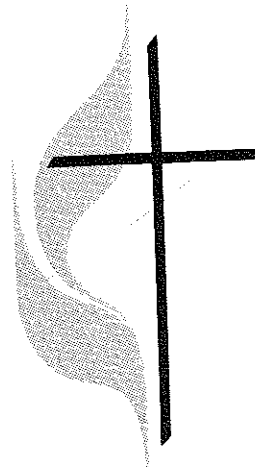


JOURNAL
OF
THE ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FIFTH SESSION
OF THE
NEW YORK ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OF THE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*Reunited With the New York East
Annual Conference*



UNIVERSITY OF BRIDGEPORT
Bridgeport, Connecticut

JUNE 14th-17th, 1984

1984 YEARBOOK

EDITED BY
DONALD F. HOWARD

privilege to serve. many constructive enthusiasms. is filled with antiques redeemed in heaps, patched, stripped, re-caned, reupholstered, and refined into works of serviceable art. He read with apparent ease vast passages of poetry, reciting them faultlessly later. He loved a good story and shared family friends, and congregated with wonderful anecdotes as pointed parables of the Lord he loved.

December 9, 1983 friends and family gathered at the Shelter Island Presbyterian Church to celebrate the good, loving, faithful life of The Rev. Roy Alton Goss. His two sons-in-law and son-in-law, Edward L. Peet, offered a eulogy in a service led by the church's pastor, Donald Shaw. The burial followed in a cemetery adjacent to the church.

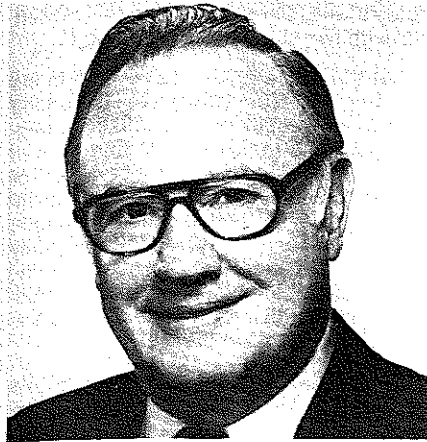
He stood then with a certainty and grace I had rarely experienced before. He was a resident in the ritual words: "I am with the dead who die in the Lord and go forth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they rest from their labors; and their souls follow them." Lewis Henry Davis' words of hand and spirit continue to enrich the lives of us who knew him and were loved

Robert W. Howard

When he was at the First Presbyterian Church in Morristown, New Jersey and in 1927 came to First Church, Waterbury, Connecticut. In 1928, this became his last appointment. The next year he moved to Nichols where he served as pastor. In 1935 he was moved to Derby, Connecticut, for a four-year pastorate. He left Connecticut in 1940 to become pastor of the Saybrook Church on Long Island and while there served as Secretary of the New York Conference under Bishop Oxnam. He served in that office from 1945 through 1950.

His last appointment was to City Church in the Bronx where he went in 1947 which he retired in 1952. He spent the last years in Westwood, Massachusetts where he died on April 21, 1983, in Westwood, Massachusetts, having finished his course in "The Line of Splendor".

Edwin S. Gault



ROY ALTON GOSS

"Even though you do it unto the least of these, My brethren, you are doing it unto Me." Matthew 25.

These were the words that Roy Alton Goss lived by, and so often used in his sermons and speeches, regarding the United Methodist Homes of Connecticut. Roy Alton Goss was born in West Decatur, Pennsylvania, November 8, 1913, to Frederick G. and Bessie Jones Goss. At a young age he moved with his parents to Altoona, Pennsylvania, where he received his early education. He was the recipient of a B.S. degree in Education and a B.A. degree in Liberal Arts from The University of Dayton. He earned a Bachelor degree and a Master of Divinity degree from The United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio.

Following his ordination in 1940, Rev. Goss was a member of the Central Pennsylvania Conference, serving churches at Birmingham, Bakerton, Howard, Flemington, Altoona, Hollidaysburg and Petersburg. In 1954 to 1960, he was the superintendent and administrator of a new 235 bed, county institution and, at the same time, pastored the Hopewell charge.

In 1961, he was appointed executive director and administrator of The Methodist Home for The Aged at Danbury, Connecticut. Needing to replace this outmoded, thirty-six bed facility, Rev. Goss began searching for a site, which led to the present seventy-eight acres, located in Shelton, Connecticut. In 1965, he began supervising the planning of a ninety bed

convalescent care facility, which is now called The Wicke Health Center. In 1973, The West Haven Pavilion was added, increasing the capacity to 120 beds. Again, construction began in 1968 for the 182 unit, known as Wesley Heights Retirement Community, which was opened in 1970. From 1976 to 1982, Rev. Goss once more became involved with the planning and supervising of the 162 units for senior citizens, known as Asbury Ridge. As his last dream neared completion, his life, also, came to an end.

Long active in community endeavors, Rev. Goss was a director of The Methodist Home in Tyrone, Pennsylvania and served as treasurer, secretary and three term president of the Pennsylvania Association of County Homes. In Connecticut, he was a charter member and co-chaired a committee to organize a state chapter known as the Connecticut Association of Non-Profit Homes. Twice a delegate to the White House Conference on Aging, Rev. Goss held memberships with The American Nursing Home Association, National Council on Aging and The Council on Health and Welfare Ministries of The United Methodist Church. He was a Fellow of The American College of Nursing Home Administrators, a 32nd degree Mason and a Noble of The Mystic Shrine, where he was acting chaplain for many years.

The United Methodist Homes of Connecticut are truly a monument to Roy Goss, for his love and compassion for others.

His seven year battle with cancer ended on May 29, 1984, at Griffin Hospital, Derby, Connecticut. His devoted wife, Marjorie Cook Goss survives, along with three children, Nadene E. Davis, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania; Robert A. Goss, Houston, Texas, and Becky J. Virgalla, Newtown, Connecticut. On June 1, 1984, an inspirational memorial service was held in The Shelton United Methodist Church. The Rev. Wallace Viets, who gave the meditation was assisted by The Rev. Clifford Field, The Rev. M. Lawrence Snow, The Rev. Walter Everett, The Rev. James Benson, The Rev. Father Philip Brady, Mr. Sha-pleigh Drisko and Robert A. Goss.

Marjorie J. Goss