

WHEEL TRACKS



SERVICE ABOVE SELF HE PROFITS MOST WHO SERVES BEST

Service Publication of the Yanceyville (N. C.) Rotary Club for Nov. 3, 1942.

Vol. I. Motto: "The Shove of My Shoulder Pushing the Wheel" No. 10

Diminutive Biographical Sketches

Rotarian: Roy Faucette Whitley.

Classification: Presbyterian Minister.

Club Fellowship Appellation: Roy.

Distinguishing Attributes: Lovable personality, dignified demeanor, consecration to Christian living, teaching and preaching, patronizer and leader of youth and devotee of chaste wit and good humor.

I went into the Garden of Life to hunt a flower of lovelier blossom and sweeter perfume—

A flower of daintier petals, statelier bough, and richer, more colorful bloom; I found a man with a soul radiating wisdom, holiness, justice, goodness, truth and love—

A man faithfully serving his fellowman and humbly ministering in the name of the God above.

The first Sunday of the past October marked the tenth anniversary of Roy's coming to Caswell County and his association with the group of Presbyterian churches of Yanceyville, Bethesda, Griers and Pleasant Grove, in the relationship of pastor. At that time, each of these churches expressed her love and appreciation with the gift of a substantial check. Without odious comparison, it may be said that no minister has ever labored more faithfully, efficiently and acceptably for so long a time in Caswell and won for himself so largely the respect and regard of people of all denominations, both white and black.

Roy Faucette Whitley was born in Burlington, N. C., on January 18, 1903, a son of John Riley Whitley and Emelia White Whitley. The father was a well-known merchant in West Burlington and an elder in the Presbyterian church. His mother must have been a Godly woman, for this Christian home dedicated its offspring and reared them "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord," and from it came two Presbyterian preachers. The Rev. John C. Whitley is equally beloved in Leaksville, and is doing a wonderful work there.

Roy graduated from Burlington High in 1925, went to Davidson College, and received his A. B. there in 1929. In 1932 he got his Bachelor of Divinity degree from Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Va., and in 1942 he attained unto his Master of Theology degree from the same seminary. It is said that his thesis was voluminous and notable. Those who know Roy well, know that he will not be satisfied with his educational achievements until he has won his Doctor of Theology degree.

In preparing for this little sketch, I asked Roy to give me a little data anent dates, genealogies and attainments. In complying, he overlooked a wife. And, I had summed her up as the biggest part of his earthly possessions and treasures. I know he was very properly married to Barbara Swartz, of Danville, Va., on Sept. 25, 1936. She had heretofore had much training for a Presbyterian preacher's wife, having been a sort of assistant pastor to Dr. Dunglinson, of Danville's First Presbyterian church. Barbara is smart and capable, and a guiding beacon light to Roy's feet. Sad to relate, they have no children.

Roy is a charter member of the Yanceyville Rotary Club. He is a Mason, and his annual sermons to Masons are classics of high rank. He is a former Scout Master, and has done fine work with boys in the Boy Scout organization. Among his activities in Orange Presbytery, he has been in charge of youth work.

Incidentally, this group of churches is the only charge he has ever had, although he has been sought by larger churches with more money. He has successfully put on building programs in all of his churches, and has more than doubled the membership. It is now generally accepted that he will labor on here until he is superannuated. Yanceyville will be richer in those things which are good and pure and true and beautiful.