, Va., December 30, 1971, conducted by his pastor, the Rev. Frank S. Crim, and assisted by Dr. George S. Lightner. Interment was made at Thornrose Cemetery, Staunton, Va.

by Paul D. Martin, Jr. and George S. Lightner

Oscar John Rishel. 1891-1972. Oscar John, son of John Henry and Alice Louisa Rishel, worked in steel mills of Braddock, Pa., and in the Westinghouse Airbrake and Manufacturing Company of Wilmerding, Pa. In the steel mills he served in turn as messenger boy, cranesman, and time keeper. In the Westinghouse Company he served as bookkeeper.

Upon his conversion he early heeded a clear call to the ministry. Following college, he accepted assignment to his first pastoral charge, a four church circuit. He was ordained in Mount Washington, Pa., on October 8, 1916; an elder in Pittsburgh, Pa., October 6, 1918. Bishop Franklin Hamilton ordained him deacon, and Bishop William Fraser McDowell ordained him elder. His list of appointments follows: Cottage Circuit, New York State, Erie Conference (1911-12); Phillipsville Circuit, Pennsylvania, Erie Conference (1912-14); Addison Circuit, Penn., Pittsburgh Conference (1915-16); South Greensburg, Penn., Pittsburgh Conference (1916-20); Point Marion, Penn., Pittsburgh Conference (1920-24); Swissvale, Penn., Pittsburgh Conference (1926-30); Grace, Natrona Heights, Pittsburgh Conference (1930-34); First Church, Monessen, Pittsburgh Conference (1935); Jefferson Avenue, Washington, Pittsburgh Conference (1935-40).

Retired for health reasons 1940-48. This forced him to live at sea level. His health having recovered to a degree, he again accepted an appointment to the ministry. He was assigned as follows in the Virginia Conference: West Mathews Charge (1948-49); Bon Air, Richmond (1949-52); Swain Memorial, Tangier, Va. (1952-57); Retirement, 1957; Shiloh, Gwynn's Island, Va. (1960-63) (Retired Supply); Westville Christian Church, Mathews, Va. (1965-70) (Supply).

During his first period of retirement 1940-48, after his health had recovered in part, he accepted employment in the United States Government Service being assigned to Fort Eustis, Va., first as property custodian, and later as safety engineer. He was awarded a citation and medal on October 17, 1945, by Major General Philip Hayes, for "Meritorious and Outstanding Service."

In connection with his Tangier pastorate, he was awarded two citations for "Distinguished Service" by the American Medical Association on October 28, 1957, and by The Virginia Council on Health and Medical Care on June 12, 1957. The press voted the story of Tangier, covering the period of his pastorate, as "The Outstanding Human Interest Story of the Year, 1957."

The Rev. Mr. Rishel was united in marriage to Mabel Margaret Johnson, daughter of Harry M. and Jennie Johnson of Braddock, Pa., on January 1, 1912, in the Methodist Parsonage, South Dayton, N.Y. The Rev. L. M. Bernard was the officiating minister. Their first home was in the parsonage at Cottage, N.Y. The following children came to bless the home of the Rishels: Grace Ruth; Olive Alice; Jane (deceased); John Wesley; Elanor Mabel.

Rev. Mr. Rishel died January 5, 1972. Survivors include his wife of 60 years; three daughters; a son; nine grandchildren and thirteen great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted at the Foster-Faulkner Funeral Home, Mathews, Va., by Dr. George W. Harrison, Pastor of Centenary United Methodist Church, Richmond, Va.; Rev. C. Edward Pruitt, Pastor of Mathews United Methodist Charge, and Rev. Joseph T. Carson, Jr., Rappahannock District Superintendent. Burial was in Heritage Memorial Cemetery, Dutton.

"And I heard a voice from heaven, saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from henceforth; Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them."

(Note: Most of the above information was taken from a history of "The Grove Family", written by Mr. Rishel in 1965.)

by Joseph T. Carson, Jr.

Herbert Alphonso Green. 1896-1972. Herbert Alphonso Green was born April 16, 1896, in the City of Washington, the son of the Rev. Ernest J. Green and Maria Berkeley Green of that city. His early life was lived under the influence of the Christian church. He was educated in the public schools of the District of Columbia, Howard University, and the Boston University School of Theology.

In 1927, he was married to Miss Isabelle Parker of Washington, D.C., in a ceremony at the Asbury Methodist Church. To them was born a daughter, Annabelle Edwina. His beloved wife departed this life soon after the birth of their daughter. He never remarried.

He served a total of 39 years in the ministry in the Virginia, West Virginia, West Pennsylvania, and Washington conferences. His first appointment was at Bedford, Va., in 1927. Other appointments followed: in the Va. Conference at Lynchburg, Staunton, and Alexandria; in the West Virginia Conference at Charleston, Fairmont, Lewisburg, and Morgantown; in the West Pennsylvania Conference at McKeesport, Aliquippa and Johnstown; in the Washington Conference at St. Mary's Larger Parish in St. Mary's County, Md., and at the Sharpe Street Methodist Church in Baltimore, Md. His last appointment was at the Roberts Memorial United Methodist Church in Alexandria, Va., where he served from 1960 to 1966. Active in the ecumenical movement in that city, he retired due to ill health in 1966.

Herbert A. Green was frequently referred to as "a Christian gentleman." He was unswerving in his devotion and commitment to the Holy Gospel and expected no more from others than he expected from himself. His deportment and carriage seemed to inspire the best in others as he was always conscientious of his role as minister, teacher, and Christian exemplar. He was a diligent pastor, warm-hearted and friendly, but disciplined to the core. For he viewed discipline with love as the keystone to the Christian life. His life was truly spent in devotion to his family, his Church and his Lord.

During his last years which he spent at the Mar Salle Nursing Home near Georgetown, he frequently ministered to the needs of others in the home. He was an inspiration to them even as he rose to overcome his own physical difficulties to be of service.

The Rev. Herbert Alphonso Green departed this life peacefully and seemingly instantly January 17, 1972, at the Mar Salle Nursing Home. A Service of Triumph was held for him at the Asbury United Methodist Church, Washington, D.C., with the Rev. Samuel E. NeSmith officiating. His remains were laid to rest in the family burial plot in Lincoln Memorial Cemetery, Suitland, Md.

by Carroll Greene, Jr.

Cecil Calvert Bell. 1911-1972. Cecil Calvert Bell was born in Isle of Wight County, November 17, 1911, the son of William and Maude Bell. After twenty-one years of service in the United States Navy, he retired in September, 1954.

Mr. Bell felt the call to preach and entered Ferrum Junior College in preparation for the ministry. Later he attended Greensboro and High Point Colleges and did his theological work at Duke Divinity School.

He entered the ministry in the fall of 1956 as associate minister at Julian, N.C. He served the Julian, Pinnacle, Elkin Circuit, and Warrensville Charges in the Western North Carolina Conference. He transferred to the Virginia Conference in 1965 and was appointed to the Ocran Charge. He served there from 1965 to 1968. He served St. Mark United Methodist in the Portsmouth District until June, 1971, when, for health reasons, he took sabbatical leave.

He died suddenly on February 12, 1972, at his home in Elberon, Surry County, Va. Funeral services were held February 14 from the Colonial Funeral Home in Smithfield, by the Rev. R. Beverly Watkins, Superintendent of the Portsmouth District, and Dr. John Davidson, Superintendent of the Petersburg District. Burial was in Moore's Swamp Baptist Church Cemetery at Elberon.

He is survived by his wife, Rachael Nall Bell; two daughters, Mrs. Bertie Beth Johnson of Ronda, N.C., and Mrs. Vivian Sheley of Greenwood, Indiana; one son, William E. Bell, of Miami, Florida, and four grandchildren.

During his years in the Navy, he was a faithful witness to the power of the Gospel to save peoples' lives. In the ministry, he proclaimed that faith with the same fervor and zeal. No one who knew him would question his certainty about the power of his own faith, a power which anyone could have who believed in Christ. The United Methodist Church in Western North Carolina and Virginia were blessed through his short years of ministry.

by R. Beverly Watkins

Walter Gilbert Bangle. 1911-1972. Walter Bangle was born November 11, 1911, in the City of Richmond, Va., to Henry Gilbert and Hattie Memory Bangle. He grew up in Richmond and attended the public schools of that city. He attended both Randolph-Macon College, Ashland, and the University of Richmond. Gifted in music, his life-long interest in this field was evident in his college years when he served as Director of several Church Choirs. His Bachelor of Arts degree was received from Bridgewater College.

On October 31, 1942, he married the former Doris Lee Doughton of Rocky Mount, Va. Having decided earlier to enter the ministry, Walter attended the Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. While there, he served as Director of Youth Work at Martha Brown Methodist Church in Atlanta, and as Pastor at Union City, Georgia.

Walter Bangle enjoyed a successful ministry in churches across the Virginia Conference. During his student days, he served Oakland and Maple Grove Churches in Richmond. Later he became Pastor of the following churches: South Franklin, Christiansburg, Montgomery Parish, Linden Parish, Mount Solon, Keezletown-McGaheysville, and Mount Crawford. After an enjoyable term as Associate Pastor at Arlington Methodist Church, he went on to serve Culmore, Warrenton, and West End Church in Roanoke. Walter was popular with young people, and because of his influence, several young men entered the ministry.

Walter took an active interest in community affairs, participating in many service organizations, including the Lions Club, the Ruritan Club, and the Masonic order.

Walter's last appointment was that of Senior Ministry of Mount Vernon Church in Alexandria, beginning in June 1963. During Holy Week in 1965, he suffered a heart attack, from which he never fully recovered. He retired in 1965, and for the past six years resided in Arlington.

On February 27, 1972, he received his final assignment and entered into the joys of his Lord. Walter's tenacious pursuit of knowledge, his devotion to the call of the ministry, and his pleasant disposition made for him a host of friends who are grieved at his passing.

Funeral services were conducted in Arlington United Methodist Church and at Richmond, Va., by Doctors Charles O. Kidd, James W. Turner, Harry W. Backhus, III, and Paul D. Martin.

"He fought a good fight,

He kept the faith,

He ran well the course

that was before him.

Henceforth, there is a

crown of righteousness

laid up for him."

by Charles O. Kidd

William H. Polk. 1891-1972. The spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised and proclaim the year of our Lord. These words spoken by

our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ were the backbone of the late Rev. William H. Polk's life.

William H. Polk was born May 25, 1891, in the City of Philadelphia, Penn. He attended the public schools of that city and was graduated from Central High School in 1908. His first encounter with Jesus Christ came in his youth with the Berean Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia. Destiny was not his to live in that city and following graduation he moved to Pittsburgh, Penn. In that city he affiliated himself with the Methodist Church. No one to stand by idle, he attended trade school and graduated a printer. In that trade he was for some years associated with the Pittsburgh Courier.

Even with this measure of success, there was a void in his life and he looked for the calling that would enable him to help others. His Christ spoke to him and he entered Gammon Theological Seminary in Atlanta, Georgia. Upon his graduation, he was ordained a minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church. Still believing in education, he later attended Storer College, Harper's Ferry, W.Va.

His first opportunity to put in practice the words of Jesus Christ came in New Windsor, Md. From that day until his retirement, he pastored nineteen different charges in the states of Virginia, Maryland, West Virginia and Pennsylvania. Even with his pastorate he had time to serve the old Baltimore-Washington Conference as statistician.

Rev. Polk met and soon married Edna Steptoe November 6, 1920, in Woodstock, Va. God soon blessed them with seven children and even with these small ones there was time in both their lives for others.

A man of many talents Rev. Polk taught school, sold insurance and lived years ahead of his time in his relevant attitude toward young people. After forty-three years in the ministry illness forced him to retire. Though his steps faltered, his strength ebbed, and his wife passed on, his faith in his Lord sustained.

He departed this life March 3, 1972, in the Hermitage Methodist Home, Richmond, Va. and leaves to mourn a son, William of Pittsburgh, daughters--Leona of Leesburg and Lenora of Philadelphia, twelve grandchildren, two great grandchildren, several nieces, nephews, relatives and a host of friends.

Our life with you was a wonderful and rewarding experience. Words will never express the joy and happiness that was ours because of you. The only small part about you was your stature, yet you were the greatest and largest one we have ever come in contact with. Your love, understanding, and compassion was always ours. In life, your faith always sustained you. Tomorrow is another day. **by The Family**

Ferol Oliver Briggs. 1897-1972. Danville, Illinois, gave The United Methodist Church Ferol Oliver Briggs, who shared his ministry with the Virginia Methodists for almost a half century and for which Virginia Methodists have every reason to be grateful. He was born there on July 8, 1897, the son of Charles Henry and Phoebe Ann Fairchild. Early in life he came to Virginia, where he attended school at Randolph-Macon Academy and was graduated from the University of Virginia and Candler School of Theology, Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. He married Lillie Tucker Briggs and to this union was born a son, Ferol Oliver Briggs, Jr. He is survived by his son, who lives in Gordonsville, Va., and a brother, C. Oliver Briggs of Ashville, N.C.

Brother Briggs began his ministry at the age of 23 at Pedlar Mills in Amherst County, where his transportation was on horseback. He was received into Full Connection in the Virginia Conference, October 20, 1930. His pastorates included Crozet, Orange Circuit, Bellamys, Danville and Madison Heights. At Madison Heights United Methodist Church, his ministry extended over 22 years from which church he retired on June 9, 1970. He moved to his home in Crozet and offered his services where needed and his District Superintendent appointed him to Wesley United Methodist Church at Free Union.

The writer had known Brother Briggs for many years. His life of dedication, love and service made a great impression upon him. He was a true friend to brother ministers and every member of every congregation and community in which he served. His faith was a deep and personal thing. His optimism was abounding, his love for his wife and son, warm and sacrificial. He had a sweet and gentle spirit and the disposition of the Christ whom he loved and served so faithfully.

He had a keen interest in community activities and was honored in places of leadership in The Welfare Board and Mental Health Association of Amherst County. He received the Madison Heights Elementary School PTA Award for service to community youngsters, and the Madison Heights Ruritan Club presented him the Coveted Citizenship Award.

At the Service of Celebration of his life and moments of reflection of the man, the church was packed. The Order of Service was of his planning and conveyed to those present a witness to his faith and hope in things everlasting. Among his requests, were the words of William Cullen Bryant's "Thanatopsis:"

So live that when thy summons comes to join
The innumerable caravan that moves
To that mysterious realm, where each shall take
His chamber in the silent halls of death,
Thou go not, like the quarry-slave at night,
Scourged to his dungeon, but, sustained and soothed
By an unfaltering trust, approach thy grave
Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch
About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams.

We who knew him and those who gathered for the last words of faith and comfort at the end on April 18, 1972, can say with gratitude and praise: thanks be to God for Ferol Oliver Briggs!

by Harvey W. Ashby

James Bernard Hedrick. 1878-1972. He was the oldest member of the Virginia Conference! James Bernard Hedrick was born April 19, 1878, in Front Royal, Va., the son of Dr. James J. and Susan Whitmore Hedrick. He was baptized as an infant; brought up in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South and attended Randolph-Macon Academy. In his early teens he publicly professed Christ, and became active in the Epworth League. At the age of twenty-two he responded to the call to preach and the Winchester District Conference, meeting at Summit Point, W.Va., granted him a License to Preach--dated August 1, 1900. In 1901 he was sent to supply the Elk Garden Circuit, Mooresfield District. This appointment consisted of seven churches in two States. In his five months riding the Circuit a revival was begun in which over one hundred persons professed conversion!

In March of 1902 he attended his first Annual Conference in Baltimore, Md., where Bishop Charles B. Galloway appointed him to the Alvon Circuit on the Lewisburg District. He served this five point work for two years. It was while he served this appointment that he was received On Trial at the Annual Conference held in Fredericksburg during March of 1903.

On April 5, 1903, he was sent by Bishop Alpheus W. Wilson to the Bath Charge, Lewisburg District where he served for four years. During this pastorate he was married to Miss Bessie Ellen Harouff of Burnsville, Va, on July 25, 1906. Of their union four children were born--Minnie Sue, James Bernard, Virginia Elle (Beeler) and Lambert Anderson (deceased 1945).

In 1908 Brother Hedrick was appointed to a five point circuit at Peterstown, W.Va., where he served three years. In 1911 he was appointed to Talcott, Summers County, where he served a seven point work for two years. (During this pastorate the Oak Grove Church was blessed with a revival in which some one hundred persons came to the altar seeking salvation.)

Due to ill health he received superannuate status in 1913, but in 1914-15 he took a full time appointment at the Linden Charge, Linden, Va. Again, ill health necessitated his retirement for several years, but in 1930 he received an appointment for the second time to the Bath Charge where he served a four year pastorate; and then he was assigned to the Shendale Mission where he filled another four year pastorate.

However, in 1938 the condition which had plagued him many years was diagnosed as Parkinson's Disease and he was forced to superannuate permanently. In an active, and effective ministry of nineteen years he had served some forty churches in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

His retirement and Methodist unification came at nearly the same time, and the Hedricks made their home in Staunton--within the bounds of the new Virginia Conference.

Though greatly incapacitated Brother Hedrick continued his ministry of faithful witness as he worshipped regularly at Central Church, and taught a Men's Bible Class.

The earthly life of this servant of God ended April 21, 1972, two days after his ninety-fourth birthday. His funeral was conducted by his pastor, the Rev. William K. Thomas, and his body interred in Thornrose Cemetery. (Appropriately enough not far from the grave of Sampson Eagon, the founder of Methodism in Staunton.) He is survived by his widow, three children, three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. When I last saw him several weeks before his death he found it hard to believe he was the oldest member of the Conference, and rejoined in the life of a Methodist preacher the Father had given him.

To know Brother Hedrick was to have an increasing admiration and love for him. I recall the first Sunday in Staunton, when as I walked over to Central Church my path converged with that of an old man being supported by his wife and cane. We greeted and introduced ourselves and I learned that he was a member of our Conference. He assured me of his prayers and support. I came to marvel at his faithfulness in attending church. Then as time passed and we began having Friday afternoon visits I found myself looking forward to those moments of rich fellowship, and feeling something was lacking in my spiritual diet when I missed them.

To enter his home was like entering another world. Love was there...love of the Lord, and love of husband and wife. To the end of his life there was the breath of Heaven about this dear man, a gentle holiness that caused those who knew him well to sense that here was a saint of God. He was weighed in the balance of near-helpless infirmity, but never found wanting! Never a word of bitterness, resentment, or question. James B. Hedrick knew Him in whom he believed and His grace was sufficient! He would sit at the window by a forsythia bush and delight in its blooming beauty in spring and say, "This is my Father's world." And as the cardinals and other birds flitted about within almost arm's reach (and as if sent to entertain him!) he would declare, "His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me!" Never in those sixty-nine years since joining the Conference did his zeal for the Lord slacken, or his grasp of faith weaken. The Lord was the strength of his life! The Doxology was frequently lifted in praise. And never did his love of the Church abate, or his interest in his Conference diminish! (The Virginia Advocate arrived on Friday mornings, and I soon learned that I would have to give it at least a cursory glance before that afternoon! Invariably he would refer to some announcement or program and want to discuss it. The Bishop, the preachers, the Conference program were in his daily prayers as he continued to relate himself to the work of God's Kingdom entrusted to the Virginia Conference.) He was a Methodist preacher to the very end.

And certainly this man who tried to make himself as light a burden as possible for his loved ones would want me to acknowledge how grateful he was for the tender care he received from his family across the years. He felt love and understanding in their every touch and tender ministry, and frequently thanked God for the blessing of such a devoted wife and children.

At the funeral the Rev. William Thomas stated, "He was a Methodist preacher of the old school. We shall not see the like of him again." I speak for all who came under the influence of his life and ministry in thanking God for the blessing of having known Brother J. B. Hedrick.

"But, Oh, 'tis good to think of them	More home-like seems the vast unknown
When we are troubled sore;	Since they have entered there;
Thanks be to God that such have been,	To follow them were not so hard,
Tho' they are here no more!	wherever they may fare.

They cannot be where God is not
On any sea or shore;
What e'er betides, Thy love abides,
Our God forevermore." (J.W. Chadwick)

by Ferd Wagner
Charles Frederick Williams. 1898-1972. Charles Frederick Williams was born in Spottsylvania County, Va., October 15, 1898, the son and grandson of Methodist ministers. He was a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Randolph-Macon College in the class of 1920. He received a Bachelor of Divinity Degree from the Candler School of Theology in 1923,

having made a brilliant academic record there. Randolph-Macon College conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity in 1941.

Mr. Williams was married to the attractive Miss Otto Gilbert of Atlanta, October 3, 1923. Before their marriage Miss Gilbert, though still in her early twenties, was an Assistant in the Department of Physics of her Alma Mater, Agnes Scott College, Decatur, Georgia. He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Otto Gilbert Williams, Hampton, Va., three children, The Rev. Glen Gilbert Williams of Alexandria, Mrs. Harvey Mitchell, Springfield, and Mrs. Henry Reid, Yorktown, all Virginia, and seven grandchildren. Dr. Williams was a loyal and devoted family man, nothing for him transcending his devotion to and responsibility for his home and his family.

Becoming a member of the Virginia Conference in 1923, Fred Williams served pastorates and one district in the following chronological order: Benns Church, Isle of Wight County; Franktown-Johnson, The Eastern Shore; Memorial, Norfolk; Fort Hill, Lynchburg; Ginter Park, Richmond; the Rappahannock District; First Church, Charlottesville; Clarendon, Arlington; First Church, Hampton; Calvary, Arlington; First Church, Norfolk; Larchmont, Norfolk; and Central, Arlington, retiring from the latter in 1970.

He was of, from, and for The Methodist Church. He loved his Church with a passion undiluted by the justifiable or unjustifiable criticism of the Church nowadays. Nothing could deflect him from devotion to his Church and the faith she proclaimed. It seems that Fred Williams was born to be a minister, for by heritage, training, and temperament he was a natural for the Methodist ministry. He was a member of a family of four successive generations of Methodist ministers. His grandfather, Thomas L. Williams, served for 36 years as a member of the Virginia Conference; his father, Charles H. Williams, was for 45 years a member of this conference; Fred himself served the Church in this conference for 47 years; and his son, Glen G. Williams, has served to this moment, 21 years. These four successive generations of Methodist ministers have given a total of 149 years to the Church as members of the Virginia Conference, a record for one family not easily surpassed.

Dr. Williams' unusually perceptive and inquiring mind kept him a student all his life. His write-up in the Randolph-Macon College Annual of 1920 refers to him as possessing "rare literary ability," and then goes on to say, "Greek and Philosophy are but the toils of his idle moments!" This resulted in his being a stimulating teacher, and a thoughtful and inspiring preacher. Furthermore, there was about Fred Williams an innate gentility. Anything suggestive of being common or sordid, even when used in jest, was to him repugnant. Of him it could be truly said, as of Nathaniel of New Testament days, "Behold, an Israelite in whom there is no guile." Fifty years ago this writer was a student with Fred Williams in the Theological Seminary of Emory University in Atlanta. To take a walk with Fred over the then open and lovely campus of Emory, and confer with him relative to the values to which we wished to commit our lives, was to return to the dormitory feeling as if I had experienced a spiritual bath. Surely he was born to be a servant of Christ and His Church. Possessing a mind that could not be imposed upon, and an enlightened faith that was as simple as it was profound, for him the artificial conflict between intellectual integrity and saving faith seemed not to exist. His acute mind, refined as polished steel, unhesitatingly seemed to thread its way through untenable dogma, pietistic platitudes, and religious cant on one hand, and shallow unbelief on the other. He was equally at home with the unlettered whom he endeavored to serve as he encountered them on life's way, and the majestic knights of the spiritual seers of the ages. His intellectual and physical energy seemed never to wane.

After Dr. Williams retired in 1970, he became the chaplain of Patrick Henry Hospital in Newport News, serving the ill and the aged. He loved his work at the hospital making his daily rounds among the physically and mentally ill, and being esteemed and loved by them. He moved among these helpless people as a ray of light and hope. On Friday afternoon, June 9, he did not return home promptly as usual, and was finally discovered in his office at the hospital, having slipped silently from the terrestrial to the City Celestial. Thus he died, as he had lived, at his post of duty in the service of God and of his fellow men. His passing, indeed, was "Like one who wraps the draperies of his couch about him and lies down to pleasant dreams."

SERVANT OF GOD, WELL DONE.

To know Fred Williams was to love him. We shall miss him and shall experience a sense of ineffable loneliness without him. He has left us with a fragrant memory. But his death is no time for mourning, but for rejoicing..."Rejoice, for the Lord has found His own." When a memorial service was conducted in the lovely chapel of Yale University for the late Dr. Halford Luccock, Yale's brilliant scholar and great Christian Professor of Homiletics, the Yale Singers sang, "The Hallelujah Chorus." This suggests the appropriate mood in which his fellow pilgrims of faith can best memorialize the passing of God's good servant, Charles Frederick Williams. **by Alfred Brackette Clarke**
Minutes for 1973. **Paul Murray Herrick** was born into a parsonage family in Scandia, Kansas, April 3, 1898. His higher education was received at Kansas City University, B.A.; United Theological Seminary, B.D.; and Phillips University, M.A. Honorary degrees were conferred upon him by York College and Otterbein College. He and Ruth Porter were married in 1922.

He was ordained a minister in 1927, held pastorates in Missouri, Oklahoma, Kansas and Ohio, and served as Superintendent of the Missouri Conference (United Brethren Church) from 1927 to 1929. His last pastorate was the First Evangelical United Brethren Church, Dayton, Ohio, one of the largest and most distinguished churches of the denomination, where he served for 17 years.

He was elected a bishop of the Evangelical United Brethren Church in 1958 and assigned to the Central Area with headquarters in Dayton. He served in the Army during World War I, was an active 33rd degree Mason, and a loyal Kiwanian. He died in his sleep at his home in Dayton on the night of November 23, 1972.

In 1968 with the union of The Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren Church, Bishop Herrick was assigned to the Southeastern Jurisdiction of the United Methodist Church, and that Jurisdiction assigned him to the Richmond Area.

The Herricks, Paul and Ruth, often spoke in glowing terms of how warmly and courteously they were received by the Virginia United Methodists. Unfortunately they remained in Virginia only 3 years. Ruth was afflicted with frail health early in the quadrennium, and Paul developed health problems which he felt affected his ability to fill his episcopal office to a maximum degree. They retired in 1971 and moved to Dayton, Ohio, where they lived in their own house.

There are three Herrick children: older son Bruce is a teacher in Wellock College, Boston, and is a talented musician; younger son Philip is a physician in Beverly, Mass.; and daughter Laura is a social worker in Dayton.

Soon after Paul's death, Ruth moved to the Otterbein Home, near Lebanon, Ohio, where she is receiving excellent nursing care. She suffered two strokes and at the time this is written her life seems to be in jeopardy.

In thinking of Paul Herrick, one immediately remembers his integrity. It is impossible to think of him in any situation doing anything unworthy of a Christian and a gentleman. He had a personal code of ethics which it was not in him to violate.

Again we remember his kindness and generosity. There was no selfishness in him. He gave himself to others in every way within his powers. In a world where self-centeredness and personal gain are common motivations, Paul Herrick's life was characterized by Christian charity and love for his family, his fellow clergy, the laity of the church, and all with whom he was related.

Paul Herrick had an appreciation for the aesthetic, especially beauty expressed in music and poetry. He was an excellent signer with a voice of solo quality. He delighted in the music of the church, the inspiration of the pipe organ, the uplift of the choir, and the unique values of good congregational singing. As to poetry, his memory was stored with the best poetic selections from many sources. He could present appropriate verses for every occasion. In a world where poets get lost in the shuffle of mundane affairs, Bishop Herrick kept himself and others in tune with the poets of the ages.

He believed in the vigorous life. He kept in good physical trim. He was an early riser and enjoyed long walks. He was an excellent golfer and could have been a tournament player had he so desired. The day before his death he played eighteen holes with a near par score.

Paul Herrick during his career as pastor, superintendent and bishop held many offices and carried many responsibilities. In it all he was a devoted churchman. He loved Christ as Lord and Savior, he loved Christ's church--the United Brethren Church in which he was reared, the Evangelical United Brethren Church in which he served many years, the United Methodist Church where he brought his career to a conclusion, and the Church Universal or the Holy Catholic Church of which our Creed speaks.

In an autobiographical sketch Paul Herrick wrote these words: "God has been so good to me across the years. I can never repay him adequately. I do pray to be faithful and helpful to him, his church and his needy human family. I was born in a godly home with Christian parents and Christian brothers and sisters. God gave me a lovely wife who has been a great and helpful companion for 50 years. God gave us three healthy and purposeful children. The church has been good to us. I have had good health, challenging opportunities, and a host of helpful and kind friends, and above all the sustaining and guiding influence of a loving Heavenly Father with his forgiving grace."

We close these comments with a verse from Psalm 116:15 (NEB): "A precious thing in the Lord's sight is the death of those who die faithful to him." **by J. Gordon Howard Paul Neff Garber.** Today (April 16th) I stopped for a little while in the neatly trimmed and freshly groomed cemetery in the quaint little town of Bridgewater, Va. The skies were brilliantly blue, the fruit trees are in blossom and the rolling hills of the Blue Ridge stand majestically on one side while the Alleghenies beckon to you from the west. In between is the Valley--The Shenandoah. Everywhere new life is evident. I have never been here before but I must come now and seek what I seek until in the grass I find it. A small metal thing on which is plainly written: Bishop Paul N. Garber, 1899-1972.

I had come to visit with my old teacher and my long time friend. Paul Neff Garber, a Son of the Valley, was born in New Market, Va., in 1899. His earthly life was lived in the strong and sturdy stock of the deeply religious people who, like his parents, possess this valley.

His early training was in the local schools until finally, like most Church of the Brethren youth, he made his way to Bridgewater College. He graduated from this lovely little valley school in 1919. From Bridgewater he continued his education at the University of Pennsylvania from which he received both the Master of Arts and the Doctor of Philosophy degrees. He also studied at Crozer Theological Seminary. Then he accepted his teaching position at Brown University in Providence, R.I. Following his teaching assignment at Brown, he moved to Durham, N.C., to be a part of the developing Duke University. When Duke organized its Divinity School in 1926, he became its first professor of Church History. From 1926 until his election to the Episcopacy in 1944, Paul N. Garber exercised an influence over and enjoyed the respect of a full generation of young preachers who studied at Duke in a manner that was so extravagant it almost defies description. He was not only teacher--Registrar and Dean--he was friend--colleague--big brother. I almost said they simply idolized the man and I am sure that would be a correct statement. I was in that depression-ridden community of youth, many of whom, including this one, could not have survived had it not been for Paul Neff Garber.

I shall always be grateful for the very first course I had in Seminary. It was entitled, "Great Men of the Christian Church," and was a kind of survey of the then contemporary leaders of the Church: Names like--WELL LISTEN--Harry Emerson Fosdick--Charles E. Jefferson--E. Stanley Jones--John R. Mott--John Haynes Holmes--S. Parks Cadman--Kirby Page--Sherwood Eddy--William E. Channing--Robert E. Speer and on and on. I shall always be glad that a young man, who had no intention toward the ministry, ninety days before college graduation, but who found himself in Seminary three days after--I say I shall be glad he introduced me to the giants before I met the pygmies.

He knew his students--not by numbers but by name. There was no man who went through Duke in that 18 year period whose ministry--indeed whose very life was not influenced by Paul Garber. We were his boys--let there be no mistake about that. We knew it and he knew it.

When the Jurisdictional Conference of 1944 became deadlocked in its voting, they turned to him and requested that he withdraw a pledge he had made to remain at Duke and allow his name to be offered to the Conference. In a few hours he was elected to the Episcopacy and another notable Episcopal ministry was begun.

His first Episcopal assignment was the Geneva Area which included nine European Countries and North Africa. He gave dynamic leadership in this significant area. North Carolina Methodism, at least, felt that it was almost a part of the Geneva Area, the ties became so close. Not only did he lead the Church in Europe but he raised millions of dollars for war refugees after the Second World War. He was denounced as a spy by Bulgarian Communists but escaped arrest by returning to Switzerland.

In 1952 he was assigned to the Richmond Area which then included the now Raleigh Area. He led in many campaigns for the Church but first and last his two great concerns were Christian Higher Education and Church Extension. I often felt that ever vacant lot presented a challenge to him. During his tenure in the Virginia Conference, church membership increased twenty-five percent and annual contributions nearly tripled. One new college was started in Virginia and two in Eastern North Carolina.

He authored a dozen books including a legal and historical study of Merger which created The Methodist Church. His classic book was a little volume written for a Church waiting and wanting to hear, "The Methodists Are One People."

Though he was active in National and International activities of the Church, he stayed most closely to his area--it was in a sense his Palace--his home and he led it well. In every nook and cranny of his area his name was known and his presence felt. His last Episcopal assignment was the newly formed Raleigh Area and there he served until his retirement in 1968. After retirement, he moved to Geneva, Switzerland, and began the arduous and yet unfinished task of writing the history of United Methodism in Central Europe. Also, he served as Interim-Secretary of the Methodist World Council when the Geneva office was established.

He died, almost under surgery on December 18, 1972, in Geneva. The Methodist preacher, Brother Hauzenberger, in Geneva conducted his funeral service. Paul Neff Garber was married first to Orina Winifred Kidd who as Bishop Moore says, "Out ran him to the Father's House." In 1963, he married Miss Nina Fontana who survives him and continues to live in Geneva. In addition, one sister, Mrs. William Hite of Timber-ville, Va., survives as do nieces and nephews all of whom he loved dearly.

I thought of all of that today as I found his little grave. Paul Neff Garber, United Methodist Preacher--Bishop--Council President, in 1963-64--a distinguished scholar--great Christian--eminent Churchman, but to me--my old teacher who saw me through many a hard hour in Seminary. I wanted to stay a while with him today but I couldn't I had an appointment--for a committee--for a dinner--for a service, so I just smiled, knowing he would understand but I did whisper as I walked away, "So long, Dr. Garber--I've got to go to class--but I'll see you again--and sooner than you think--after the bell."

by W. Kenneth Goodson

Harvey Jackson Lambert was the first born of Ransom Lambert and Clara Watson Lambert of Goldston, N.C. in 1898. He learned the meaning of sharing life with others in a family of eight brothers and three sisters. His religious training began in the home. The reading of the Bible and Sunday morning prayer was a family tradition by his parents. At the age of seven his educational life began at the Lambert and Reaves one room schoolhouse. He attended Livingston College, Salisbury, N.C., from 1913-1917 and graduated with second honors. He delivered the salutatorian address May 1917. His preparation for the ministry continued in Hood Theological Seminary. He was ordained in 1919 in the A.M.E. Zion Church. He enrolled in the pastor's training school, Bennett College, Greensboro, N.C., in the summer of 1964. After forty-eight years of faithful service, he retired in May 1967.

He was a veteran of World War I. He taught in public schools in the Chatham County system for thirty years. He married Hilda Marsh on May 14, 1923, at her home in the rose garden, Mt. Vernon Springs, N.C., to this union seven children were born: Marjorie Lambert, Philadelphia, Penn.; Mrs. Geraldine Anderson, Philadelphia; Mrs. Clara S. Bynum, Peekskill, N.Y.; Bertha M. Lambert, deceased; Mrs. Shirley J. Anderson,

Philadelphia; Harvey Lambert, Jr., Portsmouth, Va.; and Thomas E. Lambert, Tampa, Florida. Four grandchildren and four great grandchildren also survive.

His wife, Hilda Lambert, passed away January 19, 1951. He was married again June 24, 1954, to Frances Burton, who passed away February 10, 1970, at her home place in Warrenton, N.C.

His work for Christ took him throughout parts of North Carolina, Virginia, and Maryland. With fifty years of service and three years in retirement behind him, he moved back to the old home grounds. The original home was destroyed by fire in 1968. His was a life of treasured memories, happy and sad. His great joy was gardening vegetables and beautiful flowers.

He was assistant to the pastor of the family's beloved Union Grove A.M.E. Zion Church and a member of Lodge #688 at the time of his sudden death on June 16, 1972, in Lee County. God took our father away to live with Him.

The funeral service was held on Wednesday, June 21, 1972, 2:00 p.m., at the Union Grove A.M.E. Zion Church, Goldston, N.C., by the Rev. F.K. Hood, pastor. Lodge Brothers of Goldston Lodge #688 were pall bearers. The floral bearers were members of the Morning Star Chapter #594. Also attending the service were: the Rev. R. V. Horton, the Rev. Theodore Tyson, Jr., and the Rev. J. C. Gray.

"Sleep on dear father,
and take your rest;
We, your children loved you,
But God loved you best."

by Marjorie Lambert (daughter)

James William Arthur was born in Bedford County, Va., on February 17, 1894. His father and mother, John Davis and Roberta Ayres Arthur, moved to Rugby, North Dakota, when James was a small child and remained there through his youth. His parents moved back to Virginia where James received his high school, then later, his college education. The late Dr. L. S. Flournoy was visiting in the Arthur home and in the course of conversation, putting his arm about young James, said, "Jim, the ministry needs young men such as you." These words might have passed unnoticed by some, but not by young Jim. It soon became apparent that a spark had been kindled in this young life which led him into the ministry.

James William Arthur received his education at Randolph-Macon College, Ashland, Va., and never ceased to be grateful for inspiration which he gained at this institution. There was a radiancy in the life and personality of Jim Arthur in college which continued throughout his entire life. Jim, as he was affectionately known, did his theological preparation at Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, Va., graduating in 1934. He was awarded the Doctor of Divinity degree by his Alma Mater, Randolph-Macon College, in 1952.

Jim Arthur's life seemed to be most attractive to young people. They flocked to him and he was always understanding with the problems which they faced. He taught in public schools of Charlotte County, Va., in the early twenties. He married Mary Jessie Camden, on September 17, 1925, and they both went as teachers and workers in Triangle Mountain Mission Institute (Holston Conference), Buchanan County, Va. Jim served as principal of the above institution. It was while working with these mountain boys and girls that he was inspired and challenged in a missionary zeal that remained with him for his entire life.

Jim Arthur continued his work as a full time teacher at Hargrave Military Academy, Chatham, Va., and it was during this tenure that he definitely and finally decided for full time Christian Ministry. Dr. Arthur served eminently and successfully as pastor of King William Charge, Phenix Charge, New Kent Charge, Campostella-Chesterfield Heights (Norfolk), Highland Spring, Chase City, Crewe, Buena Vista, Thrasher Memorial (Vinton), Forest Road (Lynchburg) and Rockingham Court (Roanoke). In addition to the above, Dr. Arthur served one year as Director of Randolph-Macon Forward Movement. He also served his God and Country as Chaplain in the United States Navy (1943-46), attaining the rank of Lieutenant Commander.

Dr. Arthur continued to bear a radiant and effective witness until death. Illness and pain was not unfamiliar to this noble minister of our Lord. Although he was in

constant pain in his later years, he did not allow it to erase the smile from his face, nor an effective witness of our Lord from his lips and his life.

Dr. Arthur was a good pastor with a genuine love for all people. He was found busy visiting hospitals and homes, going beyond the call of duty, and often beyond his strength. He had a cheerful greeting for all. He had words of comfort and cheer for his people, with kindly admonition to seek the Lord.

Dr. James William Arthur passed from this earthly scene on July 23, 1972, to his Heavenly home. His funeral service was conducted at Thrasher Memorial United Methodist Church, Vinton, Va., by the Rev. James G. Holloman, pastor, and the Rev. Dr. John Wesley Newman.

by John Wesley Newman

James Aubrey Hughes. The God who loves us, the Christ who redeems us, the Holy Spirit who communicates with us, dedicated parents, historic Monumental United Methodist Church in Portsmouth, Va., and Dr. James Weaver Moore, her pastor, all conspired to make effective the call of the Reverend James Aubrey Hughes, D.D. to a distinguished ministry in the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Dynamic and forceful preacher, dedicated and effective pastor, able administrator, keen analyst of human nature, possessing a captivating sense of humor, always loyal to his Master he served, Dr. Hughes validated his call.

He was born on May 1, 1899, in Hampton, Va., to William McCarthy and Ella Haynes Hughes. In 1900 the family moved to Portsmouth in which city he received his elementary and secondary education.

He made his profession of faith and joined Wright Memorial Church. When his family moved across the street from Monumental, he transferred his membership. In 1918 he enlisted in the United States Army and was stationed at William and Mary College. Upon discharge he pursued his education at North Carolina State College in the field of electrical engineering. Returning to Portsmouth to earn financial resources to further his education, he felt the "call to the ministry" with four other young men under the forceful ministry of Dr. James Weaver Moore. Dr. Moore secured the services of Chaplain Bart D. Stephens, U.S.N. to teach these candidates Banks "Manual of Christian Doctrine." The writer of this memoir was a privileged member of this group. Further preparation of Dr. Hughes included Randolph-Macon College, Duke University School of Religion and Union Theological Seminary. In 1955 Randolph-Macon awarded him the Doctor of Divinity degree.

He received his Local Preacher's License in 1922 and entered the Virginia Conference on Trial in 1926. He was ordained Elder in 1932 at the Annual Conference held in Richmond, Va.

Dr. Hughes served the following appointments: King William Circuit; Memorial, Petersburg; Schoolfield, Danville; Main Street, Emporia; Denny Street (now Calvary), Richmond; Pace Memorial, Richmond; Randolph-Macon College to raise finances for this institution; Ginter Park, Richmond; Fredericksburg United Methodist Church; Fredericksburg; Trinity, Petersburg; Superintendent of the Charlottesville District; Berryman, Richmond; Superintendent of the Petersburg District; and Boulevard, Richmond.

On September 14, 1926, he married Miss Bernice Cedelle Halligan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Barnard Halligan of Carson, Va., a graduate of Sullins Junior College and a major in voice at Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore, Md. Loyal, dedicated and gracious, she graced the parsonages and assisted in various ways in many areas of Church work. They have been blessed with a lovely daughter Mrs. Patricia Jane (Jerry L.) Troxler and three granddaughters: Cedelle, Imogene and Jerrilyn. The family resides in Greensboro, N.C., and is most active in Church and civic work.

Dr. Hughes served on the Epworth League Board, as trustee of the Virginia Methodist Children's Home, Board of Trustees of Blackstone College and Assembly Center, and for 20 years represented the Richmond Area on the Southeastern Jurisdiction Radio and Television Committee and the Joint Radio Committee which sponsors the Protestant Hour.

In evaluating his ministry let the laymen speak: "he loved living so much and people more;" "I shall never forget the love, the attention and comfort he gave in our hour of bereavement;" "as a man and pastor he measured up to my idea of the best of Methodism;" "he possessed warmth, depth and friendliness;" "a radiant personality and deeply dedicated;" "first and last a servant of God and God's people;" "he could not

preach a farewell sermon because there could be no farewell to his accomplishments;" and "one of the best all round ministers, his personality, preaching and diligence made him a more effective minister."

On retirement Dr. and Mrs. Hughes moved to their home in Petersburg. After a long illness, Dr. Hughes was called home on July 25, 1972. His funeral service was held at Washington Street United Methodist Church with the following ministers participating: Rev. James H. Boice, Jr., Dr. Joseph S. Johnston, and Rev. Henry M. Matthews. His body rests in historic Blandford Cemetery. Surviving are his wife, daughter, grandchildren and a sister Miss Beulah C. Hughes of Washington, D.C.

by Edgar A. Potts

Gordon W. Slaterbeck. A true pastor who caught the vision of the young and fearless prophet of ancient Galilee and sought in serving humanity to bind God's children into one perfect whole, Gordon W. Slaterbeck was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., May 22, 1940, the son of George and Jane Stanley Slaterbeck. Gordon was a graduate of Farmingdale High School. He continued his education at Emory and Henry College, receiving the B.A. degree in 1962. His STB degree from Boston University was awarded in 1966. On December 22, 1962, Gordon married lovely Frances Wellons of Norfolk. To this union were born two sons--Timothy Owen and Andrew Forrest.

A son of Farmingdale Methodist Church, he was licensed to preach in 1956 by the Brooklyn North District, New York East Conference. In 1963 Gordon was received on trial in the Virginia Conference. He was ordained deacon at that time and in 1967, ordained elder.

Epworth Methodist Church provided a conducive setting and encouraging spirit for this promising young man who came as associate pastor. He served admirably in Epworth until June 1968 when he was appointed to Wright Memorial Methodist Church in Portsmouth, Va. This church became a vital force in the Newtown Community located in Southside Portsmouth. The people of this community responded positively to the ministry of its new pastor. The church became the peoples' church and they affirmed this fact each Sunday in their creed especially designed to their hunger and need. Gordon had the ability to communicate clearly the cry of human need to the larger community of Portsmouth. New programs and services were the result. A Christian spirit describes the life style of this committed pastor as he lived, worked, and related effectively to his people. The traditional man-made barriers that separate persons were altered and transcended through Wright Memorial United Methodist Church.

In 1971 Gordon was appointed to Wright's Chapel, Hopewell Charge, the Richmond District, where he served until the untimely conclusion of his ministry in August 1972. "He was a fine pastor who cared about his people." "He did so many things to help persons without looking for praise of publicity." These two statements were made by the Pastor-Parish Relations Committee in May 1973.

Assisted by a seminary classmate and close friend, I, his friend and brother minister who shared ministry in Urban Tidewater and currently his District Superintendent, officiated at the funeral service held at Bowling Green, Va.

by Godfrey L. Tate, Jr.

Roland Hill Nelson was born September 13, 1904, in Crisfield, Md., son of Noah Thomas and Anna Somers Nelson. Twice married, he is survived by his widow Fannie White Nelson and two sons, Roland Hill Nelson, Jr., Greensboro, N.C., and Richard C. Nelson, Houston, Texas.

His education was received at the Crisfield High School and Washington College, Chesterton, Md. He was licensed to preach through the Asbury Methodist Church, Crisfield, in the Salisbury District of the Wilmington Conference and served as an approved supply 1927-30. In 1930 he was received On Trial in the Wilmington Conference, ordained Deacon in 1933 and Elder in 1935.

Roland Nelson served the following charges in the Wilmington Conference: Powellville, Girdletrie, Dulaney (Wilmington), Millington, Buckwith and Speddens, and Sharptown. In 1940 he transferred to the Virginia Conference and served Chincoteague, South Sussex, Monroe, Forest Road and Tyreeanna, Purcellville, Park Avenue (Richmond), Chase City, St. Andrew's (Portsmouth), and West Point. He retired in 1968 for reasons of health.

His ministry reached beyond the local parish. He served effectively on the Conference Board of Hospitals and Homes, the Board of Evangelism, and as the Missionary of the Farmville District. His talents reached beyond the ministry as he became the author of a novel The Unpolished Diamond and gave expression through numerous poems published in various periodicals.

Wherever he served, the church was strengthened under his leadership. The people loved him and the church grew. He was an effective influence for God and good as he worked in his church program. He was never less than a gentleman. He maintained his sense of humor and expressed optimism and hope constantly.

He did well at the tasks a minister is called to do, but most of all he loved being a pastor. Having learned the need of people to be loved and cared for, he gave himself as one called to the task, with genuine love and effectiveness. This is perhaps his most enduring memorial. People will remember the difference his pastoral care made in their lives long after his sermons are forgotten.

The Book of Proverbs states that a man is the candle of the Lord. The burning of God's Light through the life and ministry of Roland Nelson will ever brighten and warm his family, his friends and the lives of those his ministry touched and blessed.

Funeral services were conducted at the Main Street United Methodist Church, Suffolk, Va., on October 10, 1972, by the Rev. Kenneth W. Whetzel and Dr. R. Orman Bryant. His body was laid to rest in the Amherst Cemetery, Amherst, Va. with the Rev. Aaron Smith conducting the graveside service.

by Bishop Carl J. Sanders

Harry Franklin Justis was born in Accomac County on the Eastern Shore of Virginia at Parksley on October 7, 1900. He was the son of Lelia E. Killmon and Andrew R. Justis both of Parksley. From an early age, Harry was active in his home church and soon he was teaching the Ladies' Bible Class and was a member of the Official Board.

On December 10, 1921, he and Daisy C. Taylor were married in the Presbyterian manse in Pocomoke City, Md., by Dr. J. W. Lacy. To this union two sons were born-- Joseph F., who passed away December 6, 1967, in Richmond, Va., and Harry Wesley who lives in South Hill, Va. He is survived by his widow, his son and five grandchildren, Robert F., Joseph M., Jackie Leigh, John Wesley and Michael W. Justis.

Shortly after his marriage he answered God's call to the ministry. This was a call of which he never had the slightest doubt. This had a profound effect upon his work in the positiveness with which he spoke in leading persons to Christ.

He attended public school in Accomac County. While a member of St. Thomas Methodist Church, he was given splendid spiritual guidance and encouragement from the Rev. L. C. Smart who was the pastor. He received his local preacher's license at the Eastern Shore District Conference and was soon enrolled at Randolph-Macon College to begin serious training for his high calling. It was in college that the writer came to know him and a fast friendship followed through the years.

While in college he was appointed to the York Circuit of three churches where he continued to serve after getting his degree. He was a diligent worker and during the next four years he continued his theological education by correspondence. He joined the Virginia Annual Conference on trial in October 1929 and was elected an elder on October 29, 1933.

For 38 years he was a faithful worker in the Army of our Lord along with his faithful co-worker, who was ever at his side giving him full support. Where ever he went, he served his church and home well and his ministry was rich and fruitful. Perhaps his greatest love was in the field of evangelism. He preached in many revivals for his fellow ministers and was instrumental in leading many persons to Christ. During his ministry, he received more than 1000 persons into church membership. Another emphasis of his ministry was that of church building. Nearly everywhere he went he either led the congregation in erecting a new sanctuary or an educational building.

On his first appointment on the York Circuit, he rebuilt the Providence Church at Dare and a few years later he led the congregation in building the new Charity Methodist Church near Virginia Beach. While he was pastor of Crenshaw Church in Blackstone, a complete church renovation was accomplished. At South Hill, under his leadership, a new education building was erected and in recognition of his faithful and effective work, the congregation financed an eight weeks tour of Europe.

Throughout his ministry, Harry was a faithful dispenser of the Word of God and he sought diligently to fulfil all the duties of a minister. He was appointed to the following districts: York, Norfolk, Richmond, Lynchburg, Farmville, Petersburg, and Eastern Shore. During his ministry at First Methodist in Lynchburg, he requested retirement because of ill health. He and his wife moved to South Hill into a home they had previously purchased for their retirement years. The South Hill Church where he had previously served, received them with open arms and there he continued to serve as minister of Evangelism for two more years.

In addition to serving as pastor, he also served the Conference as a member of the Board of Missions for six years. He was a trustee of the Methodist Children's Home and of Blackstone College. At one time, he also served on the Board of Ministerial Training and Qualifications of the Virginia Conference.

Harry Justis was an effective preacher, a compassionate pastor, a diligent worker, a loyal husband and father and a true friend. Every church he served was to him an opportunity to witness for his Lord and this he did with the utmost of his ability. He was dedicated to his calling, he loved his Lord and through his messages and the life he lived, he gave abundant testimony to his faith.

He answered God's call to his final appointment in the South Hill Community Hospital, October 14, 1972. His funeral service was held in the South Hill United Methodist Church on Monday, October 16, by his pastor, The Rev. J. C. Clements, assisted by his District Superintendent, Dr. J. S. Johnston, the District Superintendent of the Farmville District, Dr. Carroll Freeman and the writer of this memoir. The service was attended by a large number of friends, not only from South Hill, but former members and fellow ministers of the Virginia Conference. Interment was in the Crestview Cemetery, South Hill. Jesus calls us, o'er the tumult

Of life's wild, restless sea;

Day by day his sweet voice soundeth,

Saying, "Christian, follow me!"

by Paul Best

Roy Edward Bishop, a member of the Virginia Conference of The United Methodist Church and a retired Chaplain of the United States Navy, died at his residence in Norfolk, Va., October 16, 1972.

Dr. Bishop was the product of a fine Christian home. He was born March 31, 1908, in Dinwiddie County, the child of Edward Stokes Bishop and Bruce Elder Bishop. He received his A.B. degree from Randolph-Macon College in 1930 and his B.D. degree from Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, in 1933. His Alma Mater, Randolph-Macon, conferred on him the Doctor of Divinity degree in 1950.

Roy Bishop served churches in Chesterfield County and Amherst County in Virginia before accepting a commission in The United States Navy as a Chaplain. During Chaplain Bishop's thirty years of service as a Naval Chaplain, he rendered outstanding service to God and country. He was widely recognized as an unusually effective and able Chaplain. His leadership and abilities won for him steady advancement over the years to the rank of Captain. His tours of sea duty included serving as Chaplain of the USS Mississippi, the USS Alaska, the USS Memphis, the USS Richmond, and the USS Coral Sea. Foreign duty included the U.S. Naval Station, Tutuila, American Samoa. Shore assignments in the United States included Pensacola, Florida; Senior Chaplain, U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis; District Chaplain, Fourth Naval District, First Naval District and Fifth Naval District. He served as Fleet Chaplain, Atlantic Fleet. Just prior to his retirement from the Navy, he was Senior Chaplain, Naval Air Station, Memphis.

Upon retirement, Chaplain Bishop served for a brief period as pastor of Community Methodist Church, Norfolk, before being appointed Associate Minister of Epworth Church, Norfolk, where he served for nearly four years until his death. During his years at Epworth, Dr. Bishop endeared himself by his warm and friendly manner, his genuine Christian faith and his concern for others. He made a lasting impression on the lives of many. He was especially effective in his ministry to the sick and shut-in of the Epworth congregation.

Dr. Roy Edward Bishop was a great man. His life and teachings radiated the optimism of his Christian faith and the challenge of living in today's world. Every day he expressed the joy of "doing his duty and working at his post."

Funeral services for Dr. Bishop were held at Epworth Church on October 18, 1972, by the writer of this memorial. He was laid to rest in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Norfolk. He is survived by his widow, Julia Lloyd Perdue, formerly of Chesterfield Courthouse, and by a son, Roy Edward Bishop, Jr., of Crown Point, Indiana, and by two daughters, Mrs. Joseph Bacheller, of Tiburon, California, and Mrs. William F. Moore, of Jacksonville, Florida. He is survived also by two brothers, G. Cabell Bishop and A. Coles Bishop of McKenney, Va., and four sisters: Mrs. W. B. Cliborne and Mrs. S. L. Cliborne, of McKenney, and Mrs. Aubrey Eller and Mrs. Curtis Robertson, of Rocky Mount, Va.

Roy Edward Bishop was a Christian gentleman, a great pastor, and a noble Christian minister. He served his God, his church, and his country with distinction. We are richer for his having passed this way and the poorer for his leaving.

by R. Harris Kesler

Merle E. Shepherd. "Nothing between my soul and my Saviour, So that His blessed face may be seen. Nothing preventing the least of His favors, Keep the way clear, let nothing between." This was the favorite hymn and became the theme of the life and ministry of the Reverend Merle E. Shepherd. Because of this, Merle had an eventful and friendly evangelistic ministry. He was a channel through which the Holy Spirit led over 400 people to accept Christ on profession of faith. For twelve years he led the districts of which he was a member in revival services and often averaged one a month.

Brother Shepherd was born March 27, 1910, the son of Frank and Katie Shepherd. He received his early education in the Montgomery County School System. On entering the ministry he furthered his training through correspondence courses and in summer sessions at Candler School of Theology at Emory University and Duke University School of Religion. He was ordained Deacon in 1952 and Elder in 1955.

Mr. Shepherd brought to the ministry a rich background that helped him understand and identify with people. Previous to his call, he had been a coal miner, a clerk in a store, a laborer at Radford Arsenal and, like his Lord, a carpenter.

When twelve years of age he joined Pine View United Methodist Church on the Cambria Charge. However, he stated, "at eighteen years of age I was genuinely converted in a six weeks holiness tent meeting held on my grandfather's property." He applied for and was granted an Exhorter License in the Methodist Church in 1934. In 1942 he was granted a Local Preachers License. Receiving the call to preach, he began his ministry on the Montgomery Parish and later served the following charges: Floyd Parish, Phenix, Montvale, Gladys, Forest-Shiloh and Tyreeanna-Mount Olivet. He "wore well" for on several of his charges he served five and six years. At Wesleybury on the Gladys Charge he led his congregation in building a beautiful new sanctuary. Youth were attracted to him and had a habit of making a path to his door for counseling. Ecumenical in his approach, he loved his fellow ministers of his own and other denominations and throughout his ministry had many interdenominational services.

He was happily married to Florence Whitlock of Roanoke County and to this union was born fourteen children. They were always proud of their family and worked hard to sustain them spiritually and materially. Mr. Shepherd often supplemented his ministerial income with his trade as a carpenter. Mrs. Shepherd died in December 1967. In December 1970 he made a wise choice in marrying Mrs. Agnes Campbell Moore who loved him and his children and is loved and respected by them.

True to his evangelistic passion in October he was assisting his son "G.C." in a revival service. Returning to his son's home he suffered a heart attack, was rushed to a Lynchburg Hospital where it was thought he was recovering, but another attack occurred and he answered his Father's call on October 21, 1972. Funeral services were conducted from Tyreeanna United Methodist Church by the Rev. Jacob N. Mast, his District Superintendent, and his body was laid to rest in Bedford at Greenwood Memorial Park.

Surviving him are his wife Mrs. Agnes Shepherd, the following children: Wilford M. Shepherd, Julius N. Shepherd, The Rev. Gaynor C. Shepherd, Mrs. Hilda Johnson, Calvin K. Shepherd, Mrs. Chrystelene McCutcheon, Mrs. Eilene Connor, Mrs. Linda Crouch, Mrs. Doris (M.J.) Kim, N. Joseph Shepherd, Ruben H. Shepherd, Mrs. Shirley Barksdale, and Lloyd C. Shepherd and twenty-six grandchildren. Also surviving are his Father, Frank Shepherd and five brothers: Harold, Warney, Ballard, Major and Ralph Shepherd.

Ralph Leonard Haga, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford A. Haga, was born October 16, 1904, in Pamplin, Va. He entered Randolph-Macon College in 1923, majored in History, and graduated in 1927. While at Ashland he received medals as a declaimer and as an orator, and excelled in long distance running.

On April 5, 1928, he was married to Miss Madge Gordon Weaver, who survives him. He is also survived by a son, Ralph Jr., a daughter, Elizabeth Gordon, and a brother, Alonzo B. Haga.

Ralph joined the Virginia Methodist Conference in 1928, and served in the following charges: Colonial Beach; Boykins; LaCrosse, where a new church was built; Hopewell, where an unfinished sanctuary was completed and additions were made to the church school; St. James in Richmond; Altavista; and Bassett.

In May, 1943, he volunteered for military service as an army chaplain in World War II. He was quartered in Dover on "D Day" when General Eisenhower gave the signal for the Allied Fleet to head across the English Channel toward Normandy. Ralph was the first army chaplain to land on Omaha Beach. Under fire he and several medics went back repeatedly, through blood tinged water to rescue wounded men; he went for eighty hours without sleep to minister to them.

On the march toward Berlin he was wounded twice, but continued to serve, comforting the injured and dying, and conducting thousands of funerals in France, Holland, and Luxembourg. For his heroic services he was awarded the Purple Heart, the Assault Arrow Medal, four battle stars, and the French Croix de Guerre.

Ralph retired from active military duty in 1945, but continued as a chaplain on call, and in 1948 he became the Chaplain of the 29th Infantry of Virginia and Maryland and served in that capacity until his retirement in 1964, with the rank of Colonel.

Shortly after his return to Virginia in 1945 he was appointed to Ocean View, where he led his members in building our beautiful Miles Memorial Church. During his pastorate there he was invited to deliver the Memorial Day address in Norfolk, which Joseph A. Bell, Chairman of the Memorial Association, described afterwards as the most thrilling deliverance he had heard in his thirty years as President of the Association.

Ralph's next assignment was on the Eastern Shore as District Superintendent. Four years later he was "drafted" by Bishop Garber to serve as the Executive Secretary of the Conference Board of Missions. As his secretary for over twelve years, I often wondered how he could cover so much ground and get so much accomplished. During that time he was instrumental in the organization, relocation, or merger of more than 125 congregations, and scores of new churches were built. He was often referred to as "Mr. Church Extension."

He retired from active duty in 1972, following a slight paralysis, but it was too late for him to engage in the hunting, boating, and fishing which he had eagerly anticipated. He suffered a massive stroke in October and died on November 4th in the Veterans Hospital at Salem. Truly he had "fought a good fight and kept the faith."

An impressive funeral service was conducted by The Rev. W. J. Fink in Reveille Church, attended by a large delegation of officers and privates and by scores of Methodist ministers. His body was laid to rest with military honors in the Haga-Warriner plot of Olive Branch Cemetery, near Prospect, Va.

Rest comes at length, though life be long and dreary;

The day must dawn and darksome night be past;

All journeys end in welcome to the weary,

And heaven, the heart's true home, will come at last. **by J.S. Gresham**

James Riley Bowdoin, son of the late Robert and Maggie Bowdoin, was born in Accomack County, Va., December 7, 1883. His early training was in the public schools of Accomac, Va. At an early age he accepted Christ and became a member of the Union American Methodist Episcopal Church.

On February 20, 1910, he was joined in Holy Matrimony with Miss Cardila Elizabeth Beach of Wachapreague, Va. On April 16, 1972, his wife departed this life. She was of invaluable help throughout his ministry and retirement.

Singing to the "glory of God" was a great part of his life. Some of the songs he

composed were: "God Will Take You to the Promised Land," "I Will Meet King Jesus Up on High," and "Jesus Is a Friend of Mine."

Early in his life he was called to preach the Word. He received training for the ministry; was ordained Deacon May 15, 1937; and later he was ordained an Elder.

James Riley Bowdoin became a member of the former Delaware Conference, The Methodist Church, April 20, 1947. Very faithfully he served the Church in the following appointments: McDaniel; Crape and Golden Hill; Church Creek, Md.; Glenlock and Rhodes, New Jersey; Keller and Exmore, Va.; and Conference Evangelist.

In 1958 he retired and transferred to the North Carolina-Virginia Conference, May 12, 1965.

Through all the years James Riley Bowdoin was a devout Christian. He was always a happy Christian and loved people. He was a very gracious gentleman and his life spilled over into the lives of those he came in contact with.

On December 23, 1972, James Riley Bowdoin entered into Life Triumphant. The Memorial Service was conducted by the Rev. T. E. Harper. The eulogy was given by the Rev. William C. Strother, Jr., a friend of many years. Interment was in Eden Cemetery, Darby, Penn. He leaves to mourn his loss many relatives and a host of friends. With the hymnist we say: "Servant of God, well done!

Rest from thy loved employ;

The battle fought, the victory won,

Enter thy Master's joy."

by William C. Strother, Jr.

Victor Brandon Anthony III was born at Lynch Station in Campbell County, Va., on March 12, 1920. He was the son of Victor B. Anthony, Jr. and the late Loula Pearl Gettle. He was one of four children born to this union. One brother lost his life in World War II. His father, one brother (Horace G. Anthony), and one sister (Mrs. Frances Marie Bates) remain as survivors of this household.

Victor Brandon Anthony III was united in marriage with Bernice Dorothy Vaughan at Prospect, Va., on November 20, 1941, by the Rev. Hugh M. Burleigh. To this union were born four children, one daughter, Carol Ann, (Mrs. James H. Poland) was born on November 10, 1942. Three sons followed: Leslie Graydon on June 19, 1944; Larry Houston on April 26, 1946; and David Bertram on April 28, 1954.

Victor B. Anthony III secured his education largely through his own efforts. A graduate of Altavista High School in June of 1939, he attended Randolph-Macon College the session of 1939-40. He received his degree from Lynchburg College on June 2, 1947. He qualified for membership in the Virginia Annual Conference through the Correspondence Program of Emory University. His Local Preacher's License was granted on May 26, 1939. He was ordained Deacon in 1949 and Elder in 1951.

He served very acceptably on eight appointments: Huddleston, 1942; Bedford Springs, 1943-48; Benn's, 1948-52; Bellamy, 1952-55; Pleasant Valley, 1955-59; Trinity, Lynchburg, 1959-63; Orange, 1963-67; Wesley Memorial, Martinsville, 1967-70. While serving the Martinsville appointment he was stricken with a near-fatal heart attack, followed by another. He never fully retired and was forced to accept Disability Retirement.

The family secured a home at 407 West 31st Street, Richmond, to be near the best available medical services. It was while living there that he passed away while strolling in the park on January 17, 1973.

During his active ministry Brother Anthony served where ever he was called. He served on the Board of Trustees of The Hermitage, and for years was a member of the Statistical Staff of the Annual Conference. He was a perfectionist, expecting the best of his associates and demanding meticulous performance of himself. Dedicated to his calling he exercised an indomitable will to secure results acceptable to his standards. He was a good pastor, able administrator, a fearless preacher, and above all, he loved God and His church.

He was a devoted family man, and took all possible measures to see that his children should have a larger opportunity in life than he had experienced. He lived to see all of them with college experience, the last son now being a student at Randolph-Macon College, Ashland.

His passing is mourned by a host of friends who share their concern with those who were especially close to him, his faithful wife, Bernice; his daughter, Carol Ann; his three sons, Leslie, Larry, and David; his three grandchildren; his father, sister, and an invalid brother.

Funeral services were conducted on January 20, 1973 at 2 P.M. in Whitten's Funeral Home, Lynchburg, by The Reverend Jacob N. Mast, District Superintendent of the Lynchburg District, with interment in Fort Hill Cemetery within the Masonic Circle. He was a member of Forest Lodge No. 245 A.F. and A.M. and the Lynchburg Valley of the Scottish Rite.

I can not say, and will not say
That he is dead. He is just away.
With a cheery smile, and a wave of the hand,
He has wandered into an unknown land
And left us dreaming how very fair
It must needs be, since he lingers there.
And you-oh, you, who the wildest yearn
For an old-time step, and the glad return,
Think of him faring on, as dear
In the love of There and the love of Here.
Think of him still the same, I say
He is not dead- he is just away.

James Manning Potts. When you follow the ministry of Manning Potts you find yourself upon a path of outstanding achievements, services well done, and a stewardship for God and His Church properly accepted and fulfilled.

Manning Potts was born in the rural community of Como, N.C., and grew up in the home of an itinerant Methodist preacher. He attended Randolph-Macon College where he earned his A.B. and M.A. degrees, and attained his ThB and ThM at Princeton Theological Seminary. Randolph-Macon awarded him the honorary degree of D.D. and Ewha Women's University (Korea) the degree of Litt.D. He married Agnes Wright, and to the lovely home they established came five children--Reginald Harrell, James Manning, Joseph Christian, Katharine Coleman, and Agnes Withers. Manning's rich life of nearly 78 years came to its earthly end at Tampa, Florida, on January 31, 1973, at his son's Church--the Oaklette United Methodist--in Chesapeake, Va.,--with Bishop Kenneth Goodson, Dr. Harry Denman, Rev. Reginald H. Potts III (his son), and Dr. Edgar A. Potts and Dr. Alpheus W. Potts (his brothers) participating. Burial was the afternoon of the same day in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Richmond.

Manning had opportunity to do many things of renown for his Church, and failed in none of them. When his course brought him to the Methodist ministry he following a family heritage. His forbearers had shared in the joys and challenges of that ministry, and during his own active pastorate in the Virginia Conference he had the joy of serving with his son and two brothers. His pastorates, all in the Virginia Conference, included Amelia; Berryman, Richmond; Trinity, Petersburg; Barton Heights, Richmond; and Green Memorial, Roanoke. He served well, also, as superintendent of the Richmond District.

The Church used him on its general levels in many ways. He was a delegate or reserve to eight General Conferences and was chosen to serve on the General Boards of the National Council of Churches and the World Council of Churches. At the end of World War II he left the pastorate to serve as Executive Director of the relief and rehabilitation program of the Church, known as The Crusade for Christ. He was chosen as Editor of Methodism's devotional guide--The Upper Room--a position in which he served 18 years, and saw the magazine grow to a regular circulation of a million copies, published in 37 languages and 44 editions. When he retired from The Upper Room he became Executive Director of the Lake Junaluska Assembly.

Manning loved the thrilling history of the Methodist Church; and in this field contributed significantly to various books and magazines. His part in "The Journal and Letters of Francis Asbury" is a contribution of note, and at this writing his volume on "The Real Francis Asbury" is in process of publication. He inspired in others a love for Methodist history, a fact to which the writer of this memoir can well testify.

Manning Potts had an unusual interest in the works of devotional writers, and he made many of their messages available through Upper Room channels. "Listening to The Saints" was a volume by Manning in which he compiled some of these devotional writings. The titles of this book somewhat describes what Manning was always endeavoring to do--to help others to listen to those saintly people who had found much in their faith. He had an evangelistic heart and he worked hard and long to assist others to listen to the story of Christ and His redeeming power. Through the pages of The Upper Room he wanted people to listen to the saints. As many of his fellow ministers well know, he went out of his way to help them hear--and understand--more clearly the call to the ministry. And in his great devotion to Methodist history he was seeking to help others know the sacrifice and labors of those early saints of our Church who blazed the trails before us.

With some of his friends "up there" he's probably singing "Amazing Grace" as heartily as he did here, and feeling the thrill of starting out on his first "10,000 years, bright shining as the sun!"

by Harold H. Hughes

William Wallace McIntyre. In the summer of 1971, Dr. William Wallace McIntyre preached his last sermon at a Homecoming Service at Mt. Zion United Methodist Church near Raleigh, N.C. He did not know that it was to be his last sermon, but he closed it with the following words which, in a peculiarly fitting way, summarized a ministry that had extended over more than half a century.

"'I searched the world over for God and found him in my heart,' said Augustine. In the heart of the believer, a still small voice speaks in clearest accents, bearing 'Witness with our spirits that we are children of God.' Nothing on earth is so heavenly as that--so like 'The voice of angels singing in the silence.' It is as clear as bells at eventime. It is assuring like the familiar voice of a friend beloved. The Holy Spirit speaking in the secret chambers of the heart is the climax of God's revelation to us."

Young McIntyre had not planned to enter the ministry. The son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Elmus McIntyre, he was born in Preston County, W.Va., June 27, 1894. His early interests had led him to look forward to a career as an engineer. At the age of 17, he was graduated from Johns Hopkins University with a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering. Soon after his graduation from Johns Hopkins, a young minister, the Rev. Harry Marsh was appointed to the Methodist Church at Flintstone, Md., where the youthful McIntyre was living. A strong friendship grew up between the two and under the influence of the young preacher, God's call to the ministry came to William Wallace McIntyre.

Though his family did not want him to enter the ministry, he enrolled at Randolph-Macon Academy to pursue courses he felt he would need for the ministry. Following a year at the Academy, he went on to Randolph-Macon College for theological studies. During his student days at Randolph-Macon College, he met his future wife, a "town girl," Elsie Griffin who labored at his side throughout his entire ministry. They were married September 15, 1917.

Dr. McIntyre was received on trial into the Baltimore Conference in 1919, ordained a deacon in 1920, was received into full connection in 1922 and ordained an elder in 1923. He served the following churches in the Baltimore and Virginia Conferences: Bluemont, Va., 1917; Cumberland, Md., 1918-21; Ingleside, Md., 1921-25; Poolesville, Md., 1925-29; St. Paul's Church, Washington, D.C., 1929-35; Washington Street Church, Petersburg, Va., 1941-45; Trinity Church, Newport News, Va., 1945-49; Larchmont Church, Norfolk, Va., 1949-55; Miles Memorial Church, Norfolk, Va., 1961-65. Twice during his ministerial career, he was called by his Bishop to serve in the Cabinet; first in 1935 when he was appointed as Presiding Elder of the Winchester District, the youngest man ever to serve in that capacity. In 1955, he was again asked to serve in the Cabinet and was appointed to the Staunton District which post he held from 1955 to 1961.

In 1965, Dr. McIntyre asked for the retired relationship and he and Mrs. McIntyre went to live on a small farm which he had purchased near Grottoes, Va. At the invitation of his close friend, Bishop Paul Neff Garber, he went to N.C. where for three years of additional ministry, 1968-71, he served two small churches in the suburbs of Raleigh.

The mere listing of pastoral appointments gives no clue to the measure of this man's ministry. He performed his duties both in the church and the superintendency with credit and distinction to himself and the church. The length of his pastorates is a testimony to the esteem in which he was held. Moreover, he was a builder. He left behind him in each appointment he served, some permanent reminder of his presence in the form of new or enlarged facilities. One of the most notable of these is Larchmont Church, Norfolk, where the lovely sanctuary of that church was built during his ministry. The gratitude of the people of that congregation was expressed in the window in the Chancel, given in his honor by Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Sellars.

Beyond the local church, Dr. McIntyre served the church in many larger ways. He was chairman of the World Service Commission of the Virginia Conference 1950-55. From 1956-60, he served as chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Virginia Annual Conference. He served as the first president of the Pell Foundation, a foundation established by Josephus Daniel Pell to establish a school for boys, or educate them in the field of Theology. He was a delegate to the Jurisdictional Conference of 1960 and an alternate delegate to the Uniting Conference in Kansas City, 1939. His contribution to the wider ministry of the church was honored when Randolph-Macon College conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity in 1939.

His interest in people led him into many civic and social service undertakings. Perhaps most notable of these was the role he played in the founding of Patrick Henry Hospital for the Chronically Ill in Newport News. Dr. McIntyre and Dr. Thomas Walker shared the vision of such a facility and led the people of the Tidewater area in its establishment. Dr. McIntyre was the first president of the Board and remained on the Board until the time of his death. From a facility comprised of three buildings and caring for less than fifty patients, the institution has grown to a nine-building complex with a 385-bed accommodation.

On March 8, 1973, William Wallace McIntyre was called to his eternal home. Funeral services were conducted by Dr. Harry Wardell Backhus, III, the Rev. William W. Parrish, and the Rev. C. Ambrose Turner, Jr., on March 10, 1973, in Larchmont United Methodist Church where his body lay beneath the window erected in his honor. In addition to his wife, the former Elsie Griffin, he is survived by three children: Mrs. Walter V. Buttrill, Mrs. William S. Hopkins, Jr., and William Wallace McIntyre, Jr., and seven grandchildren.

The character and contribution of this man have perhaps been most eloquently expressed by Dr. Donald L. Flynn, one of the preachers who served under Dr. McIntyre on the Staunton District. On receiving news of the death of his friend and mentor, he wrote the following words of tribute:

"His patience, yet impatience with laziness; his decisiveness, yet willingness to work with those of a slower pace; his total understanding of the work of the church, yet skill in dealing with those of lesser wisdom, his generous spirit and continuing concern for all people, both clergy and lay...all of these and his many other wonderful qualities make all of us who knew him, give thanks to God for so great a blessing."

by R. Kern Eutsler

George Gilbert Oliver. Death came to George Gilbert Oliver on March 14, 1973, at his residence in Dunn Loring. Mr. Oliver, well-known in Virginia, Maryland, and West Virginia, where he served during his sixty-five year ministry, had been pastor of Dunn Loring Church, Arlington District (1961-1968). Since 1968 he has served that congregation as Minister Emeritus and assisted his nephew, the Rev. Melvin Lee Steadman, Jr. During his ministry George Oliver was known as a builder. He built eleven churches (many of them of his own design, being a licensed Architect). Included among them were: Hyattsville, Md.; Clarendon, Raleigh Court, Dunn Loring and the Church at White Sulphur Springs, W.Va.

Brother Oliver was born in a colonial home of his family, at Kenmore (a post office named for his home) four miles west of Tyson's Corner, Fairfax County, December 30, 1888, a son of Calvin and Katherine Louise (Trickett) Oliver. Both of his grandfathers served in the Civil War. The Olivers have lived in western Fairfax and eastern Loudoun since prior to the Revolutionary War.

The aspiring Minister's education included work at George Washington University, the Washington School of Architecture, Vanderbilt, and Emory. While a student he served as a Conductor on the former trolley line from Rosslyn to Purcellville, to help finance his education.

Reared in the Old School Baptist Church, young George was soundly converted at Andrew Chapel, Methodist Episcopal Church, South (an appointment on today's Arlington District) in a revival conducted by the celebrated J.W. Smith in 1907. On September 5, 1908, he was licensed to preach on the Fairfax Circuit, to assist the Reverend Francis A. ("Frank") Strother, a former member of Mosby's Command, C.S.A. They divided the work, alternating, at Annandale, Andrew Chapel, Bruen Chapel, Centreville, Clifton, Dunn Loring, Fairfax, Hatmark, Carper's, Ilda, Navy, Pender, and Swetnam. His first sermon was preached at the Old Dunn Loring Church, September 5, 1908, and he returned to that congregation in June, 1961, to buy land and built the new Church--his eleventh. During the years in between he was a circuit rider, serving first on horseback. In 1911 he acquired a "Model A" Ford, keeping his Kentucky mare, "Pet," for the mountain climbs in West Virginia. In 1929 he began driving Pontiacs and "wore out" thirteen new ones in the following years until he returned to the Ford.

George Oliver was admitted on trial in the Baltimore Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, March 25, 1910, and was appointed to Capon Bridge, W.Va. He served Jarrettsville, Andrew Chapel (Baltimore), and Aberdeen, Md.; Raleigh Court, Roanoke, Luray and Greenville, Va.; White Sulphur springs and Marlinton, W.Va. On October 10, 1932, he went to First Church, Hyattsville, Md.; and unification found him as pastor of Clarenton Church (1936-1942) within the bounds of the new Alexandria District, Virginia Conference. He served as District Superintendent, Rappahannock District (1942-1948); Dulin, (Falls Church), and Leesburg, until his "retirement" in 1961, when he returned to Dunn Loring.

Mr. Oliver gave his architectural services freely over these years and designed and supervised construction of several schools and four Churches not in his denomination. When he built the present Clarendon Church, Arlington District, largely of his own design, he incorporated into it a divided chancel, the first such return to the Anglo-Catholic tradition among Methodists in Northern Virginia since the War of 1812.

A number of men entered the ministry under his leadership: Arthur Roach, John Davidson, Esdras Gruver, John Gruver, Kirby Krams, and Melvin Steadman. A long-time evangelist, with thousands of conversions, Mr. Oliver was the author of a book, "Cooperative Evangelism," long used in that field of endeavor. He taught for a time each summer, over many years, the largest Men's Bible Class in the world, in New York. While serving at Dunlin Church, Falls Church, he received 717 new members into that congregation. One of his hymns, published in 1910, was used in evangelistic work.

During World War I, Mr. Oliver was a member of the Executive Committee of The War Camp Community Service under the Secretary of War & the Navy Department and the Commission on Training Camp Activities. He did a great deal in the field of camp counseling and service. He also served the Children's Home Society of Virginia. As a member of the White Sulphur Springs Chamber of Commerce, he introduced the resolution which called for the building of the Pan American Highway, and was sent to Lexington, Kentucky, to further the resolution on a national level. He held many offices over his long career in the Board of Missions, Evangelism, Church Location & Building Corporate Board of Conference Claimants, and was a founder and first treasurer of The United Methodist Historical Society of Northern Virginia. He was for more than fifty years a Mason, member of Mt. Ararat Lodge #44, A.F. & A.M., Bel Air, Md., a life member of the Leesburg Lions Club, and of Kiwanis, Rotary, Odd Fellows, Civitan and Monarch Clubs. A member of what was dubbed the "Kitchen Cabinet" with Harry Baker, T.M. Swann, and others, Brother Oliver was well-known for anticipating appointments of Ministers. When appointed to the Bishop's Cabinet in 1942, he told Bishop Peele that he had made a mistake--he didn't want to be a Superintendent.

On May 26, 1909, Mr. Oliver married Mary Margaret Hirst, of a well-known Virginia family. They were parents of Dorsey Offutt Oliver (deceased); Mrs. Emil Charles (Margaret) of Bowie, Md.; Mrs. John D. McWeeny (Kathleen), of McLean, Va.; Mrs. Vance

Cline (Evelyn), of Holiday, Florida; and Mrs. Pauline O. Witte of Falls Church. He is survived by his widow, Margaret, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

A Masonic service was held at Pearson's Funeral Home, Falls Church and a funeral service was conducted at Dunn Loring Church with James W. Turner, and Harold H. Hughes, officiating. Burial was in the Hirst family plot in Oakwood Cemetery, Falls Church.

George Gilbert Oliver: "...of such is the Kingdom of God." by **Melvin Lee Stradman, Jr.**
James Fletcher Osborne, son of Benjamin Threat and Sarah Allen Osborne, was born in Burkeville of Nottoway County, Va., on November 13, 1890. His early years were spent in and around Burkeville during which time he attended a three-room school and worked at his father's sawmill. He later attended the local high school which had been converted from the Southside Female Institute. Continuing his education, Brother Osborne enrolled in the Piedmont Business College at Lynchburg, Va., and with this experience behind him, went to work for the Southern Railroad. It was while he was with the railroad that he met his first wife, Miss Ella Mae Wood, of Earleysville, Va., and they were married in August of 1910. His only child, James Fletcher Osborne, Jr., was born to this union. During his years in Burkeville the Christian ministry began to make its influence felt in his life. He was asked by the local Methodist Pastor to serve as Sunday School Superintendent and as Fletcher said in his own words, "All of this time, I felt the call to the ministry."

So it was in the year of 1919 that James Fletcher Osborne entered Randolph-Macon College, in Ashland, Va., to begin preparation for the ministry of The Methodist Church. In this endeavor, his wife supported him and worked with him. While he was a student, he was appointed to the Caroline Charge. He was Admitted on Trial in 1922 and served a total of 39 years in The Virginia Conference. In these years, he served the following Charges: West Hanover; Surry; Wachapreague; Hanover; North Emporia; King George; Matthews; Franktown-Johnsons; Grace, Danville; Craddock; Byrd Park, Richmond; Warrenton; Louisa; Oceana; Morrison; Ridgeway; Shade Grove; Henrico. After his retirement, he also served, Little Fork and South Culpeper.

While he was serving Franktown, Va., sorrow and disappointment entered his family circle when he first wife died in April, 1937. In July, 1938, he married Miss Mattie Louise Glenn of Glen Allen, Va., who also greatly assisted him in his ministry. Soon after his retirement, while living at Jeffersonton on the Little Fork Charge, he experienced the loss of his second wife in February 1960. In August 1961, he married Miss Virginia Tapp of Amissville, Va., who shared his retirement years and blessed his days of declining health.

Fletcher felt that his greatest desire was to win people to Christ. In one year alone, at West Hanover, he received as many as 84 persons on Profession of Faith. He gladly held revival services for his brother ministers throughout the Conference the was considered to be a good evangelist. Wherever he was appointed, he endeavored to improve the property and build additional space to strengthen the churches. As a tribute to his ministry, the following statement was written by a member of one of the first churches he served: "He never lost his interest in his fellowman or his desire to bring souls into the Kingdom of God. He will be greatly missed, but the work which he began will never die and the influence of this man of God will live on in the hearts and minds of all those with whom he came in contact."

About ten years ago, Fletcher Osborne suffered a stroke and was never strong again. He recovered enough to engage in limited activities until the last time he entered Fauquier Hospital in Warrenton, Va., where he died a month later on March 31, 1973. Funeral services were conducted at the Amissville United Methodist Church by his District Superintendent. Dr. Harvey W. Ashby, his pastor, Douglas W. Kanney, a former pastor, William Anthony Layman of Tappahannock, Va., and his son in the ministry, Sparland W. T. Hedrick of Mount Jackson, Va. Interment followed in the church cemetery.

The pains of death are past

Labor and sorrow cease,

The life's long warfare closed at last,

Thy soul is found in peace. - Montgomery

by **Douglas W. Kanney and William S. Ferguson**

Minutes for 1974. **Orson Benjamin Newton** was born in Dale County, Alabama, October 21,

1882, a son of Thomas J. and Marilda Newton. In early young manhood, he had a wonderful conversion experience during the revival at the Methodist church of which he was a member. A few months later, he made his complete dedication to God and received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. At about age 22, he began his very remarkable career as a minister of the Gospel. After several years in school and in evangelistic work in Alabama and Florida, he and his family moved to Virginia in January 1912, and he joined the Virginia Conference.

Brother Newton's first appointment was Keysville, and others as follows: Chatham; Danville; Centenary, Lynchburg; High Street, Petersburg; Richmond; Grace Church in Cambridge, Md.; Colonial Avenue, Norfolk; Rosemary, Roanoke; Colonial Heights, Petersburg; Wesley Memorial, Martinsville. Having reached the age of 72, he was superannuated. He served as Retired Supply at Piney Forest, Danville, for seven years. In 1961, he and his wife moved to their own home in Danville.

O.B. never had the benefit of Theological Seminary, but built up his own library and applied himself rather assiduously. He was well versed in the fields of church history, theology, philosophy, and literature. He kept abreast in education, Christian doctrine, theology and theological trends. For 15 years or more, he was on the Board of Directors of Asbury Theological Seminary, Wilmore, Ky. During that time, he collected and sent in more financial support for the Seminary than any other of the Board.

This writer finds it impossible to properly evaluate such a life in these few lines. He was a man of many talents and interests, as well as very versatile. It seemed easy for this preacher to adjust to almost any given situation. He was at ease in speaking to small groups, tabernacle camp meetings, college assemblies, or in a large city church. He was a great reader, and especially of the Bible. It was remarked at his death that likely he knew more Scripture than any other living man. Three trips he made to the Holy Land, including Egypt and Rome.

The one controlling passion of Dr. Newton was the proclamation of the Word and winning converts to Jesus Christ. As a pastor for many years, he led his district in accession of members on profession of faith. After his retirement, he continued to preach and teach regularly in various churches and denominations, holding revivals and special meetings. He had revival and preaching services scheduled for months in advance when, after 70 years of preaching, witnessing, seeking commitment of others to God, the heavenly chariot came by on June 14, 1973, and at past age 90, he got on board.

