

[Williams, L. Griswold]

FORMER PASTOR DIES IN HOME IN LONG ISLAND

Word has been received here of the accidental death Feb. 18 at Floral Park, L.I., of the Rev. L. Griswold Williams, a former pastor of the former Universalist churches here and in Olcott.

Suffering from a stiff neck, Mr. Williams had built an electrical apparatus for home treatment. He was found dead, apparently electrocuted, with a lead base at the base of his neck. The plate was attached to the apparatus which was supposedly made safer through the use of a transformer.

Mr. Williams was pastor in Olcott just before the World war. While there he directed a successful children's production of Materlinck's "The Blue Bird."

Born in New London, Conn., in 1893, Mr. Williams attended Meadville (Pa.) Theological seminary and St. Lawrence university. He held pastorates in Ohio before coming to Olcott and Lockport. Shortly after leaving Olcott he engaged in Friends' Service committee reconstruction service in Northern France following the 1914-1918 war.

From 1919 to 1930 inclusive he was pastor of the Church of Our Father in Reading, Pa., and from 1931 to 1941 was pastor of the First Universalist church in Barre, Vt. In Dec. 1941 he accepted a call to the First Universalist church in Floral Park, L. I.

In Reading Mr. Williams organized a successful Community Players' Guild. Throughout his ministry he had urged intelligent penal reform, scientific birth control and better international and inter-racial understanding. In 1934 he edited a book of religious responsive readings for antiphonal rendition.

Mr. Williams is survived by his wife, a son Gregory and a daughter Calista, 9 and 7 [respectively], and his mother, Mrs. M. E. Whitcomb, the latter of Barre.

Union-Sun and Journal, Lockport NY, Wed. 11 Mar 1942

[Williams, L. Griswold]

Pastor Killed by Own Apparatus

OLCOTT—Older members of the former Universalist churches in Olcott and Lockport learned today of the accidental death February 18, of the Rev. L. Griswold Williams, a former pastor of the two local parishes, at his home at Floral Park, L.I. He was apparently electrocuted.

He had been suffering from a stiff neck, had fashioned an electrical apparatus for home treatment, and was found dead on the floor, a lead plate at the base of his neck attached to the contrivance supposedly made safe through the use of a transformer.

Mr. Williams was pastor here, just before the first World war, and while here directed a highly successful children's stage production of Materlinck's "The Blue Bird."

Born in New London, Conn., in 1893, Mr. Williams attended Meadville (Pa.) Theological Seminary and St. Lawrence (Canton) university, and held pastorates in Ohio before coming to Olcott and Lockport. Shortly after leaving here he engaged in Friends' Service Committee reconstruction service in Northern France following the 1914-1918 war.

Mr. Williams is survived by his wife, a son Grizory [Gregory] and a daughter, Calista, and his mother, Mrs. M. E. Whitcomb, the latter of Barre, Vt.

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