

**METHODIST LEADERS:
THE PRESIDENTS GENERAL OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF
THE METHODIST CHURCH OF AUSTRALASIA, 1902-1977**

Eric G. Clancy

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The late Rev. Eric Clancy was the doyen of Methodist historians. This article was his last completed piece of research and was published in Church Heritage as a fitting memorial in the journal he established and edited from 1978 to 1993.

The Methodist Church of Australasia came into being on 1 January 1902. It brought together four Methodist bodies - the Wesleyan Methodist Church, the Primitive Methodists, the Bible Christians and the United Methodist Free Churches. In polity it largely followed the Wesleyan Methodist Church. This Church established a General Conference, meeting triennially, for Australasia (which then included New Zealand) in 1875, with Annual Conferences in the States.

The Rev. George Lane took office as President General in 1902, although the first General Conference was not held until 1904. In all there were 25 Presidents General: all of whom had previously served in their Annual Conferences as President prior to the time of their appointment. At the time of their election eleven were from Victoria, eight from New South Wales, three from Queensland, two from South Australia and one from Western Australia. The Rev. George Brown, aged 78 years, was the oldest to be elected President General and the Rev. W.F. Hambly, aged 55 years, was the youngest.

Fourteen were born in Victoria, seven in England, three in New South Wales, one in Tasmania and two in South Australia. It is interesting to note the wide variety of occupations of their fathers. Five were sons of Methodist ministers, one the son of a Baptist minister, and one the son of a Salvation Army officer. The rest of the occupations of the fathers were lawyer, joiner, printer, clog and pattern maker, sea captain, produce merchant, railway cleaner, farmer, master grocer, gaol warder and miner.

The Rev. Dr E.H. Sugden - the only one who trained for the ministry overseas, had a short ministry in England before coming to Australia. Twelve other ministers were University graduates. Eleven were awarded honorary doctorates.

Most (and probably all) had some work experience before entering the ministry. Four had lengthy terms of service in Overseas Missions, and one (the Rev. J.G. Wheen), while not having such experience, was to serve as General Secretary of Overseas Missions. One served in the Methodist Inland Mission. Eleven had appointments as Heads of Colleges and two had military chaplaincies.

The Rev. Henry Youngman and James Carruthers were the only Presidents-General whose entire ministry was in circuits. All other men served for some period in some executive work or in colleges or as superintendents of central missions. Four Presidents-General had children who entered the ministry and two (the Rev. A.J. Barclay and J.G. Wheen) had daughters who became heads of Methodist Ladies Colleges.

**PRESIDENTS-GENERAL OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE
METHODIST CHURCH OF AUSTRALASIA, 1902-1977**

Rev. George Lane, DD	1902
Rev. William Henry Fitchett, BA, LLD	1904
Rev. William Williams, DD, FLS	1907
Rev. Henry Youngman	1910
Rev. George Brown, DD	1913
Rev. James Edward Carruthers, DD	1917
Rev. Alexander McCallum, DD	1920
Rev. Edward Holdsworth Sugden, MA, BSc, Litt.D	1923
Rev. John Gladwell Wheen	1926
Rev. Frank Lade, MA	1929
Rev. Albert Thomas Holden, BA, CBE, VD	1932
Rev. Arthur Johnstone Barclay	1935
Rev. Arthur Edward Albiston, MA, BD	1938
Rev. Harold Manuel Wheller, OBE	1941
Rev. John Wear Burton, MA, DD	1945
Rev. Herbert Garfield Secomb, DD	1948
Rev. George Calvert Barber, CBE, MA, BD, PhD	1951
Rev. Robert Bathurst Lew, OBE, ED, BA, DD	1954
Rev. Alfred Harold Wood, OBE, MA, DD, DipEd, FACE	1957
Rev. Hubert Hedley Trigge, OBE, MA, BD	1960
Rev. William Frank Hambly, MA, BD, DD	1963
Rev. Cecil Frank Gribble, OBE, MA, DipEd, LRSM	1966
Rev. Charles Kingston Daws, CBE, ED, FASA, FLCS, LCA	1969
Rev. Rex Collis Mathias, MA, DipREd.	1972
Rev. Winston D'Arcy O'Reilly, OBE, MA, DipSocSci, MACE	1975

BRIEF BIOGRAPHIES OF PRESIDENTS-GENERAL, 1902-1977

George Lane, DD

(31.7.1842- 26.8.1904)

B. Hitchin, Herts, England; s. Rev. Phillip Lane (Baptist minister); came with parents to NSW ca.1854. Converted at Goulburn under ministry of Rev. J. Watsford 1857. Local Preacher at Goulburn. 1864 Accepted candidate for ministry. Ordained 1868. 1903 DD (Victoria University of Canada).

Appointments: 1864-1865 Berrima; 1866-1867 Bourke St., Sydney; 1868-1870 Singleton; 1871-1873 Morpeth; 1874-1876 Maitland; 1877-1879 Bourke St., Sydney; 1880-1882 Newtown; 1883-1868 General Secretary, Home Mission Society; 1889-1891 Waverley; 1892-1894 Paddington; 1895-1891 Bourke St., Sydney; 1898-1900 St Leonard's; 1901-1902 Paddington; 1903-1904 Property Secretary. 1902-1904 President-General, 1888 President,

NSW & Queensland Wesleyan Conference. 1901 President NSW Wesleyan Conference, 1883-1887 Secretary, NSW & Queensland Wesleyan Conference, 1883-1887, 1901 Chairman, Sydney District.
Married Mary; chn -Frederick, *et al.* Died Tarro, 26.8.1904

William Henry Fitchett, BA, LLD

(9.8.1841 - 26.5.1928)



B. Grantham, Lincolnshire, England,
s. William Fitchett (perfumer, hairdresser, clog and pattern maker) and Hannah (nee Hubbard). William, snr, was a Wesleyan Local Preacher, arr. Geelong, 1849.
After formal schooling at a Wesleyan denominational school, William worked on the land, afterwards in business in Ballarat.
1865 accredited Local Preacher. 1866 accepted candidate for ministry.
1870 Ordained.
1875 BA (University of Melbourne),
1899 LLD (Queen's University, Kingston, Canada).

