



Bishop Odd Hagen

Arkansas Methodist

89th YEAR

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1970

NO. 6

Methodist Council president dies

NEW YORK (UMI)—Bishop Odd Hagen, 64, episcopal leader of 37,937 United Methodists in five European countries (including Russia) and president of the World Methodist Council, died January 28 in Stockholm, Sweden, after a brief illness.

Since 1966 Bishop Hagen had been head of the World Methodist Council, which is a federation of 33 independent Methodist Church bodies in some 90 countries. The churches have a combined membership estimated at 20,000,000 and a constituency estimated at 40,000,000.

Bishop Hagen was elected Council president at the World Methodist Conference in London in 1966; his term would have expired in August, 1971. He had traveled extensively in Africa, Asia, Europe, and North and South America on work of the Council, and he presided at its Executive Committee meetings last September in Geneva, Switzerland.

Since 1953 Bishop Hagen had been episcopal leader of the Stockholm Area of the United Methodist Church. It comprises six annual conferences in Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland and the Soviet Union (in what was formerly Estonia, where there are an estimated 4,000 Methodists). He was elected bishop by the Northern Europe Central Conference of the Methodist Church and has served the Stockholm Area during all of his episcopacy.

Born in Trondheim, Norway, December 16, 1905, Bishop Hagen spent his early life there and attended the Union Methodist Scandinavian School of Theology at Gothenburg, Sweden, where he received the bachelor of theology degree. He continued his education at Oslo University, Oslo, Norway, where he received the master of arts degree, and at Gothenburg University in Sweden, where he received the licentiate in philosophy. He received the honorary doctor of divinity degree from DePauw University, Greencastle, Ind., in 1953 and the University of Puget Sound, Tacoma, Wash., in 1954, and the honorary doctor of laws degree from McMurry College, Abilene, Texas, in 1955.

Ordained in 1928, Bishop Hagen was pastor of Methodist churches at Sandsvaer, Bodo, Kolkotn and Rjukan, all in Norway, from 1927 to 1935. He was appointed a professor at the Union Methodist Scandinavian School of Theology in 1935 and served in that post until 1947 when he was elected president (principal) of the school.

February 17-19

Arkansas conferences to hold annual Mid-year Convocations

Boards and agencies of the North Arkansas and Little Rock Annual Conferences will hold their annual mid-year meetings in Little Rock and North Little Rock from February 17-19. From these meetings will come the reports which will appear in the pre-conference journals which constitute the basis of actions in the annual conferences.

On Tuesday an Arkansas Area Town and Country Workshop will be held at First United Methodist Church in North Little Rock from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., followed by the Town and Country Commission meeting from 3:30 to 5:30. The Rev. Lloyd M. Conyers is pastor at First Church.

The Committee on Publishing Interests of the North Arkansas Conference will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday. Other boards and agencies of the Conference will hold their meetings on Wednesday and Thursday according to schedules which have been mailed out to those involved. These meetings will be held at Gardner Memorial Church in North Little Rock, with the Rev. Floyd G. Villines, host pastor.

A meeting of the Advisory Committee on Church and Community Work on Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. will begin the Little Rock Conference meetings at First Church.

Boards and agencies of the Little Rock Conference will be meeting on Wednesday and Thursday at First United Methodist Church in Little Rock with Dr. R. E. L. Bearden, host pastor.

At 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, the Board of Laity will meet at Asbury United Methodist Church in Little Rock with S. H. Allman, chairman. Dr. Edward B. Hollenbeck is pastor at Asbury.

The Arkansas/Louisiana Methodist Commission will hold its meeting on Thursday, March 5 at the Albert Pike Hotel, beginning at noon.

A joint session of the Program Councils of the three conferences will be held on Thursday, April 2 at First Church in Little Rock. These conferences include: Little Rock, North Arkansas and Southwest.

Since the reports adopted at these mid-year meetings are printed in the pre-conference journals which form the basis for the business of the annual conference sessions, the directions which Arkansas Methodism will take during the 1970-71 conference year will be largely the result of deliberations of these mid-year meetings.

Four-fold increase sought in Sunday offering for Philander Smith College

Consultation held at Philander Smith

Dr. Virgil Morris, executive secretary of the South Central Jurisdiction, and other jurisdiction leaders met at Philander Smith College on Thursday, January 29 with Dr. Walter Hazzard, president of the college, several members of the Board of Trustees and representatives from the faculty and staff.

Special emphasis in the consultation was given to the need for a four-fold increase in next Sunday's (February 8) offering for Philander Smith College. Philander Smith College is one of 12 predominantly black United Methodist colleges in the south facing extremely critical needs. Other important considerations in the meeting included the

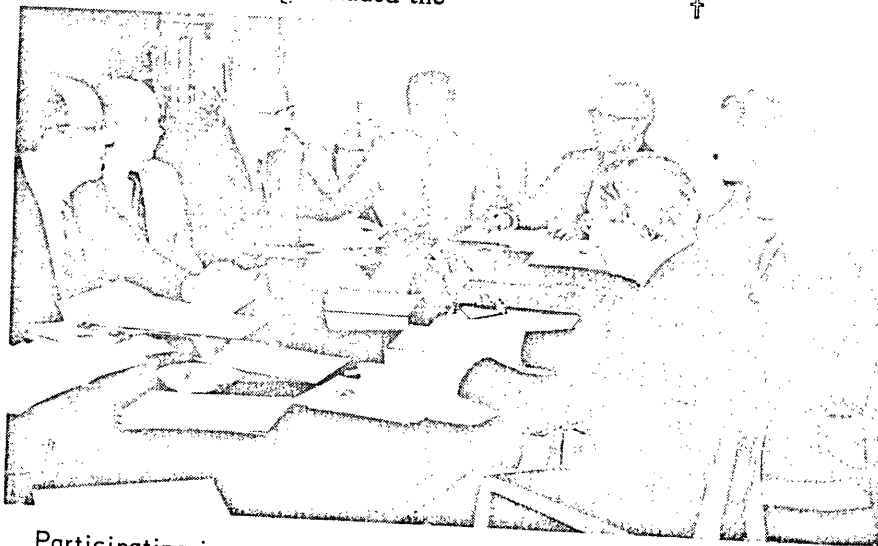
devising of a strategy for making capital improvements, and finding new friends and supporters of Philander Smith College.

Other jurisdiction leaders attending the consultation were: the Rev. Ben Oliphant of Louisiana, president of the Jurisdiction Board of Education and Dr. Ivan Lee LaTurno, vice-president of the Jurisdiction Board of Social Concerns. Local persons present were: Dr. M. A. Jackson, Dr. C. Ray Hozendorf, Dr. Joseph E. Taylor, members of the Board of Trustees; Dr. J. D. Scott, Dr. Crawford Mims, and Mr. E. R. Clemmons of the faculty and staff of the college.

Dr. Ira Gallaway honored at Asbury

The Rev. Ira Gallaway, District Superintendent of the Fort Worth East District of the Central Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church, was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity during an Academic Convocation at Asbury Theological Seminary, January 28. Conferral of the degree was made by Dr. Frank Bateman Stanger, president of the seminary. Bishop W. Kenneth Pope of the Dallas-Fort Worth area of the United Methodist Church was guest speaker.

Dr. Gallaway, who is presently serving his second term as President of the Council of Evangelism of the United Methodist Church, was one of the speakers at the recent U.S. Congress on Evangelism in Minneapolis. He has served several distinguished pastorates in Texas. In 1952 he was voted one of Texas' "Five Outstanding Young Men."



Participating in a recent consultation at Philander Smith College on the urgencies of the 1970 Race Relations Offering were (clockwise): Dr. Joseph E. Taylor, Dr. Ben R. Oliphant, Dr. Virgil D. Morris, Dr. Crawford Mims, Dr. Walter Hazzard, Dr. Ivan Lee LaTurno, Dr. M. A. Jackson and Dr. C. Ray Hozendorf.

Churches to mark Scouting's 60th anniversary

Boy Scout Sunday, February 8, will find thousands of Scouts and Explorers attending Protestant church services at which many pastors will deliver sermons especially for young men. Many Scouts, who have qualified, will be given religious emblems.

During Boy Scout Week, Feb. 7 through 13, the long-range expansion plan launched last year will be stressed. The plan, BOYPOWER '76, includes increased membership and service to boys of all races, colors, creeds, and economic status.

A stated objective of BOYPOWER '76 is "to deeply involve a representative one-third of all American boys in Scouting" and "to help the families and institutions of the Nation prepare a new generation with the skill and confidence to master the changing demands of America's future and prepare to give leadership to it."

For 60 years the Boy Scouts of America has offered its activities to Protestant boys and their families while, overall, more than 47 million Scouts and leaders have enjoyed the program since 1910.

Today, the organization serves over 4.6 million Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Explorers with its balanced program of outdoor and Scoutcraft activities, emphasizing service to God, Nation, and other people.

The Boy Scouts of America is not a religious teaching movement, but believes that no boy can grow to successful manhood without a firm belief in God.

Dr. McDermott to address Missouri teachers

Dr. Cecil McDermott, chairman of the Mathematics Department at Hendrix College, will be the keynote speaker at the Missouri Teachers Association Annual Convention April 1-4.

The convention will be held at Cape Girardeau, Mo., and Dr. McDermott will address the group on Friday, April 3. The title of his address is "Teaching Strategies for the Seventies."

Dr. McDermott taught at Sikeston, Mo., 1957-59 and was the winner of the Missouri Teacher of the Year award in 1958-59.

MONTICELLO PARSONETTES TO BE AT FORDYCE

The Monticello District Parsonettes met Thursday, January 15, in the home of Mrs. George Tanner of Lake Village.

The program, featuring budget menus and economical aids in grocery buying, was brought by Mrs. Nancy Sloan. After the program, Mrs. Tanner served lunch to the 12 wives present.

A special reminder to Monticello District Parsonettes — Mrs. Paul V. Galloway, our Bishop's wife, plans to meet with us in Fordyce, Thursday, February 19, in the home of Mrs. Ed Matthews.



The Mission to Ministers sponsored by the South Central Jurisdiction Program Council of the UM Church Jan. 20-23 at Lake Murray Lodge, Ardmore, Okla. was attended by five Arkansas families. Pictured here (BACK ROW, l. to r.): The Rev. Bob Trieschmann, Smackover, one of program group leaders; Dr. Virgil Morris, Jurisdiction executive secretary, Oklahoma City, who planned and presided at the retreat; the Rev. Robert W. Robertson, Western Hills Church, Little Rock; the Rev. Wayne Clark, St. Paul's Church, Harrison; the Rev. Larry Maxwell, associate pastor at Pulaski Heights Church, Little Rock; (FRONT ROW): the Rev. J. H. Oliver, St. James Church, Pine Bluff; Mrs. Trieschmann; Mrs. Robertson; Mrs. Clark; Mrs. Maxwell. Dr. and Mrs. Lawrence Lacour, First Church, Colorado Springs, Colorado and the Rev. Walter Albritton, General Board of Evangelism, were inspirational speakers.

