

HISTORICAL DIRECTORY



Collected and Compiled by

ROBERT EUGENE MEADER



F R A N C E S E H L E B R O W N

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Mrs. Frances Ehle Brown was born in Sandy Creek township, Oswego county, New York, on May 20, 1867. Later the family lived in the neighboring village of Pulaski, New York, and there on May 20, 1908, she was united in marriage with the Reverend George A. Brown, who was then pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Allegan, Michigan.

Mrs. Brown entered faithfully upon the work of pastor's wife, and the care of his three growing boys. With him she served in his pastorates at Upton Avenue, Battle Creek, at East Avenue, Kalamazoo, and later at Lyons, Coloma, Watervliet, Ganges, Cassopolis, and Paw Paw.

In 1833, they retired and made their home in Kalamazoo. As long as her strength permitted, she was interested and active in the Church School and Women's work of the Damon Methodist Church.

She passed away at Bronson Methodist Hospital, Kalamazoo, January 8, 1944, at the age of seventy-six.

Funeral services were held at the Damon Church on January 11, 1944, with the pastor, the Rev. J. R.

Steele in charge, assisted by the Rev. R. D. Wearne,
the Rev. Frank Wright, and the District
Superintendent, Rev. Raymond B. Spurlock. The
burial was at Camden, Michigan.



Fred W. Corbett

F R E D E R I C K W I L B U R C O R B E T T

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"Many are the things I remember of your father. I have always called him my spiritual father," wrote a young pastor recently. "It was he who gave me the push in those hard days of the depression. The theme of Fred Corbett's life is a statement he made to me shortly before he died - a statement that I have never forgotten: 'I have trusted Him all these years; I have no reason to doubt Him now'".

Born at Palmyra, Michigan, November 7, 1858, Fred Corbett died at Lansing, Michigan, in his 76th year, September 24, 1934. His parents were: Clark E. Noble Corbett, a Michigan pioneer of English descent, and Lucy Babcock Corbett, of early Dutch-American ancestry.

Fred was the seventh son. At the age of thirteen, he lost his father. Lucy, the mother, bravely continued the work of bringing up those of her ten boys and one girl who were still at home.

During his early teens, Fred went to live on the farm of George Humphreys, a Presbyterian local preacher, whose splendid Christian example was a

factor in the youth's determination to train for the ministry.

It wouldn't be hard to imagine the clear-skinned blue-eyed lad as a wide-awake pupil with a keen grasp of school subject-matter; for he won district spell-downs and mental arithmetic contests. He excelled in athletics, such as swimming and wrestling matches, often downing boys twice his size. This athletic prowess was later the means of his securing the loyalty of the older boys in the first rural school he served as teacher.

For secondary education, the boy attended school at North Adams and at Raisin Valley Seminary near Adrian, Michigan. Later, at Hillsdale College, where he joined the Delta Tau Delta Fraternity, Fred Corbett took the Liberal Arts course and gained a Teacher's Life Certificate. Henceforward he was an ardent student of theology, and a keen lover of nature, art and music.

Until his twenty-ninth birthday, Fred taught in various schools of the state. From Litchfield, he went as Superintendent of Schools to Reading, where he brought his bride, Allie Clarissa Cushman, in 1885. Here their eldest child, Carl, was born.

In 1887, Mr. Corbett united with the Michigan Methodist Episcopal Conference, which appointed him

successively to pastorates at Jonesville (where Lila was born), Montague (birthplace of Lucy), Saugatuck, Ewart, Paw Paw, Martin, and Springport. During most of these years (1887-1900 inclusive) he was a member of the Conference Board of Examiners.

The next great change came in 1900, when F. W. Corbett accepted the call to full-time Temperance work. He located in Adrian, where the family lived for nearly a decade. There the youngest child, Alice, was born. There the three eldest were graduated from Adrian High School, and Lila from Adrian College Conservatory of Music, as well. During a portion of this time, the busy father was occupying the pulpit of the West Adrian Congregational Church, serving that community on Sundays, while his week days were devoted to the great cause for which he fought. Fred Corbett's clear speaking voice was a great asset. Skilful in debate, eloquent in his sermons and addresses, gifted as a promoter and organizer of temperance forces, Fred Corbett was ever in demand wherever an orator was needed in the struggle against alcohol and its attendant evils.

Entering heart and soul into the Temperance work, he became State Lecturer, Chairman of the State Central Committee of the Prohibition Party in

Michigan, and member of the National Committee. As such, he traveled extensively, covering forty-seven of the forty-eight states, lecturing, speaking on Chautauqua programs, conducting successful local option campaigns, and accompanying the famous "Flying Squadron" to the west coast. In 1910, as Prohibition candidate for governor of Michigan, he polled the largest vote ever received on that ticket.

The historian of Peoples Church, East Lansing, writes as follows:

"In July 1908, he accepted a call to the newly organized Peoples Church at East Lansing, where he conducted that body through a very successful year, during which membership increased, a building site was secured and paid for, and plans started for a church building.....He was a man of deep religious and moral convictions, versatile, convincing and friendly in his contacts with his fellowmen."

It was Dr. Wm. H. Phelps, then Superintendent of Lansing District, who persuaded Fred Corbett, in May 1918, to become supply pastor of the new Mt. Hope Avenue Methodist Church, upon the death of Rev. Wm. Benn, its first minister. When Conference met that September, Rev. F. W. Corbett rejoined the Michigan Conference - a very happy event.

In order to be nearer the Mt. Hope Church the family sold their property on West Ionia Street and bought a house on West Barnes Avenue, where they

lived until after his decease. During his pastorate, the church membership increased phenominally, and the Sunday School grew so out of bounds that the enlargement of the church building became a major project, which finally materialized during the time when Rev. Maylan Jones occupied the pulpit. The church was dedicated in January, 1929. Strangely enough, F. W. Corbett, holding a retired ministerial membership at Mt. Hope, was treasurer of the Building Committee at the time of dedication.

His last appointment was to Asbury Methodist in Traverse City, in the fall of 1921. Mr. Corbett's years of active membership in the Michigan Conference gave place to a superannuated relationship when he retired in September 1922, and returned to Lansing.

"City Father" seemed an especially appropriate title for the patriarch of many years' activity in causes devoted to civic righteousness. Elected alderman for his ward, Fred W. Corbett helped to accomplish municipal legislation that resulted in: the building of the great viaduct crossing the Grand River and the Grand Trunk tracks at Logan Street, to which project he devoted a great deal of time; the erection of the Children's Home near Oak Park; the improvement of the traffic system; and the enlargement of the children's playground facilities.

Meantime he continued his Bible study, and teaching, for he was a diligent Bible scholar. Youth came to him with their problems. Little children loved him. His great faith in God was reflected in his faith in persons. Like the Duke in "As You Like It," he could find "tongues in trees, books in running brooks, sermons in stones, and good in everything."

The last months of his life were preeminently peaceful. Young preachers still came to him for books; for help in their Conference courses; for suggestions regarding their parishes; for guidance and inspiration. His unflinching sense of humor helped them to cast aside their worries. Better yet, his sympathetic understanding of others' needs and his rare gift of friendship gave them confidence. Intensely human, but devoutly religious, he reflected a Christ-like personality that drew many toward the Christ whom he served.

A serious heart condition caused his death September 24, 1934.

His niece, writing to the daughter in Malaya at the time of his decease, said, "I cannot realize that he was nearly seventy-six. Age was never a part of Uncle Fred. He radiated the spirit of eternal youth."

"Father was sweet-tempered, and always ready to sacrifice himself to help anyone in trouble," remarked Mrs. Corbett.

Besides the widow, there survive one son, three daughters, three grandsons, and one granddaughter.