He had requested his two brothers, Dr. C.B. Newton, Greensboro, and Rev. Pliny F. Newton, Graham, to conduct the funeral. His body was tenderly laid in Memorial Cemetery, Lynchburg, to await final resurrection. He was survived by his wife, Elizabeth, one daughter, Mrs. Carl Cheatham, Lynchburg, several grandchildren and great-grandchildren, two brothers in North Carolina and a sister in Alabama, and thousands of others who were blessed under his ministry.

"Servant of God, well done!

Thy glorious warfare's past;

The battle's fought, the race is won,

And thou art crowned at last."

by Pliny Newton

James Edward Avery, Jr., was born in Richmond, Va., August 20, 1887, the son of James E. and Theronia Temple Avery. He attended public school and upon graduation from Richmond High School attended Richmond College for two years.

At the age of ten he united with the Denny Street M.E. Church, South, and later on directed the choir of that church. There also he met Miss Lelia Ann Sweeney, whom he loved and married on September 1, 1910.

Mr. Avery heard and responded to the call to the Christian ministry, and gave up his work on a Richmond newspaper to enter Randolph-Macon College in 1910. He only remained there a year, but later returned to take his A.B. degree in 1918. In the meantime, he studied at Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, and Candler School of Theology, Atlanta, where he was a member of the glee club and was president of his class. He later did graduate work in Columbia University, New York, at two different periods, and at the University of Cincinnati. While at the latter, he also directed a boys' club in the city of Cincinnati.

Brother Avery was received on trial in the Virginia Conference of the M.E. Church, South, in 1912, and into full connection in 1914. Also in 1914, he was ordained deacon, and in 1918, elder. He served Spottsylvania, Goochland, Greensville (Emporia), and Ettrick charges.

In 1926, Brother Avery was granted voluntary location. Following some further study, he taught school at Coalwood, W.Va., for nine years and later served as principal of the high school at Mathews, Va. Brother Avery was readmitted to the Virginia Conference of the Methodist Church in 1953, and served with love and success at Selma for five years. In 1958, he retired and with Mrs. Avery went to live in Surry, Va. There he busied himself with the preparation of a book, "Interpreting the Book of Psalms," which his children hope to finish.

On September 7, 1972, after a buoyantly happy marriage of 62 years, Mrs. Avery heard the call, "Come home." Nine months later, June 20, 1973, Mr. Avery followed. Both were buried at Surry, where they had shared the twilight glow for fourteen years. There were "lovely and pleasant in their lives, and in death they were not divided."

The six children with whom their marriage was blessed survive them: Thomas F. Avery, New Carrollton, Md.; Mrs. Norman Hudgins, New Point, Va.; Mrs. Larkin Duval, Mathews, Va.; Mrs. Arthur Stephan, Gloucester, Va.; Mrs. Robert Trimble, Mt. Sterling, Ohio; and Mrs. Alice Bailey, Gloucester, Va. They are also lovingly remembered by ten grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

The Averys were people of culture, refinement, and high Christian character. Their friends loved to be with them. Minister, teacher, scholar, friend, husband, father, Jim Avery has left big footprints for others to follow.

by Roscoe C. Johnson

Japheth Ferdinand Augustus Kerr. In his eulogy to Rev. Kerr on Wednesday, August 22, 1973, former Eastern Shore District Superintendent Floyd L. Fulk stated that he had "never met a person who gave away more than Rev. Kerr." This statement could be easily and readily verified by anyone who knew him. A characteristic for which he was known was his compulsive and impulsive giving: to his members, friends, acquaintances, migrants, and especially to the youth and children.

He was also known for his singing and love of music and required little coaxing before he would fill any assembly place with the strains of either one of his two favorites, "How Great Thou Art" and "King Jesus Will Roll All Burdens Away."

Japheth Ferdinand Augustus Kerr, the devoted husband of the late Elizabeth Kerr and the beloved son of the late Rev. Alexander and Jeannette Sims Kerr, departed this life on Sunday, August 19, 1973, at 5:20 a.m. in the Northampton-Accomack Memorial Hospital, Nassawadox, Va.

Rev. Kerr was born on August 19, 1901, in Falmouth, Jamaica, BWI. His early education was received in Falmouth. He received his B.A. degree from Saint Aloysius College in the British West Indies and his Bachelor of Divinity from Durham College in Eldershot, England. At an early age, he sought Christ as his savior and united with the Wesleyan Methodist Church in his native British West Indies. After coming to the United States in July, 1958, he became affiliated with the Baltimore-Washington Conference. For the past twelve years, Rev. Kerr served the following charges: Waynesboro, Winchester, Pleasant Ridge, Wachapreague-Grace, and Leemont.

For nineteen years, he served in the West India Regiment as a soldier of His Majesty's Army. He was stationed in many parts of the world and received several decorations from His Majesty, King George VI. He was honorably discharged from the British Army as a Sergeant-Major.

Rev. Kerr created many lasting friends during his ministerial tenure. He carried the Word of God wherever he travelled and seemed so content in expressing God's praises. Above all, he always said: "I am a man of God." He was also fond of these lines from Alfred Lord Tennyson:

Sunset and evening star	Twilight and evening bell,
And one clear call for me!	And after that, the dark!
And may there be no moaning of the bar,	And may there be no sadness of farewell,
When I put out to sea.	When I embark:
But such a tide as moving seems asleep,	For tho' from out our borne of Time and Place
Too full for sound and foam,	The flood may bear me far.

When that which drew from out the
boundless deep, Turns again home.

I hope to see my Pilot face to face
When I cross the bar.

His survivors include: a son, Asariah, of London, England; a brother, the Rev. O.S. Kerr, Associate Minister of Bethany Baptist Church, Brooklyn, NY; a sister, Maud Kerr, of Brooklyn, NY; several nieces and nephews; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Eastern Shore District Superintendent Joseph F. White officiated at the Eulogistic Services on Wednesday, August 22. Music for the services was provided by the massed choirs of the Leemont Charge. A solo, "I'll Tell It Wherever I Go," was included in the service. He was interred in the Good Samaritan Cemetery, Onancock, Va.

by Jesse S. Poulson

Henry Thomas Logsdon. Only God knows how much stronger and more effective Methodism's ministry has been because of the faithful and fervent services of so many of its Christian laymen. Among the noble company of men, Henry Thomas Logsdon had his place.

Brother Logsdon was a native of Knoxville, Tenn. He was the son of Joshua and Nancy Sharp Logsdon. He was married to Mamie Ailiff. He is survived by his wife and three daughters: Mrs. Hazel L. Craig, of Virginia Beach; Mrs. Virginia L. Richman, of Portsmouth; and Mrs. Barsie L. Forrester, of Orlando, Florida.

Moving to Norfolk as a young man, Brother Logsdon was employed as an electrical worker in the Norfolk Naval Shipyard. He excelled in this vocation. After thirty-one years, he retired as a supervisor in the electrical department of the yard.

Having received Christ as his Savior, Henry Logsdon also received in his heart God's call to preach the glorious Gospel. He was a member of Norview Methodist Church in Norfolk. In May, 1927, he was granted Local Preacher's License by the Norfolk District Conference. In October, 1934, he was ordained at our Virginia Annual Conference as a Local Deacon. For twenty-five years, he served the following pastorates on the Norfolk District: Riverfront, Ferebee-Halstead, Chesterfield Heights, and Portlock.

In my humble opinion, no better nor more accurate tribute can be paid to Henry Thomas Logsdon than the words of St. Luke as he described his friend, Barnabas: "He was a good man, and full of the Holy Spirit of faith." (Acts 11:24a). From the pulpit, his reputation went forth as a dynamic gospel preacher. He was especially gifted in evangelistic ability. In his own pulpits and in the churches of many of his brother ministers, he preached with a passionate concern the claims of Christ's redeeming love. I believe this humble servant of Christ would always have been ready to testify in the words of the late Bishop Cushman:

"I do not ask

That men may sound my praises

Or headlines spread my name abroad;

I only pray that as I voice the message,

Hearts may find God."

God heard and answered this prayer in the fruitful ministry of our brother beloved. We thank Christ for this soul-winning preacher and the great number of men, women and children he brought to our Lord. Overshadowed by the steadfast and unfailing love of our Heavenly Father, Henry Thomas Logsdon served Him until old age and ill health brought his earthly services to an end. On August 20, 1973, at the age of eighty-five years, God whispered to His saintly son, saying, "Come up higher."

Funeral services were conducted on August 21 in Norview United Methodist Church by his pastor, the Rev. James W. Rush, after which he was buried in Forest Lawn Cemetery, in Norfolk. "The righteous live forever, and the care of them is with the Most High."

by Graham S. Carlton

Earle Erwin Henley, Jr. The oldest child of the late Rev. Earle Erwin Henley, Sr., and Elizabeth Riddick Haddon (his wife), honored member of the Virginia Conference (1919-1959), young Earle was born at his father's second assignment at Denbigh (now Warwick), Va., on May 13, 1921. He was a normal, inquisitive boy and his mother said, "He really was a good and obedient little fellow."

When he moved with his parents to Stoney Creek (S. Sussex, his father's next appointment), little Earle was quickly "adopted" by the Milton Tyus family, living next door to the parsonage. They considered him their "son," helping him in later years

through college. Four other brothers and sisters, George Gray, Elizabeth Yonce, Lucy Parke, and Robert Orgain, were born to this unusual family, and young Earle became the caretaker (baby-sitter) when Mother and Dad were away at church. The example of such a Christian home profoundly influenced each little life, eventually leading the boys to follow in their father's footsteps into the ministry.

Earle took his college work at Randolph-Macon, graduating in 1943. The president, Dr. J. Earl Moreland, has written of him: "I readily saw that he was an unusual man. He told me he was determined to find a place where he could serve mankind. He said this so simply, without affectation. In his senior year he confided that he thought God might want him to serve as a minister, but he wanted to be absolutely certain of his calling. I had come to admire his sincerity, his fine clean life, and his undeniable dedication."

Upon graduation he served with the U. S. Naval Air Corps as a flight instructor (1943-45). His love for flying followed him throughout life as an avocation. Teaching was his early profession. He began in the Cradock High School and soon moved on to Waynesboro where he taught a young, attractive high school girl, Juanita Rosalie Ellison, who later became his wife. They were married on June 9, 1951.

Earle continued his education commuting to Charlottesville, earning his Master's in Educational Administration. His first child, Elaine Stewart, was born while in Waynesboro. In 1953, he was offered a Fellowship at Syracuse University, where he worked for one year on his Doctorate, but his recurring call to the ministry would not let him go. He always felt his unworthiness, yet his father wrote words of encouragement and his young wife responded enthusiastically.

He enrolled at the Duke Divinity School in the fall of 1954, graduating in 1958. His second daughter, Marsha Drew, was born while at Duke. As a member of the Virginia Conference, his first assignment was Wesley Foundation Director for the Colleges in Richmond and then (1959) to Benn's Church where his son, Warren Tyus, was born. In 1962, he was assigned to Central Church, Portsmouth, and in 1966 to St. James, Richmond, where his fourth child, Katherine Blair, was born. At Monumental Church, Emporia (1969), he had four happy years before coming to Boulevard, Richmond, in June 1973.

In four successive pastorates, Earle led his people in paying off parsonage and property debts. He was a kingdom-builder, always leaving a church stronger than when he found it. Ever an evangelist and a winner of souls, he built his churches through personal contact and persistent pastoral ministry. Highly regarded by his fellow ministers, he was often their leader in community enterprises and social concerns.

Much like his father, Earle was a gentle person, yet with his mother's way of getting things done. He never seemed at a loss as to the proper thing to do or say. When dissent was present, he would listen attentively and respond with a few well-chosen words. Both family and friends knew where he stood. He could not say one thing and do another. His manner was always mild and patient, yet his position was positive and firm. With unruffled manner he clung tenaciously to his high calling, hewing to that which was right.

He was a warm, enthusiastic, and dignified minister. His every public appearance was carefully prepared. He was a winsome speaker and a pastor to whom people would readily go for counsel. His marriage and funeral services made deep impressions upon his people.

In his home he was a devoted husband and father, often humorous. His frequent puns enlivened the dinner table. The success of his family was his first concern and aspiration. He left a beautiful legacy to his children in his steadfast loyalty to Jesus Christ, and in the strong faith that motivated his life. All who knew him remember his zest for life, his warm understanding nature, and his altogether clean life dedicated to God.

It was on Wednesday, September 5, 1973, while attending the Bishop's (Conference-wide) Convocation on Evangelism at Massanetta, Va., that Earle Erwin Henley, Jr., was stricken and suddenly called home. His Memorial Service was held four days later on Sunday, September 7, at his own Boulevard United Methodist Church, Richmond, conducted by Bishop W. Kenneth Goodson, Dr. Harold H. Hughes, Jr., his District Superintendent,

Rev. George H. Gravitt, and Mrs. (Dr.) Avis Adams of Emporia, with a vast congregation of family and friends.

As he had given of himself in life, so at death was his body given to medical research, his spirit to his Creator God.

by John Wynn Myers

Henley Stephen Roane. "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness..."--II Timothy 4:7,8. These words were used in describing the life of Henley S. Roane at the time of his funeral, conducted at the Singleton United Methodist Church by the Rev. E. Lee Chattin and the writer on September 22, 1973, following his death on September 20. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

Henley Stephen Roane, son of Samuel C. and Ida G. Stubblefield Roane, was born July 17, 1902, at Cash, in Gloucester County, Va. Upon receiving an A.B. Degree from Randolph-Macon College in 1936, Mr. Roane was admitted into the Virginia Annual Conference on trial, ordained a Deacon in 1938, and an Elder in 1940.

While serving the Singleton-Mount Zion Charge on the Rappahannock District, Mr. Roane married Erma Mae Brown on August 8, 1938, a member of the Singleton Church, who was a faithful helpmate to him throughout his ministry. Other charges served by Mr. Roane are South Halifax, Danville Circuit, Middletown, Irvington, Lancaster, Lunenburg, Melrose and Piankatank.

One of the first ministers in the Conference I came to know and appreciate was Henley Roane. When I came to the Rappahannock District in June, 1968, I was very pleased to find Brother Roane serving as pastor of the Piankatank Parish. I soon learned that he and his wife were serving their fourth appointment on the Rappahannock District. His people always had a real appreciation for the ministry of Henley and Erma Roane, referring to him as a good preacher, a wonderful pastor, a great Christian.

Brother Roane was never greatly concerned about "the size" of his appointment or particularly about "the salary" his appointment paid, but always thought of the appointment he had as being "the greatest in the Conference." Henley Roane was one of the great rural ministers of our Conference.

The words of a hymn were used at his funeral also that best describe the life of Henley Roane:

Lord, help me live from day to day
In such a self-forgetful way
That even when I kneel to pray
My prayer shall be for--Others.

Let 'Self' be crucified and slain
And buried deep; and all in vain
May efforts be to rise again,
Unless to live for--Others.

Help me in all the work I do
To ever be sincere and true
And know that all I'd do for You
Must needs be done for--Others.

And when my work on earth is done,
And my new work in Heav'n's begun,
May I forget the crown I've won,
While thinking still of--Others.

Others, Lord, yes, others, let this my motto be,
Help me to live for others, that I may live like Thee.

by Joseph T. Carson, Jr.

Roscoe Marvin White. "From beginning to end, the church was his life," said Bishop W. Kenneth Goodson at the funeral of Dr. R. M. White at Westover Hills Church, Richmond, Va., September 26, 1973. "A prince and a great man has fallen in Israel," continued the Bishop as he paid tribute to one of Virginia's great leaders.

As a layman and as a minister Roscoe M. White did make the church the beginning and the end of his life. Born in Winfall, N.C., on November 22, 1881, he received his early education at Hertford Academy, Hertford, N.C. In the early years of his manhood he worked for the railroad in Portsmouth, Va. In Portsmouth he was a loyal layman in the Monumental M.E. Church, South, taking an active part in such social projects as the Seaman's Mission.

The church so fascinated R. M. White that he wanted to make it his full-time work. He completed his academic preparation by attending Randolph-Macon College, Ashland, Va., where he graduated in 1909 after serving as president of the senior class and president of the student body.

Still not satisfied with his preparation for the ministry, he went to Vanderbilt University where he received the Bachelor of Divinity degree in 1912, writing his thesis in the field of religious education. He was invited to remain at Vanderbilt in a teaching position, but he decided to return to his beloved Virginia and his chosen calling in the local church.

After preaching at Epworth Church in Norfolk for a summer, and serving at LeKies Church in Norfolk, he was appointed to Decatur Street Church in Richmond, in October, 1912, where he served until 1914. This pastorate was succeeded by his chaplaincy at Randolph-Macon College, Ashland, Va., and his pastorate at Duncan Memorial Church, Ashland. Other pastorates were Highland Park, Richmond; Park Place (now Pace Memorial), Richmond; Farmville; Ghent in Norfolk; and Berryman in Richmond. He served as Presiding Elder of the Petersburg District from 1934 to 1937 and was moved to Washington Street, Petersburg, in 1937, where he served for four years.

In the fall of 1941, he was appointed Executive Secretary of the Virginia Conference Board of Education, a position he held until his retirement in 1954. While Dr. White's commitment was always to the church, he saw the role of the church as greater than that of the local congregation. He was a good administrator and also served as secretary of the Annual Conference for 38 years. He was an educator and set up many Christian Workers' Schools in the Conference. He pioneered in launching the campus ministry and the Board of Education Scholarship fund of the Virginia Conference.

He served on the Board of Trustees of Randolph-Macon Academy, Randolph-Macon Woman's College. The educational program throughout the Virginia Conference is in great debt to an able, educational statesman, Roscoe M. White.

While the church was always his life, Dr. White considered his family a part of the church. He loved to be in his home and to be with his family.

On April 2, 1913, he married Edith Denny, who was his lifelong companion and collaborator. To this wonderful couple were born three children. One is now a lawyer, C. Denny White. One is a pastor, R. Marvin White, Jr. And one is a church musician, Mrs. Lou White Winfree.

Mrs. White, in her own name, obtained great prominence in church affairs and was elected to posts of leadership in the local, Conference, Jurisdictional, and General Church. Dr. White was always proud of his wife's accomplishments and gloried in her successes as a church leader.

The sessions of the Virginia Annual Conference will not be the same without Roscoe M. White. He never missed a session of Annual Conference from 1911 to 1972. The only Conference he ever missed was in 1973 when he was unable to attend because of poor health. He passed away September 24, 1973.

Brother White loved to preach: his favorite style was an expository type sermon. In all his active ministry, as well as in the nineteen years of his retirement, he endeared himself to the young adults, many of whom, in the Conference, kept up with him to the day of his death. Many ministers have paid tribute to the encouragement Dr. White gave them in their careers. He also had a perceptive eye for potential leadership and brought to the Virginia Conference Board of Education outstanding leaders such as Luke Beauchamp, Elmer Thompson, Carrie Lou Goddard, and others who went on to posts of prominent leadership in the General Church.

Through it all, Dr. White was a gentleman. He moved with dignity and faithfulness among his responsibilities, and he always dealt with people in a kind, encouraging and understanding manner.

by Robert P. Parker

George H. Cooley. He reminded me of a pioneer. George Cooley was strong and optimistic and he loved life. I remember him in his retirement, standing in front of Duncan Memorial Church in Ashland, lifting the little children over his head amidst squeals of glee. He was only eighty years old then, and Mrs. Cooley would caution him, "Be careful, George." But George loved the children, and they loved him. He was as strong as a man half his age.

George Cooley was born in 1886 in South Dakota. When he was six years old, his family moved by covered wagon to southwestern Missouri, a journey that required nine months. His father died when he was young, and George worked hard to receive an education that was rare in his day—he was graduated from Drury College in Springfield,

Missouri, and received theological training at Drew. He married Mrs. Cooley in 1919, and they were to enjoy fifty-four years of marriage and specialized in raising sons--five of them.

George was to have a pastoral ministry that covered over forty-six years in three conferences. He served twelve years in the Newark Conference and twenty-eight years in the Central New York Conference. His last six years were in our Virginia Conference, serving Keysville, Sherando-Lyndhurst, Pinner's Point and Essex-King and Queen. In 1956, he retired and came with Mrs. Cooley to live in Ashland, where he added to the life and faith of Duncan Memorial Church for over a decade. His last few earthly years were spent with Mrs. Cooley in the Hermitage Home on the Eastern Shore.

George Cooley loved his Lord and his Church. He lived from the covered wagon to the jet airplane and his energy and optimism never diminished. His body finally wore out and stopped on November 23, 1973. Even then he had the last word and act of earthly love and faith--he gave his body to medical science. His memorial service was held in the church of his retirement, Duncan Memorial, and was conducted by Bishop W. Kenneth Goodson, Edward H. Wright, and the writer. One of his sons, Arthur, a beloved member of our Conference, was to follow him through death to that larger life only four months later. They are together now in a larger room where there is no separation and where a joyful, optimistic spirit can grow and rejoice in the goodness of God.

And George Cooley will need a large room, a very large room, where that "glory that is to be revealed in us" can do its thing! (And where he can lift little children over his head without worrying about his blood pressure.) **by Carl H. Douglass, Jr.**

William Douglas Williams. Douglas Williams was deeply loyal to the people whom he loved, and passionately devoted to the cause in which he believed. His Lord, his family and friends were always concerns of pre-eminent importance, closely followed by an intense love of his Church and his Country.

Born in Emporia, Va., December 15, 1910, William Douglas Williams was the son of Robert Douglas and Martha Elizabeth Rawlings Williams, the fourth of six children. He attended the public of Lawrenceville and Brunswick County, where the family moved when Doug was a small boy. Upon graduation from high school, he worked for a railroad in Norfolk. His fascination with trains continued throughout his life, as was evident by his collection of miniature trains, which was considered to be outstanding.

From early childhood, Doug was haunted by a compelling desire to enter the ministry. With virtually no resources available, he could not see his way clear to quit a good paying job, even to train for what he felt was his calling. However, under the influence and direction of his pastor, Dr. J. B. Carey, one of the highly respected ministers of the Virginia Conference in those years, Doug made the difficult decision to enter the ministry and enrolled in Randolph-Macon College. Fortunately, he was a good student, and this enabled him to work part-time in various jobs and eventually to fill a student pastorate in Hanover County. Upon completion of his undergraduate work, he was admitted to Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, and he continued to serve student pastorates until he received his theological degree.

William Douglas Williams was admitted to the Virginia Annual Conference On Trial in 1938 and re-appointed to the Ashland Circuit. The following year, he was appointed to King William, and in 1940, to Oakland, Richmond, where he remained until he entered the chaplaincy in 1942. The entry of our nation into WW II stirred deep patriotic feelings in most Americans, and among those who volunteered for service in many fields were men such as Doug, who could not remain impassive to a call of duty. When he volunteered for chaplaincy in the U. S. Army, he felt that he was being led by the Holy Spirit, no less than when he answered the call to the ministry. Doug Williams had a distinguished career in the U.S. Army and Army Reserve, finally retiring in 1970 as Lieutenant-Colonel. In 1944, he was sent to the European Theatre, and later to the Azores. He was the recipient of numerous medals, commendations and citations.

When the war ended, Doug came back to his home Conference and was appointed interim pastor at South Covington. Other pastorates were New Market; Trinity, Messick; Memorial, Richmond; Lakeside, Richmond; Main Street, Danville; and Fort Hill, Lynchburg; from June 1970 until his death on October 19, 1973.

During his pastorate at Main Street, Danville, it was the writer's privilege to watch a brilliant and distinguished ministry unfold. Like many other downtown churches, Main Street had been experiencing a loss of membership, attendance, interest, and finances. Dr. Williams was the right man in the right place at the right time. During his pastorate, the picture changed perceptibly. Membership increased, interest grew, and financial obligations were paid on time, and for the first time in many years, there was a balance in the treasury. Yet these changes did not take place by chance. Hard work and an almost pietistic devotion, determination, good example and a little hard-headedness enabled him to turn the situation around. It was said of him at the time that he would not ask someone else to do what he was not willing to do himself, and that he would not ask anyone else to support a cause that he would not support. Moreover, only a privileged few ever knew the many services he rendered to individuals, families, and groups in Danville and the surrounding areas. No one was denied his ministry because he was poor, ignorant, or in trouble. Recognition of his service to the community came when the Danville Sertoma Club honored him with the Service to Mankind Award, and the West Central Virginia District gave him the Regional Award. He was also the recipient of seven awards from the Freedoms Foundation.

Doug Williams was also on his way to another successful pastorate at Fort Hill Church, Lynchburg, when he was stricken with a very serious heart attack in the spring of 1973. He was unable to recover sufficiently to take up full responsibilities of his parish, but he kept his deep concerns for his people throughout his illness.

William Douglas Williams is survived by his widow, Dorothy Kelly Williams, two daughters, Elizabeth Kelly and Martha Lee, who are continuing to make their home in Lynchburg; and by a son, William Douglas Williams, Jr., of Hampton.

Funeral services were conducted at Fort Hill Church by Dr. Edgar A. Potts, interim pastor of the church; Bishop W. Kenneth Goodson, of the Richmond Area; and the writer. Interment was at National Cemetery, Arlington, with full military honors.

Our lives and our memories are much richer because Doug Williams lived among us. No words could be more appropriate with which to remember him than the words of the Apostle Paul: "I have fought a good fight. I have finished my course in faith."

by Harold H. Fink

Christian Hezekiah Wickham, better known by his friends as Chris, was born July 13, 1903, in the Copper Hill community of Floyd County, Va., the son of James Wilburn and Ethel Martin Wickham. Chris spent his early years, until manhood, working on the family farm, with his favorite task being that of tending the orchards. He later acquired a part of his wife's ancestral home place and derived great pleasure and enjoyment in tending his fruit trees.

In 1922, Chris met a young school teacher, Miss Louise Ella Connor, who had come to Copper Hill community to teach school, and on April 16, 1922, they were married. From this union, there were born eight children: Mrs. Virginia Marie Martin, Mrs. Christine Martin, C.H., Jr., James, Mrs. Petty Pratt, Mrs. Mary Alice Anderson, Mrs. Nellie Ruth Childress, and Mrs. Anne Elizabeth Clarke.

Soon after marriage, Chris and his new bride moved to Roanoke, where he was employed by the United States Postal Department. The early training and innate goodness of Chris Wickham was destined to show in his daily living. Chris attended a revival meeting at Villa Heights Methodist Episcopal Church, Roanoke, in the year 1939 and heard the call of Christ, accepted Christ, and began to take an ever-increasing interest in the church and in witnessing for his Lord. It was not long until Chris was showing interest and promise in the area of Christian ministry. An emergency arose, and his church was suddenly without a preacher. Then he was called upon to fill the pulpit of his church for several months as an interim pastor.

In 1940, Christ Wickham was licensed to preach. His first appointment was to the Southeast section of Roanoke, the Garden City area, to a dilapidated log cabin church, known as Pinedale, later to be known as Rockingham Court. The building was falling down and the congregation was dispirited. Chris Wickham accepted this as a challenge and spent seventeen years as pastor in building both the physical and spiritual church. During this wonderful pastorate, a new brick church, Rockingham Court, was built and the congregation grew and prospered.

In 1957, Chris Wickham received his second ministerial appointment which was to Floyd Parish. This was going back home for the Wickhams and could have been disastrous, as "no prophet is accepted in his own country." However, this was not the case with Chris Wickham. The next ten years on Floyd Parish left indelible marks upon the churches and the life of the people of Floyd County. The Wickham family was loved, respected and appreciated. This man of God understood, loved and served this rural parish with rare skill and distinction.

In 1967, Chris Wickham was appointed pastor at Bedford Circuit, Lynchburg District. This pastorate continued for five successful years. The people of this Charge were grieved when Brother Wickham had to take retirement in 1972, because of his health. The Wickhams moved back to their home in Roanoke upon retirement and Chris continued to preach on Sundays as his strength would permit. Then he would drive to his Bent Mountain Orchard on the week-days to care for his apple trees. Chris not only enjoyed growing fruit, but he was generous and took a delight in sharing with his friends.

Christian H. Wickham was an associate member of the Virginia Annual Conference as of the Conference of 1967. He also was granted Local Deacon's Orders in 1950 and Local Elder's Orders in 1952.

The earthly life of Chris Wickham came to an end on November 23, 1973, but he continues in the loving care and keeping of our Savior. The funeral service for Brother Wickham was held November 26, 1973, in Raleigh Court United Methodist Church, by Dr. John Wesley Newman and the Rev. Joseph Core. Interment was in Evergreen Cemetery, Roanoke.

by John Wesley Newman

Carroll Harrison Palmer was born February 16, 1885, in Port Republic, Va., a son of the late John Waller and Mary Catherine Funkhouser Palmer. He attended Duke University, Elon College, Asbury College, and Piedmont Business College. He was married to Alice Oland, February 16, 1928. She died April 14, 1971.

Mr. Palmer had a full ministry in The Methodist Church. His appointments included Toms Brook, Bluemont, Stanley, Blue Ridge, Buckingham, Linden, Callaghan, Cambria, and Franklin. For ten years he was minister for the Gaithersburg Home for the Aged in Gainesboro. He retired from the Virginia Annual Conference in 1957.

After retirement, Brother and Mrs. Palmer made their home in Weyers Cave, Va. He kept an active relationship in the local United Methodist Church. In June 1972, he was appointed to supply Bethany United Methodist Church in the Harrisonburg District on a part-time basis. He gave inspired leadership during that Conference year and reluctantly gave up the appointment after one year of service.

After a long and devoted life in Christian service, Brother Palmer, at age eighty-eight, died in Rockingham Memorial Hospital on November 25, 1973. A memorial service was held at Bethany Church on November 27, 1973. The service was conducted by The Rev. William Berry and The Rev. Harold Skelton. The committal service was held at Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Frederick, Md., the same day.

by M. Chick Wilkerson

James Bradley McKay, son of the late Bradley D. McKay and Carrie Watson McKay, was born on March 8, 1896, in Robeson County, N.C., and departed this life on December 8, 1973, at his residence in Waldorf, Md. He was the second of nine children. He was the former pastor of the Community United Methodist Church in Washington, D.C. He graduated from the Ministers' College in Greensboro, N.C.

On August 20, 1945, he was joined in marriage to the former Emma Lilly Travis, who has been his devoted companion through the years. Of that union, six children were born, two of which have passed away. Still living are the oldest son, James B. McKay, Jr., Earl B. McKay, the oldest daughter, Shirley A. McKay, and Neomi S. McKay.

He retired from his ministry in 1967. He then became an active member of the Zion Wesley Methodist Church in Waldorf, Md., where he attended services every Sunday up to the time of his death.

He was also a Private in the United States Army and served in World War I.

The memorial service for James Bradley McKay was held on Friday, December 14, 1973, at Cedar Grove Methodist Church in Rolland, N.C., where James had been an active member as a boy. The Rev. W. M. McNair conducted the service. The interment was in Beauty Spot Cemetery, Rolland, N.C.

by Emma T. McKay

Robert Bayard Proctor. To some men it is given to perform a unique ministry, a service not open to all. Robert Bayard Proctor was one of these. A whole generation of young people in the Virginia Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, profited and were inspired by his leadership, and he is still remembered with deep respect and affection by a host of those who labored with him.

Bayard Proctor was born March 15, 1890, in Richmond, Va., the youngest of three sons of John Gayle and Kate Leland Christian Proctor, and grew upon Church Hill not far from historic St. John's Church. Baptized as an infant in old Trinity Church at 20th and Broad Streets, he later united with that church and remained active there until he entered the Virginia Conference. He attended the public schools, and upon graduation from the Richmond High School, worked for ten years with the First National Bank.

Active in the Epworth League, he took a leading part in the revival of the Richmond Epworth Union, and was its president from 1913 to 1920. From 1914 to 1923, he was also president of the Virginia Conference Epworth League, a responsibility in which one of his predecessors was William B. Beauchamp, later to become bishop. From 1922 to 1926, Bayard served as chairman of the Virginia Conference Epworth League Board.

In 1917, Bayard responded to the call to the Christian ministry, and joined the Virginia Conference on trial. Two years later he was received into full connection and ordained deacon; in 1921, he received elder's orders. He was married in 1920 to Miss Ella Merryman Quisenberry, a member of Barton Heights Church, and a close and active associate with him in the city and conference Epworth League. They were blessed with two daughters who survive them, Mrs. James P. Arritt of Fairfax, and Miss Maria Marvin Proctor of New York City.

Dr. Proctor graduated from Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, and was awarded a D.D. degree by Central University, Indianapolis. He published a number of books, including "A Prayer a Day," "The Golden Highway," and "Beside Still Waters."

His pastoral appointments included Woodland Heights, now Berryman, Richmond; Greenwood, Richmond; Cottage Place, Portsmouth; Denny Street, Richmond; Nelson; First Church, Covington; Campostella, Norfolk; Stuart; Elkton; and Providence, Dare, Va. From 1945 to 1951, he served as Conference statistician.

Upon retirement in 1957, Dr. and Mrs. Proctor went to reside in Norfolk, where he pursued his hobbies of poetry, printing, and preaching as occasion arose. He served as interim pastor for short periods in a number of churches, and met with gratifying responses.

In failing health, the Proctors came to the Hermitage in Richmond in June 1972. On October 7, 1973, Mrs. Proctor, after a long illness, slipped away; three months to the day later, January 7, 1974, Bayard Proctor heard the call, and followed her. Services for both were held in Barton Heights Church, Richmond, from which Mrs. Proctor had come long ago to follow the path of an itinerant Methodist preacher, and both were laid to rest in Riverview Cemetery, Richmond. Dr. Proctor's services were conducted by his long-time friend and close associate, Reginald W. Vanderberry assisted by Loyde M. Middleton and Roscoe C. Johnson.

Bayard Proctor took a serious view of being a Christian. Blessed with a delightful and sometimes hilarious sense of humor, when it came to a question of Christian principle, he was adamant. He would never promote his own interests; sometimes his friends became a little impatient with his almost stern refusal to "politick." He had a keen mind, and was an omnivorous reader; he loved music, and was himself a creditable poet. Above all he was a Christian minister; to those who were not Christians he posed an invitation to commitment; to those who were he offered a challenge to faithfulness and service.

With Paul he could well say, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith; henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of glory."

by Roscoe C. Johnson

John Richard Bradshaw was born September 9, 1889, at South Boston, Va. He was the son of the late John Luther and Nancy Caldwell Fowler Bradshaw. On May 27, 1920, he was united in marriage to Etta Kyle Fralin, of Rocky Mount, Va. To this union were born two children.

He attended school in South Boston, Va., and Macon, Georgia. He was admitted on trial in the Virginia Methodist Conference in 1927. He served as an active minister for seventeen years. Due to bad health, he was superannuated in 1944. Although not able to serve full time, he gave his best to the ministry. He loved to preach in revivals. Often he would remark that he felt he should have been an evangelist.

After his retirement, he made his home in Clifton Forge, Va. There he taught a men's Bible class for a number of years. He served the following charges in the Virginia Conference: Franklin, Fieldale, Nottoway, Dillwyn and Selma.

On January 8, 1974, while in Stonewall Jackson Nursing Home in Lexington, Va., he was called to his reward. A memorial service was conducted at Arrinton-Bussey Funeral Home in Rocky Mount, Va., by the Rev. Floyd Wingfield and the writer. The body was laid to rest in the Pleasant Hill Methodist Cemetery. He is survived by his widow, one daughter, Mrs. Earl Levesque, of Syracuse, N.Y., and one son, John Richard Bradshaw, Jr., of Orange, Va.

Although the sun has gone down on his earthly ministry, we feel that one day it will rise again to shine forever in that eternal City of God. **by Richard E. Hamblin**

Vernon E. Banks was born November 9, 1893, in Boxley, Kentucky, son of the late John Thomas Banks and Adelia Duncan Banks. On April 24, 1929, he was married to Judie Dean Laws, and to this union three children were born: James T. Banks, who has served as a minister in the Virginia Conference, Mrs. Gene Sorenson and Mrs. Ralph Sale. There are twelve grandchildren.

Vernon's father was a minister in the Memphis Conference of the Methodist Church for thirty-seven years. He grew up in a home of high moral standards and a sense of deep Christian commitment. It is not strange that he felt the call to the Christian ministry early in life and began making preparation for service. He was educated in the public schools of Kentucky and Tennessee, was graduated from Lambruth College, Jackson, Tenn., with a B.A. degree, and continued his studies at Emory University. In November 1920, he was received on trial in the Memphis Conference of The Methodist Church, and received his first appointment to West Hickman in Bondurant, Kentucky.

He was a tireless worker; his ministry was long and useful. The early years of his ministry were in the Memphis and Missouri Conferences. In 1952, he transferred to the Virginia Conference and continued to serve until his retirement in 1960.

He was a member of various District and Conference committees and served well in any responsibility delegated to him. He served as Conference Secretary of Town and Country Work in the Memphis Conference, 1948-52. During his ministry in the Memphis Conference, three new churches were built, and Mount Pleasant Church in Amherst County was built during his ministry in Virginia. Where new buildings could not be had, old buildings were renovated and improved.

Building was not his only emphasis. He did well all the tasks a minister is called to do. He loved people. Those whom he served knew they could always turn to him in hours of need. People will remember the difference his pastoral care made in their lives long after his sermons are forgotten. He not only worked with youth in the church, but in the public schools as well. During his ministry, there were times when he served as principal or taught in the high schools.

In addition to his pastoral responsibilities, he found time for organizations in the community. He was a Mason and Past Master of the Mount Pleasant Lodge. Where he served, the church was strengthened, and under his leadership, the church grew. He will be remembered for his faithfulness to his Lord and to his Church. He was a man of complete commitment to the highest Christian principles he knew. I do not think that he was capable of accepting second best when a question of Christian ethics or moral obligation was involved.

On February 24, 1974, Vernon's work was ended, and quietly he slipped away to meet his Lord whom he served for so long. The funeral service was conducted in Mount Pleasant United Methodist Church by the Rev. Earl R. Collie, the Rev. Thomas R. Boggs, and the Rev. E. B. Barbour, with burial in the church cemetery.

Now the laborer's task is o'er

Now the battle day is past;

Now upon the farther shore,

Lands the voyager at last.

by Earl R. Collie

Lee Van Horne Ruckman, Sr. was born at Mill Point, W.Va., September 16, 1881. His parents were Millard F. and Eliza Jane Ruckman, and he was one of a family of five boys and two girls. He was reared on a farm and graduated from high school at Hillsboro, W.Va., and from Concord Normal School at Athens, W.Va., in 1904. Later, he also attended Randolph-Macon College at Ashland, Va.

He taught school for a few years at White Sulphur Springs, W.Va., where he met and married Clarice Virginia Atkinson in 1908. To this union were born two children—a daughter, Virginia, now Mrs. James T. Shepherd, Jr., of Buena Vista, Va., and a son, the Rev. Lee V. Ruckman, Jr., now pastor of Great Bridge United Methodist Church, Chesapeake, Va. They survive him, along with two grandchildren, Lee V. Ruckman, III, of Newport News, and Karen Jane Ruckman of Washington, D.C. Two brothers also survive.

He began his ministry in the West Virginia Conference and transferred to the Virginia Conference in 1911, being received on trial and ordained a deacon that year and ordained an elder two years later in 1913.

He served until 1926, when ill health forced him to give up the ministry. During the period before 1926, he served churches at Collierstown, Hot Springs, Fincastle, Grace in Roanoke, and Christiansburg. When his health permitted, he returned to the ministry and served Callaghan Charge near Covington and Talcott Charge, W.Va., of the old Baltimore Conference. He returned in 1940 to the Virginia Conference, where he served Rockbridge Charge, Stanleytown, Oaklette and Bishop Memorial, retiring in 1953. His ministry did not cease on retirement, however, for he served as Retired Supply pastor for the Disputante, West Dinwiddie, Good Hope—Mount Pleasant Charges.

In 1950, while at Oaklette Church, his wife died, and in 1956, he married Esther Louise Shackelford of what was then Norfolk County, who survives him. He as an active Mason, receiving his fifty-year pin several years ago. In 1965 he was recognized by the Norfolk District Methodist Men as the outstanding "Man of the Year," and was awarded a plaque in recognition of this honor. He had a great love for the outdoors and hunting and fishing were his hobbies.

In 1956 he built his own home for retirement in Chesapeake and always took great interest in it. He continued a great active relationship with Oaklette Church, teaching an adult Sunday School class for a number of years and assisting the pastor in many other ways. It has been said that his longevity was due to his interest in young people and in life in general. In addition, he had a very keen sense of humor.

Mr. Ruckman had many friends who mourn his passing, but who are grateful for the full and rich life he enjoyed for so many years. He was a friendly and thoughtful person and always interested in the welfare of his friends and parishioners. He will be greatly missed by many persons whose lives were enriched by his ministry and who were fortunate enough to have come under his warm and sincere Christian influence.

He died February 24, 1974, at the age of ninety-two—one of the oldest retired members of the Virginia Conference. Funeral services were conducted in Oaklette Church, Chesapeake, Va., on February 26, by the Rev. Reginald H. Potts, III, Dr. Harry W. Backhus, III, and the Rev. John Teter. He was laid to rest February 27 in the Hillcrest Cemetery, White Sulphur Springs, W.Va., beside his first wife.

by John Teter
Arthur Paul Cooley. On Sunday, March 10, 1974, Arthur Paul Cooley led his Huntington Court congregation in the two morning worship services. His sermon asked three questions, namely: "What did you bring with you; what have you that you did not receive; and, what are you going to take with you when you die?" At about nine o'clock that evening, he answered personally the latter question as he joined the company of the triumphant in our Father's House.

Arthur was third of five sons born to the Rev. and Mrs. George H. Cooley on December 6, 1921, in the Methodist Hospital, Brooklyn, N.Y. During his childhood and early youth, he moved about the New York Conference attending school in the community served by his pastor-father. Later he was to attend Hendrix College, Conway, Arkansas, from which he received the A.B. Degree in 1943. Duke Divinity School conferred the Master of Divinity Degree upon him in 1947. He was received into the Virginia Annual Conference, The Methodist Church, on trial, in 1944, and admitted into full connection in 1947. He received Deacon's orders in 1947, and Elder's orders in 1948.

It was while studying at Duke that Art, as he was known by his friends, met Charlotte Evelyn Thompson, of Charlotte, N.C. They were joined in marriage on August 8, 1947, in Myers Park Presbyterian Church, with Art's father officiating. To this union was born a daughter, Charlotte Ann, now Mrs. N. E. Kalafatis, of Woodbridge, Va.; and a son, Ralph Bradford, a sophomore student at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

For twenty-six years, this pastor and his family served the church to which he had willingly and devotedly given his life. Indeed, the church was his life. He nurtured McKendree Church, Norfolk District, through a crucial period of its life. Later he served as pastor of Laurel Street Church in Richmond when it was destroyed by fire. Art assumed the gargantuan task of merging Laurel Street and Grace congregations into the present Saint Andrews United Methodist Church. A beautiful church was constructed to house the congregation and remind the community of the presence and love of God. Love of people and devotion to duty characterized his leadership. The Saint Andrews Messenger of April, 1974, described him as, "A man who met the people at the place of their individual needs," and went on to give a greater secret of his life in the words, "Arthur Paul Cooley loved God."

Other pastorates served by this faithful servant included Axton, Cartersville, Burkeville, North Mecklenburg, Henderson (Callao), Chatham, Trinity (Danville), and Huntington Court.

His father pre-deceased him by only a few months. Art had assisted in planning the Memorial Service for his father held in October, 1973, and the music for that service was duplicated for his own. A large contingent of his fellow ministers filled the choir stalls of Huntington Court for this service of worship and praise. Although the weather was cold and the air filled with sleet, rain, hail and fog, the church house was filled to overflowing, a testimony to the rapport experienced between pastor and people.

Unique to the Virginia Conference is the fact that at this session of the Annual Conference, father and son will be memorialized at the same time. It is a fitting tribute to two men who loved their families, loved the people they served, and above all, loved and served our God and Heavenly Father.

by Paul D. Martin, Jr.
Jesse Elmo Tate, Jr., answered the call to his heavenly home on Thursday, April 4, 1974. His untimely death came less than one year after his retirement from the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church in June, 1973.

Jesse was born on February 21, 1908, in Roanoke, Va., and most of his early life was spent in that city. He was educated in the public schools of Roanoke and graduated from the Washington School of Cartooning. For twenty-four years he was employed in the accounting department of the Norfolk and Western Railway. During all these years he also worked as a free-lance cartoonist and created the "Richard Lee" series of cartoons which was perhaps the first religious comic strip in America. His interest in religious cartooning continued throughout his life and he looked forward to doing a series of religious cartoons on great Christian leaders.

On October 30, 1930, he was married to Miss Dorothy Monroe, and their happy union was blessed with two sons, David Lee and John Douglas.

In 1938, he was licensed to preach by the South Roanoke Baptist Church and was ordained by the same church on November 30, 1947. Prior to his ordination, he spent one year in study at Bluefield College, Bluefield, W.Va. From 1947 until June 1963, he served as a full-time minister in the Southern Baptist and American Baptist Conventions. His pastorates included Baptist churches in Keystone and Lewisburg, W.Va., Roanoke and Troutville, Va.

While convalescing from an extended period of illness in 1959, he made an intensive study of the Book of Revelation which he later published in book form. During this period of study he was greatly influenced by Methodist doctrine and polity and when the pastorate of the White Post Charge on the Winchester District was offered him in 1963, he readily accepted.

For the next ten years, from June 1963 to June 1973, he served this small five-point circuit with such warmth, devotion, and integrity that he endeared himself to his people and community. He was a quiet and gentle man, unassuming and dignified, but

never stuffy. He loved his Lord with passionate devotion and was completely dedicated and faithful to His service. While serving the White Post charge, he spent much time in working with the prisoners in the local road camp. Through his efforts one of these young men was deeply influenced and, upon his release from prison, entered the full-time Christian ministry.

Upon his retirement in June 1973, Jesse and Dorothy moved to Glendale, a suburb of Phoenix, Arizona, to be near their married son, John. Several notes to his friends in Virginia spoke of the happiness and contentment which they were enjoying with their family. Unfortunately, their retirement bliss ended all too soon. On April 3, 1974, while going to help an injured motor-cyclist, he was struck by an automobile and died the following day. He literally gave his life seeking to serve his fellow man.

His funeral service was held in Glendale, Arizona, and his body was brought back to Virginia and laid to rest in his native Roanoke. Surviving are his widow, Dorothy, and his two sons.

Servant of God, well done!

Thy glorious warfare's past;

The battle's fought, the race is won,

And thou art crowned at last!

by Esdras S. Gruver

Thomas Roy Jarrett. On Easter Sunday, 1974, while multitudes were singing, "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today," Roy Jarrett was standing in the presence of the living Christ, and could say, "I know that my Redeemer liveth!" On Maundy Thursday, April 11, he had found his way to the eternal Presence, and would continue his walk, begun early in his life, down the radiant path of eternity.

Roy first saw the light of this world in the closing years of the 19th Century--April 27, 1895. Had he lived a few days longer he would have celebrated his 79th birthday. He was born in Henry County, Va.--child of Thomas Campbell Jarrett and Mollie MacArthur Jarrett--and in a large family (8 children)--he learned the way of life based on true spiritual values. Such an experience he carried into the life of his own children. On December 27, 1921, he married Virginia May Quarles--and from this union came two daughters and three sons, namely Mrs. Virginia May Jarrett Shaw (W. Aubrey, Jr.) of Blacksburg, Va.; Dr. Thomas Roy Jarrett, Jr., and Dr. Alvin Quarles Jarrett, both of Virginia Beach; and Dr. Harry Walthall Jarrett, of Lynchburg, Va. These, and ten grand-children survive him. This was a family with close ties one to another. The warm bond of love between Roy and Virginia, his wife, pervaded the whole home life. Children and parents leaned one upon the other and through the years they have continued to share their love and their lives.

Roy received his Bachelor of Science degree from Elon College. Methodist schools likewise contributed much to his educational background--Ferrum Training School (now Ferrum College), Randolph-Macon College, and Duke University. He also attended Union Theological Seminary, Richmond.

The writer has known Roy across most of this ministry. Roy brought to his calling a deep devotion to Christ which was in evidence in every church he served. Describing his pastoral ministry, one of his parishioners wrote "Brother Jarrett is fast winning all hearts. He is constantly in and out of the homes of his people." His great concern for souls of people revealed an evangelistic heart, and in his pastorates he was ever seeking the unsaved. Likewise in special endeavors, personal evangelism was a main thrust of his life. His ministry was all in the Virginia Conference of the Methodist Church where he served West Franklin, East Pittsylvania, Powhatan, Cartersville, Schoolfield (Danville), Trinity (Lynchburg), Central (Portsmouth), Trinity (Cape Charles), St. James (Richmond), Memorial (Petersburg), Moseley Memorial (Danville), First Church (Norfolk), and West End (Roanoke). Later he served as Conference Evangelist and Director of Camp Activities.

Edwin Markham said of Lincoln that "the color of the ground was in him, the red earth, the smack and tang of elemental things." This characteristic was true of Roy in his closeness to the things of nature. Fishing and hunting were very real parts of his life, and were related to his joy in being in the midst of outdoor things and in God's creative handiwork. This enriched his life and beautified it, and it also drew him closer to God and to his fellowman.

Death overtook Roy in Lynchburg at the Virginia Baptist Hospital. He had been moved there from his home in Richmond five days earlier, and from there he moved on to take his place with the multitudes who stand forever with our Lord.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, April 13, 1974, in Reveille United Methodist Church, Richmond. Rev. W. Jeryl Fink, Rev. Ray W. Chamberlain, Jr., and the writer participated. He was laid to rest in the Westhampton Memorial Park, Richmond.

He has "outrun us to the Father's House"--but now--

"More homelike seems the vast unknown

Since he has entered there -

To follow him were not so hard

Wherever he may fare!

by Harold H. Hughes

Guy Cyrus Smith. On July 19, 1891, in Green County, Tenn., Guy Cyrus was born to Alderson Delihu and Mary Angeline Seay Smith. His early years were spent in this area where he attended the public schools. His family was related to the United Brethren Church and in it he found opportunity to work at an early age.

On April 14, 1917, he was married to Melissa Cruze in Knoxville. To this marriage were born a daughter, Ruth Orselia, and a son, Luke Cyrus.

At the time of his marriage, he was employed in commercial and resort hotel management. He found opportunity for an expression of his faith in action through an interdenominational Men's Bible Class which he taught in Knoxville for several years. During this period in his life he attended Carson-Newman College and completed his course of study through Tennessee Wesleyan College at Athens. Training he received in these schools helped him to acknowledge a call into the ministry.

He was licensed to preach in 1927 and was ordained a deacon of the former Methodist Episcopal Church by Bishop Charles E. Locke in 1929. His ordination as an elder came in 1931 from Bishop H. Lester Smith. He served the church faithfully as a pastor for thirty-three years and for several additional years as a retired supply minister. His appointments include: South Knoxville Church, 1924; Christiansburg Circuit, 1927; St. Charles Circuit, 1928; Gate City Circuit, 1930; Bristol Circuit, 1931; Marion Circuit, 1932; Christiansburg Circuit, 1936; Catawba Circuit, 1939; Eagle Rock Charge, 1941; Rapidan Charge, 1945; Shawsville Charge, 1949; Fairfield Charge, 1952; Stewartsville Charge, 1957; and in 1960 retirement at the session of the Annual Conference. In retirement he served on an interim basis in South View Church, on Boone's Mill Charge, and as visitor and occasional church school teacher in Huntington Court Church.

In retirement, the Smiths made their home as they had planned and dreamed for many years in Roanoke. His was a steady, reliable ministry. He loved people and they responded to his warm supportive ministry. There was always in his mind a concern for youth and young adults. He established Boy Scout Troops, took them camping--shared with them his wealth of nature lore, of hunting and fishing. And wherever he lived his neighbors recognized him as a born gardener--one who loved the earth as a gift from God and one who relished sharing with God the creation of new life. He was an active member of the Masonic Order and of the Odd Fellows Fraternal Organization.

Death came after a prolonged illness in Community Hospital, Roanoke, on May 11. His pastor, the Rev. Hudson T. Hornsby, led the service of celebration in his memory at Oakey's Chapel on May 13 and his body was laid to rest in Sherwood Memorial Park, Salem, Va. He is survived by his wife, his daughter, Mrs. S. A. Stanley, Jr., of Falls Church, his son, Luke C. Smith of Houston, Texas, and eight grandchildren.

by Samuel A. Stanley, Jr.

Harry Scott Coffey. "Harry Coffey never met a person he didn't know; there were no strangers in his life." - Bishop Kenneth Goodson, June 14, 1974.

Of all the many meetings that are necessarily a part of a minister's life, Harry Coffey loved Annual Conference best. He died on the eve of what would have been his sixty-third Annual Conference. A special feeling of support sustained family and friends as they shared their sudden loss and rejoiced in his life at the meeting he loved so well. The work of the conference concluded, a service of celebration was held in Richmond at Trinity United Methodist Church led by Bishop Goodson, assisted by Dr. Harold Hughes, Dr. Harold Fink, and the Rev. Tom Joyce. In the later afternoon a brief

service and interment were held at Calvary United Methodist Church in Stuarts Draft, the church from which Harry had entered the ministry in 1914.

Born in Stuarts Draft in 1888, Harry was educated at Bridgewater College and Washington and Lee University, from which he received his B.S. degree in Civil Engineering. He did graduate work at Princeton University and received his graduate theological degree from Emory University. An honorary doctorate was awarded him in 1939 by Bridgewater College for his outstanding contribution to church and community affairs.

Harry Coffey married the former Julia Durham of Atlanta in 1916. He was ordained elder in April of the following year. He held pastorates in Fairfield, Elkton, Roanoke, Woodstock, Keyser, W.Va., Covington, Petersburg, Lynchburg and Arlington. He also served as superintendent of the Danville District.

In civic life, Harry was active in Rotary International, Kiwanis and Lions Clubs. He served on the local executive committees of the American Red Cross, the Boy Scout Council, and the Cancer Foundation. In the organization of the Conference, he was vice-chairman of the Board of Missions, a trustee of the Children's Home and Chairman of the Military Service Committee. He was a frequent contributor to religious publications and the daily press. Many of his articles were based upon his extensive travel experiences. He was an avid golfer in retirement and spearheaded senior citizen tourneys.

Harry traveled much in Western Europe and the Near East. His journeys began in 1937 and since that time he made twenty-seven trips directing study groups. Education, particularly preparation for the ministry and church related vocations, was dear to Harry's heart. Through the years he helped numerous young people to obtain an education, several times bringing youngsters into his own home to live within the parsonage family while going to school. In 1966, an endowment for educational scholarships was established honoring Harry and Julia Coffey that their interests and ministries might go on.

After retirement in 1961, he continued his ministerial services in Petersburg, Blackstone, Richmond and North Mecklenburg County. From 1969 until his death he lived at the Hermitage Home in Richmond.

In his characteristic enthusiasm for the abundant life, Harry at 85 began to write a book. The final chapter, sketched out early and entitled, "Life's Eastern Window," included the following: "The subject of my first sermon was 'For Me To Love Is Christ.' This has continued to be my theme for sixty years. The supreme aim in my ministry has been to give a daily hope-filled witness, as I lived life in the world, before my neighbors and within my family. The time and hour in which we live demands a positive view--an Eastern window--not only an attitude of obedience but one of eager expectation of the coming day. I like Van Dyke's way of putting it--'Let me live my life from year to year with forward face and unreluctant soul; not hurrying to, nor turning from the goal; not mourning for the things that disappear in the dim past, nor holding back in fear from what the future veils, but with a whole and happy heart, that pays its toll to Youth and Age, and travels on with cheer. So let the way lead up the hill or down, o'er rough or smooth, the journey will be joy; still seeking what I sought when but a boy: new friendships, high adventure, and a crown. My heart will keep the courage and the quest, and the road's last turn will be the best.'"

During the final days of rapidly declining health a 92 year old friend talked seriously with his children: "Do not be fearful about approaching death," she counseled. "The question is, When death has come and gone--what then?" To such an essential question Harry, his family and friends were already responding. "...There lives the dearest freshness deep down things...because the Holy Ghost over the bent world broods with warm breast and ah! bright wings."

by John H. Coffey

Minutes for 1975. John Gordon Howard, a retired Bishop in the United Methodist Church, living at 437 Imperial Street, Winchester, died Tuesday evening, December 24, 1974, in Winchester Memorial Hospital.

Bishop Howard was born December 3, 1899, in Tokyo, Japan, a son of missionary parents, Alfred and May Stevenson Howard. The first 12 years of his life were spent in Japan except for two years of the Russian-Japanese War. Bishop Howard returned to Japan in time for the victory parade and remembered the marching soldiers, the long lines of calvary horses and the big guns of the artillery, the victorious generals in

bright red lacquer carriages drawn by six white horses. Gordon was guided through the first four grades by his mother, with text books from Dayton, Ohio, schools. Other grades were completed in an American-style school operated by several American and Canadian missionary mothers, where Gordon's mother was in charge of curriculum and textbooks.

Gordon was in the eighth grade when the family returned to Dayton, Ohio, where they joined the First United Brethren Church, and where his relationship with this church continued for 32 years. He finished high school in Dayton and went to Otterbein College in Westerville, Ohio, not far from Dayton, where his parents graduated in 1894. While in college, Gordon was active in dramatics, the Philiphrean Literary Society, tennis, football, and did some reporting for the local newspaper. Following his graduation from Otterbein College, he enrolled in Bonebrake (now United) Seminary in the fall of 1922, one year after his father became president of this institution. He went to New York University and Biblical Seminary for further study, receiving a Master's Degree in June, 1927. His dissertation was on "Martin Luther as an Educator." Bishop Howard held an L.L.D. from Albright College, an L.H.D. from Lebanon Valley College, and an L.H.D. from Indiana Central College. He was a trustee of Shenandoah College, Albright College, Otterbein College, Lebanon Valley College, Indiana Central College, and Wyoming Seminary. For 12 years he was president of Otterbein College until elected a Bishop in 1957.

Bishop Howard was a member of the Masonic Lodge of Dayton, Ohio, the United Methodist Ministerial Association, Frederick County Ministerial Association, and the Winchester Rotary Club.

On July 24, 1924, he and Miss Rhea McConaughy, of Dayton, Ohio, were married. Rhea was a superior wife and mother and made a noble career of wifehood and motherhood. She died on July 18, 1964, in Pittsburgh, just four days short of their fortieth wedding anniversary. Two daughters survive: Mrs. Gloria Schutz, of Morgantown, W.Va., and Mrs. Terry Clamons, of Kansas, along with his widow, the former Mrs. Katherine Higgins Shannon; 12 grandchildren; one great-grandchild; a brother, Dr. Donald Howard, of California; and a sister, Mrs. Florence Norris, of Washington, D.C.

On May 4, 1945, he was elected President of Otterbein College, where he served until elected a Bishop on August 1, 1957, by mail ballot to fill the vacancy created by the death of Bishop Paul E. V. Shannon, and assigned to the East Central Episcopal Area, which consisted of Western Pennsylvania, Erie, New York, West Virginia, Virginia, and Florida Annual Conferences, with residence in Pittsburgh, Penn., and in 1961, the Sierra Leone, West Africa, Conference was added to his responsibility. This assignment had sentimental connections because his parents had gone to Sierra Leone as missionaries in 1894, 66 years before, and served four years. Also, Bishop Howard's father had visited Sierra Leone as the Missionary Bishop of the United Brethren in Christ Church from 1913 to 1921. Bishop Howard visited Sierra Leone six times during the next nine years.

Bishop Howard lived alone in the Episcopal residence in Pittsburgh until February 9, 1967, when he married Katherine Higgins Shannon, widow of Bishop Paul E.V. Shannon, who died in May of 1957. During the quadrennium following church union in 1968, Bishop Howard was assigned to the Philadelphia Episcopal Area of the United Methodist Church, where he served until retiring in 1972 and moving to 437 Imperial Street, in Winchester, Va.

Bishop Howard had an unusual relationship to church union. He served as Secretary of the Commission on Church Union that brought together the Evangelical and the United Brethren Churches to form the Evangelical United Brethren Church, and he served as the Secretary of the Commission on Church Union that united the Evangelical United Brethren and Methodist Churches into the United Methodist Church in Dallas, Texas, in 1968.

Between receiving his Master's Degree in 1927 and his becoming President of Otterbein College in 1945, he served for twelve years as National Director of Young Peoples' Work, and he spoke of this as "one of the most pleasing experiences of my life." During this time, he wrote a column for the weekly youth church paper and two books, The Successful Sunday School and When Youth Worship. In 1940, he became

Associate Editor of Sunday School Literature and the next year was elected Editor-in-Chief, where he served until 1945.

A funeral service was conducted in Braddock Street United Methodist Church under the direction of Dr. George H. Orser and Dr. Esdras S. Gruver. Following the service of Braddock Street, the body was taken to the Carrigan Funeral Home in Dayton, Ohio, with burial in Memorial Park Cemetery beside the graves of his first wife and infant daughter, who died 44 years earlier.

by Floyd L. Fulk

Edgar Amos Love was born in a Methodist parsonage at Harrisonburg, Va., on September 10, 1891. He was the son of Methodist ministers. His father, the Rev. Julius C. Love, was an honored member of the Washington Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church until his death in 1927. His mother, a licensed minister in her own right, was the first woman graduate of Morgan College.

Bishop Love graduated from the Academy of Morgan College in 1909, and from the College, with the Bachelor of Arts Degree, in 1913; from the Divinity School of Howard University in 1916, with the Bachelor of Divinity Degree, and from Boston University School of Theology, in 1918, with the Bachelor of Sacred Theology Degree. He did graduate work at the University of Chicago, and received honorary doctorates from Morgan College in 1936, Gammon Theological Seminary in 1946, and Boston University in 1956.

His pastorates were at the following churches: Grace, Fairmount Heights, Maryland; John Wesley, Washington, Penn.; Asbury, Annapolis, Md.; Simpson, Wheeling, W.Va.; and John Wesley, Baltimore, Md. For eight years he was superintendent of the Washington District in the Washington Annual Conference (Methodist Episcopal). In 1940, following the elevation of the late Dr. W.A.C. Hughes to the bishopric of the Methodist Church, Dr. Love was appointed to succeed him in a key post with the Methodist Board of Missions. Thus, for 12 years he was Superintendent of the Department of Special Fields in the Division of National Missions, New York City. This led to his election to the episcopacy on June 22, 1952, at Philadelphia, Penn. Assigned to the Baltimore Area, he served 12 years, retiring on June 21, 1964. Called back to active service to head the Atlantic Coast Area, he served there, with headquarters in Atlanta, from November, 1966, through June, 1967.

While active in the episcopacy, Bishop Love served on the following Boards and Agencies of the Methodist Church: the Board of Missions, Board of Evangelism, Board of Christian Social Concerns, Commission on Chaplains, Coordinating Council, and the Methodist Corporation. He was assigned by his denomination to visit mission stations in Malaysia, Hong Kong, the Philippines, Japan, Burma, India, seven countries in Africa, England, France, Belgium, Switzerland, West Germany, Italy, Lebanon, and the Holy Land.

He was serving as trustee of the Morgan College Corporation, Gammon Theological Seminary, Wesley Theological Seminary (Washington, D.C.), Bennett College, and Morristown (Tenn.) Junior College. He was a 33rd Degree Mason, Southern Jurisdiction, and a life member of the NAACP.

In addition to his assignments in his church, he has held also the following positions: teacher at Morgan College, Baltimore--two years; Chaplain, U.S. Army--two years and three months (14 months overseas); delegate to the first American Legion Convention, representing the State of Maryland; one of the founders of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, and its first Grand Basileus for three years; member of the Maryland Interracial Commission; president of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of Washington, D.C.; president of the Alumni Association of the Howard University School of Religion; president of the Christian Conference Educational Fund (eight years); and president of the Methodist Federation for Social Action (10 years).

On June 16, 1923, he was united in wedlock to Miss Virginia Louise Ross, of Staunton, Va. They have one son, Jon E. Love, and two grandchildren, Virginia Elizabeth and Jon E., Jr.

Bishop Love lived in retirement with Mrs. Love at their home in Baltimore, 2416 Montebello Terrace (21214). He has served his church, his country, and his race nobly and well earned the time of rest and reflection which he enjoyed. Those of us who knew him through the years were blest to be privileged to call him brother and friend.

You bid no one a last farewell,
You said goodbye to none;
Your loving heart just ceased to beat,
Your stay on earth was done.

God saw the road was getting rough,
The hills were hard to climb;
So he gently closed your eyes
And whispered "Peace be thine."

Our love for you will never die.

by David J. DeBerry

Aurelian Ernest Roughton. Men who come late to the ministry are often among God's most dedicated and faithful servants. Ernie Roughton was such a man.

Born August 25, 1918, in Norfolk, Va., Ernie was the son of Aurelian Ernest and Mrs. Gertrude Linton Roughton. He was educated in the public schools of Norfolk, graduating from Maury High School. He received the Bachelor of Arts Degree from George Washington University, the Master of Education from the University of Virginia and the Master of Divinity from Wesley Theological Seminary.

Enlisting in the Virginia National Guard in 1936, Ernie was called to active duty in the U.S. Army in February 1941. In December of that year, he was married to the former Lucille Allen, of Norfolk. During World War II, he served in the European Theater of Operations and was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and a Battle Star for the Campaign of Northwest Europe. He also served in the Korean War. During his active duty years, he was Comptroller of several major Air Force Bases in the United States and overseas, including Okinawa; Guam; Germany; Turner Air Force Base, Georgia; Headquarters, U.S.A.F., Washington, D.C.; and Professor of Air Science at the University of Virginia, 1956-60. He retired from the Air Force in June, 1961.

During his Air Force years in Washington, Ernie was an active layman at Arlington Methodist Church under the ministry of Dr. Harry W. Backhus, III. In 1958, while serving at the University of Virginia, he was licensed to preach by the Charlottesville District of the Methodist Church. He supplied the pulpit at Standardsville under the superintendency of his good friend, Dr. Owen Kelly. Upon his retirement from the Air Force, he entered Wesley Theological Seminary, and, upon graduation, he was ordained by Bishop Paul Neff Garber at the 1964 Annual Conference. He served Nokesville Methodist Charge, 1961-65; Wesley United Methodist Church, Alexandria District, 1965-69; and St. John's United Methodist Church, Norfolk District, 1969 until his death, June 18, 1974.

Ernie was a devoted, loving husband and father. His widow, Lucille, resides in Norfolk. Their son, Fred, is married to the former Mary Henley Fant, of Norfolk, and they live with their two daughters, Robin and Lucy, in Alexandria. Their daughter, Mary, is married to Dr. Robert Hoyt, and they presently serve with their daughter, Jennifer, on Okinawa, where they anticipate the birth of a second child.

Among his other honors, Ernie was a member of Phi Eta Sigma, George Washington University; Kappa Delta Pi, University of Virginia; Sons of the American Revolution; Retired Officers' Association; and a former member of the American Association of University Professors.

In all of his service to his Church, Ernie used to the fullest extent his remarkable abilities and talents. He was deeply admired and greatly loved by all his people. He set a standard of devotion and discipline to which many of his fellow ministers might aspire.

by John T. Hudson

John Callaway Robertson. The facts concerning Dr. Robertson's life and ministry are interesting and impressive, and they reveal, at least in part, the origins and dimensions of his varied and highly effective ministerial career.

He was born in Nelson County, Va., on June 26, 1882, one of the seven children of Charles A. and Virginia A. Robertson. He recalled later that from the time of his boyhood in Nelson County, he felt that he wanted to be a minister. Soon after his graduation from high school, the Robertsons relocated in Norfolk, and for a short while Callaway worked as a clerk for one of the railroads with offices there. However, during the time which he spent in Norfolk, he still knew that he was destined for the Christian ministry. For him, the call was clear.

He enrolled in Randolph-Macon College to prepare for this work and finished the full program there in three years. After receiving his degree, he matriculated at Vanderbilt University and completed his theological training. Dr. Robertson was later honored by Randolph-Macon with the Doctor of Divinity Degree. Though his formal education concluded with the work at Vanderbilt, Dr. Robertson never discontinued the learning and growth process. Throughout his entire life, he was a student, collecting an unusually large library across the years as a result of his continued conscientious reading and study.

Having prepared himself for his life work and having begun his pastoral activities, he married Miss Mary Lou Pitts, of Chuckatuck, Va., who shared his ministry, and with whom he enjoyed more than fifty years of married life. To them were born two daughters, Elise, now Mrs. Morton J. Goldman, and Anne, now Mrs. W. W. Reed, Jr. Their life together ended with her death in 1964.

In 1966, Mrs. Adelaide Tiller Martin and Dr. Robertson were married in Richmond, and they were blessed with eight years of happy marriage until his death on July 12, 1974, at age 92. During these years, they both were actively involved in the Ginter Park congregation, where Dr. Robertson taught an adult class regularly, meanwhile supplying pulpits and performing other ministerial services.

This faithful pastor was received on trial in the Virginia Conference in 1907 and entered full connection in 1909, being ordained Elder in 1911. His appointments included Cottage Place, Portsmouth; Oxford-Magnolia; Trinity, Salisbury, Md.; Rivermont, Lynchburg; Mt. Vernon, Danville; Trinity, Petersburg; Ghent, Norfolk; Barton Heights, Richmond (two pastorates); Court Street, Lynchburg; Park Place, Norfolk; Monument, Richmond; and, after retirement, Christ, Richmond. In addition, he assisted regularly for four years on the King William Charge. He was twice a District Superintendent, serving the Lynchburg and Alexandria Districts. The Virginia Conference elected him to three General and three Jurisdictional Conferences, and to the Uniting Conference of 1939. He was an official delegate to the organizing conference of the National Council of Churches held in Cleveland in 1950. Dr. Robertson served for three years as Executive Secretary of the Virginia Conference Board of Education and was for one year on the staff of the General Board of Education.

Following his retirement he lived comfortably in Richmond, and during the last year of his life, he and Mrs. Robertson moved to Hermitage, 1600 Westwood Avenue. His funeral was held at Ginter Park Church on July 15, 1975, conducted by the Rev. Lee H. Beville, the Rev. C. Warner Crumb, the Rev. Robert E. Forrest, and the Rev. Richard Lindsey. Interment was at Forest Lawn, Richmond.

Callaway Robertson possessed exceptional gifts for the Christian ministry. His intellect and insight were unusually keen. He was well-read and well-educated, and he had the ability to convey the knowledge he had acquired and the strong convictions he espoused in clear, logical, and persuasive ways. He was an educator at heart and retained a life-long interest and skill in the teaching ministry. In his early pastoral years, his sermons were more nearly theological and moral lectures than what was then commonly thought of as gospel preaching. However, with the passage of time, he consistently added to his messages the call to commitment and challenge to Christian service. As an articulate exponent of liberal theology, he was often ahead of his time with his understanding and unapologetic interpretation of the social implications of the gospel.

Dr. Robertson loved and enjoyed people. He related harmoniously to his congregations and carried out his work in a systematic and effective way. Wherever he served he was respected and admired for his kindly spirit and his unselfish leadership qualities. Moreover, his unfailing sense of humor endeared him to people, as characteristically he enlivened gatherings and relieved tensions with some "chuckly anecdote," or humorous word, or rhyme. One of his family called him a "saint with a sense of humor," it was part of his being the "congenital optimist."

One of his guiding principles was his dedication to the disciplined life. He was the master of his mind and his body, and kept both in top condition. He exercised his intellect not only in the preparation of sermons and studies and in personal reading, but also in writing numerous articles for publication and in the creation of scores of

devotional poems. His mental discipline was apparent in the practice he adopted in the first years of his ministry of committing all his Scripture readings, sermon material, and teaching outlines completely to memory. He encouraged the younger men in the church to sharpen their minds in the same way. He kept himself in top physical condition by systematic exercise through his life. At Randolph-Macon, he was an athlete in track sports, and after leaving college, he continued to engage regularly in calisthenics and jogging, even into his late eighties.

Loved and remembered by the congregations that he had served to the end of his life, he was frequently approached by couples whom he had married, seeking the baptism of their children; and by friends, colleagues, and younger ministers who visited him at home for counsel and conversation.

Much of his outlook and influence are summed up in these comments made by a layman whose pastor he was at a late point in his ministry: "He thought a disciplined life was the Christian way and encouraged all of us to so live. His daily life was a true reflection of his Christian faith. Dr. Robertson left him imprint on me."

by William K. Thomas

John Richard McKeawn was born in Baltimore, Md., February 9, 1896, a son of the late Thomas and Georgia McKeawn. He was educated at private schools and Westminster Seminary. In addition to his formal education, he read extensively and was competent in all aspects of the ministry.

On June 19, 1929, he was married to Sadye M. Insley, of Bivalve, Md. He was licensed to preach in the Buckeystown Methodist Protestant Church of Buckeystown, Md. His ordination as an elder occurred on April 6, 1919, in the Maryland Annual Conference of The Methodist Protestant Church.

His appointments include: Lewes, Queen Anne's, Deer Creek, Bivalve, Dorchester, Amelia, Greenbush-Tasley, Mariners, and New Church in the Maryland Annual Conference. In 1939, he became a member of the Virginia Annual Conference of The Methodist Church and served New Church, Onancock Circuit, Greenbackville, and Pocomoke.

He retired in 1961 and lived at his home in Sanford, Va., with his devoted wife. In retirement, he served as pastor of the Pocomoke United Methodist Church until a few months before his death.

The work of this dedicated minister was noted for excellent organization and superb pastoral care of his members.

He died at his home in Sanford, Va., on August 30, 1974. Funeral services were conducted by the Rev. Joseph F. White, the Rev. Weldon R. Crockett, and the Rev. Leon F. Ellis. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Sadye Insley McKeawn. by Joseph F. White

Kermit Eugene Boggs, a son of the mountains, was born in Marlinton, W.Va., September 14, 1931, the youngest of four sons born to Dovener Blackburn and Leah Ruckman Boggs. Gene was converted at the age of thirteen and four years later felt a definite call to enter the ministry. In 1950, in pursuit of suitable employment, he moved to Richmond, Va. It was about this time that he became ill with tuberculosis, which confined him to a sanatorium for a year, the beginning of a series of events that interrupted his resolve to enter the ministry at the earliest opportunity. Regaining his health, he was employed as an insurance underwriter, in which position he excelled for the next twenty years, during which time he continuously sensed the tug at his conscience to enter the ministry.

At an early age, the subject of this memoir exemplified an unusual talent for country and folk music, and for more than twenty years with his famous guitar and beautiful voice proved a special means of enjoyment to thousands of eager listeners, first, via radio, and later, as a member of The Country Cavaliers on a Richmond television station. This unusual talent he dedicated to the Lord and brought with him into the ministry as a lay pastor from Aldersgate Church, Richmond.

Once Gene made his decision, he was irrevocably committed as this incident illustrates: He was injured in an automobile accident during early 1974. Even though suffering acute pain from an injury to his neck and back, he persuaded his physician to allow him to get up from his sick bed at St. Mary's Hospital and appear before the Ashland District Board of Ministry, before which Board he related the assurance of his calling and determination to share the unsearchable riches of Jesus Christ with others.

He was granted a license to preach, and at the 1974 session of The Virginia Annual Conference held at Hampton, Bishop W. Kenneth Goodson appointed him to the North Culpeper Charge, on the Charlottesville District.

For several weeks during the summer, Gene attended the Lay Pastor's School at Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, D.C., returning to his parish for the weekend. Prior to his untimely death, he had enrolled in the nearby Community College in pursuit of his college degree.

Kermit Eugene Boggs died in his sleep of a heart attack in the parsonage at Lignum, Va., the early morning of September 23, 1974, the ninth day following his 43rd birthday. The first of two funeral services was conducted at the Hopewell Church, on the North Culpeper Charge, September 25, by Bishop W. Kenneth Goodson and Dr. Harvey W. Ashby, District Superintendent of the Charlottesville District. In his memorial message, Bishop Goodson expressed what so many felt in their hearts when he said, "I doubt if any man has gone into a parish and in 95 days has so deeply endeared himself into the life of the people as Gene has on this charge." A 16 year old boy, a member of the United Methodist Youth Fellowship, said of his late pastor, "He was the father to me that I never had, in whom I could confide." On September 26th, a second service was held by this writer at Woody Funeral Home, Laburnum Chapel, Richmond. Interment was in Westhampton Memorial Park, Richmond.

Kermit Boggs is survived by his wife, Mrs. Emily Kellerman Boggs, and four children, Mark, Jackie, Sherry and Jeanie. Also surviving at the time of his death were three brothers, James A., of Richmond; Gerald D., and Ralph R., of Hampton, Va. Ralph died of a heart attack March 3, 1975.

The day of Gene's death, a note was found in his wallet which says in part, "My life is in God's hands...God is in control, and I shall obey. 2/18/74." (Signed: Kermit Eugene Boggs).

His untimely death, on the horizon of every indication of a fruitful ministry, shall not have been in vain if those of us who mourn his passing shall, as a result of his example, place our lives in God's hands, and, in the words of the familiar hymn, "Trust and Obey."

by Denzil Ray Daniel

Wiley Ware Trent. How many lives are touched and helped by the ministry of a man who spent nearly 45 years in the active work of his church! It is such an awareness that is before us as we pay tribute to Wiley Ware Trent, who entered the ministry of the Virginia Conference in 1924, and was laid to rest 50 years later, on October 1, 1974, in Montross, Va.

"Jack" (as he was known to his many friends) had a good and happy ministry across the years. He was born in Altavista, Va. He trained for the ministry in Randolph-Macon College, with theological preparation in Moody Bible Institute, Candler School of Theology, and Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, where he received his certificate of graduation. In his early years, Jack took special interest in sports and horseback riding, but as the years of the ministry came on, he devoted himself exclusively to the work of the church.

He married Stella Laura Henderson, from Montross, Va., who shared his ministry across the years and who survives him. Although they had no children, their home life and church work together were a happy experience for them both. Stella brought her musical talents to their ministry and in this way, along with other gifts, she enriched their work in the church.

Jack loved his home and his church. He served across the Conference, and left his mark of meaningful ministry. Churches where he ministered were: Greene, Albemarle, Victoria, Stuart, New Market, South View (Lynchburg), Grace and Stokesland (Danville), St. Paul, Laurel Hill, Asbury, Branch Memorial, Austin Avenue (all in Richmond), Fairmont, Norview, Portlock, Chesterfield Heights (all in Norfolk), Ettrick, Wright Memorial (Portsmouth), Fairview (Roanoke), and Buchanan.

Upon retirement in 1967, Ware and Stella Trent made their home in Richmond. It was in this city, after experiencing an illness of two years, that death caught up with Jack on September 29, 1974, and took him to his eternal home. Funeral services were held at Andrew Chapel in Montross, Va., conducted by Conley A. McMullen, r. L. Tressler, and John L. Hoke, the pastor of the church in Montross.

Those of us who are a part of the ministry of the church rejoice in the rewarding fellowship with our fellow ministers. The writer of this memoir to Jack Trent knew him as a friend in the life of this Conference almost from the beginning of his ministry, and appreciated the service that he rendered. All of us who knew him are grateful that we stood together with him in the ministerial ranks of the Virginia Conference and shall miss him as he has entered the eternal ranks of those we have "loved long since and lost awhile!"

by Harold H. Hughes

Charles Asbury York. May 29, 1891, was a red letter day for James M. and Emma S. York because on that day, at Rose, Tenn., was born the first of their children, Charles Asbury, who was later to follow his father's footsteps as a Methodist minister.

After completing his public school education, Charles entered Randolph-Macon College in 1912. He was always intensely loyal to his alma mater, which he served in many ways. He was Class Manager of the Alumni Society. Military and other lines of activity, however, contributed towards giving him a broad field of experience before he finally decided to enter the ministry. These included study at Dunsmore Business College in Staunton, and a year at the Law School of the University of Maryland, besides his military training.

In 1921 he entered the School of Theology of Emory University in response to the growing conviction that God was calling him to the Christian ministry. He did not graduate with his class and April, 1923, found him entering the Baltimore Conference on trial and being appointed to Central Church, Arlington. This proved to be a very fortunate appointment for it was here that he met Eileen Davidson, who was to become his wife and prove of invaluable help throughout the rest of his ministry. This marriage was blessed with four fine children: James Robert, Charles Asbury, Jr., Henry Edward, and John Manly.

Charlie, as he was affectionately known to his friends, was admitted into full connection in March, 1925, and sent to Brunswick, Md. While there, he was married (September 7, 1925) and had a happy pastorate of five and a half years. This was followed by service at Epworth, Covington, and Union, W.Va. He was especially successful in working with young people and this was recognized in 1934 by his appointment as Director of Young People's Work and Extension Secretary of the Baltimore Conference Board of Education. This took him into all sections of the Conference and he was able to help large numbers of churches, especially in rural areas, to improve the work of their Church Schools.

This came to an end with the merger of the Virginia section of the Baltimore Conference with the Virginia Conference in 1939, and he was appointed to Urbanna, having expressed a special interest in rural work. This lasted only two years, however, for war clouds were gathering and in 1941, he entered the army, in which he was a reserve officer, and was stationed at Fort Monroe as Morale Officer. Here he rendered distinctive service in personnel work, retiring at the close of the war with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

The close of hostilities saw him again entering the pastorate, serving successfully at Hanover, Bridgewater, Stephens City, and Sledd Memorial, in Danville. He retired at the Conference of 1959.

Retirement by no means put an end to his usefulness, for he was active in the local church and in the Warren Association for Retarded Children. He served as president of the latter for several years and also on the board of directors of the Statewide organization. Here he showed his love for children and they responded with an answering love. One of his co-workers, Mr. J. S. Wetzel, president of the W.A.R.C., paid tribute to qualities of character inherent in his nature and brought out vividly in his relations with retarded children, with the following couplets:

He walked erect and in his grace,

Stooped down and grasped the unsure hands

Of little ones who never would walk tall,

Eternal children who would never fully understand at all.

But retarded children sensed the kindness of his helping hand,

And somehow knew he was a warm, compassionate and Christian man.

Charlie's earthly life came to an end on November 9, 1974, after an illness of about four weeks in the Front Royal Hospital. Funeral services were beautifully conducted in the local church by the pastor, the Rev. A. D. Goodson, and the District Superintendent, Dr. Esdras S. Gruver. Interment was in Prospect Hill Cemetery. His family and friends sorely miss him but rejoice that his spirit has been released from a body no longer able to serve his needs and set free to take his place in his heavenly home.

by George L. Waters

Nathaniel Gideon Barnhart was born October 8, 1894, near New Hope, Va., in Augusta County. He was the son of the late Henry George and Fannie Gentry Barnhart. On September 3, 1924, he was married to Katie Ellen Rea, who survives. To this union was born one daughter, Bettie, who died in infancy.

Mr. Barnhart graduated from Randolph-Macon Academy. In 1924 he received his A.B. degree from Emory and Henry College. He did postgraduate work in sociology at the University of Virginia in 1929-30. He pursued his theological training in the Candler School of Theology at Emory University.

Nat, as he was known to his friends, was principal of the Meadowview Elementary School, Meadowview, Va., from 1924-30. He was received into the Baltimore Conference on trial in 1930. His first appointment was Frederick, Md., and others as follows: Andrew Chapel in Baltimore, Md.; Alderson, W.Va.; Bridgeport, W.Va.; Huntington, W.Va.; Mannington, W.Va.; Grafton, W.Va.; Walmsley Boulevard, Richmond, Va.; New Hope Church, Fredericksburg, Va.; and Jarrett, Va. He retired in 1962.

During his successful ministry, he held a number of District and Conference positions. He was the Missionary Editor of the Christian Education Magazine, West Virginia Conference; District Missionary Secretary; Member of the Board of Temperance, the Board of Missions, the Historical Society, Advocate Correspondent of the West Virginia Conference, and did Public Relations work for Emory and Henry College.

In addition to his excellent service in the pastoral ministry, Mr. Barnhart was the author of three books: History of Methodism of Bridgeport, West Virginia; Barnhart Family History; and United Methodist Church History, New Hope, Virginia. Also, he served for a number of years as newspaper correspondent for the Waynesboro News-Virginian, and the Staunton News-Leader. During his college days, he wrote numerous articles that were published.

Nat Barnhart loved the Church and the Savior with all of his heart, soul, mind, and strength. It was his life. He was a man of great integrity. He knew what he believed and he lived it. He had no time for trivial tasks. He always made wise use of the time and talents that God entrusted to him. He stood for what he believed was right even if it meant standing alone.

On January 2, 1975, after being confined to the hospital for two weeks, he received his call to inherit those things prepared for him from the foundation of the world. The Church has lost one of its most loyal and devoted servants. Heaven is richer today because he is there. His memorial service was conducted on January 4, 1975, at the New Hope United Methodist Church, New Hope, Va., by the writer. He was buried in the New Hope Church Cemetery.

In his poem, "My Dead," Frederick L. Hosmer has penned these words which speak to me when I think of the life of Brother Nat Barnhart:

"The Father's house is mansioned fair
Beyond my vision dim;
All souls are his, and here or there
Are living unto him.

And still their silent ministry
Within my heart hath place,
As when on earth they walked with me
And met me face to face."

by Howard C. Smith

Hori Wrightson Spencer, son of the late Rev. Charles Spencer and Amanda Tull Spencer, was born July 1, 1900, in Snow Hill, Md., and departed this life on Tuesday, January 7, 1975, at his home in Salisbury, Md., after a prolonged illness.

He was educated in public school in Snow Hill, Md. He was reared in a Christian

home, and accepted Christ as his personal Savior at an early age. He loved people and was always ready to talk with persons whom he met about their soul and God's love.

