

Journal and Year Book

Fourth Session

The California-Nevada Annual Conference of The Methodist Church

Successor to

Oregon-California Mission Conference of the
Methodist Episcopal Church
Organized 1849

Pacific Annual Conference of the
Methodist Episcopal Church, South
Organized 1852

California Annual Conference of the
Methodist Episcopal Church
Organized 1853

The California Annual Conference
of The Methodist Church
Organized 1939

The California Oriental Provisional Annual Conference
of the Methodist Church
Organized 1945

College of the Pacific
Stockton, California
June 10-15, 1952

Bishop Donald Harvey Tippett,
Donald H. Baldwin, Secretary and Editor
1840 M Street, Merced, Calif.
J. L. Butler, Assistant Editor

(The Official Record Published by Authority of the Conference.)

— Price: \$1.00 per copy —

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AUGUST FREDERICK WILLIAM WALTERS

WALTERS, AUGUST FREDERICK WILLIAM: T 88—F 91; Pacific, Pacific 91, White River 03; Pacific 05; Woodville and Poplar; 20 Henleyville; 22 Knight's Landing and Zamora; 24 Marvin; 25 Hopland; 26 Williams; 27 Retired; Calif. 39 Retired, 1224 75th Ave., Oakland.

August F. W. Walters was born in Germany in 1860. He was brought to this country at an early age and with his adopted parents came to California in 1873. Attending the Methodist College at Santa Rosa he entered the Methodist ministry in 1888. A member of the Methodist Church, South, he dedicated his life to working in small rural churches and in this way made his significant contribution toward the Kingdom of God. From his labor he reaped no harvest of gold but a harvest of love and respect from all whom he served.



Rev. Walters was a true Methodist at heart. He even found his wife at the Methodist Publishing House, Sacramento, where she was employed. Together they worked as a team at any task God placed before them. Rev. Walters retired in 1927 but he continued to serve churches until his physical condition made this impossible. Even then he contributed to the work of his local church in Oakland, California. The word 'pastor' is an excellent term to use in describing Brother Walters, for he always took special pains to care for his sheep. He fed them well with the undiluted Word of God, and cared for them through sorrow, grief, and pain. His visits were looked forward to with great anticipation

and his friends were numerous.

No one who ever came under the influence of this great co-worker with the Lord left without feeling the intense zeal for God and devotion to the Methodist Church that marked his life. Even in the dark days, precipitated by illness and his wife's death, he remained faithful and courageous. What can one say for a life such as this?

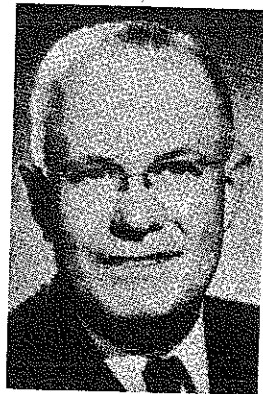
"Well done, good and faithful servant!"

FRANKLIN SCOTT

VERNE C. BROWN

BROWN, VERNE C.: T 19—F 24; Supply ¾ year; Cal. 19 Albany; 23 Epworth, Sacramento; 26 San Mateo; 32 Turlock; 36 Lodi; 38 Supt. Sacramento Dist.; Calif. 39 Supt. Sacramento Dist.; 44 Chico; 48 Trinity, San Francisco; Cal-Nev. 49 Assoc. First, Fresno.

Verne C. Brown was born in Mystic, Iowa, March 31, 1893. His early college training was taken in the Bible Department of Drake University. After two years of study he moved with his family to California where he served as Student Pastor at Albany and attended the University of California, receiving his A.B. degree in 1923. In 1924 he became a member of the California Conference in which he served his entire ministry. The College of Pacific honored him by conferring upon him the Degree of Doctor of Divinity at the June Commencement 1944.



Through the years Dr. Brown has enjoyed the companionship of his charming wife, Vida, whom he married at Adel, Iowa on October 25, 1918. They were blessed with two children—Earl Verne of Antioch and Jean Marie of Fresno, California.

During the twenty-eight years he was a member of the California-Nevada Conference, he ministered in about every type of Church from the smallest to the largest, in the country and in the city. In addition to his pastoral ministry, he also served as Superintendent of the Sacramento District for six years.

Wherever he went, he made a host of friends. He was devoted to his task. His was a shepherd's heart and he won multitudes of people to

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WILLIAM WALTERS

WALTERS, WILLIAM: T 88—F 91; Pacific, Pacific 91; Illinois and Poplar; 20 Henleyville; 22 Knight's; 25 Hopland; 26 Williams; 27 Retired; Calif. d.
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Walters was a true Methodist at heart. He found his wife at the Methodist Pub-house, Sacramento, where she was employed together they worked as a team at any place before them. Rev. Walters resigned in 1927 but he continued to serve churches. His physical condition made this impossible then he contributed to the work of his church in Oakland, California. The word "angel" an excellent term to use in describing Walters, for he always took special care for his sheep. He fed them well with the indiluted Word of God, and cared for them through sorrow, grief, and pain. His visits were carried forward to with great anticipation.