A double wedding ceremony performed by their father in 1922, united Lucy with George E. Moray (son of a Methodist Protestant minister), and Alice to Elbert E. Chapman. The Chapmans have three children: Dick, with the Ninth Army in Germany; Esther and Jerry, children at home. Carl's son, Jack, carries on the family name, Corbett.

Lila Corbett went to Malaya early in 1921, under the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society. At Easter-time, 1942, she returned to America, during her fourth term. Although now teaching in Lansing, she is still connected with the Women's Division of Christian Service, Board of Missions and Church Extension of the Methodist Church.

Rev. F. W. Corbett's widow, Mrs. Allie C. Corbett, is living with Mr. and Mrs. George E. Moray and Lila at the Moray home, 2604 S. Logan St., Lansing 10, Michigan. Mrs. Corbett is nearing her 85th birthday. Although exceedingly frail, she is cheerful and maintains a fine Christian spirit.

Among many glowing testimonials to the winsomeness of a life rich in Christian experience, two of a recent date stand out superbly - the one from his youngest daughter; the other from a dear, life-long friend.

"I remember that beautiful last sermon on a hot Sunday morning, when he was sitting down beside the pulpit, coat off, white shirt on, just talking quietly and sweetly to the audience. Everyone knew he was ill, and seemed to sense that it would be his last time in the pulpit. It was very inspiring and very touching."

Alice Corbett Chapman

"Fred W. Corbett was a man of intense convictions who stood like a rock against evil. He was a strong foe of the licensed liquor traffic. He was well-posted, indefatigable, versatile and wise. He was the campaign manager in my first gubernatorial campaign. He was a superb co-operator, doing everything possible to promote Prohibition. He was always cheerful, hopeful, resourceful and optimistic though our funds were necessarily limited. It was one of the fine experiences of my life to have known Fred Corbett."

Dr. Frederick S. Goodrich,
Professor Emeritus of
Albion College.

Written by: - Lila M. Corbett
Lucy R. Moray





R I L E Y C . C R A W F O R D

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Riley C. Crawford was born at Richmond, Ontario county, New York, January 27, 1817.

When he was two years of age his parents moved to Canada, where they resided for six years and then came to Michigan in March, 1825, and settled on a farm in Troy, eighteen miles from Detroit.

On his eighty-fourth birthday, Mr. Crawford wrote:

"Very soon after I had entered upon my third year, my parents moved and settled in Yarmouth, upper Canada. In my ninth year we left the dominion of King George, and took shelter under the stars and stripes in Michigan, which was then an almost unbroken wilderness. Detroit was an old city of about 1,500 inhabitants. 'We crossed the big river, but not with steam ferry, as steam ferries were then unthought of by men.' We had a big scow, just sufficient to carry one full laden wagon, two oxen, and then it was rowed by six Frenchmen, all used to the business, all stalwart and strong; they could pull at the oar, and they had to pull strong where the current ran swiftest, to bring us in safety to land on this shore. There were thirteen families in our colony, all Yankees, having gone from the United States into Canada, but having failed to make their fortunes, and becoming disgusted with British rule, concluded to return to their first love. Each family brought all it had that was movable, cattle, sheep, swine, dogs and cats and one gray mare of years belonging to Uncle Ben Horton. Of the several boys in the colony, each took his turn,

in an hour's ride, upon the back of the old gray mare. We all enjoyed the bare back ride, and each had a longing for his turn to ride. Our wagons were drawn by stalwart oxen, and the scow in which we crossed the river was large enough for our team and the wagon to stand and give room for the six Frenchmen, three on each side, to sit, and pull at an oar, singing as they dropped their oars in steady stroke,

'Yah, pitty yah, pitty yah, yah Dana,
Yah, pitty yah, pitty yah, yah Da.'

.....
It was fun for us boys to see them row and hear them sing. We were two whole days in crossing, and had all our traps safely landed at the foot of Woodward avenue. After tarrying two nights in Detroit, we took up our line of march for Troy and Avon, in Oakland county, some portions of our colony settling in each of these townships. Woodward avenue was then called 'Saginaw turnpike,' and was graded six miles out from the city, and from there, until we reached the plains, called Royal Oak, we had to wade through marshes, and wallow through mud, from one to twelve inches in depth. 'O, the merry days when we were young.'

.....
On our arrival in Troy, in the early part of March, the frost had left the ground, and we had but a few nights of slight freezing weather, and in the latter part of April our cattle and sheep were feeding bountifully in nature's pasture, in the timber forests of Michigan. In the early part of the coming winter I entered the new log schoolhouse, with its stick chimney and fire-place, with capacity for holding one-half cord of green wood, so you can form some idea of our morning fires, and during the cold days we could keep fairly comfortable by turning around frequently, sometimes with our faces and then our backs to the fire, and this process was easily done, as there were no backs to our benches to interfere with the change of position.

.....
Our schoolhouse was built on the corner of Deacon Marvin's farm, who, with several other families had settled in that neighborhood the year before we came. It was known ever thereafter as the Marvin schoolhouse, and for many years was the regular preaching place for

Methodists, Baptists and Presbyterians, with an occasional sermon from other ministers of other denominations.

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In the spring of 1835 I enlisted in an independent company of riflemen as their fifer, and had no expectation I should so soon be ordered to play 'Yankee Doodle' for my company to march to the seat of war, but no sooner had the autumn winds begun their moaning when our young territorial governor, Steven T. Mason, issued his proclamation, ordering all the military independent companies in the territory, with a certain per cent of militia, to be drafted, and all to march forthwith in haste to Toledo, then a small lakeport town on the Maumee river, at the head of Maumee bay, on a tract of land belonging to Michigan, but claimed by Gov. Lucas, of Ohio, and which Gov. Mason declared he would have and hold, if it cost him all the blood that coursed through his veins. Those were the very words he uttered in his address to his soldiers as they formed a hollow square and listened to his stirring address, for which we cheered him lustily, considering him a courageous commander-in-chief.

Well, we spent two nights and drilled one whole day upon the banks of the Maumee, and as no enemy hove in sight at which we could take aim, we packed our effects and took passage on two steamers having patriotic names such as Generals Jackson and Brady, and in good time we landed at the foot of Woodward avenue in Detroit, and without waiting a welcome from the city council, we bade our courageous governor good day, and keeping step with the music, called the 'Soldier's Return,' took up our line of March for Royal Oak, a distance of twelve miles, where a good, hearty dinner was furnished us, when, by order of our colonel, we broke rank and scudded to our several homes, where I met with a hearty welcome, and I presume the same was true of other veterans, after the long absence of ten days, for which term of service I received \$10, just because I could play the fife. About two weeks later we were called together at Pontiac and mustered out of service, and thus ended my military career, and so far as I know, I am

the only surviving soldier of that bloodless war.

.....

The next summer my father sold his farm in Troy, and settled in the township of Burns, Shiawassee county, one mile and a half northwest of this village of Byron, where I now make my home with my sister, who was about two years of age at the time of the change. One pleasant afternoon I took her out of the Shiawassee river, into which she had accidentally fallen while playing on its banks, and now she is paying me for saving her life by furnishing me a home in my declining years. I spent a portion of my time in assisting my father in his farm work until I reached the end of my twenty-first year, spending my winter months with my friends in Troy and Avon in attending school.

In the early summer of 1837 death came to our home, and my second sister, a girl of sixteen years of age, was the first to be laid to rest in the newly laid-out cemetery of Byron. Her departure brought great sorrow to my heart, and was the commencement of a train of thought that culminated in deep conviction for my sins, although I did not yield to be saved from them until the next summer, about a year and one month after her death, when I gave my heart to God and obtained assurance of pardon, and the Spirit bore witness with my spirit that I had passed from death unto life, and I was a new creature, old things having passed away, and all things had become new. I was working for my uncle on the farm at the time, and united with the church on probation at the Marvin schoolhouse, and held my membership with that class, received my license to exhort, written by Bro. Sapp, and was recommended by that class to the quarterly conference of Pontiac circuit for license to preach, with James Shaw and F. B. Bangs, preachers, and George Smith, presiding elder. My license to preach was given in May, 1841, and my recommendation for admission on trial in the Michigan conference was given at the same time."

