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JOHN CASPER BIERI

Fifty-one years of glorious and successful service for the Lord in winning souls to Jesus Christ and building the Kingdom of God in the hearts and lives of countless numbers of peoples throughout the world, earned for this "Good Minister of Jesus Christ" the commendation expressed by the poet:

"Servant of God, well done!
Thy glorious warfare's past;
The battle's fought, the race is won,
And thou art crowned at last!"

Born in Philadelphia, Pa., November 13, 1873, of John G. and Wilhemina G. Bieri, young John was reared in the atmosphere of a Christian



home. He received his education at Pennington Seminary (1898); Dickinson College (1901) and Drew Theological Seminary. In 1920, Taylor University honored him with the degree of "Doctor of Divinity."

On September 16, 1902, while Pastor of the Memorial Church, Easton, John C. Bieri and Jeannette Betson were happily married. Of this union, three children blessed the parsonage, Kathryne, Walter, and John. Death took the mother of this happy home. June 4, 1929 was the date on which John and Alice Dalrymple were united in marriage, but death also dissolved this union.

The ministerial career of Dr. Bieri was long and useful, during which time he served the following churches: In the city of Philadelphia, Hancock Street, Scott, Siloam (Kensington), Frankford Avenue, Centenary, Wissahickon, Columbia Avenue, St. Luke's, Park Avenue and Clearview (after retirement); outside of Philadelphia: Millerstown, Memorial, Easton, Windsor Street, Reading, Columbia, Mahanoy City, Providence Avenue, Chester, and Spring City. He also served as one of the official Conferencemen Evangelists.

Preacher, evangelist, lover of youth, tireless worker, true brother minister, this man did not burn himself out in seeking anything for himself,

but literally burned himself out for the sake of others. Speaking not two or three or five times a week, but often that many times in one day, he was envied by many who knew him best for his indefatigable labors of love.

In more than 100 hymns, 60 of which are in print, composed by him and sung throughout the world, this Minister of the Gospel always evidenced a sublime faith in his Lord, proclaimed redemption through the Atonement of Christ and lifted an exultant note of praise.

In the use of "the art of magic" he preached The Word. Like his Lord, who never performed a miracle for the mere sake of the miracle, so John C. Bieri never used his ability to perform "magic" for mere entertainment, but always to give glory to God and to teach the wonders of His grace through Christ. Thus did he expose witchcraft in the midst of the multitudes of poor and superstitious peoples in many lands; thus did he bring pleasure and comfort to suffering humanity in sanitoriums and leper colonies; thus did he thrill thousands of the youth of America as he taught them the story of the Saviour of the World.

Truly the greatest monument erected to the memory and honor of a Christian is not that which is carved out of granite or marble and placed where the passerby may gaze upon it, but rather that monument erected in the heart and life of those whose lives have been enriched by being led to that highest of all joys, namely, being led to know Christ as Lord. Today there are thousands of men, women and young people living the "good life" because their lives came into contact with Dr. Bieri. He led them to the Giver of true joy and peace.

On Easter Sunday, March 25, 1951, Dr. Bieri, together with his daughter, Kathryne, attended divine service in the Bala-Cynwyd Church. When they returned home, he complained of not feeling well. The following Friday, March 30th, he entered the life triumphant. Services were conducted in the Bala-Cynwyd Church, Tuesday, April 3rd with Rev. Franklin Duncombe presiding, assisted by Rev. John A. McElroy and the writer of this Memoir.

"Redeemed from earth and pain,
Ah, when shall we ascend,
And all in Jesus' presence reign,
Through ages without end?"

LEON T. MOORE

HOWARD RAYMOND BRONG

The subject of this Memoir was a patient in our Methodist Hospital in Philadelphia for several months previous to his decease. Throughout his serious illness Brother Brong manifested a steadfast faith in the wisdom of his Heavenly Father, an indomitable courage, and a grateful spirit for the thoughtful and patient services of the nurses, doctors and friends.

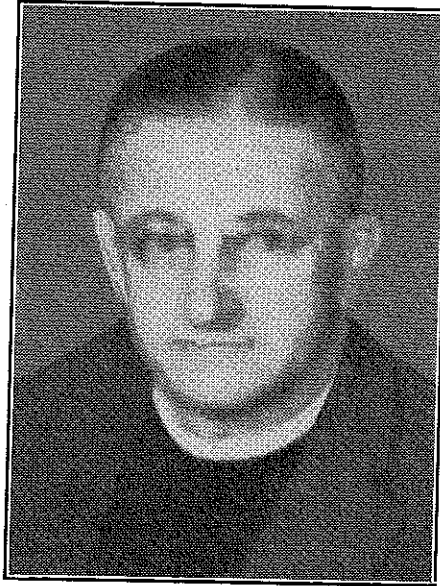
Howard Raymond Brong was born, June 22, 1890, Saylorsburg, Pennsylvania. He was graduated from the Pen Argyl High School, and also attended the Temple University School of Theology. He was converted in his youth and felt that he received the call to the ministry.

On June 14, 1913, at Roxborough, Howard was married to Eva May Ottinger, a faithful, devoted and excellent helpmeet. Four children were born to this happy couple, Mrs. Gladys Geyer, Mrs. Ruth Ottaviane, Howard R. Brong, Jr., and Wesley F. Brong, all of whom, with their wonderful mother, survive.

Prior to entering the Ministry, Howard was employed at the Philadelphia Navy Yard as a machinist. During World War I, he worked as a machinist on submarines.

Brother Brong was admitted to the Wyoming Conference in 1925. He served numerous charges in Pennsylvania and New York. In 1943 he was transferred to the Philadelphia Conference. His last charge was the C. C. Hancock Memorial Church, Philadelphia. He was dearly loved in all his churches, for his Christian character, his fidelity and inspiring preaching of the Gospel. He loved to preach. He was Secretary of the Philadelphia Methodist Ministerium.

On March 2, 1951, his immortal spirit winged its flight to his heavenly home, to be clothed with a glorified body. Services were held March 5, 8 p.m., in the Wesley H. Kerr Funeral Parlors, with the Reverend John Lundgren in charge. The following day, the Reverend John D. Herr, D.D., Superintendent of the Northwest District, Philadelphia Conference, assisted by several ministers, conducted the Service at the Siloam Methodist Church,



Booth's Corner, Pennsylvania. Interment was in the Siloam Methodist Church Cemetery.

"Servant of God, well done!
Thy glorious warfare's past;
The battle's fought, the race is won,
And thou art crowned at last.

WILLIAM H. FORD,
Chaplain, Methodist Hospital

WAYNE CHANNELL

According to an old German proverb, "Those who live in the Lord never see each other for the last time." Hence this is not an obituary—an account of one who is dead. Wayne Channell still lives. He lives in the lives of many friends, who before long expect to greet him again in that land where old age is unknown.

Respecting his life on this planet, Wayne was born in Pine Grove, Pennsylvania, on July 24th, 1874. He was the son of George W. and Louisa F. Channell. His father was the principal of the Public School at Port