He served very diligently in his Church where he was in charge of Bible study groups and also assisted the pastor. He was recommended by the Quarterly Conference of the Girdletree Charge, Salisbury District, Delaware Conference, in 1944, for Exhorter's License. He attended Morgan College and completed the four year course of study as prescribed by the Discipline of the Methodist Church and received his Diploma in 1951; he was ordained Deacon in 1948 and Elder in 1951.

He served in three Conferences: the Delaware Conference, the North Carolina-Virginia Conference, and the Virginia Conference.

His pastorates included: Stockton, Maryland Circuit (3 years); Keller, Va., (3 years); Deal Island, Md. (2 years); Quantico, Md. (8 years); and Withams, Va. (11 years).

In 1958, he was married to Miss Evella Dashiell. They served well together and in every possible way they shared in the community and its problems.

"Show me the way, not to fortune and fame

Not how to win laurels, or praise for my name;

But show me the way to spread 'The Glory Story'

That 'Thine is the Kingdom and Power and Glory.'"

by Evella Dashiell Spencer

Hugh Marshall Burleigh was, colloquially speaking, a "natural-born preacher." Some ministers on occasion could be mistaken for professors, business executives, insurance agents, or even morticians. One could never have taken Hugh Burleigh for other than a minister. His quiet dignity, his splendid rapport with individuals--especially the elderly and the sick--and his sustained interest and labor for The Church marked him to even the casual observer as one wholly committed to ministry.

To hear him preach was a memorable experience. He stood tall in his pulpit--over six feet tall, in fact--and spoke with a clear, rich, resonant voice. His choice of words was impeccable and over them he kept impressive command. He appreciated beautiful prose and fine poetry, especially that of the Scriptures, and learned regularly to recite instead of read his Scripture at Sunday services. Worshipers found it easy to approach the Throne along the avenue of worship Hugh Burleigh carefully chose for them each week and regularly went from his preaching strengthened and enriched by what they had heard.

Into the making of this minister had gone the wholesome character traits of both his parents, Hugh Kendall Burleigh, a Virginia farmer, and his wife, a North Carolina maiden, Annie Mabel Turner. Hugh, Sr., had established his home at the foot of the Blue Ridge mountains in Amherst, Va., where his son was to be born September 4, 1905, and to live through the first fifteen years of his life. Worried about the education was both physically and economically a struggle for all the Burleigh children. Each walked many miles a day to school.

His granddaughter writes: "Hugh Burleigh received great encouragement from his mother to go on to college so, walking many miles from home, he attended Lynchburg College. He never lived on campus but traveled back and forth, and (in the completion of his college work) he walked 3600 miles in all kinds of weather."

He worked in the summer to finance the next winter's educational opportunity. Originally he started college with only twelve dollars in his pocket - a gift from his father. When money had to be borrowed it was always returned on time.

Dr. J. Callaway Robertson, the pastor then at Court Street Church, Lynchburg, is credited with having steered Hugh into seminary. Eager to broaden his horizons as much as possible, Hugh set his sights on Yale where, because of his excellent scholastic record, he won ready acceptance. He went to New Haven by bus. To help defray his Divinity School expense, he assumed the pastorate of The Northford Congregational Church and worked with the Boys Club of Northford, Conn.

It was here in The Northford Church that Hugh Marshall Burleigh met Frances Warner Eriksson, an attractive young widow with two daughters--Charlotte and Hildur--with whom he fell in love and whom he later married. Frances, whom he always thereafter referred to as "My Lady," never stepped into the spotlight that shone so frequently upon her

husband, but in her quiet, charming, dignified way gave to Hugh great strength. In his years of health, she was his constant companion, advisor, encourager. In his illness, she unstintingly showered her time and energy upon him in a thousand little deeds of tenderness and love. The obvious devotion of the Burleighs to each other has been an inspiration to all who knew them through their years together.

None of us goes far in this life without the encouragement and help of friends who believe in us. So it was with Hugh. When in 1938, following his graduation from Yale, Hugh returned to The Virginia Conference for appointment (Having earlier served the Boonesboro Circuit as a Lay Pastor), he had already captured the interest and great respect of at least two of Virginia's most influential clergymen. Dr. Hawes P. Clarke and Dr. Thomas F. Carroll were both ready to make use of his exceptional abilities. He started "at home" in 1938 as minister to the West Campbell Circuit. Two years later, he was moved to the Prospect Circuit. After a like period, he was appointed to Greenwood, Richmond. Here he labored with distinction and in 1946 was brought to the Alexandria District of Northern Virginia to lead a new church of seemingly great promise, called Fairlington. As always, the people loved him and the quality of his ministry--both preaching and pastoral care--attracted attention far beyond his parish. A year later, however, the strong church in Fredericksburg opened and wisdom dictated a better use of Hugh Burleigh's talents there. From 1947-50, the inspiration of his leadership in Fredericksburg was felt by the town and by the students of Mary Washington College as well.

Then came his appointment to Court Street, Lynchburg, where for six fruitful years he enjoyed what possibly was the finest period of his career, achieving a recognition among the citizens of the city and a place in their hearts, that justified many in calling him "Parson," or "The Parson." Nearly everybody in Lynchburg knew Hugh Marshall Burleigh of Court Street Methodist Church! Here his preaching achieved its highest degree of perfection and, in 1956, won for him an honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree from Lynchburg College. In the same year he was invited by the Conference President, Bishop Paul Neff Garber, to become a member of the Bishop's Cabinet as Superintendent of The Petersburg district--a responsibility he, for four years, shouldered with some reluctance but carried out with great sensitivity to the needs of both pastors and churches under his care.

With appreciation for Dr. Burleigh's splendid leadership, his fellow ministers elected him a delegate to The General and Jurisdictional Conferences of 1960. In that year he returned to his first love, preaching, as pastor to the large downtown congregation at Epworth Church, Norfolk, where, after two years, he suffered the first of several serious heart attacks. His unusual stamina, however, enabled him following a period of rest to assume his ministerial work. Again Bishop Garber called him into his Cabinet--this time to be Superintendent of The Charlottesville District. When, by Church law, all the years available to him as Superintendent were used up, Dr. Burleigh once again was appointed to Court Street Church. This was a consummate tribute to him personally and evidence of the great esteem and affection in which he was held by the Lynchburg area. Not until 1971 did the crippling effect of another heart illness require his retirement on grounds of physical disability and, even so, as he grew stronger he resumed his preaching, upon invitation, and did much to assist the other pastors of the city.

Dr. Burleigh was recovering slowly from a third attack and was en route with "My Lady" to Florida when, in the home of his devoted granddaughter in Richmond, Frances Kreuzinger, he lay down to nap--a sleep from which he awoke to find himself in the Father's House and to hear his Father's accolade, "Well don, thou good and faithful servant!" Funeral services were held on the afternoon of January 11, 1975, in the sanctuary of Court Street United Methodist Church. The Pastor Dr. George Wesley Jones, Dr. Carl W. Haley, Dr. Hampden H. Smith, Jr., Dr. Jacob Mast, and the writer shared the service assisted by the full Court Street Church Choir.

We who knew him will remember him as a dear friend, a gracious Christian gentleman, and a "natural-born preacher." Hugh would like to be remembered that way!

by Joseph S. Johnston

Raymond Elbert Cardwell. It was while he was deeply involved in copywriting and casting (for the ninth year of performance) a drama on the death of our Lord to be presented at the Green Memorial United Methodist Church in Roanoke on Good Friday that death came to the Rev. Raymond Cardwell. He has moved now from reporting the event of death to sharing with our Lord the glory of resurrection.

Born in Athens, Tenn., the son of a Holston Conference circuit rider--the Rev. John Wesley and Martha Duff Cardwell--Ray was the eighth child in a family of nine. He distinguished himself as teacher, author, editor, preacher, and administrator par excellence. Early in his life, he dedicated himself to helping people. For ten years it was young men, as he taught in the renowned Baylor School in Chattanooga, Tenn., where he was head of the Department of English. As a master teacher, he not only infused the life of his students with content, but also with character as demonstrated in his own life.

In 1941, Ray entered the ministry of the United Methodist Church with a background of degrees from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and graduate degrees from Yale and Duke Universities. For thirty-three years, he served with distinction in the Virginia Conference. His ministry included the pastorates of Huntington Court, Mount Pleasant, and Bent Mountain and associate pastorate at Greene Memorial, Roanoke. Other pastorates included Gloucester, Smithfield, South Hill, Memorial in Richmond, Blacksburg, Community in Arlington, First Church in Martinsville, and Main Street in Danville, from which he retired in 1974. He served on numerous Conference Boards and Agencies, including president, Board of Hospitals and Homes; president, Methodist Rural Fellowship; president, Commission on World Peace; a member of Ferrum College Board; and VUMAR, which name he originated.

There were many opportunities for community service and community contacts with Ray enjoyed, mostly through Rotary contacts for about seventeen years; also Kiwanis, Optimist, Lions, and Ruritan. Being in demand as a banquet speaker or toastmaster gave him insight and extra enjoyment in Toastmasters International. He had been active in Little Theater, also.

While preaching was his first love and what he did with distinction, he was also a writer and editor. In 1968, he was appointed as the first Conference Director of United Methodist Information and Editor, The Virginia Methodist Advocate, a position which he held until 1972. He was also editor for the Virginia Rural Methodist and a frequent contributor to the Christian Advocate, The Methodist Story, The Chattanooga Times, and other publications. He was the author of numerous plays which include "I Was There," "The People versus Jesus of Nazareth, alias the Christ," and "Truth spoken in Hate." His great sense of humor showed especially through his play "Peter Cartwright Goes A-Dancing."

His writing style was clear and lucid. His pen was pungent and probing. His wit was wise and winsome. He, in good taste, delighted in badgering the Bishop, satirizing the system, panning the parish, and characterizing the congregation. It was upon his retirement that he told me he had two more plays to write. At the time of his death, he was busy on these manuscripts. Across the bottom, we now write "To Be Continued."

Death came to Ray on Monday, February 17, 1975, in a Roanoke, Va., hospital at the age of 69, while he and Ellen were residents in the apartment complex on The Methodist Home grounds. His memorial service was held at the Greene Memorial United Methodist Church on February 19, 1975, with the Rev. Dr. M. Douglas Newman, the Rev. M. Chick Wilkerson, and the Rev. Dr. James Roy Smith officiating, and a graveside service at Sunset Cemetery in Clinton, Tenn., on February 20, 1975, with the Rev. Jean Stephens, the Rev. Marion E. Mansell, and the Rev. M. Chick Wilkerson officiating.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Ellen Irwin Cardwell; one son, Daniel H. Cardwell, Danville; one daughter, Mrs. Ann C. Williams, Richmond; one granddaughter, Lynn Williams; three brothers, John Cardwell, Lenoir City, Tenn., Dr. Alvin Cardwell, Manhattan, Kansas, and Dr. Robert Cardwell, El Paso, Texas.

The United Methodist Church has lost one of its most gifted ministers, but the ministry of the church has now a stellar example of selfless dedication to the cause of Christ and His Church to follow. "Well done, thou good and faithful servant. Enter now thy reward."

by James Roy Smith

George Hilliard Boyd. In the early morning hours of Saturday, March 8, 1975, the Rev. George H. Boyd answered another call from his Lord, and the earthly became the heavenly, the mortal put on immortality. As he followed the Christ in life, so he followed him through death into the life that is eternal. Services were held in Calvary United Methodist Church, Danville, on March 10, with Dr. Beverly Felty; Dr. Charles T. Boyd, his brother; Pastor George Wesley Jones; and Pastor Edward H. Kyle officiating.

George Hilliard Boyd, the son of William Franklin and Ida Sharp Boyd, was born in Buncombe County, N.C., on December 6, 1900. He was the seventh of eleven children. In 1913, the Boyd family moved to Danville, Va. where George grew to manhood. As a layman, Brother Boyd was a member of Sledd Memorial Methodist Church. While serving as the Church School Superintendent, he received his call to the ministry and, in June of 1930, was licensed to preach by the Danville District of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

George was a graduate of the Ferrum Training School, now Ferrum College, and Roanoke College, Roanoke, Va., with a degree of Bachelor of Arts. As a pastor who believed in continuing education, he did graduate study at Duke University, Durham, N.C., and Union Theological Seminary and Columbia University in New York.

While a student at Roanoke College, he served as pastor of the South Franklin Charge of the Danville District. It was here that he met his wife. On December 27, 1937, Miss Mildred Woody and the Rev. George H. Boyd were united in marriage and were, for thirty-eight years, co-workers in the ministry. This marriage was blessed with a daughter, Mildred Catherine Boyd, now Mrs. William H. Walker, Jr. In later years, to his family were added William H. Walker, III, and Matthew George Walker, grandsons.

In succession, George and Mildred were appointed to: Patrick Charge, Prince Edward Charge, Lakeside-Richmond, Parkview-Portsmouth, Main Street-Waynesboro and Larchmont-Norfolk. He was appointed Superintendent of the Farmville District in 1964 and served in this capacity until retirement in 1970. Under his leadership, the District progressed, churches were built and remodeled, parsonages were built and remodeled, and World Service giving increased. Five men answered the call to the ministry in the Methodist Church under his superintendency: Donald L. Long, Frank G. Laine, Jr., Thomas R. Dunkum, Thomas P. Reynolds, Jr., and Manning B. Harrell. To these and the other men who came under his superintendency, George was a friend, counselor, pastor, and example. The writer was one of those whose ministry and life were enriched by the love, concern, and friendship of this man of God. George was loved and respected by both laymen and pastors for his faith, Christian character, and devotion to church and friends.

Upon their retirement, George and Mildred returned home to Danville. Though retired, each day found George in his study doing what he did so well--preparing sermons for his churches on the Cascade Charge, and writing verse as inspiration dictated.

Each man has that in which he excels, whatever his calling may be. George excelled in those qualities of personality and character that are vital to every Christian, especially to those called to be pastors. He was a living example of the faith he proclaimed in sermon and verse. He was a scholar who came to the pulpit only after hours of study and personal prayer. His faith was tested in his living and recorded in his writing. His witness remains with us in these words:

Take Hold Of God

Take hold of God upon a hill,
Through the sunlight warm and still;
Through a dogwood that blossoms white;
Through a star that pierces night;
Through a tree standing tall and strong;
Through faith in an Easter song;
Through the love of a little child,
That lives life undefiled;
Through a dear one's earnest prayer,
That in need is always there;
Through the Lord who quiets our fears,

And gives hope in all the years;
Take hold of God each newborn day,
Through Christ the abundant way.

George H. Boyd, 1900-1975
by Edward H. Kyle

Melvin Monroe Forren, like so many of us, was called to God's ministry a little late in life; but from the time of his call to the time of his death, there was no doubt in his mind, or in the mind of those around him, that his call was sincere. To better equip himself to serve in the ministry of the United Methodist Church, he pursued his education at West Virginia Wesleyan College and Emory University. Few men have been more anxious to use their talents for the glory of God than was Melvin Forren; no one was more understanding, or stood by with more faithfulness and support, than his wife. He and Alma Dora Witt were married May 19, 1926.

His ministry began in W.Va., where he was licensed to preach on May 27, 1941. He was ordained deacon in 1944 and elder in 1947. For sixteen years he found a real thrill in proclaiming the vitality of Christ on some of the largest circuits in that Conference: Nallen, Winona, Bomant, Berwind Station, and Wilcoe. He transferred to the Virginia Conference in 1957. Here he served the Shawsville, Callaway, Clover, and Prospect Charges for a total of eleven years. He was granted early retirement at the age of 63 on account of health, but he still helped wherever there was a need and his health would permit. He served Hinton Parish as a retired supply.

Melvin Forren's strength in the ministry was underscored with a strong liking for all people whether they were rich or poor. He had a warm personality and most friendly disposition, which drew people to him. He found much satisfaction in being "the good Samaritan," and he took great pride in being loyal to the United Methodist Church, which had "opened many doors" and "answered many prayers" for him through his three score years and ten.

His ministry ended in the mountain state of W.Va. as God "called him home" on March 13, 1975, at the age of 70. He is survived by his wife, three sons, and two daughters.

His life and ministry might be summed up by the words of the poet:

"Let me live in my house by the side of the road
Where the race of men go by
They are good, they are bad, they are weak, they are strong,
Wise, foolish--so am I.
Then why should I sit in the scorner's seat, or hurl the cynic's ban?
Let me live in my house by the side of the road, and be a friend to man."

by John A. McKenry, Jr.

William Rexford Johnson. Rex Johnson's service as a pastor was of brief duration, but it was blessed with success and satisfaction both for himself and his churches. He received his license to preach on May 16, 1974, and was appointed as a lay pastor to serve the Rockbridge Charge, Staunton District, in June 1974. For three months he discharged the duties assigned him with distinction and developed a fine relationship with his congregations. In September 1974, illness overtook him, and he was forced to curtail his ministry. Mrs. Johnson immediately began to fulfill his responsibilities at the request of the leadership of the charge and did so most acceptably. On Maundy Thursday, March 27, 1975, death released him from his invalid condition, and on the day before Easter, March 29, a service of comfort and commitment was held at Lexington, conducted by the Rev. Charles Snead, Dr. Frank H. Van Dyck, and the Rev. Philip Hunsicker. Interment was in the cemetery of Mt. Zion Church on the Rockbridge Circuit.

Rex Johnson was a life-long Methodist, taking active responsibilities in all phases of church life across the years. Before feeling the call to the ministry, he and his wife shared devotedly in the work of Trinity Church, Lexington, Va. While living there and previously, he had been a professional Boy Scout executive for twenty-five years, with several assignments in Virginia and West Virginia, and he also was active in Rotary International and in the Masonic order. A native of Logan, W.Va., he received his education there, and also at the University of Chicago, the University of Virginia Medical School, and at Duke University.

He is survived by Mrs. Johnson, who has received her license to preach and continues to serve the Rockbridge Charge, and by three adult children and other family members.

Service in the ministry is not measured best in terms of length, but of depth. Rex Johnson's tenure was short, but he affected his people profoundly. His sense of call and dedication were evident to them. He loved the Lord and rejoiced to serve Him in the pastorate just as he had while still a layman. Those who knew him and loved him will remember his life and work with gratitude.

by William K. Thomas

Rosser Pruitt Edwards, son of the late James Thomas Edwards and Daisey Catherine Guy, was born on October 15, 1897, in Pungoteague, Va., of Accomack County, and departed this life on April 29, 1975, at his residence in Chincoteague, Va.

From the beginning to the end, the church and its ministry were his life. Wherever he went, he spread love and his life was a living testimony of his faith in Jesus Christ. He was a dedicated servant of God.

On August 8, 1917, he was joined in marriage to Myrtle E. Killmon, who has been his devoted companion through the years. Of that union, four children were born, one of whom has passed away--the oldest son, Burleigh Wilson Edwards. Still living are two sons, Rosser Jewel Edwards and James Eugene Edwards, and one daughter, Myrtle Ruth Bowden.

Dr. Edwards was educated at the College of William and Mary and Lynchburg College. He received his Doctor of Divinity, Doctor of Psychology, and Doctor of Philosophy degrees from the Neotarian College of Philosophy in Kansas City, Missouri. Dr. Edwards had a full ministry in the Methodist Church. His appointments included South Dorchester Charge, South Salisbury, Campbell Circuit, Shackelfords Charge, Cheriton, Chincoteague, Oakland and Beulah Churches in Richmond, and Grace Church in Roanoke. He retired in 1962, but continued to preach to help fill vacancies in the pulpits. During these years he served the Edinburg Charge and the Pocomoke Charge. In 1970, due to a heart attack, he was unable to continue in active service. After retirement, Dr. and Mrs. Edwards made their home in Chincoteague, Va.

A memorial service for Dr. Rosser Pruitt Edwards was held on May 2, 1975, at Christ United Methodist Church in Chincoteague, Va. The service was conducted by the Reverends Fred Marvel, Joseph F. White, and Harold N. Smith. The interment was in Fairview Lawn Cemetery at Onancock, Va.

by Ruth Bowden

James Dolphas Harbour. On Saturday, June 14, 1975, the Rev. James Dolphas Harbour was called to his Heavenly Home to be with his four daughters who had gone on before. Services were held in Stone Funeral Home Chapel, Martinsville, Va., with burial in Mountain View Cemetery in Ridgeway. The Rev. Earl Fike officiated.

James Dolphas Harbour, the son of James Thomas and Sarah Woods Harbour, was born in Patrick County, Va., on July 19, 1889. On March 14, 1907, he was married to Miss Victoria Conner. They were married for sixty-eight years. This marriage was blessed with fifteen children. He lived to see thirteen of these married and had twenty-six grandchildren and twenty great-grandchildren.

He attended public school in Patrick County. He was a self-educated man. In order to support and educate his large family, he worked at different vocations, such as farmer, building contractor, saw milling, and merchant.

He and his wife, Victoria, were converted to Christianity in their early twenties. Victoria prayed constantly that he be called to preach. Her prayers were answered and he became a Methodist minister. In 1927, he became pastor of the North Patrick Charge. This Charge consisted of seven churches in three counties: Floyd, Patrick, and Franklin. He rode horseback many times to serve these churches.

This cornfield preacher, known to all his friends as "Dot," had natural ability, common sense, and a lot of "git up and git." He was a diamond in the rough with a noble Christian wife patiently polishing off the rough edges with constant prayer.

In the midst of this ministry, a new church was built at Elamsville in 1934. This church was named Ross Harbour. He and his family lived in the Methodist parsonage there for sixteen years, the longest term any minister served the Charge. A new church building was constructed at Woolwine, Va., during his ministry.

He retired while serving a charge in Franklin County in 1956. He and his wife

moved to Henry County. Here he made his home near many of his children. After retiring, he still kept up church work, helping in revivals, conducting funerals, and filling in for pastors. He became a member of Bethel United Methodist Church of the Cascade Charge, Danville District, where he was still a member at the time of his death.

"Dot," as he was generally known, will be remembered for his many years of faithful and loving service.

by Rachel H. Starling and DeLois H. Woody
Minutes for 1976. Moses Linwood Prather was born in Montgomery County, Md., December 6, 1915. He was the son of the late Tobias and Edith Prather. On August 23, 1933, he was married to Geneva Claggett, who survives. To this union four children were born: Mrs. Mary E. Haskins, Linwood M. Prather, Mrs. Gladys E. Bullock, and Allen H. Prather, all of Washington, D.C.

He was a graduate of the public schools in Washington, D.C., including Cardoza High School; also Bennett College, Greensboro, N.C., and Morristown College, Morristown, Tenn., Ministerial Training Schools. He read extensively and was competent in all aspects of his ministry. This great preacher and pastor was received into the Washington Conference On Trial in 1947. His appointments in the Washington Conference were: 1948, Fairfax and Langley; 1956, Mt. Zion, Leesburg; 1959, Langley-Pleasant Grove; 1963, McLean. In 1965, he served Woodlawn, Alexandria, Va., in the North Carolina-Virginia Conference.

From 1969 until his death, his appointment in the Virginia Conference was John Mann (John Wesley and St. Sinai Churches), Winchester District. While serving in this appointment, he was deeply involved in the migrant ministry in that County. Great testimonies of praise and appreciation were accorded him by the migrant workers. They depended on his counseling and great preaching of the gospel to them.

Moses Prather loved the church and God and gave him whole life in the most unusual services that man could give. He was a natural born preacher. He stood tall in the pulpit and spoke with a clear, rich voice and proclaimed the gospel as few men could. He picked apples, berries, cherries, and peaches and carried them to people whom he knew really needed fresh fruit. He was a devoted and loving husband and father. He was deeply loved by his many congregations and people of the communities in which he served. He was a member of the Winchester County Ministerial Association and a man of great integrity. He knew what he believed and lived it.

Moses' earthly life came to an end on June 25, 1975, in the Memorial Hospital, Winchester, Va. A special wake was held in Winchester at the request of that community. His funeral services were beautifully conducted at his home church, Lincoln Park United Methodist, Washington, D.C., June 1975. He sleepeth with our feeling that he has done his work beautifully. His sentiments are as follows:

"When gray threads mar life's pattern, and
seem so out of line, trust the Master
Weaver, who planned the whole design.

For in life's choicest patterns, some
dark threads must appear to make the rose
threads fairer, the gold more bright and clear.

The pattern may seem intricate and hard
to understand, but trust the Master
Weaver and his steady guiding hand."

by Mary E. Haskins

Irvin Clyde Fisher. The word most often used to describe the task of a minister is "evangelist," and this is a true picture of the life, faith and ministry of Irvin C. Fisher, born February 20, 1908, in the home of Newell O. and Flora M. Burns Fisher, at Charleston, W.Va.

Irvin Fisher lived as a young man under the shadow of tall mountains, and his faith grew as strong and tall as the hills. He equipped his faith with the gift of understanding at Morris Harvey College in Charleston, W.Va., and continued his training at Union Theological Seminary, New York, N.Y.

His life and faith were strengthened on April 25, 1927, when he and Sylvia Mae Lyons united their love together and from that day shared a ministry in life to others.

For twenty-one years he served appointments across the mountain state of W.Va. before transferring to the Virginia Annual Conference. In Va., he served thirteen years in churches located within the area of the Petersburg, Farmville and Rappahannock Districts. His relationship to the church was supported by a firm devotion to its ministry and a deep trust in its structure. As a result, his ministry brought to the church a deepening of faith and an added strength in its image. The time for his retirement came in June, 1973.

The mark of his ministry is not upon fine reports or great journals—it is in the hearts of the people whom he loved dearly. He was faithful to the wish of his Lord, when Jesus said, "feed my sheep." His quiet nature, mixed with his strong, deep convictions, brought to the people of his parish area the "living word." One did not need to ask him twice what he believed. His sincerity spoke in terms of a measured truth, which, once spoke, would be proudly repeated.

Life was not always easy for Irvin Fisher, and his words of comfort spoken to others came from the personal experience of a real ministry to his own life. After a long illness, he entered into that eternal reward, about which he preached, and to which his own faith attracted him, on July 17, 1975.

Two services of worship and tribute to his life and offered praise to God in the hour of his death: July 18, 1975, in the chapel at Shorter Funeral Home, Farmville, Va., and on Sunday, July 20, 1975, in the chapel at Wilson Funeral Home, Charleston, W.Va. His body was laid to rest at Grandview Cemetery, Dunbar, W.Va., but his spirit was at home before God.

by James M. John

Addison Weisiger, Jr., an Approved Supply Pastor of the Virginia Annual Conference, was born July 2, 1897. After many years in the business world, and about fourteen months after the death of his wife, Louise Chiles Weisiger, he was appointed to the Cokesbury Charge, Winchester District, on June 12, 1961. He served Cokesbury and Cokesbury-Greenwood Charges for three years. He then served the Fort Valley Charge from 1964 through 1979—retiring June 9, 1970. As a Retired Supply, he continued to serve Fort Valley until he relinquished this appointment on January 1, 1972.

No children were born to Ad and his wife. Ad, as he liked to be called, was a kindly, unassuming man. While the writer did not know him intimately, he always enjoyed fellowship with him, and profited much from associating with him. Two things especially I remember about him: (1) he had a lot of self-respect and (2) he loved his work as a minister of the church. No longer able to perform his earthly duties, he went on to his eternal home on July 23, 1975—where, no doubt, he is continuing what he could not carry on in this earthly ministry.

The writer honors his memory and thanks God for the privilege of having known Ad Weisiger.

by James E. Scott, Jr.

Basil Reginald Truscott passed away on September 1, 1975, at the Penney Retirement Community, Penney Farms, Florida, where he had lived with Mrs. Truscott since 1959. He was 82 years of age. Dr. Truscott was born in Sydney, Australia, on July 25, 1893, the son of Dr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Truscott, also Methodist missionaries. He moved with his parents to South America in 1906 and was sent to the United States in 1908 to continue his education. On June 10, 1912, while a student at Northwestern University, he married Miss Annie Fryer, of Castlereigh, Ireland. In September 1914, he began his ministry in Primrose, Nebraska, later serving churches in Chambers, Nebraska, and South Sioux City, Nebraska.

In October 1920, Dr. Truscott left for missionary service with the Methodist Church in Buenos Aires, Argentina, where he remained for thirty-six years with the same church. During this time, in addition to his pastorate at the Methodist Church in Lomas de Zamora, Buenos Aires, Argentina, he was District Superintendent for nineteen years and president of a Methodist Orphanage for twenty-nine years. During his pastorate, he conducted a successful campaign to enlarge and renovate the church and build a new parsonage.

During sabbatical leaves, he took special courses at Drew Theological Seminary, Madison, N.J.; Garrett Biblical Institute, Evanston, Illinois; and Yale Divinity School, New Haven, Conn. In 1948, he was honored with the D.D. degree from Morningside College, Sioux City, Ia., on which occasion he also delivered the Baccalaureate Sermon.

In 1956, Dr. and Mrs. Truscott returned to the United States, where he served as pastor of the Timberlake Methodist Church until 1959. In 1959, after forty-five continuous years of active pastoral services, they retired to the Penney Retirement Community, Florida.

Dr. Truscott is survived by his wife, Mrs. Annie F. Truscott, of the Mary Olin Clinic, Penney Retirement Community; three sons: Gordon A. Truscott, Sao Paulo, Brazil; Wesley L. Truscott, New Orleans, La.; and Dr. B. Lionel Truscott, Winston-Salem, N.C.; also three daughters: Mrs. Ethel Rhodes, Davidson, N.C.; Mrs. Lorraine Laurent, Jacksonville, Ill.; and Mrs. Arlene Miller, Decatur, Illinois.

by B. Lionel Truscott
Charles William Fink. The life of Charles William Fink is the chronicle of a pilgrim. A pilgrim is no mere traveler, going where the tides and currents may carry him. He has a port in view. He lives by faith, moves by plan, travels by chart.

He was born in Greenbrier County, W.Va., on January 16, 1866. He was the son of John W. and Eliza McMillion Fink, both of whose families had crossed the Alleghenies in the westward migration. He was married to Sarah Ellen Hanger, and to this union were born three sons, all of whom followed their father's footsteps in the Christian ministry. All three are now serving in the Virginia Conference: Harold H., Trinity, Richmond; J. Carroll, Superintendent, Peninsular District; and William Jeryl, Reveille, Richmond.

Early in his life, he felt a call to the Christian ministry. Under the influence of his Presiding Elder, the Rev. John Anderson, he accepted an appointment as a supply pastor of the Talcott Charge, then comprised of nine churches. The following year he was admitted On Trial and two years later was admitted into Full Connection in the old Baltimore Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Following a four-year pastorate at Talcott, he served the following appointments: Frankford; Ridgeley; Moorefield; Shepherdstown; Melrose, Roanoke; Superintendent of the Lewisburg District; High Street, Petersburg; Park View, Lynchburg; Moseley Memorial, Danville; Melrose, Roanoke (second time).

He was Presiding Elder of the Lewisburg District when unification of the three branches of Methodism was effected in 1939. Bishop Peele expressed the feeling that his temperament and knowledge of the area would be very useful in resolving the problems of the new Lewisburg District, since all three of the uniting denominations were represented in the District.

When he was seventy years of age, Melrose Church requested Bishop Garber to send him back for a second pastorate. Two years later, when he was retiring, the congregation again interceded with Bishop Garber to return him for an extended period. This he did for an additional two years.

As a pastor, he was an earnest friend and counselor to his people, who remember him as a devoted advocate of Christian faith. Except for his devotion to his family, his people and his church were almost his exclusive interest. He was known by his contemporaries as a mediator in troubled situations and as one who was effective in dealing with difficult financial problems, especially in depression and post-depression days. As a district superintendent, he was a good administrator and effective leader. He was firm in his expectation that every pastor should be faithful and diligent in performing well the tasks assigned to him, but he was charitable and supportive in all his relationships.

In all his endeavors, he had the faithful assistance of his wife. Though her efforts were limited by poor health, she always considered herself his partner-in-ministry, and he relied heavily on her support. He himself was frail of health, but possessed an enduring spirit. The death of his companion was a grievous loss, but he lived in the faith that she was kept, in death as in life, by the power and love of the Heavenly Father.

His journey ended on September 4, 1975. Funeral services were conducted September 6, 1975, in the Lewisburg United Methodist Church, which had been his church home since retirement in 1960. The services were conducted by the pastor, the Rev. Harold Elmore, and Dr. Claude R. Collins, of South Charleston, W.Va., a former District Superintendent of the Lewisburg District.

Charles W. Fink was a pilgrim who made the faith credible, the journey joyful, the prospect glorious.

by Claude R. Collins

Marion Everett Dorr. It was Bertrand Russell who once said, "The fundamental defect of fathers is that they want their children to be a credit to them."

Russell's tactile humor would not have influenced the philosophy of Marion Everett Dorr, nor would he ever have had to request such a legacy. His three sons, as well as countless other people, admired his life as he lived it: for the glory of God. To emulate it would, indeed, be a goal worth seeking.

As a youth, Everett Dorr was a man of the soil in Iowa, where he was born October 29, 1909. He knew hard physical labor and also years of sickness. All of this combined to build a resolute outlook that carried him until his death, January 18, 1976.

He was a cum laude graduate of Yankton, South Dakota, College in 1935, the year he served his first congregation in Denver. His theological training was received at Iliff. In 1974, he was honored by UNICEF at New York for twenty years of volunteer work in Iowa and Virginia for the agency, a moment that was eminently satisfying and meaningful for him.

Everett Dorr's eulogy was read at services at Woodstock and at Crete, Nebraska, where he was buried. It traced his life, his visions, his belief that idealism was not vagary. The eulogy:

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God."

"All of us who knew Everett Dorr, and who loved him, know that today he would ask not that we grieve, but that we rejoice in the celebration of a life that was good and full and now has answered the call of his God who has said: 'Come...well done, my good and faithful servant.'

"No, Everett would not want sadness. He would ask that each of you, in your own way, go forth and continue the work that he so single-mindedly pursued while he was with us. For all the flowers of all the tomorrows are in the seeds of today.

"His hopes, his ideals, his dreams were in a world where someday the guns would be stilled, the swords would be beaten into plowshares, the spears into pruning hooks, and all the peoples of the world would know that 'there is no east or west, no north or south, but one great fellowship of God throughout the whole wide earth.'

"His legacy was love. So great was the force of his love that, from the moment he and his father in prayer at the Mayo Clinic dedicated Everett's life to God and to man, he would not be broken by pain, uncertainty and later innuendo.

"That love intertwined his very being and was poured out in the thousands of lives that he touched, in his genuine concern for the starving children of the world, in his commitment to UNICEF and in his belief in the establishment of a world of order under law.

"His heritage to his sons was not in material possessions, but in an unspoken treasure, the treasure of his example as a man and a father.

"He taught his sons that it mattered not the color of a person's skin, but rather the deep and abiding love that is within the heart. Of his sons, he did not demand...he showed by example, asking for fearlessness and rigid honesty in the following of convictions.

"If you knew Everett Dorr, you remember the twinkle in his eye, the hearty laugh, the briskness of his walk, the love he had for each of you.

"He was a familiar figure on the streets of the Iowa towns of Marcus, Varina, Dayton, Des Moines and then in the Virginia towns of Woodstock and New Market, making his daily stop at the post office, always eager to share your joy, be a comfort in times of sorrow, or be just a willing listener.

"Surely, there was never a man who so loved newspapers. He read them with the utmost care, savoring every item, whether world-shaking, picayune or political. When he was finished, he would go to his desk drawer and get his scissors to clip and file for future reference.

"The mountains of Colorado, the farmlands of Iowa, the rolling hills of Virginia--they were his. The happy twilight years he and Evelyn spent with so many friends in the Shenandoah Valley, the memories and the unboundless pride he had in his congregations at Woodstock and Mount Zion Churches--there were his, too.

"Blessed are the peacemakers.' If Everett were with us today, he would want us to join hands in a wreath of happiness and, each of us, whisper, 'Shalom--peace. Peace for the world. Peace in your heart....'"

by David Dorr

Peyton Lee Palmore, Sr. Heaven is richer, but earth is poorer for the passing of Peyton Lee Palmore, Sr., March 8, 1976, at the age of eighty-one. Seemingly in good health, he had attended church on Sunday morning, but suffered a cerebral hemorrhage that afternoon and passed away early the next morning without having regained consciousness. Earth, however, is far richer for his long years of devoted service and the influence of his sterling character upon loved ones and friends on two continents.

Lee was born in Richmond, Va., January 15, 1895, the son of Peyton Lee and Louisa Mayo Palmore. He changed the "Jr." to "Sr." in later years to avoid increasing confusion which was developing because of his son's name, Peyton Lee, III. After graduating from high school, he entered Hampden-Sydney College, where he was active in sports of all kinds (especially football) and in forensic contests and graduated in 1917.

After a brief period of training as an Air Force pilot during World War I, he entered Princeton Seminary to prepare for the work of the Methodist ministry. There he became involved in the work of the Student Volunteers, a group particularly interested in foreign missions, and offered his services to the Board of Missions. At one of the national conventions of the Student Volunteers, he met a young delegate, Jean McAlpine, the daughter of Presbyterian missionaries in Japan, who was soon to return to that country in missionary work herself. The romance ripened into an engagement, and after graduating from Princeton, Lee was soon on his way to Japan, where he and Jean were married July 17, 1922. Five fine children came of that union: Peyton Lee, III, and Louis Pickard, who have spent many years in missionary work in Japan and India, respectively; Erdman, who is on the faculty of Duke University; Jean McAlpine Nelson and Mary Helen Palmore, who are making effective contributions in their own ways.

Lee's work in Japan was interrupted by World War II. During the period before that event, his work was largely superintending the work of Japanese churches and pastors, teaching Bible classes, and one successful venture in newspaper evangelism. During the war, he held several appointments in the Virginia Conference, but as soon as missionaries were allowed back in Japan, in 1948, he and Jean returned and served in the Kobe area until retirement in 1964. During this time, his work included a few years of teaching in the Theological School of Kwansei Gakuin University, but most of it was spent in holding special meetings when invited to do so by Japanese churches and pastors. Also during this time, he developed a unique form of service, with the help of a talented Japanese lady, in presenting the subject of Christian family life. Japanese mothers seemed especially receptive to this message, and it became the means of effective work in many places.

Upon his retirement, he returned to his native Richmond, Va., and was active until his death in the work of Reveille United Methodist Church. Lee was a bundle of energy, with an open mind and a devotion to truth wherever it might lead and however different it might be from his previously held ideas. He was firm in his convictions, but charitable in his judgment of those with whom he might disagree. Those who knew him best admired the truly Christian spirit that motivated him in all that he did and are far better for having known him.

by George L. Waters

Aden Pericles Williams was born August 12, 1888, in Harrison County, Mississippi, and was given the name Aden Pericles at his baptism, after the name of a pastor held in high esteem by his family. After completing his public education in Harrison County, he attended Meridian College in Mississippi and later Central Plains College in Texas. Then he enrolled in Vanderbilt University for graduate studies and did further graduate work in Columbia University, New York.

On August 23, 1911, he and Anne Maude Williams (no relation) were married. Two daughters and one son died during the early years of their marriage, but their lives were blessed during later years by the birth of four sons, Martin, Aden P., Jr., Denny, and Winston.

At the age of 15, A.P. Williams was called to preach, and in 1913 he entered the active ministry at the age of 25 years, receiving his first appointment in the Virginia Conference to the Rappahannock Circuit on the Charlottesville District, where Dr. M.S.

Colonna was the presiding elder. He served four years there and moved to Stuart, then to Cape Charles on the Eastern Shore District. While he was at Cape Charles he joined the Masonic Order and remained a member until the time of his death. From Cape Charles he was assigned to Cashville, also on the Eastern Short District, and from Cashville he went to McKendree Church, Norfolk, where he started a series of weekly services broadcast by radio. This was at a time when religious broadcasting was still something of a novelty, and he conducted a weekly program for nearly three years. In succession, A.P. Williams served High Street Church, Petersburg; Central and Barton Heights Churches, Richmond; and later Monument Church, Richmond.

The Virginia Conference of United Methodism was held October 16-18, 1939, at which time Dr. Williams was appointed as the first district superintendent of the newly organized Alexandria District. The new district embraced portions of three former conferences and four former districts. It was made up of the five charges of the former Methodist Episcopal Church, six charges of the former Methodist Protestant Church, and, from the former Methodist Episcopal Church, South, five charges of the Winchester District and twenty charges of the Washington District. A sincere concern for the work of his churches, for his brethren in the ministry, and for the happiness and welfare of the people under his care, provided the basis on which a harmonious solidarity of achievement and growth took place on the Alexandria District and finally led to the creation of two districts out of the former one: the present Alexandria and Arlington Districts. During his tenure as district superintendent, Randolph-Macon College at Ashland, Va., awarded him the honorary Doctor of Divinity degree in 1940. Dr. Williams always referred to his district as "the great Alexandria District," a statement that became popular in conference meetings.

After completing his six-year tenure as district superintendent of the Alexandria District, Dr. Williams was assigned to Monument Church, Richmond, and in 1950 was appointed to First Church, Martinsville, where he served for six years. He retired in 1956 in the Virginia Conference and moved to Wilmington, Delaware, where he continued for five more years as Associate Pastor at Wilmington's largest church, Grace United Methodist. At the end of that time, Aden and Anne Williams returned to Richmond to enjoy their remaining years together, but in November, 1971, they joined the "family" in The Methodist Home in Roanoke, Va. It was there on May 30, 1976, after several months of illness, that "A.P." went to his Heavenly Father's house. His body was interred in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Richmond, Va., on Tuesday, June 1, 1976. Dr. John Wesley Newman conducted the graveside service. He is survived by his wife and his four sons.

All who knew A.P. Williams through the years will remember his frequent reference to the words of a gospel song: "Rise, shine, give God glory!" "A.P." never accepted credit for himself for any accomplishments under his leadership, but always pointed out that the honor, the glory, and the praise belonged to GOD. His God used him in a way that not only endeared him to the hearts of the people he served, but also let them see, through his amiable, industrious, Christian character, the Lord whom he steadfastly tried to serve.

by Stanley E. Enrich

Minutes of 1977. Cecil Cooper Bell was a man who, when he put his hand to the plow, did not look back. He united with the Virginia Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in 1912. At his retirement in 1960, he was credited with 48 1/2 years active service; but he was to add 13 1/2 years more of pastoral service following retirement, for a total of 62 years as a working Methodist preacher. Few men have achieved such a record.

Dr. Bell was born in Norfolk, January 23, 1890. He received his A.B. degree from the College of William and Mary in 1910, with Phi Beta Kappa honors, and he took his theological training at Vanderbilt University.

His first appointment was Cottage Place Church, Portsmouth, and during that year, 1913, he married Miss Mary Frances Purdum, of Danville. Since Cottage Place was considered a "single man's appointment," 1913 saw him going to Allen, Maryland. He then served successively: Onancock; Bedford; Rivermont Avenue, Lynchburg; Trinity, Petersburg; First Church, Charlottesville; and Trinity, Newport News. Rivermont Avenue (now Centenary) and Trinity, Petersburg, were built during his pastorates.

In 1935, Bishop Edwin D. Mouzon appointed him presiding elder of the Portsmouth-Newport News District, where he continued four years. He was then sent to Washington Street, Alexandria; then in 1942, to the Lynchburg District for six years. He served Greene Memorial, Roanoke, 1948-52, and was then assigned for two years to the Farmville District and three years again on the Lynchburg District. He served as President of the Bishop's Cabinet under Bishops Peele and Garber. From 1956 to 1960, he was chairman and executive secretary of the General Conference "Committee of 70" studying problems related to conference boundaries, the last three years being a full-time appointment. In 1961, he retired officially, but then served Woods-Wesley Chapel for six years, and Epworth, Richmond, for seven and a half. Early in 1975, he was forced to give up his work on account of ill health.

Dr. Bell served for 26 years as Conference Director of the Golden Cross Society, and as a member of various boards. He was a delegate to seven General Conferences, as well as to the Uniting Conference of the Methodist Church in 1939. He was Chairman of the General Conference Committee on Conferences in 1948 and again in 1956. For a number of years he served on the Executive Committee of the General Board of Hospitals and Homes, representing the Southeastern Jurisdiction. Randolph-Macon College honored him with the Doctor of Divinity degree in 1938.

On August 6, 1976, after a long illness, he quietly passed away at his residence in Richmond. He is survived by his wife; by a daughter, Helen, who is Mrs. E. Ruffin Jones, of Gainesville, Florida; by a son, C. Cooper Bell, Jr., M.D., Chief of Staff for Research at Hampton Veterans Administration Hospital and Professor of Surgery and Asst. Dean, Eastern Virginia Medical School; and by a number of grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted on August 8, 1976, at Woods United Methodist Church, Chesterfield County, by Roscoe C. Johnson, Lyle H. Youell, and Gary A. Ziegler, with interment in the church cemetery.

He plowed the furrow to the very end.

by Roscoe C. Johnson

George William Ports. It was in Baltimore County, M., August 12, 1896, that George William Ports was born in bring God to countless people, to inspire the discouraged, to challenge the sinner, to life the fallen, and to encourage his congregations to know the abundant life in Christ.

Circumstances and difficult times disrupted a normal family life, and at an early age, George was placed in a Children's Home and later in a foster home, where he suffered gross mistreatment and was deprived of all formal education. In desperation he ran away from this intolerable condition in Baltimore. There, under the ministry of Dr. Ed Stone, pastor of Hampton Methodist Protestant Church, George began a new life in Christ. Since he could neither read nor write, he was placed under the tutelage of Miss Sara Elizabeth Cullen, a deaconess, who opened the door of his mind to the vast world of knowledge and the door of his heart to a greater love for Christ. It was a blessed day for George when he won the love of Sara and was married on October 19, 1921.

When George surrendered to Christ, he was called into the ministry. He yielded to the call, thinking only of confronting men on the street with the Good News. But God had greater things for George to do, and all the rest of his life was an exciting adventure under God's guidance.

Moody Bible Institute enrolled him, when other schools were closed to him. He was an eager student and an enthusiastic young preacher. He came back to Maryland to serve as a supply pastor and to enroll in a diploma course at Westminster Theological Seminary. Later, recognizing the need for more training, he took a high school examination and was admitted on trial at Western Maryland College, from which he was graduated in 1930. Later he completed the necessary requirements for a seminary degree.

His home was blessed with a son, George William Ports, Jr., now a minister in the North Carolina Conference; three daughters, Mrs. J.G. (Vernelle) Long, Mrs. M.D. (Phyllis) Newman, and Mrs. R. E. (Virginia) Odor.

George's ministry covered a large area--Chincoteague; Edmondson Avenue, Baltimore; Fox Hill; Deer Park; Park View; Grace (Noland Memorial); St. Paul, Christiansburg; Central, Portsmouth; Decatur Street, Richmond; and Tabernacle. For two years he travelled as Conference Evangelist.

His crowning achievement was the founding of Park View Church, Lynchburg, chartered in 1930 with 72 members as a Methodist Protestant Church. The congregation soon outgrew the original building, so he led his people in dismantling the old Centenary Church building on Church Street. It was moved brick and plank and rebuilt, retaining much of its original architecture and beauty.

George's ministry may be characterized by the warm, penetrating urgency of the Good News. He constantly challenged persons to let Christ do for them what he had experienced in his own life, and always to move up the scale of maturity in Christian faith and love.

His retirement gave him freedom from parish administration and enabled him to devote more time to tell the Good News in his own unique and attractive way. The effectiveness of his ministry is attested not only by those who found a Savior, but also by 14 young men who have answered the call and entered the ministry.

George never ceased to witness. As he approached his 80th birthday, he preached the Gospel he loved to people he loved. On Friday morning, August 13, 1976, in the early dawn, he witnessed the break of eternity. With St. Paul, he often said, "I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day." His graduation day was held August 16, in the Park View Church, Lynchburg.

by Theodore E. Landis

Cephas Sale Haynes. In the early morning hours of October 9, 1976, Cephas Sale Haynes folded his tent and went home to God. Cephas was born December 30, 1921, at Howison, Va. His parents were James Lewis and Beatrice Sale Haynes. To this union were born three boys and two girls.

He joined the United States Marine Corps in October, 1942. He served in the Pacific Area from January 27, 1943, until February 6, 1944, and was discharged in November, 1944. He was wounded in the Battle of Tarawa Atoll, Gilbert Islands, on November 20, 1943, for which he received the Purple Heart medal of honor.

March 17, 1944, he took as his bride Katherine Christina Barlow, and to this union were born Karen Dale, Cynthia Denise, and Charles Cephas. Cephas and Katherine were charter members of the Hillcrest Church, and it was while serving this church the writer became friends with this couple. He served as Superintendent of the Church School and held other offices of responsibility.

Cephas received his License to Preach in 1955. That fall he and his wife surveyed the area around Four Mile Fork, just outside the city of Fredericksburg, and started Eastland United Methodist Church. He attended Randolph-Macon College.

He received his Deacon's orders in 1961, Elder's orders in 1963, became a Probationary Member of the Conference in 1967, and was received into Full Connection in 1969. Cephas heard his bishop say to him on the occasion of his ordination as Deacon: "Take thou authority to read the Holy Scriptures in the Church of God and to preach the Word." At the time of his ordinance as an Elder, his bishop said: "Take thou authority as an Elder in the Church to preach the Word of God and to administer the Holy Sacraments in the congregation." On both occasions he heard "preach the Word," and he did just that. Cephas believed in doing what was right, and he expected others to do the same.

His appointments were: Eastland and Zion; Wright's Chapel; West Hanover; King William; Francis Asbury, Virginia Beach; Design; and McGuire Park. It was while serving McGuire Park he answered roll call.

Funeral services were conducted at McGuire Park Church by Bishop W. Kenneth Goodson and the District Superintendent, Dr. Harry Eaton, on October 11th, and at Fredericksburg, Va., on October 12th by Dr. Easton. Interment was at Oak Hill Cemetery, Fredericksburg.

"And when he fell in whirlwind, he went down
As when a cedar, green with boughs
Goes down with a great shout upon the hills,
And leaves a lonesome place against the sky."

by Phineas S. Boyer

Richard Albert Bell. The depth of sorrow we cannot tell
Of the loss of one we loved so well
And while you sleep a peaceful sleep

Your memory we shall always keep.

Richard Albert Bell, son of the late William and Eugenia Bell, was born April 9, 1911, in Washington, D.C. Between the time of his birth and the date of his death, October 18, 1976, he lived a rich, full life. Brother Bell's educational pursuits beyond high school consisted of a correspondence course from the Southern Baptist Seminary, Jackson, Mississippi. He pursued the conference course of study at Gammon Theological Seminary and Bennett College. His adherence to the admonition given Timothy, "Do your best to win full approval in God's sight as a Worker who correctly teaches the message of God's truth," kept him always studying and attending meetings which provided learning experiences.

He served his country in the U.S. Army during World War II in the Pacific Theater of Operations. On April 28, 1949, he was married to the former Harvene Oden, of Harmons, Md.

In 1959, Richard was appointed to the Grottoes Charge as I began my term as District Superintendent. During the six years I served in that capacity, he pastored Grottoes Charge and John Wesley, Harrisonburg, Va., with distinction. Our friendship continued beyond the superintendent-pastor relationship. Galloway, Falls Church, Va., and Augusta Street, Staunton, Va., also benefited by his service. As a member of the Board of Pensions, he was an at-large member of the Executive Committee. He took the retired relation June, 1976.

Richard was a kingdom builder for God. He put his whole mind, heart, soul, and strength into his work. He sang with the Rockingham Male Chorus from 1968 until his death.

He leaves to mourn their loss: a loving and devoted wife, Harvene Bell; two daughters, Sadie Jones and the Rev. Ada Jones, of Baltimore, Md.; one son, the Rev. Howard Wilson, of Falls Church, Va.; two brothers, Joseph Bell and Leonard Reed; three sisters, Anita Tillman, Anna Coleman, and Ida Boykin, all of Baltimore; two aunts, Ida Colvin, of Baltimore, and Janie Jones, of Murkirk, Md.; one brother-in-law, Rayford Boykin; and seven grandchildren.

A Service of Triumph was held on Friday, October 22, 1976, at St. Mark's United Methodist Church, the Rev. Alfred A. Vaughn, Pastor. Ministers from the former Washington Conference, Virginia Conference, Baltimore Conference, and other denominations attended, and a selected few participated. A group of Rockingham Male Chorus members were present, and Dr. Nelson T. Huffman sang "My Living Shall Not Be in Vain." The writer delivered the Words of Comfort.

by Richard L. Clifford

Thaddeus Herbert Williams, son of the late Robert B. and Theodocia E. Wright Williams, was born in Allendale County, S.C., December 24, 1920. He departed this life on Thursday morning, October 22, 1976, at the Regional Hospital, Lynchburg, Va.

After finishing the public schools of Bamberg, S.C., Thaddeus earned a Bachelor of Arts degree at Allen University, Columbia, S.C. He did further study at Gammon Theological Seminary in Atlanta, Ga. He was a veteran of World War II.

Thaddeus grew up in Sunday School and Church as a very faithful member. His conversion to Christ was a glorious experience cultivated all through his life. Thaddeus Williams was admitted to the South Carolina Conference by the Beaufort District and licensed to preach in 1952. In 1956, he was ordained Deacon and admitted into Full Connection.

He was privileged to serve the following charges in the South Carolina Conference: Williamston Charge, Pickens, South Greenville, Level Green, and the Bennettsville Circuit. In 1966, he was transferred to the North Carolina-Virginia Conference. There he was assigned to the Leemont Charge, 1966-72; Asbury-Church Hill, in Richmond, 1972-75; and the Jackson Street Church, 1975-October 22, 1976.

In the final days of his lie, he felt his physical body less able to meet the needs demanded of it. In sharing this awareness with those around him, he spoke of a peaceful rest and the eternal life that would soon be his.

Life as we know it ended for Thaddeus Herbert Williams, yet he has left his impact on the lives of those to whom he pastored and knew. He will be remembered with the mixture of joy and sorrow for many years, his life being a living testimony to God's love for His children.

Men such as Thaddeus Williams are rare individuals to meet and know in a lifetime. They respect justice, righteousness, truth, and love all men and activities. Indeed, they are persons whose depth of being is a pleasure to behold. Thaddeus was a dedicated and beloved member of his conference. He loved the tasks of responsibility and performed them with pleasure. He was a member of the Conference Committee on Investigation, Conference Task Force on Ministry in the Black Community, and the Division of World Peace of the Conference Board of Church and Society.

He leaves his wife, Lena Page Williams; sons, Thaddeus, Jr., Jerome E., Alvin L., Calvin T.; and daughter, Hilda L. Williams.

by Warren M. Jenkins

Alvin Archer Mason was born September 25, 1892, in Charlotte County, Va., the first of five sons born to John Albert and Drusilla Hamlet Mason. Following his elementary education in Charlotte County, he graduated from Randolph-Macon Academy, attended Asbury College in Kentucky and received his A.B. degree from Lynchburg College. He was a veteran of World War I, having served with the Transportation Corps and Company "M", 101st Infantry, during the St. Mihiel and Meuse Argonne engagements.

Of himself, he once wrote: "After making a public profession of saving faith in Jesus Christ, I became intensely interested in church activities, serving as a steward, a teacher and superintendent. Through these activities, there was created a desire to preach the glorious gospel of the blessed God." Thus, his education completed, he was admitted to the Virginia Conference "on trial" on November 14, 1927, and received into full connection October 21, 1928. His 29 1/2 years of service in the Virginia Conference included appointments to Southview; North Pittsylvania; Moneta; South Salisbury, Maryland; Unionville (Orange Circuit); Franklin Circuit; Stafford Circuit; Montross; Cartersville; and Pamplin.

On June 3, 1931, he married Dasye Estelle Shelton, of Chatham, and to this union three children were born: Alvin Archer, Jr., Elizabeth Ann, and James Armistead, all of whom survive him.

After his retirement from the Virginia Conference in 1957, he made his home in Bowling Green, where he maintained his membership for 19 years with the United Methodist Church. During this time, he was an active member and teacher of the Men's Bible Class. During the later years, when fading vision prevented him from continuing as a teacher, he became the class advisor, consultant and official referee of all discussions concerning the scriptures. In 1975, his vision fading into darkness, he finally retired from active participation in church programs of which he had been a part for 66 years, but continued to maintain an awareness and concern for the church until the end.

"Man's labor for the church establishment is never done

Until the Eternal God calls him home.

Blessed was he who possessed this quality." --G.S.R.

Brother Mason was known, in this small rural community, as a gentleman of the old school. He was highly respected, always courteous and mild mannered, but fiery in his solid faith in Jesus Christ and devotion to Almighty God. Beloved by all, the Bowling Green United Methodist Youth Fellowship established the A.A. Mason Library in his honor. In 1970, a resolution was presented to the Administrative Board of the Bowling Green Church requesting that body to change the official name of the Men's Bible Class to "The A. A. Mason Bible Class." It was unanimously approved. The resolution described Brother Mason as a man "whose lifelong and dedicated service has earned him the time-honored title of 'A servant of Almighty God.'"

On December 8, 1976, the spirit of Alvin Archer Mason passed on to its heavenly reward. Memorial services were conducted at the Bowling Green Church on December 10, 1976, and his mortal remains sleep in the Weal Presbyterian Church cemetery in Pittsylvania County, near Chatham.

It may be said that "he fought a good fight, he finished his course, and he kept the faith." This world is a better place because, for one fleeting moment on the stage of eternity, Alvin Archer Mason made his appearance and spoke his lines from the Holy Script.

by George A. Reynolds & C. B. Cushing

Arta Forrest Shomo was born November 12, 1892, at Belington, W.Va., the son of Hubert F. and Sarah Ann Hathaway Shomo. He had three sisters, none of whom survived infancy.

On June 14, 1915, he was united in marriage to Musean Thomas of Meadville, Penn. To this union five daughters were born: Mrs. Artie Reaser, of St. Albans, W.Va.; Mrs. Sarah Huskey, of Gatlinburg, Tenn.; Mrs. Mary Richard, deceased in 1959; Mrs. Jean Lemon, of Parkersburg, W.Va.; and Mrs. Hazel Collier, Jr., of Smyrna, Ga. He had twelve grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

He was a member of the state legislature from 1919 to 1921. He graduated from West Virginia Wesleyan College at Buckhannon, W.Va., in 1922 and graduated from Garrett Theological Seminary at Evanston, Illinois, in 1925.

His wife passed away in 1972, after 57 years of marriage. He was a Methodist minister for 38 years: 34 in the West Virginia Conference and four in the Virginia Conference. He was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, a member of the Masonic Order and of the Order of the Eastern Star.

His funeral service was conducted on January 7, 1977, in the Talbott United Methodist Church, Belington, W.Va., by the Rev. Ralph Hedrick and the Rev. Cecil S. McMillion, two of his sons in the ministry. He was laid to rest beside his wife in the church cemetery.

He served his church with tremendous dedication. He was registrar and a member of the Board of Ministerial Training for twelve years in the West Virginia Conference, served eight years on the Conference Board of Hospitals and Homes in West Virginia and on other committees.

He was an ardent reader and great student. His goal was to read one new book per week. The year before his death, he read 50 new books. He was very dedicated to the pastoral ministry, far more willing to "serve than to be served." He was a great visitor and often visited homes where no minister had ever called. He could be as soft as a cloud or as hard as flint in his dealings in church affairs and his relations on great issues.

He fought a good fight, he kept the faith and was well prepared for his graduation day when the course was finished. The church militant lost a great soldier, but the church triumphant was to receive a great one.

Wilson Stanley. On September 19, 1912, Wilson Stanley was born into the family of George T. and Lou Etta Willis Stanley who made their home in Franklin County, Va. At an early age, Wilson gave his life to Jesus Christ and became a member of Highland Methodist Church, Callaway, Va. He attended the public schools of the county and continued his education at National Business College; Ferrum Junior College, '38; Emory and Henry College, '40; Candler School of Theology, Emory University, '42; and did graduate work at Vanderbilt University and Garrett.

The Virginia Conference admitted Wilson Stanley On Trial in October, 1942, and into Full Connection with Elder's Orders in October, 1944. During the years of World War II, he served the Patrick Charge on the Danville District. Because of the shortage of school administrators and teachers, Wilson served as principal and math teacher of Woolwine High School. At the same time, he served the community and the youth as leader of a Boy Scout Troop. This service endeared him to the entire community. One former Scout, now a community leader, tells of the time when Wilson gave him a pair of his own shoes in order that he might go to church and services. He was a counselor with concern for people as attested by lay and clergy alike.

While serving the Patrick Charge, Wilson was married to Miss Jessie Marie Hopkins on July 20, 1946, at the Bouldin Memorial Presbyterian Church, Stuart, Va. To this union was born one daughter, Mary Louetta Stanley, on February 11, 1949, now Mrs. William Clark, of Richmond, Va.

During the middle years of his ministry, Wilson joined Dr. Harry S. Coffey and together they led four pilgrimages to the Holy Land. He loved the Holy Land, whose beauty and ancient history inspired his own devotion. He encouraged others to join him and to share the extraordinary richness of the quiet hills of Galilee, the roughness of the southern desert, and the beauty of the banks of the Jordan. He felt that in the divine scheme of things, a people which had thought of itself as set apart from all others had claimed this land. They were certain, and he shared their certainty, that presence in this place had a meaning under Providence. God Himself had called him to

this land to deepen and strengthen his own spirituality and to share his faith with others.

Dedicated to preaching and to pastoral care, Wilson served a number of appointments with distinction: Patrick, on the Danville District; Gladys and Tyreeanna-Chestnut Hill, on the Lynchburg District; Walker Chapel and Del Ray, on the Alexandria District; First Church, Hampton; River Road and Bon Air, Richmond; Central, Staunton; and St. Paul, Christiansburg.

Professional colleagues were drawn to him. He willingly shared his ministry with his youthful associates who found in him an authentic, helpful teacher. He made strong commitments to pastoral and priestly ministries. His associates, reflecting upon their relationship, found in his leadership the embodiment of the Biblical teaching that the Lord had never exercised His justice in all its strictness, but that He had always granted forgiveness and continued loving support.

Wilson's later challenging and fruitful ministry was terminated abruptly on January 5, 1977, in an automobile accident. The Memorial Service was conducted by Paul D. Martin, Jr., and Alpheus W. Potts on January 7, in Stuart. His body was laid to rest in the Bouldin Memorial Presbyterian Church Cemetery in the presence of a large number of his family and friends.

by Paul D. Martin, Jr. & John H. Coffey

Henry Lee Robison, Jr., was born at Parsons, W.Va., on July 2, 1901. His father, a merchant, and his mother, Jennie Denning Robison, were humble, dedicated Christians who were not restricted by the conservative spirit so often found in small towns.

Lee finished the local schools of Blackstone, where he grew up, entered Randolph-Macon College in 1920 and, upon receiving his A.B. degree, entered Yale Divinity School. Here, his concept of the Christian ministry was deepened and broadened through contact with intellectual and spiritual giants. While loyal to Methodism, he felt that the great social problems of the day must be solved cooperatively. His growing faith in God made him sure that he was called to heed the cry of the needy.

While at Yale, he married Ruth Wyatt of Richmond. They complemented each other. Ruth helped him control and direct his impulsiveness and led him into a deeper personal faith in God. Their daughter, Mrs. George King, III, and son, James Wyatt Robison, are both of Richmond.

He entered the Conference in 1929. In addition to appointments at Bowling Green, Decatur Street, Fulton Hill, Laurel Street, and Blacksburg, he rendered distinguished service in a larger field. He organized and served as the first Director of the Chaplain Services of Virginia and mapped a course for chaplains in hospitals, prisons, and road camps which has proven unique in the nation. He was the first Director of The Virginia Council of Churches; Director of The Commission on Institutional Ministry with the Pennsylvania Council of Churches and resident minister at Cressxon State Sanatorium in Western Pennsylvania; the first full-time chaplain at the state farm in Goochland County; treasurer of The Koinonia Foundation, Inc., composed of world leaders dedicated to service; and an active member of many civic and professional organizations.

When he retired in 1967 to "Robinook," near Kinsale, he proved a blessing to the area. In January, he was hospitalized and suffered greatly until January 23, 1977, when he went home to glory. With no fear, but great expectation, he looked forward to this, another adventure. His body was willed to the Medical College of Virginia for research.

A memorial celebration was held at Carmel Church on January 31, with the following persons participating: The Rev. Eugene Carter, Rappahannock District Superintendent; the writer, who roomed with him at Randolph-Macon and Yale; the Rev. George Rickets, who succeeded him as Director of Chaplain Services; the Rev. Mrs. Leontine Kelly, a good friend and former neighbor; and his minister, the Rev. John G. Herring. There followed a time of fellowship in the Social Hall when friends from across the state shared experiences and rejoiced in having known this man of God.

To enumerate the events of his life falls far short of revealing his contribution to others. Early in life, Lee determined to make his life count for something, and count it did! Constantly he was on the "cutting edge" of great Christian concerns, be it racial equality, organization of labor, or relief work. He used his influence to halt massive resistance in education, neglect in state hospitals, cruelty in prisons,

and pretense and complacency in the church. He expressed his strong convictions freely. He valued human personality above everything else. He saw in everyone he met the Pearl of Great Price, the ability to truly be a son of God. His mission was to let the light shine through, as did the Master. Those with aching hearts and great sorrow found in him a friend. He saw the sick, the lonely, the mentally ill, the dejected, and violators of the law as sons of God standing in the need of salvation. He knew that help was available and he saw himself as a messenger of the Good News.

by James W. Smith, Jr.

Bernard Starr Via. Add faith, prayer, and hard work to a life well focused, and the Master's work goes on. Bernard S. Via focused in on the task at hand. He knew very little about hobbies, vacations, and short work days. His life was rich in the treasures peculiar to those who give themselves enthusiastically in loving service to others.

He was born on August 4, 1890, in Albemarle County, Va., eight miles north of Charlottesville, to James Dabney Via and his wife, Lettie Jane Hall Via. His early life was lived in Charlottesville, where he attended public schools and later the University of Virginia. At the age of seven, he joined First Church, Charlottesville. His early life was filled with the activities of Sunday School, Rosebud Missionary Society, Epworth League, baseball, and helping in his father's grocery store.

In the class of 1913, admitted On Trial into the Virginia Conference, he was one of two person who had had college training. His first appointment was Rapidan Circuit in Madison County. He covered the circuit of four churches on horseback and sometimes by buggy. In 1915, he entered the newly founded Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia. While in seminary, on December 28, 1916, he married Gladys Armen Hawkins of Charlottesville, a union which lasted over sixty years and produced four sons.

After graduation from seminary, he was appointed to Culpeper, which was followed by assignments to Trinity, Lynchburg; Crozet; Oaklette; back to Trinity for a second appointment; Crenshaw Memorial, Blackstone; director of development for Blackstone College; Larchmont; Duncan Memorial and Chaplain at Randolph-Macon College; Grace Church (now Noland Memorial), Newport News; Granbery, Covington; and Superintendent of the Charlottesville District.

In 1948, Bishop W. W. Peele appointed him to be the first administrator of the newly authorized Virginia Methodist Home for the Aged. Under his leadership, the work expanded to other areas. In addition to the Hermitage in Richmond and the Snyder Home in South Richmond, the work grew to include the Hermitage in Northern Virginia at Alexandria, and Hermitage on the Eastern Shore at Onancock. After his retirement as executive director of the homes in 1963, the Roanoke Home and the Lydia Roper Home joined the unified system of conference facilities for the aging.

In addition to being an advisor, who aided in the establishment of several homes in the Southeast, he was a member of the Virginia State Commission on the Aging and a consultant of the Federal Housing Program for the aged. In 1955, Randolph-Macon honored him by awarding him the doctor of divinity degree.

His transfer to the church triumphant came on February 18, 1977. Ginter Park United Methodist Church in Richmond was the setting for the funeral service, conducted by the Rev. C. Bailey Jones, the Rev. C. Warner Crumb, and the Rev. Godfrey L. Tate, Jr. Interment was in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Richmond.

Jesus said, "I am among you as one who serves." (Luke 22:27) For those who would seriously follow, the Master also reminded, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross daily and follow me." (Luke 9:23)

This writer bears testimony to the devoted faithfulness of this worker's labor of love. He pressed on unswerving, committed, energetic, with a twinkle in his eye and a smile on his face. The way was long and productive, and the results were exceedingly good.

by Bernard S. Via, Jr.

Jaynie Wade Core. "Praise the Lord!" were words which frequently crossed Jaynie's lips. And she meant it! When a friend dropped by—or the youth choir sang well—or someone bore witness to God's work in his life, she just had to express her gratitude.

For Jaynie Wade Core was a special person--made special by the wonders which God had worked in her own life and which she felt called by Him to proclaim. For her, God was the author of every good thing. Nor did she cease to believe this when her illness began to take a larger and larger toll on her energies and body. She wanted to be well, to stop suffering, but she could trust God for that since, more than that, He would make her whole.

Jaynie was born on June 21, 1917, in Cambria, Montgomery County, Va., the daughter of Winfield Scott Wade, who survives her, and Cuba Hurt Wade, deceased. As a child, she joined the Church of the Nazarene and was never to lose her love for the church. In September of 1940, she married Joseph M. Core, a salesman for the Great Atlantic Tea Company. But God had other plans for Joe and Jaynie which were to become known to them years later. In the meantime, Jaynie helped Joe to love the three step-children who came into her life along with Joe, in addition to the child which was theirs together, and sixteen grandchildren.

When Joe was called to the ministry of the Methodist Church in 1951, Jaynie was not so sure that the parsonage life was for her. And then God called her, too! She was licensed to preach in 1962 and ordained a Deacon in 1969. Joe says, "She had a tremendous love for the Methodist Church."

They became partners in the ministry, with Jaynie serving as Joe's associate at the Gladys Charge on the Lynchburg District and at Rockingham Court in Roanoke. She also served as pastor of the Mosely-Trinity Charge. Her reputation, closely guarded by her, was that she was "never critical of people," although, she confessed, "Like one bishop said, 'there've been some mighty close calls!'" Rather, she tried to find something good in everyone. Probably closest to her heart were her young people. Youth work always flourished in the charges where she and Joe served. It's no wonder that, when a Service of Celebration in her memory was held at Mount Pleasant Church, Roanoke, on February 23, 1977, that the youth choir sang her favorite song, "You Cannot Out-love the Lord"--for she had tried to do just that. Gathered around her family that day, too, were the host of friends who more than filled the church and listened to the senior choir sing what must been her words of assurance to them all, "Because He Lives, I, Too, Shall Live."

Jaynie had died on February 21, 1977; and now it was our turn, as we thought of her, to say, "Praise the Lord!"

by M. Douglas Newman

Harold Frederick Kirby passed away March 3, 1977, at 47 years of age. Rev. Kirby was born April 24, 1930, in Grafton, W.Va. After graduating from the Grafton High School, he entered the United States Army where he served for the next sixteen and one-half years. Rev. Kirby served his country in the Far East, Korea, and Europe.

On June 8, 1954, Harold was married to Evelyn Lake of Fairmont, W.Va., and from this marriage came three children, Lois, Michael, and David.

Following his discharge from the Army, Harold entered the ministry of the United Methodist Church. His first appointment was to the Glen Ferris Church in Glen Ferris, W.Va., June, 1962. Rev. Kirby came to the Virginia Conference in June 1965, when he was appointed to the Huddleston Charge in Bedford County. During his ministry in Huddleston, the churches grew, and a new parsonage was planned and built. From Huddleston Harold was sent to Anderson Memorial in Gretna, Va., where he served for the next four years. Upon leaving Gretna and the Lynchburg District, Harold assumed his duties at Kenwood Church in the Petersburg District. Following Kenwood came his move to Foundry Church on the Norfolk District, where he served until December 31, 1975, when he was forced to assume disability retirement.

Rev. Kirby was an Associate Member of the Virginia Conference and was ordained a Deacon in 1968. Harold Kirby was one of many men of the Virginia Conference who furthered his education at the Pastors' School at Duke University. Harold completed his work at the Pastor's School at Duke and received the Certificate of Attainment. During his time at Duke, he served the school as Secretary of the Student Body and as Vice-President. During his year as Vice-President, his responsibility included the planning and staffing of all the worship services held every morning during the month long school session.

As a pastor, Harold was a true and devoted friend and wise counselor. To his

ministerial companions, he proved to be a most reliable and trusted confidante. His calm approach and quiet steady counsel will be missed by many, especially the writer of this memoir. His ability to pick up the very heart of any matter was truly a gift, and his ability to lead others will be remembered by many. Though he be out of sight and sound and touch, his influence will remain in the hearts and minds of his family, parishioners, and many friends.

by Richard E. Norris

Minutes for 1978. Archie Everett Acey. Anne loaned me her father's Bible--used, worn, tattered, and falling apart. The fly leaf showed that it cost \$2.00. When did so little produce so much? Above the title "Genesis" were listed fifteen dates signifying that many times this Bible had been read through. Dr. Acey was a man of the Book. There he found God, Christ, the Holy Spirit and his marching orders.

Born in Mathews County, Va., February 9, 1896, he was a son of Thomas and Annie E. (Cray) Acey. Completing one year at William and Mary College, he left to serve his country as First Lieutenant with the A.E.F. in France. Returning, he entered Randolph-Macon College to prepare for the ministry. He was an excellent student, a member of the Glee Club, Clericus, Student Deputation, and Sigma Phi Epsilon Social Fraternity. He graduated in 1926 with an A.B. Degree, and the College later conferred on him a Doctorate of Divinity. He earned his Bachelor of Divinity at Duke Divinity School.

Ordained an Elder in the Virginia Conference of the Methodist Church in 1930, he blessed the following churches with his deep dedication, cultivation of the inner spiritual life, sincerity of purpose, well prepared and delivered sermons, love of his people and devoted pastoral care: Assistant at Mount Vernon, Danville; Watson Memorial, Chatham; Main Street, Emporia; Memorial, Berkley (Norfolk); Boulevard, Richmond; Main Street, Danville; Monumental, Portsmouth; Ghent, Norfolk; and Centenary, Lynchburg. He was District Superintendent of the Danville District.

Dr. Acey inspired youth by the hundreds, challenging them to church related vocations and active lay participation. He taught, led singing, directed recreation and spoke wherever youth gathered. They loved him for his dedication, enthusiasm, contagious good humor and dynamic personality.

Evangelism was the passion of his soul. He served as Executive Secretary of Evangelism of the Virginia Conference, as Chairman of Evangelism of the Southeastern Jurisdiction and as a member of the General Board, once representing the Church and this board on a "round the World" evangelizing tour. The conference honored him by electing him twice to General Conference and six times to Jurisdictional Conference. He was a Trustee of Ferrum College. He was a Mason (32), a Kiwanian, and a Lion. His gold enabled him to keep his body as a fit temple of the Lord.

His ministry was the greater because his family was an integral part. His wife, Eugenia Franklin Long, was personable, lovable, motherly, creative, and equally dedicated. They reared two fine children who carry on beautifully this fine tradition: Miss Anne Acey, Special Assistant to the President of Ferrum College, and Dr. Alfred E. Acey, a Professor at Randolph-Macon College.

After retirement, Dr. and Mrs. Acey moved to Ferrum where he became Supply Pastor of St. James Church. Thrilled with the awakening interest in Appalachia, he became Curator of the Museum of Mountain Lore, Blue Ridge Institute of Ferrum College.

He entered the Church Triumphant on June 13, 1977. His tired body was laid to rest beside that of his wife by the old St. James Church at Ferrum. Bishop W. Kenneth Goodson, Dr. Joseph T. Hart, Dr. Beverly Felty, and the Rev. Seneca Foote and Herbert Hobbs conducted the Memorial Service. It was a beautiful celebration of a life gloriously lived.

Edgar A. Potts

Earl Maynard Phlegar was born October 12, 1912, in Salem, Va. He left this life to go into the larger life June 17, 1977. It was Earl's deep desire never to retire, but to preach till the last breath was in him. He loved to preach the unsearchable riches in Jesus Christ and truly preached in the Spirit.

He was a real man of God and was loved by his wife, Anne, and their daughters, Joyce Terry, Faye Lawrence, and Patricia Shook. All of the congregations that he ever served loved him, and yet he always preached the truth of God fearlessly and courageously.

His last appointment was the New Bethel-Trinity Charge on the Lynchburg District. He had served previously as pastor of the North Mecklenburg Charge and before becoming an Associate Member of the Conference in 1969, had supplied South View and the New River-Mt. Tabor Charge on the Roanoke District and Nottoway on the Farmville District. He was ordained an Elder while on the Nottoway Charge in 1962.

Before becoming a minister, Earl worked as a machinist at Salem Foundry and Machine Works and then was promoted to an elevator mechanic. From there, he was made Field Supervisor for all the elevator works. Then God called him into the ministry, and, in a sense, he still stayed in the elevator business, for he lifted people up to God and into a higher realm of living.

His crowning achievement was that of preaching and talking to people about Christ. He loved the Lord and loved to share the Good News with others. He was a stranger to no one. He was loving and generous to children, youth and adults. Earl loved to help people and was always at the point of need for all of those under his care and for others with needs. One of the young people on his last work, through the medium of poetry, sums up Earl's life:

Once he was here and now he's gone,
But his memory lives on and on.
He was always a very good man;
Every time you met him, he held out his hand.
He never did anything wrong,
But did good things all day long.
Oh, he was a friend
Whom I could always put my trust therein.
I wished that he had stayed on,
But too late, he's gone.
Many times he told me a story,
Of how he would see Christ over in Glory.
Waiting time for him has past,
And he's with God now at last.---Teddie Reynolds

Earl was ill for about three weeks and passed away the next day after the 1977 Annual Conference which was held in Roanoke. While Annual Conference was in session, Earl was in the Roanoke Community Hospital, and he told me that his deepest desire was to attend Conference and to get back into the swing of things and to his churches. He loved the church and all for which it stands. Earl was a real soldier of the Cross, and he "fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness." (II Timothy 4:7,8) Earl did his part to make this a better world and to lead people into the security that is found only in the Lord. He will be long remembered by those who knew him and loved him. The church lost a great soldier, but the Church Triumphant was to receive a great one.

Trueman R. Tremble

Elmer Charles Lewis began his life on January 7, 1906, in Philadelphia, Penn., where he was born to Jennie Sinclair Lewis and Willis Arthur Lewis, a Methodist minister. He had two sisters, Helen and Una May, as well as a brother, Arthur W. Lewis, a retired New Jersey Superior Court Judge.

As he grew up in a Methodist parsonage, he was continually acquainted with the work of the church and made an early commitment to dedicate his life to serving it. He entered Asbury College at Wilmore, Kentucky, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree. The Doctor of Philosophy was conferred upon him by Milton University, Baltimore, Md. Colgate Divinity School, Rochester, N.Y., awarded him the Bachelor of Divinity.

Dr. Lewis was married to Elisabeth Heironimus July 30, 1930, at Shirley, Indiana. to this union two daughters were born: Mrs. Betty Lou Geer, of Hackensack, N.J., and Miss Jane Lewis, of McLean, Va. He had one grandson, Richard Geer.

He served the Methodist Church as a minister for more than forty years in several conferences. His first assignment was at Jaspar, N.Y., in 1929. Subsequent charges included: Albany, Bowmansville, Buffalo and Gloversville, all in New York. He served congregations at Englewood and Rutherford in New Jersey. During his tenure at Englewood, he was appointed as a delegate to a World-wide Ecumenical Conference in England.

This led to a six-week exchange of pulpits with a Rev. Wade, the pastor of Kenton Methodist Church, near London.

His service in the Virginia Conference began immediately following the end of World War II with an appointment to Arlington United Methodist Church. Next he assumed the St. Andrews Charge in Alexandria and finally terminated his active ministry in 1971, with nine years' service to Oakton United Methodist Church.

Elmer Lewis served his church well and was deeply dedicated to pastoral ministry, seeming more willing to serve than be served. He was greatly appreciated for his untiring visits and for his manner and willingness in counseling with those troubled by the problems so many of God's children face today.

During his latter years in the active ministry, he experienced some of the frailties of the human body when it was determined that he had a malingering illness. Notwithstanding, he never gave up, nor did his faith and trust in his Lord ever leave him.

Upon his retirement at Oakton in 1971, Dr. and Mrs. Lewis settled down in a little cottage by the sea at Hernando Beach, Florida. There, he never relinquished his dedication to serve God and became engaged in visitation work to assist the pastor of a local congregation and a long-time personal friend of the Lewises. He was "drafted" into the Hernando Beach Yacht Club to serve as the Chaplain.

Dr. Lewis never faltered in his faith, and he told this writer during the final days of his life that he was prepared for a long and peaceful rest. This was accomplished in the presence of his family on the morning of June 20, 1977, when God called him home.

His funeral service was conducted by Dr. Paul Clemons, his personal friend of long-standing in the ministry, and he was laid to rest in Grace Memorial Mausoleum in Aripeka, Florida.

Arthur E. Bonnet

Lanneau Hartennui Davis, fourth son of Eliza MacDuffy and Dandy Davis, was born on May 11, 1900, in Marion, S.C. He was educated in the public schools of S.C. and attended Benedict College, in Columbia, S.C. He attended the Howard University Seminary and Ministerial School at Harpers Ferry.

He was united in holy matrimony to Marie Louise Banks, of Pittsburgh, Penn., on July 27, 1943. Rev. Davis led an active, full, dedicated life. He entered the itinerant ministry in 1942, at Moorefield, W.Va. He served charges in the Washington Annual Conference in W.Va., Maryland, and Penn. for a period of 17 years, and in the Virginia Annual Conference for a period of 14 years. Thus, having served his Master successfully as God's Circuit Rider, he retired in 1974 from the Winchester District of the Virginia Conference.

A devoted husband, loving father and grandfather, dedicated Christian, and concerned friend who lived to help others will be dearly missed. We realize that to live is to go on a long journey and to die is to come back home. He has gone home to hear those great words of our Lord, "Well done, good and faithful servant...enter into the joy of the Master."

He leaves to mourn their loss a devoted wife, Marie Louise; a loving son, Lanneau H. Davis, Jr.; a daughter-in-law, Loretta Selena; two grandsons, Justin LaMont and Baby Lanneau Ellsworth Anthony; one brother, Charles Davis; three sisters, Mrs. Irene Shaw, Mrs. Mable Ford, and Mrs. Clara Taylor; and a host of nephews, nieces, colleagues, and friends.

"Dear Lord, if indeed I am Thine,
If Thou art my sun and my song,
Say, why do I languish and pine,
And why are these winters so long?
O drive these dark clouds from my sky,
Thy soul cheering presence restore
Or take me with Thee up on high,
Where winter and clouds are no more."

Funeral services were held at the Saint Matthews United Methodist Church, Baltimore, Md., on August 8, 1977. Interment was in Arbutus Cemetery. **Mrs. Wilhelmina Harris Murray Allen Carson**. The life of the church is often enriched by the inclusion of

those who come out of other branches of Christendom to do ministry as United Methodists. Such is our debt to Murray Allen Carson.

Born at Island Falls, Maine, January 14, 1911, to Mr. and Mrs. James DeLance Carson, who had come to the United States from Canada, Murray later lived in London, Ontario, until he was 12 years of age. His family then moved back to the United States and settled in Endicott, N.Y.

Murray's education after the completion of his elementary grades was earned at the Wyoming Seminary Preparatory School. He then enrolled in the Northern Baptist Seminary, in Chicago. While serving Madison Heights, he attended Lynchburg College and received his Associate of Arts degree from Averett College in Danville.

For a number of years, Murray worked as a business man in insurance and accounting holding a number of positions in the Portsmouth, Va., area. During those years, he met and married Miss Helen Hope Carter in 1937. To this union were born three lovely children: Ann Elizabeth, Louis Allen, and Kathleen Marie.

Murray was ordained a minister in the Christian (Disciples) Church at Park View Christian Church, Portsmouth, Va., in 1950. He began serving at the First Christian Church, Brunswick, Ga., that year. During the ensuing eight years, he also served Christian Churches in Walterboro, S.C.; Narrows, Va.; and Madison Heights, Va.

Murray united with the United Methodist Church in 1958 and entered the ministry of the Virginia Annual Conference in Full Connection in 1962. His appointments in the Virginia Conference were: Union Church, Halifax; Mount Olivet, Danville; Matoaca, Petersburg; Huguenot Road, Richmond; New Kent; Cheriton; Associate Pastor, Saint Paul's, Woodbridge; Bethany, Purcellville; and Francis Asbury, Virginia Beach.

In 1973, declining health forced Murray to request disability leave. He moved to our retirement home in Suffolk, where he became an active participant in the life of Main Street Church and assisted in filling vacant pulpits on the Portsmouth District.

Throughout the years of his ministry, Murray remained a serious student of the Word and theological subjects. His studies led him to pursue a course which produced at least two manuscripts of major Biblical inquiry which have yet to be published.

Murray was a man of deep concern for his fellow man and one whose friendly spirit endeared him to people everywhere he went. He was compelled by a sense of vocation. He knew his Lord and was willing to pay the price to proclaim the unsearchable riches of the Gospel. He was also a builder of churches and parsonages. A lively interest in architecture led to the establishment of a number of monuments to his ministry across the Virginia Conference.

Having waged a prolonged battle for his health, Murray succumbed to the ravages of disease on September 19, 1977. Funeral services were conducted at the Main Street Church, Suffolk, two days later by the Rev. Robert D. Fridley, his pastor, and Dr. Carl Wrenn Haley, his District Superintendent, with the interment in the Olive Branch Cemetery, in Portsmouth, Va.

"Well done, thou good and faithful servant! Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

Carl Wrenn Haley

Floyd Alexander Duncan, who was born September 8, 1915, was truly a dedicated minister. After graduation from high school in his native Lincolnton, N.C., he prepared for his work by attending college for two years at Brevard, followed by two additional years at Wofford College where he received his A.B. degree in 1938. For his professional training, he studied at Duke University, taking his B.D. degree from that institution in 1941. He was a Major, serving as Chaplain A.U.S., 1942-1947, ETO. He completed his postgraduate work at Union Theological Seminary, New York City, in 1946.