Under the influence of this great co-worker with his intense zeal for God and devotion to the cause. Even in the dark days, precipitated by the loss of loved ones, he remained faithful and courageous. What a blessing!

FRANKLIN SCOTT**BROWN**

BROWN, FRANKLIN: 3/4 year; Cal. 19 Albany; 23 Epworth; 24 K; 36 Lodi; 38 Supt. Sacramento Dist.; 39 Chico; 48 Trinity, San Francisco; Cal.

in Iowa, March 31, 1893. His early education at the Department of Drake University. He moved with his family to California where he attended the University of California, Berkeley, and received his A.B. degree in 1923. In 1924 he was elected member of the California Conference. He served his entire ministry. The California Conference honored him by conferring upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity at the June conference of 1944.

For the years Dr. Brown has enjoyed the privilege of his charming wife, Vida, whom he married at Adel, Iowa on October 25, 1918. Blessed with two children—Earl Verne and Jean Marie of Fresno, California. In his twenty-eight years he was a member of the California-Nevada Conference, he ministered in every type of Church from the smallest to the largest, in the country and in the world. In his pastoral ministry, he also served as Superintendent of the Sacramento District for many years.

When he went, he made a host of friends. He was devoted to his task. His was a shepherd's life and he won multitudes of people to

the Cause of Jesus Christ.

He had the faculty of being completely loyal to those with whom he was associated, and to the Church he served and the God he loved. He was in every way "a good minister of Jesus Christ."

Memorial services were held on Thursday afternoon, May 22nd at First Methodist Church, Fresno, Ronald Meredith and Robert Panzer officiating. Interment was in Sacramento with Dr. A. Raymond Grant in charge.

RONALD MEREDITH

ADAM BIRD

BIRD, ADAM: T 07—F 09; W. Va. 04 Camden; 09 Ten Mile; 11 Junior; 12 At school; 13 Graston; 14 Lumberport; 15 School, Boston; 18 Chaplain U. S. Army; 19 Blaine; 21 Pennsboro; 22 Huntington; Cal. 24 Clay St., Stockton; 29 South San Francisco; 33 Tracy; 34 Winnemucca; Nev.; 35 Manteca; 37 Eureka; Calif. 39 Rio Linda; 42 Elmhurst, Oakland; 46 Retired, 2001 Woolsey St., Berkeley.

In "merry England" on December 31, 1879, the Lord God formed a man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living soul. His name was Adam.

HIS WAS THE SOUL OF A MINER. Born into an English mining family, he was soon deprived of his father. As the new breadwinner at the age of 12, he met the "choke damp" of the mines. Here was burned into his being the hopes and fears, the loves and resentments common to exploited people. Some of his limitations, and much of his glory derived from the intensity of his sense of belonging to all who labor and are heavy laden. His ready defense of the young, the aged, the sick, the sinful was characteristic of his way of life.

HIS WAS THE SOUL OF A PREACHER. With no resources he crossed the Atlantic Ocean, came to a new land, here to become a spokesman for the living God. In the same year, 1907, he sent for Hannah to become his bride. He overcame tuberculosis, contracted in the mines; he completed his schooling; his forty two years of service as a Methodist Minister included charges in West Virginia, Massachusetts, a year in the army chaplaincy, and the period from 1924-1946 in our own Conference. Few men have spoken with more of a sense of the divine imperative than did Adam.

The Stockton pastorate was marked by a large company of students from the College of the Pacific who surrounded the Birds in those days. Their love for youth, their confidence in young ministers is being remembered by friends in a Memorial Student Loan Fund which has been established (contributions are still being received at the Hayward Methodist Church).

HIS WAS ALSO THE SOUL OF A REBEL-SAINT. He chafed under customs, traditions, restrictions. But he achieved a broad sympathy and a wide circle of influence among those not often reached by the church. His close friends included a Catholic and a Mormon; a policeman and an alcoholic; a skeptic and a Jew. He was at home with all kinds of God's children.

There was a second sense in which he achieved sainthood: in his complete trust in God. No matter what the condition of health, however low the financial situation, he and Mother Bird continued to tithe their one-tenth for God. In the hours of sickness and pain, in the walk through the valley of the shadow, there was no complaint against God. Life belongs to God; why fret?

Death is a universal experience. We in the household of faith lose our loved ones too. But the ministry of death is not to us a ministry of fear. It does not mediate to us anxiety for those gone, no vain regrets, no self-pity. For it leads to no closed doors. The confused and lost may wail,

"At end of Love, at end of Life,
 At end of Hope, at end of Strife,
 At end of all we cling to so,
 The sun is setting, must we go?"

In the household of faith, we hear singing:

At dawn of Love, at dawn of Life,
 At dawn of Peace, that follows strife,
 At dawn of all we long for so—
 The sun is rising, let us go!"

(Louise Chandler Moulton)