CHRISTIAN HOME publishes article by Little Rock Methodist

Mrs. James H. Rice Jr. of Little Rock is the author of an article which appears in the February issue of THE CHRISTIAN HOME, the United Methodist magazine for children and youth.

Mrs. Rice and her husband are active members of First United Methodist Church in Little Rock. Mrs. Rice is a member of the General Committee on Family Life of The United Methodist Church, and both she and her husband participated in the World Conference on Family Life in Birmingham-London, England in 1966.

In anticipation of the National Family Life Conference to be held in Chicago, October 8-10, 1970, Mrs. Rice has written "We're Going Again," which appears on page 31 of THE CHRISTIAN HOME.

HENDRIX ECONOMICS PROFESSOR RECEIVES DOCTORATE

Billy R. Humphrey, associate professor of economics and business at Hendrix College, received the Ph.D. in Business Administration from the University of Arkansas Saturday, January 24.

In 1961 he received his Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Arkansas and graduated with a B.A. in economics and business from Hendrix in 1960.

Humphrey's doctoral dissertation was devoted to a study of the management and control of capital expenditures for business firms. The title of the dissertation was "An Evaluation of Selected Decision Techniques in Relation to the Post-Audit of Capital Ex-



penditures." Organizations of which he is a member include the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the American Accounting Association. He has been a member of the Hendrix faculty for seven years.

Lonoke congregation hears former Arkansan

Robert Louis (Bob) Moore, a student of religion and the sciences of man at the University of Chicago, preached at the Lonoke United Methodist Church December 28. The Rev. John O. Alston is the pastor.

In addition to his study, Mr. Moore is serving as clinical instructor of religion and personality at McCormick Theological Seminary and as Chaplain Supervisor at the Children's Memorial Hospital in Chicago. He is a staff member of the Chicago Institute for Pastoral Care, Church Federation of Greater Chicago.

Moore, an elder in the Little Rock Conference, is a graduate of Hendrix College, Perkins School of Theology Southern Methodist University, and received the Master's Degree from Duke University.

Mrs. Moore, also a graduate of Perkins School of Theology and of Mississippi State College for Women, is doing graduate work in American Studies at the University of Illinois.

Washington, D.C. Seminar planned

A study seminar to Washington, D. C. is being jointly sponsored by the boards of Christian Social Concern and the Women's Society of Christian Service of the North Arkansas Conference. A visit to the General Conference in St. Louis will be included.

A chartered bus will leave April 21 for St. Louis. The group will then proceed to Washington for a visit and study in the National Headquarters of the United Methodist Church on Capitol Hill. They will also visit different departments in the government and foreign embassies.

A tour of many of the interesting Washington attractions will be included.

Anyone in the Arkansas Conferences is welcome to apply for this tour. Acceptance will be on a first come first served basis. This is open to both adults and youth. The only cost of the tour will be a \$25.00 registration fee and your own room and meals. Please send your application with a check for \$25.00 to: Dr. Earl Hughes, No. 10 Lakeshore Drive, Heber Springs, Arkansas 72543.

STUDENT RECOGNITION DAY OBSERVED AT MT. CARMEL

Mr. Carmel United Methodist Church on Holly Springs Charge observed Student Recognition Day with Lolah Mann, a freshman at the University of Arkansas, in charge. She was assisted by David Daniel of Bentonville who is also a freshman at the U of A, and Mary Beth Mann, a high school senior. A special vocal number "Precious Lord Take My Hand" was sung by the group with Lolah Mann, accompanist at the piano.

The Rev. Eddie Warren is the pastor.

(From Jan. 8, 1970 issue of WES-
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ences; by Gene Carroll, special fea-
tures writer)

Will 'dream' survive ?

Church research specialists are predicting a resurgence of religious awareness in the decade of the 1970's. NBC Newsman John Chancellor, former director of Voice of America, echoed such predictions in an address in Atlanta last week before 4,500 Baptist young people. He said continuing air and water pollution, threat of nuclear water pollution, threat of nuclear war in the Middle East and world monetary problems could return persons to deeper spiritual values in the next ten years.

If the revival comes—and past history shows that it could—it is not likely to come in the present structure of American Protestantism. Neither does Roman Catholicism hold an inside track to a workable conduit which might provide a means for people to feel the Holy Spirit most deeply.

Changes in religion in the 1970's will be many. Likely there will be a "cutting away" of the non-essential. Technology, a more enlightened populous and lack of financial support will require it. Not the least of the changes might be the demise of the National Council of Churches of Christ in America. The body has cataclysmic problems. And they are no longer confined to the southern United States.

In the last decade the National Council of Churches struggled with self-identity, but muffed it. Ironically the identity crisis reached its apex in December, 1969, at the end of the decade. The crisis revolved around blackness and human freedom—the rallying cry of the council for many years. A confrontation by blacks with National Council leaders produced no worthwhile results for anyone. Though the national church body thought it had given full leadership position to blacks, it found itself in the position of being asked for more. Ultimately the council elected a white member—a woman—as its president. Her victory may well have sounded

the proverbial death knell for the National Council. At least it may have intensified a gong which has been tolling in the distance.

It is sad that the National Council may be at a place where it serves no useful purpose. Its impossible dream had great hope as a united force which might have preached fully the gospel. Now that apparently is near an end.

The National Council, for the most part, appears to be a debating society for professional church executives and select laymen—not the rank and file—where rhetoric is more important than the spiritual mantle of Christ for all people. Unfortunately some council leaders came to the position of writing off their critics—especially those in the South. The mantle of Christ entrusted to such leaders was apparently not large enough to encompass all.

Unfortunately Methodists may feel more acutely than any denomination the demise of the council. Bishops, district superintendents, public relations men, and dedicated laymen have defended the council at all costs. Too often clergymen made the mistake of saying that controversial council actions "could be attributed to faulty news reporting." The council's problems in January, 1970, can no longer be confined to the front pages of America's morning newspapers.

Christianity generally is not likely to suffer if the National Council should fold in this dec-

ade. Other channels are available and have long been in use for world interdenominational programs in missions and disaster relief. Most denominations have formed their own inner city programs as well as statistical research bureaus. Perhaps this is the saddest of all factors—that the council may leave few gaps. On the other hand perhaps it has fulfilled its mission by working itself out of a job. Let us pray that this is true.

An end of the National Council of Churches of Christ in America will not mean the end of interdenominational involvement. Probably involvement will be strengthened in the 1970's but not through a monolithic structure.

If rebirth comes, it will come through the smaller Christian community—whether in the local church or home lay renewal group. Like the early Church, rebirth will begin in the "grass roots," for that is where the people are. This could mean stronger interdenominational cooperation and union than before, because involvement will be among people rather than in a select debating group. There can be great strength in such church make-up. Oxford University, renowned throughout the world, has always been a grouping of several schools and colleges rather than a single institution. The interdenominational "church" of the 1970's may assume a similar structure but without a central national unit such as the National Council.

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The Editor's Corner



OPEN BRIDGES ON A CLOSED FRONTIER

One of the most surprising things about a visit to Israel today is the manner in which the frontier—closed by the military situation—opens at will for specific purposes.

The most interesting purpose at the time of our recent visit was to permit a party of Moslem pilgrims to cross into Jordan on their way to Mecca, which is located in Saudi Arabia.

As we drove toward Massada near the southern end of the Dead Sea we saw a great number of Arabs gathered along the road with their families. This was in the West Bank section of Jordan which is occupied and governed by the Israeli army. Yet the pilgrims were going to Mecca through Jordan with the permission and assistance of the government.

Another way in which a flow of traffic is maintained across the frontier daily is the transportation of vegetables and fruits which are a main part of the export trade of Israel. Although the bulk of these products is exported to Europe, a large truck convoy travels into Jordan early each morning.

There is even talk that occasionally an American traveler is able to cut the red tape and journey across into Jordan—where both governments feel that such a visit might be mutually beneficial.

It is still not possible for the average tourist to arrange an itinerary which carries him first to Israel and then into Arab territory. However, we heard of some people who have two passports, thereby obviating the necessity of an Arab immigration official the stamp of Israel on one's passport.

Of course, the major monument to the "open bridge" is the small amount of rubble that stands near where the old Mandelbaum Gate stood. Here, before 1967, was "no-man's-land" for all visitors who saw both sides of the Holy Land. Now every effort is being made to obliterate the reminders of that unpleasant passage.

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Editor and Business Manager: ALFRED A. KNOX
Managing Editor: DORIS WOOLARD

Woman's Editor: IMOGENE KNOX

Poetry Editor: BARBARA L. MULKEY

Editorial Assistant: PEGGY YARBROUGH

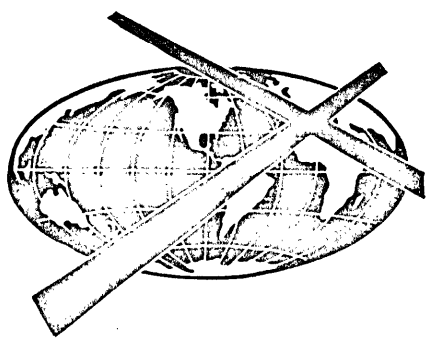
Office Secretary: KATHLEEN STOREY

Contributing Editors: EARL CARTER, HAROLD EGGENSEPGER,
W. NEILL HART, GLADWIN CONNELL, W. O. SCROGGIN, JR.,
J. WOODROW HEARN, GARLAND C. DEAN,
CECIL BLAND and LESLIE J. M. TIMMINS.

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news and views

OF THE WORLD OF RELIGION

by the Editor

The Mississippi Southern Baptist Convention has urged all Christians in the state to fight the existing "twin problems of ignorance and poverty" by taking a Christian attitude toward the integration of public schools. "Common sense, Christian love, and concern for each other should be the normal pattern for Christian behavior," said the statement issued by the Christian Action Commission.

A crowd of 13,224 set an attendance record at an auditorium in Fort Worth during the Evangelism Conference of the Texas Baptist General Convention. Speakers were film star Dale Evans, space scientist Dr. Edward Lindaman and the Rev. Robert H. Wilson, a black pastor from Dallas. Previous record holders for attendance at the 14,000-seat Tarrant County Convention Center were Bob Hope and the Rowan & Martin comedy team.

