

[Lamphear, DeWitt]

BRIDGEWATER

A letter received from Mrs. Minerva Metz states that her father, Rev. DeWitt Lamphear, is failing each day. His mind remains quite clear but his legs are fast becoming paralyzed. Mrs. Metz is helping care for her father at the home of her sister, Mrs. Ida Moulton in Dolgeville. The many friends of the Lamphears here wish that they might hear more encouraging news from him.

*Brookfield Courier*, Brookville NY, Wed. 18 Nov 1931

Madison, Jan. 5—The funeral of Rev. Dewitt Lamphear was held Friday at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Clinton Moulton at Dolgeville and burial was made at Bridgewater. Rev. Lamphear was widely known here as he served as pastor of the Universalist church for some time and resided in the home now occupied by Clarence Cameron.

Bridgewater, Jan 5—The funeral of Rev. Dewitt Lamphear, a former pastor of the Universalist church, was held at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Ida Moulton at Dolgeville Friday morning and the body was brought here for burial at 3 o'clock. Friends here were given an opportunity to review the remains in the Universalist church vestibule and on account of inclement weather the committal service was held in the church by Rev. Fred C. Leining, state superintendent of Universalist churches. Rev. Lamphear had been in failing health for the past 3 months and through the entire time was tenderly cared for by his wife and daughters, Mrs. Moulton and Mrs. Minerva Metz at the former's home. Rev. Lamphear was 83 years of age. Much sympathy is felt for his widow, who is in very poor health. He leaves two daughters, Mrs. Ida Moulton and Mrs. Minerva Metz, and two sons, Blair and Leonard of Rome, and several grandchildren.

*Waterville Times*, Waterville NY, Thu. 7 Jan 1932

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REV. DE WITT LAMPHEAR

A grand old man of the Universalist ministry has come to the end of his mortal career, at the home of Rev. and Mrs. C. [Clinton] A. Moulton, Dolgeville. It was natural to speak of the Rev. DeWitt Lamphear as Father Lamphear and he was worthy of this affectionate title. He was the traveler who had gone further than his companions and in many ways he could see for a greater distance. Friends will recall his recent penetrating question, "Who scores?" which appeared in letters, some of which were printed. It was his common sense plea for the manifestation of a proper loyalty to one's own church.

He was born eighty-three years ago [in Nov 1848] near Rome. His childhood was spent on a farm. He was a student at Clinton Liberal Institute, Buchtel College, then in the Theological School of St. Lawrence University, Canton. He was graduated in 1880 and in the same year was married to Miss Mary E. Pearl of Clinton, who was also a graduate of Clinton Liberal Institute. Their married life of thirty-one years was notable in the development of a delightful family spirit and a deep devotion to the work of the Universalist Church. Four of their [seven] children reached manhood and womanhood and now survive the father—Mrs. Minerva L. Metz, the wife of the Rev. William J. Metz, Dexter, Me.; Blair D. Lamphear, Rome; Mrs. Ida L. Moulton, wife of the Rev. Clinton A. Moulton, Dolgeville; and Leonard B. Lamphear, Rome. There are seven grandchildren.

The death of the mother of these children occurred in 1911. Mr. Lamphear was married to Miss Florrie Tompkins of Leroy, whose death occurred in 1922. Seven years ago he was married to Miss Emma Hollister of Perry, who survives him. Two sisters also survive him, Dr. Annette Lamphear, New York, and Mrs. Delia Crawford, Belleville, N.J.

Mr. Lamphear began his ministry in 1880 in Springboro, Ohio. His succeeding pastorates were Leroy, Sharpsville, Penn., Afton, Sherburne, and Hopbottom and Brooklyn, Penn., Minden, South Hartford, Bridgewater, Whitesville and Madison. From South Hartford he served the Universalist churches in Smith Basin, West Ft. Ann and Wells Point. Under his leadership, parsonages were built at Afton and Hopbottom and a chapel at Kingsley, Penn.

For more than forty years, he served churches in rural communities and did an excellent work. His three oldest children went from Minden to Canton in 1904. Miss Minerva and Blair entered St. Lawrence University and Miss Ida completed her high school course. They rented a small house and their home and hospitality in Canton attracted many students. They demonstrated that a collegiate education was possible for sons and

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daughters of homes of very limited income. It was in these student days, that two theological students became interested in the two Lamphear girls and matrimony followed. Both are distinguished help-mates to their husbands. The two sons are farmers situated near Rome.

In 1930, Mr. and Mrs. Lamphear moved from their home in Madison to Canton that they might spend their last years near the college and in the Canton church. They also made a home for their granddaughters, Misses Ida and Margaret Metz. Failing health interrupted this plan and in September, 1930, they left Canton to make their home with the Rev. and Mrs. C. A. Moulton of Dolgeville. Serious illness developed and Mrs. W. J. Metz went to Dolgeville from her home in Maine to assist in his care. Death came on December 29.

The memorial service was held in the Moulton home on January 1. Dr. Fred C. Leining officiated, assisted by the Rev. W. H. Skeels and Dr. S. D. Butler. The sons and the two sons-in-law acted as bearers. Interment was in Bridgewater.

*Empire State Universalist, Cortland NY, January 1932*

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