Mr. Duncan married Anne Hovey on June 21, 1958. They have three children, Mary Elizabeth, John Hovey, and Julia Anne. He completed the required steps leading to full association with the Virginia Conference, being ordained Deacon in the Conference in 1941, Elder in 1942, and advanced to Full Connection in 1947.

Mr. Duncan began his pastoral work at the Chester-Ivey Charge in Va., where he served from 1946 to 1950. He was out of the State of Virginia during the 1950-52 term serving the Croton Avenue Church in New Castle, Penn. Leaving there, he continued his ministry at New Martinsville, W.Va., from 1952 to 1955. He was the organizing pastor

of Devon Park Methodist Church, Wilmington, N.C., from 1955 to 1957. He then returned to Virginia, serving at Ridgeway for the term 1960 to 1962.

He served at Harmony Church, Hamilton, Va., from 1962 to 1965. From Harmony, he went to Aldersgate Church in Norfolk for four years, and to Cape Charles, Va., for two years. He then served Bethany Church at Purcellville, Va., for three years, after which he occupied the pulpit at Faith Church in Alexandria for two years. He completed his career at Wakefield, where his work was terminated by death on the 31st day of December, 1977. Funeral services were held in Lincolnton, N.C., on January 3, 1978. A memorial service was held at Wakefield, Va., on January 15, 1978.

Mr. Duncan was a man of uncompromising principle and unwavering devotion to his church. He was a minister and pastor of unusual ability. He was truly a student of the Bible, Christian literature, and theology. In Mr. Duncan, the cause of Christ had a very able and sincere advocate. Those who heard him regularly often expressed themselves as seldom, if ever, having heard any minister who preached a higher grade of sermons Sunday after Sunday. He never brought to his parishioners anything but the finest, well prepared messages. His average sermons were excellent, and he never performed below that average. It was a joy and inspiration to hear him.

Mr. Duncan was a devoted husband and father. His wife and children survive. Surely the sadness of his death, through God's mercy and love, will, as time passes, be merged with loving memories of a warm, generous, kind, and companionable husband and father, a fine gentleman, and a dedicated Christian.

Carlton E. Holladay
Graham Sherwood Carlton. On January 19, 1978, the Rev. Graham Sherwood Carlton, ministerial member of the Virginia Conference for 54 years, struck tent and departed in the 76th year of his age. He was born in Dinwiddie County, Va., May 19, 1901, the son of Claudius Fletcher and Lora Bugg Carlton. While Graham was just an infant, his family moved to Boykins, Va., and he grew up there and was educated in the schools of Southampton County. As a young man, he worked for the Seaboard Railroad until he entered the ministry.

At an early age, he united with the Boykins Methodist Church and became active in its affairs. The time came when he was not content just to work in the Epworth League, teach in the Sunday School, and hold prayer meetings. He felt that God wanted him for a larger work, but he did not immediately respond to the call. He wanted to be sure. After much thought and prayer, and after talking many times with his pastor, the Rev. L.R. Black, who gave him encouragement and invaluable help, he became convinced that God had laid His hand upon him and called him to preach the Gospel. He was received into the Conference On Trial in 1924. In 1926, he was ordained a Deacon and received into Full Connection. In 1928, he was ordained an Elder.

On October 22, 1924, he married Miss Leone Hines, also of Boykins. This union was blessed with a daughter, Mrs. Christine Wilcox, of Newport News, and a son, Robert G. Carlton, of Chesapeake. Leone gave him great inspiration and sympathetic support until her death on May 29, 1961. On September 15, 1962, he married Miss Virginia Barrett, of Portsmouth, who survives him.

Graham was a hard working pastor. He visited from house to house and ministered to the spiritual needs of his people. The churches prospered under his leadership. The spacious and beautiful sanctuary of Virginia Beach Church was begun and almost completed while he was the pastor of that church. While serving as pastor of Cottage Place Church in Portsmouth, he started a Sunday School and held Sunday afternoon services in the Westhaven section of that city. This effort culminated in the organization of West End Church.

He had strong convictions about right and wrong and about how Christians ought to live, and he did not hesitate to express those convictions from the pulpit, in ministerial meetings, and in private conversations. If he believed something to be wrong, he took his stand against it, regardless of who might be for it. He vigorously opposed any action or conduct which he felt would lessen the moral impact and diminish the spiritual strength of the church.

Graham loved to preach. With him, Gospel preaching was a glorious passion. His sermons were well prepared and delivered with earnestness and feeling. He greatly

enjoyed helping his brethren in revival services, and he preached in more than one hundred such meetings.

In 1967, he retired from the active ministry, but he continued to supply churches and preach on Sunday as long as he was physically able.

I knew Graham Carlton for 45 years, and I have never known a finer gentleman or a more dedicated Christian.

The funeral service was held in West End Church in Portsmouth, conducted by the Rev. Donald H. Traylor and the writer. We laid his body to rest in the cemetery in Boykins, but his spirit had already "Winged its flight to Realms of Day" and joined company with many others "Whom we have loved long since and lost a while."

C. Traynham Topping

George Wiley Burroughs was born on July 15, 1908, the son of George Dillon and Maggie Garthright Burroughs. His gifts were such that he was a natural leader with great strength of personality; first in the business world, and then as he was called to the ministry.

He married Harriet E. Curtis on June 6, 1951, and they have one son, Joseph Frederick Burroughs, of Richmond. Both survive him. Harriet was his great supporter and companion through the difficult as well as good days, and George gave her credit for helping to direct his life to the "noble highway!"

George was capable of intense relationship with those to whom he could give his trust. I entered that arena of friendship with him both as a brother pastor and as his District Superintendent.

His education was received at the University of Richmond, T. C. Williams Law School, Union Theological Seminary, Duke University, and Yale University. I had the privilege to sit on the committee for his oral examination for a Master's degree in Psychology at Richmond Professional Institute, now Virginia Commonwealth University.

George was licensed to preach in 1955; he was On Trial in 1956 and became an Elder in 1960. He served the following churches: Spotsylvania Charge, 1956-57; Associate Pastor, Park Place Church, Norfolk, 1957-58; Bishop Memorial, Richmond, 1958-63; Victoria, 1963-67; McGuire Park, Richmond, 1967-70; First Church, Winchester, 1970-73; Nolard Memorial, Newport News, 1973-75; and Central Church, Richmond, 1975-78.

George had a victorious experience over the use of alcohol. He knew what it meant to sing:

"Amazing grace! how sweet the sound

That saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now am found,

Was blind, but now I see."--John Newton

After that great spiritual experience, he remembered the needs of those who struggled in circumstances he had known so well. He was the founder of the Richmond Council on Alcoholism, co-founder and executive director from 1960 to 1966 of the Norfolk Council on Alcoholism, and co-founder of the Virginia Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, Inc.

George was the author of a book, Spiritually Oriented Counseling and Psychotherapy in Problems of Alcoholism, and a contributing author of Direct Psychotherapy. He received the National Council on Alcoholism, Inc.'s Bronze Key award in 1974.

At the heart of his service, he had the spirit of a pastor. I have known him to go to unusual lengths, with Harriet's support, to help persons in great need. Surely he will meet these whom he befriended on the heavenly shores, and rejoice over the victories they obtained together.

George had a noble father's love for his son, Joe. What a joy it was for me to hear him as he dreamed dreams for Joe. His wife and son brought so much to his life, and he loved them for it.

At the memorial service for George on Sunday, January 29, 1978, at 3:00 p.m. in Central Church, where he served as the beloved pastor, four hymns were sung, "Jesus, Saviour, Pilot Me," "Amazing Grace," "His Eye Is on the Sparrow," and "Blessed Assurance." His biography could be written around these hymns. Dr. Harry B. Eaton and the Rev. E. Leon Smith were the ministers at the memorial service.

George served nobly in the church militant; we rejoice that he now serves in the church triumphant!

A. Purnell Bailey

William Peterson Watkins. At his death, the family received letters of condolences enumerating the qualities of his character. The attributes most commonly stated were: excellent preacher, scholar, thorough, forthright, and a lover of people. He was a very effective clergyman who served a long, productive ministry of over 46 years. His family knew him as an unselfish, loving husband and father.

William Peterson Watkins was born July 8, 1898, in Memphis, Tenn., to Dr. William Peterson Watkins and his wife, Sarah Elizabeth Moss Watkins. As the fifth child in a family of six, he often made calls with his father, a veterinarian. For years his family occupied an entire pew at First Methodist Church, Memphis.

He served in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War I. He was educated in the college, law school, and seminary of Emory University.

In 1925, he married Mary Ethel Graham, of Hamilton, Ga., and took an interim pastorate at Jarvis Memorial, Greenville, N.C. He then joined the North Carolina Conference and served Saint John's, Goldsboro; City Road, Elizabeth City; Chestnut Street, Lumberton; and the church at Morehead City.

In 1933, Bishop Edwin D. Mouzon brought him to the Virginia Conference. After serving Larchmont, Norfolk, he was appointed to Highland Park, Richmond. He was then 37 years old, serving one of the largest churches in the Virginia Conference. In a day before a generally highly educated clergy and P.A. systems, he was a person who had something to say, and he said it in a loud, clear voice.

After Highland Park, he served Ghent, Norfolk; Memorial, Lynchburg; Raleigh Court, Roanoke; First Church, Charlottesville; Peninsula District; Mount Vernon, Danville; and Clarendon, Arlington. He also served as a member of the Commission on World Service and Finance, when it was the chief financial agency for the Methodist Church. In 1953, Randolph-Macon College bestowed the Doctor of Divinity degree upon him.

Dr. and Mrs. Watkins were married 53 years. They had three sons: the Rev. William P. Watkins, Jr., of Arlington; Dr. Franklin P. Watkins, of Richmond, an orthopedic surgeon; and Walter Graham Watkins, of New York, a commercial artist.

After retirement in 1971, he and Mrs. Watkins lived in Richmond. On January 31, 1978, he died. His funeral was February 3, at Ginter Park Church, with interment at Forest Lawn. The two congregational hymns sung at the service typified his ministry: "God of Grace and God of Glory" and "O God, Our Help in Ages Past." His was a dedicated ministry that combined the prophetic with the pastoral.

In addition to being a gifted preacher, he was also a prolific letter writer. In a birthday letter to one of his grandchildren in 1974, he wrote, "I hope you live to be an old man with lots of grandchildren." He was 79 years old when he died, and he left six grandchildren.

This author bears witness to his ability to inspire. He was always steadfast in purpose; one who was loved as he loved.

William P. Watkins, Jr.

Durward Eugene Fox was born at Wolf Summit, W.Va., on December 19, 1918, to Layton and Lena McKinney Fox, and departed this life on February 1, 1978. He was married to Edith Bailey, of Salem, W.Va., on April 22, 1938, who survives and is now living in Front Royal, Va. Five children were born to this union: Phyllis Henry, Linda Underwood, and Durward E., Jr., all of Front Royal; Edward L., of Arlington, Va.; and Margaret Summers, of Basnettsville, W.Va. In addition, he is survived by two brothers: the Rev. Harry D. Fox, of Wolf Summit, and Edward L. Fox, of Clarsburg, W.Va.

Durward was educated in the public schools of W.Va. and was employed by the South Penn Oil Company until his conversion and call into full-time ministry. He received his ministerial training at Wesley Seminary, Washington, D.C., and in 1957 was assigned to the Hundred Circuit on the Wheeling District, serving there until 1960. He was assigned to the Basnettsville Charge on the Fairmont District and served there faithfully until 1963.

It was the privilege of this writer to have a close relationship with Durward and his family since 1960, as I was assigned to work next to him. In 1963, he transferred to the Virginia Conference and was appointed to the Warren Circuit. Other appointments in Virginia include Danville Circuit, Danville District (1969-72); Pamplin, Farmville District (1973-77); and he completed his ministry at the Good Hope Church, Chesapeake, on the Norfolk District. Although he was there only a short time, the people of the

church learned to love him and his family and regarded his ministry as one holding the promise of success.

His dedication to duty was an inspiration to all who knew him. For him to live was for Christ to be revealed. Kind, loving, and considerate of others, he could be characterized as a gentleman of the highest type, one who never neglected the work of the ministry.

To have known Durward was a great privilege, for he was indeed one of God's children and a noble minister of our Lord. He was beloved by young and old for his downright honesty of purpose. His sincerity to his calling could not be surpassed. He lived for his Lord, the church, and his family. Those who knew him best are convinced that a good man who is not great is infinitely more precious in the sight of God than a man who is not good. Durward was not only a good man, but a good preacher. He was never lured from the main business of preaching the Gospel by the irrelevant or the popular. He accepted the basic items of the Christian faith, because his knowledge of Christ was experienced and not "hear-say."

The Church on earth has lost a great warrior, but the Church Triumphant has received a great soul. The funeral service was held in Front Royal United Methodist Church on February 8, 1978, and was conducted by Dr. F. Douglas Dillard, Jr., Superintendent of the Norfolk District. Interment was in Prospect Hill Cemetery, Front Royal, Virginia.

It is the conviction of the writer that, when Durward appears before the throne of Christ to give an account of the deeds done in the body, this loyal minister, who "lived in the glorious certainty that he was doing the will of Christ," will hear the Master say: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

"Servant of God, well done!

Thy glorious warfare's past;

The battle's fought, the race is won,

And thou art crowned at last."

Carl E. Manear

Joseph Scott Crowder, Jr. If Joe Crowder could have had any voice in the writing of this memoir, he would surely have insisted that it be confined to bare biographical detail. These facts can be simply stated. Joe was born on May 12, 1919, in Washington, D.C., the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Scott Crowder and grandson of the Rev. Joseph Crowder, a member of the Virginia Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. His early years were spent in Charlottesville, Va., where he lived until his parents died when he was only twelve. He then returned to Washington where he was reared by a devoted aunt.

He was educated at Washington and Lee University (B.S. in Business Administration, 1939) and Candler School of Theology (B.D., 1944). On July 19, 1941, he was married to Frances Anderson, of Cartersville, Va.

Death occurred on February 21, 1978. Funeral services were held in Trinity Church, Alexandria, conducted by Bishop W. Kenneth Goodson, Dr. Paul D. Martin, and the writer. In addition to his wife, he is survived by one son, James Anderson Crowder. Another son, Joseph Scott Crowder, III, preceded him in death in 1976.

The scope of his competence is revealed by the broad spectrum of appointments he served: Batesville; West Dinwiddie; Shady Grove, Hanover; Trinity, Orange; Saint Mark's, Petersburg; Aldersgate, Hampton; River Road, Richmond; and since 1971, Administrator of The Hermitage in Northern Virginia. The high regard in which he was held by his peers is revealed by the fact that he was selected to serve as the president of the minister's association in each district in which he served.

These are the simple facts concerning his life, but these facts alone do not reveal and measure of the man. Surely we are compelled to remember those qualities that caused his life and ministry to leave an indelible mark for good upon the life of this conference.

One cannot think of Joe Crowder without remembering his integrity--his bedrock, untemperizing, unwavering integrity. It was this sense of integrity which in no small measure was responsible for his decision to enter the ministry. Following his graduation from college and before deciding to enter the ministry, Joe worked in a large hospital in Washington, and for one of the nation's major corporations. He once wrote

of his decision to become a minister in these words: "It was a combination of two things which led me into the ministry--intense dissatisfaction and an inescapable sense of responsibility. It always distressed me to see men of ability using their abilities for ends that really didn't matter much. I was dissatisfied with the prospect of spending my own life that way." One cannot think of Joe Crowder without thinking of integrity.

Again, across this conference there is a great multitude who will remember Joe's unusual capacity for friendship, a friendship that reached out to young and old, to people in all circumstances. It was a friendship prompted by that rare sensitivity to the needs of others that caused him to be there when we needed him most.

Most of all, one cannot remember Joe Crowder without remembering his unswerving faith. He was not a faith of pious platitudes or easy answers. It was a faith that had wrestled in complete intellectual honesty with the profound issues of pain and tragedy and death and grief and found God good. Two years ago Joe preached the memorial sermon at this annual conference. Speaking of those who had died that year, he declared, "This is the faith in which they lived and died. It is the faith in which we live, faith in the eternal goodness of God, that and that alone."

Each of us who knew Joe Crowder has his own special memories. The common thread that unites them all is gratitude to God for the impact of his life upon ours and that we will never forget.

R. Kern Eutsler

Lee Oscar Mortzfeldt was only eight years old when he decided he wanted to be a minister. It was a good many years later when that decision became a reality. He was born in Cumberland, Md., on March 25, 1916, the son of John and Leah Mortzfeldt. He attended the public schools of Cumberland and in 1942 received the Bachelor of Arts degree at Shepherd College, Shepherdstown, W.Va. He later attended Washington and Lee University, 1942-45.

His earlier desire to become a minister became a reality when, from 1937 to 1941, he served as minister of the Waterford, Va., Methodist Church. Other churches that he served included Fairfield, 1941-45; Epworth, in Covington, 1945-50; Middleburg, 1950-54; Grace, Manassas, 1954-58; Fairmount Park, Norfolk, 1958-61; Chestnut Avenue, Newport News, 1961-65; Miles Memorial, Norfolk, 1965-69; First Church, Norfolk, 1969-74; and Boulevard, Richmond, 1974-78.

Lee was to his congregations "the shepherd of his flock" who knew the members of his congregation and kept in friendly touch with them. He was an excellent preacher who used plain, simple language to express deep emotional feeling. He was a good husband who considered his wife Dorothy a very important partner in his ministry. Husband and wife were a team in their pastoral visitation. Lee Mortzfeldt and Dorothy Jean Lee had married early in his ministry, on August 14, 1937.

Among many accomplishments, he was justly proud of being a member of the debating team of Allegheny High School, in Cumberland, Md., and the debating team of Shepherd College. Because of Lee Mortzfeldt's natural interest in evangelism and missions, he was called upon to serve as a member of the Virginia Conference Board of Evangelism and also the Conference Board of Missions. He also served as Missionary Secretary of the Peninsula District when he was pastor of the Chestnut Avenue Church in Newport News.

After a lingering illness in the hospital, Lee reported for service in the Eternal City on March 23, 1978. Survivors, besides his wife, Dorothy, are his father, O. J. Mortzfeldt, and a sister, Mrs. W. R. Nield, Jr. The latter two are residents of Cumberland, Md.

The funeral service was held at Boulevard United Methodist Church, where he was concluding a very successful pastorate of four years, until interrupted by illness and death. The service was led by Bishop W. Kenneth Goodson, District Superintendent Dr. Harry B. Eaton, and the writer of this memorial, Dr. Herbert E. Hudgins, a retired minister serving as Minister of Visitation at Boulevard Church.

Burial was in Sunset Memorial Park, Cumberland, Md.

Herbert E. Hudgins

Clarence England was easy to know and easy to love. You merely responded to his love for you. The longer you knew him, the more you loved him. No wonder his wife, Louise, loved him so! His love for her grew through the years. Their love for one another was beautiful to behold. But then, all who truly knew him loved him.

He was born in Hanover County, Va., June 25, 1897. He was educated at Randolph-Macon College, Ashland, and Union Theological Seminary, Richmond. But his education continued through the years. He was a student and a scholar. His sermons reflected these characteristics. His messages were meticulously prepared and well delivered. He was considered by those who were able to compare his sermons with some of our best pulpit men as among the best. He spoke with a confidence and an assurance. He had gone into the laboratory of life and put into practice the principles of Jesus. He knew they worked. When he spoke, it was with a quiet assurance and an unassuming authority. If he had a fault, it was that he was too unassuming for his own good. Like John the Baptist of old, he took the position that he must decrease in order to increase the influence of his Lord and Master, Jesus Christ. This was his way of life, and by his choice. Those who had the privilege of having him as a minister appreciated it and felt their lives enriched by his.

The Rev. John Teter said at his funeral that, like Saint Francis of Assisi, when he walked into your midst, he brought something of the spirit of God with him. He lived his faith, and those who knew him loved him for it.

He had a keen sense of humor, but it was always in the spirit of love. His humor never carried a hidden barb for anyone. He never intentionally allowed anyone to suffer at his expense.

He served churches in Goochland, Mathews, Gloucester Counties, Richmond, Keysville, Bowling Green, Portsmouth, Petersburg, and Smithfield. He retired in 1963 and lived in Norfolk ten years and in Richmond five.

He was the son of Joseph Fleming England and Mary Ellen Brooks England. He had one brother, Fleming White England, a Methodist minister, also. He is survived by his widow, Louise Brooks England, to whom he was married on December 1, 1920; a son, C. Fleming England; two daughters, Mrs. Russell J. Terpenney and Mrs. Martin H. Kerns; and five grandchildren.

His victory service was held at Ginter Park United Methodist Church, Richmond, Tuesday, March 28, 1978. Interment was in Sunset Memorial Park, Chester, Va.

C. Ambrose Turner, Jr.

Paul Elwood Trimpey. "Forty-one years a Methodist minister." He had it engraved on his tombstone! He was proud to be one, and died an itinerant at the age of 70.

Paul E. Trimpey was born March 13, 1908, in Somerset, Penn. He was the son of John F. and Bertha Snyder Trimpey. Paul grew up in Somerset and during high school days felt the call to preach. He enrolled in West Virginia Wesleyan and graduated in 1928. He then entered Garrett Biblical Institute, Evanston, Ill., and received his theological degree in 1932. He was received into the Pittsburgh Conference On Trial that year and in 1934, was ordained an Elder by Bishop Adna Wright Leonard and received into Full Connection.

He served in the Pittsburgh Conference from 1932-43, then, due to a heart condition, was granted the Supernumerary Relationship. In 1946, he returned to the pastorate and served in Berlin, Penn., until 1948. From 1949-51, he was a member of the West Virginia Conference and in 1951, transferred to the Virginia Conference and served the following appointments: Lunenburg-Kenbridge, 1951-53; (his heart condition again required his becoming a Supernumerary until 1956) Edgemont, 1956-59; Port Republic, 1959-64; Beverley Street, Staunton, 1964-68; Melrose Avenue, Roanoke, 1968-76. In 1976, he was appointed to Eagle Rock, where he was serving at the time of his death.

In March, a deteriorating condition caused him to undergo open-heart surgery in Fort Wayne, Indiana. He was recovering satisfactorily when complications from a diabetic condition caused his death on Sunday, April 2, 1978. His funeral was held in the Melrose Avenue Church on Thursday, April 6, at 10:00 a.m., and, at his request, was conducted by his District Superintendent, the Rev. James L. Duley, and the writer. He was buried in Husband, Penn.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Lila Francisco Trimpey; his son, John Paul; his daughter, Amy; and two sisters, Mrs. David Gosser and Mrs. Martha Mazzulo.

Paul Trimpey was an humble man. He never sought preferment or position. He was a patient man for, though life dealt with him harshly many times, he was uncomplaining and never succumbed to self-pity, bitterness, or rancor. In counseling, he was

understanding and compassionate. Ambition for worldly gain seemed not to enter his mind. His chief desire was to preach and to shepherd the flock of Christ. At these he succeeded! As an heir of our tradition, he sounded the clear, Scriptural call to holy living. He did it with integrity and manliness. He spoke gently but earnestly to his people about their need to seek and meet Christ, and he presented Christ in the homes of his flock. He visited in each church home at least once a year and was an indefatigable hospital visitor.

Paul's ministry was a testimonial to the fact that when one answers Christ's call, he can count on the Saviour's presence and power to sustain, and on grace sufficient to endure heart-ache and keep life sweet and redemptive. The Gospel is true! Among its most precious promises is this one: "Be thou faithful until death, and I will give thee a crown of life."

Ferd Wagner

Horace Emerson Cromer. Many ministers in the Virginia Conference today never had the opportunity to know Horace Emerson Cromer, one of our most winsome and effective preachers. Born on December 14, 1888, in Bradford, Ohio, the second of five sons, to Dr. Peyton Cromer, a physician, and his wife, Lucella, his primary and secondary education was received in the public schools and at Whittenburg College, Springfield, Ohio. The University of Ohio awarded him the B.S., B.A., and M.A. degrees. Graduate studies were pursued at Columbia University and the University of Chicago.

On June 25, 1913, he married Grace Marie Grove. They have two children: Horace Emerson Cromer, Jr., M.D., and Mrs. Walter K. Long (Alice), both of Austin, Texas. There are four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Before entering the ministry, Dr. Cromer had a career in education and business. He taught in the Newark, Ohio, High School, served as Dean of Men at Berea College in Kentucky, and was Superintendent of Schools at New Vienna, Ohio. Moving his family to Petersburg, Va., he entered the hardware business. During this period, he was a Sunday School teacher at High Street Church, an experience which led to the ministry.

Admitted On Trial in the Virginia Conference in 1922, he was appointed to Williamsburg. There he led in the building of a new church, helped found the Chamber of Commerce, and had an important role in initiating the restoration of Colonial Williamsburg. Succeeding pastorates included Main Street, Suffolk (1927-31); Trinity, Salisbury, Md. (1931-33); and Farmville (1933-35).

In 1935, Bishop Edwin D. Mouzon transferred him to Washington, D.C., where he served seventeen years: Emory (1935-40); Washington East District (1940-46) during the period of transition following Unification; and McKendree (1946-52). During Dr. Cromer's pastorate at Emory, the writer came to know him as a friend and as a model in the ministry. Returning to Virginia, he was pastor of Monumental, Portsmouth (1952-56) and Highland Park, Richmond (1956-59). After retiring in June 1959, he continued to live in Richmond, serving Skipwith (1959-63) during the building of a new church; and as parish minister at Centenary (1963-68).

Dr. Cromer's leadership was recognized. He was a 32nd Degree Mason. American University, Washington, D.C., where he was a Trustee for approximately twenty years, conferred the Doctor of Divinity degree. The Baltimore Conference elected him once to General Conference and twice to Jurisdictional Conferences. He was substitute Chaplain of the United States Senate, both under Peter Marshall and Frederick Brown Harris. Throughout his career, he was interested in young people and participated in their conferences. Many remember with inspiration his story of Pee Wee Morgan.

Essentially a family man, his interests included a wide range of reading in the classics, poetry, history and detective stories; also, he was involved in sports: baseball, football, tennis, and golf. But his greatest satisfaction came through touching lives for Christ and helping individuals solve their personal problems.

Ten years ago, Dr. and Mrs. Cromer moved to Austin, Texas, to be near their children. After a long illness, he died on April 14, 1978, at the age of 89. In a graveside service, Dr. George M. Ricker, pastor of the University United Methodist Church, Austin, gave a fitting tribute to the ministry of Dr. Cromer. Referring to churches served, sermons preached, classes taught, lectures given, people counseled, administrative decisions made and baptisms, weddings and funerals performed, he declared: "All these are part of the past and yet live on in the lives of the people

touched." So the ministry of Horace Emerson Cromer lives on in the lives of the people he touched for Christ.

Walter M. Lockett, Jr.

Eugene Rudolph Thayer. On June 12, 1898, in Garrett County, Md., Eugene Rudolph Thayer began his journey on earth which would span nearly eighty years. Born the son of William M. and Frances Beckman Thayer, he was prepared for the life the Lord had planned through both training at home and his experiences on the farm and in his father's general store and post office.

A graduate of the public schools in Garrett County and Oakland, Md., he studied business at Blue Ridge College in New Windsor, Md. At this time, he began to see the direction of his life was to follow and chose to attend Asbury College and Asbury Seminary.

Mr. Thayer was appointed to the Cowen Circuit of The W.Va. Conference of the Methodist Church in the fall of 1930. This was a year of most importance because on December 30, 1930, he married the former Nida E. Haskins of Wichita, Kansas. This was a union the Lord used to richly bless those attending their churches. Mrs. Thayer was afflicted with asthma from childhood, but was constantly at her husband's side performing the many duties only a pastor's wife knows. Their ministry led them to Dearborn, W.Va., and Staunton, Hillsboro, Danville, McLean, Arcola and North Garden, Va.

Retiring in 1964, they moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico, where they lived until Mrs. Thayer's death in January, 1966. He then returned to Garrett County, Md., but poor health made it impossible for him to continue the work necessary to keep a garden and yard in the manner to which he was accustomed. In 1976, he moved to Harrisonburg, Va., where he lived with the writer and his family until his death on May 7, 1978.

Mr. Thayer's love and appreciation for God's handiwork in nature led to annual visits to the Southwest and West, in search of the many wonders to be seen. His two trips to the Holy Land greatly enriched his life, and through his sermons, many were made intimately familiar with those paths where Christ and his disciplines had walked and taught.

Privileged to know Mr. Thayer for over forty years, first as a member of his church and Sunday School class and throughout the remainder of his life, I believe I can best sum up this man the Lord chose to teach his word with this account. On the margin of a much used and worn New Testament presented to him in December, 1927, are these words: "Lord, this is my contract. April 23, 1934." This passage of scripture is encircled, Romans 12: 1,2:

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God."

The Rev. Eugene R. Thayer fulfilled his part of this contract by word, deed, and example until his death on May 7, 1978. A memorial service was held in Garrett County on May 14, 1978, and his remains are interred at Albuquerque, New Mexico.

William B. Carper, Sr.

Brantley Bates Thornes was born near Parksley, Va., on September 15, 1903. He was the son of William Riley Thornes and Willie Eleanore Russell Thornes. God called him home on May 13, 1978. He was truly a Methodist all of his life. He grew up in the church and was an active layman speaking from many pulpits.

He received his license to preach on the Eastern Shore District. When the Superintendent, Dr. Richard Forrester, approached him in his store at Nelsonia, Va., and asked him to consider a charge, he accepted. He left it all to preach the "Good News."

He received his theological training at Duke University and was ordained Deacon on June 11, 1966, at the Annual Conference by Bishop Walter C. Gum. He received his Associate orders in 1969. Brantley Thornes was a dedicated worker for Jesus Christ, and the Gospel was heard when he preached. He loved the Church and felt the call to preach later in life, and he gave his best to Christ and His Kingdom.

The United Methodist Church lost a great preacher when Brother Thornes retired in June, 1971, to live in Bloxom, Va. He received a certificate of appreciation at the

Annual Conference from Bishop William Cannon for nearly eight years of service as a minister of Jesus Christ and the United Methodist Church.

Brantley served the Burnville, Greenbackville and Eastland-Zion Charges. We praise the Lord that He used Brantley and his wife, Mary Susan, in a mighty way to lead many people to the way of life in Christ that never ends.

"Servant of God, well done!

Thy glorious warfare's past;

The battle's fought, the race is won,

And thou art crowned at last." -- Charles Wesley

His funeral was conducted on May 15 in Greenbush United Methodist Church by Arthur Green, Ben Johnson and Wilber J. Milliner, Jr., with interment at Liberty Cemetery at Parksley, Va. He is survived by his wife, Mary Susan, four children (one child is deceased), four grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren. **Wilber J. Milliner, Jr. Wilbur Hunter Grose.** On a cold October 24th in the year 1901, a baby boy was born in Nicholas County, W.Va. The child was taken directly from the warmth of his mother and immersed in the waters of a chilly mountain stream in order to stimulate life. The life which emerged from that mountain current was given the name, Wilbur Hunter Grose. Wilbur grew up in the area surrounding that stream. It was there that he learned about life and about Christ. It was there, along that stream or similar streams, that Wilbur would use as his setting for his many humorous stories; stories that celebrated a joy for living.

On March 16, 1927, Wilbur married the former Mary Cleo Fauver. The two of them set up housekeeping in W.Va. and raised three daughters and two sons. Wilbur's first job as a husband and father was as a W.Va. State Trooper. As a trooper, he made many friends with his winning ways and his true concern and love for people. This caring attitude led Wilbur to become a supply pastor to the people of W.Va. known as Methodists. Because of his police experience, Wilbur later accepted a job with the Alcohol Tax Unit of the Internal Revenue Service. The new occupation called for the Grose family to move to Va. After a number of years in that position, Wilbur heard the call to full time Christian ministry. In 1958, the Rev. Wilbur H. Grose was appointed to the South Covington Charge. Wilbur served for 13 years as a Methodist pastor in such places as Covington, Danville and Broadway, Va. At these different appointments, Rev. Grose was instrumental in building programs. But Wilbur's main gift to the people he served was not his ability to oversee a building project. No, his gift to them was himself. He shared his love, his concern, his humor, his very life with the communities he served. Because of this, he was a stranger to no one and a servant to all. His mountain stories allowed him to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ in new and exciting ways. No one came in contact with Wilbur without at the same time making contact with the Gospel message of a vibrant life shared in Christ Jesus.

In 1972, Rev. Grose retired from the full time ministry, but he never ceased to spread his faith to all who surrounded him, whether in a Sunday School Class or on the streets of Broadway. On May 16, 1978, Wilbur Hunter Grose died in Rockingham County Hospital. Memory of his witness to Jesus Christ shall linger in the memories and hearts of all those he touched and cared for and loved.

James D. Snow, III
Lawrence Wallace Easton was born May 27, 1920, the son of William Wallace Easton and Beulah Clements Easton. A native of Albemarle County, he was educated in the public schools of Charlottesville and entered the service of his country as an infantryman in 1943. He served in battle campaigns in Central Europe, rising to the rank of Staff Sergeant. Because of heroism, he was thrice decorated with the World War II Victory Medal, the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with three Bronze Stars and the Purple Heart, the last given because of wounds received in Luxembourg in 1944. He was honorably discharged from the service in 1945.

Just one year later, he met and married Gertrude Clements of Scottsville, and was employed by a large grocery store chain for the next fourteen years. It was while he was serving as an active member of New Bethel Methodist Church on the South Fluvanna Charge that he felt the call to the ministry in 1960. That year he was appointed as the pastor of the North Madison Charge on the Charlottesville District, and continued in an active and dedicated ministry for the next fourteen years. He received Deacon's

orders in 1962 and Elder's orders in 1964, and upon completion of the Pastors' School at Duke University, was received into the Virginia Conference as an Associate Member in 1969. His entire ministry was served on the Charlottesville District: 1960, North Madison; 1961, Green Mountain; 1973, Ivy Creek, until disability leave in 1974.

It was while serving on the Green Mountain Charge that he was stricken with the first of a series of heart attacks that eventually forced him into disability leave. On May 18, 1978, he suffered his last heart attack and took his leave for that kingdom of greater service.

Lawrence Easton was a quiet man whose winsome life was his greatest sermon. He sought only to serve his Lord, to be the instrument of God's love for the people to whom he devoted his life. After disability leave forced him into early retirement, he became an active participant in the ministry of First Church, Charlottesville, and was a constant source of inspiration and support for the pastors of that church.

Though he has laid down his life, he has left us with a rich heritage of service, for he lived his life as a pilgrim, moving with a sure and steady step toward that city not made with hands, eternal in the heaven.

The funeral service was conducted from First Church in Charlottesville by his District Superintendent, the Rev. William A. Wright, Jr., and the writer. Interment was in the Scottsville Cemetery.

Robert H. Garner

Minutes for 1979. **Robert Irvin Williams** was born in Portsmouth, Va., on January 25, 1908. He was the son of Robert Cooper and Beulah Moore Williams. His family moved to Southampton County when he was six years old, and he received his education in the public schools there. He attended Randolph-Macon and Lynchburg Colleges, and Union Theological Seminary.

Irvin entered the ministry in 1929, and served the church for more than forty years. He had been active as a supply pastor since his retirement. His pastorates included South Albemarle, West Amherst, Windsor, Lynnhaven, Campostella, Chesterfield, Fairmount Park in Norfolk, Victoria, Trinity in Roanoke, Friendship in Falls Church and Decatur Street and Calvary in Richmond. He served as District Missionary Secretary on the Roanoke District.

Irvin was an effective minister and in his life he lived the ideals that he preached. He was loved and admired by both young people and adults in the congregation. He served them faithfully and well.

I felt very close to Irvin. We attended Randolph-Macon College together, and entered the Conference together and retired together in 1970. I have never known a more dedicated Christian.

It was at West Amherst Charge that he met Miss Margaret White. They were married on December 30, 1933. To this union were born two sons, Robert Irvin Williams, Jr., who died in infancy, and Robert Marvin Williams.

Irvin was a member of the Kiwanis Club in Norfolk and in Victoria. On June 23, 1978, he died in Chippenham Hospital, Richmond, conducted by the Rev. Charles B. King, the Rev. Roscoe Johnson and Dr. Harry Eaton. Burial was in Greenwood Memorial Garden.

He is survived by his widow, Margaret Williams; one son, Robert Marvin Williams, of Richmond; three sisters, Mrs. Edna Saunders, of Windsor; Mrs. Virginia Hancock, of Sedley; and Mrs. Mildred Barrett, of Alexandria; and a brother, J. E. Williams, of Sedley.

Irvin's strong Christian belief will stay with us -

"Servant of God, well done!

Thy glorious warfare's past;

The battle's fought, the race is won,

And thou art crowned at last." -- Charles Wesley

Harwood B. Owen

Joseph Clement Sinclair was born May 15, 1884, a native of Baltimore, Md. In his early years, he applied himself to the academic life, and in 1913, he graduated from Johns Hopkins University with a Doctor of Philosophy degree. During those last years in the University, he served as a student pastor in Baltimore at the Carrollton and the Walbrook Churches of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

For five years, he served the Summerfield Church in Baltimore. In 1918, he married Leonora Caulfield. Together they served the Emory, the Gaithersburg, the Wilson Memorial Church in Washington, the Kensington and the Hyattsville Churches before being transferred to the Virginia area.

Unification of the three major branches of Methodism found Dr. Sinclair serving in Falls Church. He moved from that city to the lovely town of Smithfield in 1940. The town and the minister were wedded in a happy union for seven years. Throughout the years of World War II, Dr. Sinclair faithfully ministered to the people of Smithfield and surrounding Isle of Wight County. In 1947, he went to the Greenwood Church near Richmond for one year before going to the town of Clarksville, where declining health enforced his retirement in 1950. After a brief time in Maryland, Dr. and Mrs. Sinclair returned to their beloved Smithfield, where he secured a home. Having no children, this couple were ever seen together. Mrs. Sinclair was a constant inspiration and help to her able husband until she died July 13, 1972. Dr. Sinclair continued to live in their home until a fall made it impossible for him to live alone. He entered Hillcrest Nursing Home in Suffolk, where he remained until his death on July 13, 1978, at the age of 95. He was buried from the Trinity United Methodist Church in Smithfield, with interment at Hyattsville, Md.

Dr. Sinclair will ever be remembered for his high achievements in scholarship. An avid student of philosophy and Latin, he enriched the life of all he touched. His early use of the clerical collar pioneered that practice in the Virginia Conference. His kindly manner and winsome smile made him an approachable minister to young and old, rich and poor.

"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." (Timothy 2:15).

Carl Wrenn Haley

William B. Obaugh was born December 6, 1892, the son of S. H. and Sarah Caroline Propse Obaugh. His mother had a strong influence on the religious life of young William, who was converted in 1908 at the Churchville United Brethren Church. He was licensed to preach in the Virginia Conference of the United Brethren Church in 1916 and ordained in 1922.

In 1917, he married Lillian Roberts. They have three children, Lillian Marie, William Rogers and Laura Nell. Their son William is pastor of the First United Methodist Church of Salt Lake City, Utah.

He was a graduate of Dunsmore Business College, Staunton, Va., and Shenandoah College and United Seminary, Dayton, Ohio. He taught at Shenandoah College and served as a trustee. An active minister for forty-one years, he served Fountain (W.Va.), Edinburg, Reliance, Mount Clinton, Inwood-Pikeside (W.Va.), Winchester Circuit, Roanoke, Elkton and Petersburg (W.Va.) Churches.

He was Statistical Secretary of the Conference, 1929-47, and Treasurer, 1947-67. In 1959, the Obaughs retired to Winchester, where they became active in First Church. The writer knew Mr. Obaugh as a constant and dedicated churchman. His greatest delight was to be in the House of the Lord. He and his wife Lillian had a very close relationship. They were together in ministry so that it is difficult to think of one without the other. Mr. Obaugh was a devoted husband, father, and servant of the church. To this writer, his life calls to mind Matthew 25:21: "Well done, good and faithful servant...enter into the joy of your master."

James H. Boice, Jr.

Richard Abraham Bergdoll was small of physical stature, five feet two, but mentally and spiritually tall. He was creative, dedicated, resourceful, energetic, humble and modest, an excellent student and able preacher. He loved God, his Christ and people.

I first knew him at Randolph-Macon College, where he excelled as a student and received his A.B. degree. His grades earned him Phi Beta Kappa. He loved his college, his class reunions, supported her with his means and encouraged students to attend. His Divinity Degree he received from Candler School of Theology of Emory University.

Brother Bergdoll was born in Romney, W.Va., June 14, 1902, the son of Abraham Ellwood and Lilly Mae Bergdoll. His parents and the church got their message through to him at an early age, for as a child he used to say, "I want to save souls."

He had a passion for knowledge and search for wisdom, especially theology and biblicism interpretation. His consuming theme was:

"Through life's journey until my last sigh,

We will travel together, my Bible and I."

He was studying "The Psalms Speak to Us Today," and making marginal sermon notes when last taken to the hospital.

One of the best monuments Richard has left and one of his most successful pastorates, is the lovely and inspiring Memorial United Methodist Church in Appomattox. He saw a spacious lot with towering oak trees. He envisioned a House of God, beautiful and adequate, built in the midst of this magnificent grove. With "bull dog" tenacity, he and several lay persons stuck by this dream until it became a reality. Methodism in this town owes Brother Bergdoll enduring gratitude.

He served faithfully and loyally the following pastorates: Chesterfield, Langley; Sterling; Epworth, Covington; Wesley, Martinsville; Kenbridge; Phoebus; Campostella, Norfolk; Strasburg; Appomattox; Bassett; Christ, Norfolk; Fairview, Roanoke; and in retirement, Sedley, Sebrell and as visiting pastor at Haygood, Norfolk. He served on the Board of the Ministry of his Conference.

Brother Bergdoll was a family man. At a Lynchburg District Retreat, with deep feeling, he said, "God has richly blessed me with my Nellie and my two sons." He was married to Nellie Shawen, who presented him with two sons, James R. Bergdoll and George H. Bergdoll, all loyal and productive members of the United Methodist Church. He was a wise and devoted father. George said of him, "He taught by example, and both Jim and I agree that he never had to discipline severely because of his example. I have never known a more dedicated, unselfish, and giving person. With a good sense of humor, he was an incurable optimist." James said, "Wherever people were: hospitals, jails, nursing homes, schools, and churches, there Dad was happiest. He loved his work and was totally committed to the ministry. He loved young people, and several ministers are in the Conference because he got them interested in the church."

God called him home August 1, 1978, and funeral services were held at Haygood United Methodist Church, conducted by the Reverends Wesley E. Arthur, F. Douglas Dillard, Lee H. Beville, W. Lawrence Durrett, Jr., and Eugene R. Woolridge. Interment was at Princess Anne Memorial Gardens, Virginia Beach, Va.

Edgar A. Potts

Andrew Hartvig Forberg, son of Mary Lovern and Fred C. Forberg, was born in Richmond, Va., on July 1, 1947. He was educated in the public schools of Richmond and received his B.S. degree in Business Administration from the University of Richmond in 1969. After a period of military service, he entered Wesley Theological Seminary in 1973. He and Susan K. Paul were united in Holy Matrimony the following year. After receiving his M.Div. degree, he entered the D.Min. program and had completed all residence requirements at the time of his death.

Throughout his seminary and doctoral studies, Andy courageously battled an incurable disease which took his life on August 30, 1978, in Springfield, Va. Relatives, classmates and friends gathered for the memorial service at St. John's United Methodist Church, Springfield, led by Dr. James C. Logan, assisted by Bishop W. Kenneth Goodson and the Rev. John A. R. Goodwin. Graveside services, attended by many members of his home church, River Road United Methodist Church, Richmond, were led by the Rev. E. Thomas Murphy, Jr., and Dr. Harry B. Eaton at Forest Lawn Cemetery in Richmond.

Andy was actively involved in the life of his home church, and his response to the call to the ordained ministry was in keeping with a life-long commitment to the church. The impact which he made upon his seminary associates will be one of their enduring experiences. With a quiet, unpretentious manner and with a steady, unswerving faith, Andrew Forberg bore a most persuasive witness to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. At the session of the 1978 Virginia Annual Conference, he was ordained an elder in the United Methodist Church, but he had already been in ministry in his home church, on the seminary campus, among neighbors, with fellow patients in the hospital and during an interim pastorate.

One of Andy's favorite passages of Scripture was the story of Jesus walking on the waves of the storm-tossed sea and extending his out-reached hand to Peter (Matt. 14:22-33). In the midst of the storms of physical suffering, Andy felt the stress of the waves and heard his Master's voice, "Take heart, it is I; have no fear." He experienced support of his Lord, and he was not afraid! Such was his faith that all with

whom he shared his life so freely--wife, parents, brother and friends-- are grateful to God for his short years with us. The closing hymn of the memorial service was his favorite, "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee." Andrew Forberg authentically walked with his Master, and by his witness, he has made that walk more real and compelling for those of us who knew and loved him.

James C. Logan

Edwin Becton Dean was born in Greenville, Texas, on June 11, 1903, the son of James J. and Lucy Y. Dean. As a young man, he attended Baylor Junior College, from which he graduated in 1925, as well as Austin College in Sherman, Texas. Throughout all of his school year, he played football and basketball, and he studied toward becoming an Athletic Director.

Edwin Dean came to Virginia in 1926 and married Lois Campbell in 1928. One son, Edwin Becton Dean, Jr., was born to them in 1940.

Edwin received his license to preach in 1931 and was admitted to the Virginia Conference in 1933. He attended Randolph-Macon College in Ashland and Union Theological Seminary in Richmond and also spent a summer studying at Duke University Seminary. He served the Virginia Conference from 1933 until his death on September 14, 1978. His pastorates included: Christ Church and Foundry Church on the Norfolk District; Phoebus on the Peninsula District; Scottsville; Emmanuel in Amherst; Onley, Benns; Port Republic; Culpeper Circuit; Fluvanna Circuit; Stanleytown; Danville Circuit; and Oakland. During many of his years of service, Edwin refereed or even coached basketball and football. He used this participation as a vehicle to reach young people and particularly as a means of demonstrating to them the values of self-discipline and responsibility.

Ed Dean officially retired from the active ministry in 1970, but continued to serve his Lord by preaching wherever he was needed. At the time of his final illness, he was serving Miles Memorial Church as an associate minister and visiting pastor.

As a pastor and administrator, Edwin Dean filled a place among God's elect. His careful attention to details resulted in Quarterly Conferences which were a marvel of efficiency and planning. I am proud and happy to have been asked to pay tribute to my friend, Edwin Becton Dean, who walked unfailingly in the faith. The older I get, the stronger will be my memories of my close personal contacts with him, which have brought me so much joy and inspiration. Mrs. Kelly and I have been grateful through the years for the splendid Christian witness of Edwin and Lois Dean and for their gracious fellowship in the service of the Lord. Those of us who knew Edwin Dean best truly honored him and loved, not just for what he did, but for what he was.

Funeral services for Edwin Becton Dean were conducted at Miles Memorial Church in Norfolk on September 17, 1978, by the Rev. Norman Preston, Jr., Dr. F. Douglas Dillard, Jr., and Dr. Owen T. Kelly. He was laid to rest in Forest Lawn Cemetery in Norfolk. He is survived by his wife, Lois, and son, Edwin B. Dean, Jr., three grandchildren and one brother.

Owen T. Kelly

Lee Earl Sheaffer. On October 8, 1978, at the age of 76 years, 10 months and 12 days, and after a long and devastating illness, the indefeasible spirit of Lee Earl Sheaffer found that house of many rooms which the Lord of all Creation has prepared for his own. And truly Lee E. Sheaffer was God's man.

Lee Sheaffer, from his home church in Carlisle, Penn., decidedly conscious of his divine call to the ministry in the Church of Jesus Christ, became an ordained Elder and was appointed to his first pastorate in the then Virginia Conference of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ. He lived to see his beloved denomination go through two mergers and become a vital part of the United Methodist Church.

From 1926 until his disability retirement in 1956, Lee was the greatly loved and highly successful pastor of the following charges in the Virginia Conference (United Brethren): Manassas and Shenandoah, Va.; Franklin, W.Va.; Potomac Park and Westernport, Md.; Broadway, Va.; Pendleton and Grant, W.Va.

During Lee's ministry at Potomac Park, Md., and under his supervision, the present excellent physical plant consisting of a modern parsonage and spacious church building was constructed.

In 1921, Lee Earl Sheaffer and Lena Alice Heishman were united in marriage. The Christian home which they established was blessed with six children, all now married:

Mrs. Margaret D. Blagg, a graduate of James Madison University and a teacher and school administrator in Highland County, Va.; William B. Sheaffer, a disabled war veteran married and living in Petersburg, W.Va.; Mrs. Martha R. Palmer, a graduate of the West Virginia School of Beauty Culture, now living in Middletown, Md.; Mrs. Ruth A. Daugherty, a graduate of Shenandoah and Lebanon Valley Colleges, married to a minister of the East Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church; Dr. Lee B. Sheaffer, a graduate of Shenandoah and Bridgewater Colleges and United Theological Seminary and presently Superintendent of the Winchester District, Virginia Conference, the United Methodist Church; Mrs. Helen M. McCoy, a graduate of the Rockingham School of Nursing and now living in Staunton, Va. All of the children of Lee and Lena Sheaffer are active in the church.

The interests and activities of their children reflect the home training, inspiration and ideals of Lee and Lena Sheaffer gave them. In addition to his wife and six children, Lee Sheaffer is survived by eighteen grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren.

The earthly celebration for Lee's departure for his new home occurred on October 10, 1978, in the Grove Street United Methodist Church, Petersburg, W.Va., with the local pastor in charge of the service. Dr. Floyd L. Fulk, a former District Superintendent under whose supervision Lee had served for ten years, spoke eloquently of the characteristics which made Lee E. Sheaffer a stalwart, fearless preacher of the Word of God and a faithful pastor of the churches entrusted to his ministry.

On a beautiful, cloudless October day, while the grass was still green and the warmth of summer still lingered, and when nature was touching the full foliage of the surrounding mountain trees with all the glorious colors of autumn, the tired body of Lee Earl Sheaffer was returned to the earth, but his Eternal Spirit had already returned to the God he loved and faithfully served with all the strength of his body, mind and spirit.

O Lord our God, the majesty and glory of your name fills all the earth and overflows the heavens.

Forrest S. Racey

Henry Morse Emerson was born in Roxbury, Mass., June 16, 1906, and died December 15, 1978, at his home in Charlottesville, Va. For forty-one years he was under appointment as a missionary of the Board of Missions of the Methodist Church, a member of the Central Province Conference (India) until his retirement in 1971.

In 1936, he married Dorothy E. Eckman, who shared fully in all his mission activities. To this union, three children were born: Frank, Charles and Sara Ann. All three are married. He is survived by his mother and sister, his wife and their three married children and five grandchildren.

After completing his B.A. degree at Wesleyan University, he went to Burma as a missionary teacher in the Rangoon Mission School, where he taught English, Bible and History. He returned in time to complete a M.A. and Bachelor of Sacred Theology at Boston University, and a Masters in Science at Cornell, specializing in Agriculture, before returning to India in 1936. That same year he became a member of Central Province Annual Conference.

He showed a wide range of special abilities on the mission field. At the Khandwa, C.P. Mission School, he proved himself not only a wise business manager and teacher, but he began a program that continued throughout his ministry of enlisting teachers and students in diet-enriching programs. He encouraged them to grow their own vegetables in the school garden to supplement their rice diet.

The war called for a longer furlough, during which he served as pastor of the Methodist Church at Buckport, Maine. Then, because of danger on the high seas, he left his family behind and made his way as he could from port to port, to India, arriving in 1944. He served for a time as District Superintendent in the remote tiger infested jungles of Bastar State, and after a year, his family joined him.

There were other school and administrative tasks that called for his special talents. For a time, he was in the Inter-Mission Business Office in Bombay, first as treasurer of Methodist Overseas Relief and later as treasurer of the United Mission to Nepal. Among his last appointments were the District Superintendency of the Jabalpur District, where he also served as pastor of the English Church and then as manager of

the Christian High School and Hostel. He planned and built the hostel to provide a Christian home for boys and young men from villages who came to the city to complete their education and seek employment. It continues to meet a fundamental need.

The earnestness, friendliness and genuine Christian character of Henry Emerson showed in all he did. He travelled the endless jungle roads by cycle or ox-cart where cars could not go. He was an advisor to the growing Indian church, ever eager to step aside and press Christian Indian leadership into positions of responsibility in his effort to build a self-support ministry. He inspired and encouraged youth to dedicate themselves to Christian service.

Even as India gained its national independence during his years there, so, too, the Methodist Church made strides to become a self-supporting and self-propagating church. Henry Emerson contributed his finest ministry to help achieve these ends.

James E. McEldowney

Ira Astin was born March 10, 1902, in Danville, Va., the son of Albert S. Astin and Nannie McKenney Astin. He graduated from Ferrum Training School, and in the Fall of 1923, entered Randolph-Macon College to prepare for the Christian ministry, which was to carry him over a half-century.

His first appointment was St. Peter's Church near Ashland. It was there he met and married Mildred Mae Smith, of Hanover County, Va. Unto Ira and Mae were born Nannie Mae, now Mrs. Thad S. Murry, of Fairfax, Va., and Ira Thomas Astin, Prince George, Va.

Ira was one of God's faithful servants. He heard the clear high call of God, and for fifty-three years, he marched as a Christian soldier across the Virginia Conference. His appointments carried him from the Tidewaters to the mountains, from the Southside to the valley, from the country to the city. Step by step he walked and lived in hope and faith and love and brotherhood sublime. Wherever he walked, wherever he lived, men knew that they were in the presence of one whose life was motivated and guided by Spiritual Power.

As a pastor, he was an earnest friend and counselor to his people, who recognized and remembered him as a true follower of the Master, Jesus Christ, the Lord of his life. Ira was faithful to all the work entrusted to him by the church. He possessed a unique quality of leadership, which made it easy for his people to follow him in benevolent and building programs. St. Paul United Methodist Church, Christiansburg, Va., stands as a monument to his kind, loving and energetic leadership. The membership of St. Paul moved as with one step from the downtown site to its present location.

Ira was faithful to the church, but he also found the time to engage in community affairs. He served as President of the Ruritan and the Lions Club. Going the second mile in the church and community was the only way that Ira knew, and he walked that way gladly and with a smile. Every mile of Ira's faithful and fruitful ministry, he was aware of the constant love and support of his wife, Mae. He came to the end of his earthly pilgrimage, knowing that underneath were the "Everlasting Arms," on Saturday, December 16, 1978. Funeral services were conducted December 19, 1978, at Woody's Funeral Home, Richmond. The services were conducted by the Rev. Albert F. Pittman, his pastor; Dr. Harry B. Eaton, his District Superintendent; and Bishop W. Kenneth Goodson. His mortal body was laid to rest in Woodland Cemetery, Ashland, Va., but his immortal spirit had already returned to the God who gave it.

Ira, we repeat the words you used so many times, words given us by Charles Wesley:

"Servant of God, well done!

Thy glorious warfare's past;

The battle's fought, the race is won,

And thou art crowned at last."

W. Carroll Freeman

Herman Francis Volz wanted, more than anything else, to show himself a true minister of Jesus Christ--a workman needing not to be ashamed. Because of his early death, his ministry spanned less than a decade, yet it was clearly marked by a profound love for Jesus Christ, deep compassion for his fellowmen and faithfulness to the United Methodist Church.

Born April 15, 1938, in Petersburg, Va., Herman was the only son of Mable Daugh-trey and Herman Archibald Volz. His father was a mechanic. At first, following

completion of his high school education, Herman entered the world of business, quickly becoming the Assistant Manager of a local retail outlet in a national grocery chain.

He had been, however, through childhood and adolescence, spiritually nurtured by the fellowship of Blandford United Methodist Church and by its minister, Lillian Russell. He had grown "in wisdom and in strength" and had been given opportunity regularly to teach in the Church School and to share a leadership role at Blandford. In time he became convinced that he could fit himself for the ministry and that God was asking him to undertake this role. He received enthusiastic support in this from his mother, who lived with Herman until her death, keeping his home and encouraging him every step of the way. His ideal at this point was to minister to others for Jesus' sake, as Lillian Russell had ministered to them. He studied her way of doing things, even to the inflection of her voice in prayer and preaching.

The year 1968 found Herman entering the Virginia Conference "on trial," and he was appointed to the Winterpock Charge, Petersburg District. He served here for five years, meanwhile doing all the educational work required of those seeking ordination. He received ordination as deacon in 1971 and became an Associate Member of the Virginia Conference in 1975. His later appointments were to Mecklenburg, Big Island Cove and East Franklin. Herman had just begun his ministry at North Louisa when his heart, long known to be weak, finally played out. He passed to the heavenly kingdom on December 22, 1978, leaving behind in his family only one member, a half-sister, to whom he was devoted, but a family of friends, scores in number, who were blessed by his prayers, his well-ordered sermons and his genuine interest in themselves. Brief though his ministry was, he made his mark for Jesus Christ.

Joseph S. Johnston

Paul Jeremiah Slonaker. On January 15, 1979, heaven became richer because Paul Jeremiah Slonaker went to the home prepared by Christ. We who knew him could give thanks to God for the love we share with Paul, which can never be lost or taken from us. At the funeral workshop service on January 17 at St. James Church in Henrico County, the scripture readings included the account in Second Samuel of David's lament over the death of his friend Abner, when David asked, "Did you not know that a prince and a great man has fallen this day in Israel?" Bishop W. Kenneth Goodson applied these words to Paul and aptly described him as a "prince and a great man in faith" now "fallen." Paul's family and friends celebrate the memory of the great prince of faith. He won the hearts of people. His winsome smile, his sincerity, his courage of conviction, and his gentle manner served as a perfect example of Christian love. His special talents and abilities were given freely, joyfully and abundantly.

Paul was born May 6, 1912, in Berkeley County, W.Va., the son of Carl and Marianna Dunham Slonaker. In 1939, he married Ethel Houtz, and they became parents of four children: Linda, Jerry, Noel and David. Paul dearly loved his children and his children's children.

Paul was ordained in 1942 in the United Brethren Church after attending Shenandoah College and graduating from Lebanon Valley College and from United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio, where he received a Master of Divinity degree. He then served as pastor of Broadway Charge, Berkeley Springs Station and Winchester First Church. After the merger of The Evangelical United Brethren and The Methodist Churches in 1968, Paul served Charles City Church and St. James Church in Henrico County. He retired in June, 1977, and made his home in Richmond. In June 1978, he began serving as part-time associate at Pace Memorial Church. Paul served as a trustee for Lebanon Valley College and for Shenandoah College and Conservatory. For many years, he was Secretary of Christian Social Action of the Council of Administration of his Conference. Through the years, he made contributions by working on many agencies of the conferences. For almost thirty-five years, he provided good professional ministry.

Participating with Bishop Goodson in the funeral worship were Dr. Harry B. Easton, Superintendent of the Richmond District; the Rev. John Wilmer, pastor of St. James Church; and Dr. Emmett W. Cocke Jr., pastor of Pace Memorial Church. Burial was at Westhampton Memorial Park in Henrico County.

Thanks be to God for the prince and great man of faith who has fallen.

Emmett W. Cocke, Jr.

Carl William Hiser was licensed to preach in the United Brethren Church on November 7, 1915, and until February 4, 1979, served his Lord in a very outstanding way as a clergyman, friend and efficient leader in building the Kingdom of God on earth. During his life as a United Brethren minister, he served many rural pastorates, and, during those years, he was recognized by his church as one of its finest leaders in the work of rural pastorates.

He spent five years of his life as a minister in Oklahoma working primarily in missionary work and then returned to his home conference and took up his work in the pastorate within the Virginia Conference, where he was elected Secretary of the Conference and served in that capacity until his retirement in 1967.

Dr. Hiser was a meticulous keeper of records of the Virginia Conference, and some of his own papers reveal that he represented his church seven different times to the General Conference and was a reserve delegate three times. When he retired, he had recorded that he had preached fifty-one hundred and twenty-three sermons in four hundred different communities. He had conducted five hundred and twenty-three funerals and officiated at the marriages of seventeen hundred and sixty-six couples.

After his retirement from the Virginia Conference, Dr. Hiser moved to Tampa, Florida, where he immediately accepted work as a chaplain in the W.T. Edwards Tuberculosis Hospital and also served in the same capacity in the Tampa General Hospital. He was Chairman of the Council on Ministries of the Memorial Otterbein United Methodist Church in Tampa and assisted the local pastor, Duncan Gray, in many different ways as a volunteer.

Those persons who knew Dr. Hiser intimately often said he was one of the outstanding Christians that any person could meet. He was married to Miss Bertha Abbott, who preceded him in death, and his final memorial service was conducted in his home church in Tampa on February 9, 1979, conducted by his close friend and pastor, the Rev. Duncan L. Gray.

John R. Sawyer

Wilton Earl Allen was born February 3, 1921, in Richmond, Va., the second child of Linwood Cecil and Susie Johnson Allen. He was educated in the public schools of Richmond, graduating from John Marshall High School. Fairmount United Methodist Church meant much in the life of Wilton Allen. Here he learned the meaning of the Christian response to life and found nurture and motivation in the Christian fellowship. The Rev. George Amos, who was his pastor during Wilton's late teens and early twenties, encouraged him toward the ministry.

After graduating from high school, Wilton worked for Molins Machine Shop, completing his apprenticeship. But the ministry had a stronger appeal than the machines, and when he married Mary Virginia Givens on February 24, 1943, they both knew that Wilton would soon take steps to become a Methodist minister. The opportunity came in August of 1943, when someone was needed to fill in at McDowell on the Staunton District. Wilton and Virginia Consented to go and served until the October Annual Conference. He was then assigned to Collierstown, and in the following order to Goshen, Sherando, Buchanan, St. Mark's in Petersburg, Orange, Aldersgate in Richmond, Leesburg and Franconia. He retired in 1972 after serving twenty-nine years in the pastoral ministry.

While serving churches, Wilton attended Washington and Lee University for two years and later Bridgewater College, where he graduated in 1951. He attended summer sessions at Duke Divinity School and Emory University. Bishop Paul Garber ordained Wilton deacon on October 12, 1952, and elder on June 15, 1955.

While serving the Goshen Charge, their only child, Dennie Eldon, was born. Virginia and Wilton surrounded their son with understanding and supportive love. Dennie has the distinction of being the first graduate of Virginia Wesleyan College and presently serves as Probation Officer in the Norfolk Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court.

When Wilton Allen in 1972 changed his employment, he did not change his vocation. He continued to think of himself as a United Methodist minister and was called on to preach, teach, and perform priestly functions. Men on the job at Sasib Corporation of American would at times call him "Rev" and look to him for encouragement in Christian living.

Wilton was active in good works even up to the day of his death February 19, 1979. A memorial service was held in Stratford Hills United Methodist Church in Richmond, with which he was identified. The pastor, Dr. Ott Davis, and this writer led the service. Burial was in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Richmond.

In thinking of Wilton, I recall that the day following the death of Dick Shepherd, then pastor of St. Martins in the Fields, London, England, a London morning paper carried a photograph of the empty pulpit with its opened Bible. Under the picture were these words: "Thus endeth the first lesson." But it was only the first — for there are to be other lessons, experiences, yearnings and fulfillments. And so it is for those who live for Christ and die in Christ.

Hampden H. Smith, Jr.

Albert Gene Hasson was born on May 29, 1926, in Natrona Heights, Penn., to Albert and Rose Hasson. He graduated from West Windfield High School. For several years, Gene and his wife, Jane, owned and operated a coffee shop outside of Pittsburgh. At this place of business, God called Gene into the ministry. Gene pursued his studies at West Virginia Wesleyan College and continued on to Duke.

In 1962-63, Gene preached at Brave Circuit in the Pennsylvania Conference. He transferred to the West Virginia Conference in 1964 and ministered to the people at Good Hope for five and one-half years. He was ordained a deacon and went to serve Tennerton for one year. Gene transferred to the Virginia Conference in 1970 and became an Associate Member of the Virginia Conference in 1971. In Virginia, he served the Otter Charge from 1970-74, Mount Hermon Church from 1974-78 and Knotts Island Church from June 1978-March 1979.

Gene Hasson died on March 10, 1979. He is survived by his wife, Jane Williams Hasson; his children: Renee Althaus, Janine Markham and Robert (Bob); his mother, Rose Hasson Traenkner; and three grandchildren.

People need each other so much. God doesn't want us to be lonely so he gives us people, many people. And out of the many, he leads us to the few, the precious few, we can really talk to.

Gene Hasson was one of the precious few. And with Gene, we talked about things that really mattered--hopes, troubles, confidences, things we wouldn't dare share with anyone else. And Gene, without preaching or inferring superiority, would help clear the path and guide us by simply listening. One of the great privileges of my life is to have had a friend like Gene Hasson. I will miss him for the rest of my life. But the memory of Gene will live on in the hearts of the people who knew and loved him.

Frederick L. Gardner

Ronald Frazee Quinlan. Early on Good Friday morning, April 13, 1979, the Rev. Ronald F. Quinlan, pastor of the Dillwyn Charge, Farmville District, died after a brief illness, leaving a devoted family and many friends to mourn his passing.

Ronald Quinlan was born on November 9, 1923, in Butler County, Ohio, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph F. Quinlan. He attended the county public schools and graduated from Harrison High School in Harrison, Ohio, when he was 18 years of age. He continued to live at home until age 25, when he met and married Marjorie Dodson Quinlan of Martinsville, Va. Together they settled near her home, where he engaged in the building trades and also worked as an operating engineer with heavy earth-moving and quarry equipment. During these years, he and Marjorie were blessed with the birth of four children.

In 1960, Ronald felt the call to the Christian ministry and turned from his past occupation to this new call and challenge. He had been a life-long Methodist, being baptized when he was an infant and confirmed as a member of The Methodist Church when he was 12. Because of his age at the time of his call to the ministry, he entered at once into the Conference Course of Study, completing that work through correspondence and then finishing a full series of Summer Pastors' School studies at Duke University. For one full year, he attended Ferrum College. Having received the necessary education credits, Ronald was ordained a Deacon in 1965, an Elder in 1968, and was received into the Associate Membership of the Virginia Conference in 1969.

His first pastoral work was on the Danville Circuit, where he served seven months in 1962-63, to complete the term of a previous pastor. Other appointments included

Mountain View Charge, Danville; Callaghan Charge and Iron Gate, Staunton; and Dillwyn Charge, Farmville, where he was serving at the time of his death.

Ronald Quinlan is survived by his wife, Marjorie; their four children: Anita Carol, George Lynnville, Ronda Quinlan Couch, and Mary Elizabeth; and one grandchild, Carrie Ann Quinlan. Also surviving him are his mother, Mrs. Ralph F. Quinlan, and a brother, Richard A. Quinlan, of Ohio. The funeral service was conducted at Dillwyn on Monday, April 16, 1979, by the undersigned, assisted by the Rev. Rogers S. Laudermilk and the Rev. Cecil Gholston. A large crowd attended both the service in Dillwyn and the burial at Roselawn Cemetery in Martinsville.

This dedicated pastor was very fond of music and was able to play several instruments, the violin and guitar especially well. He was noted for his fine singing voice. His other hobbies were gardening and mechanical work.

He was completely faithful to his calling, and in a friendly and heartwarming way worked with great vigor and earnestness in pastoral duties. His main interest was in evangelistic preaching and evangelistic visitation. Often impatient with prolonged small-talk and inactivity, he preferred to move on to other things of more interest than simply "passing the time." Ronald's ministry was marked by strength in Bible study programs, and he initiated and conducted countless series of Bible stories in the churches in which he served. The last months of his life were restricted by the need to rest and care for his health, but he nevertheless carried on his ministerial responsibilities with enthusiasm and diligence.

Ronald Quinlan will be remembered by those who knew him as a person strong in his convictions, faithful to his Lord, energetic in his work, loving in the family circle, and busy with the important activities of both the sacred and the secular world. He will be missed, but he has left his mark upon countless lives, and his ministry, though short, has been rich and effective.

William K. Thomas

Rembert Durhin McNeer. In 1891, a small boy six years old sat in a horse-drawn cart, riding with his father to keep his preaching appointments. It was a large circuit following the James River valley from the parsonage at Mount Olivet Church just south of Natural Bridge, westward to the other side of the valley through Buchanan County and home again. The boy, Rembert Durhin McNeer, was born at that parsonage on June 26, 1886.

At one appointment, Trinity Church, young Rembert walked with reverent steps down the aisle to the pulpit platform. Standing beside the pulpit, he proclaimed to the empty pews, "Ladies and gentlemen, let us all sing 'Jesus Loves Me.'" A scant fifteen years later, in 1906, Rembert preached his trial sermon.

In 1908, the bishop presiding over the Old Baltimore Annual Conference read out the name, "Rembert McNeer--James River Charge, Buchanan County." Rembert traveled the long miles of his first circuit on a horse loaned to him by a Mr. Delong. He was a good student and worked at his appointments to save money for college. At one point he traveled to Kansas to work on an uncle's farm in order to pay tuition. He received his bachelor's degree from Randolph-Macon College, and in 1918 he received a B.D. degree from Emory University.

In 1912, Rembert married Mattie Pearl Deisher. They had three children, eight grandchildren, and as of this writing one great-grandchild, who is Rembert Durhin McNeer, III. Mattie died in 1956.

Rembert was not one to enjoy living alone and in 1960, he married Ada Stoneburner, of Edinburg. They moved into the retirement house he built with his own hands in the town of Buena Vista, not many miles from the site of his first home.

Rembert served his church in many places. He was appointed to charges in four states: Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland and North Carolina. The North Carolina appointment came when he accepted a position as professor of Bible at Brevard College. Under his ministry, two sanctuaries were built. One was at Arnold Church in Baltimore, Md., and one at Lyndhurst, Va. He had more than fifty years of service when he retired at the age of seventy-two. That was twenty-one years ago. He was proud of being the first name on the chronological roll of the Virginia United clergy.

The name "McNeer" has appeared in the conference annual for as long as anyone can

remember, and as of this Conference, Dorothy Lynn McNeer is a candidate for the ordained ministry. The legacy of McNeer shall continue.

Rembert was true to his character in retirement as well as throughout his long ministry. He was an initiator of new ideas; he was a promoter of good causes; and he was generous with his time, his talent, his money and his service. From his retirement pay he sparked the idea of supporting the higher education fund with an initial gift of \$1,000. Small, struggling congregations who needed to build were startled to receive similar checks to boost their meager building funds. This was the kind of minister he was.

Rembert died on April 18, 1979, at the age of 93. He was buried on the hillside opposite Bethel Church, south of Clifton Forge. Romans 6:8 gives us the assurance that if we have died with Christ, we also shall live with Him. Surely Rembert Durhin McNeer received this promise. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Gordon V. Nelson, Jr.

William Jefferson Boyd. Early on Sunday morning, June 10, 1979, the Rev. William Jefferson Boyd, retired minister, died after a brief illness, leaving behind a devoted family and many friends to mourn his passing.

W. J. Boyd was born on September 6, 1888, in Alton, Halifax County, Va., the son of the late William Henry and Sally Haley Boyd. On April 17, 1916, he was married to Ruth Elizabeth Yates, of Charlotte, N.C. To this union, four children were born: Mrs. Virginia B. Hudgins, Mrs. Elizabeth B. Hudgins, New Point; William J. Boyd, Jr., Rockville, Md.; and Walter Yates Boyd, Elon College, N.C. There are five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren who survive.

Early in life he desired to have an education and attended school in Halifax County and then Randolph-Macon College in Ashland. He was licensed to preach at 19 by the Farmville District Conference in session at Burkeville, Va., in 1907. He started preaching as a student pastor in Hanover County while attending school. He read extensively and was competent in all aspects of his ministry.

During World War I, with so many clergymen serving as teachers, he was principal of the Middlesex County High School and later, during World War II, he served as a math teacher in a high school in Brunswick County.

During his 46 years as a pastor with the Virginia Conference, the charges he served were: Gladys, Concord Circuit Patrick, Pittsylvania, East Nottoway, Brunswick, South Dinwiddie, Charles City, East Middlesex, West Lancaster, West Mathews, Burkeville, Cumberland, North Mecklenburg, East Mathews (Beulah-Saint Paul), Epworth-Bethel, and Shiloh.

After retirement in 1957 from the active ministry, Rev. Boyd moved to Mathews, Va. However, retirement wasn't for long, for soon he was a substitute for the preachers on the Rappahannock District. He served as supply pastor to Shiloh on Gwynn Island and Shacklefords Chapel-Salem, and Olive Branch Churches in Gloucester, adding 10 years of pastoral service and making a total of 56 years was a working United Methodist minister. Few men have achieved such a record.

He was a member of the Masonic Order for 60 years and served in several lodges of which he became a member as he moved about the state. He received a 60 year membership pin on September 8, 1978, in Oriental Lodge Number 20. It was presented by his grandson, William S. Hudgins, Jr. Also in attendance were his two nephews, William S. Royster, South Boston; and William Henry McLean, Hagerstown, Md.

Funeral services were conducted on June 12, 1979, at Saint Paul United Methodist Church, Mathews, Va., by the pastor, Rev. Otis H. Worley, with interment in Saint Paul Cemetery Annex.

It can be said that "he fought a good fight, he finished his course, and he kept the faith." This world is a better place because William Jefferson Boyd lived and spoke his line from the Holy Spirit.

Otis H. Worley

Minutes for 1980. **Robert Augustus Craig, Sr.** was born on the 31st day of December, 1896, in Lucknow, S.C. When he was a boy, his family moved to Bowers Hill, Va. Following the footsteps of his father, he became a "telegraph operator" for the Seaboard Railroad. When WWI broke out, he was drafted and was made a "dispatcher of 'Troop Trains'", which in those critical days was a most important responsibility. He served his country well and received high recommendations and an honorable discharge.

About this time, he felt the "call to preach." Though a member of the Indiana Church, he was recommended by the Cottage Place Quarterly Conference for "Local Preacher" status and was accepted by the Portsmouth District Conference held at Monumental Church. He attended William and Mary College and finished his "Course of Studies" for "admission" into the Virginia Conference through Emory University. "Gus" married Miss Nora Smith, and to this happy marriage were added three children--a daughter, Mrs. Rebecca Craig Thomas, Johnson City, Tenn.; and two sons, J. Covert Craig, Oklahoma City, Ok.; and Robert A. Craig, Jr., of Portsmouth, Va.

His ministry reached nearly half of a century. He was pastor of the following churches: Colonial Beach, North Mathews, Cobb's Creek, Goochland Circuit, Hanover, Henderson, Craddockville-Belle Haven, West Brunswick, Greenwood, Berryville, Charity, Chase City, New Brunswick, Central, Portsmouth, and Assistant Pastor of Park View, Portsmouth. He also served as Superintendent of the Methodist Orphanage and later Superintendent of Goodwill Industries in Richmond.

An active Mason, he enjoyed the fellowship with its members. He was a Past Master of Fellowship Lodge #148; Secretary of Mid-day Lodge #132; Past District Master of the 34th Masonic District and member of Scottish Rite and Khedive Shrine Temple. There was a "warm welcome" wherever he went to be with the "brethren."

Many times in his ministry, he "was sent" to certain situations which needed a man who loved people and showed insight and wisdom. Thus, in confidence, Bishops W. W. Peele and Paul N. Garber called "Gus" to "special missions." He served well and succeeded where others failed and felt at home in the rural churches as well as the tall steeple churches of the city. His versatile talents built churches both spiritually and physically, and he always left a good report.

A dedicated "Man of God," everywhere he went he made friends. The church became his "first love," going where he "was called." He walked with God and will always be remembered as one of God's chosen spirits.

A Memorial Service was held in the Monumental United Methodist Church, where many of his former members and friends paid respect. The Rev. W. Dabney Walters presided. Dr. Carl W. Haley, District Superintendent, and the writer assisted in the service. Masonic Rites concluded the service in Olive Branch Cemetery, Portsmouth, Va.

Harry W. Craver

(Note: Mr. Craig died during the 1978-79 Conference Year, and his name is listed in the 1979 Journal. However, the Memoir was not received prior to press time.)

Otis Levi Gilliam was born at Carrollton, Va., in Isle of Wight County, on February 6, 1892. He was the son of Levi Winfrey and Mamie Bassett Gilliam. He graduated from Randolph-Macon Academy at Bedford and received degrees from Randolph-Macon College and Candler School of Theology, Emory University, and from Princeton Theological School.

On November 3, 1920, he married Miss Louise Wise Rixey, of Fredericksburg. Louise was his inspiration and source of strength throughout his life. Two children were born of this union: Mrs. William S. Saunders, of Smithfield; and Dr. Otis Randolph Gilliam, of Storrs, Conn.

Brother Gilliam was licensed as Local Preacher at Whaleyville in 1908, when only 16. He was admitted into the Virginia Conference in 1914, where he served for 42 1/2 years. During World War I, he served as Chaplain at Fort Jackson, S.C. The Charges he served were: Melfa, Cambridge Circuit, Waverly, Oxford, Ocean View, Decatur Street, Cumberland, Amelia, Concord, South Princess Anne, Isle of Wight, Courtland, and Mathews. In 1957, he took the Retired relation and moved to Smithfield, where he identified with the Benns Charge Conference.

In retirement, Brother Gilliam supplied pulpits, taught Sunday School, and did works of love for all whom he might serve. For some years, he was host at historic St. Luke's Church, the oldest Anglican Church in continuous existence in America. He wrote numerous devotional articles for The Upper Room and the Virginia Advocate. During the extended illness of its pastor in 1957-58, he served as Interim Pastor of Smithfield Baptist Church. That Church honored him in 1978 with an "Otis Gilliam Sunday." He was a faithful attendant at all Conference, District, and local church meetings.

Intellectual integrity and scholarship were the marks of his ministry. He read at least one book every week of his life, even after his eyesight failed him. Few

ministers have entered the pulpit better prepared to proclaim the Word. He was devoted to the ministry of the church, and his people loved him for his honest, forthright presentation of the claims of the Gospel. His unfailing sense of humor was a delight to all.

Ecumenicity was another mark of the man. He was at home with all Christians. A loving neighbor, he could be found early each day putting newspapers from yards into screen doors and replacing emptied trash cans into their proper places.

A man fully acquainted with adversity, he accepted his appointments without envy or resentment, affording the smallest church the same respect and honor as the largest. He overcame the loss of his eyesight with the use of tape and recording.

He was a family man. He took great pride in his lovely wife and the fellowship of his accomplished children.

Brother Gilliam died on July 27, 1979. His funeral service was held at the Smithfield Baptist Church to accommodate the large crowd of friends. He was laid to rest under the oaks of Old St. Luke's Church Cemetery. "Servant of God, Well Done!"

Carl Wrenn Haley

John Lee Kibler, Sr. My airliner climbed from Dulles Airport, and I looked down on the Shenandoah Valley and beheld its beauty: lush greenness, and the Shenandoah River flowing along its tortuous trail in this masterpiece of God's creation. It was into this setting that this devout disciple was born, in Warren County on January 17, 1893, the son of John Adam and Virginia Mathews Kibler. He related joyful experiences of his childhood here with four brothers and three sisters. His affinity for the Valley continued throughout his life.

While he was still a lad, his family moved to Mecklenburg County. He determined during his teens to dedicate his life in service to the Savior and to lead other people to know his Lord as he knew Him and to find the same peace and assurance that he enjoyed. He trained himself for the calling at Randolph-Macon Academy, Randolph-Macon College, and Emory University.

He married Myrtle Wilson Nash in her home on December 22, 1917, and they gave parentage to four children. His wife was as devoted to his calling as he, and she worked diligently with him throughout his schooling and ministry. They were dedicated leaders and provided deeply spiritual direction to all parishioners.

He was admitted to the Virginia Conference in November, 1919, ordained Deacon in 1921, and an Elder in 1923. His ministry began at Saxe, and during the next 43 years included pastorates at Skipwith, Phenix, Bon Air, Mathews, LaCrosse, Boykins, Alberta, Henderson, Central (Arlington), Rocky Mount, and retired from Lincolnia in 1960. Conference duties included serving on the Board of Trustees for the Children's Home.

He lived the life he believed Christ meant for him: gentle in his relationships, but convictions so firm that none failed to recognize his position. By precept and example, he enlisted approximately 2,000 to church membership, and at least seven ordained members of the Virginia Conference credit him with having influenced them to enter the ministry. Prayer was natural for him, and many have said that they would attend his services if for no other reason than to hear him pray. He knew Him to Whom he spoke, and the communication was a soul-stirring experience. He loved his Lord and all mankind and responded at any hour to give comfort and spiritual strength to those whom he served.

He enjoyed nature and gained great personal satisfaction from tilling the soil. His prayers of thanksgiving were continuous, even when the harvest was meager.

Shortly before his death, he said: "I've served the Lord all my life. I am ready to go home." Indeed he was, and to say with St. Paul: "I have fought long and hard for my lord, and through it all I have kept true to Him. And now the time has come for me to stop fighting and rest."

On August 11, 1979, he departed from his earthly loved ones: his wife, Myrtle, of Dinwiddie; two sons, John L. Kibler, Jr., of Colonial Heights, and Robert C. Kibler, of Scottsdale, Arizona; two daughters, Mrs. Rachel Pixley, of Chase City, and Mrs. Nancy Smith, of Dinwiddie; twelve grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted in Petersburg by the Rev. James R. McKenney; Mr. Kibler's son, the Rev. John L. Kibler, Jr.; and the Rev. Henry M. Matthews, whom he had baptized as

an infant. Crestview Memorial Park in South Hill is the site of his final resting. Those who received his ministry and his love were richly blessed. **Robert C. Kibler**
Luther Junius Derby, Jr. When word came on Sunday, October 7, 1979, of Luther's death, I felt that a Prince of Israel had fallen, but that he had left behind a priceless legacy. This legacy, because of his Christian influence, will bear dividends until time shall be no more.

He brought to his ministry adequate preparation, being a graduate of Randolph-Macon College and of Union Theological Seminary, in Richmond, Va. He received all of his appointments as of God. Each assignment felt the impact of a dedicated servant of God. His general demeanor was void of criticism or complaint. Murmuring had no place in his life. He was true to the highest and best at all times.

His most challenging appointment was as President of Ferrum Junior College, where he and his wife, Jeanette, served with sacrificial devotion for the years 1943-48, enabling the school to continue her scholastic and character building program.

Luther was most fortunate to share his love for his church with his equally dedicated wife, Jeanette Quarles, of Richmond, Va. She loved and cared for him beyond his years, always with gentleness and devotion. Four children were born to this union: Jeanne, now Mrs. Walter B. Barger; Luther, Jr.; Carol, now Mrs. Carol D. Micklem; and Gordon, deceased. He left, also, nine grandchildren and one great-grandson. Luther was survived also by two brothers, Virgil L. and J.P., and one sister, Mrs. C.T. Derby.

He retired from the Virginia Conference of United Methodism in 1963 in Callao, Va., but continued his ministry at several churches in the Northern Neck of Virginia until 1972, and what a blessing his ministry was.

His funeral was conducted from the Ginter Park United Methodist Church, which was filled with ministers and friends. Taking part in the service were the host pastor, the Rev. R.W. Kidd; two life-long friends, the Rev. Roscoe C. Johnson, and the writer, the Rev. A. "Mack" Reynolds. After a beautiful testimony by Luther's daughter, Mrs. Carolyn Micklem, his mortal body was laid to rest in Westhampton Memorial Park. The Rev. C. Warner Crumb, Administrator of Hermitage, and Luther's son-in-law, the Rev. Walter B. Barger, District Superintendent of Olean District, Western New York Conference, were in charge of the last rites.

We believe that God's presence was near in this day of victory and reward for this true servant of God. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord. Yea, from henceforth, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors and their works do follow them." (Revelation 14:13)

Arthur McK. Reynolds

Edward Dallas Garris was the third child of Jesse H. and Martha J. Garris. Born July 28, 1910, in Portsmouth, Va., Eddie attended the public schools of that city and was graduated from Woodrow Wilson High School in 1927. He then worked for three years in the Norfolk Naval Shipyard. During these years, the gentle voice of the Holy Spirit was persistently urging him to "preach the Word."

During a summer Youth Assembly at Randolph-Macon Woman's College, Eddie made his commitment to enter the ministry. In this commitment, his church, Central of Portsmouth, supported him by making funds available throughout his college and seminary years. For this support, he was ever grateful. After receiving his B.A. degree from Emory and Henry College, he entered Candler School of Theology at Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia, where he received his B.D. degree in 1938.

While visiting this writer in the Emory Hospital, Eddie met a lovely student nurse, Louise Welden of Griffin, Georgia. She became his wife in 1938 and there followed 41 years of a beautiful, meaningful and supportive life together. There were four children: Mary Louise, Edward D., Jr., Martha and Frances. They all have been successful and bear witness by their lives and character to the love and Christian training of their parsonage home.

Upon completing seminary in 1938, Eddie entered the Virginia Conference as a Probationer, received Deacon's Orders in 1939, and Elder's Orders in 1940, making him a member of the Conference "in Full Connection." His 41 years of a faithful service took him from the mountains to the sea, as he served the following appointments: East Pittsylvania; Stanleytown; Gloucester; Shackelford's; Beulah and St. Paul's; Zion; Tabernacle; Jeff's; Culpeper; Highland, Colonial Heights; Main Street, Danville; St.

Paul, Christiansburg; Berryman, Richmond; Broad Street, Portsmouth; Welbourne, Richmond; and Arlington Forest, Arlington.

During his ministry in Culpeper, Eddie led his congregation in building a new sanctuary and parsonage. These beautiful and serviceable buildings, located in suburban Culpeper, will provide useful service for years to come.