Five seminaries in the Indiana-Kentucky area have formed an educational consortium which provides inter-library circulation and research privileges to students and faculties of all the schools. Seminaries in the consortium are the Southern Baptist, Asbury (Methodist), Lexington (Disciples of Christ), Louisville Presbyterian, and St. Meinrad (Catholic). The arrangement was designed to avoid duplication of resources by participating seminaries.

A missionary-turned-relief specialist offered some bright rays of hope on Africa in the wake of current problems in Nigeria, stating that in the "little countries" of Africa "things are moving . . . people are helping themselves." He said that in the past four years, thousands of miles of roads have been built, 400 soil dams installed to retain water that just "flowed into the ocean, draining the land," and 30,000 mothers and their children have been placed in programs teaching nutrition, health and hygiene.

In France a national television program startled millions of viewers recently by reporting that some 18,000 churches and chapels have been abandoned or are at the point of being abandoned. As one religious commentator put it, "Not since the wars of religion in the 16th Century have churches in France suffered so much!" They reportedly are suffering from neglect, from dwindling attendance, from lack of funds, and, perhaps above all, from vandals with an eye on valuable antiques.

The Dutch Roman Catholic hierarchy has endorsed a recent pastoral council recommendation urging that priestly celibacy be optional in the Church. For whatever reason—church officials in the Netherlands report that 400 of the 12,000 Dutch priests left the ministry in the last two years.

A group of married priests in the Paris region issued a statement expressing "solidarity" with the wishes of the Dutch Pastoral Council which advocates the abolition of mandatory celibacy for priests.

Ascension Lutheran Church, a Missouri Synod congregation in Charlotte, N.C., has notified each of its "dropouts" by registered mail to clarify his status. The church's 698 members were notified by the elders recently that some "painful surgery" was necessary to eliminate "dead wood," described as about 60 families, or about 125 adults.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon will challenge the constitutionality of a "shared time" program in Milwaukie, Ore., School District No. 1 under which some parochial school children receive instruction from public school teachers and use public school materials. It announced that it will file a civil suit asking the courts to enjoin the arrangement permanently. The ACLU contends that the shared time idea is a violation of separation of church and state.

Headquarters for the Wycliffe Bible Translators work among Indian tribes of the U.S. and Canada has been moved to Denver from California. Office, printing and communication facilities will be developed at a site 12 miles north of the city. The translators are involved in mission work and providing of Scripture to peoples around the globe. Its division on American Indian work is already working in 30 languages.

A liberalized denominational view on alcoholic beverages, one changing a "voluntary total abstinence" stance, was urged by the Council on Church and Society, an agency of the Presbyterian Church, U.S. (Southern) meeting in Nashville. The Council asked that the denomination's 1970 Assembly accept a new statement pledging a strengthened ministry to those facing alcohol problems.

James Francis Cardinal McIntyre, the 83-year-old prelate who has served the Roman Catholic Church in the U.S. for nearly half a century has retired from his post as Archbishop of Los Angeles. "Realizing the protracted relationship with time that has been mine," he said, "I have come to the conclusion that my experience in the realm of time has more than consumed a normal allotment, and hence I am intruding on borrowed time."

Roman Catholic and Anglican relations entered an important new phase in Great Britain when top theologians of both churches gathered recently at Windsor for the first meeting of a newly established permanent Joint Commission.

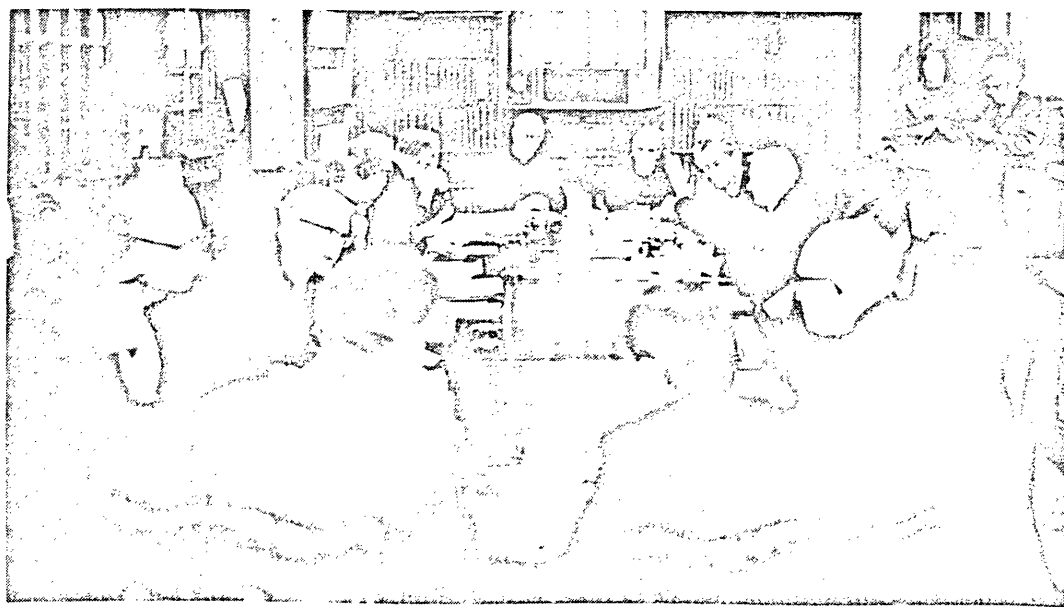
A former Anglican Archbishop of West Africa will be the representative for community relations of the Archbishop of Canterbury and York in an important move to improve race relations in Great Britain. He is the Rt. Rev. Cecil J. Patterson, who resigned last year as Archbishop of West Africa after 35 years' service. He is 62.

Charles P. Lutz, associate general secretary of the U.S. office of the World Council of Churches, recently pointed out the need for church leaders to give attention to a ministry to the "Middle American." Speaking at a recent meeting of the U.S. Committee for WCC, the Lutheran layman spoke of the group which "is in growing numbers withholding financial support from church units supporting liberal social and political causes.

Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller has asked the New York Legislature to repeal the state's constitutional ban on aid to parochial schools. In his State of the State Message, he asked for the creation of a new commission which will study "the long-term relationship between public and private schools, with special emphasis on the fiscal problems of the private schools."

A group of scholars and explorers announced that \$1 million will be spent in an attempt to recover from Mount Ararat in Eastern Turkey what they believe are the remains of Noah's Ark. Backing the venture is SEARCH (Scientific Exploration and Archeological Research Foundation) of Washington, D.C. R. E. Crawford, president of the foundation, said the project was spurred by discovery of wood 4,000-years-old on the mountain.

While urging the development of renewal and of a "new mentality" in the church, Pope Paul VI deplored the "implacable critical attitude" of "unrestrainable innovators" who condemn the "whole ecclesiastical system of the past." Speaking at a Wednesday audience in the Vatican Hall of Benediction, the Pope said Vatican II was "the beginning of a renewal in the church—a renewal that must develop throughout the whole ecclesiastical community."



WINDSOR, Eng. — Anglican and Roman Catholic clergy hold the first session of a week-long meeting of the Permanent Joint Commission which was established by the Churches last October. Meeting in St. George's House, Windsor Castle, the Commission discussed three major subjects — the church and authority, the ministry and the Eucharist. After the final meeting, the commission issued a statement which indicated that Roman Catholics and Anglicans must resolve their theological differences more quickly if co-operation in joint projects is to be accelerated. (RNS Photo)

NEWS and NOTES

THE MALVERN ECUMENICAL Service was held in St. John the Baptist Catholic Church on Thursday night, January 29. The Rev. John Walker, pastor of St. Paul's United Methodist Church, was the preacher.

JOHN McFARLAND, University of Arkansas student, is working in the Bentonville United Methodist Church as part time youth director. He is working with the Rev. W. Maurice Lanier.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE JIM ROBERTS of Trumann spoke on "Religion and Politics" in the Marked Tree Church for United Methodist Youth. The Rev. William Wilder is the pastor.

A POVERTY DINNER was served by the 12th grade Sunday school class to members of First U. M. Church, Benton. As a follow-up of the class study on poverty, under the leadership of John Sowle and Jimmy Leech, the young people invited church members to the meal and to hear Joe Williams, State director of the Opportunities Industrialization Center, talk about "Poverty in Arkansas." The Rev. George Meyers is the Benton pastor.

MR. AND MRS. H. H. FULBRIGHT of Searcy attended the evangelism lay retreat at Lake Ardmore, Oklahoma, in January. Mr. Fulbright is on the Jurisdictional Board of Evangelism Executive Committee and was one of the leaders at the retreat.

TRAINING SCHOOLS

THE MISSISSIPPI COUNTY Training School will be held at First United Methodist Church, Osceola, February 9-11. The Rev. Rufus Sorrells will be host minister. Program directors of the North Arkansas Conference, Dr. Harold Eggensperger and the Rev. Earl Carter, will be leading "The Work of the Local Church."

RUSSELLVILLE - DARDANELLE Area Training School will be held February 9-11 at First United Methodist Church, Russellville. The Rev. Clint Burleson, minister of First U.M. Church, West Memphis, will teach the adult course. Mrs. Harold V. Allen will lead the youth course. The Rev. John B. Hays will be host minister.

THE WEST BENTON COUNTY Training School will be in the Decatur United Methodist Church, February 9-11. Dr. Kenneth Spore, retired minister living in Springdale, will teach the Gospel of Luke. Dr. Jennie Lou Milton will direct the children's workers, and the Rev. Larry Powell will lead youth workers. The Rev. J. E. Linam is the Decatur minister.

TEAGUE BIBLE STUDY OPEN TO ALL WOMEN

The Rev. Sam Teague has been conducting Bible studies for the women in Indian Hills United Methodist Church of North Little Rock. At the request of other ladies of the area, his courses are being opened to other churches. The current study of LUKE began January 13 and is being held from 9:00 until 11:00 a.m. on each second and fourth Tuesday.

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FAMILY NIGHT IN HELENA First Church, January 28, launched the study of "China." Plans are under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. Carlos Smith, secretary and chairman of the Work Area of Missions. The Rev. G. B. Ames is the Helena minister.

ROSE CITY BEACON United Methodist Church of North Little Rock is planning a Lay Witness Mission the weekend of February 20-22. Roy Files is serving as general chairman. Committee chairmen include: Mrs. James Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Bear, Mrs. Ray Turner, Horace Lenderman, Charles Eagle, Danny Daniels, Eddie Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. E. Nichols, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Mercer, Mrs. E. W. Reynolds, and W. C. Orne. The Rev. Calvin Mitchell is the pastor.

