

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE ANNUITY BONDS

•
invest your money in these bonds? You
guarantee of the contracted income during
at a rate of interest worked out by an actuary.
g is the rate of interest:

- % from 40 to 49 years inclusive.
- % from 50 to 59 years inclusive.
- % from 60 to 64 years inclusive.
- % from 65 to 69 years inclusive.
- % from 70 to 74 years inclusive.
- % from 75 to 79 years inclusive.
- % from 80 years and over.

use shall a bond be issued to a person under
age.

two beneficiaries be named on a bond, the
est shall be that of the younger annuitant.

an investment for the purpose of developing
and womanhood; it is an investment that will
care for and protect children.

•
ditional security to you—Assurance of security
urch's children.

•
ll see the great good you are able to accomplish
r lifetime.

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE ORPHANAGE

Particulars write to:

C. P. HAGEN, *Business Manager*
100 West Broad Street, Richmond 21, Va.

The Virginia Conference Annual

CONTAINING THE

Journal of Proceedings of the One Hundred
Sixty-Ninth Session of the Virginia
Annual Conference of The
Methodist Church

HELD AT

Roanoke, Virginia
October 17-22, 1951

TOGETHER WITH

Reports, Memoirs and Statistics

* * * * *

Edited and Published for the Conference by
C. A. TUCKER

PRICE 60 CENTS PER COPY

* * * * *

SCANLAND'S, INC., *Printers*
TAMPA

mond, 1 year; Scottsville, 4 years; retired 1 year due to mherst Circuit, 1 year; High St. Franklin, 3 years; ars; Crew, 1 year; Farmville District, Presiding Elder, e (now Boulevard) Richmond, 1 year; Field Agent in ian Education movement, 3 years; Orange, 4 years; Norfolk, 1 year; South Boston, 2 years; Reedville, Hill, 4 years. Retiring in 1940 before his time because health of his wife, he came to live in Richmond at Avenue, in Highland Park, as a member of the Quance of the Highland Park Church. There he ministered with unflinching tenderness and love until her death in tined his service to his God and His Church until the ath, February 28, 1951.

pointments indicate at times rapid movement, it was it of a soul so zealous it could find no peace in the e who were at ease in Zion, and whose insistent voice slumber of the saints. He seems to have labored longer t places.

ewhat limited formal education—he was breadwinner d mother and a family of brothers and sisters in his outh—he was none the less an educated, widely read ured gentleman.

h was keenly incisive, clear, logical, forceful, upon t and moving. Revivals attended upon his ministry. s real statesmanship in his thinking about the larger e Church revealed in his public and private speech. e believed that history was prophecy, and, without being ition, he had reverence for it and respect for the past. e the trend of God's purpose for the Methodism of the

n invaluable member of the Conference Historical So- luable records and dates were accumulated by him, e history of the Conference.

g memoir could omit mention of his relation to Ferrum could a brief memoir include all that should be said. ion grew from soil into which he had ploughed the his soul. The Church at Ferrum was of his building. eld his devotion throughout its history, and, as a mem- ard of Trustees, he served, faithfully, wisely, tenderly of his death. His vacant chair at the last meeting of Trustees held a sad significance for the Board and

Morristown, September 8, 1872, he was the son of Mat- Sarah Granger Blankenship, Virginians from Chester- The family returned to Virginia, locating in Lynch- Charles was about 12 years of age. Converted at eighteen under the ministry of Sam Jones, he joined Daniels t Church, later Rivermont, now Centenary, Lynchburg. death of the father in 1888, the family moved to Rich- l, and Charles became a member of Trinity Church, rring to St. James. He was active in Sunday School, gue and Christian Endeavor. Licensed to preach in 1894 rly Conference, in the following year his District Com- ellamy's Church in Gloucester County recommended ssion, and he was received on trial November 16, 1895 al Conference in session at Centenary Church, Rich- s ordained Deacon by Bishop Fitzgerald in Main Street

Church, Danville, November 16, 1897, and Elder by Bishop Alpheus W. Wilson in High Street Church, Petersburg, November 19, 1892. On July 8, 1896, he was married to Mary A. Walford, of Richmond, Va., who journeyed at his side, a faithful, happy companion, until her death.