Mr. Crawford was admitted on trial into the Michigan conference in 1841 and in 1843 he was

admitted into full membership and ordained deacon by Bishop Soule at the session of the conference held in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

He served the following appointments: Palmer, Richmond, Shiawassee, Livingston, Almont, Port Huron, Lapeer, Utica, Birmingham, Detroit City Mission, Battle Creek, Jackson, State Prison Chaplaincy, Niles, Ionia, Kalamazoo, Albion, Coldwater district, Centerville, State Prison Chaplaincy, St. Joseph, Allegan, Cedar Springs, Ionia district, Grand Rapids East Street, Grand Rapids Ames, Holland - a total of forty-seven years closing his effective ministry.

Riley C. Crawford died at the M. J. Clark Memorial Home, Grand Rapids, Michigan, November 18, 1910, having entered the Home when it was opened. His funeral was conducted by the Reverend A. T. Luther, assisted by the Reverends John Graham, D. D., James Hamilton, D. D., G. H. Birney, D. D., Charles Nease, W. F. Kendrick, D. D., J. A. DeGraff and J. W. H. Carlisle.

Mr. Crawford had the distinction of being the speaker at the founding of the Republican party "under the oaks at Jackson," and for many years took an active part in the State Historical Society. He was the oldest Methodist minister in the state

and served the longest as a member of the Michigan Annual Conference. At the session of the conference in 1906 he was presented with the conference cane, which afforded him much gratification.

"The Crawford Chair"

When the Reverend Riley C. Crawford was chaplain at the Southern Michigan Prison at Jackson, Michigan, he was approached one day by a prisoner who said that he appreciated the services of the chaplain and, being a cabinet maker, he offered to make something to show his appreciation. Mr. Crawford said he would like a writing chair. So the prisoner made a walnut chair with a writing desk fastened to one arm with a drawer under it and another drawer under the seat.

When Mr. Crawford had no further use for it he presented the chair to his friend, the Reverend Alexander T. Luther and his wife. When Mr. Luther retired and he and his wife moved into their own home in Ionia, Michigan, which had no study, this lovely chair provided a place for him to write. Mr. Crawford expressed the wish that the chair should be given to some minister in the Luther family, but if that could not be, that it be given to some minister.

Marriage

June 7, 1942, Riley C. Crawford was married to Mary Louisa Warren, daughter of Reverend Abel and Sarah Warren, who was born in Covington, New York, November 13, 1823.

She came to Michigan, in the arms of her mother, in the summer of 1824, and lived with her parents on their farm in Shelby, Monroe county, until the Reverend George Smith performed the ceremony which made her the wife of R. C. Crawford, then beginning his ministry in the Michigan conference.

She was converted when a child of less than eight years of age.

Her first charge as the wife on an itinerant was Richmond circuit, just organized with six Sabbath appointments. Her first effort at house-keeping was in a very small room known as the north wing of a farm house owned and occupied by Daniel Hall and family, about one mile north of what is now the village of Richmond.

The pastor's receipts for that year were \$150, \$60 of which was provided for by individual notes, given to be paid in the near future, and with which he bought his first buggy of John Riley, an Indian and a farmer of good repute. Quite a number of the aforesaid notes were not paid, and the young preacher

made the endorser, David Mansfield, good by turning over to him two valuable cows, donated to him for that purpose by his estimable wife, who had received them as a gift from her father.

While Mr. Crawford was chaplain of the state's prison at Jackson for three years, Mrs. Crawford was persuaded to accept the office of matron of the female department at a salary of \$300 per year with board for herself and husband. But after a few weeks she lost twenty-five pounds and gave up the position.

At St. Joseph she was a leader in the "woman's crusade" and marched at the head of sixty women to nineteen saloons in the city and sang and prayed in them with the one hundred or so men and boys crowding at the door and others inside smoking and drinking.

After forty-six years of active service, Mr. and Mrs. Crawford took a year for visiting and resting and spent some time with relatives and friends in Salem, Oregon, and Seattle, Washington. Their last charge before retiring was Holland, Michigan; then they made their home in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where an old time friend built for them Orchard Cottage home, within easy reach of East Street Church, where she died January 2, 1897.



Wilfrid A. Coley.

W I L F R I D A R T H U R E L E Y

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Wilfrid Arthur Eley, son of Albert and Catherine Eley, was born in Church Gresley, South Derbyshire, England, July 13th, 1884.

After leaving school, he worked in the Albert Eley's Grocery and Provision Stores, later becoming a member, with other brothers, of the concern.

Wilfrid was brought up from childhood in a Christian home and when he was thirteen years of age he publicly acknowledged Jesus Christ as his personal Saviour. In 1910, he was received as a full accredited local preacher in the Wesleyan Methodist Church. Later he spent a year in residence at Cliff College preparatory for the full time ministry.

In September 1911, Wilfrid Arthur Eley sailed for America arriving in October, too late for the session of the Michigan Annual Conference of The Methodist Episcopal Church held in Kalamazoo, Michigan, but was given an appointment on his credentials to the Fourteenth Street Church in Traverse City.

In 1913, he was married to Miss M. Edith Illsley of Woodville, England. To this union was born one

daughter, Winifrid H. Eley.

As the result of an accident in 1926, Mrs. Eley passed away in Mercy Hospital in Muskegon, Michigan. Mr. Eley was united in marriage June 26, 1932, to Miss Avis E. Lyon of Albion, Michigan.

Mr. Eley's ministerial record is as follows: Received on trial in the Michigan Annual Conference at its eightieth session in Hastings, September 8-13, 1915; Bishop William R. Burt, presiding; received into full membership, elected and ordained Deacon at the eighty-fifth session of the Michigan Annual Conference, at Battle Creek, Michigan, September 14-20, Bishop Theodore S. Henderson, presiding; elected and ordained Elder at the eighty-seventh session of the Michigan Annual Conference at Albion, Bishop Henderson, presiding; appointed pastor Fourteenth Street, Traverse City, 1911; Frankfort, 1915; Pellston, 1917; Rockford, 1920; Stevensville, 1922; Montague and Whitehall, 1926; Ovid, 1929; Boyne City and Boyne Falls, 1933; Lansing, Seymour Avenue, December, 1937.

To increase his usefulness in the ministry he has attended Garrett Biblical Institute at Evanston, Illinois, and summer schools at East Lansing.

This was written in 1943.

Wilfrid Arthur Eley died August 13, 1945. His last pastorate was the Seymour Avenue Methodist Church in Lansing, Michigan, where a memorial service was conducted in his honor with about thirty of his brother ministers present. Prayers were offered by Major B. A. Sharp of the Salvation Army, and by the Reverend E. K. Lewis. The Scriptures were read by the Reverend H. V. Wade.

Dr. Stanley Coors gave an excellent resume of his life and record. Six ministers acted as pall bearers. Interment was at Montague.

He was "a good minister of Jesus Christ."





A L E X A N D E R T . L U T H E R

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Alexanter T. Luther was born in Livonia township, Wayne county, Michigan, October 31, 1854, son of John B. and Mary Herrington Luther of English ancestry, the more recent of whom came from New England.

Mr. and Mrs. John B. Luther were married in Michigan, in Livonia township, Wayne county, in the early 1850s. Later they took up one hundred sixty acre homestead in Gratiot county, Michigan, from the government. They became the parents also of:

Marie, who married Burdette Willoughby and is deceased; and

John, who died at the age of three years.

John's death led to the conversion of his father and Alexander was brought up in a Christian home.

Alexander attended a rural school and later was graduated from the Ionia High School in 1881. At that time that high school was the only one between Lansing and Grand Rapids.