ARKADELPHIA FIRST CHURCH members heard a group of speakers tell of their recent visit to Spanish missions. Speaking Sunday evening, January 25 were Mrs. David Hankins, Mrs. Glen Taylor, Becky Beck, Florence Delavan and Patti Pennington. Dr. Fred R. Harrison is pastor.

PAUL SEAY gave the Student Recognition Sunday message at Marmaduke United Methodist Church and Earl Wayne Presson spoke at Simmons Chapel. Tommy Hayes led the worship in both churches. The three young men are members of the Simmons U.M. Church and students at Ark. State University, Jonesboro. The pastor is the Rev. Charles P. Reed.

ABBOT MICHAEL LENSING, of the New Subiaco Abbey, spoke in the Ozark United Methodist Church Sunday evening, January 18. Abbot Michael shared some actions of the Vatican Council II and answered questions. The Rev. Virgil Bell is the Ozark pastor.

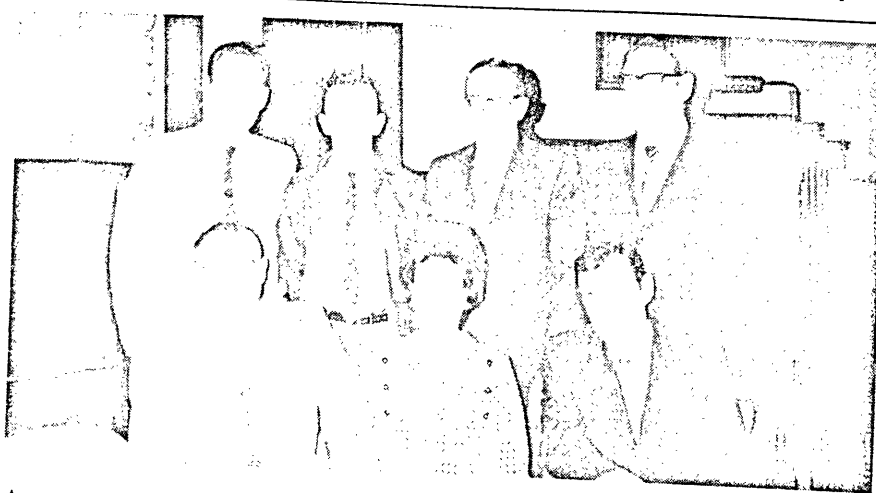
HAZEN UNITED Methodist Youth were hosts to 75 young people attending a UMY Sub-District meeting Sunday afternoon, January 11. Mrs. Hettie Lou Brooks of the Fountain Lake U.M. Church, Hot Springs, was the guest speaker. Carlisle, Lonoke and Hamilton Churches were represented. Guests included members of the CYO of Slovak, and EYC of Tollville.

AT CENTRAL CHURCH, ROGERS, leaders of the study "Reconciliation" during February Sunday evenings will be Mrs. Henry Morgan, Mrs. Bob Dubbell, George Londagin and Dr. William Van Zandt. The Rev. Charles McDonald is the pastor.

IN RECTOR, the February churchwide study on "Being Christian in a New Day" will be led by Bill Meyer, Mrs. Clarence Rust, Mrs. Robert Mebane and Clarence Rust. The Rev. H. J. Couchman is pastor.

CONWAY FIRST CHURCH is studying "Reconciliation" in all Sunday morning classes during February. Plans have been worked out under the leadership of Mrs. Burvin Alread, WSCS chairman of missionary education, and Mrs. George Harrod, chairman of the Work Area on Missions. The Rev. Ben Jordan is pastor.

RAY TRIBBLE, executive director of Aldersgate Camp, Little Rock, was the speaker for the closing session of the churchwide School of Missions in First Church, Batesville, Wednesday evening, January 27. Young people launched the series with the play "Color Me Human." Mrs. W. M. Harkey is chairman of the Missions Area, and Dr. Charles Taylor of Social Concerns in First Church, Batesville. The Rev. Arville Brannon is pastor.



At a recent meeting of officials of churches of the Wilmar Charge, Monticello District, were (seated, from left): Quenton Free, Mrs. Helen Anderson and Idell Daugherty, chairmen of the Administrative Boards of Rock Springs, Wilmar and Andrew's Chapel Churches; (back row) the Rev. Dan George, pastor, Van E. Kulbeth, chairman of Mt. Pleasant board, Hubert McKeown, chairman of the charge pastor-parish relations committee, and Dr. Raymond Franks, district superintendent.

DAILY BIBLE READING

Below is a schedule for the Daily Bible Reading, which the Board of Evangelism invites you to use as a regular guide for use in your homes.

Feb. 8—Sunday	Luke 4:14-21
Feb. 9	Mark 9:30-37
Feb. 10	Mark 10:35-45
Feb. 11	I Cor. 9:19-27
Feb. 12	II Cor. 5:11-21
Feb. 13	Phillip. 2:1-16
Feb. 14	II Tim. 3:14-4:8
Feb. 15—Sunday	Deut. 8:11-20

MARKHAM AND WESLEY PASTORS AND CHOIRS TO EXCHANGE SERVICES

The Rev. Fred Arnold, pastor of Markham United Methodist Church, and the Rev. J. Otis Erwin, pastor of Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church, both in Little Rock, plan an exchange of pulpits on Sunday, February 8. The choirs will also exchange visits.

†

MRS. SUSAN DAVIS, 102, a Methodist for 80 years and a member of First United Methodist Church, Little Rock, since 1924, died on January 13. Born in Dardanelle, she was the widow of E. L. Davis. She is survived by two sons, F. O. Davis of Fort Smith and J. E. Davis of Little Rock; three daughters, Mrs. E. P. Whitley, Mrs. H. G. Frost and Mrs. Ella Max Medlin, all of Little Rock; eight grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

P. K. KORNER

PAT WATSON, daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. J. William Watson of Paragould, was married to Donald Farmer on Friday, January 23, in First United Methodist Church of Paragould.

MYRA JANE CURTIS, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Myers Curtis of Fayetteville, and Randall Carl Jarman of Little Rock were married in St. Paul's Episcopal Church at Fayetteville, January 24. Both are students at the University of Arkansas. Dr. Curtis is the Fayetteville District superintendent.

RICKY HIGHTOWER, son of the Rev. and Mrs. William C. Hightower of Paris, and Kay McCain were married on January 30. Both are students at Arkansas Tech, Russellville, where Ricky received a degree in Parks and Recreation in January.

DEBRA YARBROUGH, daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Cleve Yarbrough of Cotton Plant, was the recipient of the Betty Crocker Homemakers Award. Debra, a high school senior, was chosen on the basis of her score in the homemaking knowledge and aptitude test taken by senior girls. In addition to receiving a specially designed silver charm from General Mills, Debra is now eligible for a college scholarship.

Report No. 1

1970 ARKANSAS METHODIST CIRCULATION CAMPAIGN

New	Renew	Not Due	Total	New	Renew	Not Due	Total	New	Renew	Not Due	Total			
BATESVILLE DISTRICT				Holly Grove:Lancaster	3	35	1	39	Hot Springs -First:Ivy	20	32	3	55	
				Marianna:Parsons	2	54		56	Hot Springs -Pullman					
				Marion:Douglas	12	103		115 ***	Hts.: Hoover		1		1	
Batesville-Asbury:LeGrand	10	34	44 **	McCrary:Brewer	1	41		42	Oaklona Ct.: Hankins	1	2		3	
First:Brannon	32	40	2	74	Parkin:Anderson		1	1	Mt. Pine-Gum Spgs:Onstead		7	2	9	
Bald Knob-hopewell -				31	West Helena:Halton	9	21	1	Shorewood Hills:Langley	5	20		25	
Russell:Watson	1	16		17	West Memphis:				Malvern					
Beebe-Ward-Stoney Pt:				156	First:Burleson	42	114		St. Paul Parish: Walker	9	18		27	
Cook		1	1						Mt. Ida-Oden: Kerr	4	21	1	26	
Cabot:Savage	4	36	3	43	Totals	113	738	3	854					
Van Buren Co.Par:									Totals	74	165	7	246	
Clinton: Renfro	1	50	3	54	FORT SMITH DISTRICT									
Dennard-Shirley:Shell	1	6		7	Fort Smith:				CAMDEN DISTRICT					
Cotter-Bull Shoals:Ed-				19	First:Bayliss		1270	1270 ***	Bearden-Thornton:					
wards	2	16	1	1	Goddard:Richards	64	173	237 **	Richardson	47	46		93 ***	
Desha Ct.:West	1			52 **	Wyatt:Weir	7	37	1	Bradley: Jester	4	19		23	
Griffithville Ct.:				12	Midland Hts.:Crozier	4	62		Camden:					
Permenter	1	51		19 **	St. Paul:McKelvey	7	59		First: Dodson	78	60	3	141	
Judsonia:Wingo	1	11		8	Mansfield:Holland	6	15	1	Fairview:Abney	17	232		249***	
Holiday Hills-Steele-				25	Paris-Coles Chapel:				St. Mark: Clayton	4	18	1	23	
Hopewell:Cowan	6	13		30	Hightower		1	1	Chidester Ct.: Bailey	5	21		26	
Moorefield Ct.:Mason		8		13	Van Buren:				El Dorado:					
Newark-Wilson	1	23	1	34 *	First:Chapman		1	1	First: Murray	1			1	
Marshall-Leslie:Moyer	5	25		75	City Hts. -Newberry:				Vantrease: Cross	12	70	3	85 **	
Pangburn Ct:Hook	4	9			Renfro		1	1	Dumas-Lisbon:Green	5	25		30 **	
Bradford Ct.:Hunter	4	30			Waldron:Clemmons	68	47	115 ***	Holly Springs:Warren	7	14		21	
Searcy-First:Mann	22	53			Totals	156	1666	2	1822	Huttig-Bolding:Jackson		12	1	13
Totals	96	412	10	518					Junction City:Wagner		22		22	
CONWAY DISTRICT					JONESBORO DISTRICT				Magnolia:					
Atkins-Pottsville:					Blytheville:First:				Asbury:Swift		54		54	
McCammon		17		17	Keeley	37	449	13	499 ***	Magnolia Ct.:Burleson	1	13		14
Conway:					Hickory Ridge-Tilton:					Marysville-Silver Hill:				
First:Jordan	7	54	6	67	Dorman	5	14	1	20	Pearce	6	42		48 **
Greenbrier Chg.:					Jonesboro:					Emerson Ct.:Velchoff		7		7
Pledger	3	21	2	26	First:Gibson	15	544		559 ***	Pleasant Grove:McCauley	2	25		27
Faulkner Co. Par:					Lake City-Lake View:					Stamps:Hale	10	61		71**
Brumley	3	11	1	15	Maples	1	7		8	Strong:Hays	1	4		5
Morrilton-First:Spence		1		1	Osceola:Sorrells	7	57	1	65	Waldo-Willisville:Ross	6	23		29
Morrilton Par:Thomas		1		1	Tyrnza-Centerview:					Welcome:Mitchell	1	5	1	7
North Little Rock:					Dorman	8	34	6	48					
First:Conyers		2		2	Wilson:Linam	8	11		19	HOPE DISTRICT				
Levy:Hammett	17	24		41	Pleasant Valley:					Dierks Parish:Mashburn	24	38		62 **
Sylvan Hills:Workman	2	17		19	Anderson		4	4		Emmet Ct.:Miller	21	33		54
Totals	32	148	9	189	Totals	81	1120	21	1222	Boyd-Fouke: Gantz	1	11		12
FAYETTEVILLE DISTRICT					PARAGOULD DISTRICT					Mena, First:White		1		1
Bentonville Ct: Lanier		2		2	Boydsville:Penney	2	2		4	Mineral Springs:Lea	3	38		41
Brightwater-Avoca:Roland	2	19		21	Corning:Keith		33		33	Nashville:DeBlack	1	84		85
Elkins Community:Qualls	2	4		6	Gainesville:Thompson	1	5		6	Springhill Ct.:Robbins	6	16		
Fayetteville:					Hoxie:Gilliam	7	21		28	Texarkana:				
Central:Cooper	17	1		18	Imboden:Bruner	3	31		34 *	First:Hillis	40	149	2	191 **
Gentry:McClurkin	4	8	1	13	Eli Lindsey:Watson		3		3	Fairview:Hudnall	4	32	2	38
Harrison-First:					Newport:					Few Mem.:Barron		10	1	11
Connell	11	213		224 ***	Umsted:Strayhorn	4	23	4	31					
Huntsville-Presley Chapel:					St. Francis:Smith	4	27	1	32	LITTLE ROCK DISTRICT				
Hooker:Knapp	1	14		15	Swifton:Luter	8	30		38 *	Austin Ct.: Poss	6	19	2	27
Rogers-Central:					Tuckerman:Randle	1	25		26	Benton:				
McDonald	18	56	4	78	Para gould Parish #3:					First:Meyer	1	105		106
Springdale:					Lingo		5		5	New Hope-Mt. Carmel:	1	8		9
Wesley-Mt. Hebron:										Des Arc-New Bethel:Ruth	3	41		44
Fiser	26	21		47						Hamilton:Walthal	2	10		12
Winslow:	2	5		7	Totals	30	205	5	240	Little Rock:				
Totals	83	343	5	431						Western Hills:Robertson	8	20		28
FORREST CITY DISTRICT					ARKADELPHIA DISTRICT					Geyer Springs:Diffie	15	29		44
Aubrey-Lexa:Reed	11	16	1	28	Amity: Hemund	6	18	-	24	St. James:Phillips	15	39		54***
Colt Ct:Davis	5	11		16	Arkadelphia - First:					Asbury:Hollenbeck	1			1
Earle:Wilson		31		31	Harrison	7			7	First:Bearden		1147		1147***
Elaine Ct.:Bruner		12		12	Delight Ct.: Hunter	5	20	1	26 **	St. Paul:Scott	4	60	1	65
Forrest City:					Glenwood-Alder:Smith	17	26		43 **	Highland:Stephens	9	49		58
First:McSpadden	28	311		339***						Hunter:Bridenthal	3	46	2	51 **

