

Minutes of

The Wyoming Annual Conference of the Methodist Church

Special Session, November 25, 1946

NINETY-SIXTH SESSION

being held in the

First Methodist Church

ENDICOTT, NEW YORK

April 9 - 13, 1947

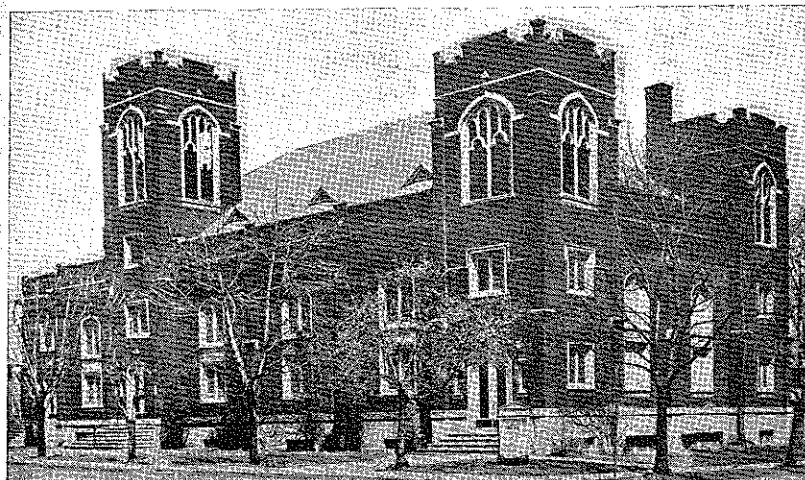
Being the Eight Session since
Unification



E. BECKER BROWNELL
Pastor

Being Successor to The Wyoming Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, organized in Carbondale, Penna. July 7, 1852.

Becoming the Wyoming Annual Conference of the Methodist Church in First Methodist Church, Endicott, New York, October 10, 1939.



...nce, and giving their lives to
 knowledge of Christ was the
 his conversation, the purpose
 sion of his life. The record of
 hurch he served, there was a
 hich hundreds of people were
 knew him were not suprised,
 d duties, to give himself wholly
 ears he continued in that work,
 in leading thousands of people
 nal Savior. This period of his
 is own heart, and it must been

...ame peacefully on August 11,
 n, N. Y. the funeral services
 Bell and Fred E. Lott. The
 ury, near Binghamton, N. Y.
 Walt Whitman's lines fit well
 end.

...oul at death I cry)
 long, long anchorage we leave.
 swiftly courses from the shore.

GEORGE M. BELL

VATROUS

Vard Weston Watrous, one of
 heroes of Faith, passed sud-
 ly to his reward at Mexico, N.
 May 4th, 1946, when he was
 on with a heart attack. How
 ellent it is when death comes
 suddenly to be ready. He was
 ue exponent of the Faith
 ch he preached so long and
 l. To say that he lived a splen-
 earnest Christian life is to
 only a part of the story. He
 er spared himself when there
 good that he could render to
 rs. He gave himself in un-
 ted measure to the service of
 rs in the name of his Master.
 only taking care of the sick
 troubled of his own flock, he
 always on the alert to find
 others whom he might help to
 e into the fellowship of the
 istian Faith. He experienced
 l young men under his minis-
 the ministry. Thus his labor
 ose who are still proclaiming
 l. One of these ministers has
 ecause he wanted to be and
 id. What greater tribute can
 lived among us for a while,

left sunshine and joy wherever he went, and has gone to the land
 of glory to meet his Lord.

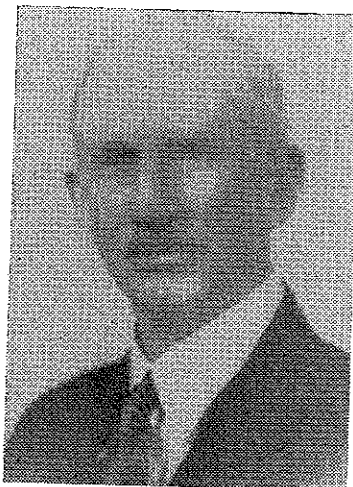
He was born November 14th, 1868 at Brooklyn, Pa. He attended
 Sidney High School and Cazenovia Seminary. He had felt the call
 to preach before his conversion in 1888. This call was strengthened
 after his conversion, but he did not respond to it until 1894. In April
 1895 he received Local Preacher's License at the High Street Church
 in Binghamton, N. Y., and joined the Conference in 1898.

He was married on November 15th, 1898 to Lena Lucy Black,
 daughter of S. F. Black of Binghamton, N. Y. He is survived by five
 children, Mrs. Lois Coney, Mrs. May Niles, Ward Jr., John, and
 Mrs. Elizabeth Riddle; also by six grandsons and two granddaugh-
 ters.