He died at 78, in his home in Richmond, Wednesday morning, February 28, 1951. The funeral services were conducted by Dr. R. T. Waterfield, Dr. Walter C. Gum and Dr. J. L. Robertson from High-land Park Methodist Church on Friday, March 2, 1951.

Birth, conversion, call and license to preach, admission to the Itinerary, marriage, appointments, retirement, widowed, death—the epochal events in a Methodist preacher's life are quickly told, and dated, but the story lies between. It is this . . .

He "walked with God and was not for God took him" . . . and the end is not yet for still he walks with God.

GEORGE EDWARD BOOKER, JR.

By Fred R. Chenault

Whenever anyone met George E. Booker, Jr., he was at once impressed with his gracious demeanor and his courtly manner. In his presence one felt as if he were at home with an old friend. His geniality reflected a sincere interest and a golden heart of friend-ship. He never carried in his bosom any resentment, but with sensi- tive appreciation was grateful for every token of love and kindness.

It is to be doubted if the Virginia Conference ever had a more beloved and accomplished member than George Booker, whose win- some personality, gracious bearing and magnanimity of spirit no less than his beauty of diction and eloquence of delivery will not soon be forgotten. In his lamented death a void has been made in our ranks which will be difficult to fill. On his passing I have sustained a personal loss. The day I heard of it a surge of memories came flooding over me and I recalled those halcyon days we spent to- gether and where genuine fellowship prevailed.

George E. Booker, Jr., was born in Petersburg, Virginia, on March 22, 1872, and died at his home, 1723 Park Avenue, Richmond, Virginia, on April 1, 1951, at the age of 79. His funeral was conducted by Dr. Bernard Lipscomb, Dr. Callaway Robertson, Dr. G. T. Merritt and Dr. George Wesley Jones, from Centenary Church of which he was formerly pastor. He was buried by the side of his beloved wife in the family plot in historic Blandford Cemetery, Petersburg. He was the eldest son of Major George E. Booker, C. S. A. of "Wood- side", Cumberland County, and Frances Eubank Booker of "Oak Hill", Albemarle County. He was a representative of a distinguished Virginia family who settled in York County in 1648. There was an unmistakable air of breeding and nobility about him. Although heir to the high tradition of a prominent family, he did not live upon them, but rather sought to live up to them. I dare say, that no one whom I have ever known has more fully and abundantly ex- pressed the high qualities of noblesse oblige.

As a lad, he was educated privately by his father who was a classical scholar and himself a prominent member of the Virginia Conference. He was fortunate in having such a preceptor and the plastic mind of his boyhood received many lasting impressions which were to be of inestimable value to him in the future. After this val-

uable instruction, he entered the College of William and Mary to study for the law but was soon wooed by a compelling Voice that set him apart for the ministry. I venture to say that had he chosen law as a profession he would have distinguished himself there no less than he did in the ministry. While at the College of William and Mary he was a charter member of the Kappa Sigma fraternity and was later elected to membership in the Alpha Chapter of the Phi Beta Kappa Society of which an ancestor, Richard Booker, was one of the founders in 1776. He later attended Randolph-Macon College, which later conferred upon him the honorary Degree of Doctor of Divinity. For over thirty years he was a member of the Board of Trustees of that Institution. Dr. Booker also attended the University of Virginia. His education was further enriched by extensive travel in this country and Europe. His erudition is shown in the book he wrote called "Dreams and Visions".