	New	Renew	Not Due	Total
Pulaski Hts:Argue		2		2
St. Luke:Steele	11	31		42
Trinity:Taylor	33	17	3	53
Winfield:Dunlap	20	103		123
Markham:Arnold	1	1		2
Lonoke:Alston	3	67	1	71 **
Mt. View-Martindale:				
Sewell	4	21		25 **
Salem-Congo:Williams	19	45	2	56 **
Totals	159	1860	11	2030

MONTICELLO DISTRICT

	New	Renew	Not Due	Total
Crossett:Norton	6	29		35
Dermott:Regnier	1	24		25
Dumas:Simpson	9	177		186 ***
Fordyce Parish:Matthews	4	31		35
Stoney Point		12		12
Hampton-Harrell:Ford	4	36		40
Hermitage:Outlaw				
Trinity Ct.:Lowry	1	8		9
Lake Village: Tanner	5	91		96 ***
Montrose:Tanner		12		12
McGehee:Garner	20	206		226 ***

	New	Renew	Not Due	Total
Wesley:Scott	2	11		13
Kingsland Ct.:Turner	6	45		51
Star City Ct.:Jones		23		23
Tiller Ct.:Poss	8	63	2	73
Warren:Ramsay	4	77		81
Watson-Kelso:Arnold	7	9		16
Wilmar Ct.:George	4	12		16
Parkdale-Miller Ch:				
Williams	1	23		24
Totals	82	889	2	973

PINE BLUFF DISTRICT

	New	Renew	Not Due	Total
Carthage:Scott	2	23		25
DeWitt-Prairie View:				
Masters	17	49	2	68
England-Keo:Sadler	7	54		61
Grady-Trinity:Hansford		19		19
Pine Bluff-First:Lindsay		85		85
St. Luke-Center Grove:				
Monroe	4	36		40
Rowell Ct.:Richert	1	11		12
Sherill-Tomberlin:				
Patton		14		14
Stuttgart-First:Beck	13	110		123
Totals	44	401	2	447

RECAPITULATION

ARKANSAS METHODIST Report. No. 1 1970

DISTRICT	New	Renew	Not Due	Total	Quota	Percent
Monticello	82	889	2	973	1145	85%
Jonesboro	81	1120	21	1222	1677	73%
Fort Smith	156	1666	2	1822	2503	73%
Little Rock	159	1860	11	2030	3634	60%
Forrest City	113	738	3	854	1827	46%
Camden	207	773	9	989	2181	45%
Hope	100	412	5	517	1559	33%
Batesville	96	412	10	518	1911	27%
Pine Bluff	44	401	2	447	1706	26%
Fayetteville	83	343	5	431	1982	21%
Arkadelphia	74	165	7	246	1574	16%
Paragould	30	205	5	240	1518	15%
Conway	32	148	9	189	2352	8%
Totals	1257	9132	91	10,480		

KEY:

- * reached quota
- ** exceeded quota
- *** doubled quota
- **** tripled quota

by Lester Bickford

Ecumenical Clergy Conference deemed success

Arkansas' first Ecumenical Clergy Conference last week at Aldersgate Camp and Winfield United Methodist Church exceeded expectations of those planning it. The only disappointment may have been in the attendance which barely reached 75.

Working under the theme, Church and Synagogue in Contemporary Society, the three speakers addressed themselves to ways and means in which their own areas of religion were seeking to operate. The discussion which followed each man's presentation was spirited and productive. The Roman Catholic point of view (Dr. Robert A. O'Donnell), the Protestant approach (Dr. James M. Wall) and the Jewish position (Rabbi Balfour Brickner) were carefully listened to and vigorously dealt with by the conferees. There was not always time in the schedule for all the discussion and comment generated by the speakers, it was noted by this observer.

Though called a "Clergy" conference, the attendance of lay persons was encouraged and noted, especially during the sessions held in the evenings in Winfield church. Several of the laity were noted in the sessions at Aldersgate Camp.

In the evaluation of the conference and the discussion of the possibility of a 1971 conference, during which Dr. Mouzon Mann, Searcy, served as convenor, the sentiment was favorable. A program committee was named, to be chaired by Bishop Christoph Keller, coadjutor of the Episcopal Diocese of Arkansas. Other members are Bishop Paul V. Galloway, Auxiliary Bishop Lawrence P. Graves, Mr. Harold Flowers, Rabbi E. E. Palnick, Dr. James W. Rainwater, Dr. Edward S. Bayless, Bishop D. Ward Nichols, and the Rev. Dean Sudman.

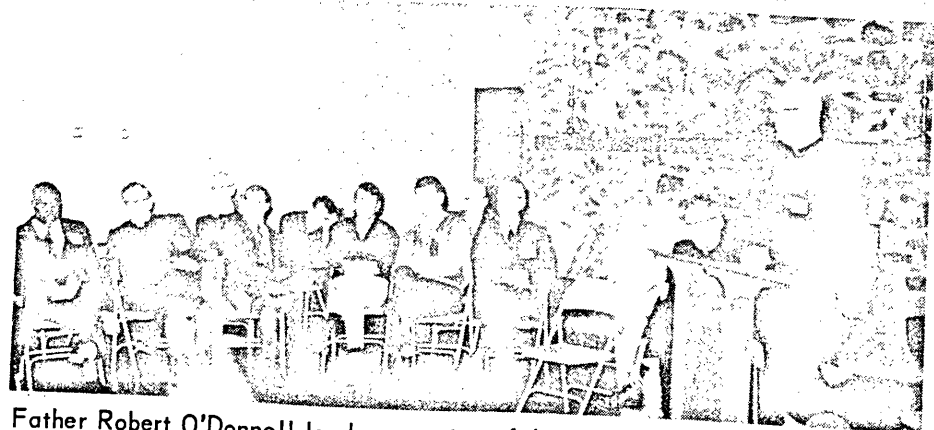
(pictures by Bickford and Knox)



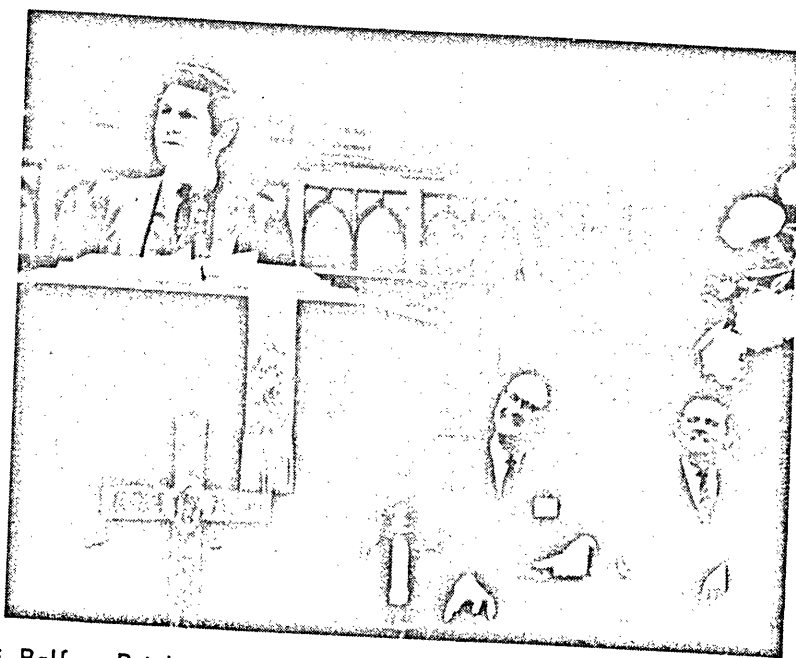
Catholic, Protestant and Jewish leaders who participated in the ecumenical clergy conference included, from left: The Rt. Rev. Christoph Keller, Jr., bishop coadjutor, Episcopal Diocese of Arkansas; Dr. James M. Wall, editor of the Methodist Christian Advocate, Chicago; Rabbi E. E. Palnick of Temple B'nai Israel; and the Rt. Rev. Robert A. O'Donnell, president of St. Paul's College in Washington, D.C.