His pastorates were 98-00 South New Berlin, 00-04 New Berlin,
 05-09 McDonough, 10-16 Newark Valley, 16-17 Plains, 18-20 Union,
 21 Central Endicott, 22-23 Athens, 24-25 Susquehanna, 26-32 Nichol-
 son, 33-34 Spencer.

ALFRED R. BURKE

W. SYLVESTER YORK



December 21, 1870 there was
 born, in Arkansas, Wisconsin
 a boy, Welcome Sylvester York,
 destined to become a minister of
 Jesus Christ in the Methodist
 Episcopal Church. After school
 days in the Normal School of Ar-
 kansas, Welcome married in 1893
 Miss Nellie Knight. Into this
 home came three children, and
 then the mother was taken away.

August 31, 1904, marked a day
 of many new beginnings for bro-
 ther York. He married Mary
 Elizabeth Boyer on this day at
 the sessions of the Annual Con-
 ference then being held in Bar-
 aboo, Wisconsin. During this
 same session, he was ordained to
 the Methodist ministry and re-
 ceived appointment to the Tunnel
 City charge, Wisconsin. In an-
 swer to the call to go west, the

Yorks accepted appointment in the North West Nebraska Conference
 and for fifteen years continued to serve there. Their major labors
 involved building Sunday Schools, enlarging churches, and building
 parsonages. This work was of special interest to Brother York be-
 cause his father was a carpenter and the joy of creative labor was
 a part of his very being. His leadership among men was recognized,
 for he became conference statistican secretary and was a member
 of the examining board.

Mrs. York was an important part of the labors of these years.
 Five daughters and a son were born to this couple and their care
 demanded time and effort. The interested and consecrated spirit of

Mrs. York found opportunity to give skilled leadership beyond the home duties. She had worked as a printer and through her skill was employed by the Chicago Training School. This gave her opportunity to study there and when she married brother York, she was an ordained deaconess in the Rock River Conference.

In 1920, the Yorks moved into the parsonage at Guilford, and since then have been part of the Wyoming Conference. Following the pastorate at Guilford, were Noxen, Alderson-Noxen, and Bennett Memorial-St. Andrews. In 1937, brother York retired and lived in relaxation with Mrs. York and part of their family in Kingston, Pa., until he was called to the eternal home on August 11, 1946.

Funeral services were held at the home in Kingston, of which Dr. Adrian B. Foote, superintendent of the Scranton District, Rev. Samuel J. Truscott, and Rev. Frederick W. Reinfurt were in charge.

How homelike seems the vast unknown
Since they have wandered there.

ROSWELL V. LYON

MRS. CHARLES A. BENJAMIN

Mrs. Minnie Jonsen Benjamin, wife of Rev. Charles A. Benjamin, who for twenty-four years served Methodist Churches in Wyoming Conference, died on May 6, 1946, at the home of her daughter, Miss Frances J. Benjamin, in Lansdowne, Pa.

Mrs. Benjamin was born in Kingston, N. Y., on March 7, 1859. Graduated from Drew Seminary for Women in Mount Carmel, N. Y., she became the bride of Charles A. Benjamin on June 30, 1881. That same year her husband joined the Waverly Church. She graced the parsonages of the Churches in Norwich, Lisle, Whitney Point, Sherburne, West Pittston, Honesdale, Jermyn, Athens and Asbury Church, Scranton. In 1905 the Benjamins transferred to the Philadelphia Conference, serving Churches in Allentown and Philadelphia, retiring in 1923. During their ministry in the Philadelphia Conference, Mrs. Benjamin was very active in the women's work in the Conference and the city, being a charter member of the Ministers' Wives' Association of Philadelphia, Member of Board of Federation of Churches in Philadelphia, Woman's Foreign Missionary Society and the W. C. T. U. Board.

Surviving are two daughters, Miss Frances J. Benjamin, with whom she lived, in Lansdowne; Mrs. J. Paul Lombarn, of Philadelphia, and three sons, Rev. C. J. Benjamin, of Philadelphia, and Rev. C. D. Benjamin, pastor of East Alleghany Avenue Methodist Church, both members of the Philadelphia Conference; and Dr. M. W. Benjamin, of the staff of the Hahnemann Hospital.

ANNA DALE BURCH

Anna Dale Burch, beloved wife of R. Clayton Burch, departed this life May 25, 1945 and was laid to rest at Daleville, Pa. Mrs. Burch was born in Daleville in 1869 the granddaughter of the late William Dale, founder of Daleville. She was married to Rev. R.

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Clayton
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