While he was in high school he met the girl

who became his wife three weeks after she was graduated from the Ionia High School in 1883. The date of their marriage was July 25, 1883 and her name was Etta May Talcott. She was born in Ronald township, Ionia county, Michigan, April 11, 1863, eight miles from Ionia.

Mr. Oscar Talcott and Mrs. Mary Ackles Talcott, parents of Etta May, were also the parents of

Lou, who married Dr. A. W. Chandler and lives now, in 1947, in Rockford, Illinois; and

Bertha B., who married H. H. Goodwin and resides at Walloon Lake, Michigan.

Early in life Alexander T. Luther was converted and almost at once felt that he should become a minister of the Gospel.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Luther went to Evanston, Illinois, where he enrolled in Garrett Biblical Institute and Mrs. Luther studied at the Conservatory of Music and the Female Seminary for one year.

After Mr. Luther had been in school for about a year he found a mission church outside the city limits of Chicago and rented a cottage in Evanston, where their oldest child was born November 27, 1884, and was named M. Blanche, who later married Benjamin F. Carter and now resides in East Lansing, Michigan. They became the parents of:

Clara Louise, who married Martin S~~u~~cha and they became the parents of three children and reside in Lansing, Mich.;

Florence, who married Richard Drullinger and they became the parents of two children and live in Traverse City, Michigan;

Alice Beulah, who married William Crissman and they became the parents of two children and have their home in Rahway, New Jersey;

Agnes Blanche, twin with Alice, who married Laurence Lipsett and they became the parents of two children and reside in a suburb of Buffalo, New York; and

Olin B., who married Norma Taunt and they became the parents of one child and live in San Diego, California.

On December 8, 1886, while A. T. Luther was yet a student in Garrett Biblical Institute, their son Edward Talcott was born in Chicago, Illinois; he married Beulah Gillett and they became the parents of Edna Ruth, who married Charles Rea and all of them reside in Portland, Oregon.

Mr. Luther completed his theological course in 1886 and in 1887 he joined the Michigan Annual Conference of The Methodist Episcopal Church at Lansing, Michigan. He was appointed pastor at Lowell, which was then on the old Ionia district. Here Earl C. was born October 21, 1888; he became a dentist, married (1) Kathryn Weltman, who died, (2) Edith Weltman and resides in Rockford, Illinois. Earl Luther's children are: John Alexander, who

married Ann Collins and they became the parents of two children and live in Chicago, Illinois; Jean, who married Robert L. Pierson and they became the parents of three children; and Betty Carroll, who married Fred Bloy and has one child.

Clara Louise Luther was also born in Lowell July 30, 1890. She married Howard C. Lawrence and they reside in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and became the parents of:

Luther E., who married Mary Kidder and they became the parents of one child and reside in Detroit, Michigan;

Dr. Howard C., who married Mrs. Winnie Conde and they became the parents of one child and live in Grand Rapids, Mich.;

Etta Margaret, who married Gaylord Gill and they became the parents of two children and reside in Grand Rapids, Michigan;

Paul Roger, who resides in Boston, Massachusetts;

Gordon, who lives with his parents; and

Walter, who also lives with his parents.

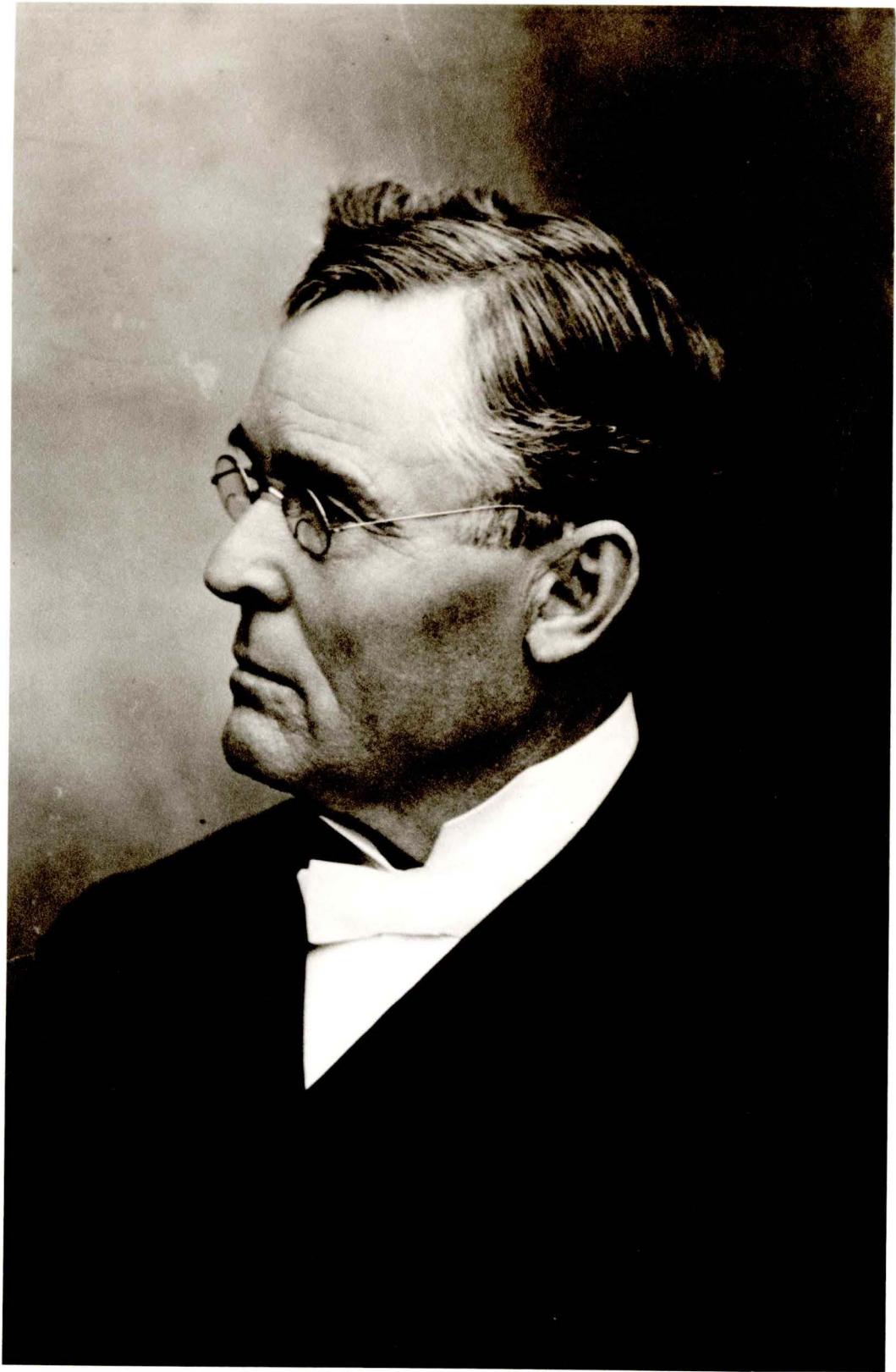
In 1892, Mr. Luther was appointed pastor at North Lansing and on July 21, 1893, their son, Clin Cady, was born; he was a soldier in World War I and served in France where he made the supreme sacrifice September 25, 1918. His body rests in the Lakeside Cemetery at Lake Odessa, Michigan.

Other appointments served by Mr. Luther were: St. Louis, Ovid, Holland, Lake Odessa, Grand Rapids

and Paw Paw. Being granted the supernumerary relation, he became the business manager of the Lincoln Hospital, Rochelle, Illinois, and Mrs. Luther accepted the position of matron. They remained for eleven years and then Mr. Luther took the retired relation in 1925.