The burning concern of Eddie's ministry was evangelism. He served on district and conference agencies of evangelism and participated in conference and national evangelistic missions. With Louise accompanying him, he attended the International Convocation on Evangelism in Jerusalem in 1975. His effectiveness in this field was attested to by the District Superintendent of the Normell District of the Genesee Conference of New York, who spoke of his work in an evangelistic mission there as "truly phenomenal." Working in a small church of 65 members, Eddie conveyed God's love in such manner that 100 persons accepted Christ.

But the statistics of one's life tell little of the person. The value of a man, his convictions, his spirit aflame with a love of Christ and fellowman--these, and other qualities, are so much more important. To know these is to know the man. Henry Thoreau wrote, "If you would convince a man that he does wrong, do right. Men will believe what they see." Those who knew Eddie Garris saw the power of his faith and sensed his deep love of God and fellowmen.

Failing health led Eddie to retirement in June, 1979. He and Louise moved to Culpeper where, on October 12, 1979, God lifted his undaunted spirit. According to his wishes, a memorial service was held at Culpeper United Methodist Church October 14, 1979. The Rev. John Siegle, his associate at Arlington Forest, brought a message entitled, "Agape--Self-giving Love." This was a most fitting tribute. A private interment followed at Fairview Cemetery in Culpeper.

Jacob W. Mast
George Herbert Orser. In a "Credo" written shortly before his death, George Herbert Orser described his faith in God as belief in One "whose name is Christ-like love." For over 41 years, as a member of the Virginia Conference, he lived and preached that love with excellence.

A second-generation minister, George was the son of the Rev. William Asa Orser. His mother, Ruth Via Orser, was a sister of the Rev. Bernard S. Via. George and his father together contributed 93 years of service to Virginia Methodism.

George was born on November 29, 1913, at Orange. He was graduated at Petersburg High School in 1931. At Randolph-Macon College, he led his class in scholarship for four years and was graduated with Phi Beta Kappa honors. He completed his education at Union Theological Seminary, New York, graduating in 1938.

At Christ Methodist Church in New York, he met his future wife, Eloise Morgan Shaw, daughter and granddaughter of prominent clergymen of the Illinois Conference. Their home was brightened by the birth of three children: William Edward, Baltimore; George Robert, San Francisco; and Carolyn Orser Lucas, Ashland.

Beginning in 1938, George served the following appointments: Painter; Charlotte Charge; Associate Minister, Greene Memorial, Roanoke; Henderson; Fairmount, Richmond; Duncan Memorial Church and Chaplain, Randolph-Macon College, Ashland; Bon Air, Richmond; River Road, Richmond; First Church, Hampton; Braddock Street, Winchester; Southview, Roanoke. He was retired at the Conference of 1978. Moving to Richmond, he served on the staff of Reveille Church in ministry to older adults.

George led his people in three major building projects: the Duncan Memorial Church in Ashland, the educational wing at Bon Air, and the beautiful new church at Braddock Street.

Death came to George on November 5, 1979. Following a service at Reveille Church conducted by Dr. R. Kern Eutsler, the Rev. Bernard S. Via, Jr., and the Rev. Stephen G. Bray, he was laid to rest at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Richmond.

George combined a high degree of scholarship with deep Christian commitment and love of people. His as an engaging smile and ready laugh. He preached the gospel with thoughtfulness and skill. His sermons reflected the freshness and vitality of constantly renewed Christian experience. His personal integrity was of the highest. He had a creative mind that agonized over the social implications of the gospel. He spoke with relevance to the needs of people and the issues of our day. He sought justice for

everyone. His counsel was valued by his fellow ministers. When he visited in the homes of his people, he brought with him the presence of God. Withal, he was genuinely humble.

In awarding him the degree of Doctor of Divinity at Randolph-Macon in 1962, President J. Earl Moreland cited him as "a student of men, books and life." He loved life and all things beautiful.

In concluding his "Credo," George wrote this of death: "I do affirm and dwell in the hope that there is more ahead; whatever it may be, it will be good, interesting, adventuresome, challenging us to further growth, for we will be dealing as always with the same God whose name is Christ-like love."

Nothing in life and nothing in death can separate us from that love!

Harry G. Balthis

Kathryn Eye was a child of a Methodist Parsonage. She was born February 9, 1909, at Gerrardstown, W.Va. Her parents were the late Rev. W. D. Eye and Lelia Lipton Eye. From early childhood, she had the desire to become a missionary and pursued this dream while she attended Blackstone College and then went to Emory and Henry College, where she received a bachelor's degree. At Johns Hopkins University Hospital, she received training in the field of nursing. Graduate work was done at Scarritt College and Vanderbilt University.

In May, 1938, she was commissioned a missionary to the Belgian Congo in Africa, where she worked with love and caring and healing until 1960. Many Methodist Churches have circles or units named for Kathryn Eye which supported her work financially and prayerfully during her years in Africa. During the years 1960-66, she served as Educational Director at Asbury United Methodist Church in Harrisonburg, Va. The years of 1966-69, she worked at Trinity United Methodist Church in Alexandria, Va., as Educational Assistant and minister to youth. In the years of 1970-76, after her certification as a Local Pastor, she served as minister of Montague Avenue United Methodist Church, Winchester, Va. On June 24, 1976, she retired from the active ministry, but continued to preach and witness "to the Faith" until her death on Friday, November 16, 1979.

Memorial services of celebration and gratitude were held for Kathryn Eye on Monday, November 19, in Harrisonburg, Va., conducted by the Rev. Samuel E. NeSmith, the Rev. Stephen Burgess, and the Rev. Hugh Crowder, Jr. The great spirit with abounding energy and big heart with lots of love, of Kathryn Eye are with the Lord she loved and served, but she lives in her contributions to the lives of persons everywhere and is appreciated by a host of friends whose lives she touched.

A fitting tribute which was given in recognition of Jesus Christ may cover the life of Kathryn, too: "She went about doing good." Thanks be to God for Kathryn Eye!

Harvey W. Ashby

William Boyd Bryant. "The genius of a loving heart is to love and to be loved in return." Born June 13, 1905, son of Thomas F. and Cora McCann Bryant, of Loudoun County, Va., in the community of Ashburn, near Leesburg, he was the oldest of seven children. His father, a traveling salesman, bought a dairy farm in the early 1920s and "teenage" Boyd left school to attend the farm, a new and challenging experience. Briefly, he was in the United States Army, but soon returned to the farm.

Boyd's mind and heart were turned toward the ministry as he worked in his own Ryan Methodist Church, receiving the encouragement of his pastors, fellow church members and his own family. He was described in those formative years as "accurate, punctual, ambitious and hard-working." He was known to be very sincere and serious, a young man of extremely high motivations. In 1926, at 21 years, he returned to high school. Entering Randolph-Macon College in 1931, he went on to Emory University in 1933, completing his work at Candler School of Theology in 1935.

As a young minister first in the Baltimore Conference and later (after Unification) in the Virginia Conference, Boyd served eleven appointments in 36 years: Hampshire Charge (W.Va.), 1935-37; Herndon, 1937-41; Middleburg, 1941-42; Occoquan, 1942-44; Oak Grove (Norfolk), 1944-47; Lane Memorial (Altavista), 1947-51; Epworth (Covington), 1951-53; Crewe, 1953-57; Forest Road (Lynchburg), 1957-59; Crittenden, 1959-68; Oaklette (Norfolk), 1968-71.

One, who has known him from his earliest ministry, describes him as "an excellent pastor who always loved his people and was loved by them. He was a 'program' man, ever in support of the full program of his Church."

At Herndon, he served near his home community and was well received. Oak Grove remembers him with high favor. Lane Memorial saw constructive work, including a new parsonage. Crittenden, in Portsmouth District, was high watermark, a nine-year pastorate.

Soon after Seminary, Boyd was married to Miss Mary Elizabeth Craun, a school teacher and devoted church worker, whom he first met in the choir of his home church. Together at all events, Mary was a powerful and sustaining force in Boyd's life. To this happy marriage was born an only son, Ralph Leon Bryant, who remained always close to his parents and in their company.

In June 1971, retirement brought this family to Bedford, where eventually they built their own home. Bedford was good for them as they came to love Main Street Church and its people.

Boyd began losing his eyesight until blindness set in. Both he and Mary carried this hardship with a gracious acceptance. As they had faced successfully other adversities, so now with sweetness of spirit, they became an inspiration to all.

William Boyd Bryant died November 19, 1979, at the Lynchburg Medical Care Center, his own dear Mary preceding him in death June 5. His funeral service was conducted at Main Street Church, Bedford, November 21, at 7:30 p.m., by the Rev. Walter A. Whitehurst, pastor, the Rev. Peter C. Helmtoller and the writer. Interment was in Union Cemetery, Leesburg, Va., by the Rev. Woodrow W. Hayzlett.

Boyd Bryant was a soft-spoken man with unshakable convictions, a modest man with strong loyalties. His eyes twinkled as he smiled. He was lovable and gentle to all who knew him. His kindness and concern for others are well remembered. High-minded, always clean in thought and action, this dedicated man of God ever pointed the way for all to follow. **John Wynn Meyers**

Harvey Andrew Glauss left upon the world the marks of a nimble mind, an independent spirit, a deep commitment to the Christian faith, and a profound love for the Church. Battered and buffeted by the untimely loss of his two sons and two of his three daughters, he and his wife found God to be the Great Comforter.

Born the 25th day of March, 1889, one of eight children, to a German immigrant father, Brother Glauss began his ninety years on earth at Whaleyville, Va. He attended Oak Ridge Preparatory School in North Carolina and then held a number of jobs over a period of several years. He seriously considered the vocation of a lawyer while working as a court recorder in Launenburg, N.C., and living in the home of the judge. However, he finally yielded to the Divine Urging and entered Trinity College and Duke Theological School in preparation for the Christian ministry. He was received On Trial in the Virginia Conference in 1916.

Brother Glauss found his helpmate in the person of Ida May Shackelford, and their lives were formally entwined on September 15, 1917. Together they raised their family and provided an atmosphere of warm hospitality to their friends and to those in need.

Brother Harvey was known as a knowledgeable and forceful preacher who, during his 39 1/2 years of active ministry, served the following Virginia Conference charges: Altavista, Dinwiddie, Prince George, Ocean View, Craddockville-Belle Haven, South Hill, Franktown-Johnsons, Memorial in Petersburg, St. James and Fairmount in Richmond, Warrenton, Zion in Norfolk, and McCanless Memorial in South Boston. Some of these churches were much strengthened by his leadership in raising funds.

Harvey delighted many with his playful gruffness, his lively humor, and his graphic expressions, many of which were extracted from the rural American background. He deeply loved the Church and was determined to remain active and loyal to her during his long years of "retirement." He did not retire from the meetings of the Annual Conference, but attended regularly even in poor health, with the help of his daughter, Margaret Jones, and her husband. Finally, Bishop W. Kenneth Goodson was able to announce to the Conference his 64th consecutive year of attendance.

Following his formal retirement in 1956, Brother Glauss continued to contribute his time and talents to the needs of the local church, serving as a church school

teacher for over 22 years at St. James, Richmond, and actively participating in a Bible study group. He was also active in the community as a Mason, earning the 32nd Degree and a 60-year membership pin.

Harvey Andrew Glauss was received into the Father's Home on December 14, 1979. The funeral was held at the St. James Church on December 17, with the Richmond District Superintendent, Dr. Harry B. Eaton, and the pastor, the Rev. John N. Wimer, Jr., conducting the service. Interment was at the Oakwood Cemetery at South Hill.

John N. Wimer, Jr.

Nathaniel Hardin Davis was born in Baltimore, Md., grew up in Amelia County, Va., and received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1930 from Randolph-Macon College in Ashland. He received his Bachelor of Divinity Degree from Emory University in Atlanta, Ga., in 1932 and a Doctor of Theology Degree from Iliff School of Theology in Denver, Colorado, in 1948. He was first married to a Scarritt graduate and deaconess, Ellen Wright of Amelia, Va., who preceded him in death July 23, 1966. He later married Hilda Chilton Clements, who survives him. Three children survive: Faye D. Wilkerson of Mechancisville, Raye D. Power of Lucama, N.C., and George W. Davis of Richmond.

He served the following pastorates: Kenwood, Essex, Gloucester Point, Lancaster, Urbanna, Suffolk; Oxford, Chase City, Lexington: Trinity, Pace Memorial, and Parksley.

He was chaplain during World War II, serving in Europe, where he was awarded the bronze star and four battle stars for heroic and meritorious achievements.

In 1948, Dr. Davis was named President of Ferrum Junior College, where he served until 1952. In "A History of Ferrum College--An Uncommon Challenge 1914-1974," the author, Frank B. Hurt, said, "the leadership of Dr. Davis made a distinct contribution to Ferrum at a time of ordeal and stringency. He left Ferrum as an institution in a stronger position to face the challenge of the ensuing years."

Dr. Davis loved young people. He took a particular interest in encouraging them to obtain the best preparation possible for life. While president of Ferrum, his encouragement and support made it possible for many young people to get started with a college education who would otherwise have not been able to get it. Several members of the Virginia Annual Conference, including the writer, can attest to the fact of his encouragement and the tremendous influence he had in our lives.

In one of Dr. Davis' last Easter sermons, he closed the sermon by saying, "For early some morning, we will awake, and see the towers of the Holy City, the new Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, and we will hear a voice saying: 'Behold, the dwelling of God is with men. He will dwell with them and they shall be his people, and God himself will be with them. He will wipe away every tear from their eye and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.'"

Early Christmas morning, 1979, Dr. Davis said good-bye to this life and awakened to see "The Towers of the Holy City."

He closed that Easter sermon with "This is really our only destination--He lives--thank God He lives--and because He lives, we shall live also." **Joseph T. Carson, Jr.**

Stephen Green Cowan, Jr. Steve Cowan's death on January 7, 1980, brought to its close a long, effective, and honorable ministry in the Virginia Conference. Through the 36 years of his active itinerancy, he served the West Buckingham Charge, the West Hanover Charge, the Madison Charge, the Urbanna Charge, Greenwood (Richmond), Kenbridge, and Trinity (Lynchburg). Following retirement, he served an additional three years as supply pastor on the Buckingham Charge.

Born on August 5, 1896, he grew up in the Bon Air section of Chesterfield County. His parents, Mary H. and Stephen G. Cowan, educated him in the schools at Bon Air and at McGuire's University Preparatory School in Richmond. Steve's education was completed later at Randolph-Macon and Union Theological Seminary, Richmond.

The church was home to Steve all of his life. From age four, he was a member of the Bon Air Methodist Sunday School, and at age 12, he was its secretary. He became a member of the church and later taught the Adult Bible Class. Among other forms of Christian activity, he served as president of the first Chesterfield County Epworth League Union during his adolescent years.

In 1918, he volunteered for the regular United States Army Infantry and served until discharged in 1919. After holding several government jobs, he affiliated with the C & O Railroad and worked there five years until he resigned to enter upon ministerial studies. The long-felt call of God to the Christian ministry was too strong, and his love for The Methodist Church too great, to resist. Steve gladly went back to College after 14 years away from studies.

His pastoral service in Buckingham County introduced him to Margaret Elizabeth Morgan, of Andersonville. Courtship followed, and they were married in September, 1935. Their life together was blessed with three children: Stephen G. Cowan, III, of Dundas, Va.; Mrs. Elizabeth Cowan Soffee, of Richmond; and Douglas Wynham Cowan, of Dillwyn. Together this fine family traveled from parsonage to parsonage across the years as the youngsters grew up. In addition to Mrs. Cowan and their children, Steve is survived by five grandchildren and a sister, Mrs. John K. Fleming, of Bon Air.

Steve Cowan left behind him fond memories of great happiness and affection in the family circle. He was a stable and reliable person, possessing a sense of humor and a friendly, open personality which endeared him to family, to friends, and to those he served as pastor. With it all, Steve was a man of dignity and spiritual stature. His scholarly mind, his integrity, and his complete dedication to the high ideals of the Christian ministry won him the respect of his colleagues. Many felt that he had a great talent for expressing profound religious truths in simple language.

Though his last years brought increasing deafness and physical disability, he retained his cheerful and friendly spirit and encouraged and ministered to those who came to visit. Literally hundreds of personal notes and letters came to his home when he reached the end of his pilgrimage. Steve is, and will always be, remembered with love and appreciation by so many.

William K. Thomas

Emmet William Seay Gowin was born in Buckingham County, Va., on March 12, 1907, to Elijah Allen Gowin and his wife, Martha Seay Gowin. At the age of eight, he heard the call of God and set his heart to become a minister. He attended the local schools and served a short hitch in the United States Army. He went to Ferrum Training School, now Ferrum College, for the last two years of high school. He attended Alfred Holbrook College, earning A.B. (1936) and M.A. (1937) degrees. He continued his education at Asbury Theological Seminary, receiving the B.D. degree in 1938. His hunger for education continued until he earned the Ph.D. in Philosophy from Missouri State in 1947.

At the seminary he met Lynden Grace Parker. They were married in August of 1938. That fall he transferred from the Kentucky Conference to the Virginia Conference and was appointed pastor of the Ferrum College Church. He attained Full Connection in the Virginia Methodist Conference in 1940. His further appointments were : Stokesland Circuit, Danville; Shenandoah, Staunton; Aldersgate, Hampton; LeKies, Norfolk; Wright Memorial, Portsmouth; Oaklette, Norfolk; Chincoteague, Eastern Shore; Grace Church, Danville; Zion-Grace, Norfolk; Colonial Avenue, Norfolk, from which he retired in 1973 because of declining health.

Early in 1972, Emmet learned he had Parkinson's disease, which grew steadily worse. During his last two years, he suffered from Lou Gehrig disease, leukemia and shingles, also. Although he suffered much, he never lost hope or faith in God. He only desired the more to depart and be with the Lord and he devoted wife, who had died April 25, 1976.

In spite of his handicaps during his two years at the Lafayette Health Care Center, Norfolk, where he died, he was continually reading the Bible. He read the New Testament through six times the first year and said he spent hours each day in prayer. While he was still able to speak, he witnessed for his Lord to those around him and yearned to preach again, declaring that the resurrection would be his theme.

The day of his birth was a good one for many, because it was by him that they heard the Word of God and were saved. The seventh day of January, 1980, was a good one for Emmet, for it was then the Lord called him out of his suffering into the "haven of rest." When he died, workers around him were heard to say, "He was a good man. He fought a good fight."

He leaves behind three children: Lynden Anne Gowin, Lynchburg; Marilyn Gowin Kayer, Virginia Beach; and Emmet William Seay Gowin, II, Newtown, Penn., teacher at Princeton University. There are four grandchildren. His brothers are: Percy, Roy, Chris, Walter, Ernest, and Lewis. His sisters are: Mrs. Nellie Glass, Mrs. Pauline Smith, and Mrs. Ruth LeSuerr.

The funeral was at Oaklette Church, constructed under his guidance while pastor there, with the present pastor, Charles Bartholomew, presiding. Denzil Daniel, Francis E. Collins, and Dr. F. Douglas Dillard, District Superintendent, had selected parts in the service. Lemley P. Foley, life-long friend and writer hereof, gave the meditation. The pall bearers were retired Methodist ministers. The body was laid the next day by the side of his beloved Grace in the Fort Hill Cemetery in Lynchburg, with Henry Chenault presiding. His witness remains, but the devoted servant is at rest.

Lemley P. Foley

William Henry Hantzmon. One of the bonuses in serving as minister at Miles Memorial Church is the fellowship with the parsonage families in the "Selby Place Retirement Community: in Norfolk. Included have been Bill and Eva Hantzmon, number six on our chronological roll.

Bill's interesting and varied life began in Alexandria, Va., on February 19, 1890. He received his education at Western Maryland University and by correspondence from Emory University. Bill was licensed as a Local Preacher by the First Methodist Protestant Church in Wilmington, Delaware, where he was known as "the boy preacher." After serving as Supply Pastor for Campbell Circuit, he was stranded in Lynchburg in 1913, where he secured a job with the YMCA at an annual pay of forty dollars.

On September 29, 1914, Bill was married to Eva Zimmerman of Lynchburg, and seven weeks later, he entered the itinerancy of the Methodist Protestant Church, his first appointment being Gretna, near Lynchburg. Other churches served by Bill and Eva included Fishing Creek (Md.), Victoria, Schoolfield, Hinton Avenue, Belmont in Richmond, Fox Hill, Oakland in Danville, Fairview Heights in Lynchburg, Lynnhaven, and Campostella. During the flu epidemic in 1918-19, he was often called many times during the night to help the only undertaker in town prepare the bodies for burial. His journal during the year tells of funerals each day.

With the coming of the Depression, there were not enough churches to go around, and when Bill was unable to raise the funds for train fare to the session of Annual Conference in Wilmington, he was left without an appointment and retired on October 20, 1930. Fortunately, the opportunity came for him to find Civil Service employment, and Bill began working first with the Veterans' Administration, and then with the Fish and Wildlife Service of the Department of the Interior. The Fish and Wildlife Service sent him to Portland, Oregon, in 1940.

After assignments in Oregon, Alaska, and Seattle, Bill retired in 1957 from Civil Service as an auditor with the Department of the Navy and the Department of the Interior. Even though Bill had a second career in government service, he continued his close association with the Church, doing supply preaching most of the time.

To know Bill was to appreciate his pleasant personality and his humor, along with the twinkle in his eye which would cause one to wonder what was coming next. On one occasion, after a stay in a Catholic hospital in Oregon, the head Sister called in his room as he was preparing for discharge to inquire if the Methodist preacher had received adequate care. Bill is said to have replied, "It could not have been better if I had been the Pope!"

Bill's earthly life came to an end at DePaul Hospital in Norfolk on January 10, 1980, about a month before his 90th birthday. Funeral services were held at Miles Memorial Church on January 12, with the ministers of the "Selby Place Retirement Community" (William Asher, Fred Bonney, Irwin Couch, Carl Haley, William Peacock, John Teter) serving as pall bearers, and his tired body was laid to rest in Forest Lawn Cemetery in Norfolk.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by four children, Frances H. Vaughan, of Seattle, Wash.; Helen H. Simpson, of Kitty Hawk, N.C.; William E. Hantzmon, of Klamath Falls, Oregon; Evelyn H. Christianson, of Rockville, Md.; ten grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Norman G. Preston, Jr.

Charles Otis Kidd. It was Sunday afternoon, January 27, 1980, our Heavenly Father called Charles Otis Kidd. Death came swiftly following a heart attack and within moments, his immortal spirit was at home with God. Funeral services were conducted at Andrew Chapel, Montross, Va., by the pastor, the Rev. John T. LeGault, Jr., and his close friends, Dr. Harry B. Eaton and the writer of this memoir. Burial was in his family section, Oakwood Cemetery, Richmond.

Born in Richmond, Va., July 16, 1907, he was the son of William Henry and Edith Ree Kidd. He finished high school in 1924 and that same year married Florence Lenora Hamilton, who became a vital part of his life and ministry throughout the remaining 56 years of their life together. Their lives were blessed with three daughters: Edith Ree (Mrs. John R. Davison), Shirley Mae (Mrs. Leonard V. Hathaway), and Georgiana Rowe (Mrs. Roger C. Gray).

After finishing high school, he went to work for his father in his construction business, where he became a master craftsman. While teaching a Men's Bible Class at Bishop Memorial Methodist Church, he felt a call to Christian ministry. In 1937, he was granted a Local Preacher's license and entered Randolph-Macon College the next year, followed by study by Union Theological Seminary, Richmond. He was received On Trial in the Virginia Conference October, 1941, and ordained Elder and received into Full Connection October, 1944. Recognizing his unique abilities, Randolph-Macon awarded him the Doctor of Divinity Degree in 1962.

During his 35 years as an active minister, he served Bishop Memorial, Chatham, Rocky Mount, Virginia Beach, Reville, and the Danville and Alexandria Districts. During World War II, he served as chaplain in the Virginia State Guard, was promoted to Major and assigned to the Adjutant General's Office. June, 1973, he was granted retirement and went to live at his beloved "Berkshire Acres," Montross. In retirement he still gave splendid leadership to The Home Corporation of the Virginia Conference as president, and then as executive secretary.

In my years of association with him, I early realized how much he loved his family and how he was the center of their affection. He delivered each daughter's baccalaureate sermon, gave each in marriage, married each one and baptized many of his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. His home in retirement was a second home for all of them. He was at his best in his home. To him it was "a haven of blessing and a place of peace." The family felt strong and secure because of his love and he in turn received strength from those close family ties.

"C.O." served with dignity and distinction throughout his busy ministry and was an earnest and faithful preacher of the Gospel, declaring the unsearchable riches of Christ with great faith and fervor. He felt strongly what the church stood for and at every opportunity, let his feelings be known. He was a diligent pastor, an excellent administrator, loved and respected by people in all walks of life. Physical evidence of this love is shown by the window placed in his honor in Watson Memorial, Chatham, and the Chapel built and named for him at Virginia Beach.

This brief memoir is written by one who knew him well, loved and admired him much. As King David said about another, so say I, "Do you not know that a prince and a great man has fallen this day."

George S. Lightner

Charles S. Snead. "A friend of God is one through whom God speaks and is heard by his fellowmen." The son of Samuel Rodger and Florence Jackson Snead, born March 29, 1901, in a log cabin west of Covington, Va. Charles Snead attended Sunday School at Fletcher's Chapel, Callaghan, with his parents, brothers and sisters. His father was himself a remarkable man who became a lay preacher serving six pastoral charges in the mountain regions of the old Baltimore Conference. His saintly mother died in his fourth year. It is well remembered how the family stood together, father leading as an older sister played the pump organ, and they all sang the songs of the Lord. Charles accepted Christ under his father's preaching in Romney, W.Va.

Late teens brought him to Covington, where he worked with Uncle Tom Snead in a foundry. In 1926, he went with the C and O Railroad, which was his employment until retirement.

Sunday School and Epworth League brought him to Granbery Church. For 23 years, he

was in the choir. Charles met his wife, Miss Blanche Jordan (Pattie), attending church youth meetings. They were married November 26, 1926.

In 1932, Charles became the teacher of the Walter Lambuth Bible Class and for ten years shared its growth in becoming one of the largest men's classes in Virginia. In 1942, after a struggle with himself, he answered the call to serve the Paint Bank Charge, south of Covington, as temporary supply. He seemed almost a prodigy as he effectively continued with those eight churches for almost 12 years, while working daily on the railroad and rearing a large family. Shoaf's Chapel was rebuilt to become Persinger Memorial, honoring the late Rev. Benjamin M. Persinger, a native son.

His schooling continued by correspondence and then at Emory and Duke in vacation periods until his studies were completed. He became an Accepted Supply Pastor and in 1940, an Associate Member of the Conference.

In 1956, Charles was assigned Collierstown (four churches) in Rockbridge County, where he served for another ten years. He and Pattie built their retirement home to live their last days among those gracious people.

After retirement (1966), two further calls took him to Bath County (1968-70), serving where his father had served 60 years before, and to Rockbridge Charge (1971) southeast of Lexington.

It is said of him, "His zest for life, his love for people, his witty, humorous sayings, his beautiful smile, and his great love for singing captured the hearts of the people. His sermons seemed directly from God and he always gave God the credit, thanking Him constantly."

Wherever Charles went, Pattie was there, also, a husband and wife inseparable. Their home was open to all. It beamed with five sons, five daughters, half-brothers, and nieces. People would say of their happy home, "It was filled with the joy of the Lord."

Charles S. Snead died February 2, 1980. His funeral was held at Granbery Church February 5, by Rev. C. Roy Everett, District Superintendent, and the Rev. Kenneth S. James, his pastor.

John Wynn Myers

Raymond Eugene Musser. "True greatness often comes in modest attire, only to be discovered in after years." Son of William Glendore and Emma Whitt Musser, Raymond was a native of Roanoke, born October 30, 1902. He was a graduate of Jefferson High (1921), Roanoke College (1925), and Candler, Emory University (1928). He was motivated by his grandfather, who lived in his boyhood home, "to learn and to be a good student." An enthusiastic participant in the youth program at Belmont Church, he was influenced by a teacher, W.E. Oliver, and the pastor, the Rev. Joseph H.. Balthis, Sr.

Licensed to preach in 1923, Raymond served Glen Wilton Charge while a student at Roanoke College. There he was immersed in English Literature, Latin and Greek, translating the Gospel of Mark. Plato and Kant opened his mind to a comprehension of Christian Ethics.

At Emory, while working in St. Paul's Church in southeast Atlanta, he met Miss Louise McDaniel, a student at Agnes Scott College, who shared his academic and religious ideals. They were married on June 10, 1930, after Raymond was established in his first appointment in Virginia, Newport-Mount Olivet, in Giles County.

He describes his first decade of ministry as challenging, but financially difficult in depression years. Necessity directed him from Christian Education to the parish ministry, where he served Shenandoah, Page County (1931-36), Moorefield, W.Va. (1936-40), and Milton, W.Va. (1940-42).

His second decade began with an Army Chaplaincy (1942-45), serving with General Patton in North Africa, Italy and Germany. Returning to Virginia, some of the most constructive work of his life was in the creation of Woodlawn (1946-51) and Grace (1951-53), both in Roanoke.

His third decade took him to Central, Salem (1953-57), where he relocated and built a completely new structure, and West End, Portsmouth (1957-62), where he built a new sanctuary.

His fourth decade was at Oak Grove, Norfolk (1962-64), where another new congregation, Great Bridge, was created; Bay Lake (1964-66), where a new sanctuary was erected and a parsonage purchased; and Andrew Chapel, Vienna (1966-68). Following retirement

in June, 1968, the Mussers served Goodwin's Chapel, Roanoke (1968-70), Christ Church, Covington (1971), and during the winter months, Marlow, near Foley, Alabama (1972-78).

This is the life of a remarkable man, of a faithful ministry far above average. Raymond brought to his ministry a versatility not common to most ministers. He said of himself, "I had no outstanding talent, but I had a half-dozen skills that enabled me to help the church in different areas." Raymond loved books, he loved to sing and tell jokes, he loved people. He was a thinker, a writer, a teacher, a man of indomitable courage and "stickability," an indefatigable worker.

Louise was ever at his side with pluck and genius, a part of his every success. From their devoted and happy life, there came two children: Mary Lou (Mrs. Laurence D. Brown) and Jay (Lt. Col. John G. Musser); and three foster children, Dr. John H. Riew, Danilo Ivancevic, and Mrs. Peter Irigaray (Eleanor). All are outstanding people.

Ray faced his last years with acceptance and tranquility. He said, "For 60 years I have tried to show people how a Christian lives; now I'll show the younger generation how one dies." Death came on February 5, 1980, and Charles Ballentine wrote in the Roanoke Times, "One of God's truly great ambassadors to the people of Virginia has been recalled by his Sovereign."

His memorial service was held at South Roanoke Church, 2:00 p.m., February 8, 1980 (following an 11:00 a.m. interment in Fairview Cemetery), conducted by the Rev. Harvey W. Ashby, pastor, the Rev. James L. Duley, District Superintendent; the Rev. R. Moorman Parker, and the Rev. James A. Griffin, Jr.

John Wynn Myers

Walter Henry Hurd was born in Pittsburgh, Penn., on January 10, 1903, a son of Walter H and Julia (Cephus) Hurd. He moved to Staunton, Va., early in his adult life and lived there much of his adult life. He became a local preacher under the administration of the Rev. Henry Lewis. He was the pastor of the West Staunton Charge for 17 years, serving from 1957-74. He served in both the Central Jurisdiction and the Southeastern Jurisdiction. He served in the Washington Conference, the North Carolina-Virginia Conference and the Virginia Conference. He served in the Virginia District and the Staunton District.

During his administration, Cedar Green Church burned and he was an active leader in helping with the plans for building a new church. Cedar Green Church and Mount Chapel Church merged and Community United Methodist Church was built in 1961. New pews were placed in Community Church in 1963 and a new building was completed at Hadens Chapel Church, Palmyra, in the same year.

He was moderator of the Ministers', Deacons', Stewards' and Laymen's Union of Virginia, serving for 10 years. He retired as an employee of Waynesboro DuPont Works at the age of 65. Beyond the love of family, he had a singular love for his Lord and for his church and it was evident. After his health failed, it was through his love for his church that he wanted his home to be used for the parsonage. He was elected an Associate Member of the Virginia Conference in 1969. He retired in 1974. He became a guest at Bridgewater Home in 1975. He died in Rockingham Memorial Hospital early Tuesday morning, February 19, 1980, having entered the hospital a few hours earlier.

His wife, Mrs. Nettie (Cleveland) Hurd, died May 27, 1970. Surviving are a daughter, Mrs. Linda (Hurd) Johnson of Falls Church, two grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and other relatives. A funeral service was conducted in Community United Methodist Church at 2:00 p.m., Friday, February 22, 1980, by the Rev. C. Roy Everett, Jr., Staunton District Superintendent, and the Rev. John H. Betha, pastor of Community Church, assisted by the Rev. J. Henry Scott, Jr., and Isaac Paul-Coker, pastor of the Staunton-Grottoes Charge. Burial was in the Cedar Green Cemetery.

Our deceased brother has completed his race of life and has come to the end of his journey. It can be said that "he fought a good fight, he finished his course, and he kept the faith."

'Till Memory fades and life departs

You'll live forever in our hearts;

Time takes away the edge of grief

But memory turns back every leaf.

Joseph A. Carter, Jr.

Weldon Freeman Lane, son of Grant Ulysses Lane and Etta Blaghter Lane, was born in Mount Vernon, Indiana, November 29, 1906. He was educated at Kalamazoo College, with his seminary work having been done at Anderson College.

Weldon Lane became a minister in the Church of God, Anderson, and served pastorates in that denomination for 25 years before entering the Methodist ministry. Those pastorates were in Belding, Greenville, and Kalamazoo, Michigan; Norfolk, Virginia; and Huntington, W.Va.

In 1963, Weldon became a minister of the Virginia Conference of the Methodist Church and was appointed Associate Pastor of Park Place Methodist Church, Norfolk, where he served for three years. Afterward, he was pastor of Warwick Memorial Church, Newport News, and Cottage Place Church, Portsmouth. Following his retirement in 1973, he and his wife affiliated with Haygood United Methodist Church, Virginia Beach, where he served as Ministerial Assistant.

At the time of his death, Weldon and Osie Esther Todd Lane had been happily married for more than 49 years. This devoted couple met as young people at their home church in Marion, Indiana. Their affection for each other was evident to all who knew them, and their common dedication to Christ and His Church was an inspiration. To this union were born two daughters, Mrs. Phyllis Lane Bailey and Mrs. Donna Lane Burrus, both of Virginia Beach, who survive him. He is also survived by six grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

It was a privilege to have been associated with Weldon Lane in the work of the Church and also to have had him as a friend. He was an affable and genteel person. He was a compassionate servant of Christ, always ready to render any possible service to anyone, always concerned about others. He was devout in both the practice and expression of his Christian faith, one whose life and beliefs were honored and respected. His work and his influence will be greatly missed but long remembered by his family, his parishioners and his friends.

Weldon Lane died March 14, 1980, after a period of declining health. A funeral service, appropriately entitled "A Celebration of Love," was held at McKendree United Methodist Church on Sunday, March 16, conducted by the Reverends William A. Thomas, Robert Cofield, F. Douglas Dillard and Eugene R. Woolridge, Jr. Burial was in Forest Lawn Cemetery.

The poet-hymn writer surely spoke for Weldon when he said, "Servant of God, well done."

Harold H. Fink

Edwin Elvin Branstetter. "Lord, help me live from day to day
In such a self-forgetful way
That even when I kneel to pray
My prayer shall be for--others."--C.D. Meigs

This was the favorite hymn of Edwin E. Branstetter and according to his congregations, neighbors, friends and brother pastors, was his way of life. He served churches across the Virginia Annual Conference after preparing for the ministry at Asbury College, the University of Charleston and Duke Divinity School. The testimonies of all who knew him was that "this man, small in stature, was a giant in spirit, service, love and devotion."

Edwin was born in Hodgesville, Kentucky, September 10, 1912. He died April 20, 1980. In 1939, Edwin married Mary Frances Foster, who became a devoted wife, companion and servant of Christ and His Church along with her husband. To their marriage, God gave a son, Julian Lee, who was to bless his parents and present them with two beautiful grandchildren. Ed loved his family and they were a great blessing to him.

Edwin and Frances were living in the community of Surry when Ed was called home to hear his Heavenly Father say, "Well done, good and faithful servant," and to receive the crown that had been laid up for him. The memorial service was held April 22, 1980, at Purviance Funeral Home, Wakefield, Va., and afterwards, in keeping with Ed's wishes, his ashes were dusted over the ocean where he had served his beloved country in the United States Navy during World War II with the same faithfulness he had served his church.

"Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arms hath bound the restless wave,
O hear us when we cry to Thee
For those in peril on the sea."--William Whiting

And so his closing thoughts were still for "others."

James G. Holloman

Caleb Roy Everett, Jr., was born in Suffolk, Va., September 18, 1920. He was the son of Caleb R. Everett, Sr., and Thelma Eley Everett. Barnes Church on the Newsoms Charge, Southampton County, nurtured his early Christian life, and he remained intensely proud of that heritage throughout his life.

He felt God's call to the Christian ministry in April of 1938, while a freshman at Virginia Tech and transferred to Randolph-Macon College, in Ashland, graduating in 1942. At Duke Divinity School, he wrote his thesis on "Harry Emerson Fosdick's Interpretation of the Christian Attitude toward War." This led to a life-long correspondence with Dr. Fosdick. Roy's sermons were filled with Fosdick quotations, such as "Find a high purpose and build your life around it. Give yourself to it with all your heart," or "Take a job that's too big for you and give it your best." Roy completed his studies in June 1945, and became Wesley Foundation Director at the University of North Carolina, where he served for one year.

On June 28, 1946, he married LaVearn Cook, who shared his dedication to the ministry. Years later, when he published Words to Live By, he dedicated the volume to LeVearn, "Who practices what her husband preaches."

The Everetts' three children, Stephen Roy, Leslie Henderson, and Betsy LeVearn, brought great pleasure to their father's life.

His Conference appointments included Churchland-West Norfolk; Bishop Memorial; Providence, Richmond; Thrasher Memorial, Vinton; Crossman; Stratford Hills; Saint Paul, Woodbridge; and Springfield. He was in his first year as Superintendent of the Staunton District when he was tragically killed in an automobile accident on May 3, 1980.

The hundreds of ministers from the Conference and lay persons from his former churches who filled Central Church, Staunton, at his funeral service bore testimony to his great influence upon the spiritual life of this Conference. Many ministers stated that in their studies were drawers of materials for sermons or private devotions which Roy had shared with them.

Roy believed in the greatness of God, and preached often of God's transcendent power. But this was balanced by his conviction that the great God who made us can be known personally. This is the heart of his faith, and is reflected in a poem, which he wrote:

"How wonderful life can be
When the God beyond us, but very near
Speaks to the God within us--
And we hear!"

He practiced a strict Methodist discipline in both his spiritual and physical life. His prayer life was pietistic, but he was a social activist. He loved baseball as much as discussing theology. He knew all the children in his church and wrote a note of encouragement to some young person or fellow clergyman almost daily.

A giant oak has fallen, and the forest is silent.

His funeral service was conducted in Central Church, Staunton, by Dr. Esdras S. Gruver and Bishop W. Kenneth Goodson on May 6, 1980, and interment was in the Newsoms Cemetery on May 7, with the Rev. Harry Bunch, pastor of the Newsoms Charge, presiding.

Lester D. Nave

Charles Ferguson Cooper, son of Oley and Addie Cooper, was born at Matheny, W.Va., on December 5, 1905. He attended high school at Oceana, W.Va., and West Virginia Wesleyan College, at Buchannon, W.Va.

In 1928, he married Maymie V. Cook. To this union, three children were born: Burl, Charles and Kethel. All are now married and have children.

He was a retired Associate Member of the Conference with 31.75 years of service. He was a member of the Virginia Conference for 14 years. He retired in 1975, to take the Jeffrey Charge, Beckley District, of W.Va., which he served faithfully until the Lord called him home May 17, 1980. His whole heart and soul were dedicated to his charge and its members. His favorite scripture was the Twenty-third Psalm. A favorite song was "A Charge to Keep I Have," by Charles Wesley.

Our pastor was truly one of God's faithful servants. He possessed a unique quality of leadership. He had a passion for knowledge and a search for wisdom, especially theology and biblical interpretation. He had a sense of humor and was one

of the most appreciate persons, whether the gift was large or small. His smile, kind gentle manner, courage and gift to counsel were perfect examples of Christian love.

He was a member of the Odd Fellows Lodge 170, at Madison, W.Va. He was also a member of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge AF & AM, of Chincoteague, Va.

Memorial services were conducted May 20, 1980, at Matheny, W.Va., at the Matheny United Methodist Church, with the Rev. Charles S. Thompson, District Superintendent, of Beckley, W.Va., officiating. Burial was in Palm Memorial Gardens at Matheny, in Wyoming County.

It has been an honor and privilege to write this memoir of our pastor. He will be remembered by those who knew and loved him as a faithful servant of his Lord.

"And now the Master says, 'Well done,
Thou good and faithful servant. Come,
Lay down the pitcher and the lamp;
Lay down the trumpet, leave the camp.'
The weary hand will then be seen,

Clasped in those pierced hands--naught between."--Selected

Edith Maureen Chambers

Hobert Wolfe. It was during his duty in the United States Navy as a submarine crewman that Hobert felt the call to the ministry. Under the love and grace of our Heavenly Father, Hobert felt led to proclaim the peace and love of God. He loved people and loved to share the grace of Christ with people who were burdened in life. He loved to counsel and worked in this capacity at Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center while serving Saint Mark's Church in Waynesboro.

A native of West Virginia, born in Clarksburg, February 21, 1921, he began serving the West Franklin Charge of the Virginia Conference in 1956. He was ordained a Deacon in 1959, an Elder in 1961, became a Probationary Member in 1962 and was received into Full Connection in 1964. Other charges served by Hobert were: Prince Edward, New Bethel, Saint Mark's and Crimora.

In 1970, Hobert suffered a serious stroke which left him disabled from the ministry. He spent the next 10 years in and out of nursing homes and hospitals, but he loved life as much as he did people, and even though his life was complicated with paralysis, he continued to minister to hundreds of people whom he came to know in the various institutions. Though unable to speak, yet he spoke, but the smiles, laughter and tears that became his means of communication.

He loved the ministry and was thrilled when he saw other persons respond to the call to the ministry. His gesture of placing a stole on the altar of Saint Mark's Church to be given to the church's first candidate for the ministry displayed that concern and became a reality when the call of God came upon John Moses, who in the year that Hobert passed away graduated from Duke University and is now serving a church in Western North Carolina.

Hobert will be remembered by multitudes in the Waynesboro area, for he was a man whose circumstances in life challenged any of our life situations. Through his strength in weakness, inspiration was channeled into many lives.

Hobert died on May 20, 1980, and was buried in the native earth that gave him birth: Clarksburg, W.Va. Since the death of his wife in 1979, he had lived with his daughter in Manassas, Va.

The United Methodist Church has lost a great preacher and a beloved friend. But because he was a part of us, the history of United Methodism is much richer. He was faithful to his God and to his people and his ministry lives on in the lives of many and in the life of our great Annual Conference

James W. Meredith

Sterling Watkins Wilkinson was born in Lunenburg County, Va., on August 31, 1885, the son of Sterling Neblett and Illa Ogburn Wilkinson. He grew up in a loyal, devout Methodist home, spending his early years farming and working the family grist mill.

Having already attended Randolph-Macon Academy, Bedford, in 1904-05, he felt a strong call to the ministry in 1910 and returned to school to prepare. His education included graduation from Randolph-Macon College and completion of the full Conference Course of Study.

Mr. Wilkinson received his local preacher's license in 1910, was admitted On Trial into the Virginia Conference in 1914 and became a Full Connection Member in 1916. His traveling ministry began in 1912, when he was assigned as student pastor of the Nottoway Charge. The following year he was appointed to the East Nottoway Charge, continuing his college work, and in 1916 was assigned to the Charlotte Charge, where he served for four years. Other charges served later were: West Brunswick, Nelson, Pungoteague, West Dinwiddie, Hanover, East Dinwiddie, Courtland, and the Rappahannock Charge. It was from Rappahannock that he retired on his physician's recommendation due to ill health in 1942. However, following his retirement, he served when needed as supply pastor on the West Mecklenburg Charge and later on the Lunenburg Charge. In addition, Mr. Wilkinson regularly taught Sunday School for many years at Zion Methodist Church, Union Level.

On June 7, 1916, he was married to Miss Annie Lou Simmons of Union Level, Va., and their union was blessed with four children: Elizabeth Rosely, Dorothy Watkins, Helen McRae, and William Leon. It was a source of satisfaction to the parents that each of these grew to maturity and completed a college education.

Sterling Wilkinson had a friendly and open personality which made it very easy for persons to approach him and come to know him. He was kind and thoughtful, and his great faith in God and devoted ministry were strengthening factors in all the churches and charges which he served. He asked for, and enjoyed rural circuit work during his entire ministry.

He was in the 95th year of his age and had been a member of the Virginia Annual Conference for nearly 66 years at the time of his death on May 26, 1980. His funeral service was conducted by the undersigned and the Rev. Ernest W. Conner, Jr., at Zion United Methodist Church, Mecklenburg County, with interment in the church cemetery. A large crowd of friends and family members were in attendance.

Sterling Wilkinson leaves behind him fine memories of faithful ministry performed and of a loving Christian attitude demonstrated, both through the years of his active pastorate and through the lengthy period of his retirement. He will be remembered with gratitude.

William K. Thomas

Kermit Ralph Cassady was born February 7, 1918, in Petersburg, W.Va. Early in life he joined the Evangelical United Brethren Church, Petersburg, which later became the Grove Street United Methodist Church. Kermit attended Shenandoah College, Winchester, Va., and graduated from Berea College, Berea, Kentucky, in 1941. At Berea College, he met Thada Briscoe, a registered nurse, and they were married in 1941.

His preparation for the Christian ministry was at Bonebrake Theological Seminary, Dayton, Ohio. During this time, he served a student ministry at the Evangelical United Brethren Church, Zion, Ohio.

Kermit was accepted into the United State Navy as a chaplain in July of 1944 and served in this capacity until 1973, when he was retired with disability. He had served aboard several ships and at the Naval Hospital in Philadelphia. He also served overseas on Okinawa, in Vietnam, and in the Panama Canal Zone. Among his awards for service he included the Bronze Star with Combat V. During his ministry as a chaplain, Kermit was ever aware of and dedicated to the love of his church and to service for God and country.

He is survived by his wife, Thada, a daughter, Linda, and granddaughter, Samantha, all of Lexington, Kentucky. Other survivors include his brothers, Commander Florian W. Cassady, Chc. U.S.N., Ret., of San Diego, Ca., and Worth E. Cassady, of Seattle, Wash.

Following his death on July 11, 1978, graveside Christian services were conducted by Captain James S. Ferris, Chc. U.S.N., Ret., at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery, San Diego, California.

Thada Cassady

EDITORIAL NOTE: Publication of Kermit Ralph Cassady's Memoir was delayed by lateness of receipt of notice of his death.

Rebecca Lamar Harmon was born in Rockville, Md., July 23, 1896. She came from a family that had distinguished itself in Methodist circles. Her father, the late George Holt Lamar, was a prominent Methodist layman. Her mother was a member of a widely known family in Maryland by the name of Stonestreet. "She was to the manor born and in the faith was she reared." She attended the Rockville schools and following her graduation

from high school, she enrolled in Randolph-Macon Woman's College, one of the truly great women's colleges in America. She graduated in 1916 with a degree of Bachelor of Arts, Phi Beta Kappa. For the rest of her life Randolph-Macon was to be a vital part of her experience and her life. She served on the Board of Trustees for many years, was President of the National Alumnae Association, and at her death was in the tenth year as a Trustee Emerita.

Upon graduation, Mrs. Harmon began her teaching career in the Disputanta High School. From there she served from 1920-22 as a French translator for the Washington, D.C. office of the United States Bureau of Information and the United States Administration. In 1922, she became the head of the Translation Department of the American Red Cross Headquarters in our nation's capital.

By this time, the Rev. Nolan B. Harmon, Jr., had been moved from a circuit in the country to the town church in Rockville. One evening in the home of Dr. Forrest J. Prettyman, then Chaplain of the United States Senate and Mrs. Harmon's uncle, she was introduced to the new preacher, the Rev. Nolan B. Harmon, Jr. I asked Bishop Harmon if it was love at first sight. "No, it wasn't," he said. "It was kind of an acquired taste." Whatever it was, it worked mighty well and in 1923, 57 years ago, Rebecca Lamar became Mrs. Nolan B. Harmon, Jr., and one of the most distinguished "couple careers" that this Council has ever known was started.

From Rockville, the Harmons were moved to Front Royal, Va., in what was then the old Baltimore Conference of the Methodist Church, South. They were exceedingly happy in this lovely community at the head of the Valley, but soon were transferred to Baltimore, where he became Editor of the Baltimore Southern Methodist, the official journal of the Baltimore Conference. The power of his pen had started its unending usefulness.

In the course of time, the Harmons were sent to Greene Memorial Church in the lovely city of Roanoke, Va. This is one of Virginia Methodism's greatest churches. It was a great church then and it is a great church now. The pastorate of Rebecca and Nolan Harmon was an exceedingly outstanding one and Greene Memorial remembers them as if they left only a fortnight ago. Every two years, we meet for our Annual Conference in the Coliseum and because it is his Conference and he is my Bishop, he and Mrs. Harmon return to their beloved Roanoke, where they are greeted and entertained as if they had left only yesterday.

From Greene Memorial, Bishop Harmon was summoned to be the Book Editor of our denomination, a highly responsible position. He and his lovely Rebecca left for the North. His success there we all know. Every book published by our denomination had to receive his endorsement. The Interpreter's Bible, which he edited, is probably in more preachers' studies than any other book ever published.

In the meantime, Rebecca was training director of Orbach, Inc., in Newark, N.J. She assisted in the opening of the Orbach store in Los Angeles. Can you believe it?

At the Jurisdictional Conference at Lake Junaluska, N.C., on July 12, 1956, Nolan Harmon was elected a Bishop in the Church and assigned to the Charlotte area. A totally new chapter began in their lives. His office was in the First Methodist Church at a time when I was its pastor. Our offices were close together. We usually had lunch together every day and our lives became even closer. Their life-style in the episcopacy was exemplary. No one ever forgot, and no one dared to forget, that he was the Bishop, but from the very beginning of his episcopal life of the eight years I shared, there was never any doubt in anybody's mind that standing close by her husband's side to assist whenever possible, and always in a quite unassuming manner, was a great--indeed a very great--and very charming woman. To appropriate the power of their influence in the Western North Carolina Conference is a totally unthinkable and impossible project--he in his right and unaffected greatness and always she in hers. The Western North Carolina Conference will always remember her and they will remember her forever and first and last as "ever the lady." She was a support to her husband, possessor of an indescribable humor that matched the twinkle in her eye, always there to support Nolan, but in so doing, she lost none of her individuality. She lost none of her firmly fixed opinions. Her commitment to Christ and her church and a devotion to her Nolan affected all of our homes in that Conference.

When I was elected a Bishop, the Winston-Salem papers came to interview both Martha and me. After all of the perfunctory questions had been addressed to me, the reporter turned to Martha and said, "What kind of a Bishop's wife would you like to be?" Quick as a flash, she answered, "I would like to be the kind of Bishop's wife that Mrs. Nolan Harmon is." She remained our ideal of gentility and goodness coupled with brilliant intellect and an open spirit as long as she lived.

Then came retirement, though he has never really retired nor did she. She continued to be alive and active with a mind keenly interested in what was going on and an ever curious intellect that caused her to wonder why. We talk about identity. She knew who she was, and make no mistake about it.

Then came the book. Ah! The book! A whole church learned more about "Susanna, Mother of the Wesleys" than they had ever known before. In this book, you catch a glimpse of the real Rebecca Harmon.

Her retirement years were spent like her active years--supporting an amazing husband in theological education, loving and entertaining her sons and her grandchildren, and just being herself. There was no pretense in Rebecca Harmon.

Little by little the last few years have taken their toll on her health, but she always seemed to recover. And then finally pneumonia, a broken hip, and various complications had their way, and on February 22, 1980, this amazing, charming, and gentle woman died. Her biography is listed in Who's Who of American Women and the Dictionary of International Biography and in the hearts of hundreds of people like you and me who loved her dearly.

She is survived by her husband, my Bishop--for every Bishop is entitled to a pastor-colleague--and two sons, Nolan B. Harmon, III, and George Lamar Harmon; a sister, Mrs. Charles Schley; and a brother, George W. Lamar. In addition, there are eight grandchildren whom she dearly loved.

Funeral services were held in Atlanta, Georgia. Bishop Edward Tullis, President James Laney, and Dr. Charles Boleyn were the participating clergymen. Her interment was at Evergreen Burial Park, near their beloved Greene Memorial Church, in Roanoke, Va., on Tuesday, February 26. Bishop Robert Blackburn officiated at the interment. Her final commitment was said by Bishop Harmon himself, as he committed his beloved "Becs" into the Father's keeping. PEACE BE TO HER--SHE WAS CLASS! **W. Kenneth Goodson** Minutes for 1981. **Lee Scott Varner**. Surely here was one of "God's good Christian gentlemen"--a brotherly, kind and gracious man--a friend and a servant of Christ. He was born in Ravenswood, W.Va., on November 4, 1914, and died in Vienna, Austria, on August 10, 1980. Following his educational pursuits at Asbury College in Kentucky, Duke University Divinity School in North Carolina, and Union Seminary in Virginia, Lee entered the itinerancy in 1939 through the Peninsula Conference. In Virginia, he served churches in Onancock, Goochland, Fairview (Danville), West Point, Mount Vernon (Alexandria), Christ Church (Arlington), First Church (Hampton), and Clarendon.

Thus we pause to remember Lee Scott Varner. For forty-two years he served our Lord fervently as a minister of the gospel. A man of deep convictions, filled with a spiritual quality of honesty and a desire to serve people, he leaves a void in the lives of those of us who shared and worked together in ministry. The people of those churches he served were blessed by the gospel he preached of the saving Christ and were inspired by the happy devotion of his life to our Lord, lived out in a splendid and humble sincerity.

From the first time Lee and Edith took a work team to Linz, Austria, there was a dream of one day going to Vienna, Austria, to serve our Christ by organizing an English-speaking Church. The dream grew and grew until in 1978, the dream became a reality. Lee and Edith went to Vienna in August and there lived out their mission through the love and gifts of their friends in Virginia through the project approved and supported as an Advance Special of our Virginia Conference.

Robert F. Barker (International Atomic Energy Agency), a member of the English-speaking Methodist Church in Vienna, wrote of Lee at the time of his death:

"Our leader, dear friend, pastor, husband, fellow traveler, student, witness, the fighter, the peacemaker--whose hand shook many thousands of hands, whose lips preached thousands of sermons, whose life showed us Christ and led thousands to salvation, our

fellow Christian, died. We are sorrowful because he will no longer be with us.

"But, in fact, the parts of his life which he shared or gave to us will live on in us. The memories, the changes in our lives for having known Lee, the introduction to and knowledge of the Christ that Lee gave to us are now a part of us. He gave us so much, much more than we deserved, even more than we can remember, many times over that which we gave to him. So we thank him, and God, for those parts of our lives which he shared with us and enriched for us and the help and understanding and leading he gave to each of us. For those gifts we are joyful.

"Now we continue our celebration. If we shed tears, they are mainly of joy. Although we may sorrow for our loss, we celebrate with exceeding joy the life of Lee Scott Varner and sing joyous praises to God for the Christian message which makes Lee's passing from this earthly life to the next a glorious adventure." **J. Carroll Fink**

Harry Burnell Pannill. At a memorial service on campus held in honor and memory of Dr. H. Burnell Pannill, President Ladell Payne spoke for all of us, "In his death, we are diminished...We shall not see his like again"...and, quoting familiar lines, "The elements were so mixed up in him that all the world could stand up and say, THIS WAS A MAN."

H. Burnell Pannill was born in Waynesboro, Va., in 1920. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Randolph-Macon and his Bachelor of Divinity and Doctor of Philosophy degrees from Duke University. He held pastorates in Northern Virginia, 1944-47. He became a member of the faculty of Randolph-Macon in 1947. During the next 33 years, he and Mary Alleta lived and labored together, grew, and made extraordinary contributions to the College. Dr. Pannill's book on The Philosophy of Fiske has found a place in college and university libraries across our country. He served as Dean of Men for four years. At the Assembly held when he retired from the position, he spoke in measured but unmistakable words of the failures, foibles and faults of the students. When his address was terminated, the students stood and gave him an ovation for two minutes, a tribute of gratitude, respect and affection for the Dean. In September last, the faculty and trustees voted unanimously for Dr. Pannill to be appointed to the newly established Robert Emory Blackwell Chair of Classical Studies. Randolph-Macon has been widely recognized in American higher education for its outstanding faculty of scholars and teachers. Dr. Pannill must be counted among the finest and best who have served the College. He has no superior. His death on September 13, 1980, is mourned by all Randolph-Macon teachers and students and by scholars all across our land who knew and admired him. He is irreplaceable. He will be sorely missed. He has become a vital, distinguished part of our noblest traditions. **Dr. J. Earl Moreland**

Joseph Curry. The triumphant strains of "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" filled the sanctuary of Cave Spring United Methodist Church as friends and family sang in celebration of the life and ministry of the Rev. Joseph Curry, who had known "the wellspring of the joy of living," and now had come to experience the "ocean-depth of happy rest."

Two days earlier, September 18, 1980, as he sat on the porch of the home into which he and Pattie had moved upon retirement only three months before, his soul slipped peacefully into the presence of Him whom he had served as a minister of the Church for 38 years.

The Rev. J. Reardon McKenney, a cherished friend, delivered the meditation at Joe's funeral. The Rev. Wm. Jeryl Fink, Roanoke District Superintendent, and the Rev. Jack A. Minnick, pastor of Cave Spring Church, also officiated. Burial was in Windy Cove Cemetery, Millboro Springs, Va.

He was born August 19, 1914, in Warm Springs, Va. His parents were David Lewis Curry and Elvie Curry. His education included degrees from Wolford College and Emory University. Among the great fortunes of his life was to meet Pattie Rhea, whom he married June 23, 1938. Together Joe and Pattie fulfilled a rich and rewarding ministry, and their love and friendship enriched countless lives.

One year before their marriage, Joe had been recommended by the Burnsville Church and the Bath Quarterly Conference as an Exhorter of the Church, and was duly certified that same year. Two years later, he was licensed as a Local Preacher. Ordination as Deacon came in 1942 and as Elder in 1944.

In Richard Bach's Jonathan Livingston Seagull, Jonathan says that love is to find the good in everybody: "That's what I mean by love. It's fun, when you get the knack of it." Joe Curry had the "knack" of it, and in him it was easy to see that Christianity was "fun." His quick wit and humor lifted the spirits of all in his present--life brightened a bit when Joe was around. He also possessed a serious and genuine concern for those who labored beneath heavy burdens. It is not surprising, therefore, that he ministered with such effectiveness: Moneta, 4 years; West Campbell, 5 years; Mechanicsville, 5 years; Fairview, Lynchburg, 4 years; Buena Vista, 4 years; Cave Spring, 8 years; Ramsey Memorial, 5 years; and Park View, Lynchburg, the last 3 years prior to retirement. If all the persons he reached by profession of faith constituted the membership of a new church, its roll would contain 773 persons.

The range of a good man's influence cannot be measured. But whatever the reaches of Joe Curry's influence, those whose lives were touched by him will affirm that the world is better, the Church is stronger, and lives are richer because of this good man whose life was lived in the footsteps of the Good Shepherd. **H. Hasbrouck Hughes, Jr. Roy Luther McCormick.** He gave of his best in service to his country; he died in service to his Lord. He was Roy Luther McCormick: pastor, husband, father. From life he came and into life he has gone.

Roy McCormick was born May 24, 1914, at Lester, W.Va., the son of Charles and Brooke McCormick. He was the second of six children. At the age of 18, he married Frances Francisco. The couple had four children: Jim, Betty, Charles, and Kathy.

Roy entered the ministry around the age of 40. He brought rich experiences into the service of the church. During the early years of World War II, he worked the shipyards of the east coast. By the end of 1943, he was called into service for his country. As a member of the 20th Armored Division, he crossed the Swiss Alps into Germany as he did his part in the war effort. He was honorably discharged in 1945.

The year 1957 marked his step forward into full time service for his Lord. He moved to Sarasota, Florida, where he began making plans to enter the ministry. His first appointment was on the Alva/Olga Circuit. From 1958-76, he served the Waukenah, Oxford, Boca Grande and Lake Butler Circuits. While serving the Waukenah Circuit, he was chosen rural pastor of the year for two consecutive years. Two sanctuaries were built at Waukenah under his leadership at an estimated savings of over \$250,000.

Since 1967, Rev. McCormick has served at McGaheysville, Bethlehem at Roseland, Trinity at North Garden, Jolliff at Chesapeake, Mount Zion near Staunton and the Goshen-Rockbridge Baths Circuit, where he was enjoying a fine ministry at the time of his death.

Roy McCormick was totally true to his calling. I often heard him say, "I will not retired until God takes me home." He departed this life on October 15, 1980, in active service. One month later, my son-in-law, Perry Lane Coffey, was killed in a tragic accident. I will always remember my daughter's words of assurance to my mother the night Perry lay in state at the funeral home. She said: "Grandmother! Grandfather and Perry had a reunion last night."

My father was unable to say anything as he passed on. However, going through his belongings, we found the draft of a will that he never got around to recording. He closed out these very personal thoughts with these words: "I'll see you in heaven." As his son, these are the words of hope to which I cling. God willing, we will all have a reunion someday.

James L. McCormick

Ernest Cabell Smith was born April 28, 1893, in Henry County, Va. In December, 1911, he married Etta Florence Doyle and to this union were born four children: James Smith, who died April 4, 1914; Rev. Aaron D. Smith and Rev. Howard C. Smith, members of the Virginia Conference; and a daughter, Ruth S. Small of Colonial Heights, Va. His wife, Florence, died March 8, 1972.

His work as a minister can be summed up best by quoting from notes he left: "I was soundly converted April 28, 1914, began evangelistic ministry in 1916; in 1917-18, I did tent evangelistic work in North Carolina, established a Mission in Biltmore, North Carolina during 1918; left North Carolina in 1919, went to West Virginia doing evangelistic and pastoral work until 1924; returned to Virginia in 1924 and served the South Franklin Circuit; entered Ferrum College in 1926, graduated 1929; entered Emory and

Henry the fall of 1929, graduated August, 1932; served as supply in the Holston Conference from the fall of 1929 to the fall of 1931, then joined the Holston Conference and was assigned to Evansville until February 1933, at which time I transferred to the Virginia Conference." Appointments served in the Virginia Conference included Patrick Springs, Rocky Mount, South Boston, Concord, Claremont, Jarratt, Princess Anne, Beulah-Saint Paul and Albemarle Circuit. Mr. Smith retired in 1961, then served as a Retired Supply at North Louisa and Blue Ridge.

Mr. Smith was my pastor for two years while I was in high school. I remember him those two years as a strong, forceful, evangelistic preacher and a good pastor. When he retired in 1961 and was appointed as a Retired Supply to the North Louisa Charge, I was pastor of Louisa and from that time until his death, we had a relationship similar to that of father-son.

From February, 1978, until his date of death November 3, 1980, Mr. Smith made his home at the Methodist Home in Roanoke. His second wife, Melissa, preceded him in death in June of 1980. His funeral was held at Bassett United Methodist Church, conducted by the Danville District Superintendent, the Rev. Esdras S. Gruver, and the Rev. Joseph T. Carson, Jr.

Joseph T. Carson, Jr.

Lambert Griffin Tinnell. On July 23, 1904, Lambert Griffin Tinnell was born at Union Hall, Franklin County, Va. Since his parents were not Christian and virtually non-participants in any church, the likelihood of his becoming a Christian minister was unexpected. As the child became a boy, he responded to an inner voice and walked the three miles alone to a small rural Methodist Church. A teacher, and later the pastor, took a real interest in Lambert and one day as a high school student, he committed his life to the Lord Jesus Christ.

Upon graduation from Rocky Mount, Va., High School, the young man manifested such an interest in the teachings of the Master of the Church that his pastor and a local medical doctor suggested that he prepare for the Ministry of the Gospel. The humble home was financially unable to provide assistance, but believing that the one the Lord calls the Lord will assist, Lambert, with the help of the doctor, enrolled in Asbury College in Wilmore, Kentucky. By remaining out of school one year and working during vacation periods, he later was graduated from college and Asbury Seminary.

This began a ministry in the Virginia Conference spanning 43 years which included the Henry Circuit; the South Halifax Circuit; Kilmarnock; Newsoms; Wesley, Martinsville; Fairview Heights, Lynchburg; Laurel Street, Richmond; Epworth-Bethel, Eastern Shore; Highland Springs; Memorial, Richmond; Sherbourne Avenue; and Henderson, Northumberland County.

The Lord still moves in mysterious ways as illustrated by his reaching into a home where no encouragement for Christian service existed and plucking from its numbers one person to serve. From the time of his commitment until his death, Lambert Tinnell sought service as he understood it. One might differ in theology from him, but anyone who knew him knew a man dedicated to God and a lover of people. Wherever he lived, he made lasting friends and many sought his counsel and guidance. After retiring from the active ministry on June 22, 1972, he affiliated with Stratford Hills Church, Richmond, where he was called upon to teach a class in the Church School. He was often called upon to preach in churches near and far.

On his first pastorate (1929-32), Lambert met and later married Agnes Gertrude Amos, Cascade, Va., June 30, 1933. God blessed this union with three sons: Lambert Amos Tinnell (March 20, 1937), John Randolph Tinnell (January 11, 1940), and Lambert Griffin Tinnell, Jr. (March 30, 1946). This family has made and is making a significant contribution to a better quality of life for many people because they passed this way and gave of their time and talent to their fellowmen.

Although pain was a constant companion during the last several months of a lingering illness, the light of faith grew brighter for Lambert. On November 16, 1980, the body gave up the battle and Lambert Griffin Tinnell responded to an assignment in the Celestial City. The Memorial Service was conducted from Stratford Hills United Methodist Church on November 18, 1980, the pastor being in charge, and several persons gave recollections on his life and ministry. The following day, the body was laid to rest in the family plot at the Mountain View Cemetery, Rocky Mount, Va.

John Haywood Blakemore, Jr. The dedication of Dr. Fern Stukenbroeker's History of Trinity Church, Alexandria, Va., reads: "This book is affectionately dedicated to John H. Blakemore, Jr....whose leadership and vision were largely responsible for the rebirth of this historic Church in its present location." John's life and ministry could be described by words used here--"dedication," "affection," "leadership," "vision," and "Church rebirth."

John was born in Corinth, Mississippi, December 15, 1907, the only child of John Haywood and Mary Sanders Blakemore. He was most fortunate in his marriage to Carlotta Dorette DeLong, daughter of a ministerial family. Carlotta and John blessed the congregations they served. They had three children: Carlotta DeLong--"Dee" (Mrs. Cowles A. Meredith, Lynchburg, Va.); Mary Sanders--"Sandy" (Mrs. Ralph W. Drayer, Jr., Cincinnati, Ohio); and John Haywood, IV (New York City).

Excellent schooling--A.B., University of Mississippi; B.D., Duke University Divinity School; graduate studies at the University of Maryland and American University--prepared John for pastorate, student ministry, and educational work. Randolph-Macon College awarded him his Doctor of Divinity degree.

John had student appointments while at Mississippi and Duke, Associate at Oxford, Miss., among them. He was licensed to preach in the Corinth (Miss.) District, September 15, 1928; received On Trial into the North Mississippi Conference, 1931; Deacon's Orders and Full Connection, 1934, in the Baltimore Conference of the M.E. Church, South; and Elder's Orders, 1936.

Appointments served in the former Baltimore, and the newly formed Virginia, Conference were Central--Bethesda, Md.; Associate, Epworth--Washington, D.C.; Basic--Waynesboro, Va.; Marquis Memorial--Staunton; Trinity--Alexandria (twice); Main Street--Suffolk; Huntington Court--Roanoke; First Church--Hampton; Centenary--Lynchburg; Executive Secretary, Conference Board of Education; Fairfax--Fairfax; Asbury--Harrisonburg. After 42 1/2 years of active ministry, John retired in 1973.

John shared his talents beyond pastoral appointments--Director of Wesley Foundation, University of Mississippi; exchange pastor--Harrogate, England, 1961; Trustee of Randolph-Macon Woman's College and Ferrum College; Chairman of the Conference Bicentennial Committee and of the Committee on Interjurisdictional Affairs; and Dean of the Leadership School of the Southeastern Jurisdiction.

Those who knew John well--his family, his congregations, and his many friends--found him a warm-hearted person. His ministry was brightened by a lively imagination and a lovely sense of humor. Scholarship, and constant research and study strengthened his pulpit ministry. Pastoral work and counseling brought comfort and joy and hope to many a troubled and burdened soul, and opened new avenues of life for the tangled affairs of others. His ministry at Trinity Church, Alexandria, as its historian noted, provided the factors for its rebirth and represented one of John's finest achievements.

On 1980's very last day, in Harrisonburg, John went out to meet face to face the One he had known so long. A memorial service was held January 3, 1981, in Harrisonburg, conducted by Rev. Alan Reifsnyder and Rev. Samuel NeSmith, with interment in Woodbine Cemetery there.

John Blakemore! Man of God--man of "dedication," "affection," "leadership," "vision," "Church rebirth." Thank God for him.

Harold H. Hughes

Lloyd Sharon Bowman was an unusual person. He was helpful and kind and an excellent scholar. Rev. Bowman was the son of Mr. and Mrs. James Bowman of Halifax R.D., Penn. He was born December 31, 1895, and died January 10, 1981. He attended the Halifax High School, being the Valedictorian of the class of 1916.

He was inducted into the Army Engineering Corps September 18, 1917, serving in Europe, including the Army of Occupation, and was honorably discharged October 4, 1919.

Rev. Bowman was graduated from Lebanon Valley College, receiving the Bachelor of Arts degree in 1926. He received the Bachelor of Divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary in 1929 and was consecrated as a missionary to Sierra Leone, West Africa, the same year.

He served there until 1936, when he again attended Princeton Theological Seminary, receiving the degree of Master of Sacred Theology in 1937. He then became a teacher at

Shenandoah College, Dayton, Va., serving there until 1941. He later became pastor of Mount Clinton United Brethren in Christ Church, Harrisonburg, Va., serving there until 1950.

From 1950 until 1954, he served as pastor of Sleepy Creek United Brethren Church, when he became a teacher of Religion in Bob Jones University, Greenville, S.C. In 1958, he became pastor of Manassas United Brethren in Christ Church, Manassas, Va., from which he retired in 1963, returning to his home territory, where he built his house, Halifax R.D.

Rev. Bowman was ordained January 12, 1930, while in Sierra Leone, West Africa, and was married the same day to Miss Lela Gipson, of Bloomington, Illinois, who was also a missionary in Sierra Leone. The services were performed by Dr. John F. Musselman.

Rev. Bowman is survived by his wife, Mrs. Lela Bowman, of Bridgeton, N.J.; a son, the Rev. Lee G. Bowman, of New Enterprise, Penn.; and a daughter, Lola, wife of the Rev. William Carr, of Bridgeton, N.J. Also surviving is one sister, Mrs. Beulah Enders, of Halifax R.D.; and five grandchildren.

Funeral services were held in Zions Stone United Methodist Church, Halifax R.D., with burial in the adjoining cemetery, January 14, 1981. The Rev. Dr. Fegley had charge of the service. The Rev. Melvin G. Sponster, Sr., gave the Memoir. Those assisting were the Rev. Elbert Spencer, pastor of Zions United Methodist Church, and the Rev. Grant Miller.

"Rest, weary pilgrim, thy journey is o'er,

Rest, sweetly rest, on that beautiful shore;

Safely at last thou has reached the bright goal,

Land of our Father, the home of the soul." **Melvin G. Sponsler, Sr.**

Benjamin Hartwell Watkins was born in Campbell County, Va., the son of Robert Lee and Sarah Watkins. At an early age, he married Betty Harper. They were the parents of three children: two sons, Benjamin H. Watkins, Jr., of Richmond, Va., and Edward A. Watkins, of Charlotte, N.C.; and a daughter, Doris W. Ruterbusch, of Pittsford, N.Y. They enjoyed 69 years of a happy life together.

His wife, Betty, was dedicated to his calling and worked diligently with him during his ministry. He served churches throughout Virginia and North Carolina.

Ben had a deep commitment to the Christian faith and a profound love for his church. He felt strongly for what the church stood and talked frequently of life and what is real living. His many friends across the states will remember him as a true friend and a faithful servant.

He was a charter member of Mackey Masonic Lodge No. 69, in Rustburg, Va., and a member of Marshall Masonic Lodge No. 39, Lynchburg, Va.

After his retirement, he moved into one of the Virginia Conference Homes at 512 Park Lane, Lynchburg—a place he enjoyed tremendously.

He enjoyed outdoors and took great pride in his garden, until his health did not permit during his last year of life.

Death came to Ben January 13, 1981, and he was laid to rest in Fort Hill Memorial Gardens, Lynchburg, Va., with Masonic Rites.

Joseph E. Carson

Sherman Johnson Westfall, a dedicated servant of Christ and His Church, was born December 21, 1897, near Glenville, W.Va., the eldest of nine children born to Lloyd A. and Allie Brown Westfall. He received his educational training in the public schools of Gilmer County, W.Va., Berlington High School in Barbour County, Shenandoah College and Conservatory and Glenville State College.

He was united in marriage to Thelma Clair Stalnaker August 21, 1920, and four children blessed this union: Vaughn B., Mary Jean, Ruth Ann, and Doris Lea.

Sherman received the call of God to the ministry October 21, 1944, at Clarksburg, W.Va., where he was employed as street car Ticket Agent for the Monongahela West Penn Power Company. He began his ministry in the Church of the United Brethren in Christ in 1927 and was ordained in 1932. He served as pastor of the following charges in the West Virginia Conference: Deerpark (Md.), Belington, West Clarksburg, Cottageville and Elkins. Transferring to the Virginia Conference in the United Brethren Church in 1939, he served Churchville, Petersburg (W.Va.), Elkton, Franklin (W.Va.), and Reliance. He

was appointed Director of Development at Shenandoah College and Conservatory at Winchester in 1960 and served in this position faithfully until 1964.

S. J., as he was called by those of us who knew him best, was one of my close friends in the ministry, especially since 1939, when we were more closely associated in the Virginia Conference. It was my happy privilege to assist him in evangelistic meetings in every church he served in the Virginia Conference. It was always a joy to work with him, and we had many wonderful experiences in the ministry of the church. He was deeply dedicated to the work of the Kingdom. His Bible was his chart and compass and prayer his daily support and strength.

We (Hazel and I) were very close to S. J. and Thelma, especially during his illness since 1976. God lovingly called S. J. home quite suddenly and with very little pain on the evening of February 1, 1981, and the gospel song that was his favorite and that I had sung for him many times became a reality.

Walking along life's road one day,	Life's day is short, I soon shall go,
I heard a voice so sweetly say,	To be with Him who loved me so.
A place up in heaven I am building thee,	I see in the distance that shining shore,
A beautiful, beautiful home.	My beautiful, beautiful home.

Loved ones upon that shore I'll meet,	Home, sweet home, home, sweet home,
Casting their crowns at Jesus' feet;	Where I'll never roam;
I'll worship and praise Him forevermore,	I see the light of that city so bright,
In my beautiful, beautiful home.	My home, sweet home.--N.B. Vandall

The memorial service was held on February 4, at Lindsey's Funeral Chapel in Harrisonburg, by District Superintendent Samuel NeSmith and Louis Carson, pastor of Otterbein Church of Harrisonburg. His body was laid to rest in East Lawn Memorial Garden at Harrisonburg.

S. J., we'll see you in the morning. Your friend and brother, **Millard R. Floyd Daniel A. Frazier**. A minister known for meekness, sincerity and humility was Daniel A. Frazier, who departed this life February 9, 1981. He was an outstanding rural pastor. Most of his active ministry was with the former Evangelical United Brethren Church, as he was retired and serving as Supply Pastor when the Virginia Conferences united.

Rev. Frazier was born January 20, 1899, to John Mordichai and Sarah Dovel Frazier, at Elkton, Va. He received his elementary education in East Point School, near Elkton. He took his high school work at Shenandoah Collegiate Institute, and all the college courses available there. He also did some of his college training at Madison College, and received his B.A. degree from Bridgewater College in 1932.

In 1911, he made his decision for Christ and was very active in his home church at East Point. He had a definite call to the ministry in 1918, but he neglected to answer until 1920. He often stated, "The Lord made the second call very clear, and I could no longer refuse to accept." He was received into the Virginia Conference in 1923.

He pastored three charges each at two periods, making somewhat of a record. As a student, he first pastored the Swift Run Church three months. He ministered to the following charges: West Frederick, his first and last appointments; Hardy; Pleasant Valley (twice); Jones Springs; Edinburg; South Branch; Sleepy Creek (twice); and Great Cacapon. He retired in 1964, but was asked to serve as a Supply Pastor, which he did willingly until 1971.

He served as treasurer for the Conference Christian Endeavor Union from 1925 until this merged into the Conference Board of Christian Education and he became its treasurer in 1931. He served in this office through 1962. He was also the treasurer for the Conference Youth Camps through 1962. With this duty, he attended the Youth Camps and was a great friend and leader to the youth. In 1947, he was elected Statistical Secretary and served in that office until the EUB Conference united with the Virginia Methodist Conference.

In 1924, he married Rachel Gertrude Rinaca. They became the parents of a son and three daughters: David Evans Frazier, Halfway, Md.; Mrs. Newton (Venusta Virginia) Burkhart, Baltimore, Md.; Mrs. James (Ruth Marie) Gaborko, Upper Marlboro, Md.; and Mrs. Lewis (Esther Irene) Close, Orange, Va. A tragic accident in 1954 took the life of Mrs. Frazier. On May 30, 1956, he was married to Miss Hazel Butts, who aided him so much in his further ministry. She survives at the residence they built for their

retirement home near Hedgesville, W.Va. Along with the four children, he is survived by six grandchildren, fifteen great-grandchildren, and one brother, Joseph Frazier, Elkton, Va. He was preceded in death by four brothers and three sisters. His memorial service were conducted (according to his request) in Martinsburg, W.Va., by the REv. Howard L. Fulk, of Martinsburg, who was converted in a revival conducted by Rev. Frazier. The Rev. Frank Douty shared in the service. Interment was in Rosedale Cemetery in Martinsburg.

Howard L. Fulk

Joe Benjamin Monger. On Sunday, February 22, 1981, our community was saddened and shocked at the death of Joe Benjamin Monger. Joe was a close Brother in the Lord. While in Intensive Care at Walter Reed Memorial Hospital, Gloucester, Va., he suffered his second massive heart attack and went home to be with his Lord.

Joe was born August 27, 1921, at Elkton, Va., and grew up in the beautiful Shenandoah Valley between McGaheysville and Elkton. There he and his wife, Beula, were married, and to this marriage were born two daughters, Becky and Brenda. For 14 years he sold cars for the Ford Motor Company, while working in the local church and district for the Lord. Upon his call to the ministry, he set out with determination to serve God. He studied at Shenandoah Conservatory of Music, Danville Community College, and at Duke University.

A memorial service was held at Mathews, Va., by the Rev. W. Dabney Walters, Rappahannock District Superintendent, and the Rev. William A. Ricketts, Jr. Graveside services were held the morning of February 25, 1981, at Mount Olivet Cemetery at McGaheysville, Va., by the Rev. Otis H. Worley.

In his sermon, Rev. Walters said, "In thinking of Joe and others like him, I think we can say that like Abraham, he went where he was sent and was faithful in all things, including four charges in 13 years he served. Like Moses, he led the people of God from doubts and fears to confidence in the face of difficulties. Like Joshua, he loved his country and fought for it. Like Jonathan, he met many a discouraged brother and cheered him by giving him strength from God. Like David, he sang the church to victory, but never bragged about his singing. Like Isaiah, he constantly pointed the church to brighter days and better things in the future. Like John the Baptist, he delighted to cry to the multitudes: 'Behold the Lamb of God!' Like Saint John, he believed with all his soul that Jesus Christ was the Son of God. Like Paul, he rejoiced that Jesus died for all men and did his best to let the world know. Like Jesus, his Lord, he went about doing good. Like Enoch, he walked with God, and his God took him."

When a loved one dies, we often refer to him as "deceased." In the language of the Christian, there is a better word. When one moves from one church to another, we use the word "transferred." It now becomes my duty to announce the transfer of our pastor, Joe Monger, from the church mortal to the church triumphant and eternal whose builder and maker is God. He has already heard the words "...well done, good and faithful servant ...enter thou into the joy of your Lord."

Otis H. Worley

William Wiley Beasley. December 6, 1889, was a bright day in the home of William J. and Nora Lillie Beasley, for that was the day William Wiley came into their lives to prove a blessing to them and thousands of others after that time through a long life of service in the Christian ministry.

He was born in Allegheny County near Cumberland, Md., and from an early age showed a deep devotion to the church. He joined Mount Pleasant Church on the Flintstone Charge and even before he was fifteen years old was given work as a junior steward, making his rounds collecting the "quarterage" to be turned over at the Quarterly Conference on the pastor's salary.

He felt called to the ministry during the pastorate of the Rev. George W. Gaither at Flintstone and was admitted On Trial to the Baltimore Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in March 1910. At that time, he had already served six months on the Potts Creek Charge, having taken the place of the pastor who had gone back to college. There Wiley learned something of the rigors experienced by the early circuit riders. The Circuit consisted of seven preaching places and a sturdy horse served as his means of transportation. Potts Creek had to be forded ten times in the course of his rounds and many times the horse had to swim to get across.

Education had to be taken piece-meal. He entered Randolph-Macon Academy at Front Royal in 1904 and graduated from the College at Ashland, Va., in 1920. He was a popular student and participated in a wide variety of activities. At college, he was a member of the Washington Literary Society and received a number of medals from debating and oratorical contests. He was active in the YMCA, President of the Ministerial Band and greatly interested in athletics, playing football and serving on the Athletic Board. He was admired by his fellow students for his qualities of leadership and his friendliness to all.

After graduation, he transferred his membership from the Baltimore Conference to the Virginia Conference where he served a total of 15 charges. Many of these were for short periods of time, some while still going to school, but wherever he went, he gave faithful service and left a lasting impression. All but one of these appointments were in rural areas, for by choice he preferred life in the country to that in the city. His last appointment was to Monroe, where he served four years and retired in 1957.

Among Wiley's many outside interests were his long years of membership in Masonic Lodges beginning in Bethesda, Md., in 1916, and continuing until his death. He was transferred to the Lancaster Union Lodge in 1961 and received his 60-year Masonic emblem there on his 87th birthday.

Wiley was married three times during the course of his ministry, the first time to Miss Mattie Alease Chappell of Petersburg, Va., who died in 1940. In 1943, he married Mrs. Julia Irby Magill of Glendale, California, who died in 1958, and in 1959, he married Miss Mildred Kindred Neal of Richmond, Va., who, in Wiley's own words, "gave me the utmost care and devotion during my retirement and old age."

His earthly pilgrimage ended March 10, 1981, after several years of illness. The funeral service was triumphantly conducted at White Stone by the pastor, the Rev. Milton E. Marks, and the Rev. Gordon D. Walters of Lawrenceville, Va.

"And do through all the length of days

Thy goodness faileth never:

Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise

Within thy house forever."

Gordon L. Water

Duane Howard Ward was born January 22, 1924, in Buffalo, New York, attended Alden schools and Buffalo Technical High School, graduating from Alden High School in 1943. He entered the United States Marine Corps in 1943, served in the South Pacific during World War II and, upon being discharged, remained in the Reserves while working for a short time. He then entered the University of Illinois. He was called back to active duty during the Korean Conflict and discharged in 1952.

On October 14, 1951, Duane married Gwendolyn Moore Forrest, a young lady he had first seen and met at Central United Methodist Church in Hampton, and to this union were born three children: Michael, Richard and Terry, all of whom survive him. Two grandsons, of whom he was mighty proud, survive him also.

The Ward family moved to Gloucester in 1966 and as the writer was told, "didn't wait for someone from the church to come after them, but went seeking the church." They became very actively involved in Bethlehem United Methodist Church.

I first met Duane at a Charge Conference during the summer of 1968. He became District Director of Youth Work and held this position for several years; was a lay speaker; served on the District Board of the Laity; and was a strong supporter of all of the work of the district.

Duane said, "On June 12, 1972, while driving to work, I was talking to the Lord and felt the power of God so completely that I had to pull the car off the highway. I felt a clear calling to enter the ministry of the United Methodist Church." After taking a year to get his License to Preach, he was assigned to his first Charge, Essex-King and Queen, in June of 1973, where he served for two years. He was ordained Deacon on August 28, 1974. He served the Middlesex Charge for five years and was appointed to Louisa in June of 1980. He was able to serve only a few months at Louisa before he was told he had leukemia. During these few months as he had started his pastorate at Louisa, he made such a great impression on the people that when he met with the leaders of the Church on Monday, October 13, and told them he would be entering the hospital the next day, he was assured by the leaders of the Church, "not to worry about the

Church, we will handle everything for you." This they did. Duane remained in the hospital most of the time from October 14 until he died on May 5, 1981. During these seven months, the work of his Church has been carried on in a very fine way. Three lay speakers from within the Church conducted most of the services. The finances are in excellent condition, 19 new members have been received since January, and the average attendance is above previous years.

Duane was a hard worker, a person with great enthusiasm and a strong faith. His wife, Gwen, shared this strong faith throughout his ministry and during the time of his illness. She is an inspiration to many.