Appointments: 1866-1867: Mortlake; 1868-1869 Echuca; 1870-1872 St.Kilda; 1873-75 Melbourne, Wesley; 1876-1878 Sandhurst (Bendigo); 1879-1881 Richmond; 1882-1928 President, Methodist Ladies College, Kew. 1904-1907 President-General, 1895 President, Victorian and Tasmanian Wesleyan Conference. 1902 President, Victorian and Tasmanian Conference. 1887-1892 Editor, *Daily Telegraph*, 1882-1922 Editor, *Southern Cross*, 1893-1902 Editor, *Review of Reviews*, 1904 to almost time of death, Editor, *Life*.

Publications: *Deeds That Won the Empire* (1897); *Fight for the Flag* (1898); *The Tale of the Great Mutiny* (1899); *How England Saved Europe* (1899-1900); *Wellington's Men* (1900); *The Commander of the Hironnelle* (1904); *The Unrealized Logic of Religion* (1905); *Wesley and His Century* (1906); *The Beliefs of Unbelief* (1908); *The Great Duke*, (2 vols, 1911); *The New World of the South* (2 vols, 1913); *Ithuriel's Spear* (1906); *A Pawn in the Game* (1907); *What Methodism Stands For* (1915); *Where the Higher Criticism Fails* (1922); *The Adventure of an Ensign* (1917); *From Convict to Bushranger* (1938), *A Tattered Bible and a Mutilated Christ* (n.d.).

Married Jemima, d. Thomas Shaw (wool expert) and Ann (nee Turner); she d. 15.9.1915; md (2) Edith (nee Wimble, widow of Rev. William Williams) 31.3.1920. Chn Frank, Alfred, Thomas, William, Nellie. Died at College, 26.5.1928.

William Williams, DD, FLS

(1848-1913)

B. The Burra, SA. 1869 Accepted as candidate for ministry in Victoria. 1873 Ordained. DD (Queen's University, Toronto, Canada), Fellow of Linnean Society.

Appointments: 1869 Daylesford; 1870 St.Arnaud; 1871-1872 Wandiligong; 1873 Eldorado; 1874-1876 Sale; 1877-1878 Bairnsdale; 1879-1881 Brunswick St, Melbourne; 1882-1884 Dunolly; 1885-1887 Ballarat, Lydiard St; 1888-1890 Bendigo; 1891-1893 Toorak; 1894-1896 North Melbourne; 1897-1899 Hawthorn; 1900-1901 Secretary, Twentieth Century Fund; 1902-1906 Geelong; 1907 Carlton; 1908-1911 Auburn; 1912-1913 Supernumerary.

1907-1910 President-General, 1897 President Victorian and Tasmanian Wesleyan Conference, 1895-1897 Chairman, Melbourne South District, 1902-1907 Chairman, Geelong and Ballarat District. Died 1913 at Auburn.

Henry Youngman, DD (1849 - 11.3.1927)

B. Kidderminster, Leic., England, s. John Youngman (gaol warder) and Emma (nee Rollings). 1859 came with parents to Goulburn, where he became Local Preacher. 1870 Circuit assistant, Goulburn. 1871 Accepted as candidate for ministry. 1875 Ordained. 1902 DD. (Victoria University, Toronto, Canada)

Appointments: 1871 Oberon; 1872 Deniliquin; 1873-1874 Mudgee; 1875-1877 -Tamworth; 1878-1880 Adelong; 1881-1883 Newtown; 1884-1886 Ashfield; 1887 Wollongong; 1888-1890 Albert St, Brisbane; 1891-1893 Toowoomba; 1894-1895 Toowong; 1896-1899 Ipswich; 1900-1903 Gympie; 1904-1906 West End, Brisbane; 1907-1919 Connexional Secretary; 1920-1927 Supernumerary, living at Toowong.

1910-1913 President-General, 1907-1910 Secretary General, 1893, 1898 President, Queensland Wesleyan Conference, 1907 President, Queensland Conference, 1892-1893 Chairman, Downs District, 1898-1899 Chairman, West Moreton District, 1900-1903 Chairman, Wide Bay and Burnett District, 1904-1906 Chairman, South Brisbane District. 1893-1914 Property Secretary, 1893-1896 Editor, *Christian Witness*; 1906-1914 Editor, *Methodist Leader*.

Md (1) Julia Storrier, d. William and Margaret (nee Regan), 31.3.1875 at Goulburn; (2) Elizabeth Woolcock, 5.9.1899. Chn, by (1): Albert, Arthur, Edgar, Edward, Ellie. D. 11.3.1927 at Toowong.

George Brown, DD (7.12.1835- 7.4.1917)

B. Barnard Castle, Co. Durham, England, s. George Brown (lawyer and Unitarian preacher) and Elizabeth (nee Dixon), sister of wife of Rev. Thomas Buddle. Educated at private school. Worked for short periods in chemist shop then draper's shop, then ran away to sea. Arr. New Zealand, March 1855. At Onehunga converted, joined Methodist Church. 1860 Accepted candidate for ministry, 26.9.1860; ordained in Sydney. 1892 DD (McGill University, Canada).