Mr. and Mrs. Luther then returned to Ionia to live. They spent five delightful years at Penney Farms, Florida, returning to Michigan for the summers. They had built a comfortable home in Ionia and spent the last few years of Mr. Luther's life there. After four years of failing health he passed away January 14, 1942, having spent twenty-seven years in the Michigan Annual Conference as a good minister of Jesus Christ.

Funeral services were conducted in The Methodist Church in Ionia and not long afterward Mrs. Luther joined the membership of The M. J. Clark Memorial Home in Grand Rapids, Michigan.



A A R O N P I T T S M O O R S

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Aaron Pitts Moors was born in Oxford, Oakland county, Michigan, March 27, 1838, son of Rufus King Moors, who traced his ancestry back to New England in the 1830s, particularly Maine and Massachusetts. Rufus King Moors was known as a free man, that is, a man who had property.

Aaron's mother was Dorcas Pitts, whose ancestors were also from New England with some French in the ancestral line. Aaron had three brothers and two sisters.

When Aaron was eight years of age the family moved from Oxford to Greenville where the father took up land from the government.

Aaron went to live with an aunt in Ohio so that he could attend a seminary and made the journey a part of the way by stage coach and a part of the way he walked.

During the summers he worked for his father and his grandfather, the latter being owner of a plow factory and foundry in Greenville.

The first Methodist meeting in Greenville was

held in Aaron's father's home.

After leaving the seminary Aaron taught a rural school. Later he acquired a farm and in the summer of 1858 he was married to Cynthia Lazelle of Chautauqua, New York.

She was of New England parentage and attended school in the village where she was born. In early life she consecrated herself to the Lord and became a member of the Church of Christ. When quite a young woman she taught in the public schools of her native county. At the age of nineteen she was married to her own cousin, John Lazelle, and they became the parents of three children, the youngest of whom was Laura Augusta, who was born the same week that her father and the two other children died. Later Laura Augusta married a Mr. Douglass of St. Paul, Minnesota.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Moors resided for three and one-half years on their farm. They became the parents of three children, Carrie E., Edith and Mable. When three and one-half years old Edith died.

While visiting her daughter, Mrs. Douglass of St. Paul, Minnesota, in 1896, Mrs. Moors was attacked by the disease which made her a constant but uncomplaining sufferer and finally culminated

in her death February 4, 1899, in the parsonage home at Ovid, Michigan.

Mrs. Moors was a beautiful woman and gave to her husband and children a lovely home life and the daughters recalled with deep appreciation, many years later, the songs she sang and the devotion she gave to the service of her Lord.

After her death, the two daughters, Carrie and Mable, continued to live with their father and made a home for him.

In 1858, Aaron Pitts Moors was employed for six months as a junior supply preacher on Flat River circuit.

When he was sixteen years old he had been converted at his Grandmother Moor's knee and was dedicated by her to the Gospel ministry. At first he was opposed, but the call came and he was obedient and became a circuit rider in Michigan Methodism.

He was pastor at Muskegon in 1862-63. There were 13 members and a debt. Mr. Moors got in touch with David Preston, of Detroit, Michigan, and with Mr. Preston's help the debt was paid. This became one of his outstanding pastorates.

He was pastor of the Otisco circuit 1863-66; Hastings, 1866-69; Saranac, 1869-71; Portland, 1871-74; Second Street, Grand Rapids, 1874-75; presiding

elder of the Grand Traverse district 1875-79; pastor at Coldwater, 1879-82; Battle Creek, 1882-84; presiding elder of Ionia district, 1885-91; pastor at Lowell, 1892-97; Ovid, 1897-1900.

In 1884-85 he held the supernumerary relation and on account of ill health went to Dakota on a farm seeking restoration. During a part of that time, however, he did supply work at Britain in South Dakota. In 1900 he retired and did supply work at Stanton, Coral and Saugatuck, and preached elsewhere as the opportunity came to him. In 1906 he removed with his family from Greenville to the home which he purchased in Grand Rapids, Michigan, in which he spent the rest of his life. In 1899 the Michigan Annual Conference elected him as a delegate to the General Conference which met in May the following year.

He was a much beloved and a highly honored minister of Jesus Christ. He won many to the service of his Lord and nurtured them with well prepared messages from the Word of Life. He was a good student and was widely read in the best literature of his time.

He died at 4:30 o'clock Tuesday morning, March 30, 1909, in his home in Grand Rapids, Michigan.



G E O R G E W A L T O N P L E W S

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George Walton Plews was born at Newcastle-on-Tyne, Northumberland, England, August 22, 1880, of good English stock. His family had conceived for him a career in engineering, but he felt an inner urge to the Christian ministry. He studied in Durham and Cambridge Universities, from which he took his degrees in scholarship, which, however, he never paraded. He preached, as a Wesleyan Methodist, six years in England, at South Shields and at Bedford.

His American residence dates from the year 1909, with the exception of his army experience, when he served with the Thirty-fifth Canadian Infantry from January, 1916, to May, 1919, as chaplain with rank of captain, after the first six months as private. He was the only Protestant chaplain in the 99th Battalion. He executed and forwarded proper naturalization papers for American citizenship, but those papers were lost after leaving his hands, and have not been recovered.

While serving in the war he traveled sometimes

on horseback, sometimes on bicycle. On one occasion a bullet pierced the ear of his horse; on another occasion when he was carrying nourishment to famishing comrades, a bullet shot through the pail in his hand. He went unhesitatingly, where duty called or opportunity beckoned. He suffered the experience of being gassed on Flanders field, where, quoting Dr. DeLamarter, "the poppies drank their beauty from the blood of our precious boys."

After doing Christian service in lumber camps in Northern Michigan, Mr. Plews joined the Michigan Conference in 1910. He served pastorates in Traverse City, Maple Rapids, Bellaire, Augusta, Ovid, Marshall, Kalamazoo and Lansing. For two years he lectured about the state for the department of health, during which time he preached on Sundays at a rural church at Bengal.

During a period of evangelistic services in his church in December 1931, he broke in health, following which he lived on in pain, uncomplainingly. On Wednesday morning, April 20, 1932, he was honorably released and passed on.

At the request of Mr. Plews Dr. Louis DeLamarter had charge of the funeral service in Mt. Hope Church. He was assisted by the following ministers:

C. E. Thies, who read Tennyson's "Crossing The Bar"; C. E. Pollock, F. M. Thurston, W. Maylan Jones, and officials of Mt. Hope Church were the pall bearers, with the ministers who were present to the number of about fifty as honorary bearers.

The following are excerpts from the tribute which Dr. DeLamarter paid to Mr. Plews:

"An extensive reader, a strong preacher, an untiring worker, many will rise up to call him blessed. While he was modern, he respected traditions, since traditions express the human experiences of the age that gave them birth."

"Student, scholar, bookman - soldier, patriot, preacher - friend, lover, gentleman - has passed to be with his Adorable Lord. Such men never die."

"Brother Plews did not trifle with anyone's experiences or convictions, no matter when, where, or by whom set forth. He had a courtly hospitality toward a dissenting personality. In his contacts with men, he could defer to the superior without fawning, he could command respect without offense. He revelled in good fellowship."

"The faith of this man of God was contagious, his energy speeded up production in others, his sympathy was abundant and consoling, his love was creative. He suffered griefs, he carried burdens. His generosity knew no bounds. In his community he was a civic personality of note. He was in frequent demand for addresses on various themes."

"What a full life! What a fine life! What a glorious departure! What a precious memory! What a noble heritage!"

M R S G E O R G E W P L E W S

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Floy J. Theobald, daughter of Reverend C. H. Theobald, was born in Taberg, New York, February 14, 1879. After teaching for a time in Michigan she was united in marriage with the Reverend George W. Pews, a member of the Michigan Conference, on August 29, 1911. From that date to the death of her husband in 1932 she was actively devoted to the work of the Christian ministry as the wife of the minister.

