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SINCE THE ORGANIZATION OF
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and the

Eighth Annual Session

of the

Oklahoma Conference

of

**The United
Methodist Church**

held at

**Boston Avenue
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May 28-30, 1975

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Mrs. Babcock was a true companion in the ministry, giving her untiring support, encouragement and inspiration for over forty years before retirement in 1948. The next ten years were spent in Oklahoma City, during which time Dr. Babcock worked on the second volume of "The History of Oklahoma Methodism," of which he was the author. It remained unfinished at his death on October 24, 1957.

Mrs. Babcock served with her husband in pastorates in Atoka; Holdenville; Muskogee First; Shawnee St. Paul's; Lawton Centenary; and Altus. Her interests were many in the churches and communities where she lived and her radiant presence added grace and charm to every company she shared.

She was a mother as well as a loyal wife and companion. She loved her home and gave love and understanding to three children and her beloved husband. Dr. Babcock served four districts in Oklahoma Methodism: McAlester (twice), Oklahoma City, Durant, and Elk City as "presiding elder" or District Superintendent. Mrs. Babcock became the "District Mother" to the wives of the pastors of the several districts they served together.

She was a life-long Methodist and during her later years was a member of The United Methodist Church of Nichols Hills, Oklahoma City. She spent some time in The Methodist Manor in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and because of failing health, went to live with her daughter in Boone, North Carolina. Her heart was ever in Oklahoma and she kept alert to the end and in touch with old friends. She was one of God's gentlewomen who walked by faith, lived by hope and radiated love in all her relationships in home, church and society. Her family is able to say, "The lines have fallen unto us in pleasant places, truly we have a goodly heritage."

The end of a long and beautiful life came as the day dawned on May 3, 1975, at the home of her daughter in Boone, North Carolina, and Mrs. Sidney H. Babcock entered into the life immortal to abide in the "light that shineth more and more unto a perfect day." A devoted family remains to cherish her memory: a son, Dr. Sidney H. Babcock, Jr., Ridgewood, New Jersey; two daughters, Mrs. Don (Charlotte) Vieaux, Missouri City, Texas; and Mrs. Tom Cottingham, Boone, North Carolina. There are ten grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

The memorial service was held at The United Methodist Church of Nichols Hills, Oklahoma City, on May 5, 1975, with Dr. George Graham, Dr. Bonner E. Teeter and Dr. W. Carroll Pope officiating. Interment was in Rose Hill Cemetery, Oklahoma City.

MRS. W. L. BLACKBURN (Lena Arnold)

Mrs. W. L. Blackburn (Lena Arnold) died on September 5, 1974. She was the wife of the Reverend W. L. Blackburn, prominent minister and District Superintendent in the East Oklahoma Conference from 1918 to 1956.

She is survived by her sons, Professor Arnold Blackburn, University of Kentucky, and Dr. Charles Blackburn, Ames, Iowa.

Interment was in Rochester, Minnesota.

MRS. MICHAEL ARTHUR CASSIDY (Laura Luella Bryant)

Laura Luella Bryant was born in Hope County, Arkansas, March 9, 1881, the second child of Benjamin Franklin and Mary Ellen Bryant. The family moved to Caddo, Oklahoma, when she was four years of age, where she was baptized in The Methodist Church at age 12.

She married George E. Carroll in 1898. He died in 1919.

In 1923 she married the Rev. Michael Arthur Cassidy. When he died in June of 1942 he had been preaching for over fifty years. Together, the Cassidys served