A Memorial Service was conducted at Louisa United Methodist Church by his District Superintendent, the Rev. Joseph T. Carson, Jr., the Rev. Harold Hicks and the Rev. William R. Livermon. He was buried at Forest Chapel United Methodist Church Cemetery at Warner, Va.

Joseph T. Carson, Jr.

Henry Conrad Blackwell, familiarly known to his close friends as "Connie," was an esteemed and able member of the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church for 55 years. He was an outstanding pulpit man, a diligent pastor, a fine administrator, an effective teacher, an arduous student, a world traveler--and best of all, a Christian gentleman and a true friend.

"Connie" began his earthly life on August 31, 1901, and left us for his heavenly home on May 16, 1981. He was the son of Joseph C. and Harriet Lee Blackwell and was born in Halifax County, Va.

He received his call to the Christian ministry early in life and immediately began to prepare for it. After finishing the public schools where he lived, he enrolled in Ferrum Training School (1916), now Ferrum College, then worked a year with the Export Leaf Tobacco Company of Richmond (1918). He attended Randolph-Macon Academy, Bedford, in 1919, and Randolph-Macon College in Ashland, 1920-23, where he received his A.B. degree. Next he went to Emory University in Atlanta, 1923-24, where he received his B.Ph. degree, and in 1926 he went to Duke University, the institution which awarded him his Master's degree. Later he did graduate work at Southeastern Methodist University. In 1952, Randolph-Macon awarded him the honorary D.D. degree. Thus we see that this man was well prepared scholastically for his life's work.

Conrad was a student all his life, keeping up with the latest development trends in Theology as well as related fields of knowledge. His congregations always delighted in his preaching, which was fresh and inspiring and fruitful. He was in demand as a preacher, having been called by other denominations after his retirement to fill their pulpits.

He was ordained a Deacon by Bishop Collins Denny at Norfolk, Va., on October 17, 1926, and ordained an Elder by the same Bishop at Vicksburg, Mississippi, on November 16, 1930. At the time, Conrad was a professor of religion in Millsaps College.

On September 4, 1927, he was happily married to Mary Wright of Saluda, Va., who survives him. To this union, one daughter was born, Harriet, who is now Mrs. Donald D. Hook. The Hooks have two children, Karen Fowler and Terrence Blackwell.

His pastorates included Tosno, Gretna, Main Street in Emporia, Oxford in Suffolk, Central in Portsmouth, Farmville, Asbury in Harrisonburg, Centenary in Lynchburg, and Boulevard in Richmond. In addition, he served a year as associate pastor of Centenary Church in Richmond and three years as a Professor of Religion at Millsaps College in Jackson, Mississippi. He served as District Superintendent of the Farmville District from 1954-58 and of the Danville District from 1962 until his retirement in 1965.

During his ministry, Dr. Blackwell served well on many of the major boards and agencies of the conference--on a number of occasions as chairman. He was a delegate to two Southeastern Jurisdictional Conferences. He was a member of Tau Kappa Alpha Literary Society, Pi Gamma Mu Social Science Society, and a number of service clubs from time to time in various places. He was an accredited instructor for Christian Workers' Training Schools and an occasional contributor to The Upper Room, The Virginia Advocate, The Adult Student, and other publications.

Funeral services were conducted from Boulevard United Methodist Church by the Rev. Earle Paylor, Dr. Hampden H. Smith, the Rev. James W. Smith, and the Rev. Blackwell, a cousin from North Carolina. Interment was in Forest Lawn Cemetery in Richmond.

"More homelike seems the very unknown
 Since Conrad has entered there.
 To follow him is not so hard
 Wherever he may fare.
 He cannot be where God is not,
 On any land or shore;
 Whatever betides, thy love abides,
 Our God forevermore."

Roland P. Riddick

William Freddie Davidson. On June 3, 1981, the treasure in earthen vessel was set free from William Freddie Davidson. Fred was born to a carpenter family on May 23, 1922, in Campbell County, Va. His parents were James and Nora Davidson of Concord, Va.

In 1944, Fred left the family farm to join the Navy. As an electrician, he was transferred to Mississippi to work on the ships in dry dock. There among the tall pines and lonesome nights, Fred made his decision to dedicate his life to Christ and become a minister of the Gospel.

Upon returning to the family farm, Fred became an active member of the Mount Olivet Methodist Church and served as its Lay Leader. He became a Lay Pastor in 1956 and began his study for ordination through the Correspondence Course of Study. After learning that college would be required of ordained Elders, Fred completed 60 books in six months while ministering part time and in full time secular employment. While working full time in secular employment, Fred pastored Perrows Chapel (1956-58), Providence (1958-66), and Forest-Shiloh (1967-78), all on the Lynchburg District. In 1966 Fred was ordained Elder and in 1969 was received as an Associate Member of the Virginia Conference of The Methodist Church. In 1969 he decided to become a full time pastor and was appointed to the Huddleston Charge. His last appointment was the Hickory Charge on the Norfolk District, which he pastored for only six months before failing health caused him to take disability leave. In January, 1977, Fred Davidson returned to the family farm from which he came.

To describe a man's ministry is difficult, but Fred had two great loves. The first as The United Methodist Church. He had a great love for the church and the message of salvation which it proclaimed. The second was the small rural church. He willingly spent his entire ministry in the small rural church and many times said that some of the greatest work in the church was developing the small congregations.

Fred was a champion of the underdog and a pastor to the social outcast. Much of his ministry was spent with that portion of God's children whom others felt couldn't be reached. There were many who gave their lives to Christ during his ministry who before felt uncared for and unloved.

One of Fred's greatest blessings was his companion for life, Lucille Phelps Davidson. They were married in a blinding snow storm in 1945. She was not only his wife, but a co-pastor and friend. He is survived by five children: Mrs. Sharon Crowder, Colen Davidson, the Rev. Ronald Davidson, Gary Lee Davidson, and Miss Wanda Faye Davidson. He left a heritage of love for his seven grandchildren.

On May 24, 1981, Fred taught his last class at the church where he had grown up. He was in great discomfort and there were only eight present, but he taught with the enthusiasm of a multitude. Such was the love and the life of William Freddie Davidson.

Ronald T. Davidson

EDITORIAL NOTE: The Memoir of Walter Henry Hurd, who died February 19, 1980, was not received in time for publication in last years' Journal.

Walter Henry Hurd was born in Pittsburgh, Penn., on January 10, 1903, a son of Walter H. and Julia (Cephus) Hurd. He moved to Staunton, Va., early in his adult life and lived there much of his adult life. He became a local preacher under the administration of the Rev. Henry Lewis. He was the pastor of the West Staunton Charge for 17 years, serving from 1957 to 1974. He served in both the Central Jurisdiction North Carolina-Virginia Conference and the Virginia Conference. He served in the Virginia District and the Staunton District.

During his administration, Cedar Green Church burned and he was an active leader in helping with the plans for building a new church. Cedar Green Church and Mount Chapel Church merged and Community United Methodist Church was built in 1961. New pews

were placed in Community Church in 1963 and a new building was completed at Hadens Chapel Church, Palmyra, in the same year.

He was moderator of the Ministers', Deacons', Stewards', and Laymen's Union of Virginia, serving for 10 years. He retired as an employee of Waynesboro DuPont Works at the age of 65. Beyond the love of family, he had a singular love for his Lord and for his church and it was evident. After his health failed, it was through his love for his church that he wanted his home to be used for the parsonage. He was elected an Associate Member of the Virginia Conference in 1969. He retired in 1974. He became a guest at Bridgewater Home in 1975. He died in Rockingham Memorial Hospital early Tuesday morning, February 19, 1980, having entered the hospital a few hours earlier.

His wife, Miss Nettie (Cleveland) Hurd, died May 27, 1970. Surviving are a daughter, Mrs. Linda (Hurd) Johnson of Falls Church, two grandchildren, nieces, nephews and other relatives. A funeral service was conducted in Community United Methodist Church at 2:00 p.m., Friday, February 22, 1980, by the Rev. C. Roy Everett, Jr., Staunton District Superintendent, and the Rev. John H. Betha, pastor of Community Church, assisted by the Reverends J. Henry Scott, Jr., and Isaac Paul-Coker, pastor of the Staunton-Grottoes Charge. Burial was in the Cedar Green Cemetery.

Minutes for 1982. **Leonard M. Ligon, Sr.**, a dedicated servant of Christ and His Church, born January 27, 1918, in Halifax County, Va., was the son of Robert D. and Estelle C. Ligon.

Leonard felt a call to the ministry in 1960 after serving seven years as a certified lay speaker on the Lynchburg District. He then served the Langhorne Chapel-New Hope Charge, Lynchburg District, as a part-time pastor for five years. He was ordained a deacon in 1965 by Bishop Walter C. Gum, and continued as a supply pastor wherever needed for nine additional years.

In January of 1974, Leonard discussed with Bishop W. Kenneth Goodson his desire to go into full-time ministry. The bishop asked Leonard what his salary was the year before and upon being told, asked Leonard, "Do you realize that salary is more than three times what your salary will be as a full-time minister?" Leonard's reply was, "I can't help that--I've got to preach." Bishop Goodson's reply was, "and you'll have a place to preach."

In March, 1974, he was appointed to the North Louisa Charge, Charlottesville District, to finish out the Conference year and then served three additional years there. He then was appointed to the Richmond Charge, Rappahannock District, for two years and was serving as pastor at Shady Grove, Ashland District, at the time of his death, May 18, 1981. While serving at Shady Grove, as an act of love, he served the people at Grace United Methodist Church, Charlottesville District, also.

Leonard had a very unusual, but great, ability to work with people. He could cause a church that looked to be near the point of closing to "come alive." In fact, the New Hope Church on the Lynchburg District, had been closed and under his leadership was reopened and is still open today. The Trevilians Church on the North Louisa Charge had discontinued services and under his leadership became active again, built an educational building and when his three years were up on the Charge, was carrying 40% of the Charge budget. During his time on the Richmond Charge, a new parsonage was built and while at Shady Grove, a new social hall was completed.

Leonard gave his all to the people he served. He always considered it a great privilege and opportunity to be able to serve and was always grateful for this privilege. On the day of his untimely death, he was returning from a hospital in Charlottesville visiting one of his members and on the way home, had collected subscriptions for the Virginia Advocate.

Leonard is survived by his wife, Dora Karns Ligon, and four children. Funeral services were conducted by the Rev. Allen Minter; the Rev. Henry Matthews, his District Superintendent; and this writer. Interment was in Fort Hill Memorial Park, Lynchburg.

Joseph T. Carson, Jr.

Lemley Peter Foley. A number of people have described Lem Foley as being gentle, loving, intense in faith and noble in character. Such a picture of a man of God might seem trite except that they added that he was also a man with a rare and delightful sense of humor.

While serving the Wesley Church in Hopewell, he went with five men to pick up a piano that someone had donated to the church. On the return trip, the piano fell off the truck and splintered into a thousand pieces. The only part intact was the iron base that held the strings. The men stood around the debris completely stunned. Lem said without a smile, "Maybe we could use it as a harp." This broke the tension and the men doubled over with laughter. The mere mention of the incident even 20 years later never failed to bring a good laugh.

In a log cabin in Patrick County, Va., Lemley Peter Foley was born October 29, 1911. He was one of 11 children. Life was hard for all of them and getting an education, even harder. At 16, he worked at a furniture factory in Bassett while completing high school at Ferrum, then known as a Training School.

One of his teachers, Claudia Austin Harper, persuaded Lem's father to let him go on to higher education. It was not an easy choice to make with the strong need for helping hands on the farm. He went on to earn his AB Degree from Berea College in Berea, Kentucky, and then his Divinity Degree at Duke University.

On graduating from Duke, he married Lois Roberts. They had three children: Sylvia, Robert and Richard.

In the years of his ministry, he served Monterey, Saxis on the Eastern Shore, North Garden near Charlottesville, Deep Creek near Portsmouth, Fairmount Park in Norfolk, Wesley in Hopewell, Central in Richmond and Main Street in Emporia.

Upon his death, letters came to his family from all of these places witnessing to the blessings Lem's ministry had accomplished. Over and over they described him as a faithful pastor, one who invited confidence and never betrayed trust, a deeply devout Christian who exemplified the love of Christ with his family and everyone else, a person who constantly wanted to be helpful, a pastor with an evangelical zeal to reach people. It is so refreshing to read these simple words of appreciation from people who were so genuine.

After retirement until his death, he was a maintenance worker at the Lydia Roper Home in Norfolk. The Rev. Carl Haley, Administrator of the Home, remarked at Lem's funeral that now he was looking for another maintenance worker and hoped he would find a good one. Then he remarked sadly that he knew he would not find a better one since he had already had the best in Lem Foley.

If the measure of a man can be found in the lives he has touched, then Lem Foley stands high. I can join heartily with many others in saying that he was a wonderful friend who did his best to follow Christ and I believe the Lord Jesus will give a good witness of him before his Father in heaven.

Wrightson S. Tongue

Chester Alan Tucker was born April 20, 1887, in the Rocky Run neighborhood of Dinwiddie County. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Tucker, moved to Petersburg when he was about five or six years old. Soon after the move, his parents joined High Street United Methodist Church in Petersburg. Chester joined this church later on and was a member there until he joined The Virginia Conference in 1915.

Chester finished grammar school when he was about 14 years old and went to work at Seward Trunk and Bag Company. In his fifth year there, he felt the call to preach. He fought the call and did not enter the ministry immediately. Instead, he entered Smithdeal Business School in Richmond. He won a scholarship there and for two months commuted daily on street cars and trains between Richmond and Petersburg. The comptroller of C & O Railroad contacted the school for a stenographer and typist. The school sent Chester out to apply and he received the job. For five years he was the private stenographer and typist for the comptroller.

During this entire time, he fought the call to preach and decided to become a lawyer. However, he was serving as Assistant Superintendent of the Sunday School at High Street and the pastor, Dr. J. K. Joliff, had begun to notice Chester's concern for people and his ability to lead and teach. He encouraged Chester to consider the ministry and that fall, Chester enrolled at the University of Richmond, where he graduated in 1915 in the first class on the Westhampton campus. That fall, Chester received his first appointment, Hopewell Church, which had just been organized. He served there for four years.

During his pastorate there, he married Ann Moore in Highland Springs. They had three children: Chester Alan Tucker, Jr., now residing in Chicago, Ill.; Ann Tucker Seay, now residing in Bon Air, Va.; and William Mallory Tucker, who died at the age of 15 during their Christiansburg ministry. He had two grandchildren, William Alan Tucker and Jeanne Seay Hamm.

Chester went to Rocky Mount, Va., for four years (1918-22), then to Woodland Heights (later named Berryman) in Richmond (1922-24). In 1924, he became The Virginia Conference Sunday School Secretary and remained in that position until 1931. He went to Moseley Memorial in Danville, where he served from 1931-34.

From 1934-38, he served as Executive Secretary of the Board of Education of The Virginia Conference. It was during this time that Chester helped to formulate the first Confirmation materials used by the Conference. These were great and glorious days in the life of our Sunday Schools. Chester Tucker was a real part of this period. He was a strong advocate of separate departments and graded literature for all age groups. He had a great part in establishing the educational system in the church that saw the period of greatest growth.

From 1938 to 1941, he served Fulton Hill in Richmond; then to Christiansburg, 1941-46; Belmont (Roanoke), 1946-50; and then to Bassett Memorial, 1950-55.

For me, the Bassett Memorial years are the most important, for it was there that Chester Tucker reached out and touched me and my family. I was a businessman at the time and through his love and concern, I was led to give my life to my Saviour. He baptized me and two of my children and my family was received into the church. During that four year period of his ministry, he saw that I became active in the church and before he left, I had received my Local Preacher's License and was on my way toward a full-time ministry.

Bassett, for Chester, was a very difficult time, for it was there that he lost his wife in 1952. It was a terrible ordeal for she had been his helper all along the way. She spent much of her time working with children, thus complementing his work with a valuable work of her own.

In 1955-59, he served Fairview (Danville). It was here that he had the satisfaction of helping to plan and then to see those plans carried out in the construction of a new building. On the day of consecration, he said to me, "Wasena, this is one of the highlights of my ministry." He had served the "tarpaper" church in Hopewell and he had helped them plan a building. Later at Rocky Mount, he was to help in the planning of a new building, but he moved before the building was erected. There was great satisfaction in having a part in planning and building a new, modern and functional church school area.

Chester Tucker retired in 1959 and became a retired supply. He served Irvington until 1967. He married Katie E. White in 1959.

During his ministry, he served as Editor of The Conference Annual, 1939-59; Assistant Secretary of Annual Conference, 1923-32; Journal Secretary, 1932-56; and Executive Secretary of Annual Conference, 1956-64.

After he retired the second time in 1967, he went back to his home in Richmond to spend his last years. He could be close to his daughter and could be a part of Berryman Church where he had served earlier and still had many friends.

Chester Alan Tucker slipped away to the Father's House July 21, 1981, at 94 years of age. He had served his Master for 44 years in the active ministry, then eight more years as a retired supply--52 years total!

Wasena F. Wright, Sr.

Raymond Paul Sharp was born October 11, 1907, in Camden, N.J. He was the son of the late Oscar and Ola Taylor Sharp. While still a youth, he received a call to the ministry. After graduating from high school, he attended Delaware University and Princeton Seminary. He also did graduate work at Western Theological Seminary in Michigan, and Nazarene Seminary in Missouri.

He entered the pastorate in 1935 as a Presbyterian minister. During the next 27 years, he served Presbyterian churches in Delaware, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Missouri, West Virginia and Virginia. In 1962, he became a Methodist minister. From then until his retirement in 1974, he served the following churches in the : Rehoboth Parish, Southview, Wrights Chapel-Hopewell, and Accomac. After retirement, the Sharps moved to

Bridgewater, Va., where Raymond continued to minister to people in many ways until his death on August 7, 1981.

Raymond Sharp was a Biblical theologian and was known for his scholarship. He was a conscientious church administrator and a didactic pulpiteer. He demonstrated the love of God through his concern for people—a concern that caused him to give freely of himself. His belief in the importance of ministry was reflected in the assistance and support he gave to those preparing for the ministry.

The ministry of Ray Sharp was complemented by the talent and support of his wife, the former Lillian R. Klix, whom he married on August 27, 1938. In addition to his wife, he is survived by three children: Paul L. Sharp., Bruce O. Sharp, and Roberta R. McCrowell.

Upon his request, his funeral was a celebration of life. He desired no eulogy, for that would draw too much attention to himself. However, his memory will continue on in the hearts of those who knew him, as will the fruits of the ministry of Raymond Sharp.

J. Jarred Smith

Leslie Elwood Grace was born in Baltimore, Md., on December 26, 1902. He received his education in the public schools there. He also attended Randolph-Macon Academy in Front Royal, Va., and Western Maryland College in Westminster, Md. During his youth, he was very active in the Methodist Youth Fellowship of Frederick Avenue Methodist Church, Baltimore, serving in places of leadership. He was loved and admired by both young people and adults in the church. For a number of years he worked as a floor finisher in that city.

In 1936, he received his Engineer's License and went to sea for six years. In 1942, he was named Chief Purchasing Agent for the Maritime Commission in the Baltimore office and served there until 1947. Later, he was a caretaker for Navy ships that were retired in the James River at Newport News.

He was married to Miss Gladys Harper of Baltimore, on June 29, 1927. To this union were born two children, Robert and Faith. They had three grandchildren: Michael Thomas and Julie Lynne Grace and Leslie Grace Perlman.

During the long, lonely hours as watchman for the Navy ships, he heard the voice of God calling him to special service in the church. He resisted that calling for some months. Then his cousin, the Rev. John F. Owens, who was District Superintendent of the Rappahannock District at the time, became aware of his struggle and wrote him a letter urging him to heed God's voice and come into the ministry, offering him a rural charge which was in need of a pastor. Leslie soon replied, saying, "When your letter came, I was on my knees in prayer over this matter, and that letter seemed like God's answer." In a few weeks, he was beginning the Conference courses for a Local Preacher's License; and, in 1949, he began his ministry on the two-point circuit of Northumberland Charge, Rappahannock District.

Leslie proved to be a very devout and effective preacher and pastor. He went on to serve four other charges: Colonial Beach, Rappahannock District, 1952-56; Gloucester Point: Bethany, Rappahannock District, 1956-60; Dare, Peninsula District, 1960-66; and Charity, Norfolk District, 1966-69. Thus he gave many years of effective service to God and His Church in the latter part of his life, for which he is remembered by hundreds of church folk in those rural counties of Virginia.

In April, 1969, Leslie suffered a serious stroke which forced him to retire. He resided in Norfolk until 1979, when he moved to Richmond where he died on August 26, 1981. He was buried from Charity Church, Norfolk District. The pastor, the Rev. James Higgins, conducted his funeral which was attended by a large congregation. Interment was in Charity Church Cemetery.

He was a devoted husband and father and a constant and dedicated servant of the Church. He will be remembered as one strong in his convictions, faithful to his Lord, and energetic in his work. He has left his mark on countless lives. **John Franklin Owens**
James K. Rodgers. On September 9, 1981, a strong voice for Jesus Christ passed from our earthly realm. James K. Rodgers, whose life passion was to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ, joined those who "enjoy him forever."

Jim Rodgers, a strong man, with strong features and a strong voice, had a very gentle heart that was filled with love for his Lord. This love was made manifest

especially in his concern for those who were unable to help themselves. This gentle and caring man will be missed not only by the family he loved so much, but also by many others who came to know the Lord's peace through him.

James K. Rodgers was born in Grundy County, Tenn., March 31, 1913. His parents, Oscar and Emma Rodgers, moved to Alabama when Jim was about nine years old. There in Huntsville, Alabama, in September 1933, Mildred May Green became his life-partner in marriage. Four children were born to them: Rolfe Gary, Gwinneth Anne, Dennis K. and Jimmy Lynn. Educated at Emory University, Jim Rodgers served both in the North Alabama and the Virginia Conferences.

Wherever Jim served, there are people who remember fondly this delightful man of good humor. How many have been touched by this "ambassador for Christ" while sipping a cup of coffee? They can be found in North Alabama at these charges where he served faithfully: McDonald; Scottsboro Circuit; Associate, Central East End in Decatur; Fairfield: Highlands; and in the Virginia Conference on the Philadelphia, Essex-King and Queen, Beulah-Saint Paul and Montross Charges.

In 1979, Jim and Mildred retired to Port Haywood to a lovely place near some good fishing. Very shortly, though, when Jim's friend, Joe Carson, the Charlottesville District Superintendent, asked him to serve at Louisa, there was no question of his response. Jim Rodgers was a preacher and "how are they to hear without a preacher?"

The funeral service to celebrate a gift of God to the world, the life of James K. Rodgers, was led by his very dear friend, the Rev. Luther M. Marks, assisted by the Rev. Joseph T. Carson, Jr., and the Rev. H. Randolph Arrington.

Gene C. Gee

James William Reynolds, Sr. On September 18, 1892, James William Reynolds, Sr., was born in Northumberland County, Va. His parents being Methodist, he was brought up in Henderson Church in Callao. Under the influence of a certain Sunday School teacher there, he soon answered a call that would be his very life.

On July 15, 1914, Jim was licensed to preach in the old White Marsh Church in Lancaster County. It was also at this time that he entered Randolph-Macon College to study for the ministry. Three years later, in November of 1917, Jim was called by a Presiding Elder to pastor the Mount Vernon Charge on the Princess Anne-Norfolk County line. While there, he met and married Eunice, who would be his loving wife and friend for 57 years.

Rev. Reynold's pastorates included Decatur Street, which later became McGuire Park, in Richmond, Highland in Colonial Heights and churches in Chesapeake, Virginia Beach, the Eastern Shore, Portsmouth, Reedville, Hampton and Norfolk. His last church before retiring in 1963 was Forestville in Great Falls. His appointments spanned 47 years. After retirement, he served as well, as a supply pastor for the Sudley Charge on the Arlington District.

His ministry, firmly set within the United Methodist tradition, always included attention to areas of social concern. During the Depression, Rev. Reynolds responded by running a soup kitchen and distribution point for free sacks of flour. In the 1950's, convinced of the righteousness of the civil rights movement, he took a stand while serving at Campostella.

My grandfather always kept an open mind. I can remember on many occasions when confronted with a changing world and different ways of doing things, he would reflect for awhile and then say, "Well, maybe that's alright." This openmindedness grew, I think, out of his profound love for people as opposed to doctrines or ideas or ideals.

Once, when accompanying us to my parents' cabin in the mountains, my grandfather's response was predictable. After a day or so, he said, "Well, this is very nice and very pretty, but I like to be around people."

A memorial service was held at Saint Paul's United Methodist Church in Chesapeake. It was conducted by the Rev. M. Douglas Newman, District Superintendent, and the Rev. Wesley B. Baker.

"Thou was their rock, their fortress and their might;

Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;

Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Amen."

David T. Reynolds

Raymond Ledbetter Moore, Sr. He gave of his best in the service of his country; he died in the service to his Lord.

Raymond Moore was born October 6, 1898, at Stapleton, Va. He was the son of the late William Fletcher Moore and Mary Ellen Hudson Moore. He was predeceased by his first wife, Gladys Britt Moore; his brother, Robert C. Moore, Sr.; and his sister, Annie Laurie Moore.

Surviving is his second wife, Elizabeth Parr Daniel Moore, with whom he was united in marriage on October 6, 1977. Also surviving are his daughters, Mrs. Carl Hardenbrook and Mrs. Gary F. Hess; his sons, the Rev. Raymond L. Moore, II, and Walter F. Moore; a stepson, Earl Daniel; a stepdaughter, Mrs. Wayne Adams; and ten grandchildren.

After graduating from Randolph-Macon Academy in Bedford, he continued his studies at the University of Virginia and Emory University.

Volunteering for military service in World War I, he served in France and Germany in the 42nd (Rainbow) Division. In World War II, he served as Captain of the Virginia Reserve Militia Company No. 37, while pastor at Bellamy Church, Gloucester, Va.

A 50-year Mason, his membership also included Kazim Shrine Temple and the York and Scottish Rite Bodies.

Brother Moore was a diligent and faithful minister of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. He served the United Methodist Church in many ways. In the West Virginia Conference, he served as Chairman of the Board of Hospitals and Homes for nine years and also served as a member of the Board of Missions and the Board of Evangelism.

His pastorates in Virginia included work in Bath County, White Post, Edinburg, Leesburg and Gloucester. In the West Virginia Conference he served Piedmont, Fairmont Temple, McDonald Memorial in Man, Stealey Heights in Clarksburg and as associate pastor of Fairmont First Church. In one 15-year period, he received more than 1000 members into the church.

After his retirement, he moved to the United Methodist Church home in Roanoke, Va., where he served as Chaplain for ten years. He also served as pastor of Villa Heights and finally the Allegheny-Piedmont Charge.

Brother Moore died at the age of 83 on November 23, 1981, in Roanoke, Va. A Blue Lodge Memorial Service was conducted at the Roanoke United Methodist Home at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 25, 1981. The officiating ministers were Dr. Theodore E. Landis, the Rev. R. J. Day, and the Rev. Peter C. Helmtoller.

A graveside service was conducted at the Beulah United Methodist Church Cemetery, near Stapleton, Amherst County, Va., at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 25, 1981, with Dr. Raymond L. Moore, II, officiating.

"Servant of God, well done!"

Harry W. Backhus, III

Earl Hansford Davis was born on May 10, 1926, in Albemarle County, a child of the late Jeremiah and Susan Goodman Davis. He attended the public schools in the county and in Charlottesville. On March 24, 1944, he joined the U. S. Marine Corps, and served in the Pacific Theatre in World War II, as well as in Korea and Vietnam. Between tours of duty in the Marine Corps, from 1951-53, he served as a deputy in the Albemarle County Sheriff's Department.

While sharing in the life of the Dumfries Church, he qualified himself to become a Certified Lay Speaker, and for ten years prior to his military retirement, he frequently filled pulpits, taught Church School classes, and shared himself freely in the life of the churches which were close to his duty station. In 1966, he was acting chaplain aboard ship on a Mediterranean cruise.

Ill health forced him to retire from military service on March 1, 1970. Following this, he and his family returned and settled in Crozet. Though his physical difficulties created many problems, still he was eager to serve Christ through His Church. After completing the necessary requirements, he was ordained Deacon in Leesburg on August 28, 1974, and completed the Ministerial Course of Study at Duke Divinity School in July of 1977. For a year, he served as a part-time lay speaker at the Wesley Chapel Church, near Free Union, on the Charlottesville District. In 1971, he was appointed Lay Pastor of Wesley Chapel, and a year later to Gentry's Church at Boonesville in Albemarle County. He served these two churches until 1978, when his illness forced him to ask for work which was less taxing. Then it was that he was appointed as the Associate Minister of the Crozet Church.

He was married to the former Doris Sandridge, who survives him. A daughter, Susan D. Miller, lives across the street from her mother, and a son, Earl H. Davis, Jr., lives in Huntsville, Alabama.

No man was more in love with life than was Earl Davis. He had but one life to live, and he was aware that it was to be short, so he packed all the living he could get into the time which was to be his. He loved children, and was especially in love with his four grandchildren who survive, two of whom live across the street. More than this, he loved all people, and was happy to minister to them in any way. As well he should have been, he was frustrated when the time came when he could not minister as fully as he desired. Yet, by his vibrant spirit, sheer determination, and brave example, he ministered in an unbelievable way. His life was a clear example of grace being shared amidst adversity.

Death came on December 2, 1981, and on December 4, his District Superintendent, the Rev. Joseph T. Carson, Jr., and the author of this memoir participated in a Service of Triumph at the Crozet Church. His body was interred in the cemetery which surrounds the Wesley Chapel Church, where his ministry began, and where his influence continues to be felt. Though his physical existence has been climaxed in death, his spirit is let loose in the world, never to be encumbered by the difficulties of the flesh. Still, he preaches and shares in the lives of those who knew and loved him during the short ministry which was his! Well done, faithful servant, and more than this, good friend!

Carroll C. Goodridge

George Spottswood Reamey. For 30 years, George S. Reamey and the Virginia Methodist Advocate were synonymous. With agile mind, deft pen, and management skill, he guided the conference magazine longer than any other editor in its history.

The familiar "G.S.R." at the conclusion of his weekly editorials marked a continuation of a pastoral concern that had influenced congregations at Gladys, Appomattox, Highland Springs, and Richmond. Commentaries on national and church life were insightful, but his highest editorial moments were reserved for his insistence on the basics of a Christian's devotional life—prayer, Bible study, and compassion.

Born in 1895, George Reamey was graduated from Randolph-Macon College and Emory University. In 1947, Randolph-Macon awarded him an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree, but he had already carried "Doctor" with his name with distinction. In 1932, he earned a Ph.D. degree from Yale University, marking him as the only editor in the paper's history to carry that learned designation.

George Reamey was a man small of stature, but large of heart. His energy and enthusiasm for his church were contagious. His understanding of the church and of business made him a good manager, and the principal venture of his ministry, the Virginia Methodist Advocate, thrived under both.

When George Reamey retired in 1968, the Annual Conference cited his ministry as characterized by both "quantity and quality" and met his retirement with "special love, affection, and respect."

The final editorial from George Reamey's pen was a reaffirmation that "this is still God's world" and looked to "the dawn of a glorious new day" when we "really understand the Gospel, and accept it, and live it."

On December 4, 1981, George Reamey filed his final story and met his last deadline, but his years of attention to detail, his care for persons, and his Christian grace will be reprinted often.

W. Hewlett Smith

Benjamin Boyd Bland. When we remember Benjamin Boyd Bland, some of the nicest words in the English language come to mind: words like "faithful," "friendly," "dedicated," "God-directed." His "best" enriched the lives and times of all who knew him as husband, friend and pastor.

A native of Gloucester County, Va., he was born in the community of Cash on May 4, 1894, the oldest of the three sons of Linus Payne Bland and Mary Padgett Bland. When he was seven years old, his father died; and, since his mother never remarried, young Ben faced many responsibilities as he grew up, all of which gave him an early strength and resourcefulness.

He was educated in the public schools in Gloucester County and Randolph-Macon Academy in Bedford, Va. In 1916, he entered Randolph-Macon College and, while a

student there, he served pastorates in Powhatan, Nottoway and Cartersville, earning the money to pay college fees. Later, he attended Yale University and William and Mary College where he received his B.A. Degree. During his final college years, he served pastorate in Toano and Williamsburg.

On October 12, 1937, Ben married Lena Rebecca Edwards, of Altavista, and she was a perfect complement to his work since she was a music major, assisting with the musical programs in the churches they served. The Blands enjoyed pastorates in Altavista; West End, Lynchburg; Ferrum; Hinton Avenue, Charlottesville; Cradock; Toano; Oceana; Virginia Beach; Irvington; High Street in Franklin; Central, Portsmouth; Williamsburg; Onley; Laurel Hill, Richmond; and Deep Creek, Portsmouth. He retired from the ministry at the end of his Deep Creek pastorate in 1963.

In 1951, he attended the World Methodist Conference in Oxford, England, as an observing delegate on his way to Vienna, Austria, where he served as an exchange pastor for the First Methodist Church in Vienna. In his long and successful career as a Methodist minister, a priority of his ministry was youth work. He related to young people in a very special way and brought many into active, productive relationships with the Church. People still remember Ben's winsome personality, his single-minded devotion to the causes of Christ. Even in the years of his retirement, he continued to serve the Church in many ways, and a highlight of his life was attendance at Virginia Annual Conference Sessions.

Ben died December 4, 1981, and, following a memorial service in Westhampton United Methodist Church, Richmond, was buried in Olive Branch Cemetery in Gloucester County.

I count it a privilege to reflect on the experience I have shared with Ben Bland, and he was an inspiration to me in my ministry. Whenever I read Endless Line of Splendor, the great work of the late Halford E. Luccock, I think of Ben who was and is, truly, a part of that "endless line" of splendid men of God who made a difference in the world through the contribution of their lives.

H. Randolph Arrington

Luther Flynn was born in Pendleton County, W.Va., in 1892. He completed normal training at Shepherdstown, earned an A.B. Degree at West Virginia Wesleyan College, Master's Degrees from Drew University and New York University, and a Doctor's Degree at the University of Virginia.

Following graduation from West Virginia Wesleyan and a year of teaching at West Liberty College, Luther married Ada Mae Spencer. They were in Holden, W.Va., for a year and Hillsboro, W.Va., for four years, before moving to Madison, N.J., to complete his schooling at Drew and New York University.

The longest single segment of his life was spent at Pittman Community Center in Sevier County, Tenn., where he was director of the total operation. Luther served as acting president of Sue Bennett College as well as professor at our own Ferrum College.

Many have been affected by the ministry of this great hero of the faith and have been led to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. The character and ministry of this man's life is reflected in the lives of his three children: Don, a United Methodist pastor in Charleston, W.Va.; Paul, a college administrator and teacher in Cullowhee, N.C.; and Annett, who serves as a teacher at Miller School.

Dr. Flynn established and presided over the Flynn Foundation, an organization dedicated to education by providing low interest loans to needy students. Many have made their way through college because of this work.

Luther loved the Church. He served as pastor of several churches, always with a determination in his heart and God as his Provider, to make them an arm of Christ in the world.

He was a personal friend to everyone. He loved people and people loved him for what he was: a Christian gentleman who in his gentleman's agreement with life, certainly gave to life more than he received. He is a milestone in United Methodist history.

Jim Meredith

William Anthony Lyons. He was a competitor. If there is any unsavory inference in the word, it can be disregarded, but in its wholesome and tenacious meaning it is very appropriate; for Bill Lyons was a competitor. He fully accepted life's challenges and opportunities and competed--not so much against others as within himself--and did so

with a spirit of excitement and determination. This was true whether in life itself, church work, sports or personal health. He was not a quitter.

Bill lived all his life in a parsonage, carrying on the tradition of his Methodist minister father. From Strasburg High School he entered Emory and Henry College, which honored him with the doctoral degree in 1979. Following graduation from Candler School of Theology, Emory, University, he was received into full ministerial connection in the Virginia Conference in 1946.

During his ministerial career, Bill served the following appointments: Selma, Marshall, Nottoway, Victoria, Associate at Arlington, Dumfries, Main Street (Bedford), Braddock Street and Messiah (Springfield). From Messiah he was appointed Superintendent of the Arlington District in 1976. In June 1981, he was appointed pastor at Cherrydale, where he was serving until his death on December 12, 1981. He served on many Conference Boards and Agencies and was a Trustee at Sibley Hospital (Washington) and Shenandoah College.

He is survived by his wife, the former Louise Bell of Berryville, two daughters, Barbara Kahler and Nancy; one son, William Bell; and two grandchildren.

His memorial service was held at Cherrydale Church on December 15, 1981, conducted by Bishop Robert M. Blackburn and Arlington District Superintendent Kenneth E. Whetzel. A large number of friends and ministerial families were in attendance, and the service ended with the celebrative "Hallelujah Chorus."

Bill Lyons had a significant life and ministerial career. He will be long remembered for his accomplishments, his administrative ability, his wit, his concern for others, his encouragement to younger ministers, his participation in civic and community affairs, and his service to God and the Church. As Paul wrote in his Epistle to the Romans, Bill could also justifiably say, "Yea, so have I striven to preach the Gospel." He was a competitor and he strove for excellence. **J. Courtney Sheffield**

Lloyd Otway Wright was born on the family farm near Rustburg, Campbell County, Va., December 30, 1895, the tenth of 12 children. He died December 20, 1891. After a service of triumphant celebration conducted by this writer at the J.T. Morriss and Son Funeral Home Chapel, Petersburg, his body was interred in Southlawn Memorial Park in nearby Prince George County.

Lloyd Wright's commitment to ministry came early, and he was licensed to preach by the Lynchburg District Conference at the age of 15. In 1917 he volunteered his services to his country and went to France in Company I, 116th Infantry, 29th Division. He saw combat duty in some of the fiercest fighting on the Alsace and Argonne fronts. It was on the battlefields of France that his commitment to full-time service in the ministry of Christ was consummated. After educational preparation at Randolph-Macon College and by correspondence at Emory University, the long fruiting of this commitment began. His first full-time appointment was to the Elba (later Gretna) Circuit in 1920 as an Approved Supply. During the next 41 years he served faithfully as pastor and preacher across the Conference. He was admitted on trial in 1923, ordained Deacon in 1926 and Elder in 1927. While serving the seven churches of the Fluvanna Circuit, 1925-28, he was instrumental in getting a marker placed on the site of the "Broken Back Church."

He was a strong preacher, his sermons always biblical in content and forceful in delivery. He was gentle and loving in his dealings with people, firm in his stand on moral issues. The frustrations as well as the successes of his ministry were sustained with a sense of humor which enabled him to keep all things in healthy perspective and added wit to the sharp perceptions of a mind which always saw life clearly and honestly. He was a member of the Masonic Order for over 60 years.

Lloyd retired in 1961 and he and his beloved Carrie lived in the home they built, much of it with their own hands, in DeWitt next door to their daughter, Lulie Price ("Pete") Bolte. Here his ministry continued through 20 years of retirement as he supplied for and assisted local ministers, all the while keeping his mind and spirit fresh through his reading and study.

He is survived by wife, daughter, and granddaughter, Caroline; by one brother, Ralph Patrick Wright, and many nephews and nieces--and more distantly by the writer of this memoir who proudly claims him as cousin.

William A. Wright

Earl Irving Lewis was the second of six children born to Susan Julia Harrison and Charles Walter Lewis, November 22, 1897, in Rockingham County, N.C. The family soon moved to Danville where young Earl attended public school. He grew up with his family attending Cabell Street Methodist Episcopal Church, now Moseley Memorial.

At age 11, young Earl made his decision for Christ. It was the preaching of his pastor, the Rev. O. B. Newton, that stirred him at 16 to say, "I had the feeling it would be wonderful to stand in the pulpit and preach as he did." His mother prayed that one of her boys would be a minister. For two years Earl fought an inner battle. "Finally," he said, "when I found I would have no peace in any direction, I gave up and returned to school. I owe most to the Rev. W.B. Jett in helping me in this decision."

From Randolph-Macon Academy and College, he went in 1923 to Emory University. In chemistry lab he met his wife, Miss Mary Evelyn Newton of Atlanta. It was a love affair from the beginning and continued throughout their entire life and ministry together. Earl and Evelyn were inseparable. Married in the Emory Chapel, October 3, 1926, they ended their honeymoon at the Virginia Conference in Norfolk. Admitted on trial, he received his first appointment and two years later was ordained Deacon by Bishop Collins Denny.

The listing of their appointments reflects the constant and busy lives of these consecrated servants of Christ: Gretna, Bedford Springs, a return to Emory, Appomattox Circuit, Montvale, Fairview Heights (Lynchburg), Exmore, Buena Vista, Emporia, Reedville, Zion (Norfolk), Lawrenceville and Berryville.

Malcolm R. Moon, of Covington, tells how he became a member of Anderson Memorial, Gretna. "I feel that Mr. Lewis had a great influence in my young life and I give him credit for my strong Christian convictions today."

The Rev. Jack Minnick was eight when his father was brought into Fairview Heights, Lynchburg. Jack was profoundly impressed. "Reverend Earl Lewis was one of the determining influences of my life."

At Exmore, his five-year pastorate brought to life a new Wesley Fellowship Class for young man. The leadership of this Church today has come from this class.

William T. Robay, Jr., of Buena Vista, remembers Earl Lewis. "He certainly was one of the great preachers of our Conference. He was the right man for Saint John's. There was no compromise with sin. He was totally against it. He liked to hunt, fish and golf. Earl Lewis was a sincere, dedicated man, loved by the people he served."

Mrs. Virginia Vincent Saffelle, of Emporia, vividly recalls: "Mr. Lewis' exemplary life was an inspiration. His well-prepared sermons inspired and challenged us. He was always kind and tolerant, projecting a gentleness of spirit not often encountered to day."

Garland M. Canter, of Berryville, writes: "Earl Lewis was always a quiet, dignified, considerate and capable minister when he served Duncan Memorial...He loved to relax with his printing press. After retirement in 1963, he and Evelyn continued to live in Berryville until their new home was built in Thaxton." Hearing of his death, Mr. Canter later wrote: "We know Earl has been ill for some months and we are sorry to lose a true friend. He is now with his Heavenly Father, whom he served so well while living among us."

Earl Irving Lewis died Tuesday, January 26, 1982, at the Roanoke United Methodist Home, after prolonged illness. His funeral was conducted on Thursday, at 2:30 p.m., at Epworth Church, Thaxton, with the Rev. H. Hasbrouck Hughes, Lynchburg District Superintendent; the Rev. Carroll Jay, pastor; and the Rev. Jack Minnick officiating, with interment in Greenwood Cemetery, Bedford.

Surviving are his dear wife, Evelyn Newton Lewis, their lovely daughter, Mrs. Shirley Lewis Hughes, and four grandchildren.

We are in loving respect and gratitude to God for our beloved friend with whom we have shared a lifetime of common ministry.

John Wynn Myers

Freeman Roosevelt Berlack was born October 12, 1908, in Orlando, Florida, to Benjamin and Martha Berlack. He was a child of unusual abilities. His early maturity afforded him great insight, so much so that at an early age, he was called to preach by a vision of the Lord in a storm. Committed to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, he was licensed to preach at age 12 and was ordained at 19 to the Gospel Ministry.

While he was still a youthful preacher, the National Baptist Convention, Inc., USA, commissioned him as one of their evangelists. With this privilege, he traveled to 40 states and Canada, providing spiritual nourishment to those who hungered after righteousness. Many souls were saved and revived because of the Gospel of Jesus Christ that he proclaimed so well. Dr. Berlack knew the value of training and the importance of enhancing his own inner visions, therefore he vigorously pursued the attainment of more knowledge. He earned the B.Th. Degree, Cum Laude; the A.B. and B.D. Degrees at Virginia Union University. The Master of Arts Degree was earned at New York University. The Doctor of Divinity Degree was conferred by Virginia Seminary and College because of his many achievements as a pastor, teacher and builder.

He was able to accomplish much in his many years of fruitful pastorate. He served in the pastorate of several churches and founded the First Baptist Church of New York. But his most cherished achievement was the founding of Great Hope Baptist Church which grew from the humble beginnings of a borrowed Bible and culminated in the burning of two separate mortgages in a scant 28 years.

With only the vision of his "great hope," he pioneered a multitude of innovations targeted toward meeting the needs of the community. After reviewing the fruits of his labor, he realized that there was still work to be done. At 62, with his ageless spirit, Dr. Berlack ventured to take the Word of God to the Methodist congregation.

Along with his spiritual investment, he also committed himself, as an educator, towards the enrichment of children throughout the Virginia school system.

Dr. Berlack passed quietly on to glory on Friday, January 29, 1982. He is survived by his devoted wife of 40 years, Mrs. Lila Edwards Berlack; two sons, Valjean Freeman and Breyon Keith; two daughters, Mrs. Lileeta B. Sullivan and Miss Cheryl Angelique Berlack; two brothers, Weston and Elmo Berlack; six grandchildren and a host of relatives and friends.

He will be lovingly remembered by all for his gracious manner, quick intelligence and humor, coupled with contagious optimism. His unfolding panorama of insight and pioneer spirit are the legacies he leaves behind.

His favorite scriptures were:

"The spirit of the Lord is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the broken-hearted and to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound."

(Isaiah 61:1)

"I have fought a good fight, I have kept the faith, I have finished my course."

(II Timothy 4:7)

The congenial spirit of Freeman R. Berlack will live with us for years to come.

Benjamin Robertson

John Samuel Hayes, son of Edward Samuel and Mary Katherine Hayes, was born September 21, 1922, and was reared in Essex County, Va. His early schooling was there. In his maturing years, upon deciding to enter the ministry, he attended Ferrum College, Randolph-Macon College, and took the Master of Divinity Degree at Duke University. He later did additional work at the University of Virginia and Wesley Seminary.

John served the church as a pastor at the following appointments: South Franklin, Loudoun, Greensville, Rodes, Highland on the Staunton District, and King William. After taking the Honorable Location status, he became a member of Tappahannock Memorial Church in Tappahannock, assisting this writer in preaching, administration of the sacrament, singing in the choir, and other duties of a pastoral nature.

His interest in the church was shown in other ways. He had a sense of beauty and a keenness for quality, which he made clear in all that he did. But his interest extended beyond all of that, as contributions made to others' lives have become evident from time to time. He was warm and friendly, because he liked people, and he made them know it.

Another attribute of John's needs to be mentioned. He possessed a keen social conscience about human justice. He thought--and he was right--that religion which does not care deeply and sensitively about what happens to all other people is in the last analysis a phony religion, and had little to do with what was taught by Christ. He had this clearly developed in his own mind.

John died suddenly on March 4, 1982, a Thursday. His funeral service was held the following Sunday at Tappahannock Memorial Church, conducted by his brother-in-law, the Rev. Randolph Arrington, and this writer. He was buried in the churchyard of his childhood church, Trinity in Essex County. Three sisters and a brother survive him: Edna Lumpkin, Mary Mosby, Anne Arrington, and Benjamin Hayes. **Hudson T. Hornsby**

Arthur Parke Roach was born and reared in Rochester, N.Y., the son of pious Methodist parents. He was baptized and confirmed in West Avenue Methodist Church there. As a young man, he moved to northern Virginia, where at Clarendon Methodist Church he enjoyed the support and tutelage of George Oliver, whose friendship he remained devoted to for the rest of his life. At this time, he discerned his vocation to the ministry, began studies at Randolph-Macon College, and in 1939 officially became associated with the Virginia Conference.

A man of great physical strength and stamina, he accepted a summer ministry at the Methodist Orphanage, where he led the youths' outdoor activities and worked on the farm. More importantly, though, it was here that he met Miss Ollie Hudgins, the Orphanage's music director. "Miss Ollie" was already well-known in the Conference; she was a graduate of Ferrum College, and her tours with the Orphanage choir had taken them to virtually every community in the state. On June 20, 1942, at Moseley Memorial Methodist Church in Danville, a long-time friend, Lance Knowles, united Arthur and Ollie in holy matrimony.

His first appointment was in Richmond, where his daughter, Marianne, was born. Next, in South Boston, he worked tirelessly for civil rights, especially for equal opportunities in education. His son, Arthur, was born during his pastorate at McCanless Memorial Church there.

Restless behind a desk, he preferred to shepherd the flock of a local church. In all his assignments he was known to be a loving and attentive pastor, always accessible, and likely to appear anywhere to comfort and protect his flock. A lover of the House of God, he built new churches in South Boston, Petersburg, Falls Church and Virginia Beach. Norfolk, Richmond, Danville, and northern Virginia were the sites of his remaining charges.

He was President of the Conference Board on Evangelism, a position that gave him further outlets for his passionate preaching--San Francisco, Chicago, London, and Cardiff, Wales. He particularly loved his assignment as Conference Minister to the Upper Room, Nashville, Tenn., and treasured each opportunity to preach there.

In 1979, he retired from Calvary United Methodist Church, Arlington, and moved to Farmville, where he and Ollie ministered with great affection at Meherrin United Methodist Church and in a special way at Sydenstricker, where his son-in-law, Jack Martin, was minister and where he preached his last sermon.

During the winter of 1982, he became suddenly and intensely ill; despite his sufferings, though, he was a blessing to all who visited him near the end. On March 6, 1982, he went to Him whom he had served so faithfully, to continue his ministry, praying for those he left behind.

As a member of the Body of Christ, who, then, was Arthur Roach? Those who heard him preach would say that, in a long tradition of Methodist ministers, it was his vocation to be the mighty prophetic voice of that Body. But sometimes, I was sure that it was his calling to be the strong right Arm of Christ's Body. How we remember the strength with which he carried the Cross of Christ Crucified in the Ordination processions! Those moments at Annual Conference each year symbolized the work of his many years in the ministry.

Minutes for 1983. **Edward Byrnes Cook.** 1892-1981. Edward Byrnes Cook, son of Blair Lee Cook and Nettie Tevalt Cook, was born in Washington, D.C., March 3, 1892. His father died when Edward was two years of age. He and his mother then made their home in Winchester, Va., where he attended school and graduated from Winchester High School. He prepared himself for the ministry at Randolph-Macon Academy, Randolph-Macon College, Washington and Lee University and Emory University.

He married Daisy Rosana Dunlap on November 25, 1914, and there followed 58 years of a beautiful, meaningful and supportive life together. She died in 1972. There is one son, Blair Lee Cook.

The Rev. Mr. Cook was admitted to the Baltimore Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in 1924 and served 11 appointments in 35 years: Page Circuit, 1924; Highland Circuit, 1925; Roanoke Circuit, 1926-30; Rockbridge Circuit, 1931-34; Bethany Circuit, 1935-38; Grace Church, Roanoke, 1939-41; Catawba Circuit, 1942-45; Villa Heights, Roanoke, 1946-48; Wallace Memorial, Hampton, 1949-51; Pinners Point, Portsmouth, 1952-53; and Middletown, 1954 until retirement to Roanoke, Va., in 1955.

Edward B. Cook's son is an active member of Raleigh Court United Methodist Church in Roanoke. I asked him to describe his father. He said:

"My father had a great zest for life and a deep love for people. He was a thoughtful man with a great love for good books, fine music, and art. One of the pleasures of his life was playing the violin. Another source of enjoyment was baseball. He kept up with all of the teams. His good humor, friendly personality, and warmth endeared him to his family, his friends, and to the members of the churches pastored by him. My father loved the Church deeply and remained active during the years of retirement. His kindness and concern for others are well remembered."

Mr. Cook died on May 29, 1981. His funeral service was conducted in Salem, Va., by the Rev. William L. Vann and the Rev. Lawrence Thompson. **Donald H. Traylor**

Robert Edmunds Murphy. 1911-1982. Robert E. Murphy, a dedicated servant of Christ and His Church, born December 12, 1911, in Pittsylvania County, Va., was the son of Thomas and Hassie Murphy. Robert felt a call to the pastoral ministry in 1947 and entered Ferrum College in the fall of the same year. At the completion of his studies at Ferrum in 1949, he then served the West Franklin Charge, Danville District, for four years.

On August 28, 1937, Robert married Mary Rebecca Farthing, who complemented his ministry in many wonderful ways. The Murphys enjoyed further pastorates at Hurt and Bayleys Chapel, Lynchburg District; Chesterfield, East Dinwiddie, and McKenney, Petersburg District; South Amherst, Charlottesville District; Capron, Portsmouth District; Essex-King and Queen, Rappahannock District; and Cartersville, Farmville District.

While serving at Hurt and Cartersville, 1953-58, Robert attended Duke Divinity School. He was ordained a Deacon in 1955 and ordained an Elder in 1957. He was received as an Associate Member of the Virginia Conference in 1969.

Robert pioneered a multitude of innovations targeted toward meeting the needs of the Church and community. While serving the Cartersville Charge, he helped build new Sunday School rooms at the Oakwood Church. While serving at Essex-King and Queen, he helped build a new parsonage.

Ill health forced Robert to retire from the pastoral ministry in 1979, while serving the McKenney United Methodist Charge. Following this, he and his wife returned and settled in Cartersville, Va.

Death came on May 27, 1982, and on May 29, the Rev. Joseph T. Carson, Jr., the Rev. Henry Maddox Matthews, and the author of this memoir participated in a Service of Triumph at the Oakwood United Methodist Church. His body was interred in the Cartersville Cemetery which surrounds the community he loved and served for six years, where his influence continues to be felt. He is survived by his wife, Becky, and four sons: Robert Wayne, Gerald Thomas, John Henry, and Stephen Edmunds. Though his physical existence has been climaxed in death, his influence, memory, and spirit will live on, never to be encumbered by the difficulties of the flesh. Still, he preaches and shares in the lives of those who knew and loved him. Robert was and is, truly, a part of the "faithful servants" of God who have made a difference in the world through the contribution of their lives.

"Servant of our Lord Jesus Christ, well done!"

John Madison Hamm. 1920-1982. John Madison Hamm was born in Stokes County, N.C., February 17, 1920. He was the son of Colonel Thomas Hamm and Martha Goff Hamm. He attended the public schools of his native county, and upon graduating from high school enrolled in High Point College. After graduating there he further his preparation for the ministry at Duke Divinity School where he was a member of the Class of 1945. He became a Director of Wesley Foundation at North Carolina State, Raleigh, N.C., and later enrolled in the Department of Philosophy at the University of Virginia, Char-

lottesville, joining the Virginia Conference of the Methodist Church. He had a life-long interest in education, and he expressed this interest in every facet of his life and work. One of his primary interest was public worship, and he became a preacher and liturgist of distinction. It may be said of John that he strived for perfection in his ministry. He was proud to be a Methodist minister and he wanted nothing more than to be an effective servant of the church.

In 1953 he married Marion Haverty of Smithfield, Va., and across the years she faithfully shared his ministry. Marion survives him, as do also a brother, Marvin Hamm of Lancaster, S.C., and a sister, Mrs. Walker Shelton of Winston-Salem, N.C.

John was a friendly person but he was very selective in his friendships. He had very little patience with trivialities. He was always searching for something deeper in life and in the lives of people with whom he shared his time. This quality endeared him to people who were searching for a life that would reflect truly the Gospel of Christ. The friends he made were people who shared his reasonable and rational approach to the gospel. This approach he never compromised no matter what it cost him. He was a man of strong will and strong character; a man who was faithful to his calling.

Among the appointments he held during his long tenure of service were Marshall Charge in Fauquier County, Isle of Wight, Capeville and Exmore on the Eastern Shore, Chamberlayne Heights in Richmond, Watson Memorial in Chatham, Centenary in Chase City, Cradock in Portsmouth, Wesley Memorial in Norfolk, and Elkton.

John was serving the Elkton Church when he passed from this mortal life on June 2, 1982. His funeral service was held in the Elkton Church on June 5 by the Rev. Samuel E. NeSmith, Superintendent of the Harrisonburg District, and the Rev. Robert D. Fridley. His remains were laid to rest in Smithfield, Va., on June 7. The graveside service was conducted by the Rev. Robert D. Fridley, a long-time friend of John and Marion.

"Happy are the dead who die in the faith of Christ! Henceforth," says the Spirit, "they may rest from their labours; for they take with them the record of their deeds."
(NEB)

Robert D. Fridley

Fred Marvel. 1923-1982. Fred Marvel was born on August 14, 1923, the son of the later Frederick Samuel and Augusta Minner Marvel in Harrington, Delaware, where he grew up and received his early education in the Harrington public schools. For many years, he worked in the Sunday School and taught teenagers and young adults. Although he was working in the Personnel Department of General Motors in Wilmington, Delaware, he felt that God had other work planned for him. He resisted God's first call but later responded when God said to him, "Fred, go forth and preach the Gospel." He had done some studying for the ministry, but after this calling, he, in earnest, continued seminary training.

Fred was licensed to preach in January 1961, in the Wilmington District of the Peninsula Annual Conference of the Methodist Church. He assisted the minister at Union Church in Wilmington from December 1961, until June 1962. Union Church was known for its evangelistic services. While at that appointment, he also assisted at Baird Mission and the Sunday Breakfast Mission.

In June 1962, he transferred to the Virginia Annual Conference where he became a Deacon in June 1964, and an Elder, June 1966. He served the following churches: New Church Circuit, Loudoun Circuit, Capeville, Chincoteague, and Madison Heights. While serving the Chincoteague appointment, he received his D.D. Fred also served in various District offices as well as on the Hermitage (Eastern Shore) Regional and Corporate Boards.

Fred was a diligent worker. His first love was preaching, and secondly, he enjoyed visiting in the homes of his parishioners and sharing their needs—he was a shepherd to his flock. It was said that "he was one of the strongest preachers that ever graced the pulpit and was noted for his scholarly sermons." One of the hardest things to give up after being forced to take disability leave in April 1978, was his preaching. He disliked being on the "front side" of the pulpit.

In June 1978, Fred, his wife, Phyllis, and son, Gary, moved to Cheswold, Delaware, where families lived nearby and dialysis clinics were at Wilmington and nearby Dover.

For the past two years it was necessary that Fred have treatments two and later three times weekly.

On June 15, 1982, returning to his home from further tests in Wilmington, he suffered a fatal heart attack. He was tired and exhausted from fighting and the Lord took him out of further pain and suffering.

Memorial services were held June 19, 1982, at the Asbury United Methodist Church, Harrington, conducted by a long-time friend, the Rev. Dr. T. W. Evans, Springfield, Va. He is survived by his widow, Phyllis, whom he married December 23, 1945; two daughters, Donna Fay and Fredda Phyllis; one son, Gary; four grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and two sisters.

"Well done, thou good and faithful servant, enter now into the joys of the Lord."

Fred Gary Marvel (his son)

Forest Henry Mead. 1904-1982. Forest Mead was a devoted and earnest Christian. He loved his Lord; he loved his church; he loved people; and he sought with all his powers to make life richer and more meaningful to everyone.

Forest was born in Fowler, Michigan, March 9, 1904. His family moved to Roanoke, Va., in January 1918, and attended Greene Memorial Church. Forest joined the Boy Scout Troop and began what was to be 57 years of active interest in scouting. Later he organized troops, was scoutmaster several times, served as district and council leader, and ultimately became president of the Piedmont Council, B.S.A. In 1942, he was awarded the Silver Beaver, the highest honor that can be accorded a volunteer scouter.

The family moved to Chesterfield County, and in 1922, Forest united with the Bon Air Methodist Episcopal Church, South. He joined the Epworth League, and served locally, in the city Union, as volunteer office secretary for the Conference, and finally as vice-president of the Conference Epworth League.

Feeling the call to the ministry, he entered Randolph-Macon College in 1926. In 1927, he was admitted On Trial in the Virginia Conference, and assigned to the South Chesterfield Charge. There, in Woods Church, he met the girl who was to become his lifelong companion, Miss Emma Graves. After two years, in 1929, he was moved to Powhatan, and on December 14 of that year, he and Emma were married. Their warm, loving and supportive relationship was to last until his death, over 52 years.

He continued his college work at Randolph-Macon and at Lynchburg College, receiving the A.B. Degree from the former. He also studied at Union Theological Seminary, and was admitted into Full Connection in 1931, being ordained Elder at the same conference.

Later appointments in the Virginia Conference were Pamplin, Gretna, Clarksville, Bowling Green, Campostella, Phoebus, Lincolnia, Rocky Mount, and West End, Roanoke.

Forest retired in 1968, and with Emma went to live in the neighborhood of Woods Church, her home community. But he was asked to serve temporarily as supply at Garys, Prince George County. The "temporary" appointment lasted 12 years, until 1980, when he relinquished the responsibilities of the pastorate, but devoted himself with his wonted enthusiasm to the work of Woods Church.

He was a hard worker, as pastor, as promoter of the special programs, and in civic service throughout his career. He directed youth camps, he taught in leadership training, and carried many district and conference responsibilities. He was enthusiastic in the promotion of audio-visual tools, and for 12 years as chairman of the Television, Radio, and Film Commission of the Virginia Conference.

One of his interests was the Lions Club with their sight conservation program. He was an organizer and president of a number of clubs, and had 42 years of perfect attendance. The Clarksville Club in 1980 celebrated their 40th anniversary, and brought him back to be feted as their founder.

He involved himself in the drive improvement program of the American Association of Retired Persons, and the companion Teachers' Association after his retirement, teaching classes in safe driving and serving as state coordinator of the program.

Following a series of illnesses, Forest Mead passed from us on July 18, 1982. His funeral service was conducted by his pastor, the Rev. John Z. Brandon, assisted by Dr. John H. Davidson and Roscoe C. Johnson. A large congregation--brothers in the minis-

try, friends in Woods Church, and fellow workers in many of his endeavors—paid tribute to a life of faithful service. He was laid to rest in the Woods churchyard.

Left holding him in loving memory are his wife, Mrs. Emma Graves Mead; a daughter, Mrs. Nancy Woodall; a son, Robert E. Mead; a brother, Raymond A. Mead; two sisters, Mrs. Letah Branch and Mrs. Stella Earman; and six grandchildren.

"Well done, good and faithful servant; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

Roscoe C. Johnson

Stanley Eugene Emrich. 1914-1982. The written or spoken word is, at its best, an inadequate vehicle to convey the deeper feelings we have. The chasm that separates what we feel and what we say is wide and deep. Words are never less satisfactory than when we try to express the meaning and value brought to our life by someone who has lived among us, worked alongside us, and give unselfishly of himself for others in service to God.

At times such as these, the poet says it best for us. A poet writing in the 20th Chapter of Proverbs put it well when he wrote, "The spirit of man is the candle of the Lord." As God's candle, Stanley let his light shine on all in a special way. His was the light of faith, truth, love and concern.

Stanley Eugene Emrich, the son of Otto Carl and Ethel Marie Bell Emrich, was born in Baltimore, Md., on the third day of March, 1914. His childhood and youth were spent in Baltimore, where he graduated from the Catonsville High School. Following graduation, he worked at the Edgewood Arsenal.

The church was an important part of his life. As a youth, and later as a young adult, he took an active part in his church. It was while serving as a lay speaker to a church in Baltimore he met Elizabeth Frances Riley. On November 30, 1939, Stanley and Frances were married, beginning a life of love and service to Christ's church that was to last 42 years.

The call to the ministry brought Stanley and Frances to the Hillsboro Charge in Loudoun County, Va., in 1941. He started school once again and would continue for the next eight years. In 1946, Stanley graduated with honors from Shepherd College, Shepherdstown, W.Va., receiving an A.B. Degree in Secondary Education, History and English. It was in 1950 and 1951 he graduated from Westminster Theological Seminary, again with honors, receiving an S.T.B. Degree and a Sacred Theology Master's Degree.

It was at Shepherd College that the writer met Stanley and Frances and a friendship that would last 37 years commenced. Through this friendship, the way was opened to the writer to become a United Methodist pastor and a member of the Virginia Annual Conference, for which he will always be grateful.

Ordained a Deacon under Bishop W. W. Peele in 1946 and an Elder in 1950, Stanley loved and worked effectively in the parish ministry. His many and diverse talents, together with his love for people, endeared him to the congregations he served. Over the years, he served the following parishes: Hillsboro, Potomac, McCanless Memorial, Fincastle, Wachapreague-Quinby, Cheriton and Atlantic-New Church.

Stanley briefly left his work as a parish minister in 1952 to serve as the President of Ferrum College. In 1954, he returned to his original calling and first-love, the parish ministry, and remained there until his retirement in 1979.

On his retirement, Stanley and Frances moved to Florida. When the church has been your whole life for so many years, it does not cease to be so in retirement. Stanley and Frances soon found a place to worship and serve at Saint Paul United Methodist Church in Largo, Florida. Here they both continued an active life in the church.

For 38 years, Stanley had responded to the roll call of his Annual Conference. And for a like number of years, he had affirmed his call to ministry and his ordination vows by serving where he was appointed. Sunday, July 25, 1982, Stanley answered the call to go one final time and the mortal became immortal. Memorial services were conducted at Saint Paul United Methodist Church in Largo, Florida, on July 29, by Pastor John S. Gatewood, Jr.

Edward H. Kyle

Harris Green Walker. 1902-1982. The Rev. Harris Green Walker, formerly of the Virginia Conference, passed away at Lykes Memorial Hospital in Brooksville, Florida, August 9, 1982.

He was born in Millville, N.J., December 23, 1902, where he attended the public schools. He received his theological education in Binghamton, N.Y., later graduating from Houghton College in Houghton, N.Y.

After serving pastorates in Penn. and in New York State, he entered the Armed Services in March of 1943, where he served as a transport chaplain for the duration of the war. He continued his Army service as chaplain for 14 years, seven years in the active service and seven years in The Army Reserves.

During his nearly five year tenure of service in Europe following the year, he met Bishop Paul N. Garber, Bishop of Methodism in Europe and North Africa, with whom he attended the Methodist Conferences in Germany and Austria. It was at this time that Bishop Garber invited him to transfer his membership to the Virginia Conference, which he did upon his retirement from the Army.

The Virginia churches Mr. Walker served were: Cartersville, Bon Air, Main Street in Emporia, Chincoteague and Boykins. His last charge before retiring from the active ministry was New Hope Methodist Church in Fredericksburg, Va.

After seven more years of civil service with the government, Mr. Walker retired and moved to Florida, where he resided until his death in August 1982.

He is survived his wife, Iola E. Walker; two sons, Charles Walker of Woodbridge, Va., and David Walker of San Francisco, California; and one brother, Lawrence Walker of Millville, N.J.

The many friends who knew the Rev. Walker remember him as a quiet, devout man of God who was forever lending a helping hand to anyone in need. His sly humor endeared him to young and old alike. The aroma of his God-blessed life will linger long with those he left behind.

Mrs. Iola E. Walker

Leighton Ernest Harrell, Sr. 1900-1982. Leighton Ernest Harrell, Sr., was born November 10, 1900, in a Methodist parsonage in South Boston, Va. His father was the Rev. Emmett Eugene Harrell, a minister of the Virginia Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and his mother was Laurie L. Lewis, the daughter of a Methodist minister of the Jackson, Mississippi Conference. When Leighton was eight years old, his father died while severing a charge at Princess Anne and his mother moved the family to Norfolk. He grew up in Norfolk and lived there until going away to college.

Leighton went to the University of Virginia for one year and then returned home to work as an accountant for the Norfolk and Western Railroad. After working for a year, he entered Randolph-Macon College to prepare himself for the ministry, and graduated from there in 1923. At Randolph-Macon, he was most active in the ministerial circles, and while active in youth work met Gertrude L. Criddle, who was the church secretary and youth worker at Broad Street Methodist Church in Richmond.

On April 15, 1922, Leighton and Gertrude were married at Broad Street Church and a beautiful home life resulted. From this marriage, four sons were born: the Rev. Dr. Leighton Ernest, Jr., a retired member of the Virginia Conference and Chaplain in the U.S. Army; William Guy, deceased; Earle Starling, auditor, now living in Winchester, Va.; and the Rev. Dr. Stanley Graham, pastor of Cochran Memorial United Methodist Church (Baltimore Conference), Temple Hills, Md.

Leighton, Sr., was received On Trial in the Virginia Conference in 1924 and served nearly 19 years until the call came to him to serve in different ways. From 1937 to 1940, he was a Chaplain with the CCC Camps in Virginia. In the fall of 1940, he went on active duty with the Army as a Chaplain, where most of his time was spent as Statistical Sections Chief, Office of the Chief of Chaplains. After World War II, he worked as a Chaplain for the Veterans Administration and Goodwill Industries.

In 1960, he officially retired, but that was on paper only. He was most active in the United Methodist Church in the Hyattsville, Md., area, assisting pastors and teaching a Men's Bible Class in Sunday School. Twice he served as Assistant Pastor, giving help where it was needed. Whenever the call came to serve the church, he was ready to serve. His answer was always, "I am here, send me." This attitude was present not only in his association with the church, but was also present in his relationships with fraternal organizations. He was recognized as a man of unusual gifts and talents and because of this he was placed in the position of leadership many times.

Besides his church positions, he served as presiding officer of many Masonic organizations. In addition to those positions, he served as the following: National Chaplain, National Sojourners, Inc.; Grand Chaplain, Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maryland; Associate Grand Chaplain, Virginia Masonic Order; Worthy Grand Patron, Order of Eastern Star, State of Maryland; Chaplain, Almas Temple (Shrine); Grand Secretary, Royal Arch Chapter of Maryland; Governor, Maryland York Rite College; and Chaplain, Royal Order of Scotland.

His spirit has gone to be with his Lord and those dear to him from whom he has been separated, especially his wife who passed away a year ago. His mantle of unselfish Christian devotion and worthy representative of Jesus Christ has fallen on those he left behind.

As I remember him after nearly 60 years of friendship, he remained true and loyal to his noble calling as a minister of the Lord Jesus Christ. Many will arise to call him "blessed."

Arthur McK. Reynolds

Emerald Barber Dixon. 1892-1982. "Sing to the Lord, bless His Holy Name; tell of His salvation from day to day." (Psalms 96:1-2).

Born into a singing family, April 7, 1892, in Dewitt, Michigan, the youngest of 12, Emerald's early life was stirred by music in his home and school. As a boy soprano, he took piano and organ lessons and sang in a high school male quartet. He studied violin under Mr. Neidhardt of Jackson, Michigan, and advanced further under the tutelage of Victor Herbert's concert-master, H. P. Habenicht, then learned choir directing from John Findlay Williamson. But it was Homer Rhodeheaver who struck a resonant chord in his soul in a course taught by the great evangelist on evangelistic song leadership. It was a clarion call to the ministry for him and he responded enthusiastically.

After studying at Albion College, and to seminaries--Garrett Biblical Institute and Chicago Theological Seminary--he was appointed to his first church in Hubbardstown, Michigan, where he met and married Ruby Pauline Jarvis. To them were born Carol, Philip and Ester, and the five of them eventually became the nucleus for bands and singing groups in the churches Emerald served: Ruby on the piano, Carol on the cornet, Philip on the alto, and Esther, who was partially deaf, pounding on the drum. Thus, he left a trail of musical events in the many churches he served in the Detroit Conference. Three of the churches he served on horseback as a circuit rider. He was a pioneer in a number of modern ventures: starting a ministry to the deaf, building two churches of advanced economical design, proposing a forerunner of a coffee house ministry.

But music dominated his call to the ministry. He organized and taught bands in Kingston and Grand Blanc High Schools. He was a full time music teacher for a short period in Bendle High School in Flint, Michigan, directing four choirs which won first prize in a state-wide competition. Mastering many musical instruments--cornet, alto, bass, flute, saxophone, french horn, and the ocarina--he played these in different bands, orchestras and local symphonies. As a featured artist in Wisconsin, Illinois and Michigan, he appeared as a "One Man Chautauqua," giving varied programs of vocal and instrumental solos, interjecting poetry and some of his own doggerel, which he called "Rhymes, Reverent, and Ridiculous." Dabbling, too, in radio, he broadcast daily as an announcer on a local radio station in Flint, Michigan, under the name of Emil Barber.

In 1952, he transferred to the Virginia Conference, serving first as an associate at the Washington Street Methodist Church, Alexandria, and then as the pastor of Nokesville Methodist, Nokesville, Va., until 1957, when he retired to Saint Cloud, Florida. His faithful wife of 46 years, Ruby, died and he immersed himself in Christian service, first serving as the choir director of the First United Methodist Church in Saint Cloud, then filling in as supply pastor at Indian River, Cocoa Beach and Orlando, Florida. He ran unsuccessfully for mayor of Saint Cloud, opened a printing shop and ran it for ten years. He was married again to Dorothy Morden, who operated a beauty shop in the same building. Ten years later she died and his health was failing. Lillian Dodge, a widow, nursed him back to health and he eventually married her.

He enjoyed life, the service of his Lord, his music and his garden until October 16, 1982, when the sweet singer stopped singing and returned home to his Lord.

John Franklin Owens. 1902-1982. John Franklin Owens was born on December 15, 1902, in Peary, Va., son of George E. and Eila Ruth (Williams) Owens. At the age of 16, he moved to Baltimore, Md., to live with an aunt and attend school there. It was while living in Baltimore, under the ministry of Frederick Avenue Methodist Church, that John felt the call to ministry. From there he went to Randolph-Macon College for three years, then to Emory University's Candler School of Theology, where he completed not only the requirements for the B.D. Degree, but those for the B.A. Degree from Randolph-Macon College. He completed this work at Emory in three years and received both degrees at the same time.

While at Randolph-Macon College, he met Dorothy Estelle Bryant, whose father was serving as a YMCA official in the area. They were married on August 31, 1926, and had four children: Berton Edward Owens, Virginia Beach, Va.; Robert Byant Owens, Concord, California; Dorothy Evelyn Owens Stickley, Lynchburg, Va.; and Eleanor Ruth Owens Hill, Haddonfield, N.J.

John entered the Baltimore Conference On Trial in October 1928, and was admitted into Full Connection in 1931. He had a long and effective ministry which covered 43 3/4 years in the Master's service: Grace, Roanoke, 1928; Mayson's Chapel, Georgia Conference while a student at Emory, 1929-31; Burlington, W.Va. Circuit, 1931-34; Romney, W.Va., 1934-37; Front Royal Church and Chaplain of Randolph-Macon Academy, 1937-41; Colonial Avenue, Norfolk, 1941-45; Trinity, Alexandria, 1945-48; District Superintendent, Rappahannock District, 1948-52; Berryman, Richmond, 1952-56; District Superintendent, Charlottesville District, 1956-57; District Superintendent, Lynchburg District, 1957-60; Raleigh Court, Roanoke, 1960-64; Monumental, Portsmouth, 1964-67; District Superintendent, Eastern Shore District, 1967-70; and retired in June 1970 to Virginia Beach.

In addition to his varied appointments, he served the Annual Conference as a member of the Conference Commission on World Service and Finance for ten years, secretary for four years. He was Secretary of Conference Minimum Salary Agency for eight years, and during the early years of this agency, he was one of the driving forces behind the effort to provide an adequate base salary for new ministers in the conference. He was a member of the Conference Committee on Higher Education, and on the Conference Board of Ministerial Training and Qualifications. He served as a Trustee of Randolph-Macon Academy, and as Director of the Virginia Conference Credit Union.

Upon retirement, John and Dot maintained an active relationship with Virginia Beach United Methodist Church until his death. He was always sincerely interested not only in its life and ministry, but also that of the entire church, which had been his life for some 43 years.

First impressions are always so inadequate and dangerous, and when I FIRST MET John, I perceived him to be a very stern, glum, and cold individual. But when you had a chance to really know him, the warmth and joy of his personality became infectious. He had a humor which was very disarming and which could liven up any situation. Throughout his life, he was a strong competitor and gave his best to every challenge, especially those of a medical nature during his last years.

Seven churches and four districts have known his leadership. They knew also his uncompromising loyalty to Christ and His church. Unto the very end, his abiding interest in the church and all that it was doing would usually mark any conversation with John Owens. The words of one of his favorite hymns summarize his faith for us:

"While I draw this fleeting breath,
When my eyes shall close in death,
When I rise to worlds unknown,
And behold thee on thy throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in thee."

John is survived by his wife, four children, fourteen grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. Funeral services were held on October 30, 1982, at Virginia Beach

United Methodist Church with interment at Princess Anne Memorial Park, Virginia Beach, Virginia.

Eugene R. Woolridge, Jr.

Albert Franklin Pittman. 1922-1982. "A prophet is not without honor, except in his own country." This may be generally true, but not so with Albert Franklin Pittman. His home church was Byrd Park in Richmond. Byrd Park moved the building formerly occupied by Monument and became Park Avenue. When Park Avenue and Epworth, on Staples Mill Road, merged and became Wistar Heights in 1976, Dr. Harold H. Hughes, District Superintendent, asked Al if he would be interested in becoming the part-time minister of his home church. With the enthusiastic endorsement of his fellow members, he accepted the challenge. The last seven years of his life were the happiest and most productive of his ministry. "His own," loved him, as did everyone who knew him.

Al was born in Richmond on July 10, 1922, the son of Edward Leroy and Mary Powell Pittman. As a teenager, interested in playing on the church baseball team, he joined Byrd Park Methodist Church. It was here that he met Emma Lou Peters. They were married on March 12, 1941. Their marriage was blessed by two children: Betty Lou and G. Dean.

It was to a business career that Al was first called. He was an employee of the Richmond Dairy and later became its General Manager. It was while working at the Dairy that he felt called to preach and began preparing for the ministry. He took the Course of Study and spent a portion of several summers at Duke Divinity School and Wesley Theological Seminary, where he finished the required work. As a part-time Lay Pastor, he supplied the Ashland Circuit, Northumberland, Tidewater Trail and Wistar Heights. While at Wistar Heights, he became a full-time Lay Pastor.

Al was an excellent preacher, a faithful and concerned minister and a devoted husband and father. He loved God, the church and his family. And he was loved. Al felt compelled to preach. He wanted to share the "Good News." After two years of declining health, attributed to a recurrence of an illness 30 years before, he called his District Superintendent and pleaded, "Please do not take my pulpit from me." Even when lesser persons would have found it easy to give up, Al continued to preach and to minister beyond the limits of his ebbing strength.

In addition to his devotion to the church, he found time to be a member and Past Master of the Lewis Ginter Lodge 317 AF and AM, a member of the Scottish Rite and Acca Temple Shrine and a patron of the Mizpah Chapter 32 of the Order of the Eastern Star.

Death came to Al on November 23, 1962, in Richmond Memorial Hospital. Survivors are his wife: a daughter, Mrs. Betty P. Malborne; a son, G. Dean Pittman; a sister, Mrs. Catherine Caudle; and three grandchildren. A funeral service was held at the Woody Funeral Home, on Laburnum Avenue. Interment followed in Forest Lawn Cemetery. Bishop Robert M. Blackburn, the Rev. Bernard S. Via, Jr., District Superintendent, and the Rev. A. Woodrow Laine officiated.

Harry B. Eaton

Alfred Brackette Clarke. 1895-1983. He was 87 when he died, and most of his contemporaries had gone before him. His funeral was on a bleak, cold Monday in mid-winter, but even so the large sanctuary at Trinity United Methodist Church, Newport News, was nearly full for the service. People came from across the Conference to express their love and pay tribute to him!

Alfred Brackette Clarke was born November 13, 1895, in Cumberland County, the son of James and Lucy Clarke. He grew up at "Goshen" - his ancestral home. Following graduation from Cumberland High School, he matriculated at Emory University, Atlanta. After a year in the U. S. Marine Corps, during World War I, he returned to Atlanta and received the B.A. Degree. After college, he entered the Candler School of Theology and received the B.D. Degree in 1924. Randolph-Macon College, Ashland, awarded him the D.D. Degree in 1945.

A.B. was received into the Virginia Conference On Trial and ordained a Deacon in 1924. Thus began an illustrious ministry of 44 years serving some of the leading churches and assuming key roles in the organizational life of our Conference. During his active career he served the following churches: Hopewell; Williamsburg; Park View, Portsmouth; Francis Asbury, Harrisonburg; Chestnut Avenue, Newport News; Ginter Park, Richmond; Ghent, Norfolk; First Church, Newport News; and Fairfax.

He served on numerous Boards and Committees, but found great satisfaction in having been on the Conference Board of Education for 35 years - serving as its president from 1936-48. But more meaningful to him was the fact that his ministerial career was climaxed with those eight years at Fairfax Church during which he received 1,800 people into membership!

Dr. Clarke retired from the itinerant ministry in 1968 and moved to the Peninsula where he served two years as assistant to the pastor of Central Church, Hampton, and then assumed a similar position at Trinity, Newport News, until 1982. In all, 58 years as a servant of the Lord and patient shepherd of souls.

A.B. gave all praise to God for His grace and whatever pastoral accomplishments came across the years of his pilgrimage. But he frequently referred to the love and indispensable support he received from his wife and family along the way. It was on June 25, 1931, in the Scarritt Chapel, that he and Miss Mary Lou Cate were married. Across 51 years, God blessed their home and made it a "place of peace" and "abiding love." At no time was this more evident than during the last years of declining health and near physical incapacity. He died at his home in the early hours of Saturday, January 8, 1983. His funeral was conducted at Trinity Church on Monday, January 10th by Bishop Robert M. Blackburn, the Rev. Robert Donnelly, and his District Superintendent, the Rev. Ferd Wagner. Interment was in the Peninsula Memorial Park, Newport News. He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Mary Lou Carter of Newport News; Dr. John P. Clark (M.D. of Virginia Beach); Mrs. Margaret D. Rice of Arlington; and Miss Frances Clarke of San Francisco; and eight grandchildren.

An excerpt from the minutes of the Alexandria District Conference of January 11, 1968, adopted the year Dr. Clarke was to retire reflects the view of his peers: "During the eight years which he has served on the Alexandria District, he has devoted his energies to the strengthening of both the local church and our District program. His strength of leadership and the always positive approach to meeting the needs of our society through the church has been tireless. His genuine interest in his fellow-man is but the reflection of his deep and abiding faith in human nature.

"His comradeship with his fellow ministers has been equalled only by his affection for and guidance of the younger ministers of this Conference."

These adjectives and phrases, shared with this writer, express the insight of his family and closest friends - genteel, great integrity, deep conviction, keen mind, constant optimism, stimulating conversationalist, good humor, a breath of piety in his poetry and prayers, an unquenchable liberal, abreast of times (for 30 years he took summer courses of Union Seminary, New York, and listened to the Bible and talked books and magazines until the day of his death).

A.B. loved the hymns of the church, especially from our Wesleyan tradition. One which he sang frequently was C.A. Tindley's "Stand By Me." When he sang the last stanza, he seemed to claim it in an obviously personal way - it referred to the One he had loved and served all his life, and it expressed his condition.

"When I'm growing old and feeble, Stand by me;

When my life becomes a burden,

And I'm nearing chilly Jordan,

O Thou 'Lily of the Valley,' Stand by me."

And HE DID! The burden is lifted.

Ferd Wagner

George Dewey Coffey. 1899-1983. George Dewey Coffey, son of George Washington and Sarah Frances Coffey, was born in Amherst County, Va., on January 21, 1899. He made his triumphant entry to his eternal home on January 23, 1983. Few have done more nor loved their Master more than George, the 84 years which may have been given them.

He felt the call to preach when a child and, after attending the public schools of Amherst County and Pittsburgh Bible Institute, he entered the ministry as a Supply Pastor. His first appointment was the West Amherst Charge, where he served two years. There he met and married Lula Elizabeth Dodd, October 1, 1923. Two children were born to this union, George Dewey, Jr., and Joyce Elizabeth (Mrs. T. C. Spain).

Following his two years as a Supply Pastor, he entered the membership of the Virginia Conference and was admitted into Full Connection October 21, 1925. In the following 42 years he served North Bedford Charge; Middlesex Charge; Appomattox;

Prospect; Atlantic; Hanover; Asbury, South Richmond; West End, Roanoke; Arlington Forest; Broad Street, Portsmouth; and First Church, Salem, from which he retired June 1965. George and his Lula then moved into their own home in Richmond, Va.

Still wanting to be of service to his church and his Master, and even though retired, George served as associate of Calvary, Richmond, and as pastor of Good Shepherd and Willis Churches of Richmond. In addition to this, he did survey work for the establishment of a new church in the Richmond District.

George loved his Lord and dedicated his life and talents to His service. The Church was his life. The one who knew him best and loved him most said of him, "God endowed him with a great gift to love and serve his people." He thrived on challenges and was ever ready to help people with their problems and to share their troubles. In his own words his philosophy was, "if you take your troubles one at a time, deal with them with the help of God, as best you can...and when you know you have done your best, lay that trouble to rest, you'll make it through. God never closes a door that he doesn't open a window somewhere."

Blindness came upon him in the last few years of his life. But, as one of his friends said, "...his mind at 84 was so sharp that you never really thought of him as handicapped." During this time his beloved Lula, who had made a large contribution to the effectiveness of his ministry, now became his eyes and was a faithful and devoted companion.

On January 26, 1983, funeral services were conducted by his pastor, the Rev. Ted. E. David, assisted by the Rev. Bernard S. Via, Jr., Richmond District Superintendent, at Ramsey Memorial United Methodist Church. The interment was in Maury Cemetery, Richmond. While his physical likeness we no longer see, a life of patient endurance, joyful spirit, and child-like trustfulness lingers in memory to strengthen our faith and confirm our eternal hope.

"The dear Lord's best interpreters
Are humble human souls;

The gospel of a life like his

Is more than books or scrolls." - Whittier **George S. Lightner**

Charles Stanley Lowell. 1909-1983. The Rev. Doctor C. Stanley Lowell, prominent United Methodist clergyman, author, editor of Church and State, and a well known authority on church-state problems, passed away January 26, 1983.