Appointments: 1860-1873 Savaii, Samoa; 1874 Visiting colonies; 1874-1881 Duke of York Island, New Britain; 1882 Missionary Committee; 1883-1885 Bourke St, Sydney; 1886 Visiting England; 1887-1907 General Secretary, Overseas Missions; 1908-1917 Supernumerary residing at Gordon.

1913-1916 President-General, 1891 President NSW Wesleyan Conference, 1865-1873 Chairman, Samoa District, 1875-1880 Chairman, New Britain District, 1888-1891 Special Commissioner to Tonga.

Publications: *George Brown DD, Pioneer missionary and explorer: an autobiography* (1908); *Melanesians and Polynesians: their life histories described and compared* (1909). 1917 Vice-President, British and Foreign Bible Society; Vice President Australian Native Races Protection Society.

Married Sarah, d. Rev James Wallis, 2.8.1880; chn: Nine, including Geoffrey, George, Wallis, Amy (Mrs B. Dinning), Monica, Mabel. Died Gordon, 7.4.1917. Mrs Brown d. 7.8.1923.

James Edward Carruthers, DD (26.1.1848- 15.9.1932)

B. Sydney, s. John Carruthers (printer) and Charlotte (nee Prince). At early age moved with parents to Kiama. July, 1864 converted under ministry of Rev. Thomas Angwin. 1865 Local Preacher. August, 1867 entered Newington College. 1868 Accepted candidate, for ministry. 1872 Ordained. 1914 DD (Victoria University, Toronto, Canada)

Appointments: 1868 Narrabri; 1869-1870 Murrurundi; 1871 Tamworth; 1872-1873 Dungog; 1874-1876 Deniliquin; 1877-1878 Wagga Wagga; 1879-1881 Bega; 1882-1884 St Leonards; 1885-1887 Armidale; 1888-1890 Ryde; 1891-1893 West Maitland; 1894-1896 Lewisham; 1897-1899 Parramatta; 1900-1902 Stanmore; 1903-1905 Burwood; 1906-1909 Paddington; 1911-1912 Mosman; 1912-1913 Lindfield; 1914-1932 Supernumerary, residing at Mosman. 1917-1919 President-General, 1914-1916 Secretary General, 1895 President, NSW Wesleyan Conference, 1913 President NSW Conference, 1885-1887 Chairman, Armidale District; 1892-1893 Chairman, Maitland District; 1897-1899 Chairman, Parramatta District; 1913 Chairman, Sydney District, 1907 -1920 Editor, *The Methodist*.

Publications: *Memories of an Australian Ministry* (1922); *Lights in the Southern Sky* (1924) Married Mary McWilliam; she d. Jan. 1896; chn: Edward, Ethelwyn, Mabel (Mrs F.W. Hynes), Dorothy, Winifred.

Alexander McCallum, DD

(21.8.1866- 20.8.1935)

B. Williamstown, Vic, s. Captain Daniel McCallum and Mary (nee Baxter). After becoming Local Preacher, he served as Home Missionary. 1884 accepted candidate for ministry. 1888 Ordained. 1923 DD (Toronto University, Canada).

Appointments:

1884 Shepparton; 1885-1886 Brunswick; 1887 Oakleigh; 1888-1890 Ararat; 1891-1893 Yarra St, Geelong; 1894-1896 Geelong West; 1897-1898 Brunswick; 1899 Supernumerary; 1900-1902 Newtown, Tasmania; 1903-1906 Warrnambool; 1907-1909 Wangaratta; 1910-1920 Melbourne Central Mission; 1921 Resting; 1922-1930 Managing Treasurer, Supernumerary Fund; 1931-1933 Supernumerary, residing at Malvern.

1920-1922 President-General, 1917-1919 Secretary General, 1911 President, Victorian and Tasmanian Conference, 1910 Secretary, Victorian and Tasmanian Conference, 1901-1902 Chairman, Tasmania District, 1903-1906 Chairman, Western District, 1907-1909 Chairman, North-Eastern District, 1927-1932 Editor, *The Spectator*.

Married (1) Leila Williams, d. Rev. Spencer Williams, 1888. She died, Geelong, 1892; (2) Alice Booth, d. Abraham and Hannah (nee Holloway), 1894; chn: (1) Frank, Dora; (2) Colin, Jocelyn, Hugh, Donald. Died 19.1.1933, at Maryborough, Victoria.

Edward Holdsworth Sugden, MA, BSc, LittD (19.6.1854- 22.7.1935)

B. Ecclesfield, Yorkshire, England, s. Rev. James Sugden (Wesleyan Minister) and Sarah (nee Holdsworth). Educated at Woodhouse Grove, school for sons of Wesleyan Ministers. 1870 won Gilchrist scholarship to Owens College, Manchester. 1872 BA; 1876 BSc (London University); 1888 another BA, BSc (Melbourne University). 1874 accepted candidate for ministry. 1878 Ordained. 1874-1880 Training and Assist. Tutor at Huddersfield Theological College, Leeds.

Appointments: 1881-1883 Bradford (Eastbrook); 1884-1886 Bradford (Great Horton); 1887 Travelling to Australia; 1888-1928 Master, Queen's College, Melbourne; 1929-1935 Supernumerary, residing at Kew.