AT RIGHT: Dr. James W. Rainwater, executive minister for the Arkansas Christian Churches (Disciples of Christ), is interviewed by Rusty Ralston of television channel 7.



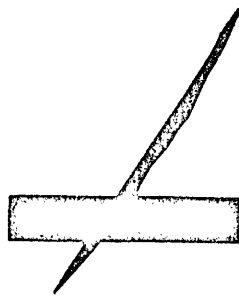
Father Robert O'Donnell leads a section of the discussion held at Aldersgate Camp.



Rabbi Balfour Brickner, director of Inter-Religious Affairs for the Union of American Hebrew Congregations in New York, was the principal speaker at the public meeting held in Winfield United Methodist Church. Dr. Edward Dunlap, Winfield minister, is seated at right. Dr. James Rainwater is seated center.

The Sunday School Lesson

By: Alfred A. Knox



LESSON FOR FEBRUARY 15: God's Mighty Acts Through Jesus

BACKGROUND SCRIPTURE: Deuteronomy 26:5; 11; Matthew 8:5-17; Luke 8:26-39; Acts 16:25-40

MEMORY SELECTION: Stop and consider the wondrous works of God. (Job 37:14)

AIM OF THE LESSON: To seek the true meaning of the acts of healing and other mighty works performed by Jesus through the divine power that was placed in his hands.

We have been seeking the full meaning of God's revelation of himself through Jesus. We have dealt with the good news of the promised kingdom, the offer of forgiveness through a caring Father, and his confrontation of men and nations with the judgment of God. In this lesson we shall deal with the gospel writer's interpretation of the mighty acts — the miracles performed by our Lord during his earthly ministry.

Dr. Howard E. Tower writes in *International Lesson Annual*: "The healing ministry of Jesus in response to faith called to the minds of the people the luminous hopes of the past. The best that had been hoped for was coming to pass before their very eyes. Matthew commented that these mighty acts of God were 'to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah, He took our infirmities and bore our diseases.'" (verse 17)

C. S. Lewis, in his book on the *Miracles*, indicates that because he was fully human, Christ as "perfect man" possessed unique powers. But his mighty works are not isolated from other acts of God. They focus upon what God is at work doing in the world as well as upon what men as "sons of God" are engaged in doing.

In saying that Jesus did mighty works, the writers of the Gospels were presenting the universal faith of the early church that Jesus was sent to do the mighty works of God. Dr. Curtis Chambers, in *Adult Leader*, says: "Miracles were an essential part of the apostles' faith in Jesus as Lord of all life. Thus, to omit or rationalize the stories concerning Jesus' miracles is really to change the nature of the New Testament faith."

In the mighty acts recorded in the Gospels, Jesus is shown to have power over disease, over nature, over evil spirits, and power over death. It was Matthew's purpose to gather all this evidence for the authority and power of Jesus as the Messiah.

ABOUT MIRACLES

The definition for a "miracle" as given by Dr. Sherman E. Johnson in *The Interpreter's Bible*, is "an event which evokes wonder and religious awe and leads the beholders to give praise and thanks to God. It may, or may not be explicable in terms of ordinary ideas of cause and effect."

Dr. Lewis makes this statement concerning miracles: "God may never in fact interfere with the natural systems He has created. If He has created more natural systems than one, He may never cause one to impinge on the other. If we decide that nature is not the only thing there is, then we cannot say in advance whether she is safe from miracles or not."

One writer has given this simple definition of "miracle" (*Broadman Comments*): "The most elementary description calls it an unusual event that lies beyond man's capacities to explain or to perform. Another definition sees miracles as remarkable but law-abiding events which utilize resources not commonly known to man."

Lewis puts Jesus' miracles into the following

categories: (1) miracles of fertility, (2) miracles of healing, (3) miracles of destruction, (4) miracles of domination over the inorganic, (5) miracles of reversal, and (6) miracles of perfecting.

The New Testament is a book full of miracles, only a few examples of which appear in this lesson. The English words which convey the meanings of the Greek words which originally described the mighty acts are "powers," "wonders," "work," and "signs." *Broadman Comments* makes this wise observation, "The importance of studying the miracle accounts with an open mind cannot be stressed too greatly. Every student should be careful not to narrow the limits of the possible. History records the accomplishment of many impossible things, and children of the scientific age should be most reluctant to say with finality that anything is out of reach. Both the New Testament and life need to be read with an open mind, always believing the possibility of the impossible."

THE HEALING OF THE CENTURION'S SERVANT

The first miracle in our lesson is introduced by these words in Matthew 8:5-6: "And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeching him and saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented." It is worthy of special note that Matthew has chosen as the first central character in a miracle of healing this Roman non-commissioned officer, a gentile, and has him exhibiting a degree of faith so profound that the requested healing takes place without Jesus' visiting the patient.

Suzanne de Dietrich (*Laymen's Bible Commentary*) says of the centurion and his appeal to Jesus: "With the logic of a soldier who knows what it is to obey and to command, he recognized in Jesus an authentic authority which came to him from the highest source—from God himself."

When Jesus replied that he was ready to go to the centurion's home to heal the servant, the latter expressed unusual humility when he said: "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only say the word and my servant will be healed." (verse 8) Then Jesus agreed to heal the man "in absentia" and paid this unusual tribute to the faith of the Roman soldier, "Truly, I say to you, not even in Israel have I found such faith." (verse 10) This is another occasion when Jesus does not hesitate to point out that faith is not limited to those of the Jewish faith.

Dr. George Buttrick points out in his comment in *The Interpreter's Bible*: "The emphasis of the story is on the centurion's faith. He may not have believed that the universe is kind, but he was ready to believe in the power of Jesus. If he used the word 'God' in any sense as Jewish religion used it, he believed that God is good, and that he intends abundant life for his children."

THE HEALING OF PETER'S MOTHER-IN-LAW

Of the three miracles mentioned in the eighth chapter of Matthew, the final one is unique in that it touches the family of one of the disciples. The home of Peter is regarded as the second-home of our Lord after he began his earthly ministry. There is strong evidence that one of the most recent archeological discoveries at Capernaum is the ruins of this very home and many scholars are excited about it.

The sickness in this case was fever, probably of the sudden variety that is prevalent in tropical climates. The story tells us that Jesus performed the healing by a touch of his hand. How often we use the word "fever" to refer to other ailments of our feverish society in its heated pursuit of so many

materialistic and human ends. Dr. Buttrick suggests that our pursuit of both money and pleasure could well be regarded as fevers that need the healing touch of the Master's hand.

The story goes on to say that when the word of this healing spread abroad that Capernaum became the center of the whole region so far as human need was concerned.

CHRIST THE GREAT PHYSICIAN

As we read the material from Matthew we see that most interesting conclusion to this dramatic series of miracles of healing, "He healed all that were sick." (verse 16) He himself used the title of physician concerning himself (Mark 2:17) Jesus revealed two thousand years ago that he knew what some are advancing as a new discovery—that sickness in the body afflicts the whole man. Within the last few weeks this writer has heard two words used—neither of which is in his brand new dictionary—both intended to stress religion and the wholeness of life.

Dr. Viktor E. Frankl of Vienna has stressed a new approach to the healing of the whole man which he calls "logotherapy." Dr. Frankl says, "Without a sense of meaning even the pursuit of happiness must lead to a dead end."

Dr. Robert C. Leslie has written a book on the methods of Dr. Frankl and their dependence on "the Great Physician." In it he says, "The ministry of Jesus was always concerned more with life transformation than with therapy. The basic purpose of Jesus was always centered in relating a person more directly with God."

Again we must point out that many of the world's illnesses today are in areas other than the physical body. Almost every contemporary speaker gives his interpretation of the "sickness of our time." How great miracles could be performed if more people believed that the answer could be found in and through "the Great Physician."

THE PLACE OF MIRACLES IN JESUS' MINISTRY

As we seek to summarize the place occupied by miracles in the ministry of Jesus, we first must recognize that misunderstanding will always be a part of the reading of these great acts.

First, let us consider what the miracles were not. They were not spectacular events to call attention to himself. Jesus dealt with that question as he faced the tempter in the wilderness. They were not used as a means of creating faith. This may seem like a surprising statement, but it is doubtful that anyone has ever been converted simply on the basis of some miraculous event.

When we take a look at what Matthew believed the miracles to be, we must first say they were signs of Jesus' power. Jesus' miracles were an indication that he, as Messiah, had power over all life. Then, Matthew was concerned to point out that the miracles were the signs of the kingdom. They were also signs of compassion. Take a careful look at each miracle, and you will see that it was the confrontation with human need that led to the mighty act.

THE IDEA OF SERVANTHOOD

We continue to go back to the purpose of these series of lessons—to show the relationships between the new covenant and the old. Matthew reminds us that Jesus, in his acts of healing, "took our infirmities and bore our diseases" as Isaiah had said he would. (Isaiah 53:4) Remember this is from one of the "suffering servant" passages with which we dealt only a few weeks ago.

These characteristics we can see of the "suffering servant" as made incarnate in Jesus: he healed men because of his great love for them; he was willing to cross any barrier to meet human need; Jesus' service to others was rendered at great cost to himself; and finally, we must recognize that servanthood is the path to victory.

Now with this idea of servanthood in our minds, let us ask the question, Do I look upon myself as a servant? The answer to this question comes in answer to a more vital one, Is Jesus Christ the Lord of my life?"

Israel Revisited

by the editor

"Now we are here!"

With this irrefutable statement, Father John Roger, our guide during our recent religious journalists' tour of Israel, called us together at each historic spot to brief us on the exact place and its religious and historic significance.

This writer thinks of Father John's characteristic statement as introductory to his second visit to Israel in two years—a trip he was anxious to take because there were so many questions left unanswered from the initial tour in 1968.