On April 29, 1896 he married the former Anne Parham Howle, the accomplished daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James D. Howle of "Elm Shade", Sussex County, Virginia. She was a woman of culture and of charming personality and was not only a devoted wife and mother but a wise counsellor in all of her husband's work. This delightful companionship was interrupted by her death in 1933. From this union were born and still survive two daughters: the Misses Emma Parham Booker and Nancy Howle Booker; one son, George E. Booker, III of the Richmond Bar, and a granddaughter, Anne Harrison Booker, all of whom reside in Richmond, Virginia.

Dr. Booker was ordained a deacon in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South in 1895 by Bishop Charles Galloway and elder in 1897 by Bishop Oscar Penn Fitzgerald. After leaving Randolph-Macon College he served successively the following churches, Trinity, Orange; Fairmount Avenue, Richmond; Wright Memorial, Portsmouth; High Street, Petersburg; First Church, Charlottesville; Epworth, Norfolk; Washington Street, Petersburg; Mount Vernon, Danville; Court Street, Lynchburg; Park Place, Norfolk; Monument and Centenary, Richmond. He also served as Presiding Elder of the Richmond District. He was offered several times by the Presiding Bishop important parishes outside of the Virginia Conference but he declined to leave his native State. After leaving Centenary Church he was assigned again, after an interval of almost thirty years, to First Church, Charlottesville, where after serving a few years he was forced to retire because of ill health. His remaining days were spent with his daughters in Richmond.

Many honours, besides those already mentioned, came to him during his long career. Few members in the history of the Church have been elected as delegate to seven successive quadrennial general conferences. This fact alone would attest to the high esteem in which he was held by his ministerial friends. He was elected a delegate to the Conference on Faith in Lausanne, Switzerland, in 1927. In 1931 he represented his denomination at the Religious Service at the Yorktown Sesquicentennial. In 1932 he was a delegate to the Ecumenical Conference held in Atlanta, Georgia. In 1933 he was a delegate to the Sesquicentennial Celebration held in Baltimore. During World War I he was a member of the Commission of his Church to select chaplains for the Service.

As a preacher and speaker he was preeminently successful in getting a hearing from the pulpit and platform. He was endowed with the gifts and graces of the orator, with a resonant voice and fine intonation. He had established a record of beauty of diction

and
As es
while
eviden
the
past
in t
phen
hond
is di
adje
a pr
such
Swee
and
a fev

had
paris
lowe
tora
gifts
anna
acter
a sel
but
one
Book
grat
joy.
bette

Mar
Coun

ly, he entered the College of William and Mary to study but was soon wooed by a compelling voice that called him to the ministry. I venture to say that had he chosen otherwise he would have distinguished himself there no less than in the ministry. While at the College of William and Mary he was a charter member of the Kappa Sigma fraternity and elected to membership in the Alpha Chapter of the Society of which an ancestor, Richard Booker, was a member in 1776. He later attended Randolph-Macon College where he was conferred upon him the honorary Degree of Doctor of Divinity. For over thirty years he was a member of the Board of Trustees of that Institution. Dr. Booker also attended the University of Virginia. His education was further enriched by extensive travel in this country and Europe. His erudition is shown in his numerous papers called "Dreams and Visions".

In 1896 he married the former Anne Parham Howle, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James D. Howle of Elm Grove, Virginia. She was a woman of culture and personality and was not only a devoted wife and wise counsellor in all of her husband's work. This companionship was interrupted by her death in 1933. They were born and still survive two daughters: the former Anne Booker and Nancy Howle Booker; one son, Dr. J. M. III of the Richmond Bar, and a granddaughter, Mrs. Booker, all of whom reside in Richmond, Virginia.