1926-1928 President-General, 1906 President, Victorian and Tasmanian Conference, 1906 President, Wesley College, 1891 Founding Member, University Extension Board, 1914-1918 Chaplain, Royal Park Camp. Later Chaplain Caulfield Base Hospital. President, Melbourne College of Divinity., President of Trustees, Melbourne Public Library, Museum and Art Gallery.

Publications: Include translations from the classics, a metrical edition of the Psalms (1924); *Wesley's Standard Sermons*, (2 vols, n.d.), *John Wesley's London* (n.d.); *The Reaction of Natural Science on our English Poets from Chaucer to Milton* (Livingstone Lecture, 1925) ; *A Topographical Dictionary of the Works of Shakespeare and His Fellow Dramatists* (1925);

Studies in Faith (n.d.); with Sir Frederic Eggleston, *George Swinburne, a biography* (n.d.); *Plautus* (n.d.); *Israel's Debt to Egypt* (1928).

Married (1) Mary Brooke at Stockport, Cheshire, 1878. She died in childbirth, 1883; (2) Ruth Thompson, d. John Thompson (of Bradford Banking Company) at Bradford, 1886. She died, 1932. Chn: (1) Florence, Anne, Margaret, (2) Ruth, Kath, Edith.
Died 22.7.1935 at Hawthorn.

John Gladwell Wheen

(27.4.1858- 13.11.1929)

B. Ecclesall, Yorkshire, England, s. Edwin Wheen (Master grocer of Sheffield) and Agnes (nee Gladwell). Educated at private schools. Member of town clerk's staff, later Secretary of Sheffield Public Hospital. Also Superintendent at Red Hill School. 1882 arr. Melbourne. 1883 Home missionary; 1884 accepted as candidate for ministry; 1887 Ordained.

Appointments: 1884 Richmond; 1885 Penshurst; 1886 Melbourne South; 1887 Prahran; 1888-1889 Charlton; 1890-1892 Launceston; 1893-1895 Campbell Town, Tasmania; 1896 Westbury; 1897-1898 Queen's College Debt Extinction and Endowment Fund; 1899-1901 Hawthorn; 1902-1905 Brunswick and Coburg; 1906-1907 Lydiard St, Ballarat; 1908 Transferred to New South Wales; 1908-1910 Secretary, Foreign Missions; 1911- 1924 General Secretary, Foreign Missions; 1925-1929 Supernumerary, residing at Ashfield. 1926-1928 President-General, 1907 President, Victorian and Tasmania Conference, 1919 President, New South Wales Conference, 1905-1906 Secretary, Victorian and Tasmanian Conference.

Publication: The King's Business and other prayers (n.d.)

Married Eliza Lief, 25.4.1888 at Hawthorn; chn: Edwin, Agnes (Headmistress, Annesley Girls' School), Ethel. Died 13.11.1929 at Ashfield.

Frank Lade, MA

(21.12.1868- 9.10.1948)

B. Kilmore, Victoria, s. Stephen Lade (farmer) and Anne (nee McConchie). Worked on farm. Attended Queen's College, Melbourne: BA (1903), MA (1905). 1890 accepted candidate for ministry. 1896 Ordained.

Appointments: 1893-1894 St Helen's, Tasmania; 1895-1897 Prahran; 1898 Visiting England; 1899-1901 Chiltern; 1902-1905 Hawthorn; 1906 Malvern; 1907-1910 Hobart; 1911-1915 Kent Town (SA); 1916-1918 North Adelaide (Archer St); 1919-1920 Prohibition Lecturer; 1921 Unley; 1922-1926 Principal, Brighton College; 1927-1943 Principal, Wesley College, Adelaide; 1943-1948 Supernumerary, residing at Mitcham. 1929-1931 President-General. 1920-1928 Secretary General, 1916, 1936 President, South Australian Conference, 1907-1911 Chairman, Hobart District, 1916 Chairman, Adelaide North District, 1936 Chairman, Adelaide South District.

Married Lillian Millard, 17.3.1898; she died 1933; (2) Amy Dunstan, 18.9.1940 at Malvern, Melbourne. Chn: 4 sons (Rev. Norman, Stuart and two others), Elsie, Phyllis, Fran.
Died 9.10.1948, Adelaide.

Albert Thomas Holden, BA, CBE, VD

(21.8.1866- 20.8.1935)

B. Geelong, s. Thomas Holden (produce merchant) and Mary (nee Hague).

Matriculated from Geelong College. Taught at Kyneton, where he became Local Preacher. 1885 Entered Ormond College, University of Melbourne; 1888 BA.

1886 accepted as candidate for ministry. 1891 Ordained.

Appointments: 1888-1889 Hawthorn; 1890-1891 Omeo; 1892 Visiting England; 1893-1895 Cygnet, Tasmania; 1896-1898 Dunkeld and Penshurst; 1899-1901 Hawthorn; 1902-1903 St Kilda; 1904-1931 General Superintendent, Home Missions; 1932-1935 Supernumerary residing at Kew.

1932-1934 President-General, 1929-1931 Secretary General, 1915 President, Victorian and Tasmanian Conference, 1914 Secretary, Victorian and Tasmania Conference, 1926-1935 Founder and Director, Methodist Federal Inland Mission. 1898 Army Chaplain. 1913-1935 Chaplain-General. Major, then Colonel. 1919 Appointed CBE.
 Married Martha Mesley, 29.3.1893; she died June, 1935; chn: Eric, Dorothy, Norman, Harold, Gertrude. Died 20.8.1935 at Kew.

