

[Metz, William Julius]

REV. W.J. METZ

Rev. William J. Metz, 63 Cherry Road, Kingston, R.I., a retired Universalist minister, died June 29, 1962, at 78 years of age. He was born in Buffalo June 14, 1884, second son of Charles Frederick and Emma Rost Metz. His early education was in Buffalo public schools. He also worked in the meat business for several years with his father. Entering Canton Theological School in 1906, he was graduated in 1909 and the following year, 1910, received his bachelor of sacred theology degree from St. Lawrence University. He was pastor of the Nunda Universalist church 1911-1913.

In 1910 he married Mary Minerva Lamphear, daughter of Rev. DeWitt Lamphear, a Universalist minister then in Bridgewater. Rev. Metz served churches in New York, Ohio, West Virginia, Maine, and Vermont during his career. At a session of the Universalist General convention in Syracuse in 1959, he was presented with a citation honoring him for his fifty years in the active ministry. In addition to work in his local parishes, he held many denominational offices on the state and regional level.

Always active in community affairs, he took part in anti-saloon work, in Scouting, in selling war bonds during World War I, was secretary and one of the founders of the Rotary club in Perry, and worked on numerous financial drives for the cancer and heart funds, the Boy Scouts and the Red Cross. In Central Square, his last pastorate, he also served as mayor for six years and for 14 years was treasurer of the centralized school district. During World War II in addition to his other activities, he served as clerk in a general store and worked in the local post office. He was a member of the Central Square Lodge of Masons, No. 622, and twice served as master. In October of this year he would have completed fifty years in the Masonic order, having been raised in 1912 in Keshequa Lodge, No. 299 F&AM, Nunda.

He is survived by his wife, Minerva; two sons, four daughters, and fourteen grandchildren. His sons and daughters are Mrs. John F. Hyland, Johnson City, Tenn.; Mrs. Charles Edwards, Valley Falls; Prof. William D. Metz, Kingston, R.I.; Mrs. Glenn Calder, Richford, Vt.; Mrs. Edward Armbruster, Massapequa, L.I.; and Paul F. Metz, Baltimore, Maryland.

A memorial service was held in the Kingston Congregational church Monday, July 2. Rev. William B. Davis and Rev. Robert Sterling, the latter pastor of the Universalist church in Little Falls, conducted the service.

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