

REV. L. WARD BRIGHAM CALLED

All Souls' Universalist Church Unanimously Calls Minnesota Man to be Pastor

A special meeting of members of All Souls' Universalist Church and congregation was held last evening for the purpose of calling a pastor to succeed the Rev. John Coleman Adams. There was a large attendance. A. F. Gray presided and Clarence Lyon recorded. Benjamin W. Wilson, chairman of the board of trustees, made a unanimous report from that body recommending that the society call the Rev. L. Ward Brigham of Rochester, Minn. Mr. Wilson said that the trustees had been greatly assisted by the Rev. Almon Gunnison in the securing of candidates and the opportunity to hear good men. After careful deliberation it seemed to the board that of all the candidates, Mr. Brigham more nearly met the requirements of the church. Remarks were made by Herbert F. Gunnison, W. D. Farris and Clinton Harris of the trustees; D. T. Wilson, Miss Emma Bailey, Mrs. Libby and Ernest Metcalfe of the Sunday school, and Miss Grace White and Miss Foster of the Young People's Union. The remarks of these speakers were all very favorable to Mr. Brigham. A resolution was offered by Miss Bailey authorizing the trustees to call Mr. Brigham. The resolution was unanimously adopted by a rising vote.

The members of All Souls' are very enthusiastic over Mr. Brigham and believe that he is just the man for the place. All Souls is one of the leading Universalist churches in the denomination. It has had but two pastors in the past thirty years. It is entirely without debt, has a valuable church property, and more than all else, a harmonious and earnest band of workers.

L. Ward Brigham was born May 21, 1865, in West Dover, Vt. His parents were both of Vermont families, though early in his life they removed to La Crosse, Wis. Here his youth was spent until college days arrived.

In 1886 he graduated from Lombard College, in Galesburg, Ill., and in 1888 took his medical degree in Chicago. This same year he was married to Miss Emma Ballou of Nunda, Ill. They have two children—a son and daughter.

After four years of medical practice in the vicinity of Chicago, he gave up his profession and accepted a clerkship in a Chicago express company. pending the forming of plans for the future. During the two years' residence there he became much interested in the Sunday school of a Universalist mission church, and largely through this he came to feel that Christian work was most satisfying in its performance.

In 1896 he completed the theological course at St. Lawrence University, Canton, N.Y. The last year of school he had charge of a parish at Natural Bridge, N.Y., where he continued as their first settled pastor for six months after his ordination. The succeeding year was spent as pastor of the church at Victor, N.Y., from which he was called to assume charge of Grace Church, Rochester, Minn. His pastorate with this church has been very successful.

Mr. Brigham has recently received a call to the Universalist Church of Cincinnati. His father was a Universalist minister and was well known and highly respected in the Western states.

Mr. Brigham preached at All Souls' Church two weeks ago and made a very favorable impression. Not only were the people pleased with his sermon, but the members of the Sunday school and the Young People's Union were especially attracted to him. He is a man of fine appearances and genial manners. He will probably begin the first week in December if he accepts the call.

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