Born in Hastings, Minnesota, on June 9, 1909, Stanley graduated from Asbury College, Wilmore, Kentucky. He received his M.A. Degree from Duke University, was a graduate of Yale Divinity School, and received a D.D. from Lake Erie College. Stanley served Methodist parishes in Miami, Florida, Wilmington and Dover, Delaware, Washington, D.C. and Virginia Beach, Va. In 1956, he received an appointment to serve as Associate Director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State.

A prolific writer, Stanley wrote study courses for the Board of Education of the United Methodist Church and was author of hundreds of pamphlets and magazine articles for leading publications. His well known pamphlet "A Summons to America" had a circulation of over a million copies. He was author and co-author of eight books. His latest, "Voluntary Principle," was published in 1977 by Joseph J. Binns.

Stanley was a popular preacher, appearing in many of the nation's great pulpits. He frequently appeared on radio and television interview programs and was in demand as a guest speaker at conventions, church conferences, fraternal groups and on college campuses. He was often called as a witness before Congressional committees investigating church-state problems.

As an accredited journalist, Stanley traveled extensively. In 1963 and 1965, he covered the sessions of the Vatican Council and in 1968, the Assembly of the World Council of Churches in Upsala, Sweden. He twice circled the globe on religious freedom study/lecture tours which took him to South America, Spain, Holland, England, Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, and Viet Nam. In the latter country, he witnessed the coup which led to the overthrow of the Diem dictatorship November 1, 1963. In 1968, he was in Soviet Russia interviewing top government and church officials whose responsibilities embraced church-state relations.

Stanley's ministry touched many lives and events in modern history. Three interesting events come to mind. During a vacation tour of Europe in 1938, he happened to be in Austria at the time the Nazis seized power. While attending a worship service, the pastor learned that he was a clergyman and enlisted his assistance for a very important baptismal service. This service turned out to be the baptism of several hundred Jews. As Christians, they could escape to the free world, avoiding certain death. At the time Wisconsin's Senator Joseph McCarthy's investigations were in full swing, Stanley was one of the first clergymen to denounce the growing danger of McCarthyism following the congressional investigation of Methodist Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam. When the Republic of The Philippines gained their independence, the Philippine government invited Stanley to be an advisor for the drafting of the religious freedom section of their new constitution. An invitation he was honored to accept.

Stan was a great outdoor man. He loved sports, especially tennis. While living in Virginia Beach, he swam daily or jogged along the beach. He was also a conservationist with concern for the nation's natural resources. He was a 33rd degree Mason, a Naval Chaplain during World War II, a devoted husband and proud father. He is survived by his wife, Arianne Hadley, and three children, Ernest Hadley, Candace Ann and Adrienne Parker. *Candace*

A beautiful memorial service held at The Chevy Chase United Methodist Church in celebration of Stanley's life and ministry closed with the congregation singing Martin Luther's hymn "A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing..." A fitting tribute to a man of love and courage.

Arianne Hadley Lowell

Ernest Bruce Caplinger. 1895-1983. Ernest Caplinger was the son of the late Jacob Harvey Caplinger and Susan Dove Caplinger, one of 11 children. He was born December 11, 1895, in Criders, Va. He graduated from Shenandoah College in 1923. Following graduation, he remained at Shenandoah to complete one year of post-graduate work. Rev. Caplinger also attended Madison College and took courses from Moody Bible Institute.

Ernest became a Christian on the eleventh of October, 1916, under the ministry of the Rev. T. J. Coffman, and was baptized on the seventeenth of that month. He received his Quarterly Conference License November 16, 1917, his Annual Conference License September 15, 1921, and was ordained to preach the Gospel September 26, 1929, in the United Brethren Church. During the course of his ministry, Rev. Caplinger was the pastor of over 40 churches on the following charges: Winchester; Riverton, W.Va.; Franklin, W.Va.; Hardy, W.Va.; Pleasant Valley; Toms Brook; Edinburg; Broadway; Churchville; Westernport, Md.; Reliance; Augusta; Cleveland, Ohio; and Berkley Springs, W.Va.

Ernest Caplinger married Kathleen Rebecca Kohr on October 12, 1924. Mrs Caplinger was also ordained in the Church of United Brethren in 1935 and served with her husband at most of the above charges. They had been married for 34 years at the time of her death in 1958. Rev. Caplinger is survived by two daughters, Mary Elizabeth Caplinger and Virginia Anne Comer of Silver Spring, Md. He leaves two grandchildren, Stephen Comer and Rebecca Comer Lewis; one great-grandchild, Rachel Kathleen Lewis; and two sisters, Lillie Caplinger and Zora Dove.

Rev. Caplinger preached his first sermon at Caplinger Chapel in Criders, Va., on April 15, 1917. The text was John 3:16: "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." (N.I.V.) This is the promise Ernest Bruce Caplinger has claimed and spent his life presenting to others. It is also the promise he experiences now.

Rev. Caplinger helped prepare the above summary before his death, February 7, 1983, at the age of 87. He had lived the last 13 years in Silver Spring, Md., with his daughters.

His funeral was in Harrisonburg, Va. The Rev. Floyd Fulk delivered the message, assisted by Dr. E. E. Miller. The Rev. Roy Hedrick led in prayer at the Mount Pisgah Cemetery. Both Mr. Fulk and Mr. Hedrick had as young men been members of Mr. Caplinger's churches.

Virginia Comer

William Garnet Winton. 1894-1983. Billy Winton was born January 21, 1894, in Christiansburg, Va., of the sturdy stock of the Appalachian highlands. The product of a

Christian home, he early united with the Saint Paul Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in Christiansburg.

Graduating from Christiansburg High School, he matriculated in Roanoke College, Salem. Despite a year spent in completing high school deficiencies, and an interruption occasioned by the death of his father, he received his A.B. Degree in 1916, and taught for two years in a small high school in Floyd County.

When the United States entered World War I, Billy did not wait to be drafted, but enlisted in the army in July 1917, and was stationed for training at Fort Monroe. Five months later he contracted pneumonia; complications and surgery followed; and he received a medical discharge in September 1918, rated as a Disabled American Veteran. He then spent two years teaching at Randolph-Macon Academy, Front Royal.

In Front Royal he met and ultimately married Miss Josephine White. Their wedding on September 8, 1920, forged a bond of mutual love and support that was to last to the grave and beyond.

But Billy felt the call to the ministry, and a few months before their marriage had taken a supply pastorate at Toms Brook. He was received On Trial in the Baltimore Conference, Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in 1921; ordained Deacon and received into Full Connection in 1923; and ordained Elder in 1925.

Succeeding appointments were White Post; Franklin, W.Va.; Piedmont, W.Va.; Extension Secretary of the Baltimore Conference; Marlinton, W.Va.; and, in 1935, South Roanoke. Here, at South Roanoke, he came to a struggling young urban church. Despite difficulties and heartbreak, he remained four years, which no one before him had done, and laid the foundation for what was to become one of Roanoke's finest churches.

In 1939, the year of unification, he found himself a member of the Virginia Conference, and served in succession Larchmont, Norfolk; Park View, Portsmouth; Emporia; Chase City; Epworth, Covington; and Cottage Place, Portsmouth. He recorded that Cottage Place was the happiest pastorate of his ministry.

In 1961 he retired and went with Jo to live in Norfolk. Still, he wrote, "I have endeavored to serve my Lord as best I could." Billy Winton meant business about this; he identified with Aldersgate Church. Here he organized a Bible class, and was its teacher as long as he remained in Norfolk, loving his charges and beloved by them. He was also instrumental in organizing Saint Andrew's Church in 1967.

He and Jo moved to the Hermitage, Richmond, in 1979. In early February, 1983, he fell and fractured his hip. He withstood surgery well, and seemed on the road to recovery when without warning he expired, the victim of a blood clot, on February 16, 1983. He was interred in Sunset Cemetery, Christiansburg, on February 19, in a graveside service conducted by the Rev. Charles B. Spivey, pastor of his home church there, Saint Paul's. On February 21, his family and friends gathered in the Hermitage Chapel for a memorial service, conducted by the Rev. Roscoe C. Johnson and the Rev. Richard Scott.

Mourning his loss but rejoicing in his steadfast faith and hope are his wife, Josephine White Winton, of the Hermitage; three daughters, Mrs. Florence W. Womack, Richmond; Mrs. Jary Jo Cass, Marathon, Florida; Mrs. Helen W. Crocker, Norfolk; a son, William G. Winton, Jr., Norfolk; eight grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Billy Winton strove with all his might to make every moment of his life count for Christ. He dreaded death not at all, but

"...Sustained and soothed

By an unfaltering trust, approached his grave

Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch

About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams."

Roscoe C. Johnson

Charles Franklin Owen. 1938-1983. Charles Franklin Owen was born to Charles Henry Owen and Elizabeth Cox Owen July 22, 1938, in the White Oak Mountain community of Pittsylvania County, Va. He was born into a rich Methodist heritage as his parents, grandparents and great-grandparents were Methodists out of which came lay preachers, and leaders in rural Methodism.

Charles was sensitive to the gospel message and received Christ as his personal Saviour as a teenager and at that time expressed a desire to enter the Christian

ministry. However, pressure to enter the family business in agriculture soon found him a successful farmer.

In October of 1957 he married Mary Lee Shields, his childhood sweetheart. Into this union came four children, Ricky Lee, Stanley Franklin, Velvet Arlene, and Barry Vincent.

Though a successful businessman, Charles was restless and struggling within until October of 1979 when, following a deep Christian experience, he made a decision to follow Christ into the Christian ministry. He entered John Wesley College where his faith was strengthened and full assurance of his call was verified.

In 1980 he requested consideration to serve as lay pastor. Consideration was given by his District Superintendent and he was appointed to West Buckingham Charge. His genuine concern for his people, his dedication and untiring service won deep affection and love and he served those people well for two and one-half years.

In June of 1982 he was appointed to the South Franklin Charge. Although Charles had undergone surgery and his health was rapidly declining he showed such genuine Christian concern for these people that, even though his time there was brief, lasting friendships and strong ties were made. His congregation extended themselves in love and warmth which gave great comfort during his days of suffering. His failing health forced him into retirement in November 1982, at which time he returned to his White Oak Mountain home where family and friends stood by with love and prayers.

On March 6, 1983, Charles Franklin Owen entered into eternal rest. The gospel he preached, the vital faith by which he lived was adequate. Though his years of service were brief, the impact of his ministry was great. Divine providence was vindicated; one of God's chosen fulfilled gallantly God's call and purpose. The Christian community he served was strengthened by one who gave God the glory and honor for the privilege of being a servant of Jesus Christ.

R. Fletcher Hardy, III

John Henry Davidson. 1908-1983. For 45 years Dr. John Henry Davidson served his Lord with great effectiveness and devotion as an active minister in the Baltimore and Virginia Conferences of the United Methodist Church. The son of the Rev. and Mrs. John Henry Davidson, Sr., John was born in the Methodist parsonage in Remington, Va., on October 9, 1908. His father took early retirement because of ill health and John grew up in Luray, Va., his mother's home.

In preparation for the ministry John put down deep roots in the soil of Virginia United Methodist educational institutions, attending both Randolph-Macon Academy and Randolph-Macon College. In later years he served as a trustee of the Randolph-Macon System, and when the boards of trustees of the three Randolph-Macon institutions were separated he was chosen to serve as president of the Board of Trustees of Randolph-Macon Academy. Randolph-Macon College honored their distinguished alumnus with the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity.

Beginning his ministry as the Associate Minister at Central Church, Staunton, in 1930, his outstanding abilities were quickly recognized and he moved on to pastorates of his own. During his long and illustrious ministry he served the following appointments: Pikesville and Potomac Charges in Maryland; and in Virginia, Saint John's; Buena Vista; Thrasher Memorial, Vinton; Broad Street, Richmond; Central, Staunton; Main Street, Danville; District Superintendent, Staunton; Trinity, Alexandria; Centenary, Lynchburg; First Church, Charlottesville; Ghent, Norfolk; District Superintendent, Petersburg; and Springfield, Alexandria.

In 1932, while serving in Pikesville, Md., John met and married Carolyn Stansbury, who survives him, along with their daughter, Jolyn (Mrs. Carl W. Mullenax) and two grandchildren, Mrs. D. Gregory Howard (Kathi) and Miss Pamela Mullenax.

Beyond his service as a pastor and district superintendent, John served the wider interests of the Church. In addition to service on the boards of three Randolph-Macon institutions, he served as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Virginia Conference and was for a time its chairman. He served as a member of the Commission on Higher Education; as a member of the Board of the Ministry and as Vice-president of the Virginia Conference Children's Home.

John's hearty, outgoing manner won for him a host of friends, both among the laity, as well as his clerical colleagues, who, beyond his ministerial role, sought him

out as golfing partner and friend and confidant. His deep and abiding faith revealed itself in full flower during months of declining health and proved an inspiration to all who came under his influence.

Retiring from the active ministry in 1974, John and Carolyn settled in Petersburg where their ministry continued in less formal, but very real and deep ways. Death came on April 24, 1983, at Saint Mary's Hospital in Richmond, Va. Funeral services were conducted on April 27, 1983, at Saint Mark's United Methodist Church in Petersburg, Va., by Dr. Floyd J. Wingfield, Jr., pastor, and the Rev. Wasena F. Wright, District Superintendent, with burial at Druid Ridge Cemetery, Pikesville, Md. **R. Kern Eutsler**
David Spencer Garland. 1916-1983. David Spencer Garland was born in the Highland Park section of Richmond, Va., on June 10, 1916. He was the second son of Margaret Burnette and Lloyd Hundley Garland, Sr. At the age of six, the family moved to Clearwater, Florida, where he attended the public schools. He graduated from the University of Florida with a degree in chemical engineering.

Dave was very active in the youth work of his home church, and in the Wesley Foundation while in college. This service prepared the way for his call to the ministry. He worked for the government in secret communications in Washington, D.C., following his graduation from college and volunteered for military service in the Navy when our country went to war. While serving in Germany, he felt very strongly the call to serve God as a minister.

Following his discharge from military service, he entered Westminster Theological Seminary, Westminster, Md. On June 17, 1950, Dave was married to Miss Virginia Toler of Richmond. They were blessed with two children, Beverly Ann and Daniel Wayne. They have one grandchild, Virginia Frances Oden.

In October, 1950, Dave accepted an appointment to the Monterey Charge on the Staunton District. After serving two years, he returned to Richmond for additional training at Union Theological Seminary. After studying for two years and completing his education, he accepted an appointment to the Montague Charge in Winchester. He then served Nottoway-Lunenburg Charge, Farmville District; Cashville Charge, Eastern Shore District; and Saint Mark's Church in Waynesboro. His ministry was characterized by loving and caring for those whom he served. This was demonstrated in his work with children, youth, and adults.

It was necessary for Dave to take a disability leave in June of 1963. Although his health never improved sufficiently for him to return to the active ministry, he continued to serve his Lord in every possible way. The writer had the privilege of being his pastor at the Shady Grove United Methodist Church for almost four years. He was an inspiration to the entire congregation. When asked how he was feeling, he always said, "I have too many blessings to complain."

He answered his final call to God on April 24, 1983. The funeral service was a celebration of life for David Spencer Garland and was led by the writer and the Rev. A. Woodrow Laine.

Joseph F. White

Harwood Best "Stoney" Owen. 1905-1983. Harwood Best "Stoney" Owen was born in Sussex County, Va., September 17, 1905, the eleventh and youngest child of Benjamin and Susan Mayes Owen. He was educated in the public schools of Sussex County and at William and Mary College and Randolph-Macon College. At an early age, he united with Jones Chapel Methodist Church. It was in this church that Bishop Asbury presided over one of the early sessions of the Virginia Conference.

"Stoney" was admitted On Trial into the Virginia Conference in 1929. He was ordained Deacon in 1931 and Elder in 1935. His first appointment was the Caroline Circuit. After Caroline, he served Benns, South Salisbury in Maryland, East Nottoway, Brunswick, Greenwood, Zion in Seaford, and Oak Grove in Chesapeake.

In 1970, he retired from the active ministry and made his home in Richmond. During his retirement, he supplied the church at Urbanna for almost a year, and the Nottoway-Lunenburg Charge for several months. He was much in demand as a pulpit supply in Richmond and the surrounding area.

While serving the Caroline Circuit, he met Miss Helen Donahoe of Ruther Glen. They were married February 4, 1935. Helen made an ideal companion and minister's wife. She blessed his life and inspired and enriched his ministry.

"Stoney" had several hobbies. He loved to hunt quail and deer, and he was an excellent shot. He was an avid gardener, fisherman, and sports fan. These hobbies not only brought him satisfaction and enjoyment, but many times they stood him in good stead in his work as a minister. In beginning a new pastorate his ability to talk intelligently about farming, hunting, fishing and athletics quickly earned him the respect and goodwill of many of the people. But above and beyond all other interests and concerns, "Stoney" was a dedicated minister of the Gospel and a faithful servant of the church. He was a good preacher, his sermons were well prepared and forcefully delivered. He excelled in the area of pastoral visitation. He did not sit in an office and see his people by appointment. He went to their homes and talked and prayed with them about their problems and their troubles. He shared their joys and their sorrows, and helped carry their burdens. He wept when they wept and he rejoiced when they rejoiced. His concern for his people was genuine and they knew it and they loved him for it.

"Stoney" had strong convictions about right and wrong, but he did not sit in judgment upon those whose ideas and opinions were different from his own. He had a warm handclasp, a friendly smile and a good word for all. In fact, friendliness was his trademark among his fellow ministers. If I were asked to sum up his life in one sentence I would simply say that he was one prince of a man.

After a somewhat sudden illness, he died in the early morning of April 25, 1983. Besides Helen, his wife of over 48 years, he is survived by a sister, a brother, and several nieces and nephews.

His funeral service was conducted in Lakeside United Methodist Church by the Rev. William S. Ferguson and the writer. That large church was filled with ministers, former members and friends. As a bright April sun flooded the world with light and warmth, his body was laid to rest in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Richmond.

"God shall bid him arise

To hail Him in triumph descending the skies." C. Traynham Topping

Grover Ellis Berry. 1927-1983. Grover Ellis Berry, beloved minister of Red Valley United Methodist Church in the Danville District, died suddenly on April 25, 1983. He died a happy man, doing the work he loved and with a family who loved him and a host of friends!

A son of the New England hills, Grover was born in Coventry, Vermont, on March 25, 1927, the youngest in a family of 12 children. The Depression and the death of his mother when he was ten scattered the family. After working at a succession of odd jobs and living in many different homes, Grover joined the Navy at age 17. His tour of duty in the Navy and a subsequent career in the Marine Corps gave him 23 years of military service. He retired on disability as a gunnery sergeant in 1967.

In 1959, while stationed on Okinawa with the Marines, Grover experienced a call to the ministry. After consultation with his district superintendent, Carl Sanders, and the approval of his local church, he began the correspondence course of study. A period of ill health intervened. He was then advised that his physical condition and his limited education and family responsibilities would prevent him from completing the requirements of the ministry. Reluctantly, he dismissed his plans.

After retirement from the Marine Corps, he took a civil service job with the Army Corps of Engineers in Norfolk. As a member of the Wesley Memorial Church, Grover served in a variety of positions, among them tenor soloist with the choir, teacher of adult classes and chairman of the Administrative Board. It was during these years that God's call could no longer be ignored. Having left his job with the Corps of Engineers, he entered Virginia Wesleyan College in order to better prepare himself for service to his church. The school, recognizing his ability and the knowledge he had gained through his life experiences, soon promoted him to sophomore status.

In 1976, while a student at Wesleyan, an opportunity came to serve as an interim pastor for a few months at Elm Avenue Church in Portsmouth. Seeing this as a clear call from God and as the open door he had been praying for, Grover eagerly accepted the challenge. At Annual Conference that year, he was appointed as a local pastor to the Salem Church in Virginia Beach where he served effectively for six years.

Meanwhile, Grover was continuing his work at Virginia Wesleyan, from which he was graduated in 1979. During the summers, he attended Local Pastors' School at Duke University and at Wesley Theological Seminary. Following graduation from Wesleyan, he enrolled as a full-time student at Wesley, returning to the Salem Church on week-ends. Health problems forced him to leave Wesley after one semester.

In 1982, Grover was appointed to the Red Valley Church. He would have completed the requirements for ordination in 1984.

Throughout his educational experience, Grover showed a great enthusiasm for learning. His excitement was contagious! He loved people and people loved him. And, of, how Grover loved to sing! But, above all, he loved his Lord. He often said, "If God can take a profane Marine sergeant and turn him into a Christian minister, He can do anything!"

In 1952, Grover married the former Elizabeth Piland who survives him. She and Grover worked as a team, sharing their considerable talents wherever they were needed. Also surviving are three children, William E. Berry, Mrs. Mary Zehr and Joseph A. Berry, all of Norfolk, and one grandson, Jason Zehr.

A celebration of his life, conducted by his district superintendent, Lester D. Nave, and J. Wesley Inge, Jr., was held in Red Valley Church on April 27. His funeral service took place the following day at Wesley Memorial in Norfolk, the church which had nurtured him in his spiritual pilgrimage. Conducting the service were Alan G. Reifsnyder, pastor of the church; Carl W. Haley, the district superintendent who gave him his first opportunity to serve as a minister; and Robert H. Eason, his close friend who encouraged and guided him on his journey into the ministry.

He ran with perseverance (and joy) the race that was set before him! **Helen M. Eason Newlon Finley Shock.** 1916-1983. Newlon Finley Shock was born August 27, 1916, in Braxton County, W.Va., the son of Charles and Fretta Shock. He grew up on his father's farm and received his grade school and high school education in Gassaway, W.Va. Following high school, he farmed and trained show horses.

As a young man, he joined the Methodist Church and prior to his call to the ministry served as a board member and lay leader of the church in Weston. He also served as District Lay Leader.

In 1960, he felt the call to the ministry and joined the West Virginia Conference and served the Crasville, Spanishburg and Huntington Charges. In 1974, he transferred as an Associate Member of the Virginia Conference and served Gretna Circuit, Zion, Bayleys Chapel and Christ Church, Newport News. During his 20 years of active service, four churches and four parsonages were built under his ministry.

Due to a deteriorating heart condition, he was granted Disability Leave in 1980 and he and Kate moved to Sebring, Florida, where he was active at First United Methodist Church and delighted to work in his woodworking shop. He died in his sleep on May 3, 1983, and was buried in Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Sebring. He is survived by his widow, Mary Kathleen (Katie), four children - Richard, Susan, Deborah, Michael - eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Newlon was one hundred percent a United Methodist minister. He gave full support to the work of the Conference and the District. He cooperated completely with his District Superintendent, sharing his plans, problems and seeking suggestions and direction. He led his flock in a fearless fashion. His leadership was respected because he invested his time and money sacrificially in the programs he was asking his people to accept. His was a large vision, with optimism that the goal could be reached. To him, nothing that represented the cause of Christ and his Conference seemed impossible. He led as a strong man, and few could refuse to go with him!

But, those who knew him best will remember him for his compassion and his generosity. When Newlon saw or heard of anyone in need or trouble, he reached out to help, and to relate members of the church to such people. And, his generosity was almost to a fault! Those he called his friends were frequently overwhelmed by his tokens of friendship and expressions of appreciation. Faith, dauntlessness, compassion and generosity - qualities I shall always associate with his memory, and for which I shall always be grateful. "May his tribe increase."

Ferd Wagner

Minutes for 1984. **Fletcher W. Swink.** 1930-1983. A hush of expectancy filled the

Roanoke Civic Center as members of the 1983 Virginia Annual Conference waited for the Ordination Service to begin. Dr. William Mallard, professor of Theology at Candler School of Theology, moved to the podium and addressed the large group assembled. "As we pray tonight before the sermon, I want us to remember one with whom I studied in college, who was a classmate. We went through the seminary together and through many of the ordination processes together. A member of our conference, he lies tonight dangerously and seriously ill. As we pray for our service and for the sermon I would like us to remember the Reverend Fletcher Swink."

In the thick, rich silence that followed, colleagues and friends prayed with hope and deep concern for his life and recalled his ministry with grateful appreciation. A child of Oak Grove Methodist Church and the Norfolk District, Fletcher received his undergraduate education at Randolph-Macon College and his graduate theological training at the Divinity School of Duke University. He was ordained Elder in 1956 and entered the Virginia Conference in full connection the same year. In the early years of his ministry, he organized St. John's Church in Staunton and Epworth Church in Falls Church. He served Skipwith in Richmond, St. Luke's in Falls Church and Smiths Chapel in Herndon, the latter while he was Senior Counselor with the Washington Pastoral Counseling Service.

Fletcher's ministry extended the witness of Christ's love and caring concern beyond the local church. He saw in the ministry of pastoral care and counseling a clear distinction between the work of caring and nurture to which all Christians are called and the tasks for which he, as an ordained minister, was willing to be professionally prepared and certified. His ordination to Word, Sacrament and Order was useful and necessary as he ministered to persons in particularly troubling circumstances and unusually stressful life situations. His colleagues and those persons he helped, over and over again, reordained him to the ministry to which he was called. He calmed and publicly acknowledged the moral and spiritual support given him and his extensive ministry by the leaders and members of an appreciative Annual Conference.

An articulate and sensitive preacher, his sermons were biblically grounded and touched life situations with great effectiveness. He brought to the scriptures a caring for persons that arose out of his gentle and loving daily association with those around him. His sermons grew out of his own life journey and reflected the fullness of his faith. After he knew about the brain tumor that would later cause his death, he preached a sermon at Smiths Chapel on the phrase, "It is not ours to know what a day may bring forth—but only that the hour for serving Thee is always present."

Fletcher Swink's was a significant life and ministry. His accomplishments, his pastoral abilities, his sense of humor and proportion, his facile mind and pen, his concern for others, his encouragement to the distressed, his giving of himself to family and community, all will long be recalled and appreciated.

During his final illness he and his family were supported by a multitude of friends. Two admonitions characterized those difficult months, "Let those who never loved before, love now," and "Let those who always love, love more."

Death came on August 7, 1983. A Service of Celebration and Resurrection was held at Dulin United Methodist Church, Kenneth E. Whetzel, District Superintendent, and Edward J. Taylor, Jr., Pastor, officiated. Interment was in the Fairfax City Cemetery.

He is survived by his wife of twenty years, Geneala Van Valkenburgh Swink, a daughter, Martha Susan Swink, and his father, Fred Swink.

Those of his family and friends who lived through the long, last hours and to whom God's Spirit brought comfort, were to recall and find great strength in the closing words of Dr. Mallard's prayer—the same prayer that called us to remember our suffering friend:

"Open now the crystal fountain,
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through;
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
Be Thou still my strength and shield,
Be Thou still my strength and shield."

John H. Coffey

Sparland Wall Thompson Hedrick. 1914-1983. Sparland Wall Thompson Hedrick was born June 3, 1914, at Verdon, Va. He was ordained a Deacon in 1958; an Elder in 1960; and came into Full Connection in 1965. He attended Randolph-Macon College, the University of Richmond, Bridgewater College, and Duke Divinity School in Durham, N.C.

His appointments included Mountain View, Roanoke District; Fairfield, Staunton District; Mount Solon and Linden, Winchester District; and Mount Jackson, Harrisonburg District. He was selected for the "Who's Who" in the Methodist Church in the mid 1960s. He served as chaplain in the Warren County Hospital, and was a member of the Chaplain Service of the Churches of Virginia. He also served as chaplain in several other hospitals. He was a member of the Mount Jackson Volunteer Rescue Squad, and a life member of the Mt. Jackson Fire Department.

S.W.T. and Ruth retired in the community of Mount Jackson in 1979, and were living in that community at the time of his death.

Tom was a good friend both to his fellow ministers and to the people he served. Called by God into the ministry of the United Methodist Church, he lived his faith in a simple way, always ready to lend a helping hand where it was needed. Always there in the time of sorrow or suffering, he carried his ministry from the pulpit into the day to day routine of those whom he was assigned to serve.

Those of us who knew him best truly miss his lively spirit and sense of humor. Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Ruth Moody Trevillian Hedrick; a son, Sparland W.T. Hedrick, Jr.; and a sister, Mrs. George H. Kittrell.

He died May 14, 1983. His funeral service was held at the Mount Jackson United Methodist Church by the Rev. Joy Bagwell, Rev. Thomas Lee, and the writer. A graveside service was held at the Forest Lawn Cemetery in Richmond by the Rev. Robert Lawrence and the writer.

Clemmer E. Matheny

Cecil Vanhorne Morris. 1897-1983. Cecil Vanhorne Morris is remembered as a servant of God who saw service along with his wife, Margaret Fleming Morris, as missionaries to Cuba from 1924 to 1939. He served a number of charges in Matanzas, Camaguey, Moron, Cienfuegos and Santa Clara, Cuba. Mr. Morris served on the bishop's cabinet and was also director of Pinson College in Camaguey. Upon returning from the mission field, Brother Morris served pastorate in Southampton County and Phoebus. He was employed by NACA-NASA Langley Field and, until his retirement, served as executive secretary of the Civil Service Examining Board at NASA. His son, Richard, has penned the following tribute:

He was a humble man
and he loved his God.

He was "proud" to be a Methodist preacher
but, he was a humble man,
who loved God.

He was "proud" of his family,
his wife and children, and
of their accomplishments,
but, he was a humble man,
who loved God.

He was "proud" of his grandchildren
and their thoughtfulness;
and he remembered them to God, every day.

He was "proud" of his brothers and sisters;
barber, engineer, florist, homemakers
and of their good lives;
and he praised God.

He was "proud" of his many friends
at NACA--and of their marvelous, mystifying science;
--of his many Spanish students at G.W.U.
--and their many talents;
--of his many, many church
friends--on the Peninsula, throughout Virginia, in Cuba;

and the way they loved and served God.

He was "proud" of all the beautiful young people
he was privileged to marry;
and the courage of all the sick people
he was privileged to visit;
and of all the good souls he assisted
on their way to be with God.

He was a humble man
and he was proud to have served his Lord,
Jesus Christ,

Praise be to God!

Richard Morris

Dewey Bert Mullins. 1898-1983. As the 19th Century neared its end, Dewey Mullins was born--May 28, 1898--at Hartselle, Alabama--son of Bert Lorenzo and Susan Alford Mullins. In his late teens, Dewey enlisted in the Army during World War I, but was prevented from overseas duty by the Armistice in 1918. Mustered out at Camp Lee, Va., he sought employment in nearby Richmond, Va., instead of returning to Alabama.

Having long felt a desire to become a minister, Dewey, with the help and guidance of Dr. Fred R. Chenault, pastor of Broad Street Methodist Church in Richmond, decided that to take the necessary steps toward entering the ministry.

During this Richmond period Dewey met Clelice Earle Foster, and they were married August 24, 1921. Joseph Wesley Mullins, an adopted son now in Tennessee, was their only child. Two years after marriage, Dewey entered Randolph-Macon Academy, Bedford, Va., in 1923. Later education included an A.B. degree from Randolph-Macon College, and a B.D. degree from Union Theological Seminary (Richmond).

While still a student, Dewey entered the Methodist Virginia Conference "On Trial" in 1927, ordained Deacon, 1928, "Full Connection," 1929, and ordained Elder, 1930.

Dewey served thirteen appointments in the Virginia Conference starting in 1928 at Trinity, Richmond, and the following: Bowling Green, Memorial--Norfolk, First Methodist--Hopewell, Central--Hampton, Trinity--Roanoke, First Church--Lynchburg, Chesapeake Avenue--Norfolk, Asbury--Richmond, Bruen Chapel--Falls Church, Chestnut Avenue--Newport News, Calvary--Danville, Chester. He retired from the active ministry in 1968.

Dewey participated actively in the following Conference agencies: Board of Social and Economic Relations (President), and member of these Boards--Evangelism, Education, Hospital and Homes, Mission, Golden Cross.

Dewey and the writer of this memoir early became close friends, a relationship which continued throughout our respective ministries. Along with our wives we visited in each other's home from time to time and thus came to have deep and friendly understanding of each other. All who knew Dewey came to appreciate his fine sense of humor and the fun he had in telling a good story, some of which the writer often enjoys telling to others now.

Dewey was a good Bible student and Bible preacher. He loved his Bible, he loved his church, even as he loved the Christ which the Bible and church is revealed.

Those who knew the Mullins in their home always were touched by the love and tenderness found there. Clelice's active life for many years had been handicapped somewhat by an accident she had suffered, and Dewey's tender help and gentle care of her have been a beautiful insight into his nature.

Among many significant statements given in the meditation at Dewey's funeral are found these fine tributes: "May found his pastoral care a tower of strength," "He was able (also) to recognize the potential for Christian service in others." Both statements testify admirably to his effective ministry.

Early in October 1983 Dewey suffered a massive heart attack and immediately sank into a coma from which he never recovered. On October 10th, the Angel of Death knocked at his door and escorted Dewey into the presence of his Lord. Funeral services were held October 12th at Reveille United Methodist Church, Richmond, conducted by its pastor, Hasbrouck Hughes; the Associate Pastor, David Anderson; and the Richmond District Superintendent, Bernard S. Via. Dewey's body was interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Richmond.

The writer has deep gratitude for his long friendship with Dewey, and the Virginia Conference is grateful that some sixty years ago God laid His hand on Dewey's shoulder and invited him into the ministry of the Methodist Church. **Harold H. Hughes**

John Reby Sawyer. 1909-1983. John Reby Sawyer went Home to be with his Heavenly Father December 3, 1983. He was a dedicated servant of the Lord and His Church well over forty years, with thirty-eight years as pastor of St. Paul's United Methodist Church, formerly of the United Brethren and the Evangelical United Brethren denominations. He also served the Walker's Creek Community Church for a total of forty-one years.

John was born October 12, 1909, at Youngwood, Penn., the son of the Rev. Ernest G. and Cora Palmer Sawyer, the seventh of nine children. His father was an outstanding pastor-evangelist of the United Brethren Church, serving churches around Altoona, Johnstown, and Western Pennsylvania.

John was greatly interested in the sports and other vocations, but the Lord prevailed and called him to the Christian ministry. He took his first two years of college training at Shenandoah College, Dayton, Va., beginning in 1934 and completed his undergraduate work at Shepherd College, Shepherdstown, W.Va. On July 7, 1934, he and Miriam Carson were married. Both John and Miriam Sawyer worked to support themselves during the remaining college and seminary years that followed. Miriam taught school and John served as a youth worker at the YMCA and as a student pastor with the United Brethren and Presbyterian churches. Following college graduation he attended the United Theological Seminary, Dayton, Ohio, formerly an Evangelical United Brethren Seminary. He was later honored by Shenandoah College with the honorary Doctor of Divinity degree and by the United Theological Seminary with the John R. Sawyer Chair of Preaching.

During student days, and prior to going to St. Paul's and Walker's Creek churches, John Sawyer served churches in West Virginia, including the Franklin and Blairton-Greensburg charges.

Two children were born to John and Miriam Sawyer: John (Jack) Carson Sawyer and Barbara Ann Sawyer. Jack is currently serving as pastor of Arlington Temple United Methodist, Arlington, Va., and Barbara is serving as a school Social Worker with the Augusta County, Va., school system and as pastor of the Walker's Creek Community Church, Walker Creek, Va.

During his 1942-80 tenure at St. Paul's Church and his 1942-83 tenure at the Walker's Creek Church, both churches grew dramatically in membership and programs. New building additions were added to the original church structure at St. Paul's Church, including two separate church school buildings, the fellowship hall, kitchen, chapel, nursery rooms and major remodeling work of the sanctuary. Major improvements and a former school house was purchased in behalf of Walker's Creek Church. All new buildings and improvements were paid for shortly after completion.

Dr. Sawyer was widely beloved and respected throughout the Staunton and Walker's Creek communities, particularly in Staunton for his many years of leadership in directing fund-raising campaigns as follows: The Infantile Paralysis Foundation, the Staunton-Augusta Rescue Squad, the March of Dimes, King's Daughters' Hospital, The Salvation Army, The American Red Cross and the YMCA.

He also served as a member of the Board of Trustees of Shenandoah College and Conservatory of Music, a past president of the Staunton Rotary Club and various district and conference committees of both the Evangelical United Brethren and United Methodist churches. Of special interest to him was his membership on the National Committee On Church Union prior to the uniting of both denominations.

"Dr. John" was a good Samaritan pastor. He was in great demand as a special counselor for the Staunton police department, the Downtown Holiday Inn and for families of victims wounded or killed during World War II, the Korean War and the War in Vietnam.

Dr. Sawyer was effective in working toward helping many young people gain entrance into colleges and of leading seven young people into the Christian ministry. His favorite expression when helping individuals with problems was, "We can do 'er, boy (or girl)." He used this same expression faithfully during the last years of his illness.

Dr. Sawyer was widely known as an effective evangelist and preacher. His Sunday night evangelistic song and preaching services were broadcast live to a wide listening area over Staunton Radio WTON. He led the night choir and often sang solos with his great, natural solo voice. He led the annual Holy Week revivals year after year. Two services were held daily, including luncheon for the business people and other worshippers. Guest preachers included bishops and other top preachers of several denominations. Dr. Sawyer was widely known as a friend to preachers born locally, state-wide and nationally.

The little chapel at Walker's Creek was a "home mission" effort of love, covering forty-one years and influencing the spiritual love of several generations of mountain folk of all ages.

As a great family man, Dr. Sawyer was so beloved that his churches claimed to have "four pastors" instead of one, for his wife and two children served long and faithfully with him in various leadership roles at his two churches.

During all the latter years of his critical heart illness and great suffering, Dr. Sawyer sustained the great courage and faith that was the hallmark of his long ministry. This faith and courage was in keeping with his favorite New Testament scripture from Romans 1:16.

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek."

Those participating in Dr. Sawyer's funeral at St. Paul's Church were Dr. Floyd L. Fulk, former Superintendent of the Evangelical United Brethren Church and later of the United Methodist Church, the Rev. Walter S. Green, Superintendent of the Staunton District of the United Methodist Church and the Rev. Albert J. Schrader, Pastor of St. Paul's United Methodist Church. All three pastors joined with the church choir in sharing loving tributes to this great servant of God.

Albert J. Schrader
Woodrow Wilson Henry Hayzlett. 1916-1983. "My years of service with you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ have brought me many wonderful experiences. If God has permitted me to be of any help to you, let Him be praised."

These words of Woodrow Wilson Henry Hayzlett reflect the spirit and devotion of his forty-six years in the Methodist ministry. The Good News of the Gospel was preached from his pulpit, his warm personal witness inspired and comforted his people.

"Woody," born June 16, 1916, in a four-room cabin in the hills of West Virginia, was the fifth of eight children of Lonnie and Julia Ann Fowler Hayzlett. Because of childhood illnesses, he was twenty years old when he graduated from Charleston High School, with a consuming desire to attend college. His call to ministry had come at the age of twelve and, with meager material resources, Woody early learned to depend upon God for the fulfillment of His purposes.

Combining faith, work, and study, he graduated from Morris Harvey College and from Westminster Theological Seminary. In 1968 Charleston University awarded him the Doctor of Divinity in recognition of "his human involvement."

His ministry began in Eagle Rock, Va., with five churches and a salary of \$580. Woody often called it "my best paying job," for here he met and married "his Janie," Janie Berniece Flaherty. After three appointments in W.Va., he returned to Virginia to spend the next forty years in a ministry which combined passionate preaching with a unique expertise in church building.

Pastoral appointments included the Sterling Charge in Northern Virginia where at Pleasant Valley an educational unit and parsonage were built. Woody served Andrew Chapel-Langley and, at the latter, a new parsonage was erected. While pastoring Trinity Church, McLean, property for a new sanctuary was acquired and, after a pastorate at Melrose Avenue, Roanoke, Woody returned to Arlington where he shepherded the relocation and erection of the Cherrydale Church and parsonage. An addition followed at Central Church, Arlington, and his last full appointment was First Church, Hopewell.

In 1966 Woody, in circuit-ride attire, participated in the Bicentennial of American Methodism by riding horseback from Old Stone Church, Leesburg, to Lovely Lane Chapel, Baltimore, preaching along the way.

Masonry was a meaningful part of Woody's life. He served as chaplain of Kena Temple Shrine, was Grand Chaplain of Masons of Virginia, and was Imperial Chaplain of Shrine of the World. Such an active life took its toll, and in 1970 Woody was advised to take disability leave. Yet, during those years of tending a weak heart, he constantly shared his strong heart of love. In 1983 he assumed the pastorate of Smith Chapel at Great Falls. Here he preached through the Sunday before his death on December 12. He is survived by his wife, two sons, Rodney Wilson and Thomas Nelson, and four grandchildren.

In fulfilling his holy calling, Woody received 1,490 persons into the church, and touched the lives of countless others for good. "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints."

Jenus G. Long, Jr.

William Carroll Freeman. 1903-1984. William Carroll Freeman was born October 14, 1903, in York County, the son of William H. Freeman and Sallie Virginia Moore. He died January 10, 1984, after an illness of a year. He was educated in the schools of Poquoson (York County), Randolph-Macon College, Union Seminary and Yale Divinity School.

When Dr. Freeman finished Yale he worked at the bank in Poquoson for several years, but the call to the ministry came ever stronger and in 1933 he came into the Virginia Conference and was appointed to Surry.

It was during his pastorate at North Emporia that Carroll Freeman met Helen Forbes of Lynchburg and they were united in marriage on October 20, 1937. Two daughters were born of this union, Ann (Mrs. D. C. Via) of Richmond, and Marion of Blackstone.

He served the Virginia Conference with great distinction at Greenwood in Richmond, Warrenton, Memorial in Norfolk, Blackstone, Boulevard, Miles Memorial, Mount Vernon, and Fort Hill. In addition, he served as Superintendent of the Roanoke and Farmville districts.

In 1976 Mr. Freeman retired and settled in Blackstone, but retirement meant still working for this Lord. He became actively involved in the renovation of the Assembly Center, and served the Nottoway-Lunenburg Charge in 1979-80. Not only that, he continued to be active in the United Methodist Men of Blackstone, and served whenever asked on the Farmville District.

The esteem by which Carroll Freeman was held was evident at his funeral at Blackstone Church when, from across the Conference, ministers came to pick up the torch he laid down.

"Servant of God, well done!

Thy glorious warfare's past;

The battle's fought, the race is won,

And thou are crowned at last."--Charles Wesley **Charles L. Winfree**

Edwin Ernest Renn. 1896-1984. Edwin Ernest Renn, son of Edwin Virginius and Blanche Holmes Renn, was born October 15, 1896, in Atlanta, Georgia. When he was four years old, the family returned to Norfolk, Va., where he was reared and attended the public schools. He was a charter member of Fairmount Park Church on the Norfolk District.

He was a volunteer in the United States Navy of his much-loved country in World War I, and following a tour of duty in Ireland he also maintained an admiration for that land the rest of his life. In September 1920, Ernest attended a "Volunteer-for-Christ" program of the Epworth League. The minister, using Isaiah 6:1-8 as a text, gave a message that struck a responsive chord in the young man's heart. He felt a definite call to serve his Master, and verse 8, "Here am I; send me," became his guiding principle.

He attended Nyack College in New York, Drew Seminary in New Jersey and received an honorary doctorate from Galilean College in New York. His ministry, which began in the New York Conference in 1923, was complemented by the talent and support of his friend and wife, the former Irene Lee Edwards, also of Fairmount Park Church, whom he married September 26, 1924.

In 1925 Ernest transferred to Virginia. He served Princess Anne; Pocomoke Circuit on the Eastern Shore; Sledd Memorial, Danville; Wright Memorial, Portsmouth; Highland, Colonial Heights; Bassett Memorial, Bassett; Central, Hampton; Central, Clifton Forge; South Hill; McKendree, Oaklette, and Chesterfield Heights in Norfolk.

One of the great concerns of his ministry was that of missions. He displayed to his churches a missionary zeal to reach people. It was a joy to him that South Hill Church supported a missionary to Sarawak and that Central of Clifton Forge and Oaklette of Norfolk supported missionaries to India. He delivered forceful sermons based on the Scriptures. He preached, taught and lived a faith in the risen Christ. His influence left its mark on countless lives.

He retired in 1962 and moved to Cartersville to be near his daughter. He continued to fill pulpits whenever he could.

Edwin Ernest Renn went to be with his Lord on January 23, 1984. A service of Triumph and Celebration for his life was held at Thomas Chapel United Methodist Church, Cartersville. Interment was in the church cemetery. Officiating ministers with the Rev. Harold F. Webster, Jr., pastor, and the Rev. Charles L. Winfree, Superintendent of the Farmville District. A son, William deVries Renn, offered a loving tribute to this man who taught by the example of his life that Jesus Christ is Lord!

In addition to his wife he is survived by three children, Edwin Ernest Renn, Jr., of Atlanta, Georgia; Betty Renn Walton, of Cartersville, Va.; and William deVries Renn, of Wilmington, N.C.; seven grandchildren, a sister, and a brother.

The family is grateful to God for this man and we cherish the words of Charles Wesley that Ernest used as his creed:

"To serve the present age,
My calling to fulfill;
O may it all my powers engage
To do my Master's will."

Betty Renn Walton

Raleigh Howard Mann. 1910-1984. Raleigh Howard Renn began his earthly pilgrimage on November 6, 1910, when he was born into the Albemarle County home of Raleigh Colston and Elizabeth Harlow Mann. His education was provided by the public school system of the Commonwealth of Virginia. For a number of years he worked in secular employment, during which time he wooed and won the hand of Ann Fruit, a daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. R. L. Fruit of the Virginia Conference. It was during this period of his life that the Spirit of our Lord tapped him on the shoulder and then the heart seeking his service as a minister.

Raleigh first attended Ferrum College and later Randolph-Macon in Ashland. While attending R-MC he and Ann lived and worked at the then Methodist Children's Home, 3900 W. Broad Street, Richmond, Va. In 1943 he was graduated from R-MC and the couple moved to Atlanta, Georgia, where he pursued studies leading to graduation from Candler School of Theology in 1945. At least some support came to this couple as Raleigh served the Mansons-Vining Charge of the North Georgia Conference. They returned to Virginia where the people called Methodists were served by the Manns. To Raleigh and Ann was born one daughter, Jacquelyn Lee Mann, now Mrs. Jacquelyn Lee Hobbs of Alcoa, Tenn.

In January 1966, the Manns were returning from a trip to Candler when they ran unexpectedly upon ice on the highway, the car was wrecked. Jack was injured but his beloved Ann was killed. In July 1967, the marriage of Nell Coleman Mann and Raleigh H. Mann was solemnized, a union which proved as ideal as the first, each person wishing the best of life for the other and both wishing their service to be dedicated to God.

Service was native to Raleigh's being. Diabetes, which long troubled him before it was diagnosed, the accident for which he always assumed the fault, and his older age took a heavy toll at times, all together or separately did not relieve his dedication. In retirement he served a small church and continued volunteer work at St. Luke's Hospital in Richmond.

On March 17, 1984, Raleigh worked at the hospital and later in the day began to suffer some physical distress, went to his doctor and died shortly thereafter. "Servant of God, well done."

He is survived by his wife, Nell Coleman Mann; a daughter, Mrs. Jacquelyn Lee Hobbs of Alcoa, Tenn.; a sister, Mrs. Joe (Anna) Evans of Falls Church, Va.; a brother, John Mann of Cape Cod, Mass.; step children, Mrs. Lynn Marie Hall of Richmond and Harry Conrad Poston of Hudson, Ohio.

Churches of the Virginia Annual Conference he served include: West Chesterfield,

Laurel Street, Oak Grove, Norview, Fieldale, Dumfries, St. Andrews, Grace, Fox Hill, McGuire Park and Shady Grove.

Paul D. Martin, Jr.

Robert Fontaine Bryan. 1906-1984. Robert Fontaine Bryan was born February 20, 1906, at Paint Bank, Va., to William Lloyd and Maude Wilson Bryan. At age 15 he was stricken with a severe form of arthritis which in time caused his spine to curve forward and the vertebrae to fuse together, causing constant pain. He never surrendered to the pain, and worked at various early occupations from flour mill operator to bookkeeper.

At age 28, Bob felt God's call to the ministry. He could not understand why, in his condition and without even a high school education, God could want him to be a minister. He struggled with this and finally prayed, "Lord, if You want me to be a minister, I know I must get an education somehow. I will trust You to take care of my health. We will work it out together."

The nearest school was 16 miles away with no transportation, but to Bob, every adversity was a challenge. He obtained a pickup truck, built a box-body on it and benches inside. He found 16 young people who wanted to go to high school and took them across a mountain, 16 miles each way, to school. In three years, he graduated.

While going to high school, he asked the West Virginia Conference for permission to open a long-closed church in the area. He organized the church and ministered there until he left for college. That little church is still alive today (Pinnell Chapel on the Potts' Valley Charge).

Bob graduated from high school at age 31 and entered Asbury College in 1937. He worked at any job he could find, mowing lawns, cleaning dormitory bathrooms, working in a printing shop. He graduated in three years, all the while still suffering pain.

In 1939, he was married to a minister's daughter, Yowleth Groscup. This was a happy marriage of almost 45 years and was blessed with a son, Billy, and daughter, Roberta, and one grandchild, Andrew Bryan Lambert. Billy died in an auto accident in 1959. One week later, Bob was back in the pulpit ministering to others.

In 1940, Bob received his first appointment, Andrew Chapel on the Eastern Shore District. During that first year in the ministry, the arthritic pain ceased and never returned. God, in his good time, did take care of his health after he had fulfilled his commitment to prepare for the ministry.

He was a faithful, diligent pastor, gentle in his care for persons but positive in his moral commitments. He was also a builder of churches, sometimes laying cinder-block and floors with his own hands along with other men in the church. If others thought he had a handicap, he never knew that he did. He was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather.

God blessed his ministry with many souls added to the Kingdom. After 36 years of faithful service, he retired in 1972.

On April 18, 1984, God called him home after heart surgery and many complications. A service was held at Aldersgate United Methodist Church, Chesapeake, on April 20, and he was laid to rest on April 21 after another service at Paint Bank, Va., in his home church, in the Bryan Memorial Cemetery there.

Yowleth Groscup Bryan and William A. Wright

William Wesley Laughlin, Jr. 1917-1984. Characteristic of his pastoral heart, "Bill" had gone from Bedford United Methodist Church to the parsonage of his fellow minister, the Rev. Charles Walton, when his call came from the Lord to join the Church Triumphant. An instant massive heart attack claimed his physical body. Previously he had been asked to come out of retirement to assist Brother Walton who was disabled. The pastor and people received him with open arms since this was a pastorate he had served so effectively.

His love for all people made him a great pastor. He had a sunny disposition with contagious laughter and entered fully into the joys of living. He listened to people. He and his wife, Jerry, had suffered a deep loss in their young and only child, William Wesley Laughlin, III. Having suffered themselves, they knew how to suffer with others, surely they had borne our griefs and carried our sorrows.

When people of Bedford heard of their retirement, to entice them to Bedford, they gave them a beautiful lot at the foot of the Peaks of Otter and a substantial financial gift toward building them a retirement home.

The Rev. William Wesley Laughlin, Jr. was born in Metz, W.Va. He left his position with Wheeling Steel Corporation to enlist in the United States Navy for World War II, in which he served for three years. His wife enlisted in the Woman's Army Auxiliary Corps. Feeling the call to the ministry, he prepared by receiving his A.B. degree from West Virginia Wesleyan College and his B.D. from Duke Divinity School.

He was the founding pastor of Mount Vernon United Methodist Church, Alexandria District, Virginia Conference, for seven years, which church at the end of his pastorate had over 1,000 members. In addition he served the following United Methodist churches: West Point--four and a half years; Main Street Bedford--nine years; Blacksburg--eight years; and Centenary Lynchburg--three years. He was a devoted pastor and a constant visitor in the homes and hospitals. He was extremely sensitive to the joys and sorrows of people. To a hospital patient his firm gentle handclasp, his reassuring prayers gave calmness and confidence. Those troubled or in need of counseling made a pathway to his open mind and heart.

He was a dedicated preacher. He was an avid student of the scriptures. Long hours were spent in sermon preparation, writing his sermons out, and his messages evidenced it. He was a conservative. His favorite ritual was that of the dedication of infants and children.

Both Jerry's and Bill's vacations demonstrated their love of God's great outdoors and wide open spaces. From the Island of Ocracoke, N.C. to many summer months spent riding the ranges on horseback in Cody, Wyoming, they camped. He wrangled both horses and ranch guests, guiding fishermen, cooked, and spent days on the trail. He was a rugged individual and Jerry shared the trails with him.

Surviving are his wife, Virginia Geraldine (Jerry) Laughlin, brothers--R. Ray, Harry D., and a sister, Mrs. Fred (Pauline) Dobbs.

Funeral services were conducted at Bedford by the Rev. Theodore Landis, and the Rev. William B. Knight and Richard B. Sisson. At the interment in Mannington, W.Va., the Rev. James Ullian officiated.

Edgar A. Potts

Byron McDonald Flory. 1906-1984. Byron Flory was a Diaconal Minister. The word "Diaconal" comes from the Greek word "diakonas" which means "to serve." In the deepest sense of that word he fulfilled that definition. Thought trained as a Christian educator his concept of ministry was as broad as the needs of those he was called to serve. He spent himself tirelessly and without reserve.

Byron McDonald Flory was born April 15, 1906, in Clarksburg, W.Va., a son of Edwin and Gertrude Flory. He was graduated from Boston University with the degree of Bachelor of Religious Education and later took graduate work at Union Theological Seminary and Yale Divinity School. He earned a Certificate in Church Management at American University and was a member with Fellow Rank in the Society for Religious Organizational Management.

His first service was in inter-city work with the underprivileged youth in Cincinnati, Ohio. As a Certified Director of Christian Education, he served in the First Presbyterian Church, Greenwich, Conn., and the First Methodist Church, Clarksburg, W.Va.

In April 1942 he married Irene Virginia Myers of Clarksburg, W.Va. From 1942 until 1945 he served overseas in the Eightieth Air Force. He was honorably discharged in 1945.

In 1970 he was consecrated as a layworker by Bishop Paul M. Herrick and assumed the office of diaconal minister in 1977 under Bishop W. Kenneth Goodson. He was proud of being a diaconal minister as he felt very strongly that the professional lay worker should have recognition. This honor crowned his life's work.

Byron retired as Director of Christian Education in 1978 but remained actively related to the church's program until his death October 18, 1983. A scant two weeks before his death he expressed his desire for continued employment because as he put it, "I still feel I have something to give," as indeed he did.

His interests were varied--known throughout the state for his knowledge and love of antiques. He had been a collector since college days. Christian art was another interest. He gave illustrated lectures in the Alexandria area and conducted lecture

tours at the National Gallery of Art. An avid reader with almost total recall, he was in demand as a teacher.

Byron's aim always was to reach as many people as possible in love and understanding. Totally without prejudice or bias he met people as human beings and made friends of all he touched.

R. Kern Eutsler

Albert Samuel Mitchell Kirkland. 1919-1984. Honorable Retirement orders read: "Albert Samuel M. Kirkland, Chaplain, United States Navy, twenty years, eight months, two days service. Decorations: National Defense Service Medal, Korean Presidential United Citation, Navy Unit Commendation, Korean Service Medal with Three Stars, United Nations Medal, United States Presidential Citation, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Date Bar, and Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Bronze Palm."

Thus, one more piece of paper was filed for posterity. But, it did not, neither could it record the dedication and courage of one of Christ's best ministers who, while serving his fellows, registered a noble, faithful and sacrificial life worthy of the Church Militant and the Church Triumphant.

"Al" Kirkland was born February 9, 1919, in Lake Charles, Louisiana, one of three sons of The Rev. Robert James and Hetty Mae Mitchell Kirkland of the Church of The Nazarene. Following his father's faith, "Al" was called to the ministry in the same Christian fellowship. He graduated from Eastern Nazarene College and Harvard Divinity School. Ordained June 28, 1945, he served his first appointment in St. Albans, Vermont. Following pastorates in Elliot, Maine, and Dunbarton, New Hampshire "Al" was commissioned Chaplain, U.S.N., August 6, 1951. Duty stations ashore and at sea followed with combat duty in Korea and Vietnam. With the rank of Lieutenant-Commander he volunteered and served a second tour duty under combat fire in Vietnam.

It was in the U.S. Navy Chaplains' School, Newport, Rhode Island, where I first met A.S.M. Kirkland. He was commissioned as a Nazarene Chaplain and I as a Methodist. His demeanor, his preaching ability and his genuine devotion to his family won the respect and love of his Navy classmates. We were assigned to the U.S. Marines together so our acquaintance was extended and our friendship grew over the years.

It seemed both natural and providential, that upon completion of his Chaplain's duties in the Navy, "Al" would bring to our ministry in the Hermitage Homes of Richmond his very excellent training, his keen pastoral sensitivity, his fine preaching ability and his genuine appreciation for United Methodism from whose roots the Church of the Nazarene shared strong origins and growth. Hence, on October 1, 1979, while on accrued vacation leave from the Navy, "Al" joined us as Assistant Administrator of our retirement homes in Richmond. By his third year he had been named Administrator. Bishop Goodson arranged for him to transfer into our United Methodist Virginia Conference, but before this was fully accomplished "Al" accepted the position of Senior Administrator, United Methodist Homes of New Jersey and took leave of absence from Virginia Methodism.

In his new, demanding position in two homes in Ocean Grove, N.J., "Al" served with distinction. Staff and Residents came to respect and love him immediately. Great sadness overtook them when in his second year their beloved pastor-administrator was forced into medical leave of absence from which he would not return.

Through the early years as a young pastor, the exciting and oft-times dangerous and lonely years of military service, and his highly significant years as pastor-administrator of retirement communities. "Al's" wife, Eva, faithfully and devotedly served with him in his Christian ministry. Their one daughter, Lorraine, grew up in the faith of her parents and honored them in her Christian devotion and exemplary life as daughter, wife and mother. Lorraine married William P. Gaffney and along with their three daughters, Robin, Wendy and Heather, they live close to Eva in Roswell, Georgia, where the entire family is united in the Christian fellowship of Roswell United Methodist Church.

It was in this church the family gathered for a memorial service on Sunday, February 19, 1984. The two pastors held the service, the senior minister sharing with the young grandchildren a very personal and helpful interpretation of their "Paw-pa's" home-going to Heaven only two days before.

On May 21, 1984, in company with staff associates from the Richmond Hermitage Home, we embarked from Oyster, Va., a seaside village of the Eastern Shore. Following

the Sand Shoal Channel we sailed between the barrier islands of Wreck and Cobb and son reached the open sea. There, drifting with gentle wind and waves, we read the ancient but timely words of love and life eternal, sang the Navy Hymn and committed "Al's" cremains to the deep, blue-clear waters of the Atlantic Ocean. At his request, our nautical clergy Brother returned to his sea.**

"O Trinity of Love and Power,
Our Brethren shield in danger's hour;
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
Protect them wheresoe'er they go:
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee
Glad hymns of praise from land and sea."

** Longitude: 75 degrees 30 minutes
Latitude: 37 degrees 15 minutes

G. Warner Crumb

Minutes for 1985. **James Baxter Douglas.** 1891-1983. James Baxter Douglas was born on the eighth day of June, 1891, in the Campbell County town of Lynch Station. Shortly after the turn of the century he attended Randolph-Macon College in Ashland and Emory University in Atlanta. During World War I, he served in the United States Army.

He began his ministerial career in 1914 in the Virginia Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, serving the Goochland and Nottoway circuits before going to Seminary at Emory. He served in the Virginia Conference until 1921 when he decided to see the larger church. He was pastor the next 16 years in churches located in Louisiana, Colorado and Missouri. In 1937 he returned to Virginia serving churches in Lynchburg, Salem, Portsmouth, Bedford, Petersburg, Franklin and Richmond.

He followed the writer of these memoirs in Franklin at the High Street Methodist Church in 1957. This was a time of unrest and disquietude in 1954 of Brown vs. Board of Education. Through it all "Brother Jimmy," as he was affectionately known, gave quiet but firm leadership, making his witness as a Christian pastor.

In 1963 he retired from the pastorate of the Asbury Methodist Church in South Richmond and in retirement served many years as minister of visitation for Centenary United Methodist Church in Richmond's downtown. Seeing "Brother Jimmy's" tall, trim frame walking the streets of Richmond with fast step and dapper appearance became a familiar sight. He was an inveterate visitor. He loved people and they responded in loving him in a large way. No task was too small, no responsibility too great for him to tackle it with glee. He was one of God's great doers, serving without fanfare, but serving all who came to him both young and old, wealthy and poor. In this distinguished servant of the Lord Christ all found a friend and helper.

His wife, Ann Jackson Moore Douglas, preceded him in death and he moved to the Richmond Hermitage Home in 1978. The writer is grateful for the privilege of having known, loved and admired Jimmy Douglas. He blessed all who came within the orbit of his ministry. In death he was returned to his home community and graveside services were held at the Mount Hermon United Methodist Church in Lynch Station, August 7, 1983.

"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord...that they may rest from their labors and their works do follow them."

James W. Turner

Charles Jordan Bright. 1899-1983. Charles Jordan Bright was born on December 1, 1899, in Portsmouth, Va. He was one of four children of Charles J. and Josephine Scott Tynes Bright. Rev. Bright was educated at Randolph-Macon College and Emory University. In 1930 Rev. Bright married Ruth Clay. No children were born to their union.

Rev. Bright served the following churches in the Virginia Conference: Oakland-Beulah, East Pittsylvania, Pittsylvania, Princess Anne, Fox Hall, Branch Memorial, Stuart, Franktown-Johnsons, Copeland Park, Henderson, Fairview, Roanoke, Market St.: Winchester, Woodstock, and Phoebus.

He was well loved by both congregations and communities he served. He is remembered for his good sense of humor. Perhaps one of his most noteworthy accomplishments was that he gave and gave abundantly to numerous charities and organizations.

Charles Jordan Bright died on August 27, 1983.

W. C. Bright

Frank Hope VanDyck. 1916-1984. My father was born in Petersburg, Va., but moved his family to Portsmouth at the age of three months, so his father could start work in the

Naval Shipyard there. My father was thankful that he had been reared with parents who realized the value of a Christian education. Some of his earliest recollections were centered around his parents leading him to Sunday school. His family was reared in Portsmouth, and attended Wright Memorial Methodist Church. His mother taught the nursery class, and his father led the singing for the great Men's Bible Class. My father, his brother, and three sisters, all grew up in the church, and never strayed very far from it. In the spring of 1923, having received permission from his parents, my father joined Wright Memorial. He never forgot his feelings, for now he could read his Bible, take Holy Communion, and even have his own offering envelope!

As time went on, and he grew older, my father attended Woodrow Wilson High School. He participated fully in the activities of the Junior High and Senior High Leagues, especially in the High League Camp of 1930, and the Sunday evening meetings of the Young Peoples' Assembly. During his senior year in high school, my father began to feel an urge to prepare for the ministry. This was a natural outgrowth of his participation and work in the church youth programs.

But he wrestled with his call. He had lived all his life by the sea. He also had a grandfather, a retired Chief Petty Officer, and several friends who were studying at the Naval Academy in Annapolis, who urged him to follow along. With this conflict of career directions, my father attended the Young People's Assembly in 1932. There he came to feel in his heart that God was definitely calling him to the Christian ministry. After a long period of prayerful consideration, and consultation with his leaders, on the last night of the assembly, my father rededicated himself to Christ, and gave himself to service in the Lord's name.

In September, 1932, my father entered Randolph-Macon College. During the four years that he attended college, he worked his way completely with the help of scholarships and instructorships. In addition, he received a little help from the Portsmouth Rotary Club, and the Virginia Conference Student Loan Fund. He graduated from Randolph-Macon College with honors including Phi Beta Kappa, having previously been elected to Omicron Delta Kappa and Tau Kappa Alpha. Also, he had managed and was leading pitcher for the baseball team of the college. He had excelled in debate matches throughout the state of Virginia.

From June 1933, to June 1935, my father served as vice president of the Virginia Conference Young Peoples' Organization. In June 1935, he was elected president, and served as their official delegate to the Memphis Conference of the Young Peoples' Conferences. In 1934, he was licensed to preach by the Licensing Committee of the Portsmouth District. After graduation from college in the summer of 1936, he served as assistant to the Rev. B.B. Bland on the Oceana-Virginia Beach Charge of the Norfolk District.

In September 1936, my father entered the Candler School of Theology, located at Emory University, in Atlanta, Georgia. While studying there, he was ordained Deacon in 1937, and in that same year became minister of children at Druid Hills Methodist Church in Atlanta, under the supervision of Dr. J.B. Peters. He served in the capacity of youth minister for 21 months. In April 1939, he began a temporary supply pastorate at St. Paul's Church in Columbus, Georgia, serving for six weeks after the death of the pastor, Dr. O.F. Cook. My father received his Bachelor of Divinity degree in June 1939, from Candler. During the summer, he worked in Carroll County, Georgia, conducting a survey of all three branches of Methodism, preaching, leading the singing in several camp meetings, and teaching one of the short courses for Christian workers.

My father was ordained Elder in 1939, and received his first appointment--Aldersgate in the old Portsmouth-Newport News District of our conference. His appointments continued from LeKies, Norfolk; back to Aldersgate, Newport News; then to Virginia Beach Methodist; Memorial, Petersburg; West End, Roanoke; Westover Hills, Richmond; Trinity, Alexandria; Monumental, Portsmouth; Raleigh Court, Roanoke; and Thrasher Memorial, Vinton. Between appointments at Raleigh Court and Thrasher Memorial, my father served Bishop W. Kenneth Goodson as superintendent of the Staunton District.

While at Westover Hills, Richmond, my father received the honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from his alma mater, Randolph-Macon College. My father retired from the active ministry in June 1982, stating at that time that he had never ceased to have

the love and support of people from every appointment that he had served. He continued to work as assistant minister at Raleigh Court from 1982 until death.

My father met my mother, Elisabeth DuBose White, while attending Candler and she was attending the Emory Library Science College. They were introduced by their roommates, James and Ruth Turner. My parents were married in Atlanta, Georgia, on October 3, 1941.

I was born on April 23, 1947, while my father was serving Aldersgate again. My sister, Lelia Alden, arrived on June 26, 1953, while we were living in Petersburg. Our home was a Christian home, blessed by laughter, good-natured fun, games, and loving discipline. My father loved all sports, especially baseball, and especially the New York Yankees (and how he suffered through many changes to that team after Mantle and Maris retired). My father loved to read, to study for Sunday mornings, and especially to preach. I dare say that he was probably, if not the finest, certainly one of the strongest preachers of this conference.

My father loved his children, his children's mates, and especially doted on his grandchildren. I was married in August 1976, and our children, Katherine and Timothy, came along in 1977 and 1980. I remember my father telling my wife, Carolyn, soon after we were married, that she was the oldest daughter of our family. My parents treated and loved her as such. My sister married in 1980, and her daughter, Melanie, arrived in 1982. My father loved to be with them, and to play with his grandchildren as he had with us.

At his memorial service, which took place at Raleigh Court on April 30, 1984, and was led beautifully by the Rev. Don Traylor, senior minister, I shall never forget the great numbers of my father's colleagues in ministry who were present from all over the conference. Nor will I forget their vocal response when it was said that, as a superintendent, my father defended his men, fought for them, and treated them as equals in ministry.

Frank Hope VanDyck, a humble, genuine, fun-loving minister of the Gospel, good preacher, counselor, strong friend, lived and died in the service of His Lord, carrying out his beliefs with his whole being, incorporating this verse in his life, "Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His Holy Name" (Psalm 103:1).

Frank Hope VanDyck dressed impeccably, laughed heartily, worked enthusiastically, wrote brilliantly, spoke eloquently, loved enormously, cared deeply, chided gently, believed firmly, trusted simply, worshipped reverently, lived victoriously. We loved him, and we will miss him sorely. I know, for he was my father. **Edward Sims VanDyck Randolph Bowen Moore.** 1904-1984. Born in Vienna, Md., September 11, 1905, Bowen Moore was the son of Clarke Washington and Gertrude Bowen Moore, an itinerant Methodist Protestant minister of the Peninsula (Del., Md., Va.) Conference. His much beloved and distinguished uncle was the late Dr. Edwin Winfield Bowen, long-time Latin professor at Randolph-Macon College. As a boy he accompanied his father on pastoral visits and he never had any other thought than he would follow his father's footsteps.

Upon graduation from Caesar Rodney High School, Camden, Del., he enrolled at St. John College, Md. Not liking the military, he soon transferred to Asbury College, Wilmore, Kentucky, where he was profoundly influenced by the distinguished president, Dr. Henry Clay Morrison. Here also he met Dr. E. Stanley Jones, who greatly influenced his life.

Throughout his academic years he was a notable baseball athlete, not only playing on conspicuous teams, but teaching younger men the art. Upon graduation from Asbury (June 1928) he was delayed a year entering Drew Theological Seminary, having sustained a rather serious auto mishap. Three eventful years followed with his graduation from Drew, June 1932.

He joined the Baltimore Conference, Methodist Episcopal Church, South, at its annual session (fall of 1932) meeting at Braddock Street Church, Winchester. It was here that he met his wife to be--the attractive young Jesse Hortense White, daughter of a leading apple broker, the family all active at Braddock Street in choir and Sunday school. It was love at first sight culminating in marriage, September 6, 1933, in the same home church.

Bowen began his ministry as an associate at Granbery, Covington, where he helped to further the recently organized South Covington congregation in completing and dedicating their first building.

After his marriage in 1933, he was sent to Greenville, W.Va., and in 1935 to the Greenback Charge. With unification he was brought into the enlarged Virginia Conference and his subsequent appointments were: 1939--Brucetown; 1943--Middletown; 1946--Shackelford; 1949--Newsoms; 1952--First, Edgemont, Covington (First becoming a station in 1954); 1956--Calvary, Stuarts Draft; 1958--Fox Hill; 1960--Gloucester Point; 1962--Grottoes; 1964--Waverly; 1967--Surry; and in 1971 he retired to give extended service at Peakview, Bedford (four years) and then to Montvale (six years).

Alfred L. Snapp, Sr. at Relief Church, Middletown Charge, has written: "Rev. Bowen Moore was a very gentle and understanding minister. He gave us good sermons and worked hard in fulfilling his obligations as a minister of Christ, both in visiting the sick and those in need of his ministry."

A devoted lay person at First Church (now Christ), Covington, has written: "The Church grew spiritually under his leadership. The Fisher of Men were organized and the Wednesday night prayer service grew from eight to more than 90 persons. On one occasion he sent word to his wife to begin the Sunday morning service as he was detained with a drunken man trying to kill himself. The man was converted and became a life-long leader in his Church."

It is said of him, "He converted many because he knew how to enter into other people's troubles and bring them hope and confidence."

Lydia J. Coffman writes of him in his closing years at Montvale: "Everyone was special to Bowen. He showed his love and concern for others in every way that he could. His love for us inspired our love for him and that love lingers on."

Throughout their 51 years of happy married life and active ministry together, Bowen and Hortense Moore were an inseparable husband-wife team, unusual in their intense devotion and support of each other. He always felt he could "do anything the Lord wanted him to do" with her presence at his side, and as his health began to fail she became increasingly his support and guide.

In June 1981, "retirement" came a second time for them at "Rainbow End," their Lynchburg home. Exactly three weeks after his fatal illness was diagnosed, Randolph Bowen Moore died on May 28, 1984, in his 79th year. Following a memorial service at Park View Church, Lynchburg, there was a service at Jones Funeral Home conducted by the Rev. Waverly Reames, pastor, and the Rev. William E. Knight, district superintendent, with interment in the Mt. Hebron Cemetery, Winchester, Va.

Bowen Moore is survived by his dear wife, Mrs. Hortense White Moore, their only child (Judy) Mrs. Jesse Story, Chesapeake, Va., and two grandchildren, Randolph Lewis Story and Angela Linn Story.

It was said of him, "He never had an evil thought, and he was never known (but once) to have been truly upset or angry."

John Wynn Meyers
Olin Raymond Kesner. 1903-1984. Olin Raymond Kesner was born to Edward and Estie Hevener Kesner on October 31, 1903, at Kline, W.Va. At the age of 12 Olin was converted and united with Mt. Horeb on the Franklin Charge (United Brethren). In 1933 he joined the Virginia Conference (United Brethren) and on September 22, 1942, he was ordained an elder by Bishop G.D. Batdorf in the Otterbein Church in Harrisonburg. He graduated from Petersburg, W.Va. High School and Shenandoah College. It was while he was a student in Life Bible College in Los Angeles, California, that he received the call to the Christian ministry. On July 14, 1939, he was united in marriage to Miss Evelyn Mae Moore of Manassas, who survives along with three sisters.

Olin served the following charges: Wagon Mound, New Mexico, Manassas, Mount Clinton, Horeb-Otterbein, Edinburg, Inwood-Pikeside and Waynesboro. He served as the chairman of the Committee on Ministerial Retirement and Widow's Aid. Like St. Paul he was not robust in health, and like St. Paul he found God's Grace Sufficient. Being afflicted with tuberculosis from early manhood, and when this kept him from work and required time spent in a sanitarium, Mrs. Kesner carried on his work in a most acceptable and commendable manner. What Olin preached from the pulpit he practiced in his daily living, and both were eloquent.

During the 24 years I was his superintendent we worked well together with complete understanding, and I could always count on his full support and cooperation in what the conference was trying to do. There were never any complaints, only compliments on his work, and because of the harmony in his charge conference it was always a pleasure to conduct them. No request was ever made from any of his churches for a transfer, but when he felt his work was done and it was time to move on, he did so. He was a superintendent's dream pastor; he served Inwood-Pikeside for 10 years and Waynesboro 12 years, before retiring in Woodstock, where he made his home until his death in 1984.

Olin was a warm-hearted person, blessed with a multitude of friends, greatly beloved wherever he served. It is the writer's conviction that he will enjoy a well earned reward for a work well done.

He retired in June 1969, making his home in Woodstock until his death. Early in the year following his retirement he suffered a massive heart attack and went to be with his Lord on March 31, 1984. Memorial services were held on April 2 in the Woodstock United Methodist Church with his pastor, P. Randolph Rilee in charge, assisted by the Rev. William L. Ayers of Waynesboro. The message was brought by his conference superintendent of 24 years, Dr. Floyd L. Fulk. Interment was in Sunset View Memorial Gardens in Woodstock.

There is always the hope of tomorrow
To banish the clouds of despair;
The love of the Heavenly Father
To lighten the burden we bear.

There is always our faith to sustain us
The comfort that comes when we pray;
There is always the hope of tomorrow
and a happy reunion someday.--Anon.

Floyd L. Fulk

Ralph Johnston Yow. 1891-1984. Sunday afternoon, June 17, 1984, when the ministers of the Virginia Annual Conference who had been assigned a new appointment had completed their last Sunday morning service, Ralph Johnston Yow completed his earthly pilgrimage among us. For 94 years he had been in preparation for this final assignment. His faith had taken him through many trials and temptations. Now, his sickness and death being passed, his spirit joined those who had preceded him into the "inheritance incorruptible and undefiled, that fadeth not away."

On Thursday afternoon, June 21, at 4:00, while many ministers of the conference were moving to their new assignments, a large number of friends, clerical and lay, gathered in Moseley Memorial United Methodist Church, Danville, Va., for his memorial service. The triumphant celebration in music was led by Mrs. Ethel Clark, organist. His memorial service was led by the pastor, the Rev. Homer P. Carper, Jr., with Danville District Superintendent Lester D. Nave, Dr. Theodore E. Landis, chaplain, the Roanoke United Methodist Home for the Aging, and the Rev. Milford C. Rollins, assisting. Following the service at Moseley, his body was laid to rest beside his wife in Highland Burial Park, Danville, Va.

Ralph Johnston Yow, born in 1891, the son of Rosa and John Yow, was the sixty of their 11 children. He was nurtured in the Christian family, educated in the local schools and called of God to preach. A brother offered to pay his way to law school; however, the call of God was so great upon his life that he turned down the offer of his brother and worked his way through college to be ordained a minister of the Gospel in the Methodist Church. For 40 years he helped person live according to the laws of God and set an example that we might see. Edgar A. Guest could have been thinking about a person like Ralph Johnston Yow when he wrote:

Sermons We See

I'd rather see a sermon than hear one any day,

I'd rather one should walk with me than merely show the way.

The eye's a better pupil and more wiling than the ear;

Fine counsel is confusing, but example's always clear;

And the best of all the preachers are the men who live their creeds

For to see the good in action is what everybody needs.

I can soon learn how to do it if you'll let me see it done.

I can watch your hands in action, but your tongue too fast may run.

And the lectures you deliver may be very wise and true;

But I'd rather get my lesson by observing what you do.

For I may misunderstand you and the high advice you give,

But there's no misunderstanding how you act and how you live. Edgar A. Guest

Mr. Yow entered the Virginia Conference as a probationary member in 1918, became a deacon in 1921 and was received into full connection with elders orders in 1924. His appointments included Grace, North Patrick, Pittsylvania, Westmoreland, Fairmount Avenue, Moseley Memorial, Grace, Cambridge, Salem, Pocomoke, Fieldale, South Hill, East York, St. James, Bethany, Reidville, and Zion. In 1958, he retired from a specific appointment but not from serving his Lord.

In 1918 he married Juanita Richardson, who preceded him in death. Surviving him are a son, Ralph Johnston Yow, Jr., three daughters, Rebecca Yow, Carolyn Cuthill, and Juanita Holloway; a sister Margaret Bryan; nine grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Late in life he wrote: "If I had my life to live over, I would marry the same girl, have the same four children and the same grandchildren (I'm sure today he would add the same great grandchildren). I would want to serve the same churches and have the same friends." With David he always said: "The lines for me have fallen in pleasant places." (Psalm 16:6b).

Milford Rollins

Robert Christian Hoover, Sr. 1921-1984. Bob was born July 6, 1921, in Kinser, Pa., to Elmer and Romaine Hoover. He had two brothers, Maurice, now deceased, and Norman. Also five sisters, Dorothy, Betty, Esther, Arlene, and Jane. He spent most of his early years on his father's farm. After graduating from West Lampeter High School in 1939, he continued working on the farm a few more years.

It was during these years that Bob felt his call to the ministry. He ran from that call by going to the other side of the world via the United States Army. He served two years in Korea as a chaplain's assistant. God's call was never to be denied in Bob's life. After his discharge from the Army he attended Lycoming College in Williamsport, Pa., where he began his preparation for the ministry.

On September 2, 1950, Margaret Overstreet and Bob were married in West End United Methodist Church, Roanoke, Va. Upon graduation from college, he went to Westminster Seminary (now Wesley) and was appointed to Cochranville United Methodist Church. While there, they were blessed by the birth of Peggy and Bobby. The Hoovers were moved to Parkside and then to Minersville where they were again blessed by the birth of another son, David.

In 1960, Bob transferred to the Virginia Conference where he served the following churches: Pittsylvania Charge, First-Fox Hill, Wesley-Hopewell, Trinity-Orange, Cranford, Mt. Clinton, Fieldale, and Mead Memorial-New Hope. He served on several conference committees and more recently on the board of the United Methodist Home in Roanoke, was a member of the Ruritans, Chaplain of the Civil Air Patrol and worked as a counselor and friend in Youth Camps for 20 years.

Bob died July 30, 1984. He is survived by his wife, three children, one granddaughter, Leah, and his brother and sisters. In death, as in life, he wanted to serve his fellowman and requested that his body be given for scientific research. A memorial service was held at Court Street United Methodist Church, Lynchburg on August 7, 1984.

Bob loved the life God gave him. It showed in his laugh, his smile, and his tears. It showed in the deep care of the churches he served. Some of his very last words spoken were questions about his churches. He was a sensitive man who possessed the gift of laughter. In rough times he could help us smile. In good times he gave us tears brought on by his joyous laughter. Never did he lose his sense of humor.

Bob, you shared with us many gifts and much love. We thank you for showing us a sparkle of not only God's love, but also of God's laughter.

Peggy A. Hoover

Benjamin Wesley Johnson. 1908-1984. Benjamin Wesley Johnson, affectionately known to us as "Ben," was born November 30, 1908, Albright, W.Va., a son of Amaziah and Eva Johnson.

Ben's call to the ministry came in the year of 1934. He served the following churches in West Virginia, and one appointment for the second time: Ryan, Henderson, Combs, Laurel Point (Ravenswood), and Laurel Point.

He possessed many fine qualities that made his ministry a delightful and fulfilling call. The most singular quality that set him apart was the "twinkle in his eyes"

when he discovered a great spiritual truth, and the next "sparkle" was the sharing of the new found truth with others. He knew the prophets well and served among the evangelists in his scriptural ministry. The Scriptures were the power of his preaching, witnessing and personal life.

On August 10, 1942, a Virginia girl by the name of Luvina Jane Steel became his bride, and the state of Virginia became his home territory, and remained so for the rest of his life.

Educated at Bridgewater College, Virginia, he received the A.B. degree in 1945. He was ordained deacon in the year of 1945. He received the degree of S.T.B. from Westminster Theological Seminary, Westminster, Md., in 1947, and ordained elder in the year 1947.

Ben knew a friendship with the Lord that made him a brother to fellow ministers and friends. He knew the basic fundamentals of a deep and satisfying faith that never wavered nor compromised.

"Well done, thou good and faithful servant," are appropriate words of honor that followed him to the final moment of his life upon earth. Virginia appointments to churches were served in dedication characteristics of his call to serve Christ. The following church appointments in the Virginia Conference were recipients of his ministry in the following order: Blue Ridge, Rochelle, Moneta, Stevensville, Painter, Stanley, Cartersville, Mecklenburg, and Onley. He served Onley United Methodist Church before retiring in 1974.

Retiring in his own home in Painter, Va., he continued to enjoy many years as a friend to all who came his way. Ben was not only a good neighbor, but a good man of the Lord, who loved his Lord, and his friends. The twinkle of his eyes sparkled with God's great truths in Jesus Christ, and Ben performed the task of the evangelist in sharing the truth.

Benjamin Wesley Johnson represented the fine quality of a student who "studied to show himself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." Ben enjoyed knowledge of spiritual truths and the highlight came in sharing with others. His preaching and ministry reflected a deep and trusting fellowship with the Lord. Retirement did not restrict Ben's love for the church, for he served his own church, and answered the call to any who needed the services.

He found special pleasure in handcrafting useful articles, often with his own very special design, and the real "frosting on the cake" came when the work of his hands was enjoyed by another person. He read widely and enjoyed new tools to create new products. His love for the Lord, the church, his wife, children, and friends, was unquestionably genuine and unselfish--none excluded.

He found great pleasure in being a friend to those who passed by his house, on the side of the road, a friend to all--all who knew him were recipients of an untiring love and service.

All the years I have known Brother Ben, he was a true friend and faithful friend to ministers, family, friends and churches.

On September 5, 1984, Ben quietly slipped away to dwell in the presence of the Lord forever. He was laid to rest at Wachapreague, Va. The services were conducted by his friend of long years and pastor, Carl T. Paughf, and assisted by District Superintendent Charles Warner Crumb.

Carl Thomas Paughf
John Edward Davis, Jr. 1917-1984. John Edward Davis, Jr., dedicated minister of Christ, beloved husband, father and grandfather, was born September 28, 1917, in Pittsburgh, Pa., and died September 19, 1984, in Salem, Va.

John Davis prepared early in life for a career in teaching, earning undergraduate and graduate degrees in education at Slippery Rock State Teacher's College, Pa., and the University of Pittsburgh in Pa. Later, he received his theological education at Asbury Theological Seminary, Wilmore, Kentucky; Westminster Theological Seminary, Westminster, Md., and Duke Divinity School, Durham, N.C.

Prior to accepting the Lord's Call to Christian ministry, John taught science and coached football at West View High School, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Beaver Falls High School, Pa.; and high schools in Suffolk and Front Royal, Va.

Between 1941 and 1946 brother Davis took Navy pilot training and later transferred over to the Line Officer rating, serving as an administrative officer on the staff of the United States Navy Defense Command, San Francisco, Ca.

Brother Davis was united in Christian marriage to Margaret L. Russell of Montgomery, Alabama, on November 26, 1942. They were well along into their marriage, establishing their own home and the pursuit of a secular vocation when John received what he knew to be God's true calling to Christian ministry; a call which he knew had been reconfirmed at a camp meeting in Wilmore, Kentucky, during his seminary days. His willing response to the call meant significant material sacrifice and family adjustment. John and Margaret Davis moved their ever growing family regularly among country circuits and small stations in the Virginia Conference with his longest tenure at New Hope, then on the Staunton District. Other churches served were: Tyreanna (Lynchburg), Atlantic (Eastern Shore), Hickory (Norfolk), Mt. Pleasant (Roanoke), West Brunswick (Petersburg), Westmoreland (Rappahannock), Stuart (Danville), Fairmont (Ashland), Chuckatuck (Portsmouth), and Cherryvale (Staunton).

John's Christian ministry was marked by strong biblical, evangelistic sermons and parish visitation. He conducted revivals each year in his own churches and two a year at other churches, always preaching for "decisions for Christ" by individual worshipers. The Lord gave him a special gift centered around his formal and informal prayers at worship and with individuals in need in hospitals, at the altar and in homes.

Among the many other community services he rendered beyond the local church, John Davis served for several years in district youth camping and for one year as president of the Virginia Conference Town and Country Commission. While serving Cherryvale Church his declining health reached the point where he reluctantly took disability leave. He was seriously and ultimately critically ill for 10 years. He and his family became active participants in the life and ministry of St. Paul's United Methodist Church. John shared with his wife in active leadership roles as long as he was able, up until the last year of his life.

This memorial tribute rightfully concludes with a special recognition of John's greatest love and priority next to His Lord--his own family. The six Davis children received consistent loving, Christian disciplined care and training. He and his wife led the children in morning prayer just prior to leaving for school. If the school bus was missed John took the children to school himself. The result as the raising of responsible Christian offspring, all active in the Church of Christ today, as follows.