Arthur Johnstone Barclay

(26.3.1868- 19.5.1953)

B. Digby, Victoria, s. William Johnstone Barclay and Celia Jane (nee Salmon). 1887 Local Preacher in Norwood circuit. 1888 arr. Fremantle. c 1893 Hired Local Preacher, Dongara (WA). 1893 accepted candidate for ministry. 1897 Ordained.

Appointments: 1894-1896 Perth (Assist.) 1897-1897 Fremantle (Assist); 1899-1901 Northam; 1902-1904 East Perth; 1905-1907 Geraldton; 1908-1910 Subiaco; 1911-1912 Albany; 1913-1938 Home Mission Secretary and Connexional Secretary; 1939-1953 Supernumerary residing at Kalamunda.

1935-1937 President-General, 1932-1934 Secretary General, 1911, 1929 President, WA Conference, 1909-1910 Secretary, WA Conference, 1911-1912 Chairman, Southern District. 1917-1919, 1929 Chairman, Perth District. He played a leading role in Foundation of Methodist Inland Mission. 1907 Secretary and Organizer, Methodist Ladies College. Married Maria May Lillywhite (b. Gawler, SA, 1871) in SA, c.1897, Chn: Dorothy (Headmistress, Annesley School for Girls, Bowral), Winifred, Hugh, Margorie, Olga. Died 19.5.1953, Kalamunda.

Arthur Edward Albiston, MA, BD

(19.8.1866- 30.6.1961)

B. Emerald Hill, Melbourne, s, Joseph Albiston (Wesleyan Methodist minister) and Elizabeth (nee Rowbotham). Educated at Wesley College. 1883 Senior prefect and dux. 1898 BA; Senior resident master. 1893 accepted as candidate for ministry. 1893 Ordained.

Appointments: 1889-1890 Hawthorn; 1891 Visiting England; 1892 South Melbourne; 1893~1895 Mildura; 1896-1798 Launceston; 1899-1901 Prahran; 1902-1906 Hawthorn; 1907-1909 Melbourne Central Mission; 1910-1913 Prahran; 1914 Brunswick and Coburg; 1915-1916 Brunswick; 1917-1919 Hawthorn; 1920-1936 Queen's College, Professor of Theology; 1937-1961 Supernumerary, residing at Auburn.

1938-1940 President General, 1935-1937 Secretary General, 1919 President of Victorian and Tasmania Conference.

Married Harriet Skinner (b. 1874), 6.4.1893; she died 1952; chn: 3 sons, 1 daughter. Died 30.6.1961 at Hawthorn.

Harold Manuel Wheller, OBE

(26.1 .1882: 17.11.1979)

B. Tarlee, SA, s. James Manuel Wheeler and Jane Gullidge.

1905 Accepted as candidate for ministry in Queensland. 1908 Ordained.

Appointments: 1906-1907 Paddington; 1908 Ithaca; 1909-1911 Cairns; 1912-1913 Ipswich; 1914-1916 Stanthorpe; 1917-1920 Woolloowin; 1921-1925 Ipswich; 1926 Warwick; 1927-1952 Brisbane Central Mission; 1952-1979 Supernumerary, living at Auchenflower.

1941-1944 President-General, 1926 President of Conference, 1923-1925 Secretary of Conference, 1922-1926 Chairman, Downs District, 1927-1928 Chairman, Brisbane District, 1936 began work of the Chermiside Garden Settlement, and continued to administer the homes for over 40 years. Served as President of Queensland Council of Churches, The Queensland Temperance League, and Chairman of Queensland Committee of the Australian Council of Churches. Government representative on Senate of University of Queensland.

Married Edith May Stack, 10.5.1910; chn: John, Dorothy, another son. Died 17.11.1979.

John Wear Burton, MA, DD**(8.3.1875 - 22.5.1970)**

B. Lazenby, Yorkshire, England, s. Robert Burton (Joiner) and Maria (nee Bell). 1883 the family migrated to New Zealand, settling at Masterton.

John left school at 12 and worked as a fleece-picker and in a retail store, before becoming apprenticed to his father's wheelwright trade. 1892 became a Local Preacher. 1895 Accepted candidate for the ministry. 1901 Ordained. 1945 DD (Victoria University, Toronto, Canada). *Appointments:* 1897-1898 Upper Thames, NZ (Paeroa); 1899-1900 Malvern (Darfield); 1901 Christchurch (Durham St); 1902-1910 Indian Mission, Fiji; 1911-1913 New Plymouth, NZ; 1914-1923 Victorian Conference Secretary, Foreign Missions; 1924 Sydney, Secretary for Literature and Organization, Overseas Missions; 1925-1944 General Secretary, Overseas Missions; 1945 Acting General Secretary, Overseas Missions; 1946-1970 Supernumerary, residing at Wahroonga.

1945-1947 President-General, 1942-1944 Secretary General, 1931 President of Conference. 1939-1940 Acting Secretary General, 1931-1934 Chairman, Sydney District, 1897 Attended inaugural meeting in Melbourne of Student Christian Movement of Australia and New Zealand, 1918 Director-General of YMCA's religious work in England and France .

