

**1983  
YEAR BOOK AND  
OFFICIAL MINUTES  
of the  
Rocky Mountain Conference  
of the  
United Methodist Church**

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**Successor of  
ROCKY MOUNTAIN CONFERENCE  
E.U.B.  
and  
ROCKY MOUNTAIN METHODIST  
ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

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**FIFTEENTH SESSION  
One Hundred Twenty-First Session of  
Oldest Antecedent**

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**held at  
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Fort Collins, Colorado  
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**Richard A. Vickery, Jr., Secretary & Journal Editor**

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## VIII. Memoirs

Richard E. Halbert, Section Editor

"It is so natural that we fall asleep  
Like tired children, when day is done,  
That I would question why the living weep  
When Death has kissed the laughing lips of one.  
We do not sigh when golden skies have donned  
The purple shadows and the gray of night,  
Because we know the morning lies beyond,  
And we must wait a little while for light.

So, when, grown weary with care and strife,  
Our loved ones find in sleep, the peace they crave,  
Then we should not weep, but learn to count this life  
A prelude to the one beyond the grave;  
And thus be happy for them, not distressed,  
But lift our hearts with love to God and smile,  
And we, anon, like tired ones will rest  
If we will hope and wait — a little while."

... Anonymous

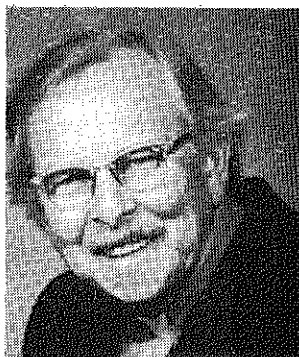
In loving memory of all parsonage family members of the Rocky Mountain Conference of the United Methodist Church who have died during the past year, the following memoirs are submitted. Sincere thanks to the many who have furnished information and pictures and who have written memoirs to make this report possible.

### WALTER E. AMAN

Walter Edwin Aman, the eldest of seven children, was born on November 5, 1907, in Cambridge, Nebraska. His father, a Mennonite missionary, was a strict man and trained his family in regular attendance at church and Sunday School. Walter and Twildi, a childhood friend, were married on April 11, 1926, having been confirmed together in the Congregational Church two years earlier.

In 1949, Walter was so badly injured in a head-on automobile collision that it was a miracle that he survived. It took four long years of surgery, braces, crutches, and pain for him to overcome his injuries. As he recovered, he became interested in the lay ministry of the Methodist Church, serving as lay leader in South Sioux, Nebraska, where he was working. Shortly after, he became a certified lay preacher and served several small churches in the area. While working for a printing company in Webster, Iowa, he laid out an advertising campaign for the Lacours, a team of evangelists of that city, and accompanied them on a crusade to Japan in 1956. He paid his own expenses while presenting the Christian witness to businessmen in sixty-five Japanese cities. While there he was a guest of Dr. Kagawa and preached in his church.

Later Walt and Twildi moved to Salt Lake City, Utah, where he made a major impact on the life of the area. He was president of the Salt Lake City Council of Churches and the Utah Council of Churches. He raised the initial funds to establish Pine Canyon Boys' Ranch at Stockton, Utah, which provides a home-like atmosphere for boys from the Juvenile Court and Detention Home in Salt Lake City. Here boys are required to earn a high school diploma and to learn a vocation before their court records can be sealed.



Eventually, Walt and Twildi determined to move from lay leadership to the ordained clergy. It was a great struggle, but through those difficult years, if one door was closed to them, they entered another. They attended the University of Utah to begin to fulfill requirements for ordination and they received their seminary training together at St. Paul School of Theology in Kansas City, finally becoming ordained in the Methodist Church. They have served churches in Park City, Utah; and in Keenesburg and Hudson, Colorado. They relocated at Beaverton, Oregon, for reasons of health. They were assigned to the Gaston Community Church, Gaston, Oregon, and also served as public relations representatives for two international repertory Christian theater groups, the Covenant Players and the Catalysts of Reseda, California.

Walter was a man with special talents and a special commitment. He felt strengthened by the church and served God in every way that he could. He and Twildi have lived their lives for the betterment of mankind. Walter died on August 16, 1982, in Beaverton, Oregon. Surviving him, in addition to his wife, are three sons, two sisters, one brother, nine grandchildren, and fourteen great grandchildren.

### LEONA A. NICHOLS

Memorial services were held at First United Methodist Church, Colorado Springs, Colorado, for Leona A. Nichols. She died at home on August 25, 1982, after many years of battle with cancer.

Leona was born May 10, 1904 in York, Nebraska. She attended York College, earning a lifetime certificate for teaching. Her major was in music, and she taught in Nebraska until her marriage to Lloyd C. Nichols, whom she had met in college. They were married on September 14, 1929, and moved to Dayton, Ohio, where Lloyd was enrolled in the United Theological Seminary.

After graduation from seminary Lloyd was appointed pastor of the First Church of the United Brethren in Christ in Pueblo, Colorado. There the couple ministered for twenty-nine years. During Leona's years in Pueblo she was active in the church, served as Sunday School teacher, was a member of the choir, worked in the Woman's Missionary Society, and was active in Parent-Teacher's Association. Although involved in many other community activities, she was most of all wife and mother.

In 1960, after Lloyd had been elected superintendent of the Rocky Mountain Conference of the former Evangelical United Brethren Church, they moved to the district parsonage in Colorado Springs. There Leona became a member of First United Methodist Church, traveled a great deal with her husband, and made many friends throughout the conference. She served as president of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Annual Conference, and was a member of the Woman's Auxiliary of Otterbin Home, Lebanon, Ohio, for many years.

Life was not always easy for Leona. Raising a family during the depression years and many times not knowing whether there would be food for tomorrow, she met all the trials with a great faith and was able, time and again, to give this faith and love to her family and husband. During her illness again her faith prevailed, and her life was a blessing to all of the family and friends as well.

Glued in front of her well-worn Bible was a poem containing these lines: "Let me each morning rise anew, eager and glad that I can bear my portion of the morning's care. Although I walk with slower pace, let me still meet life face to face. This is my prayer as time goes by; let me keep busy till I die." Such was her life. With Paul she could say, "I have fought a good fight. I have finished the course. I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me, but also to all who have loved his appearing."