Dr. Booker was ordained a deacon in the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1895 by Bishop Charles Galloway and elder in 1897 by Penn Fitzgerald. After leaving Randolph-Macon College he served successively the following churches, Trinity, 1st Avenue, Richmond; Wright Memorial, Portsmouth; First Church, Charlottesville; Epworth, Washington Street, Petersburg; Mount Vernon, 1st Street, Lynchburg; Park Place, Norfolk; Monument Church, Richmond. He also served as Presiding Elder of the Virginia Conference at several times by the Presiding Elder of his native State. After leaving Centenary Church in Petersburg again, after an interval of almost thirty years, he returned to Charlottesville, where after serving a few years he retired because of ill health. His remaining days were spent in Charlottesville.

Dr. Booker, besides those already mentioned, came to him in the course of his career. Few members in the history of the Church have served as delegate to seven successive quadrennial general conferences. This fact alone would attest to the high esteem in which he was held by his ministerial friends. He was elected a delegate to the General Conference on Faith in Lausanne, Switzerland, in 1927. He represented his denomination at the Religious Service at the Sesquicentennial in Atlanta, Georgia. In 1932 he was a delegate to the General Conference held in Atlanta, Georgia. In 1933 he was a delegate to the Sesquicentennial Celebration held in Baltimore, Maryland. He was a member of the Commission of his Church for the Service.

Dr. Booker and speaker he was preeminently successful in his ministry from the pulpit and platform. He was endowed with the gifts and graces of the orator, with a resonant voice and a clear mind. He had established a record of beauty of diction

and eloquence of delivery that was not excelled among his brethren. As early as 1897 when serving Saint Peters Church, Hanover County, Virginia, while a student at Randolph-Macon College, he gave unmistakable evidence that he was destined to "win the wreath of fame". Within the space of ten short years after leaving college he found himself pastor of Epworth Church, Norfolk, at that time the leading church in the Virginia Conference, where his efforts were crowned with phenomenal achievements. Mind you, it was considered a signal honour in those days for a young man to attain such distinction. It is different nowadays. "Incomparable" and "inimitable" were the adjectives not infrequently on the lips of those who heard him as a preacher to various congregations and as a college preacher at such institutions as Washington and Lee, University of Virginia, Sweet Briar, Hampton-Sydney, Randolph-Macon, College of William and Mary, and Randolph-Macon Woman's College, to mention only a few.

As a pastor it would scarcely be an exaggeration to say that he had few equals and no superiors. He was tireless in his visits to his parishioners and often I have heard it said by ministers who followed him: "If I could only equal George Booker's record for pastoral calls, it would be no mean achievement". He was happy in gifts at fireside and gave an attentive ear to "the short and simple annals of the poor". Not the least of Dr. Booker's outstanding characteristics was his keen interest in people. He loved people, not just a select few, but he loved everybody. His memory not only for faces but names was extraordinary. When any misfortune or sorrow befell one or when honour or recognition was accorded any friend, Dr. Booker was one of the first, with gracious solicitude or cordial congratulations, to let such person know that he shared his sorrow or joy. Perhaps the idea of one's love for his fellow man has never been better expressed than by Leigh Hunt:

Abou Ben Adhem (may his tribe increase!)
Awoke one night from a deep dream of peace.
And saw, within the moonlight in his room,
Making it rich, and like a lily in bloom,
An Angel writing in a book of gold:
Exceeding peace had made Ben Adhem hold,
And to the Presence in the room he said,
'What writest thou?' The Vision raised its head,
And with a look made of all sweet accord
Answered, 'The names of those who love the Lord.'
'And is mine one?' said Abou. 'Nay, not so,'
Replied the Angel. Abou spoke more low,
But cheerly still; and said, 'I pray thee, then,
Write me as one that loves his fellow-men.'

*The Angel wrote, and vanished. The next night
It came again with a great wakening light,
And showed the names whom the love of God had blessed.
And, lo! Ben Adhem's name led all the rest!*

ROBERT TANKARD WATERFIELD

By Daniel Tatum Merritt

Robert Tankard Waterfield, the son of William Thomas and Margaret Ward Waterfield, was born near Onancock, Accomack County, Virginia, August 6th, 1869. He was one of nine children.