1920 Helped initiate National Missionary Council, of which he was chairman for 11 years. 1923-1945 Editor, *The Missionary Review*, 1935 With the Rev. John Flynn originated concept of United Church in North Australia, which was achieved in 1946, 1947 Representative to Methodist Ecumenical Conference, Springfield, Mass. USA, 1948 One of two Commissioners on the South Pacific Commission. 1918 BA (Auckland), 1920 MA (Melbourne)

Publications: *Fiji To-day* (1910); *The Call of the Pacific* (1912); *Brown Faces* (1915); *Navuso - Our Agricultural School in Fiji* (n.d.); *Our Task in Papua* (1926); *Some Suggestions to Circuit Foreign Missionary Secretaries* (1926); *Missionary Survey of the Pacific Islands* (1930) ; *Children of Papua* (1927) ; *The Pioneer - Dr George Brown* (n.d.); *Brown and White in the South Pacific* (1944); *Modern Missions in the South Pacific* (1949); *The Atlantic Charter and the Pacific Races* (n.d.); *Crusade For Christ* (n.d.); *The First Century of Missionary Adventures* (1955); *Why I believe in Christ* (n.d.); (with Wallace Deane) *A Hundred Years in Fiji* (1936). Prolific writer of reviews and articles in *The Missionary Review*.

Married. Florence Hadfield, 24.4.1902 (she d.1953); chn. Clare, John, Florence, Rewa. Died Wahroonga, 22.5.1922.

Herbert Garfield Secomb, DD**(22.6.1886- 22.7.1980)**

B. Horsham, s. Rev. William Edward Secomb (Bible Christian minister) and Sarah (nee Sands). 1907 Accepted candidate for ministry. Trained at Queen's College. 1912 Ordained.

Appointments: 1908-1909 Malvern; 1910 Nagambie; 1911 Brighton; 1912-1914 Scottsdale (Tas.); 1915-1918 Hobart (Sandy Bay); 1919-1923 Warracknabeal; 1924-1927 Shepparton; 1928 Bendigo; 1929-1941 Director, Church Building Fund; 1942-1956 Managing Treasurer, Supernumerary Fund; 1957-1980 Supernumerary, residing at Canterbury.

1948-1950 President-General, 1938 President of Conference, 1937 Secretary of Conference. 1924-1928 Chairman, Goulburn District, 1929-1962 Secretary, Epworth Hospital, 1948 Representative to World Council of Churches Inaugural Assembly, 1950-1955 President, Queen's College Council, 1947 Representative to World Methodist Conference, Springfield, Mass. USA.

Married Lilian Kate Warren; chn: William, Keith, Dorothy, (Rev.) Howard. Died 22.7.1980 at Box Hill.

George Calvert Barber, CBE, MA, BD, PhD**(24.1.1893- 31.7.1967)**

B. Bendigo, s. of Rev. H. Bride Barber and Louisa (nee Pickett). 1907 won Government Scholarship to Wesley College, Melbourne. Worked as accountant in Union Bank of

Australia, Sydney. 1916 enlisted in AIF and served as stretcher-bearer. 1919 entered Queen's College; 1922 BA, c. 1924 MA, 1938 PhD (London University). 1920 Accepted candidate for ministry. 1924 Ordained.

Appointments: 1922-1923 Nyah; 1924-1925 Toorak; 1926-1928 Geelong West; 1929-1931 Newtown; 1932-1935, Geelong, Yarra Street; 1936 Professor Designate of Theology, Queen's College; 1937-1958 Professor of Theology, Queen's College, Melbourne. 1959-1967 Supernumerary, residing at Ivanhoe.

1951-1953 President-General, 1950 Secretary General, 1948 President of Conference. 1947 Secretary of Conference, 1939-1958 President, Wesley College Council, 1946, President, Melbourne College of Divinity, 1939-1949 President, Australian Student Christian Movement, 1952-1954 President, Australian Council of World Council of Churches, 1954-1961 President, United Church Board, 1961 Acting Director, Methodist Federal Inland Mission, 1948 Representative to World Council of Churches, Amsterdam, 1937 Representative to World Council of Churches, Edinburgh, 1958 Appointed CBE; elected Fellow of Queen's College.

Married Gertrude Bond, 24.3.1926, at Gordon, NSW; chn: (Rev.) Bruce, 2 daughters. Died Heidelberg, 31.7.1967

Robert Bathurst Lew, OBE, ED, BA, DD (2.1.1891 -20.10.1970)

B. Tamworth, s. Robert Lew (railway cleaner) and Annie (nee Jelbart). Educated at Lithgow and Newcastle. 1911 Accepted candidate for ministry. 1916 Ordained at Wesley's Chapel, London.

Appointments: 1913 Coraki; 1914 Lismore; 1915 Gloucester; 1916-1919 On Active Service with AIF; acted as stretcher-bearer at Passchendale, Belgium; served as Young Mens' Christian Association representative with 9th Infantry Brigade; 1.5.1918 commissioned honorary Lieutenant; from March 1919, chaplain to AIF; 1921 resting; 1922-1925 Waverley; 1926-1928 Ballina; 1929-1932 Haberfield-Five Dock; 1932-1935 Katoomba; 1936-1940 Lismore; 1941 Wollongong; 1942-1943 Chaplain, AMF; 1944 Chatswood; 1945-1947 Manly; 1948-1959 Principal, Methodist Ladies College, Burwood; 1960-1970 Supernumerary, residing at Chatswood. 1954-1956 President-General, 1951-1953 Secretary General, 1949 President of Conference. 1946-1948 Secretary of Conference, 1936-1940 Chairman, North Coast District, 1954 Representative to World Council of Churches; Evanston, USA, 1956 Delegate to World Methodist Council, Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, USA, 1956 Chairnman, Australian Commission for Inter-Church Aid and Service to Refugees. 1956 DD (Baldwin-Wallace College, Ohio). 1959 Appointed CBE.