John E. Davis, III and James D. Davis are graduated civil engineers; Mark R. Davis is a lawyer; Stephen P. Davis is a helicopter pilot with the U.S. Army (serving in Korea and the United States); Deborah Davis Rogers is a registered nurse; and Gayle Davis Urguhart is a church secretary. This is a remarkable family record in light of the family's frequent moves from parish to parish and living through the years with limited resources. No finer tribute could be made of a Christian minister than this, that he loved the Lord, his wife and children, and the Church of Jesus Christ to the fullest of Christian dedication and faithfulness.

The funeral service was conducted at New Hope United Methodist Church, New Hope, Va., on September 22, 1984, led by the Rev. Glen C. Evans, pastor, and assisted by the Rev. Wesley E. Arthur and the Rev. Albert J. Schrader. Brother Arthur was a teenager during the time of John Davis' ministry at Mt. Pleasant Church, Roanoke, when he ultimately accepted the call to the Christian parish ministry.

We praise God for the life and Christian ministry of John E. Davis, Jr. and close this tribute with his own favorite Bible quote, from Proverbs 3:5,6:

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him and he shall direct thy paths."

Albert J. Schrader

Fred B. Wyand, Jr.. 1926-1984. Fred B. Wyand, Jr., was born October 8, 1926, in Monterey, Va., the son of Dr. Fred B. Wyand and Sophie Johnson Wyand. He followed in a long line of ministers in the Wyand family dating back to the time of the Reformation. At the age of 16, Fred entered Emory & Henry College, Emory, Va. Later, he transferred to West Virginia Wesleyan, Huntington, W.Va. His college years were interrupted by the

call to serve his country in the U.S. Army-Air Force during World War II. After his discharge from the Air Force he completed his work on his B.A. at Marshall College, Huntington, W.Va. Immediately following graduation he worked for a two-year period at B.F. Goodrich in Trenton, Ohio, but the call to ministry, which had been with him from a very early age, became even stronger. Thus, he entered Duke Divinity School where he received his B.D. degree in 1953.

While attending Duke, Fred met Dorothy Cable, the lovely young lady who was to become his wife in August of 1952. They have one son, Fred Lee, who now is a student at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Bishop Paul Neff Garber ordained him a deacon in York Chapel in Duke and upon graduation from Duke, he became a member of the Virginia Conference. Fred served the following churches with great distinction: Cloverdale Charge, Roanoke District; Whitmell-St. Johns and Schoolfield, Danville District; Trinity, Smithfield; Cokesbury, Alexandria District; Memorial, Lynchburg; Otterbein, Harrisonburg; First Church, Hopewell; and Main Street, Waynesboro.

Fred never sought recognition for himself but instead across the years served on many conference boards and agencies: Pensions, Ministry, Hermitage, etc., and always expressing his concerns for improvements in areas that would help his fellow ministers and the church.

In early 1984 Fred was stricken with cancer, and the long months of suffering began. During those very difficult months he was an inspiration to all who knew him. When he knew he could not recover he wrote a note to his district superintendent, Walter Green, which spoke volumes regarding his attitude toward his illness and ministry. "My life and my love are in preaching, and He has given me over thirty years."

Something of the esteem held for Fred and his ministry was evidenced in the outpouring of love and generosity extended by the congregation of Main Street Church and the other congregations he had served across the years, as they ministered to him during the last months of his life prior to his homecoming. He was blessed with the support of those churches, his district superintendent, and his many friends.

In the last week of September, Fred retired, moved from Waynesboro, Va., to his home in Durham, N.C. Death came on October 6, 1984, just nine days later. When there was a death in a church that he was serving Fred would note in the memorial in the bulletin "Transferred to the Church Triumphant." On that October night he was transferred to the Church Triumphant after having served with distinction in the Church Militant. Truly he "Fought the good fight and kept the Faith."

On Saturday, October 13, 1984, a service of celebration and resurrection was conducted at York Chapel, Duke Divinity School, Durham, N.C. by Bishop W. Kenneth Goodson. A host of ministers and friends from the congregations Fred had served were in attendance.

A service of interment, attended by members of the family, was conducted earlier that day at Maplewood Cemetery near Duke University by the writer. **William R. Withers Albert Hinkle Shumate.** 1900-1984. Albert Hinkle Shumate was born May 6, 1900, in Monterey, Va., the son of Albert Augustus and Mary Catherine (Dice) Shumate. He was educated in the schools of Monterey and Randolph-Macon College. Mr. Shumate was admitted into the Baltimore Annual Conference held in Winchester, Va., in 1926 and was admitted into full connection by Bishop Edwin Mouzan, October 2, 1931. He came into the Virginia Conference in 1939.

Mr. Shumate moved to Dumfries in 1922. He was the principal of Dumfries Elementary School and also served as supply pastor for Dumfries Charge from 1922-23. He was appointed to Chesterbrook-Langley in 1926. He served Quantico from 1930-38. In 1938 he returned to Dumfries. In 1941 he took sabbatical leave. He was reappointed to Dumfries in 1942 and remained there until he retired on disability in 1946.

On October 24, 1932, Albert Hinkle Shumate married Annie Keys Cline, the widow of Dr. David C. Cline. He and his beloved Annie made their home in Dumfries, Va. They had no children. He died October 17, 1984.

Albert Hinkle Shumate loved his Lord and dedicated himself and his talents to His service. Although plagued by ill health (his vision and hearing grew progressively

worse), he served as preacher and teacher when called upon. His patience and forbearance of his physical ailments made him a shining example for others.

He was an outstanding preacher, had tremendous concern for others and gave freely of himself to his family and community. During World War II, Annie and Albert's home was opened to Marines and their wives stationed at Quantico. Mr. Shumate always afforded strong support for all the ministers of Dumfries United Methodist Church. He lived only one block from the church he loved, and was readily available and willing to do anything he could to be of help. While he was still physically able, many Sunday mornings found him in the pulpit after very short notice.

Mr. Shumate and the writer of this memoir became good friends, a relationship which continued through the 30 years of my ministry in the Methodist Church. Many years ago he asked the writer, whom he had baptized as a youth, and received into the church, to conduct his funeral.

On October 19, 1984, funeral services were led by the writer and the Rev. Charles K. Blalock at Dumfries United Methodist Church. The interment was in Historic Dumfries Cemetery. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Annie Keys Shumate.

Mr. Shumate's life of patient endurance touched many lives and left a lasting impression.

I am home in heaven, dear ones;

Oh, so happy and so bright!

There is a perfect joy and beauty

In this everlasting light.

Henry S. Amidon

Thomas Young Lovern, Jr. 1917-1984. Thomas Y. Lovern, Jr. was graduated from Randolph-Macon Academy in 1936. A few years later, during World War II, he served in the U. S. Navy aboard a destroyer escort in the Pacific. Yet it was not until 1949 that his life's purpose really took shape. That was the year he began his ministry.

Tommy often called this early time one of confusion and searching--of fermentation that produced good results. During this time he began to understand God's plan for his life through the fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous, the ministry of Dr. Carl Sanders, and the support of the people of Broad Street Methodist Church in Richmond.

Hillcrest Methodist Church in Fredericksburg became the scene of Tommy's first sermon. In 1950, he was appointed to serve the Caroline Charge while attending Randolph-Macon College. He went on to serve the Charles City Charge, and to complete his theological training through the summer courses at Candler School of Theology.

Other appointments served by Tommy Lovern included St. Andrews in Portsmouth, Central in Salem, Franconia, and Luray. He retired on disability in 1977 and spent his remaining years in Richmond with his beloved wife and lifetime partner, Gay.

Some special marks of Tommy's ministry included his founding along with his AA sponsor, of the semi-annual statewide Alcoholics Anonymous Retreat at the Assembly Center in Blackstone, a ministry that has outlived him and continues to grow. In 1958 he was able, as recipient of the Burchenal Fellowship, to take a year's sabbatical and write his book, God As I Understand Him.

At the heart of Tommy's life and ministry was a profound honesty and a sense of daily victory through Christ. As a skilled pastor he could identify with people in any circumstance and reveal to them God's loving, positive possibilities in down-to-earth terms. He was a powerful, inspiring preacher who was often in demand. He loved the church and served it well.

On November 6, 1984, Tommy's life was celebrated by a graveside service at Washington Memorial Park in Richmond. The memorial service which followed was done in the manner he had requested, and expressed his own style and faith. The service opened with congregational singing of "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee," included the sharing of memories by some who had known him well, and concluded with the "Hallelujah Chorus."

Those of us who knew and loved Tommy Lovern miss him dearly, and will always cherish the memory of his smile, his laughter, and his challenging faith. **Hugh T. Harris**
Hugh Lafayette Shiley. 1909-1984. The old Baltimore Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, held its 1933 session at Greene Memorial Church, Roanoke, Va. On October 6, with Bishop W. F. McMurry presiding, nine young men were admitted "on trial." Hugh Lafayette Shiley and I were members of that class. For more than 51

years he was a Methodist ministry, serving in the old Baltimore, West Virginia and Virginia conferences.

Hugh was born in Millwood, Va., January 11, 1909, the son of Jenny Frances Plank Shiley and George McClellan Shiley. He attended public school and had two years of high school at Randolph-Macon Academy, graduating in June 1931. Rather early in life he felt called to the Christian ministry and on September 5, 1929, he was granted a local preacher's license by the Frederick Charge in the Winchester District. After two years at Shepherdstown State Teachers College in W.Va., 1931-33, he was admitted "on trial" by the old Baltimore Conference.

His first appointment was South Covington, 1933-35. Then he returned to school, and received the Bachelor of Arts degree from Asbury College, Wilmore, Ky., in June 1937. In October of that year he was ordained deacon and admitted into full connection when the conference met in Winchester, Bishop Arthur Jr. Moore, presiding.

While at his next appointment in Huntersville, W.Va., he was married on June 13, 1938, to Katherine Greathouse of Durbin, W.Va., affectionately known as "Katie." They became the proud parents of two sons, John Wesley of Kerens, W.Va., and Daniel Lee of Glasgow, Va.

With Methodist Unification in 1939, the old Baltimore Conference passed out of existence. Its last session was held at Greene Memorial Church in Roanoke, Bishop William Peele, presiding. There on October 3, Hugh was ordained elder. For 17 years he was a member of the West Virginia Conference where he appointments included West Farmington, Long Branch, Green Sulphur, Smoot, Hamshire and Aurora.

Transferring to the Virginia Conference in 1956, Hugh served for 16 years with pastorates at Monterey, Rockbridge, Mt. View and Epworth in Thaxton. It was during his fourth year at Epworth that he began to experience the health problems that led to disability leave in 1972. He retired two years later.

For 11 years he and Katie lived in their own home on a ridge near Thaxton with a magnificent view of the Blue Ridge Mountains and the Peaks of Otter. Then worsening health prompted the move to Glasgow in August 1983 to be near one of their sons. Death came on November 14, 1984, at the Stonewall Jackson Hospital in Lexington.

Six members of the "Class of 1933" held their 40th reunion when conference met in Roanoke in 1973. In honor of that occasion Hugh wrote a poem which began, "We stood together as men of God that brisk October day," and listed the names of the nine men who had begun their ministry together in 1933. He seemed to have an unusual sense of his high calling as a "man of God" and felt a deep appreciation for his fellow ministers. Hugh and Katie were called to serve in some rather difficult places, but whatever the circumstances, they served together with cheerfulness and fidelity.

Following memorial services at the Harrison Funeral Home in Lexington on November 6, 1984, he was buried in the cemetery at Arbovale, W.Va. The words of the Apostle Paul, which he had requested to be read at his funeral service, seem most appropriate.

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but to all who have loved his appearing."(II Timothy 4:7-7)

Walter M. Lockett, Jr.

William C. Burns. 1951-1984. William C. Burns, 33, died on Friday, November 16, 1984, at the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md., following seven years of chronic illness. Born in Newark, N.J., in 1951, Bill graduated from Cranford High School in 1969, and after exploring a variety of occupations, joined the United States Army in 1975. Prior to his discharge, Bill was called to the ministry. He wrote the following statement about his call and ministry when he prepared for his ordination:

"I think that the one event in my life that has had the greatest impact upon my understanding of, not only my faith but the Christian Faith, was when I was first told I had Aplastic Anemia.

"I was still in the army at the time, planning a career for myself as a military chaplain...I had been feeling a little sluggish, and went to the clinic for a physical examination...When the test results were known I was transferred from Kentucky to Walter Reed Hospital for treatment. When I asked the doctor at Walter Reed about my

illness I was told, 'You don't need to know all of the details because in six months you will either be well or dead!'

"In the subsequent years I have thought about that statement very often and I have learned a great deal about Aplastic Anemia myself, and my own understanding of the Christian Faith. I have had no choice but to put my life in the hands of God completely, and to serve the one who died for my sins.

"My understanding of my call to the ordained ministry has not been altered in any way by my illness. My knowledge of humility and of what service really is, my understanding of Jesus' prayer in the garden the night he was seized...have been deeply influenced by my life experience.

"...I have felt the power and the justice and the mercy of God throughout my life. Teaching Sunday School classes, counseling with bereaved parents at Children's Hospital, dealing with my own health, working at Herndon United Methodist Church; these are all things that I could not have faced or done on my own. I thank God daily for the blessings and trials that I have been given because they have made me better able to serve as Christ would have me serve."

Bill served as pastor at Herndon United Methodist Church beginning in June of 1982. He was ordained a deacon in June of 1983.

Bill is survived by his wife, Frances of Herndon, his parents, Edna and Charles Burns of Cranford, N.J., and many related and unrelated loved ones.

Bill's loving influence on those around him is expressed in the following tribute, written by a youth at Herndon United Methodist Church:

BILL

We may have lost a dear friend,

But only in body,

Not in spirit or memories.

The love he gave to us

Will be carried in our hearts

always,

And will forever be shared with

those around us.

The lessons he taught us

We have learned well,

And in memory of him

We shall use them wisely.

We, the young clowns that he once

made laugh,

Will continue his work

In making others laugh

While they learn the way.

We are the youth,

The young that he cared for so

much

We are the ones that now cry,

But in the future will smile

At the beautiful memories he has

left us with.

During the last months of his life, Bill was instrumental in forming an organization designed to provide support and research funds for families and patients with the disease which took his life. Since that time, Francie, his wife, has affiliated that organization with another, and is currently serving on its advisory board. **Frances Burns James Weldon Smith, Jr. 1902-1984.** James Weldon Smith, Jr. was born October 27, 1902, in Cashmere, W.Va., the son of Dr. and Mrs. James Weldon Smith, and grew up in Farmville, Va., where his father practiced medicine. He was a graduate of Randolph-Macon College and of Yale Divinity School. He joined the Virginia Conference in 1928. On August 31, 1938, he married Viola Jett Elliott, who shared his life with him in a marvelous way during the 40 years of his active ministry and the 55 years of their married life.

His appointments were: assistant minister, Park Place, Norfolk; Montross; Lunenburg; St. Paul, Richmond; Highland Springs; Elm Avenue, Portsmouth; Calvary, Danville; Park View, Lynchburg; High Street, Petersburg; Asbury, Richmond; Fredericksburg; and Dulin Chapel, Falls Church. In recognition of his numerous contributions to the Fredericksburg United Methodist Church, he was designated Minister Emeritus in a special service on October 30, 1983.

Jimmy's love for the church was reflected in all aspects of his ministry. He was a diligent pastor and cared for his people through systematic visitation--identifying with them in both joy and sorrow. He was a persuasive preacher of the Gospel. His own faith and commitment were reflected in his sermons. Through his preaching, the people's understanding of the Gospel grew and their faith quickened.

Many expressions of appreciation for Jimmy have come to my attention. A fellow minister wrote: "Jimmy was an exceptionally fine person, an able minister who honored the church and reflected in his quiet way the mind and spirit of his Master."

Another minister wrote: "His style of ministry and his high sense of integrity will always be remembered by those who knew him best!"

A former member wrote: "Jimmy was a rare and talented son of God--truly 'a man for all seasons.' His vision of God's dynamic, evolving and expanding kingdom endowed him with a superb sense of values, enabling him to set goals and priorities for himself and his congregation that were in accord with God's will and man's capabilities. He had an extraordinary ability to communicate God's word orally and in writing, or simply by his quiet and sympathetic presence in time of grief. His whole-hearted dedication to God's mission and his tireless energy in carrying it out motivated us to greater use of our own limited talents."

Jimmy had a great love for people. He was able to see some good in everyone and enjoyed his associations with all types of persons. He was a great family man--a loving husband, understanding father, adoring grandfather, who was interested in all that concerned each family member.

Jimmy developed a debilitating illness during his last five years. This did not dampen his spirit, alter his positive outlook, or lessen his sense of humor. John Wesley used to say: "Our people die well." So it could be said of Jimmy. His response to his illness was such that one did not pity him, but admired him for his great fortitude. His faith did not falter, and he was an inspiration to all around him.

Death came on November 20, 1984, at Mary Washington Hospital, Fredericksburg. Funeral services were conducted on November 23, 1984, at Fredericksburg United Methodist Church by C. Bailey Jones, assisted by David Balcom, Hatcher Elliott, Hampden Smith, Jr. and Max Wicker. Burial was in the United Methodist Church lot in the Fredericksburg City Cemetery.

He is survived by his wife, Viola Elliott Smith, a daughter, Mrs. Hubert Edge; two sons, Dr. James W. Smith, III and T. Robison Smith; and eight grandchildren.

"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from henceforth:

Yea saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors

and their works do follow them."

Hampden H. Smith, Jr.

Harmon Leslie Hoffman. 1893-1985. Harmon Leslie Hoffman, preacher, teacher, student, chaplain, lover of life, and above all a Christian, first saw the light of day on March 9, 1893. He died in Charlotte, N.C. on January 14, 1985, after a life of service to God, the Church which he loved, and his country.

He was reared in a devoutly Christian home. His father, a well-educated man, particularly in the Classics, began early to prepare for his son's education. Harmon, at a mere age, felt the call of God and knew he must be a minister.

To this end, with his father's aid, he won the following degrees at three outstanding schools: his A.B. from Trinity College, Durham, N.C. (now Duke University) in 1918; his M.A. in psychology at Princeton University, Princeton, N.J. in 1923; and his Th.B. from Princeton Theological Seminary also in 1923. Thus he was well prepared in heart and mind for his high and noble calling.

While a student at Trinity College he met and won the heart of Ila Herrell, who was at that time a student at Greensboro College, N.C. They were married at the beginning of his last year at Princeton. Mrs. Hoffman was a tremendous help to Harmon and they lived together and built a wonderful Christian home over a period of 62 years. To this union five children were born: Elizabeth, Harmon, Jr., Edwin, Anne and Susan, all of whom have arisen to call their parents blessed. At the present time in the extended family there are 10 grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Harmon was ordained in 1922 at the Baltimore Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in Washington, D.C. by Bishop U.V. Darlington. His first appointment was Andrew Chapel, West Hamilton Street, Baltimore, MD.

The years of his itinerant ministry in the Methodist Church were as follows: Baltimore Conference, four years; Kentucky Conference, two years; South Carolina Conference, four years; Virginia Conference, 24 and a half years. While in the

Virginia Conference he served these appointments: Nelson, ONley, King George, Monroe and Eagle Rock.

All this ended in 1944 when Harmon was inducted into the Army of the United States as a chaplain of the WACs at Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia, serving in that capacity until the end of World War II (1947). Soon after his discharge from the service he began a teaching career which he pursued until his retirement in 1966, having taught at Richmond Professional Institute (now Virginia Commonwealth University) for one year and following that 17 years at Erskine College, Due West, South Carolina, as head of the Department of Psychology.

During the entire period of the Erskine years, he served two Methodist churches in the county of Abbeville, S.C., as minister, and after his retirement from Erskine in 1966, he was supply pastor for a Presbyterian Church on a regular basis for a number of years. He lived his last year with his beloved wife in Charlotte, N.C., where he died at Wesley Nursing Center at the age of 92.

Harmon was intrigued by poetry. To him it was a way of probing the metaphysical. On one occasion, he said: "I have a small ambition to write a poem." The poem quoted below by Rabrdranath Tagore, was one of his favorites:

"Give me strength, Give my courage
O Thou eternally beautiful!
Give me the stay of contentment
Give me amending freedom
From the daily trampling of feet in the dust,
Let me not sway.
For the boisterous current of the moment
In the bewildering destruction of grief!
Unrealized courage is in the heart of the flower
Lovely and gracious...
Give me that calen courage,
That strength of self-forgetfulness.
Beautiful in its limitations,
Simplicity that knows no doubt;
May it join in a rhythm of peace,
All my thoughts, all my utterance."

In conclusion: his congregations appreciated him, people who worked with him loved him, his grandson Dr. Leslie Martin Hoffman called him, "a dedicated man of God." He had a classical bent. He was a student of Greek and Latin. Early in his life his father gave him a Latin proverb which helped to shape his life, namely: "A good man is an ornament to his country" and he was a good man.

"Thank God such have been although they walk with us no more along the path we tread. They have but joined before."

Roland P. Riddick

Irwin George Couch. 1896-1985. In December, Irwin Couch said to me, "Preacher, I left some devotional magazines outside your study so you can take them to these old people at the nursing home. They don't have much to do and they look forward to the magazines, don't you know?" He died the next month. His words summed up his pastoral concern for people, a concern which typified his story of ministry.

Irwin George Couch, son of Ida Parmenter and George Henry Couch, was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., on March 12, 1896. The family later moved to Petersburg, Va. After serving in World War I, he went to Ferrum Training School where he graduated as valedictorian of his class. He continued his education at Randolph-Macon College where he was Phi Beta Kappa. During summers, he studied at Candler School of Theology, Emory University.

Brother Couch served a number of appointments in the Virginia Conference. He was admitted on trial in 1926 and became a member in full connection in 1928. Those appointments included Lebanon-Providence, White Stone, Wachapreague, South Halifax, Danville Circuit, South Brunswick, Rapidan, Louisa, North Garden, Capeville, Accomac, King George, Ridgeway-Mount Bethel, and Portlock.

He married Ethel Doyle in 1926. Their six children grew up in these parsonages

and went on to serve in their own Christian vocations. Their eldest son Robert became a ministerial member of the Virginia Conference and served a number of churches.

When he retired in 1964, Brother Couch began a phase of ministry at Miles Memorial in Norfolk. Here he taught and worked with the youth fellowship and eventually became minister to shut-ins of the church. During this time, he also served as interim pastor of a Congregational Christian Church in Norfolk.

In 1980 Irwin and Ethel moved to Rappahannock to live with their daughter, Dorothy. The caring ministries of Jesus Christ were extended further by their presence. While participating in the common life of Miles Memorial, Irwin Couch worked closely with John Teter, pastor of the church. They were later neighbors on Selby Place in Norfolk. John Teter and I led the service of death and resurrection on January 23, 1985. The Rev. Teter reminded all of Irwin Couch's ministry when he quoted Charles Wesley's hymn:

"Servant of God, well done!
Thy glorious warfare's past;
The battle's fought, the race is won,
And thou are crowned at last."

George Donigian

Richard Orman Bryant. 1900-1985. How like his Lord he was for, "He calleth his sheep by name." I followed Dr. Bryant in two pastorates: Cradock, Portsmouth and Farmville. Again, again, and again I heard people say, "He knew me, he always called me by my name, what a pastor!" When he assumed a pastorate he hurried to visit all the homes to know his parishioners. Soon he knew their joys, sorrows, victories, defeats, their problems and their church relationships. Our lord never had to tell Orman to "tend my sheep or feed my lambs" but once and he did it immediately and always. His optimistic spirit, good nature, love, kindness, dedication and sincerity made him an effective minister. He was unusually effective in the pulpit, in church organization and administration.

Surely he had divine guidance in choosing Nell Brooks Johnson to be his wife for 59 years. Dr. Donald Shriver, Jr., President of Union Theological Seminary in New York, said, "The two of you have been ministers to my mother and father." Others echoed the sentiment that theirs was a joint ministry that was a shining and beneficent influence on many ministers and their wives and to members of congregations.

The Holy Spirit marked him early for the ministry, for as a child on the farm, he gathered the neighborhood children and preached to them. At Epworth Church, Norfolk, Dr. Samuel Senter helped seal this conviction.

He was born May 7, 1900, in Southampton, Va., son of Rosser Benjamin and Nettie Barrett Bryant; educated in the public schools of Southampton County, Randolph-Macon Academy, Randolph-Macon College, and Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia. His alma mater, Randolph-Macon, awarded him his doctorate.

These were his pastorates: supply of Scottsville Circuit; student pastor of Fulton Hill, Richmond; Cradock, Portsmouth; Accomac; St. James, Richmond; Farmville; Court Street, Lynchburg; Park Place, Norfolk; Mt. Vernon, Danville; and Virginia Beach.

Seventeen years he was a district superintendent serving Winchester, Portsmouth, and Peninsula districts. It was a privilege to work with Orman in the bishop's cabinet. Time and time again, when the appointment making became difficult, he always had imagination and creativity to unlock a stalemate and set the process moving. He knew the churches and the minister with keen perception, rare judgment and Christian love.

As "Mr. Church Extension," he was instrumental in founding 10 churches: in Newport News: Asbury, Grace, Christ and Bethany; in Hampton: St. Marks, St. Lukes, and Wesley; in Portsmouth: Asbury, Academy and St. Andrews. Through these doors hundreds have entered the Kingdom.

His church and conference had great faith in him. He was elected to six Jurisdictional Conferences and three General Conferences, served as a member of many conference boards and agencies, was a charter member and first president of the Conference Credit Union. He served two seven-year terms as trustee of Ferrum College and was one of the incorporators of Virginia Wesleyan College and was a trustee until his death.

After 51 and a half years of active ministry, he accepted the retired relationship, but his divine sense of call pressed him on. He was appointed interim district superintendent of the Portsmouth District serving in this capacity for 11 months. After this he became visiting pastor for Epworth United Methodist Church, Norfolk, and Pastor Emeritus serving until his death. Knowing Orman as I did, as he met his Lord I can imagine his first words were, "Lord, I am ready for my next job."

A credit to Dr. and Mrs. Bryant and their two daughters, Mrs. Barrett R. Richardson of Portsmouth, and Mrs. L. Floyd Nock of Onancock, and their families who bless their local churches and their communities.

His graduation services were held at Epworth Church, conducted by Bishop Robert M. Blackburn, the Rev. James L. Duley and the Rev. W. R. Petrie. Appropriately, one of his favorite hymns was sung, "Sing With All the Sons of Glory." **Edgar A. Potts**

Norman Francis Hunt. 1893-1985. Norman Francis Hunt was born July 31, 1893, in Mt. airy, Pittsylvania County, Va., to James Felix and Emma Ridgeway Hunt. He was educated in the public schools of Virginia and then attended Richmond College of the University of Virginia. He graduated from the University of Pennsylvania with a B.A. degree in education. While teaching school in Meherrin, Va., he met and married Lottie May Myers of Cambria, Va., and on October 2, 1918, they had been married 66 years.

Having long felt the desire to become a minister, Norman was ordained by the Baptist Presbytery on June 24, 1920, and began serving three small churches. Preaching became a full-time occupation and with a wife and three small children, he returned to school at Crozer Theological Seminary in Pennsylvania and graduated in 1926.

Norman had a brother-in-law, the Rev. Emmett Jones, in the Virginia Methodist Conference and he decided to transfer to the Methodist Church. He became a probationary member in 1925 and was received in full connection in 1930. His appointments included Danville Circuit, Accomac, South Norfolk Circuit, Crittenden, Driver, Magnolia, Jolliff Charge, Princess Anne, Colonial Beach, Gloucester Point, Orange, Olivet-Grace, and Warren. He retired in 1963 with 36 years in the Virginia Conference, to live in the Ocean View section of Norfolk. In 1976, Norman and Lottie moved to Crittenden to be near five of their seven children because of her ill health and his advancing age. Norman enjoyed attending Methodist Men, Sunday school and church services, and felt "fit as a fiddle" until last fall when his health began to fail rapidly.

Norman went to be with his Lord on February 14, 1985, after an illness of several months. A service was held at Ebenezer United Methodist Church in Suffolk by the Rev. John M. Andrews and was laid to rest in Mount Zion Cemetery.

Surviving are his wife, Lottie Myers Hunt, three daughters, four sons, 15 grandchildren, eight great grandchildren, and one brother. **Mary H. Carson**

Allen Jerome Carter. 1903-1985. Allen Jerome Carter was born March 2, 1903, in Gates County, N.C. He received elementary education in schools in North Carolina and Norfolk, Va.; and attended Randolph-Macon College, Ashland, Va., for one year. As a young man, he was active in the Epworth League.

In 1924, Allen became executive secretary of the Virginia Conference Epworth League Board, and in the same year received his license to preach. He was received on trial in the Virginia Conference in 1926 and in full connection in 1930. On September 4, 1928, he married Mary Lemira Parker.

From 1927-30, Allen Carter was assistant general secretary and treasurer of the General Epworth League Board in Nashville, Tenn. He served pastoral appointments in Virginia at West Hampton; Gretna; Norfolk, Zion; Belle Haven; Irvington; and Montross. In 1943, Allen was appointed to the staff of the American Red Cross during the war emergency, and remained on the Red Cross staff until 1957, serving as regional director for areas including North and South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, California, Arizona, Utah and Nevada. He worked in the Atlanta, Georgia, office from 1944-52; and in the San Francisco, California, office from 1952-57.

From 1957-69, Allen Carter was engaged in development and fund raising activities for churches, church organizations and church institutions. During this time, he was affiliated with H. P. Demand and Associates; and the Methodist Hospital of Southern California; and also worked as an independent consultant. He conducted funding

campaigns for one community hospital, one Goodwill Industry, five Methodist conferences, and 21 local churches. Over \$12,000,000 was raised for the work of these arms of the church under his leadership.

During the period in which Allen was engaged in work with the Red Cross and in fund-raising activities, he asked for and was granted status as a local elder. However, he considered his work always a ministry, and was happy to be re-admitted to the Southern California-Arizona Conference in 1964.

Upon retirement in 1969, Allen and Mary moved to Felton, California; and in 1981 to Forest Hill Manor, Pacific Grove, California. Allen died April 25, 1985, in Pacific Grove.

Born the youngest of 11 children, Allen Carter is survived by two sisters--Eva Hutchison and Epie Green, of Roanoke, Va. His California family includes Mary Parker Carter, living at 551 Gibson Avenue, Pacific Grove, California 93950; six grandchildren--Diane and Lizzie Waschow, Craig and Mark Walla; Marian and Allen Carter; and his children and their spouses: Jerry and Sara Carter, George Carter and Louise Waschow, Ann and Conrad Walla.

A memorial service was held in Pacific Grove on May 5, 1985, conducted by the Rev. Mark Wendland, pastor of the Forest Hill United Methodist Church. One hymn which was sung typifies Allen Jerome Carter's confidence in life and God:

In heavenly love abiding, no change my heart shall fear,
And safe is such confiding, for nothing changes here.
The storm may roar without me, my heart may low be laid,
But God is round about me, and can I be dismayed?

Green pastures are before me, which yet I have not seen.

Bright skies will soon be o'er me, where darkest clouds have been.

My hope I cannot measure, my path to life is free,

My Savior has my treasure, and he will walk with me.

Allen Jerome Carter, Jr.

Minutes for 1986. Peter Samuel Burkett. 1904-1984. Peter Samuel Burkett, son of Peter Tolbert Burkett and Rose Belle Stevenson Burkett, was born in Tazewell County, Va., on February 21, 1904. He graduated from Lynchburg College and later in life completed the Conference course study at Duke and Candler Schools of Theology.

Peter married Hattie Belle Rucker on the 19th of December, 1923. They were married 57 years when Hattie Belle died March 1, 1981. To this marriage five daughters were born, Betty Ann Chiesa, Jean Rose Eltringham, Eva Eileen Taft, Samuel Marie McCarty and Erva Lynette Shifflet.

Peter's employment began as a car repairman in the coal mines of W.Va. His work was varied, he was a salesman for the Maytag Company, a finisher in the American Furniture Company and he owned and operated Burkett's Grocery in Martinsville, Va. In 1942 the family moved to Hampton where Peter worked as a shipfitter for Newport News Ship Building and Dry Dock Company.

In October 1948, Peter answered the call to the ministry, coming from the Copeland Methodist Church. His entire ministry was served on the Charlottesville District. He served the Schuyler Charge two years; the Greene Charge four years; the Bethlehem Church eight years and the Madison Charge twelve years. After retirement he served the North Madison Charge six years. Peter was always active in community concerns and served for several years as a member of the Board of Supervisors of Madison County.

Peter and Hattie Belle made a great team. They were interested in all phases in the work of the Church. They were particularly interested in and supported young people, especially the ones indicating interest in going into full-time church work. Peter was a good preacher, an excellent pastor and a good friend.

On September 5, 1981, Peter married Alice May Mann, who survived him. Also, he was survived by four daughters, 18 grandchildren, and 25 great grandchildren.

Death came to Peter on July 29, 1985. A funeral service was conducted at the Madison United Methodist Church by the Rev. Thomas D. Maddrey, pastor, and the Rev. Marvin C. Cook. Burial was in the cemetery at Madison.

Joseph T. Carson, Jr.

William O. Hudson. 1923-1985. William Osborne Hudson was born on October 4, 1923, in Dagsboro, Delaware. He attended public schools until he left high school to enlist in the Armed Forces. He served as a paratrooper in the 101st Airborne Command.

In 1953, he felt the call to the ministry and returned to high school to complete his work for his diploma. Afterwards, he pursued his education at the University of Delaware, Wesley College, Salisbury Teachers College and Duke University. He married his high school sweetheart, Lillian Lockwood, on March 8, 1944. The two of them had formed a most unusual team in the ministry of our Lord which was appreciated by all of the people they served. Their marriage was blessed with two lovely daughters, Mrs. Shirley Hinkson and Mrs. Cindy Huskey, and two granddaughters and a grandson of whom he was justly proud.

Bill Hudson was a strong and biblical preacher whose messages brought inspiration and commitment to those who heard them. He was an unusual pastor whose doors were always open to those in need. He had a very special touch with the youth who found him to be a real friend. His warm personality and sense of humor made him friends very easily. People quickly responded to his love.

His first charge was Galestown in the Peninsula Conference. Other charges in this Conference were Beckwith and Blades. For the next three years, he served as a policeman. He returned to the ministry by accepting an appointment to the Brunswick charge in the Virginia Conference. He was ordained as associate member while serving the Wachapreague-Quinby charge 1967-69. Other pastorates included Boykins, McKenny, Bonsack and Laurel Hill. While serving the Laurel Hill charge he was stricken with a heart attack on October 29, 1984. Later medical complications revealed lung cancer and he was received into his eternal home on July 18, 1985.

Memorial services were conducted at the Laurel Hill Church on July 20, 1985, by the Rev. Bernard S. Via, Jr., the Rev. Don Powell and the writer of this memoir. He was buried in the church cemetery with Bishop Robert M. Blackburn giving his committal liturgy. He was a sincere and dedicated servant who loved his Lord and served his people well. "Yea saith the Spirit, they shall rest from their labors and their works do follow them." (Revelations 14:13)

Henry M. Matthews

Edgar Allan Potts. 1903-1985. Edgar Potts touched the lives of thousands of persons across the country as he served as pastor, superintendent, and on conference boards and agencies. He was a Christian gentleman and a most effective preacher. Through his preaching and wise counsel he helped many people find a relationship with Jesus Christ. Through his life, work and preaching he taught us to rise above prejudice and hate, and exemplified Christian love.

Born on August 28, 1903, the son of the Rev. and Mrs. Reginald H. Potts, he grew up in the Methodist Church in the Virginia Conference. He received an AB degree from Randolph-Macon College and a Th.D. from Princeton Seminary. He and his wife, Alice Ruth, had three daughters: Martha Anne Gregory of Nashville, Tenn., Mary Alice Rhodes, of Winchester, Va., and Virginia Freeman of Richmond, Va. Edgar was elected a Delegate to the General Conference on six different occasions. While he was Superintendent of the Norfolk District, he started six new churches and as Superintendent of the Lynchburg District, started two new churches. He died June 10, 1985, in Lynchburg. Memorial services were conducted June 13th at Centenary United Methodist Church in Lynchburg by the Rev. Doug Pillow, Dr. Robert A. Spivey and the Rev. George Freeman. Burial was at Forest Lawn Cemetery in Richmond and that service was conducted by Bishop Robert M. Blackburn and the Rev. William E. Knight.

On June 18, 1985, the lead editorial of the Lynchburg News, with whom he often differed, was entitled, "A Methodist Minister Who Strengthened Others." He was referred to as a "marvelous man who lived what he preached and preached what he lived."

Always an evangelist, he served eight years as Conference Secretary of Evangelism. During this period, 1952-60, the Virginia Conference had a net gain in membership of over 6,000 members a year and averaged eight new churches a year. Under his leadership the Virginia Conference reached its greatest height in reaching people for Jesus Christ. During his active ministry he received over 2,800 new members into the churches he served.

The presence of the Lord was very real to Edgar Potts. This was evidence in his prayer life and in his special ability to communicate the Gospel. Upon his death hundreds of testimonials flooded his home from people whose lives he had touched. Many young preachers received encouragement, love and support from Edgar and Alice.

One of his unique traits was his sense of humor. Known always to have a story handy that would fit any occasion, he brightened any discussion and contributed significantly to any gathering by his mere presence. He would always see the good and humorous in any situation. He had a unique ability to laugh at himself.

He often said his ministry followed the tracks of the N & W Railroad, from Craddock to Suffolk, Farmville, Staunton, Norfolk, Lynchburg and Roanoke. His influence in the lives of the churches he served and the members and friends he loved is evident today.

How like a great river was the life of Edgar Potts, traversing the years, increasing the productive richness of all the lives it touches, and demonstrating a constant presence and witness for everyone to see. Through the passing years it broadens and deepens until it commits itself and empties into the sea of eternity.

We are richer, the church is richer, and the commission enthusiastically to win persons for Jesus Christ is alive in thousands and persons today because of the life of Edgar Potts.

Carl J. Sanders and George H. Freeman

Charles Lester Ledford. 1895-1985. He was born October 27, 1895, into an impoverished working class home in Cornelia, Georgia. In his third year his mother died and he began, along with his younger sister, a lonely odyssey among the homes of relatives. In his seventh year he lost his younger sister and in his tenth year he was forced to leave school and work full time with his entire earnings going to the support of the family.

During these early years of trial, Charles did not have much evidence of God's protective benevolence and but for the Christian influence of his paternal grandmother could easily have taken a violent path in life. But his attitude remained constructive and positive and finally in his midteens he found a school that allowed him to attend part-time while continuing his 12-hourly, six-day, workweeks.

Now he met Mary Ann Rippy. They fell in love, married, started a family, and finished high school together. Mary was to remain at his side, a faithful and loving companion, until his death almost 70 years later.

During these years Charles experienced a dream in which his mother appeared as an angel circling above a luminous, white church approached by a long series of steps. She landed at the top of the steps and as the dream ended solemnly pointed at him as he approached. As Charles mentioned on a number of occasions in latter years, from that time forward he had no doubt of what he wished to do with his life.

He was licensed to preach at Main Street First Methodist Church of Danville in 1923. During his ministry in the Virginia Conference he served 13 pastorates and after retirement he served, on request, four pastorates in the North Carolina and Western North Carolina Conferences. He served twice as an army chaplain, the last time as an executive chaplain during World War II.

Throughout his life he never forgot his origins and remained keenly sympathetic to the daily trials of the disadvantaged. Throughout his ministry he exerted great effort to help parishioners with their daily, practical problems as well as minister to their spiritual needs. Pursuant to these efforts he earned degrees in business and law in addition to theology. He finally ended his formal educational journey with a doctorate in theology.

After a short, severe illness, Charles Lester Ledford, sustained by his profound Christian faith, died at peace in his 90th year in the midst of friends and family. He had in life vigorously personified a vision of Christianity as generosity, compassion, tolerance, and decency.

Charles, you were aggressively challenged by life early. You met that challenge and in God's service strove well. Rest justly in God's eternal peace, Dr. Ledford.

Edward Haley Ledford, son

Irvin Henry Orndoff. 1900-1985. Irvin Henry Orndoff was born in Cumberland, Md., July 29, 1900, the first of seven children of John Henry and Martha Ellen Rinker Orndoff. At the age of 13 economic necessity took him from school to the office of N.G. Taylor Tin Plate Mill, where his father was employed. Two years later he applied for work at the B & O Railroad where two lines of applicants awaited physical examination. Turned down because of his age, he immediately got in the second line, changed his age and his

name to Arthur Irvin Orndoff, was hired, and remained with the railroad eight years, being promoted to Chief Crew Dispatcher.

Converted during a city-wide evangelistic campaign, he chose the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. His pastor at Emmanuel, the Rev. W. W. McIntyre, sent him to the 1919 Epworth League Assembly at Lexington. Under the influence of the guest preacher, he was convinced of his call to preach. His father had experienced a similar call, but felt compelled to stay on the family farm. Irvin determined that nothing should keep him from the ministry. He said, "Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel." (I Cor. 9-16)

With a leave of absence from B & O, Irving entered Randolph-Macon Academy as a special student at the age of 21. The next fall he was admitted to Randolph-Macon College. Persuaded by an older minister that it was not necessary to complete four years of college before beginning to preach, he married Edith Sidney Lewis on Christmas Day, 1922, and applied for an appointment. Informed that he would have to wait until Conference, he returned to work at the Railroad.

Conference met in Roanoke April 4-9, 1923. Irvin was appointed by Bishop W.A. Candler as supply pastor for Burlington, W.Va. (six churches) where he served four and a half years (1923-27). During that pastorate he was received on probation (1924) and two years later was received into full connection and ordained Deacon by Bishop Candler. Bishop Collins Denny appointed him in 1927 to the Rockbridge Circuit and the next year ordained him Elder. During this pastorate (1927-31), he continued his education at Washington and Lee University. Though limited in formal education, he was a lifelong student, acquiring an extensive library.

Other appointments included: Duffy Memorial, Moorefield, W.Va. (1931-36); Huntington Court, Roanoke (1936-43); Memorial, Petersburg (1943-48); Wesley Memorial, Norfolk (1948-53); Park View, Lynchburg (1953-60); Central, Clifton Forge (1960-66); and Hinton Avenue, Charlottesville (1966-73). His relatively long pastorates attest to the confidence his parishioners had in him.

Under his guidance many young men entered the ministry, including four from Wesley Memorial in Norfolk. For 14 years he was an assistant statistician until 1952 when he was elected Conference Statistical Secretary, a post he held for 20 years. Retirement came at the 1973 Conference in Roanoke.

In November of 1973 Irving and "Sid" moved into their lovely new home in Roanoke near their daughter Virginia. The Administrative Board at Huntington Court elected him Minister Emeritus and part-time member of the staff. Then came the second major heart attack and life for both Irvin and "Sid" was drastically altered. But there was no complaining, only gratitude to God for the privilege of preaching the gospel for 50 years.

Death came on December 5, 1985. Funeral services were conducted by the Rev. George H. Gravitt, pastor, and the Rev. Jack A. Minnick, a former pastor, of Huntington Court Church. Interment was in the Blue Ridge Memorial Gardens, Roanoke.

"Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master." (Matthew 25:23)

Walter M. Lockett, Jr.

Wade Sellers Miller. 1904-1985. Wade Sellers Miller was born on a farm near Weyers Cave in the beautiful Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, February 17, 1904, the third son of a family of six children. His parents were Joseph Samuel and Lucy Ritchie Miller.

Wade united with the one room Union Chapel United Brethren Church when he was 12 years old. His pastor was the Rev. David F. Glovier who greatly influenced his life. As far back as his memory went he wanted to be a preacher. Indeed his favorite game as a boy was playing church, taking turns with his brother, Millard, at preaching and serving as the undertaker for all the departed farm animals. (His brother, Millard, also became a minister.)

Wade graduated from Weyers Cave High School in 1923 where he played baseball and basketball. In 1927 he graduated from Lebanon Valley College, Annville, Penn., with the A.B. degree. Following his college days, Wade enrolled at United Theological Seminary (then called Bonebrake Theological Seminary) in Dayton, Ohio. After one year in seminary, he married his college classmate, Jennie Shoop, a niece of Dr. Charles

Shoop, a long-time missionary in China. While a student at the seminary he served as pastor of the Springboro-Orgonia Charge south of Dayton. It was here that he met Helen Leichty and guided her to Otterbein College and a long career as a public school teacher. She became his second wife following the death of his first wife in 1980.

After graduation from United Seminary in 1930, Wade was ordained an elder of the Virginia Conference of the United Brethren Church. He was assigned pastor of the Shenandoah College Church (then at Dayton, Va.) where he also taught Bible and History. From pastor he became dean of the college and later served as president for 10 years. In 1942 he joined the staff of Otterbein College, Westerville, Ohio, where he directed student, alumni, and church relations. From 1956 until his retirement in 1969 he was Vice-President in charge of Development. Under his leadership the College Board of Trustees organized the Development Fund Board which produced over \$8 million during his tenure. The largest single gift to the college was from Clyde E. Cowan, a coal miner from Penn., of \$425,000. The college auditorium was built from this fund and named Cowan Hall.

During his years at Otterbein many honors were bestowed upon him including an honorary degree and honorary alumnus. Lebanon Valley College also honored him with an honorary degree and several other citations. After retirement he wintered in Florida where he was active in community affairs and visited many alumni clubs.

Wade is survived by his widow, Helen; a son, Wade S., Jr., Tuscaloosa, Alabama; a daughter, Mrs. Marilyn Wyville, Chagrin Falls, Ohio; two brothers, the Rev. Millard J., Westerville, Ohio, and Edgar C., Washington, D.C.; and a sister, Mrs. Hubert Rowe, Staunton, Va.

Appropriate memorial services were held at Otterbein House, Lebanon, Ohio, where he lived the last six years of his life, and in the Otterbein College Church, Westerville, Ohio. Burial was in the Otterbein Cemetery in Westerville. **Millard J. Miller Reuben Wesley Blevins, Jr.** 1934-1985. Reuben Wesley Blevins, Jr., was born January 3, 1934, at Adwolf, Va. He was ordained a deacon in 1957; an Elder in 1960; and in the same year came into Full Connection. He graduated with honors from Marion High School in 1952, Emory and Henry College in 1955, being first in his class, and received a bachelor of divinity degree from the Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia, in 1958.

His appointments included New Church, Eastern Shore District; Associate, Epworth, Norfolk District; Grace, Roanoke District; and Carmel and Coles Point, Rappahannock District.

In recent years, Mr. Blevins had been on disability leave because of partial paralysis. He died on Easter Day, April 7, 1985, while visiting in the home of his daughter and son-in-law. He and his wife, Miriam, were living at 2209 Kings Brook Drive, Richmond, Va., at the time of his death. Being on disability, Reuben was chaplain for Handicaps Unlimited of Virginia and volunteer with the Center for Independent Living and the Adult Development Center.

Surviving are his wife, Miriam Walters Blevins; a daughter, Mrs. Martha Joy Blevins Brissette; two sons, Benjamin Edward and William Wesley Blevins; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Wesley Blevins, Sr.; two sisters, Mrs. Margaret Hall and Mrs. Betsy Testerman and one brother, David Blevins.

A superintendent listening to the various comments from members of Reuben's congregations concerning his excellent preaching, compassionate pastoral care, and gentle, Christian spirit, would have to conclude that Reuben was one of the "salt of the earth" persons. Having made his choice to become a preacher at a very young age, Reuben never swayed from his calling.

Even during his time of disability he continued to be an inspiration to many. Those of us who knew him miss his constant smile, gentle manner and his deep concern for all peoples.

A memorial service was conducted at Welbourne United Methodist Church by the Reverends Emmett W. Cocke, Jr., Larry O. Tingle, and Rhonda VanDyke Colby on April 13, 1985.

Joseph T. Carson, Jr.
James "Jim" Richard Couchman. 1929-1985. James Couchman, or Jim as we all called him, was a special person. William Shakespeare, in his play "Julius Caesar," had Brutus say

of the great emperor of Rome, "The elements were so mixed in him that all nature might rise up and say to all the world, 'This was a man'." Jim's humanity was beautiful to behold. His laughter filled the room, and his sense of humor made us all laugh at ourselves when life got more serious than it ought to be. He helped us all to "smell the flowers" along the busy pathway of life.

But Jim was God's man. Born on February 2, 1929, in Covington, Kentucky, Jim initially intended to seek a career in music, but through a heartwarming experience while still in high school, Jim experienced God's call to full-time Christian service. Jim responded with that enthusiasm that was so much a part of his nature and entered Asbury College in Wilmore, Kentucky, where he received the B.A. Degree in 1951. The next Fall, Jim entered Asbury Theological Seminary and was graduated with a Master of Divinity Degree in 1955. His graduate education also included a Master's Degree in Education from the College of William & Mary in 1960. Jim began his ministry while he was still in college, serving Bethelridge and moving on to Hinton while he was in seminary. Upon graduation, Jim moved to North Carolina where he served Grace-Trinity in Elizabeth City, N.C., and Newland-Grace. In 1958, Jim transferred to the Virginia Conference and began his ministry in New Kent and went on to serve Walmsley Boulevard, Aldersgate, Blackstone, First (Newport News) as Associate, Shackelfords, and Trinity (Poquoson). A lot of loving ministry was packed into those years. All who came to know him thank the Lord for the moments in which he touched their lives. His humility was natural because it was strength of conviction tempered always by God's love. If you were privileged to hear Jim preach, you also knew that he did so under one banner: "I claim to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified," (I Cor. 2:2) Jim's great joy in life was in seeing another find new life in God by coming to have faith in our Lord, Jesus Christ. About a year ago I heard him share his faith with the graduating class at Poquoson High School. His sermon title was, "The Right Stuff." If ever a man demonstrated in life what he preached, we all received the perfect example of it that evening.

Who could imagine that Jim would leave us? But in the mystery that is life, God called Jim to eternal life early in the morning of May 7, 1985. We can only be grateful that we have his example for the remainder of our pilgrimage, and we can walk a bit steadier because we have seen in him Paul's great words, "For me to live is Christ and to die is gain." (Philippians 1:21) In my humanity, I miss him and have unashamedly said in tears, "He was my friend and I loved him." But faith demands that I rejoice knowing that heaven's banners are flying high because another great soldier of Christ has gone home.

A Memorial Service of Celebration was conducted at Trinity Church in Poquoson on Thursday, May 9, 1985, by the Rev. Rawle S. Porte, District Superintendent, assisted by Mrs. Carol Bookwalter, pastor's assistant at Trinity.

Herbert "Abe" Moyer
Charles Ribble Leedy. 1925-1985. Charles R. Leedy was born April 13, 1925, in Carroll County, Va. His parents were Gardner R. Leedy and Susie R. Leedy. Charles grew up as a farm boy in Carroll County, near Galax, Va. He attended Coal Creek High School. Later, he attended Ferrum Junior College and did his Conference Course of Study at Duke University.

Charles served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He was drafted at the age of 18 on July 14, 1943, and was to serve his country until March 28, 1946. For a little while, before he entered service, he worked in Vaughan Furniture Shop and he also worked there for a short period after his discharge from service.

On October 25, 1947, he and Beulah Cornette were married. Three children were born of this union: Nancy Hamblin, Cheryl Seaman and Charles Randall Leedy.

A short time after the marriage, the Leedys moved to Maryland where Charles worked for the Aberdeen Proving Grounds for approximately three years. He loved the mountains and he loved Virginia, and they returned to Galax where he worked for the Rhodes Dry Cleaners for 11 years.

Charles accepted Christ during a home visitation program directed by the Rev. Richard E. Hamblin, pastor of his home church, Bishops Chapel United Methodist Church, Galax, Va. Charles felt the call into the ministry and he became a local preacher on

May 17, 1962. His first appointment was The Little Walker Charge in Pulaski County (the Holston Conference). He served there for one year.

The following year he moved to the Wytheville Charge (the Holston Conference), where he served for two years. He then transferred to the Virginia Conference, where he served the following charges: Fairystone Charge (four churches) - four years; La Crosse Charge (three churches) - five years; Capeville Church - two years; and Matoaca Church - seven years.

One of the things Charles was able to accomplish at Matoaca Church was the building of a new parsonage. It was greatly needed and thanks to his leadership and the dedication of the good laymen of this church, the parsonage was built and is now totally paid for. Charles and his family moved into the parsonage on November 15, 1983. He did not get to take part in a dedication service, but he was able to see the new parsonage debt free.

Charles R. Leedy suffered a massive heart attack in Galax, Va., on April 17, 1985, and was admitted to the Twin Counties Community Hospital, where he passed away on Thursday, April 18, 1985.

Charles loved to preach. It was the greatest joy of his life. He never let salary or the size of the church he was going to bother him. His main concern was to serve his Lord.

Those who knew him will miss him. He has gone to his new appointment, the greatest and best of them all.

David I. Langston. 1954-1986. David Irving Langston was born May 5, 1954, of Bill and Nancy Langston, in Durham, N.C. On January 12, 1986, he took his life. He was part of a large extended family, centered in Roxboro, N.C. The family spent many weekends at his maternal grandparents. He great-grandfather was instrumental in starting the Brooksdale Methodist Church. David's grandmother had wished one of her grandchildren to become a minister, but she did not live to see this.

In 1963, the family moved from Durham to Roxboro. About three years later, his mother suffered a stroke from which she never fully recovered. After a long hospital stay, she lived at home, much longer than expected, and David was always attentive and loving.

During high school, David was active in the MYF and in the school band. After graduating in 1972, he attended a community college, majoring in industrial chemistry. One day he came home and announced he was going to become a minister. He attended Methodist College in Fayetteville. There he made many friends and escorted the senior citizen elected homecoming queen.

After Methodist College, David attended Wesleyan Seminary in Washington, D.C. He enjoyed exploring Washington, the beautiful campus, the practical orientation of the seminary and the fellowship of his classmates. His first assignment was in Front Royal. After becoming an Elder of the Church in 1983, he was assigned to Phoebus, near Hampton. During his second year there, he was briefly engaged to a lovely lady of the church there. He spent his last seven months at the Northumberland Charge in Burgess. He was active in the Conference disaster response team during the recent floods.

Though only a couple friends knew, David had been in counseling since he left the seminary. He did not leave a note so we can only speculate why. It became apparent from talking to others later, that this was not a spur of the moment decision. David was very good at hiding his pain. It was only afterwards that the clues he sent to different friends and relatives formed an alarming picture.

David had many talents and interests, some unique within the family. He was the only one who could sing or play a musical instrument. He was an expert organist. He was the only member of the extended family to ever jump out of a plane, and the first to solo. He was gregarious, a natural organizer and instigator. He had a natural talent for gadgets and for fixing things. Arriving in Phoebus, he immediately knew something was wrong with the furnace, and the repairs made a nice reduction in the fuel bill. David was an excellent cook, collecting recipes from gourmet magazines and families of his churches. At each of his new churches, he would invite the congregation over and prepare all the food himself. His friends would invite him to dinner and he would offer to bring the dinner with him. He also had a creative talent and a love

for children that showed in his planned activities and play with them.

As a minister, David was excellent and well-loved by his congregations. With the tolerance and respect for the individual instilled by his parents and the experience of both large and small towns, David appreciated people of all walks of life. He labored to bring the Gospel to all members of the community. His theological studies were well tempered by actions. It was an immense comfort to the family to hear from so many people of the ways David had helped them. We mourn his passing and grieve over his torment. But we thank God for his life, his gifts and contributions. We know he lives on as a part of the many lives he touched.

William Brooks Langston

Minutes for 1987. **John Sterling Kellington** (January 12, 1919 - October 23, 1986) was born in Mamaronick, NY to Alfred Frank and Mary Higham Kellington. It was Sunday morning and nearby church bells were ringing.

John was a direct descendent of John Hancock. Also the direct descendent of John de Kellington, his son Thomas, and grandson Alexander, who were the first three rectors of Kellington Church, Kellington, England, from 1185 through 1239. John was raised in the Episcopal Church.

John spent much of his childhood aboard ship and in England with his mother and grandmother. It was his grandmother who cultivated his love for books. John was an excellent poet.

The family moved to Deep Creek, Va., when John was thirteen. He loved the Dismal Swamp where he hunted, fished, and trapped daily. John was an excellent swimmer and a crack shot. He once shot an apple off his grandmother's head with a .22 rifle.

After meeting Elsie Lee Bland in 1936 while attending Deep Creek High School, they were married in 1940. While serving as a Sunday school teacher and working with their youth of Deep Creek Methodist Church, John decided to enter the ministry. He first completed an apprenticeship as a shipfitter.

John served his first church as a student pastor while attending William and Mary College. Morrison Methodist Church had a handful of members in an old wooden building. Three years later, John moved to Toano, having built a strong congregation and a beautiful brick church at Morrison. The Toano charge, Mount Vernon and Tabernacle, was John's favorite assignment. He also served the New Church Charge, Berea, Pittsville, Atlantic and Wattsville; the Pembroke Charge, Pembroke and Hogges Chapel; Shady Grove at Ellison; Henderson on the Northern Neck; Cape Charles; the McDowell Charge, McDowell, Totten, Doe Hill, and McKindre; Buckroe Beach; and Basic.

John was ordained Deacon on October 17, 1951, and Elder on June 15, 1955. Noted for his excellent speaking ability and his formal Episcopal-styled church services, he brought many people into the church. His sermons were short but factual.

His favorite hymn was "The Church is One Foundation," his favorite speaker, Fulton J. Sheen, and he most admired Mother Teresa.

John was a wise counselor whose advice was sought after by members of many denominations in all walks of life. He loved to work with the down-trodden, slowly and patiently restoring them to a happy and purposeful life. He often quoted Jesus saying, "It is not the well, but the sick who need a physician."

After retiring in 1973, John and Elsie continued their ministry through Christian Manor, a Christ-centered health-care facility. After selling Christian Manor in 1982 due to health reasons, John continued to minister to the community of Waynesboro in the local coffee shop until his death on October 23, 1986.

On Sunday morning, December 21, 1986, from the pulpit of St. Thomas Episcopal Church, where Joseph and Cheryl Kellington are members, an announcement was read: "John Sterling Kellington [II] was born today."

Surviving in addition to his wife, Elsie, are two sons, John Wesley and Joseph Andrew; one daughter, Catherine Anna; two grandsons, John Wesley, Jr., and John Sterling, II; four granddaughters, Heather Lynne, Carrie Anne, Laurie Lee, and Mary Catherine; and seven step grandchildren.

John Wesley Kellington

Charles Gallagher Hurlock, who last served in Pennhook, passed into eternal life May 24, 1986, and was buried from the Cokesbury United Methodist Church near Hurlock, Md., the same rural church in which he first received the call to ministry as a boy. Born June 21, 1938, to Charles M. and Ruth Hurlock, he spent his boyhood years working on

the family farms on Maryland's Eastern Shore. As a young man, he served in the Army Intelligence Corps, and graduated from Western Maryland College and Crozier Theological Seminary. However, he never forgot the land and people among whom he grew up, and devoted his ministry to serving in the rural churches of Delaware, Maryland and Virginia.

He loved rural people, but had the personal experience not to romanticize the rural life. He knew its blessings, but also the hardships and disappointments and knew the bitterness and narrowness that could be engendered in its people. The gift of his heritage allowed him to recognize and confront perversity that an "outsider" might never see.

His gift as a carrier of the Good News lay in his person, which was testified to by the instinctive friendship he enjoyed with children, animals, and the pure in heart. He was not noted as a "pulpiteer," but many instructive lessons for individuals were begun by his asking a listener a slow, disarming question, "Well, now tell me this..."

The tragedies of his own life deepened his presence but at times made him impatient with much of institutional church life. He never spoke of his own illness and seldom of his losses, but having lost his own son to a heart defect in childhood, he had a special ministry to other parents who had lost children as a member of Compassionate Friends.

A devoted family man, who often put family needs above the chance for "higher" appointment, Charles is especially missed by his wife and two daughters. His wife, the former Linda Insley, returned to her mother's home in Salisbury, Md., following her recovery from surgery, and the youngest daughter, Anne, is with her. Tamara B. Hurlock is attending Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg.

Robert Gribbon
Melvin Lee Steadman, Jr. 1932-1986. Melvin Lee Steadman, Jr., a thirteenth-generation Virginian, was born on May 14, 1932, in Falls Church, the son of Ruth Hirst and Melvin Lee Steadman. From the age of eight he knew he was destined for the ministry, and at age 17 became a student pastor with his Uncle, Dr. George G. Oliver, at Dulin Church in Falls Church. He completed his higher education at Randolph-Macon College and Wesley Theological Seminary. He served with honor and integrity the following appointments: King William; Pender; Gainesville; Harmony, Hamilton; Dunn Loring; Memorial, Virginia Beach; and St. James, Alexandria. He was the first Historian for the Virginia Conference and served for 25 years in that capacity.

It was history and genealogy, indeed, that provided for Melvin a further opportunity to work in God's name. He was ever anxious to share the remarkable breadth and depth of his knowledge with others, that their lives might be enriched. His book, Falls Church by Fence and Fireside, is not only the most definitive history of that Virginia town, it had become a classic in his own lifetime—a tribute many authors never know. But he was an activist, as well, in the best sense of the word. His research and documentation established the Old Stone Church in Leesburg, Va., as the first site of the Methodist denomination in America. The site was subsequently made a Shrine, with Melvin serving as founder and director of the Old Stone Church Foundation. He suggested and assisted in founding the Methodist Historical Society of Northern Virginia, the first District Society in Methodism and the prototype of all since. He was curator and editor of Volume III of "Methodism in Northern Virginia"; contributing editor of "The Virginia United Methodist Heritage" and the author of over twenty articles in the "Dictionary of World Methodism." His one deep regret was that he was unable to accept the editorship of The Upper Room when it was offered to him.

He was a director of the Sully Foundation, the Fairfax Historical Society, and the Virginia History Federation. He was Consultant in History to the counties of Fairfax, Loudoun, Prince William and the city of Falls Church. He was a life member of the Virginia Historical Society, a member of the Southeastern Historical Society of the United Methodist Church, the National Genealogical Society and numerous other historical organizations. He served as Chaplain of the Haymarket Fire Department, the Loudoun Memorial Hospital and the Fairfax Hospital.

In his truly dedicated interests and efforts, Melvin offered God's comfort and joy to all people. He shared with them his own vast storehouse of knowledge and, just as importantly, he listened with warm and undivided attention to what they in turn had to

say, be it ever so trivial or redundant by comparison. A friend and fellow historian tells of the sense of personal exhilaration he felt at Melvin's eager and enthusiastic questioning about his own project. Melvin made one feel good about oneself and one's worth. Bishop Kenneth Goodson described Melvin as "an Israelite without guile."

In a memorial service held on February 7, 1986, at Culpeper, Va., a fellow minister ended his prayer this way:

"And ultimately because of You, God, Melvin has written his name in kindness, mercy and love on the hearts of the thousands he met. He wasn't perfect. But he was a masterpiece."

He died on January 30, 1986, in Culpeper, Va., where he had retired on disability. He was buried in his beloved Falls Church and leaves to continue his ministry, his wife, Beverley Teeter Steadman; his mother, Ruth Hirst Steadman; two sisters, Mildred Pappas and Ruth Ellen Stortz; two children, John and Elizabeth; four stepchildren and five grandchildren.

Thomas Jennings

Arthur Linwood Stevenson. 1891-1986. Arthur Linwood Stevenson was born on September 25, 1891, at Cobb's Station, Northampton County, Va., to Thomas Edward and Mary Brickhouse Stevenson. At his birth his mother prayed that he would feel the call to ministry. Attending Salem Church with his family, he early heard this call. His mother studied with him, encouraged and inspired him. Setting high goals, he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Randolph-Macon College in 1912, Bachelor of Divinity from Vanderbilt in 1914, Master of Sociology at Duke in 1928, and did graduate work at University of North Carolina. At Vanderbilt he met and married Mary B. Peebles, a student at the Missionary Training School. A woman of great faith, she inspired and strengthened his ministry. The children followed their footsteps, the daughters marrying ministers and the son becoming a minister.

Admitted to the Virginia Conference in 1914, A. L. Stevenson served his church with devotion and distinction. Charges included Wachapreague-Dorchester, Allen, Buckingham, Orange, Appomattox, Kenbridge, Crozet, Tappahannock, Montross, Scottsville. He was a man of liberal faith, deep convictions, superb self-discipline, dedicated to a broad spectrum of ministry--the ministry of all of life.

Arthur loved his family, considered life an adventure and problems a challenge, all people as important. He was characterized by rare ambition, remarkable vitality, keen insights, also exhibiting rare business acumen. From 1929-1935 he was Financial Secretary of the Children's Home Society of Virginia. Challenged to help churches with building plans and financial goals, he was instrumental in building Tappahannock Memorial church. From 1949-1958 he traveled the U. S. directing financial campaigns for the General Board of Church Extension. Believing that money has great power for good, he established the annual Stevenson Holy Land Travel/Study Award at Randolph-Macon. He donated a Foyer at Smith's Grove Church, Dinwiddie County; a historical highway marker for Salem Church; and aided family members.

After retirement, he reveled in family gatherings and avocations. An avid gardener, he had three gardens yearly--two in Florida and one in North Carolina. He became a world traveler, mingling with the people, using local transportation rather than planned tours. He gave travel lectures to civic clubs, published travelogues. An author, he wrote The Story of Southern Hymnology, Native Methodist Preachers of Virginia series, and The Story of the Stevensons.

A. L. Stevenson died on February 24, 1986, second in seniority among the ministers of the Virginia Conference. His funeral was conducted at Washington Street Church, Petersburg, by Rev. E. C. Priddy, Rev. Floyd Carroll, and Rev. Hudson T. Hornsby. Interment was in Southlawn Cemetery. He is survived by Mrs. Claude Collins, Charleston, W.Va.; Rev. Linwood Stevenson, Margate, Fl.; Mrs. J. W. Stonebraker, Riverdale, Ga.; eleven grandchildren; eleven great-grandchildren.

Arthur Stevenson could have said with the Apostle Paul: "I have fought a good fight...I have finished my course...I have kept the faith." **Elizabeth Stevenson Collins**
Harvey Kennerly Swann. 1902-1986. My father was born in Caroline County, Va., one of eight children given to Fannie Kennerly and Willie Harvey Swann. His early participation in helping to support the family and lack of available high schools in rural Virginia prevented his completion of high school as a teenager.

However, his interest in an education and his desire to preach were never forgotten. In his early twenties he borrowed \$10.00 from a friend and left his home (then Richmond) to ride the train to Ferrum College. As did most young people attending Ferrum, he paid his way by working for the school. He completed high school and junior college by working at the dairy barn and teaching history to the high school classes during his senior year.

Ferrum meant a great deal to Daddy because it offered an opportunity to so many that had nowhere else to turn. He played baseball and never got tired of playing, coaching, or in later years watching the sport.

At Ferrum he began a lifetime of taking a stand on issues that seemed worthwhile whether in the classroom, community, or conference floor. His last year at Ferrum he represented the school in the statewide debating contest and lost only in the finals to a UVA senior.

At Ferrum Daddy found the most important thing in his life, a pretty brunette from Chatham, Va. Martha Lois Harris won his heart and they were married May 27, 1928, after graduation by the Rev. I.L. Llewellyn who was the school Chaplain. The Llewellyns were close family friends until their death.

Harvey and Lois (who became Brownie to everyone) were blessed with three children, Harris in 1929, Lois Llewellyn in 1933, and William Cosby in 1937.

Daddy became Pastor of Kenwood Church near Ashland in 1928 and attended Union Theological Seminary while working the night shift at the Liggett and Myers Tobacco Company. His desire and determination to further his education never ceased. For years he spent evenings studying in the office often to the wee hours of the morning. He took his vacations and attended theological schools until he earned his Doctorate of Theology.

He left Kenwood and served pastorates at Huddleston, Painter, Prince George, Fieldale, Marquis Memorial, Buena Vista, Belmont, Trinity, Bassett, Ferebee-Halstead, and Park View in Lynchburg where he retired in 1967 because of poor health.

Daddy was first a preacher but loved the ministering almost as much as preaching. No one called for help and got turned aside and his summers were always busy because he was in demand to hold old fashioned revivals for ministers throughout the conference.

The shortage of teachers in World War II gave him an opportunity to participate in two areas he loved--teaching and working with young people. He never tired of young people whether teaching, counseling, or coaching the girls' softball team.

Daddy's last years were spent in ill health but still keen of mind. He passed away in his sleep October 7, 1986. He was laid to rest in the cemetery at Forest Grove United Methodist Church in a service conducted by the Pastor Grant Bomberger and Daddy's District Superintendent Bernard Via.

He is survived by his beloved Brownie, his three children, and seven grandchildren.

Harris Kennerly Swann
Malcolm P. Maples, Sr. 1916-1986. "Where there is no vision, the people perish." Proverbs 28:18. More than one who just owns a vision about how life might be, Malcolm "Mac" P. Maples shared his with those he ministered. He lived his life understanding the unique economy of grace, the more one gives, the more one receives. In sharing this vision, he shared himself and witnessed to the grace God shared with us in Jesus Christ.

After a career serving his country in military service, Mac received the call to the ordained ministry. He served Schuyler from 1966 to 1972. While there he was ordained deacon in 1969 and was made an associate minister in 1970. He later served at Rapidan and Mineral. He retired in 1981, but continued to pastor churches until his death in May 1986. As a pastor, Mac made Christ's love real for the congregations and communities he served. His ministry was a sharing of the vision of God's kingdom by simple acts of kindness and generosity and by the sharing of himself.

Besides his wife, Rose, he is survived by two sons, Malcolm P. Maples, Jr., of New York and Mallie E. Maples of Mineral, Va.

Those who knew Mac as pastor, friend, husband, and father will not forget the vision he shared. Gratitude is the memory of the heart. We who knew him will not forget him and will continue to be strengthened by the vision he shared. Both the

church he loved and the people he knew had been strengthened by his ministry. We are grateful for having known him and will remember his life and ministry with us. Mac's life was his ministry and his ministry was his life. **Timothy R. Gerde**

John Archibald McKenry, Jr. 1914-1986. It was in the fall (1948) when assigned to Farmville--that we first heard the name of John A. McKenry, Jr. Everyone was talking about that attractive young minister, full of life and vitality and who had brought new life to the Prince Edward Charge. He was an innovator, so fresh and clean with new ideas. People loved him and his young family.

The next we heard of this remarkable man--was in the building of a new and larger Wesley Memorial Church on the edge of Richmond's Church Hill. It took a bit of "doing" with so modest a congregation. There was that "mile of dollars" out on the Mechanicsville Pike that made the difference. Who but John McKenry would ever think of such a thing! It made you want to meet the man, --so many were the stories told of him and of his almost magical ways.

Then came the Winchester District. We were in the Bishop's cabinet together, with adjoining Districts, often in each other's homes, dreaming and planning as we shared food. It was then that we saw him--as an administrator. He cared for each of his ministers. We saw his concern for his churches and desire for Kingdom building.

The Men of the Church always liked John. The lay-folk at Ghent Church, Norfolk, got into their heads that no other minister would quite meet their needs. They must have John. Reluctantly--he was removed from Winchester to fulfill the wants of Ghent Church.

At Clarendon Church, in the early '60s, John became my mother's pastor. It had been my father's last pastorate and Dad was now gone. John ministered to my dear mother in the closing years of her life, in a sad and debilitating illness. He was ever faithful at the nursing home. We saw his bedside manner and our mother's love and trust in him. We saw the faithful pastor in this winsome, loving man. He held my mother's funeral.

Fort Hill Church, Lynchburg; First Church, Newport News; and Washington Street, Alexandria--were the three great pastorates in the closing decades of his long and distinguished career. In each of these we preached for him in revivals, and we saw the warm heart of the flaming evangel in action. John believed in reaching out to people. He made his churches grow through constant pastoral visitation and evangelistic outreach. He always said: "I must leave a church stronger than when I found it."

In later years--we came to minister to John--in the days of his eye surgery at MCV, downtown Richmond. It was here that we saw his patience, his durability, his faith and his indomitable optimism. The greatness of his inner character was shown under the stress of those convalescent days. He never complained. There was never a negative note. He always sang praises to the glory of God. There was his characteristic laugh, his usual joke and the twinkle in his eyes.

Retirement eventually came--after 42 years of active ministry--in June, 1980. John always said: "The next thing to being a college president--is to own a college for yourself." He and Natalie were good managers. They had previously bought the old Randolph-Macon College property at Boydton. They loved it. We would visit this loving couple in their Boydton home and see their happiness and John's enthusiasm for "his" college.

On Saturday, August 31, 1985, John and Natalie returned to Fort Hill Church, Lynchburg, to celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary with a complete re-enactment of the original, full-scale traditional wedding. In the hushed reverence of that magnificent occasion, before their family of four children, six grandchildren and many friends, they renewed their vows taken fifty years before.

This distinguished minister and his dear wife (the former Natalie Paris), both Lynchburg natives, have every reason to be proud of their family; the Rev. John A. McKenry, III, an ordained minister serving at Idledale, Colorado, the father of three children; Mrs. Garnett J. Mayhew (Betty) of Lynchburg; Mrs. R. James Callis III (Natalie Sue) of Johnsonburg, N.J.; and James Paris McKenry of Carson City, Nevada, father of two daughters.

On Friday morning, October 10, 1986, 7:30 a.m., there was the passage of two "angels." As the spirit of John Archibald McKenry, Jr., made its way to heaven--simultaneously there was the birth of little Benjamin Michael Gillepsie--John McKenry's first great grandchild.

His stately funeral was held the following Tuesday, October 14, 1986, at 11:00 a.m. at Fort Hill Church with Bishop Robert M. Blackburn, Supt. William E. Knight, Associate Pastor Robert Carter, and Pastor Walter S. Green, III, officiating. Also the Rev. John A. McKenry, III, and the writer participated.

The family and friends all remember with gratitude--his tall frame, his happy outgoing smile, his jovial spirit and his fun-loving manner. We remember how he loved people. He was to us a man "larger-than-life" with a real measure of true greatness.

He has touched our lives -- and we are so much the better for having been with him.

John Wynn Myers

Otis L. Jasper. 1900-1986. Otis L. Jasper was born to Daniel and Martha Jasper on July 16, 1900, at Woodlawn, Va. He was confirmed as a member of the Woodlawn Methodist Church at an early age and later served as Sunday School Teacher, Class Leader, and Trustee. While serving in these several capacities, he felt that God had called him to preach. That call was confirmed as he served as Local Preacher.

In 1936 he served the Mt. Zion Methodist Church, Hamilton, Loudoun County, Va., for six months, the very area in which he would later work tirelessly for thirty eight years. In 1942 he was appointed to the Lincoln Circuit, where he was serving since 1940.

After four years of Ministerial Studies and Theology at Morristown College, Tenn., he was ordained an Elder of the Washington Annual Conference of the then Methodist Episcopal Church in May 1944. Otis subsequently studied several semesters in Church Management at American University, Washington, D.C.

He was married to Etta Holland who died at an early age. In September 1950 he married Rachel Rector. Together they raised a daughter and twelve foster children.

His ministry was marked by personal sacrifices and many extra 'miles.' There was a period when he pastored as many as six congregations. Under his leadership, a number of persons became Lay Speakers, three of whom are now ordained ministers. He truly loved the church and the Lord of the Church. His great concern for each person and his willingness to help whenever and wherever possible, gained for him a place of love and honor in the lives of many. One of these persons, Mrs. Mary Howard, spoke of him this way: "He was maturity clothed for our sake with a touch of childhood. He was an eagle willing to fly with us sparrows so we could fellowship with him. He was depth appearing to be shallow in order to lead us shallow ones to greater depth. He was both teacher and student, both leader and follower. He was everybody's Pastor."

As a preacher, Otis was forthright, doing so with great conviction and compassion. He possessed an unflagging zeal for the work of the church and an indomitable spirit of generosity and good will. He worked hard in the construction of the Grace Annex Church building, thus moving the place of worship from Lincoln to Purcellville where most of the members were and are living.

He mirrored the Gospel which he proclaimed. Even when he was physically broken and his memory almost gone, he never lost his charm and graciousness. His funeral service on January 3, 1987, was indeed the celebration of a faithful and diligent ministry, and of the workings of the Grace of God in his life. The words of the hymn do fit very well:

"Servant of God, well done! Thy glorious warfare's past;

The battle's fought, the race is won, And thou are crowned at last. - - -

And still to God salvation cry, Salvation to the Lamb." **Melbourne H. Bailey**

Mary Louise Steele. 1902-1986. Mary Louise Steele was born July 2, 1902, in Stephens City, Va. She was the great-great-great-great granddaughter of Peter Stephens who was the first settler and founder of Stephens City, Va., in the Northern Shenandoah Valley, near the City of Winchester.

Mary Louise Steele was an honor graduate from Handley High School in Winchester and continued her education in three institutions of higher education: Madison College,

presently James Madison University, Shenandoah College and Conservatory of Music, and the University of Virginia.

She was ordained a Deacon in 1959, an Elder in 1961, and was received on Probation in 1963, and in Full Connection in 1965.

During her lifetime she was an accountant, teacher, nurse, and one of the first women to serve as a United Methodist Minister. She was Licensed to Preach in 1956 through Braddock Street United Methodist Church and starting in 1958 served ten years on the Winchester District as a United Methodist Minister. Her years of service included six Districts and eight appointments. Her appointments were Francis Asbury, Relief, Riverton on the Winchester District, followed at Irvington on the Rappahannock, Lakeland on the Danville District, Capeville on Eastern Shore, Jollivue-St. Stephens on the Staunton District, and Tyreeanna-Mt. Olivet on the Lynchburg District.

Her ministry was recorded in the April issue of the Advocate in 1963 with the following quote:

While the Advocate regularly carries much news of churches and ministers throughout the Virginia Conference, little is said about one small, but highly important clergy group - the lady pastors in our Conference. So far as the Advocate news is concerned, this particular group of ladies keeps so busy making history that they do not take time to record it and send it for publication.

The article which followed in the Advocate told of the ministry and life of Mary Louise Steele as one of the pioneers in ministry. Indeed she was one of the first to pave the way for those who have followed. In her call, she has opened the way for many who benefit today from her call and ministry.

She was a life-saver in more ways than one. She was granted a Certificate of Merit by the American Red Cross which was signed by the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt for her action on October 14, 1942, when she administered first-aid to a Mrs. Livewell who was badly cut by flying glass in an automobile accident north of Winchester. Mary Louise was very proud of the Certificate of Merit.

Mary Louise Steele in 1963 was one of seven women ministers in the Virginia Conference. In her death in 1986, there were more than one hundred and fifty. Thank God for her call and witness.

Wm. Anthony Layman

L. Harold DeWolf. 1905-1986. L. Harold DeWolf was born in Columbus, Nebraska, January 31, 1905. The son of a Methodist minister, he lived in several cities as a boy, the last stop being York, Nebraska, where Harold attended York College (now united with Westmar College, Iowa) for two years, then transferred to and graduated from Nebraska Wesleyan College. From there he went to Boston University School of Theology for his S.T.B., and a few years later for his Ph.D.

Harold served various churches in Nebraska and Massachusetts as pastor for fourteen years before becoming a lecturer, instructor and professor in Boston University. In 1965 he was named first dean of Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C., a position held until his retirement in 1972. During these seven years he helped establish Wesley as one of the top United Methodist seminaries in the United States.

In 1955, Harold traveled to Southern Rhodesia as a lecturer and consultant on theological education in Africa. His collaboration as representative of the Methodist "Conference" (American) with the Methodist "Synod" (British) resulted in Epworth Theological College, now a large ecumenical seminary in Harare, Zimbabwe. Later, he was sent by the Board of Higher Education in Southeast Asia to visit theological schools in Japan, Korea, the Philippines, Borneo, Thailand and India, again lecturing and holding seminars for their professors.

Evangelism, though a high priority, was to Harold only half of the Christian gospel. He believed that "by their deeds ye shall know them" challenged every Christian to work to overcome the problems of the world--hunger, poverty, fear, crime, war, injustice--and he, himself, wrote, lectured and traveled extensively in the field of crime and justice. He was President of the Board of Directors of "Offender Aid and Restoration in the United States of America." Each year at their annual banquet the L. Harold DeWolf Distinguished Service Award is presented to a worthy recipient. He worked in community groups to improve methods of justice, and frequently visited

inmates in city and state prisons. He was instrumental in bringing about the release of at least two prisoners who had received unjustified sentences.

There are fifteen published books by L. Harold DeWolf, covering all aspects of Bible, theology, ethics and criminal justice. Perhaps best known is A Theology of the Living Church, for many years the textbook for systematic theology in seminaries of many denominations. His Crime and Justice in America: A Paradox of Conscience was claimed by many judges, criminologists and law professors as one of the best definitive books on that subject. His last book, Eternal Life: Why We Believe, expressed his unswerving faith in immortality.

Harold DeWolf was a good man. The many tributes from former colleagues and students on his influence in their lives, his pride in his children, his never-failing kindness and compassion for disadvantaged and forgotten humanity, the high regard for his many contributions to The United Methodist Church, made him, to me, and many, one of God's chosen people, who will live on in his impact on countless lives.

Mrs. L. Harold DeWolf

Harry Wallace Craver. 1899-1986. Harry Wallace Craver was born October 20, 1899, in Baltimore, Md. When he graduated from Randolph-Macon College in 1926, his college yearbook "The Yellow Jacket" expressed how he was perceived in this way: "Harry has chosen a noble vocation which should prove very successful in the years to come... He is a lad of ability with many natural gifts..." His abilities and gifts contributed to a meaningful ministerial career which spans two Conferences and more than sixty years of service to his Lord.

The beloved "Reverend Mr. Craver" began his ministerial career in 1928 as a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church's Baltimore Conference. He and his wife Ruth, whom he affectionately called "Sweetheart", were blessed with two children: Harriet, and Wallace, Jr. In 1933 he went to serve the communities of Greenville and Mint Spring in the Shenandoah Valley. In the mid-1930s, he was transferred to Central Church in Arlington County, Va. When unification took place in 1939, he became a member of the Virginia Conference of the Methodist Church. He served Elm Avenue in Portsmouth, Cherrydale in Arlington, Ferebee-Halstead in Norfolk, Grace in Newport News and its successor, Noland Memorial, Park View in Portsmouth and Elm Avenue a second time. He retired from the active ministry in 1969.

Following his retirement, Harry continued to serve his Lord by providing ministerial services to the West Norfolk Church (later renamed St. Mark's) and to Monumental Church in Portsmouth as the Minister of Visitation. Upon the occasion of his final retirement, Monumental named him "Minister Emeritus" as an expression of their love and respect for his unending ministry.

Harry Craver was a special kind of person whom I was privileged to know as my pastor, friend and colleague in ministry. His understanding smile and wise counsel guided me when I made the decision to enter the ministry and continued to be a source of inspiration to me and countless others whose lives were privileged to be touched by this gentle man of God. Often he would share scriptures with me which were a source of inspiration to him through life's journey.

Harry's earthly pilgrimage ended on July 9, 1986, and memorial services were conducted at Monumental Church, Portsmouth, July 11 by this writer. Carl Haley, Harry's long-time friend and colleague, expressed a sentiment shared by many: "He exemplified the love of our Lord and so unselfishly expended himself for others. He was indeed a kindly Christian gentleman who will always be remembered and loved."

R. Franklin Gillis, Jr.

Floyd Jackson Wingfield, Sr., was born in Goode, Va., July 28, 1905. He died November 22, 1986, and was buried at the Virginia Memorial Gardens, Forest, Va. The Rev. Emory N. Tarpley, pastor of Epworth United Methodist Church, Thaxton; Rev. Willy N. Heggoy, retired, and Rev. William E. Knight, Superintendent of Lynchburg District, officiated at his funeral. Mr. Wingfield is survived by Annie Lawrence Wingfield, his wife of 62 years; two daughters; five sons; sixteen grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.

Shortly after he joined the church in 1915, at the age of ten, Mr. Wingfield felt "a definite call to preach" but his plans were interrupted three years later when,

following the death of his father, he was forced to drop out of school and go to work to help his mother support the family.

After marriage and seven children he pursued his dream by joining the Billy Sunday Club and preaching whenever he could. His pastor, Rev. T. E. Johnson, S., and two former district superintendents of the Lynchburg District, Dr. C. Cooper Bell and Dr. Thomas F. Carroll, took a great interest in Mr. Wingfield and encouraged him to "get on" with his dream. Through a course of study at Duke and Candler School of Theology and his first appointment at Huddleston his dream became a reality.

Mr. Wingfield took his first appointment at Huddleston in 1947, and served in active ministry 24 years. He also served Appomattox Circuit, South Amherst, Bayleys Chapel, Cashville, Burkeville, Asbury Memorial in Danville, and Bethlehem at Concord. During Mr. Wingfield's 21 years as a retired minister he was called on to fill in at Trinity, two occasions at the Forest Road Church and two occasions at Shiloh Church on the Lynchburg District and the South Amherst charge on the Charlottesville District. Nearly every Sunday he was invited to preach somewhere.

During all of this time as an active and retired minister his wife, Annie, was by his side, supporting him wholeheartedly in his ministry.

At one time all five of their sons were licensed preachers in the Methodist Church. Floyd, Jr. and Arthur are members of the Virginia Conference today. Wayne and Steve are ministers in the Wesleyan Church and Lawrence and the two daughters, Helen and Catherine, are active lay people in their respective churches.

Mr. Wingfield was a real soul winner and had a great way about him that reached the common people, leading many to Christ. He had a zest for evangelism until the time of his death.

His favorite Scripture was II Timothy 4:7: "I have fought a good fight. I have finished my course. I have kept the faith."

All who had the privilege of knowing Floyd, when reflecting upon his life and ministry, will certainly recall the words of Jesus, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Joseph T. Carson, Jr.

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