



BISHOP JOHN WESLEY LORD AND RETIRING MEMBERS

Left to right: — Frank D. Milbury, Henry N. Nicklas, E. E. Coleman, Preston W. Spence, Muriel C. Smith, John Wesley Lord, Sidney B. Bradley, Charles D. Gerald.

# Official Journal

OF THE

## PENINSULA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

OF THE

## METHODIST CHURCH

### Twenty-Seventh Session

182nd Year of American Methodism on the  
Delmarva Peninsula

Convention and Civic Center  
Rehoboth Beach, Delaware

MAY 19th - 22nd, 1966

BISHOP JOHN WESLEY LORD .....President  
 W. L. BECKWITH .....Secretary  
 The Seaford District:  
 PAUL E. McCOY, Superintendent .....Conference Host

## ROYAL CHESTERFIELD HUGHES

Royal C. Hughes, the son of the late George and Emma Hughes, was born May 6, 1888, in Oaklevel, Virginia. He attended the public schools of his native locality and the Keysville Mission School, Keysville, Virginia.

In 1912 he became a member of the Delaware Conference and served the following charges: Beckwith, Mt. Vernon, Berlin-Sinepuxent, Princess Anne, Chestertown, Crisfield, and Pocomoke in Maryland; Leemont, Virginia; Salem, New Jersey; Greenwood, Delaware; and Mt. Joy, Wilmington, Delaware. Brother Hughes also served the Conference as an assistant statistician and as a member of the Board of Education and Board of Evangelism. He retired in 1960.

Royal C. Hughes chose to follow the path of dedicated leadership. He was happy that he had been able to give nearly half a century in the work of the Christian ministry. It was significant that God chose a Sunday morning on which to appoint him to his reward. He went to rest on Sunday, May 23, 1965.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Evangeline J. Hughes; three daughters, Mrs. Vivian Pretlow, Mrs. Lois Capehart, and Mrs. Sylvia Carter; a sister, Miss Myrtle Hughes; a brother, Percie Hughes; four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

The funeral service was held on Friday, May 28, at the Ezion Methodist Church, Wilmington, where he had become a member following retirement.

## THE FAMILY

## JOSEPH BENJAMIN PETTUS, SR.

Joseph B. Pettus was born at Blackstone, Virginia, July 27, 1890. He was the son of Daniel Witt Pettus and Mrs. Emma Jane LeNeave Pettus.

He was educated at Randolph Macon Academy and the University of Virginia, and was a member of the Peninsula Conference. He was ordained an Elder on October 17, 1925, in Richmond, Virginia, by Bishop Warren G. Candler.

Both clergy and laity of the Peninsula Annual Conference remember "Brother Joe" with deep affection, as one who thoroughly loved the Lord and endeavored daily to serve his fellowman as he believed fitting for a minister of the Gospel. A real circuit rider in the early days of his ministry, Brother Joe traveled the then-muddy and almost impassable roads—roads in which only a horse could possibly travel. Through rain, snow and ice he carried the Gospel to those who lived along the road. There were mountain trails and friendly people, and he loved it all. He had an interesting and thrilling life and enjoyed every moment of it. He retired in May, 1956, and moved to Lynchburg, Virginia.

Reverend Pettus was promoted to Glory on April 19, 1966. Funeral services were held at Trinity Methodist Church, Lynchburg, Virginia, and the burial was in the Presbyterian Cemetery. His survivors include his wife, Mrs. Ruth Coleman Pettus; two sons, Joseph B. Pettus, Jr. of Salisbury, Maryland, and Dr. William G. Pettus of Lynchburg, Virginia; one daughter, Mrs. Ruth P. Palmer of Wilmington, Delaware; five grandchildren

and two sisters, Mrs. Nellie Evans and Mrs. Clara Talley of Richmond, Virginia.

"Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
Fill me with life anew,  
That I may love what Thou dost love,  
And do what Thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
So shall I never die,  
But live with Thee the perfect life,  
Of Thine eternity."

Amen.

GEORGE H. FIGUERON, JR.

## OTIS B. REED

Otis Baker Reed was born in Broadkill Hundred on The Island Farm, December 23, 1883; the son of William and Lydia Ann Reed. He attended school in Ellendale, Delaware. In his earlier years he farmed with his father and worked for the government as a rural mail carrier.

Mr. Reed served as a minister in the Peninsula Conference of the Methodist Church from 1904 until his retirement in 1956, when he made his home in Wyoming, Delaware. During part of his retirement he continued serving as pastor of Leipsic and Little Creek.

During his pastoral ministry he served in Delaware churches at Milford Neck, Marydel, Church Hill, Hockessin, Hillcrest, Wyoming, Leipsic and Little Creek. In Maryland, he served churches at Chesapeake City, Trappe, Mount Vernon, Kent Island, Ridgely and Millington.

Mr. Reed was a Mason and member of the Redman's Lodge. He also was one of the earliest backers of the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts in Delaware, being instrumental in organizing troops for the movement nearly 50 years ago. In 1916, Mr. Reed organized and led a Boy Scout Troop in Marydel. In 1918 he led a Troop Committee that established the Girl Scouts in Church Hill, Maryland.

A favorite spot for the Reeds was Tolchester Beach, Maryland. There in 1924 Mr. Reed built two cottages. He sold the newer one, liking the older one best. Here over the years the Reeds entertained many: Sunday School picnics, choir parties, over-night guests from their congregations, etc. Mr. Reed liked to take his guests on boat rides. Besides carpentry and boating, he also liked hunting. He was very fond of dogs and always kept a number of hunting dogs.