Much of the success of her gifted husband was due to her keen interest and efficient service in all departments of the church program. She contributed a social grace to the parsonage life which made it attractive to people of the community, and gave to her husband an extensive contact with the people of all ages, thus adding to the effectiveness of his ministry.

In missionary circles, in Aid societies, in Sunday school, in prayer meetings, in choir, in worship service she was active and helpful. She had a rare gift for making friends, especially among young people. She gave generously of her

means, her time, and her talents. She was deservedly popular in the churches and communities where she lived. After the death of her husband she made her home in Lansing and was a faithful member of Central Church. Her memory will be long cherished by those who have been helped by her fellowship.

She died in Lansing, Michigan, August 15, 1934.

- Louis DeLamarter.



J O H N O . H A G A N S

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John O. Hagans was born in Dickinson County, Kansas, October 24, 1902, a son of Alexander Tardy and Mary Swan Hagans. He has one sister, Belle, born in Iowa, November 11, 1898, and one brother, Frank Alexander, also born in Iowa, September 9, 1900.

Ancestral Background

The Ringgold County Bulletin, August, 1941, published at Mount Ayr, Iowa, carries the picture and life history of Judge James C. Hagans, a great-grandfather of John O. Hagans, who was the head of the first local government of Mount Ayr, Iowa. He was elected County Judge April 18, 1858. He served three terms as County Judge and then was elected State Senator from the district composed of Adams, Clarke, Decatur, Taylor, Union and Ringgold Counties. He served as State Senator in the 8th and 9th general assemblies and the extra session of September, 1862. He died in his home in Mount Ayr, September 7, 1863. The account concludes with the following sentence, "His pioneer public record is

one of which all his descendants have reason to be proud."

All four great-grandfathers of this pastor were pioneers of Ringgold County, Iowa. Isaac F. Swan, a Quaker from Maine, was the first proprietor of the Mount Ayr Hotel. Captain Alexander Tardy, a native of Virginia, was an early settler in the southwest part of the county. And the fourth great-grandfather, John Stranahan, from Indiana, the 1850s. planted the first trees in what is now the courthouse square of Mount Ayr. In an account in the "Bulletin", it was said of him, "Mr. Stranahan was one of Ringgold County's most highly respected citizens until his death at more than 90 years of age."

Space will not permit, in this brief sketch, to go into the details of this interesting ancestral line. Many records can be discovered by reading the Ringgold County Bulletin, which was edited by the late Randolph S. Beall, a cousin of the mother of John O. Hagans.

John's grandfather, Dr. Bird Hagans, attended Rush Medical School in Chicago and practiced medicine in Mount Ayr. John's father, A. T. Hagans, engaged in farming most of his life. He moved with his family from Ringgold County, Iowa, to Dickinson

County, Kansas, in the spring of 1902. He was a successful farmer. He served on the local school board for years. He was Sunday School Superintendent at the Mayfield Methodist Church.

John's mother, Mary Swan Hagans, died July 17, 1908, at the age of 42 years. His father married Miss Nellie Eleanor Mekemson, of Redding, Iowa, in 1918, retired from farming and moved to Manhattan, Kansas, where the two older children attended and graduated from the Kansas State College. John attended Manhattan High School for three years and then, because of illness, had to drop out of school for a number of years. From Manhattan, the family moved to San Diego, California, and after two years, back to Abilene, Kansas.

Belle, after being graduated from the Kansas State College, taught school for over twenty years and then married Mr. Elmer Bebermeyer of Abilene. Frank taught vocational agriculture in the Augusta High School for six years; was County Agricultural Agent of Marion County from 1930 to 1946 and is now, 1947, in the Extension Department of the Kansas State College.

John's father, A. T. Hagans, died in Abilene, February 26, 1939, at the age of 72 years, 4 months and 22 days. The step-mother now makes her home in

Diagonal, Iowa.

This brief and very incomplete family record should not close without mention of John's grandmother, Mrs. Jane Elizabeth Tardy Hagans, who was a mother to him after his own mother died, until her own death in 1916. She was a well educated and cultured woman of singular courage. She was, throughout her long and useful life, a community leader in education and religion.

And a closing word about his mother, Mary Swan Hagans. She was a devoutly religious woman. Her interest was in her family and her church. She was somewhat of an artist and was a great lover of flowers. She was a lover and collector of poetry. Although her untimely death took her from her children when they were very young, her influence lives on in them.

The Call To Preach

John Hagans had the conviction that he ought to preach, even as a child. Other desires and ambitions crowded out this conviction however, during his high school years. Doubt and agnosticism also entered a mind that had to be intellectually honest. But in a crisis period in his life, in 1921, he found certainty in the Christian faith in the nearness and reality of God and the fact of personal

immortality. There came to his life then, a peace and joy and a light which have never failed him.

Education

It was not until the Spring Semester of 1930 that he was able to start to college. That spring he entered Southwestern College as a special student and was graduated in June, 1933. He then went to Garrett Biblical Institute, where he majored in Church History under the late Dr. William David Schermerhorn. He was graduated from Garrett in 1937.

Marriage and Family

John O. Hagans and Marguerite Elizabeth Moore were united in marriage in First Methodist Church, Wellington, Kansas, August 22, 1933. Dr. Nelson S. Gardner officiated. Miss Bernice Moore, now Mrs. Stanley Buck, was matron of honor. Rev. Arlo O. Ebright was best-man. Mrs. Hagans had been a music major at Southwestern College and was a leader among the youth of First Church, Wellington.

The children born to Rev. and Mrs. John O. Hagans are: Nancy Joanne, born in Evanston, Illinois, May 29, 1934; Margaret Rose, born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, August 7, 1937; and Gerald Francis, born in Niles, Michigan, August 30, 1941.

Conference Connections

(a) "Local Preacher's License", dated January 15, 1930, signed by order of the Manhattan District Conference. The meeting was held at Junction City.

(b) Received on trial in the Southwest Kansas Conference by the Rock River Conference meeting at Sycamore, Illinois, October 2-7, 1934. Ordained Deacon by Bishop Frederick B. Leete, October 7, 1934. Transferred as a probationer to Michigan Conference, October 1935.

(c) Received into full membership and ordained Elder by Bishop Edgar Blake, in the Michigan Conference at Battle Creek, Michigan, September 9-14, 1936.

Pastoral Charges Served

(a) Student Charges:

Winfield West - 1930-1932
Benton, Kansas - 1932-1933
Oak Forest, Illinois - 1933-1935
Galesburg, Michigan - 1935-1939

(b) Regular Appointments:

Berrien Springs, Michigan - 1939-1944
Jackson - Calvary - 1944-

Extra Ministerial Activities

While in Southwestern College John O. Hagans served for three years as captain of deputation teams; three years on the Y. M. C. A. Board; one year as President of the Oxford Fellowship, an

organization of student ministers; and in the Spring of 1933 organized the first state conference of student ministers which met at Emporia, Kansas. Speakers: Dr. Dan Brummitt, Dr. O. E. Allison and Dr. James S. Chobt.

In the Michigan Conference, Mr. Hagans has served as President of the Epworth League, Kalamazoo District, 1838-1840; district counsellor of the M. Y. F., 1940-1941; member of the Board of Trustees, Berrien County Sunday School Association, 1940-1943. He was a member of the committee which organized the Berrien County Council of Churches in 1943. At the present time, 1947, he is a member of the Board of Trustees of Bronson Methodist Hospital, Kalamazoo; the Michigan Christian Advocate; a member of the Advisory Board of the M. J. Clark Memorial Home, Grand Rapids; and the Board of Ministerial Training. In the Albion-Lansing District, he is Chairman of the District Forum and Chairman of the Jackson sub-district.

As a private citizen he is a member of the Western Star Lodge No. 39 F. and A. M., Berrien Springs; The Dinner Club of Jackson; the Jackson Hi Twelve Club; and the Order of Bookfellows, Chicago.

