

EDITOR'S PREFACE

On behalf of the Historical Society of the Central Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church, I am pleased to introduce volume V of THE CHRONICLE. The volume begins with the story of the 1898-1906 horse and buggy days of Methodist preacher Joseph V. Adams. Originally written in 1941 to preserve for his grandchildren the details of turn-of-the-century life in a Methodist parsonage, the paper is now presented to a wider audience by permission of his descendants.

Continuing the tradition of presenting a series of articles on a single topic, volume V includes four papers on the 1894 split in the Evangelical Association. While the first three presentations relate the effect of the division upon specific locations, the final one provides a conference-wide survey of the charges and congregations affected. The series weaves together various perspectives into a comprehensive picture of the causes and results of these unfortunate events.

In a sense, the story presented in the articles on the Evangelical Association split is continued in the final paper of volume V. While the former detail the effect of the split on congregations, the latter documents the fascinating life and ministry of Evangelical preacher William S. Harris who lived through the entire 1894-1922 existence of the United Evangelical Church.

FRONT COVER PHOTOGRAPH: Evangelical Association Bishops Rudolph Dubs and J.J.Esher, principal spokespersons for the two factions in the 1894 split.

BACK COVER PHOTOGRAPH: First United Evangelical Church, corner of Bennett and Packer Streets, Williamsport -- erected as a result of the 1894 split, closed as a result of the 1922 re-merger.