Otis Reed loved people. He particularly enjoyed the pastoral ministries because of the contact with the people. He also loved life and, though strong willed and self sufficient, was well liked by all who knew him. He always possessed a fine sense of humor.

Mr. Reed was blessed with a remarkable memory which enabled him to write out his sermons, memorize them and preach without notes. A distinguishing mark in his speaking was the great skill and ability with which he could recite poetry. Psalm 23 was his favorite scripture.

Mr. Reed and his wife, the former Jennie H. Johnson of Milton, Delaware, celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary and his 82nd birthday on December 23, 1965.

On March 9, 1966, Otis B. Reed left this life to be with Jesus. His body was buried in Ellendale, Delaware, near where his life began. As he requested the funeral service was held in the Wyoming Church and was led by Hartwell F. Chandler, William Hemphill, Jr. and Everett Isaacs.

Surviving, besides his widow, are two daughters, Mrs. Harriet R. Gates of Washington, D. C., and Mrs. Marion R. Hakenjos of Wilmington; four grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

EVERETT C. ISAACS

### CHARLES ROSCOE STRAUSBURG

Charles Roscoe Strausburg was born in Johnsville, Frederick County, Maryland, on May 24, 1876, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Frederick Strausburg. Although the son of parents associated with the Dunkard Church, he went as a boy with friends to the Methodist Protestant Church in the village of his birth, where he became a member. Later he was received into the membership of the Maryland Annual Conference and was ordained in 1901.

He married Miss Nettie May Cartridge, daughter of Henry J. and Sarah J. Cartridge of Wilmington, Delaware in 1906.

His pastorates included the following churches in Maryland: Kemptown; St. John's, Canton; Talbot; Alnutt Memorial, Baltimore; and Fairlee.

Other appointments were Alexandria, Virginia; First Church, Wilmington; Calvary Church, Milford, Delaware. He retired in 1947 and went to live in Greenbelt, Maryland.

Four years later he returned to active service when he was appointed to the Mowatt Memorial Methodist Church in Greenbelt, which he served until 1954. Of this last appointment, Mr. Ralph E. Noble, a layman of the church, writes in warm appreciation of the fine ministry which was rendered by this pastor of long service who returned from retirement to give his best while yet there was time and strength. Mr. Noble states, "Mr. Strausburg was interested in people, a regular visitor in the homes of his many friends. His sense of humor and his wit never failed to bring out the charm of this man who to the very end was devoted to God, the church, and concerned for the welfare of people."

A Strausburg Memorial Building Fund is being established by this congregation, looking forward to the erection of a sanctuary. The City Council of Greenbelt has recently appointed a committee to establish a fitting memorial to the memory of this good minister who had served in their midst.

The writer of this memoir remembers this faithful servant of the church who as a near friend of the family made frequent visits to our home. On many special occasions in the church I knew as a boy he was sought after as a speaker who would be sure to bring wit, humor and inspiration. Of his rare gifts of speech and personality, The Reverend J. L. Nichols observed that "Strausburg always brings sunshine."

He died on September 1, 1965 leaving his wife, Nettie May; four sons, J. Fred of Cumberland, Md., Charles R. and Robert E. of Middle River, Md., and Edward L. of Catonsville, Md., three daughters, Mrs. Arthur Lucas of Westchester, Pa., Mrs. James J. Cashman of Beltsville, Md., and Mrs. Frank C. Compioier of Berwyn Heights, Md.; 15 grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held in the Mowatt Memorial Methodist Church, Greenbelt, conducted by the pastor, The Reverend Perry Miller and The Reverend Harry Miles of the North Bethesda Methodist Church. Burial was in Delta, Pa.

WALTER H. STONE

### EDGAR S. TYLER

Some morning I shall rise from sleep,  
When all the house is still and dark;  
I shall steal down and find my ship  
By the dim quayside, and embark.

Nor fear the sea or any wind;  
I have known fear, but now no more.  
The winds shall bear me safe and kind,  
Long-hoped for, and long-awaited for.

To no strange country shall I come  
But to my own delightful homeland,  
With Christ to bid me welcome Home  
And Christ to lead me by the hand.

Edgar S. Tyler was born October 21, 1872 at Chance, Maryland. His parents were Jacob S. Tyler and Annie E. Horner. He completed his high school training in his home community. While attending school he had a deep yearning to be a sailor. He worked hard with mathematics to make his dream come true. From 1891 to 1903 he was a navigator and rose to the captaincy of ocean going 3-mast schooners. He captained ships into the West Indies to Jamaica, South America, and then turned North into New Providence and Iceland.

On April 7, 1901 he married Ada Lee Kelly. Two children were born from this union. The daughter passed on in her infancy. The son, E. Byron Tyler, lives in Salisbury.

From 1903 to 1917 Brother Tyler became a sail maker and a rigger of ships. In 1917 he was happily confirmed in one of Billy Sunday's meetings,—leaving sea going ships and boarded the good ship Zion. He became a very active member of Rock Creek Church at Chance, Maryland. Rev. Emory W. McDowell, then pastor of the church, led him into the ministry.

In 1918 he was injured in a train accident. After his recovery he believed more than ever God had saved his life for a purpose and the call to the ministry was without a doubt. Dr. Vaughn S. Collins, District Superintendent of the Salisbury District, granted Brother Tyler local preacher's license. He was appointed to the Lakesville Charge as a Supply Minister. He served Lakesville Circuit from 1919 to 1923, Galetstown Circuit 1924, Leipsic Circuit 1925, and Royal Oak Circuit 1926 and 1927.