Married Sylvia Hay, d. Robert and Annie (nee McPhail), 6.9.1924; chn: 3 daughters. Died 20.10.1970 at Gordon.

Alfred Harold Wood, OBE, MA, DD, DipEd, FACE (4.5.1896- 22.8.1989)

B. Geelong, Vic., s. Alfred Wood and Janet nee Wemyss, Salvation Army officers. From 1913 worked as typist in business firms and Crown Law Department. 1915-1918 Student at Sydney University. 1916 Joined Methodist Church. 1919 Circuit assistant, Pymble.

1920 Accepted candidate for ministry. Training at Leigh Theological College, Enfield. 1924 Ordained. 1919 BA, 1923 MA, 1924 BD, 1949 DD (Melbourne).

Appointments: 1921-1923 Peak Hill; 1924-1926 Principal, Tupou College, Nuku'olofa; 1937-1938 Concord NSW; 1939-1966 Principal, Methodist Ladies College, Melbourne; 1967-1989 Supernumerary, during which time he was part time minister at Deepdene.

1957-1959 President-General, 1954-1956 Secretary General, 1952 President of Conference. 1951 Secretary of Conference.

Publications: *Church Unity Without Uniformity: A Study of Seventeenth Century English Church Movements and of Richard Baxter's Proposals for a Comprehensive Church* (1963);

The "Reservation" concerning Bishops and the Concordat with the Church of South India (n.d.); *History and Geography of Tonga* (1972); *Overseas Missions of the Australian Methodist Church*, vol. 1 *Tonga and Samoa* (c1975); vol. 2, *Fiji* (1978); vol. 3, *Fiji-Indian and Rotuma* (1978); vol. 4, *North India* (1980); vol. 5 (with Margaret Reeson) *Papua New Guinea Highlands* (1987); *The Uniting Church of Australia (Presbyterian-Congregational-Methodist)* (1961); *The Proposed Basis of Union explained for Methodists* (n.d.); *Our Heritage in the Uniting Church* (1977); *Not Lost But Gone Before: Memories of One Hundred Christian Men and Women* (1987); articles "Our Heritage in Charles Wesley's Hymns" and "Charles Wesley's Hymns on Holiness" in James S. Udy and Eric G. Clancy (eds), *Dig or Die* (1981).

Married Dr Olive Kelynack O'Reilly, 5.4.1924; (2) Dora Louie Walker, 23.4.1977; chn: Janet Wemyss (md. Rev. Howard Secomb), Mary, Linnell, Walter O'Reilly, Elizabeth Olive (Dr), Monia Cresswell, Rev. Dr Harold D'Arcy. Died 22.8.1989.

Hubert Hedley Trigge, OBE, MA, BD (6.7.1889- 21.3.1965)

B. Melbourne, son of John Trigge (book-binder) and Annie, nee Corben. 1913 Accepted candidate for ministry. 1913-1917 Training at Queen's College. During this period he graduated BA. 1917 Ordained. 1921 MA (Melbourne); 1923 BD (Melbourne).

Appointments: 1917-1922 Chaplain, Royal Australian Navy; 1923 Toorak; (Vic); 1924-1959 Master, Kings College, Brisbane; 1955 Professor of Biblical Exegesis; 1960-1965

Supernumerary, residing at Taringa.

1960-1962 President-General, 1957-1959 Secretary General, 1942 President of Conference.

1941 Secretary of Conference, 1961 Delegate to World Methodist Conference, Oslo.

Delegate to World Council of Churches Assembly, New Delhi. Member of Joint Commission on Church Union. 1964 appointed OBE.

Married Gweneth Adele Taylor (d. of Rev. A. Taylor); chn: Ruth, Patricia, (Rev.) Paul, Adele, Elizabeth, Lynn. Died 21.3.1965 at Taringa.

William Frank Hambly, MA, BD, DD (11.4.1908 -15.4.1972)

B. New Norfolk, Tasmania, s. Rev. Abraham Hambly (Methodist minister) and Harriet (nee Webber). Educated at Victorian State Schools, Geelong High School and Wesley College.

Worked in sundry occupations and as teacher. 1929 Accepted candidate for ministry. 1929-1930 Training at Queen's College. Graduated BA (1931), MA (1933), BD (1942).

1934 ordained.

Appointments: 1931-1932 Cygnet, Tasmania; 1933 Home Missions; 1934-1936 Yarram Victoria; 1937-1940 Malvern South; 1941 Warrnambool; 1942-1943 Home Missions; 1944-

1951 Pirie Street Mission, Adelaide; 1952-1972 Master, Lincoln College, Adelaide, 1963-1965 President-General, 1960-1962 Secretary General, 1955 President of Conference, 1955 Chairman, Adelaide South District, Chairman, Joint Commission on Church Union.

Married Dulcie Sutherland; chn: Peter, Frank. Died 15.4.1972 at Lincoln College.

Cecil Frank Gribble, OBE, MA, DipEd, LRSM (12.6.1903 -15.9.1995)

B. Ballarat, trained as Pharmaceutical Chemist.

1924 Accepted candidate for ministry. 1924 - Training at Queen's College. Graduated MA (Hons). 1931 Ordained.

Appointments: 1929 Federal Inland Mission, Alice Springs, as singing evangelist; 1930

Cobram; 1931 Shepparton; 1932 Victorian Home Mission Deputation; 1933-1935 Hobart;

1936-1938 Launceston; 1939-1942 Principal, Tupou College, Tonga; 1943-1945 Director of

Education, Tonga; 1946-1948 Assistant General Secretary, Overseas Missions; 1949-1973

General Secretary, Overseas Missions; 1974-1995 Supernumerary, residing at Avalon, later

Dee Why. 1966-1968 President General, 1964-1966 Secretary General, 1962 President of

Conference, 1956-1961 Vice President, World Methodist Council, 1958 Australian representative at World Conference of International Missionary Council, Delegate to World Assemblies of World Council of Churches at New Delhi (1961), Uppsala (1968).