He is the author of two brochures of poems, "A Voice In The Night", - 1928, and "I Saw The Christ

- 1946. His biography and poem, "I Saw The Christ", appeared in the 1941 "Who's Who In Poetry in America". His poems and articles have been published in various news and religious publications for the past twenty years.

Interesting Events

There are interesting events every day in the life of every alert minister, yet the memorable events are few. One of the most unforgettable events in the ministry of John O. Hagans occurred on the Sunday morning of November 22, 1942, when the Hinchman Church, on the Berrien Springs charge, burned down. Just as he and Mr. Merle Stamm, Sunday School Superintendent, were ready to open the morning worship service, the fire was discovered which completely destroyed the building.

After the Grand Rapids, Washington and New York offices of the O. P. A. had refused permission to rebuild, Mr. Hagans, after a prayer meeting with the Hinchman people, wrote a personal letter to the office of the President of the United States. Within four weeks, authority to rebuild was granted. The new church was designed by Vernon S. Watson, veteran church architect. It was dedicated by Bishop Raymond J. Wade, free from debt, on Sunday morning, October 31, 1943. The Hinchman church is

one of the most attractive and modern of rural churches.

Calvary Church, Jackson, celebrated its Golden Jubilee four months after Mr. Hagans became its pastor and paid off a debt of seventeen years standing and burned the mortgage on Sunday morning, June 3, 1945, with Dr. Spencer B. Owens, District Superintendent, officiating and preaching on the theme, "The Best Is Yet To Be".

Rev. John O. Hagans has the deep conviction that everything in his life which is worth-while has come, first, through prayer, and, second, by following the Divine guidance. Without the Divine disclosure and assistance, this life would not have been and thus may his ministry continue. When it is finished, may it be said of him that he walked humbly and faithfully with God and with love and deep devotion to all his fellow men.

AS*rg

Alex Smart
January 8, 1947



William H. Hehigel

W I L L I A M H E N R Y H E L R I G E L

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William Henry Helrigel was born in Bay township, Charlevoix county, Michigan, February 9, 1892, son of Henry C., and Elizabeth Heintz Helrigel, who were of German descent and came from Ontario, Canada.

William's formal education began in Caledonia, Michigan, and he was graduated from the Middleville, Michigan, high school in 1909.

He remained on his father's farm until he reached the age of twenty-one and then became a butter maker.

September 29, 1917, William was married to Alta Mae Bell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward L. Bell of Richland, Michigan.

Mr. and Mrs. William H. Helrigel became the parents of:

Helen Elizabeth, who was born July 19, 1918, while her mother was living with her parents and Mr. Helrigel was serving in World War I; Helen married Charles Richard Gibbs, of Parchment, Michigan, and they became the parents of Jean Louise October 13, 1943, and they reside now, in 1947, in Philadelphia, Pa.; and

William Henry, Jr., who was born July 23, 1920, while his father was pastor at Jerome, Michigan, and on January 23, 1942, he

married Isabel Nixon; he served in the United States Navy in the South Pacific Area for eighteen months and was honorably discharged as Chief Pharmacist's Mate and resides in Albion, Michigan.

Military Experience

William Henry Helrigel matriculated in Albion College as a freshman in the fall of 1917 and was appointed as pastor at Jerome and Somerset Center. The next year he was called into the armed service of the United States in World War I.

He chose the signal corps and was trained in College Station Texas A & M and was then sent to France in the fall of 1918. In the summer of 1919, he returned to the United States and the following autumn he again became a student in Albion College and also again became the pastor at Jerome and Somerset Center with Wheatland added to the circuit.

In September, 1919, Mr. Helrigel was received into the Michigan Annual Conference of The Methodist Episcopal Church, was ordained Deacon in 1923 and Elder in 1924.

Conference Appointments

Jerome and Wheatland, 1919; Eaton Rapids Parish, 1920, where he served as pastor of the Robbins and Charleston Churches and had charge of the youth work of the Eaton Rapids Methodist Church under the Reverend Richard Millard, who was the pastor;

in the fall of 1921, Mr. Helrigel was appointed pastor of the Methodist Churches in Okemos and Holt and did graduate work at Michigan State College in East Lansing.

In 1922, he was appointed pastor at New Buffalo, Michigan, with Lakeside as an out appointment. While serving these churches he attended Garrett Biblical Institute at Evanston, Illinois, and completed the three years course in theology in two years and was given the degree of Bachelor of Divinity.

In 1924, he became the pastor of Berrien Springs and Hinchman. During the three and one-half years he served these churches the Berrien Springs Church was re-modeled and an addition was built, at a cost of \$17,800, which was provided for in full.

In April, 1928, W. H. Helrigel was appointed pastor at Boyne City, where he organized the Boyne City Parish, which included Boyne Falls and covered four townships. The work in this parish received national recognition through the Country Life Association and was also widely publicized. On November 8, 1930, Mrs. Alta Mae Bell Helrigel passed away in Boyne City.

At the session of the Michigan Conference in

September 1931, Mr. Helrigel was appointed pastor of the Community Methodist Church in Parchment, Michigan.

June 25, 1932, he was married to Myrtle Louise White, daughter of Thomas and Hannah White of Boyne City. Thomas White was one of two brothers who owned the White Brothers Lumber Company.

Mrs. Helrigel was a graduate of Miss Liggett's School in Detroit, Michigan, and was a student at Vassar and also studied in New York and studied and traveled in Europe with the University Bureau of Travel. She is an outstanding speaker and a talented musician.

The Community Methodist Church in Parchment is unique in its relation to the Kalamazoo Vegetable Parchment Company, whose originator and long time president was Jacob Kindleberger, who also was the chief promoter and outstanding leader in the organization of the Community Methodist Church and in the development of Parchment itself. This resulted in making the Church the center of the life of the community and all its enterprises were channelled through the Church, including relief for the needy.

As an outgrowth to the caring for the needy the beautiful Kindleberger Park was begun. While

serving as pastor at Parchment, in co-operation with Mr. Kindleberger, two organizations were formed, the Home-Works Corporation and the Junior Furniture Industry, to give the boys of the community work. These projects were written up in Forbes Magazine and reviewed in Readers Digest, which brought national acclaim. Mr. Helrigel spent seven years with this Church and was then appointed in 1938 as Superintendent of the Grand Traverse District with his residence and headquarters at Traverse City, Michigan.

At the session of the Michigan Annual Conference in 1943, he was elected a delegate to the General Conference, which met in Kansas City in 1944, and he was also a delegate to the Jurisdictional Conference, which followed and met in Minneapolis.

In June, 1943, he was appointed pastor of the Trinity Methodist Church in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where, during the first two years of his pastorate, the Church retired a long standing debt of \$85,000, leaving the Church debt free.

From 1924 to 1938, Mr. Helrigel was a member of the Board of Ministerial Training of the Michigan Conference. For eight years he was a trustee of Bronson Methodist Hospital in Kalamazoo,

Michigan, and since 1943 has served as a trustee of the M. J. Clark Memorial Home. In 1944, he was elected a trustee of the Michigan Annual Conference and in 1945 he was made treasurer of that board. In 1940, Albion College, his Alma Mater, conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity.



L E O N W I N S L O W M A N N I N G

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Leon Winslow Manning was born in Holland, Michigan, October 20, 1904, son of the Reverend Wallace P. Manning, who was born in Dansville, Michigan, March 13, 1868, and was a member of The Michigan Annual Conference of The Methodist Church.

Leon's mother was Fleda May Stone Manning, who was born in Grand Rapids, Michigan, September 19, 1867. Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Manning also became the parents of:

Henry Preston, who was born September 1894;

Chester Stone, who was born July 5, 1899; and

Ruth, who was born October 3, 1908, died 1914.

