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VERNON LUTHER BROWN
April 4, 1876 - January 10, 1955

Vernon Luther Brown was born at Westland, Hancock County, Indiana, on April 4, 1876, of a long line of Quaker ancestors. His parents were Jesse and Lydia Catharine (Perisho) Brown, his mother being a Friends minister. When he was eight years old the family moved to Archer, Florida.

When Vernon was seventeen he entered Guilford College in North Carolina, and graduated there in 1897 under the presidency of Lyndon Hobbs. The following year he took his Master's degree in Education from the University of North Carolina, and his graduation gift there from the president, Edwin A. Alderman, was a Bible which he used thereafter as his family Bible.

It was at Guilford College that he met Florence Omega Kennedy, and they were married there in the college parlor after the manner of Friends on August 30, 1899, attended by Nell Wakefield Brown as maid of honor and Lacey Barbee as best man.

After his graduation Vernon Brown's first job was in the office of the Snow Lumber Company at High Point, N. C. He next served as principal of the high school in Germanton, N. C., then principal of the Bombay Institute, Bombay, N. C. In 1906 he moved to Greensboro to begin his career in the railway mail service, which he continued for 32 years, having moved to Washington, D. C. in 1908. When he retired in 1938 he became secretary-treasurer of the District Branch of the National Postal Transport Association, a position he held until his death, the NPTA being one of the three great interests in his life -- his family, his church, and the Association. To these three he gave faithful, devoted, and untiring service.

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When he moved from Greensboro to Washington he transferred his church membership to the Washington Monthly Meeting of Friends, and served it in many capacities throughout his life, including many years as treasurer, as a member of the Ministry and Council Committee, and as a Sunday school teacher. He also served as Chairman of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting Finance Committee, and on the Foreign Mission Board of the Five Years Meeting.

Florence K. and Vernon L. Brown were the parents of four sons: Omar Jesse Brown, who became a Captain in the U. S. Navy Medical Corps, and died in 1951 leaving two daughters; Vernon Lee Brown, who is with the Chase National Bank in New York City; Ralph Kennedy Brown, who died when he was two years old; and Evan C. Brown, who has two sons, and is with the Union News Company in New Orleans, Louisiana. Since 1916 the family has lived at 1327 Irving Street N. W. in Washington, D. C., where the widow still resides.

Vernon L. Brown was recognized throughout his life as ^a man of keen perceptions, particularly as to orderly procedure and as to financial matters, and many sought his counsel. After his retirement he fitted up an office in his home where he spent long hours on church records and in the work of the NPTA, even in his last illness giving them the last ounce of his strength.

"Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer. . . . Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life." Rev. 2-10

Read and approved by
Potomac Yearly Meeting
& directed forwarded to
the Permanent Board of
Baltimore Yearly Meeting
Sina M. Stanton
Recording Clerk -

J. Roger Wetherald
Clerk of Washington Monthly Meeting of Friends