

CHARLES E. RICE

Charles Edwin Rice, son of Edwin J. and Naomi M. Stow Rice, was born at Loyal, Wis., May 26, 1874. His education was obtained in the schools of Loyal and later at Union College, Lincoln, Nebr. Following his college days, five years were spent in public school teaching.

November 26, 1896, he was united in marriage with Miss June E. Suffcoo, of Neillsville, Wis. This union was blessed with two children, Harley E. Rice, recently of Paradise Valley Sanitarium, National City, Calif.; and Mrs. Lois A. Larson, of St. Helena, Calif.

For health reasons, Brother Rice went to Colorado about the year 1898, and spent some time on a farm near Longmont. He then con-

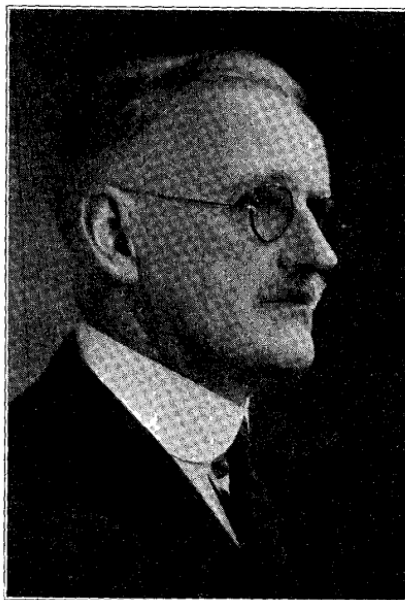
nected with the Boulder Sanitarium as purchasing agent, and later became manager of the institution, which position he held for several years. His success here was such that in 1911 he was called to the management of the Paradise Valley Sanitarium at National City, Calif., where he remained for four years, rendering acceptable service.

On an urgent call from the St. Helena Sanitarium for a manager of wide experience, Brother Rice was transferred to that institution. During the nine years of his faithful leadership here, there came to the sanitarium new life and prosperity, its indebtedness being reduced and its facilities greatly enlarged. He would have remained longer, but his executive and business ability had come to be widely recognized; consequently, when the sanitarium at Hinsdale, Ill., was in need of a manager, Brother Rice was called to this institution by recommendation of the General Conference.

In 1927, Brother Rice was called to connect with the General Conference Medical Department at Washington, D. C. His entrance into this broader service was of great benefit to our medical work throughout the field. He proved a valuable counselor, and did much to infuse new hope and life into our medical institutions. New plans of operation, greater economy and efficiency in management, increased facilities, and improved methods of promotion resulted in a marked measure.

Several years ago Mr. Henry Porter, of Denver, Colo., made his generous and munificent gift for the erection of a sanitarium in that city. The question arose at the outset as to the one who could wisely and efficiently co-operate with Mr. Porter in carrying into effect his proposition. All agreed that Brother Rice was the man to undertake this responsibility, and in addition to his duties as associate secretary of the General Conference Medical Department he was chosen to head this new and important enterprise. How well he succeeded is known to those acquainted with the Porter Sanitarium. This stands as a crowning evidence of his ability. While, in the ordinary growth of a sanitarium, years are required to reach a self-supporting basis, the Porter Sanitarium has met its operating expenses from the day of its dedication.

While acting as builder and manager of the Denver institution, Brother Rice continued his work in the Medical Department, rendering as occasion required needed help to the wider circle of sanitariums.



C. E. Rice

Complications following an operation wore out his weakened resistance, and he went to his rest Wednesday afternoon, Oct. 7, 1931. In his last illness all that skilled physicians and competent nurses could do to relieve his symptoms and bring health and healing was gladly and eagerly performed. Many earnest prayers from friends and fellow workers in various places arose in his behalf. It seemed that one so consecrated to his work, so efficient and experienced, and so well fitted for future usefulness, could not be spared; but God in His infinite wisdom willed it otherwise. We bow in humble submission to the divine fiat, believing that all things, even death itself, will be made to work together for good to those that love God.

Of the immediate relatives, a devoted wife; two children, Harley and Lois; and two sisters, Mrs. Mary O. Bernsen, of Glendale, Calif., and Miss Helen N. Rice, head nurse of the Paradise Valley Sanitarium, are left to mourn. However, we are glad that these sorrowing ones are comforted by the same blessed hope which sustained our brother throughout his useful life and in the trying hours of his last illness. These were all present at the funeral except Mrs. Bernsen.

Brother Rice's life was one of integrity. He demonstrated that business efficiency and Christianity are not inimical terms. He was truly a Christian business man. Generous in nature, he was kindly in his treatment of associates and compassionate in his dealing with the needy. Humble, modest, and retiring, he rendered no vainglorious or ostentatious service. Shut up for the most part within the walls of institutions, he toiled on from day to day, working not for the praise of men but for the glory of God, content to leave to the heavenly Master his own and final reward.

A teacher in his younger days, he exercised the teaching gift throughout his life in the church and in the Sabbath school, where he always bore an active part and held responsible positions, and in his association with the youth in our sanitarium training schools. To his Christian instruction he added the influence of a life which exemplified the high ideals he sought to impart.

A loving husband, a kind parent, an affectionate brother, a loyal friend, an efficient, consecrated Christian worker, he has passed to his rest, but his influence lives and will continue to bear righteous fruitage unto the day of final harvest.

The funeral service was held Sabbath afternoon, October 10, in the First Covenant Church of Denver, Colo. A large concourse of friends gathered to take part in the service. All of our churches in Denver were well represented. Others came from Boulder, Colorado Springs, and other distant points. The funeral service was conducted by J. J. Nethery, J. F. Piper, F. M. Wilcox, and the writer.

Interment was in the Crown Hill Cemetery. G. W. Anglebarger offered a fervent prayer as we committed our brother to his final resting place.

J. L. McElhany.