Married Isabel Overend, d. Rev. & Mrs H.A. Overend, 1933; Isabel d.1985; chn: 2 sons, 1 daughter. 1958 OBE. Died 25.9.1955 at Dee Why.

Charles Kingston Daws, CBE, ED, FASA, FLCS, LCA (ca. 1904 - 28.12.1980)

B. Llanelly, Vic., son of Thomas Daws (miner) and Emily (nee Gainsberg).

Educated at Eaglehawk and Bendigo.; worked as clerk, then accountant in grocery store. 1928 accepted candidate for ministry; 1933 Ordained.

Appointments: 1928 Foster; 1929-1930 Belgrave; 1931-1933 Diamond Creek; 1934-1937 Pyramid Hill; 1938-1939 Wycheproof; 1940-1944, Military Chaplain; 1945-1951 North Melbourne Mission; 1952-1954 Moonee Ponds; 1955-1972 Managing Secretary of Methodist Church in Victoria; 1973-80 Supernumerary, 1969-1971 President-General, 1966-1968 Secretary General, 1957 President of Conference, 1956 Secretary of Conference, 1945-1962 Chaplain General AMF, 1968-1972 Member of Joint Commission on Church Union.

Married Edith Dunstan on 15.5.1928 at Eaglehawk West; chn: son and three daughters .
Died 28.12.1980 at Blackburn.

Rex Collis Mathias, MA, DipREd

(9.1.1907- 7.4.1986)

B. Maldon, Victoria; Educated at Melbourne High School and Wesley College. Worked as journalist with the *Herald* and *Argus*. 1932 Accepted candidate for ministry. 1932-1934 Traing at Queen's College. 1934 MA (Melbourne). 1936 Ordained. 1937 Diploma of Religious Education from Selly Oak College, England. 1937 Staff Lecturer at Westhill Training College, Selly Oak, England.

Appointments: 1935 Derby, Tasmania; 1936 Home Missions; 1937-1938 Resting in England; 1939 Young People's Department; 1940-1943 Chaplain, Wesley College; 1944-1945 First Director, Council of Christian Education in Schools; 1946-1957 General Conference Youth Publications Department; 1958-1960 Director-General Conference Department of Christian Education; 1961-1964 Director, Methodist Federal Board of Education; 1965-1969 Canberra; 1970-1975 Geelong; 1976-1986 Supernumerary, residing at Ocean Grove. 1973-1975 President General, 1970-1972 Secretary General, 1962 President of Conference, 1961 Secretary of Conference, 1953-1956 National Secretary for Mission to the Nation, 1945-1961 spoke weekly on 'The Voice of Methodism' on Melbourne's Yarra Bank.

Publications: *Let's Talk Gambling Out* (n.d.); *Discovery* (1960); *Plan for Living*, vols 1-3 (1944,1945,1948); *The Protestant Approach to Politics* (n.d.); *Should You say No to Alcohol?* (1964); *Mission to the Nation* (1986); *Why join the Church?* (n.d.).

Married Helen Watters, 1934; chn: Gwynneth, Elwyn. Died 7.4.1986 at Ocean Grove.

Winston D'Arcy O'Reilly, OBE, MA, MEd, DipSocSci, MACE (27.4.1913- 16.1.2000)

B. Roseville, son of Henry D'Arcy O'Reilly (merchant) and Lillian Edith (nee Brasnett).

Educated at Gordon Primary and Sydney High Schools. Left school at 14 to train as carpenter. At 16 travelled to England as companion/carer to an invalid man.

1931 accepted candidate to ministry. Entered Wesley College, later Leigh College. BA (1935), MA (1937), DipSocSci (1961), MACE (1962), MEd (1963).

Appointments: 1936-1937 Malvern Hill; 1938-1941 Coonamble; 1942~1944 Peak Hill; 1945-1948 Assistant Home Mission Secretary; 1949-1959 Vice Principal, Leigh College; 1960-1963 Principal, Methodist Ladies College, Burwood; 1964-1974 Connexional Secretary, 1974-1977 Planning Officer for Union of Congregational, Methodist and Presbyterian Churches, 1975-1977 President-General, 1972-1974 Secretary General, 1969 President of Conference, 1968 Secretary of Conference, 1977-79 Secretary, Uniting Church in Australia.

Awarded OBE for Community Service, 1969-1973 Editor, *The Methodist*, 1979-1982 Vice Chairman, Australian Council of Churches, 1963-1974 Chairman, Newington College Council, MLC Burwood Council, Waverley Memorial Hospital and numerous Committees, Chairman, Australian Council of Social Service, 1967-1971 President, NSW Council of Churches, 1975-1980 Member of Presidium, World Methodist Council.

1982 Retired, living at West Epping, later Belrose.

Publications: Christian Marriage and the Family (n.d.); *A Man and His Mate* (n.d.).

Md (1) Doreen (Dorn) Doyle, d. Albert Doyle and Rotha (nee Higgs) at Roseville, 23.3.1939; Dorn. d. 2.12.1974; (2) Nancye Haines, 1976; chn: (by 1) (Rev.) Elizabeth Walker, Robert, Geoffrey. Died Belrose, 16.1.2000