Education

Leon attended the schools on the various charges where his father was pastor, was graduated from Albion College with the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1929; was graduated from Garrett Biblical Institute with the degree of Bachelor of Divinity in 1934.

Marriage

June 15, 1930, Leon Winslow Manning was married

in Kalamazoo, Michigan, to Dorothy May Jerrett, who was born in Farwell, Michigan, August 21, 1907, daughter of the Reverend W. M. P. Jerrett, a member of The Michigan Annual Conference of The Methodist Church. Dorothy's mother was Rosa M. Black Jerrett.

Mr. and Mrs. Leon Manning became the parents of: Phyllis Rose, who was born October 20, 1931; and Lawrence Jerrett, who was born May 1, 1937.

Personal Characteristics

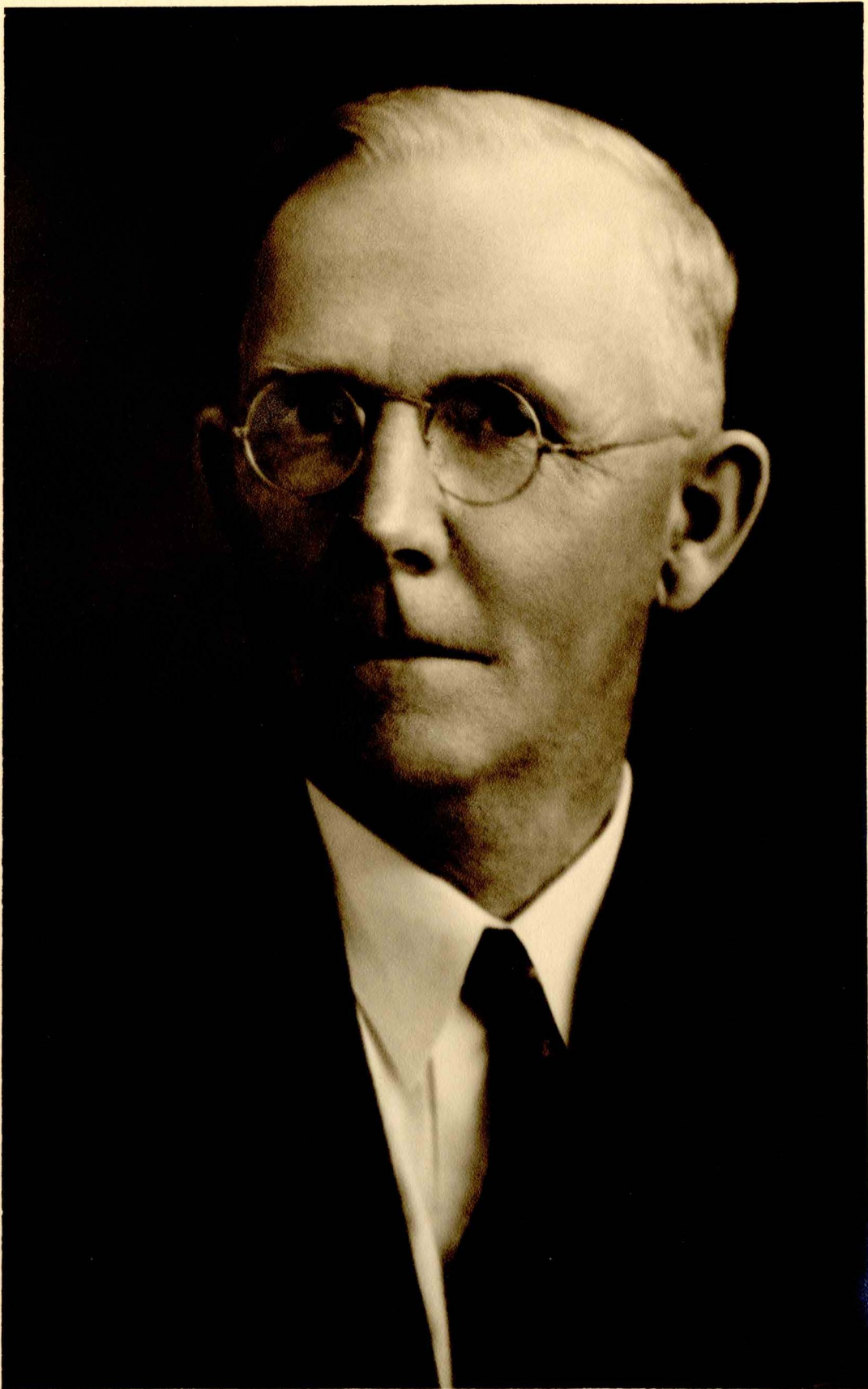
Leon Winslow Manning is five feet seven and one-half inches tall, weighed about one hundred sixty-two pounds, had blonde hair, blue eyes and a fair complexion. His hobbies were golf, tennis and swimming.

In 1947, he was President of the St. Joseph Kiwanis Club. He served as Chairman of the Eaton County Chapter of the American Red Cross, 1939-1943. He was Dean of the Albion-Lansing District Youth Summer Institute, 1941-1942, and served as Dean of the Kalamazoo District Methodist Youth Fellowship Institute at Crystal Springs, 1945-1946. He was also a member of the Sigma Chi Fraternity.

Ministerial Record

Leon was received on trial in the North Indiana Annual Conference of The Methodist Episcopal Church in 1926 and was transferred the same year to The

Michigan Annual Conference. He was ordained Deacon in 1928 and Elder in 1932. His appointments were: Vandalia, 1926; Spring Arbor, 1927; Pokagon, 1929; Three Oaks, 1930; Lake Odessa, 1934; Charlotte, 1938; St. Joseph, 1943.



Herbert R. Strong.

H E R B E R T R . S T R O N G

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Herbert R. Strong was born in Branch county, Michigan, about nine miles south of Coldwater, July 19, 1877, the oldest son of Baxter and Sophronia Strong.

In the spring of 1887, he went with his parents to Kansas and in the spring of 1890 the family moved to Custer county, Nebraska, and settled on a farm. Herbert attended the rural school near his home and later the village school and grew to manhood.

At the age of thirteen, during a revival meeting in the United Evangelical Church at Lomax, Custer county, Nebraska, he and his father and mother and brother and sister were all converted and united with the church. Herbert took an active part in the work of the church and served in all its offices.

On New Years Day, 1898, he was united in marriage to Miss Mabel Miller. They bought a farm near Lexington, Dawson county, Nebraska, and became successful farmers. Two sons were born to them, Albert Ross and Lee Roy Strong. Later Eloise

Strong became a member of the family.

During this time Herbert and his wife joined the Methodist Episcopal Church at Mount Hope near Lexington, where they were very active and felt the call to "preach the word." After much prayer and deliberation he asked his church to give him a local preacher's license, which was granted.

In March 1908, they sold their personal property and went to Central Holiness University, Oskaloosa, Iowa, where he took two and one-half years of academic and theological work.

In the spring of 1911, he and his family moved to North Dakota and he joined the North Dakota Annual Conference. He was ordained Local Deacon at Bismark by Bishop Hamilton and preached eighteen months at Buffalo and Forman.

Because of Mrs. Strong's health it became advisable to leave North Dakota and they went Upland, Indiana, where he took a course in the English Bible at Taylor University.

In 1914, his membership was transferred to the Michigan Annual Conference and he was ordained Elder by Bishop Theodore S. Henderson October 1, 1916, in the First Methodist Church in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The record of his appointments in the Michigan Annual Conference is as follows: Waldron, 1913;

Shepardsville, 1916; Riverdale, 1919; DeWitt, 1923; Supernumerary, 1925; Maple Rapids, 1930; Coopersville, 1934; Ganges, 1940; Gobles, 1942.

Mrs. Strong is a tireless worker in the activities of the churches served by her husband and their kindly, hospitable spirit wins them a host of friends everywhere they go.