

Commission On Archives And History
The United Methodist Church

MINUTES
OF THE
THIRTY-FIFTH SESSION
Western North Carolina
Conference
Methodist Episcopal Church
South



West Market Street Church
Greensboro, N. C.
1924

He was married to Miss Martha Ann Sprinkle on March 23, 1873, who, with four daughters and two sons, survives him.

It can be said of this noble man that he was an unsparing contender for the Christian faith; that he was a tireless and faithful shepherd of his people. What he believed to be right he proclaimed without equivocation or scruple. His strong convictions, always unsusceptible to compromise, sometimes brought him into sharp disagreement with friends, and this characteristic cost him the good will of associates at times; but he never wavered in any of his beliefs nor was ever known to sacrifice a conviction to expediency. He did his duty as he saw it, and lived and died an unquestioned champion of the orthodox faith of our branch of the Christian church.

By this never faltering fealty to his high calling, and a life of militant service, has vouchsafed to himself an enduring monument; a name that is linked with the heroic history of our great church and that will be carried along in the annals of its achievements until its new history begins above.

Z. E. BARNHARDT.

REV. JOHN McCOLLUM PRICE

John McCollum Price, son of J. M. and Sarah McNeeley Price, was born in Sandy Ridge Township, Union County, North Carolina, December 14, 1863.

At the age of fifteen he became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, on profession of faith. But in his experience the age of eighteen was fixed as the time when he was "soundly converted." This date, to him, was the religious crisis of his life and he met it by unequivocal consecration to the work of his Lord.

He was educated at the Wesley Chapel school in Union County, at the Monroe High School and at Rutherford College. At all these places he applied himself diligently to his studies and in 1886, being thoroughly convinced of a call to the ministry, he was admitted on trial into the North Carolina Conference and appointed to Dobson Circuit. Ready always to listen to an appeal for service he volunteered, when a call was made in 1889 for preachers on the Pacific Coast and spent one year on an appointment in Oregon. Conditions there were not suited to a man of his temperament and ill health resulted in two years of cessation from the pastorate. At the Conference held in Winston-Salem in 1892 he was re-admitted and appointed to McAdenville.

On May 10, 1893, he was married to Miss Mollie E. Walker of

Mecklenburg County. Through a period of nearly thirty years this good woman struggled with him through the hardships of the itinerancy. To them were born two sons: Robert McCollum, now a student in Yale Divinity School and Walker McNeely, who lives with his mother.

Following his work at McAdenville, Brother Price served these appointments: Charlotte Circuit, 1893-95; Wentworth Circuit, 1895-99; Randolph Circuit, 1899-1901; Mooresville Circuit, 1901-03; Davie Circuit, 1903-05; Monroe Circuit, 1905-06; Caldwell Circuit, 1906-07; Catawba Circuit, 1907-10; Lenoir Circuit, 1910-11; Salem, 1911-12; Dobson Circuit, 1912-13; Gold Hill, 1913-15; Kernersville, 1915-17; North Lenoir Circuit, 1917-19.

In 1919 Brother Price was superannuated but in 1920 being always anxious to do all he was capable of doing for his church, he served the Bald Creek Circuit and in 1921 was appointed Junior Preacher on the Morganton Circuit where he labored most effectively for two years. He was re-appointed to this charge at the last session of our Conference but later was transferred to the McDowell Circuit and it was here in Nebo that he was stricken with paralysis on the morning of January 17, and sinking into unconsciousness, from which he never rallied, died in the afternoon of January 18, 1924. On the preceding Sunday he preached three times and hence died as he had often expressed a hope, "In harness." Thus ended a life of bravery and devotion to the Methodist ministry, which, though oft repeated, and of common occurrence never grows old nor loses in the charm of its heroism and unfaltering faith in a holy task.

On Sunday, January 20, 1924, the funeral service was conducted at his old home church, Wesley Chapel, by Reverends Zadok Paris, T. J. Huggins, E. N. Crowder, C. C. Weaver and J. B. Craven, and his body was laid to rest in the Wesley Chapel Cemetery.

J. B. CRAVEN.

REV. JOSEPH P. REYNOLDS

Joseph P. Reynolds was born in Buncombe County, North Carolina, May 23, 1838, and died in Fincastle, Virginia, December 3, 1923. He was reared on a farm under the best of moral and religious influences and early in life established a character for deep piety which he maintained with increasing fervor through a long and useful life. He became a member of the Methodist church early in life and was a useful and consistent member until thirty-seven years old, when he received license to preach and joined the Holston Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church,