He wishes he could tell you that all his questions were answered by this January, 1970 visit. Frankly, he cannot do so. However, it is his belief that he is in a better position to express his doubts about the future of this interesting land than he was before. He believes he can say "I don't know" with more conviction than ever.

Before we begin this new series of detailed articles about our recent 10-day visit to Israel, let us state some conclusions which must be kept in mind as we tell you about each stop along the way and each press conference and panel discussion.

First, we discovered early that no amount of careful planning by the Ministry of Tourism and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs—and they did work

carefully to prepare our itinerary — could produce face-to-face encounters that would be of equal interest to all the journalists on our tour. We were editors of religious magazines and newspapers—some interested in fast-breaking news and some only in visiting sacred spots and gathering background information. We were Protestant, Catholic and Jewish. A substantial number were editors of religious news for daily newspapers under specific assignments from their editors.

Secondly, we were in Israel during one of the most tense periods since the end of the Six Days War of 1967. Items in the Israeli press during our stay and the American press since our return convince this writer that the Israeli capture of the Red Sea island of Shadwan on Jan. 22, brought the world to the brink of another war. We read, while in Jerusalem, that Russia sent a plane to Cairo to take President Nasser to Moscow the day following that event. In the American press we read of Russia's use of the "hot line" to persuade the United States to bring pressure on Israel not to hold the island.

Thirdly, we were in the country when the most significant Supreme Court decision in Israel's history was handed down on the same day Shadwan was occupied. This decision af-

fects the answer to the whole question of "Who is a Jew?" Many of the journalists in our group saw this as the news event of the decade and insisted on discussions concerning it which could not have been included in our original itinerary.

Finally, every journalistic mind in our group had to be aware of a "credibility gap" in almost every conference. Usually this was manifested in a kind of naive characteristic of a government barely come of age; at other times it approached arrogance as honest Americans sought honest answers concerning Israel's plans and treatment for the one million Arabs living now in what approaches a "police state" in three occupied territories. Often the

questions concerning Arabs and their treatment were sidestepped. Sometimes when the questions concerned Arabs in occupied territory, the answers concerned Arabs who have been citizens of the original state of Israel. Rarely did the answers given by Israeli officials correspond to answers given by Arabs with whom we talked, or with "neutral" sources familiar with the facts.

We understand that the questioners came from one culture, and the answers dealt with another. However, the total impact would have been much more constructive if there had been a greater inclination to say to the critic, "Maybe there is some grounds for what you say." Certainly the officials of Israel will gain greater support for their position when they learn to say that.

Frankly, we came away from Israel more convinced than ever that there is no solution to the Middle East problem in the immediate future. We will be living with the uncertainties and the acts of harassment for years to come. Surely there has never existed in world politics a clearer parable of the irresistible force meeting the immovable body.

FIRST DAY

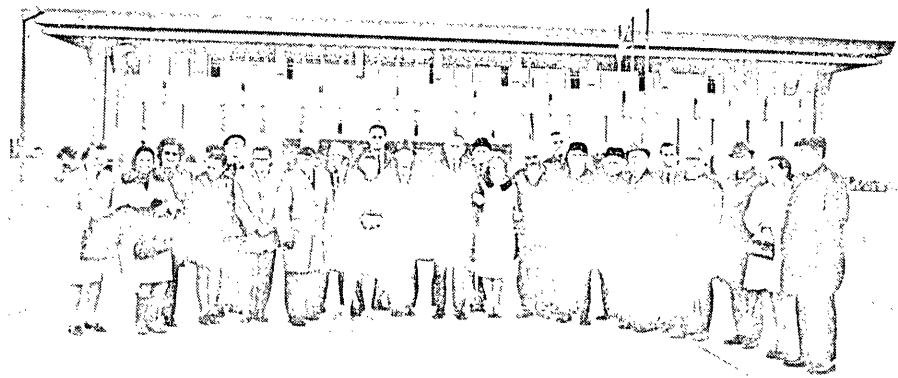
And now from the conclusions and generalities to the specifics of the tour.

We landed at Lod Airport, Tel Aviv, at about 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 20. Here officials of the Ministry of Tourism, El Al Airlines, and Wholesale Tours cooperated to make our arrival pleasant and our clearance easy through customs and immigration officials.

The rain began to fall shortly after our departure along the Mediterranean in the direction of Haifa. The weather made our first three days pretty miserable for us, but it certainly made our hosts so happy that we could not let it worry us too much. The rain was so badly needed that we found ourselves rejoicing with them at its coming. By the third day we were even taking credit for having brought it.

We traveled for about three hours up the coastal plane within sight of the Mediterranean most of the way. We passed through the eastern outskirts of the modern metropolis of Tel Aviv and past a number of plush seaside resort cities which have been established along the Mediterranean beaches.

Continues next week



The Journalists Seminar Group which recently toured Israel is shown in front of the Knesset (Parliament) Building in Jerusalem. Editor Knox is sixth from right. (A Photo-Emka, Ltd. picture, used by permission)

the British scene



by the Rev. Leslie J. M. Timmins
EDITORIAL BOARD
The Methodist Recorder

for world aid which had its birth in the ancient University City of Oxford, and was, at least at first, a conception in marvellously simple terms that all men of goodwill of whatever faith, or of no faith at all, should give to help the needy of the world.

In recent times the deputy director has been the Rev. Nicholas Stacey. Mr. Stacey is an Anglican priest who has had a habit of making the headlines. When he was Rector of Woolwich, riverside parish in inner London, he was thought of as a revolutionary Churchman whose modern ideas shocked the orthodox, and made everyone sit up. His methods, however were not able to produce what he hoped, and after some years he wrote a famous article in one of the National papers about the "failure of a mission" and quit. He turned to the more general charitable work of OXFAM. It now seems possible that he will resign from this. The issue is simple. He has wanted one of the aims of OXFAM to develop more incisively.

As well as giving straight aid, he wanted massive support from the fund

of OXFAM for Action for World Development, which is an organisation to put political pressure on governments to rethink their overseas aid policies. Under the law by which charities operate, this could cause difficulties. The idea might also, of course, not work. This gamble is what Nicholas Stacey has been asking OXFAM to undertake, and it has refused. The refusal is on the grounds that the charitable status of the organisation might be compromised, and in the second place, the effect would not be what Stacey hoped.

On the side of the people who do not want to change the role of Oxfam, it can be argued that if they are right, and the scheme did not work, it is not just money for charity that would be lost, but thousands of human lives. At all events, it looks as though one of the most controversial religious figures in this country will soon be looking for another job.

* * *

PRESS-BUTTON DREAM

The Cassius Clay (Mohamed Ali) versus Rocky Marciano fight, conceived in a computer has been shown on British television screens. This non-event has been followed by suggestions that the South African cricket team should "play" the English team next summer by computer, and thus save all the protests which have arisen about the apartheid team's visit. Why not do the whole thing by computer we might be tempted to ask. Let's have no real sport any more—just feed it all, from baseball to croquet into the machine! It's an Orwellian world!

Out of all the tragedy which has surrounded the end of Biafra and the beginning of what we all hope now will be a new era in the stormy life of Nigeria, there must come hope for that country.

The principal concern here has been the apparent discrepancy between official reports of the resettlement of Eastern Nigeria and the reporters' versions of the suffering they have seen. In itself this could have been interpreted as a storm in a teacup—the overall official view was a statement in general terms, with a reasonably optimistic projection as to the way in which the Nigerian Government was coping with the situation. The newsmen were reporting the whole thing in terms of the "human story" and there was bound to be imbalance.

In all this the Christian church has played a part in compassion which has been outstanding. It is important that the care and support which have been so much in evidence should not diminish. There will be need, as the newly united country settles down for even more understanding and help.

The most difficult tasks await such organisations as Joint Church Aid and Caritas. They are the tasks of helping Nigeria to help itself—much more difficult than simply doling out charity, or fighting semi-political battles about methods of aid.

* * *

POLITICS OR CHARITY?

Another matter of concern has appeared on the charitable front and this one also has to do with the politics of charity. OXFAM is the great agency

FEBRUARY 5, 1970

Summer multi-media workshop planned

Dallas—This metropolitan area will become the "classroom" for a multi-media communication workshop at Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University, June 15-26, according to Dr. Louis R. Mobley, one of the two resource leaders for the two week learning experience.

Mr. Mobley, executive trainer for the International Business Machine Corporation (IBM), revealed that the jointly sponsored workshop would focus on interperson communications as well as mass media communications.

Fourteen members of the planning committee met here last week to finalize plans for the summer event that began a year ago. Sponsoring agents include: Perkins School of Theology, South Central Jurisdiction Communications Commission, United Methodist Communications Council of Texas, the General Board of Education and Missions, and the Television, Radio and Film Communication Committee of the General Program Council.

The Rev. Lewis E. Durham, director of Glide Foundation, San Francisco, has agreed to share the leadership role with Mr. Mobley. Mr. Mobley comes as a specialist from industry and Mr.

Durham as a specialist in church communications.

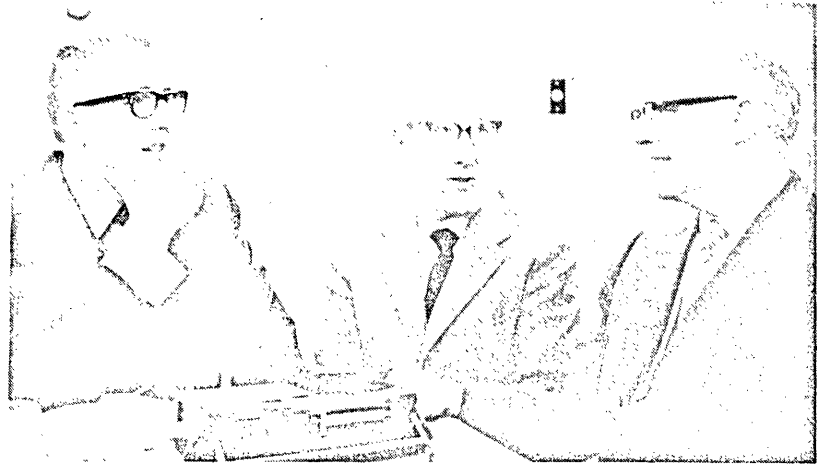
Mass media communicators in the Dallas market as well as nationally known figures are being secured as consultants for the course.

The focus on mass media is expected to deal with inter-church communications, "County seat" type media, and sophisticated metropolitan mass media. This will include both print and electronic media.

The Rev. Robert L. Robertson, director of the Seminary workshop, states, "Our purpose is to focus on the local church as a center for multi-media communications." Mr. Robertson indicated both laymen and ministers who have functional roles as communicators in the local church or beyond would profit from the two week workshop.

