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OFFICIAL RECORD

OF THE

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-NINTH SESSION

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Edited by MARION A. STEVENSON

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RANKLIN PITTS

of George Washington Pitts and September 10, 1872, at Prattville, Confederate soldier for four years. In the public school and in Sunion for mental and moral developchool he studied in Mount Zion Mount Zion, Georgia; and took his sity, now the University of Chathonors in scholarship.

ted with the Methodist Episcopal bama. He was licensed to preach

Admitted on trial in the Georgia pal Church in 1895; received into deacon in 1897; ordained elder in Dunagan Circuit one year; Elijay, Lafayette, one year. These, before in 1901, where he served Graysvenue, Knoxville, eight years, Strs; Bristol, two years; Cleveland, ar; Maryville, two years; Johnson ears; Park City, four years; Oakfive years; Sevierville, two years; w Salem, three years; As a Supply hapel, two years; Zion, one year; Iiddlebrook, one year; East Hill and one half years. Including the ved uninterruptedly for fifty-eight k a vacation and never had a spell

in the building of churches at St. and the First Methodist Church charges, East Main Avenue, was a vas also Park City Church.

honorary degree of Doctor of Di-Chattanooga. He was elected a erence of the Methodist Episcopal isurer of Holston Conference for vice and Finance until retired.

Myra Lola Hipp, December 1894., Miss Gladys Marie, who with her husband and father.

e of 72 (seventy-two) in 1944, but til the day of his death. He held service on the evening of January ere leaving the church his strength t. Mary's Hospital. He was ready for the summons which came at 2:45 on the morning of January 3, 1952.

Memorial services were held at Central Methodist Church on January 5, 1952; led by Dr. J. A. Bays, assisted by Rev. R. O. Eller, Dr. George J. Creswell, and Dr. I. P. Martin.

PERRY EMMITT RAMSEY

The Reverend P. E. Ramsey, retired Methodist Minister, was born March 14, 1880, died August 13, 1952, age 72 years, 5 months. He started in the ministry in Holston Conference in 1907, and was retired in 1947. During these years he served in several conferences and for six years was district superintendent in Central Tennessee. His last pastorate was at Grace Church in Erwin, Tennessee, and before that pastorate he served the Rock Springs Church for five years.

He was a native of Pall Mall, Tennessee, where he was a schoolmate of the World War 1 hero, Sergeant Alvin York, Sr. He joined the Methodist Church while a young man, and in 1903 he was happily married to Miss Ethel Stowers of Fentress County, Tennessee. They lived together in happy union 49 years. She was a true helpmeet in parsonage, circuit and revival. She, too, shared a similar experience of deeper consecration. There were born to this happy union the following children: four sons: Albert, Delbert, Coble, and Perry E. Ramsey, Jr., all of Kingsport, Tennessee; four daughters: Mrs. Gertrude Dixon, Kingsport, Tennessee; Mrs. Debbie Dixon and Mrs. Eva Creecy of Dell, Arkansas; Mrs. Freedia Dixon of Keiser, Tennessee; three sisters: Mrs. Hattie Ramsey, of Carthage, Tennessee; Mrs. Emma Stowers of Ozark, Alabama; and Mrs. Debbie Gooch of Dallas, Texas; twenty four grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

As a pastor he was untiring, attentive, thoughtful and encouraging. He had a Christlike passion for going about doing good. He loved his people and his people loved him. He had a rare gift for making friends and for retaining their friendship, because people knew him to be true in heart and clean in life.

The writer spent many happy hours in conversation with him, talking over our early ministry and the great revivals of the by-gone years. I feel that I have lost a great pal, but my loss is his gain. So sleep on Brother Ramsey; you haven't beat me across so very long.

Funeral services were held from the Rock Springs Methodist Church. He selected and told the writer the songs he wanted the choir to sing. These were "Amazing Grace," "Saviour, More Than Life To Me," and "O Come Angel Band," and were beautifully rendered by the choir. The writer officiated, assisted by Reverend Glenn Lippse, Reverend Stuart, Reverend W. S. Gambe and Reverend Hood. Interment was in Rock Springs Church Cemetery.

W. S. ROBINETTE

JOHN W. STEWART

John W. Stewart was born in Rising Fawn, Georgia, March 22, 1869. He died in a Chattanooga Hospital May 2, 1952. He was eighty three years old. He was in the forty-eighth year of his itinerant ministry.

His home training made it easy and natural for him to accept the Christian faith and to identify himself with the Methodist people early in life. In this fellowship he remained until he obtained a transfer, at the end of a long and fruitful life, to the Church Triumphant.

The Annual Conference minutes of 1904 record his admission on trial into the Conference. His first appointment was to Ducktown, Tennessee. Thereafter he served the following charges: Oakland Circuit, Loudon, Belfast Mills, Rocky Gap, Clintwood, Moss, Jonesville, Ewing, Gate City Circuit, Ceres, Benton, and closed his active ministry by serving his last two years at Ducktown, where he began.

Brother Stewart was married to Miss Maud Garner in 1908 in the lovely Williamson's Chapel near Maryville, Tennessee. Six children came to bless this home: Mary, Nell, Genevieve, Grace, Tommie and John. The Stewart home was happy and gracious.

Such in brief outline are the annals of a truly good and useful life. While it was never Brother Stewart's lot to serve in the so-called conspicuous fields, he always found himself surrounded by challenging tasks and opportunities. A diligent pastor always, and a faithful interpreter of the word of truth, he leaves a record worthy the high calling of God in Jesus Christ.

Along with his love for his home in Benton, Tennessee, he maintained a passionate devotion to his Church and the congregation with which he was associated. The years of his retirement did not diminish his interest in his beloved Zion. His prayers continued to ascend from earth's sacred altars. Rare, indeed, was the service of worship at the Benton Methodist Church held that this apostle of the faith was not present with the glow of the Spirit showing in his face. It was fitting that the last rites should have been held there, and the old hymns which he had loved sung by the choir. His body was laid to rest in the Benton Cemetery near the home, the church, and the people whom he had loved and who loved him.

C. A. BRABSTON