Dr. Jim Ward, registrar for the course and assistant dean at Perkins, notes that enrollment will be open for the first week for one hour of credit and both weeks for two credit hours or without credit for the one week or two week course.

†



Three of the key persons who have laid the plans for the June 15-26 Multi-media Communication Workshop to be held at Perkins School of Theology. FROM LEFT: The Rev. Robert L. Robertson, director; Dr. B. F. Jackson, of Nashville, Tenn., and Dr. Louis R. Mobley, executive trainer for the IBM Corporation and one of the two resource leaders for the scheduled two-week learning experience.

Nigerian aid channel cleared

NEW YORK (UMI)—Joint Church Aid, which was an independent relief agency sponsored by Protestant, Roman Catholic and Jewish agencies for purposes of operating the mercy airlift into Biafra, has ceased operation and the channel for United Methodist aid is now the World Council of Churches and the Nigeria Christian Council through UMCOR.

The World Council of Churches issued on January 15 an appeal for \$2,000,000 to be provided by member churches at the earliest possible date so that full-scale relief and rehabilitation programs can be started immediately to meet the new situations in Nigeria. The National Christian Council

of Nigeria in Lagos has already drawn up a plan of objectives that includes medical services, feeding programs and work for war orphans.

The way is quite clear for United Methodists to respond to the WCC appeal through the United Methodist Committee for Overseas Relief, said Dr. J. Harry Haines, executive secretary of UMCOR. The U.S. churches are requested to provide \$500,000 as their initial response, realizing there will be a long term involvement in rehabilitation, particularly for those in the Eastern Region, formerly Biafra. UMCOR will seek to provide as soon as possible an initial \$100,000.

†

Benevolence giving
for '69 almost
\$40,000,000

EVANSTON, Ill (UMI) — United Methodists across the nation gave almost \$40,000,000 in 1969 toward the general benevolence programs of their denomination, according to information released here January 21.

In addition to the funds given to benevolences, another \$4,784,980 was contributed for general church administration and interdenominational cooperation. Not included in the \$39,933,287 for benevolences reported by Dr. R. Bryan Brawner, general treasurer of the church, are many millions of dollars given on the local and annual conference level for benevolences and administration.

Included in the \$39,922,287 is \$22,268,424 for the denomination's basic benevolence fund, World Service. This is 89 per cent of the annual goal of \$25,000,000 during the 1968-72 quadrennium.

†

COCU PROPOSES NAME FOR CHURCHES CONSIDERING UNION

BOSTON, Mass. (COCU)—"Church of Christ Uniting" has been chosen as the proposed name for a new Protestant church that could be formed during the 1970s through the Consultation on Church Union (COCU).

The recommendation was announced

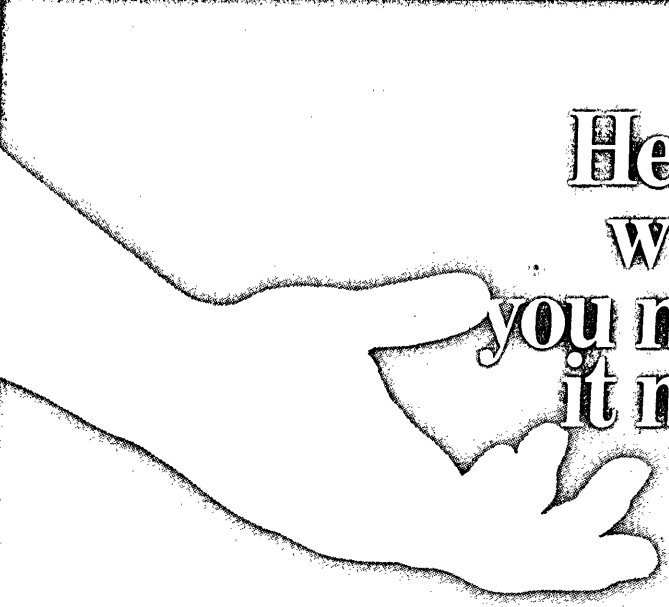
Black economic funds voted

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J. (UMI)—The executive committee of the United Methodist Board of Missions has allocated \$550,000 for black economic programs in the United States and Africa.

Following up on action by the full board in October, the executive committee voted unanimously the following allocations: One-third, \$183,333, to the All-Africa Conference of Churches, a regional ecumenical agency with headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya; one-third, \$183,333, in undesignated funds to the Interreligious Foundation for Community Organization (IFCO), a coalition of national Protestant and Roman Catholic agencies and minority community groups that coordinates community organization and development efforts (fund-raising, field services and training) of its 25 member-groups; and one-third, \$183,333, for black economic empowerment through black United Methodist local churches, with the funds to be channeled through IFCO to projects that meet IFCO's standards and criteria.

†

here January 17 and will go with the draft of a Plan of Union for the denominations participating in COCU to the group's annual plenary session in St. Louis, Mo., March 9-13.

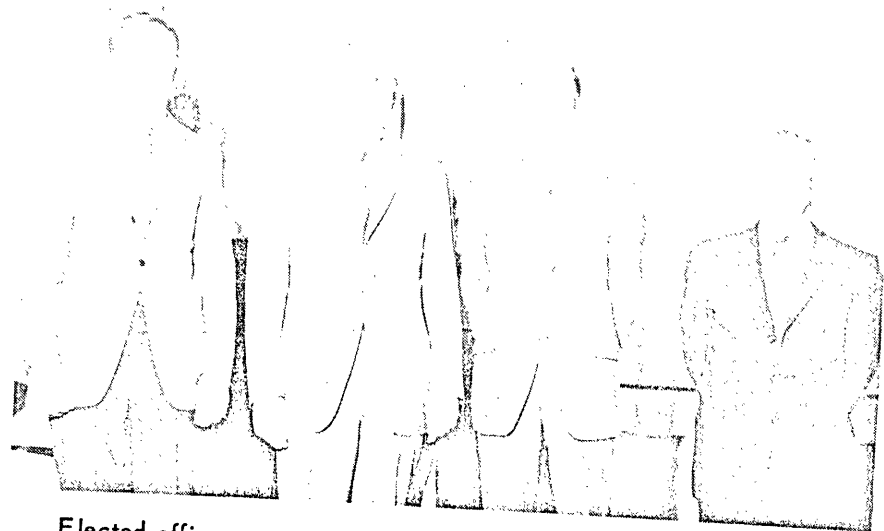


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Elected officers at recent organizational meeting of United Methodist Men at First Church, Crossett. FROM LEFT: C. Wade Wasson, vice president; A. B. Moore, president; J. C. Gunnels, secretary; Roy Dooley, treasurer. The Rev. Farris W. Norton, Jr. is pastor at Crossett First.



Yorick Blumenfeld, London-based editor for ATLANTIC MONTHLY, was the convocation speaker at Hendrix College on Jan. 29. From 1962-69 he served as Eastern European expert for NEWSWEEK, and as that publication's first Vienna Bureau chief, he traveled freely through Communist territory. His journalistic career has also included service with the U.S. Army in Tokyo and Seoul as a specialist in psychological warfare and as editor of the Free World Digest. A native of Amsterdam, Blumenfeld speaks French, English, Dutch, Russian and German. His father is the well-known photographer, Erwin Blumenfeld.

BUELL ALLEN McCONNELL

Buell Allen McConnell, 77, a prominent lifelong resident of Hartford, Ark., died January 21 in a Ft. Smith Hospital. He was a member of Jones Memorial United Methodist Church in Hartford and had served as chairman of the Administrative Board of that church for over 33 years. He was also a Board Member of the Methodist Nursing Home in Ft. Smith and a former District lay leader of the Ft. Smith District.

Mr. McConnell was founder of the McConnell Funeral Homes in Hartford, Greenwood and Booneville. He was a member of the Advisory Board of the Farmers Bank of Greenwood, a member of the Hartford Masonic Lodge No. 609, the Scimitar Temple of Little Rock, the Scottish Rites Bodies of Ft. Smith, a York Rite Mason, member of the Royal Arch Chapter in Huntington and a member of the Eastern Star Chapter No. 292.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Ann, two step-children, Donald G. Hanks and Nancy Ann Ellis of San Marcos, Texas; his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Emerson McConnell of Hartford; two grandchildren, Judith Ann and Thomas Allen of Hartford, and three step-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held January 23, at Jones Memorial Church with the Rev. Jim Brooks, the pastor, officiating, assisted by the Rev. O. R. Findley. Masonic graveside rites were held in Hartford Memorial Park.

JOINT WSCS-WSG MEETING IN GRIFFIN MEMORIAL

The Griffin Memorial Women's Society of Christian Service and Wesleyan Service Guild, Paragould, held a joint meeting, Thursday evening, Jan. 15, in fellowship hall. Mrs. Myrtle Miles, WSCS president, presided over the meeting.

Mrs. Earl Gramling, chairman of spiritual growth of the Paragould District, gave the devotional. Mrs. Tyler Williams, president of the Paragould District WSCS, was guest speaker. Mrs. Williams spoke on "Tools to Work With." Mrs. J. Albert Gatlin closed the meeting with prayer. A reception following the meeting, was held by the guild. The Rev. J. Albert Gatlin is pastor.

The United Methodist Investment Fund is now a legal reality as the successor to similar funds in the former Methodist and Evangelical United Brethren churches and is doing business as a major church extension loan agency. The united fund became fully operational January 1 with resources of \$28,000,000.

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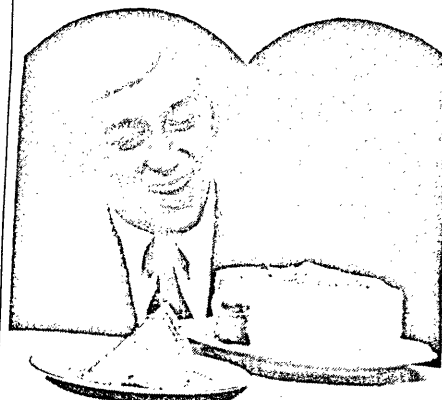
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Poetry Panorama

by Barbara L. Mulkey

Georgia Harkness explains that . . . "Times of spiritual 'dryness' were apparently the normal expectancy of most of the mystics . . . The most characteristic note in all descriptions of this unhappy state is that of a frustrated quest for the divine Presence." The search for spiritual assurance is a common quest.

QUEST

Lord, are You listening?

I feel so alone — so futile, so rootless;
I've sought for so long,
Endless questing,
That wondrous rebirth —
That glorious gladness
Your ministers tell us of.

Where there is sin, but forgiveness;
Sorrow, but joy
Because You are with me,
And I with You, always,
Now and forever.

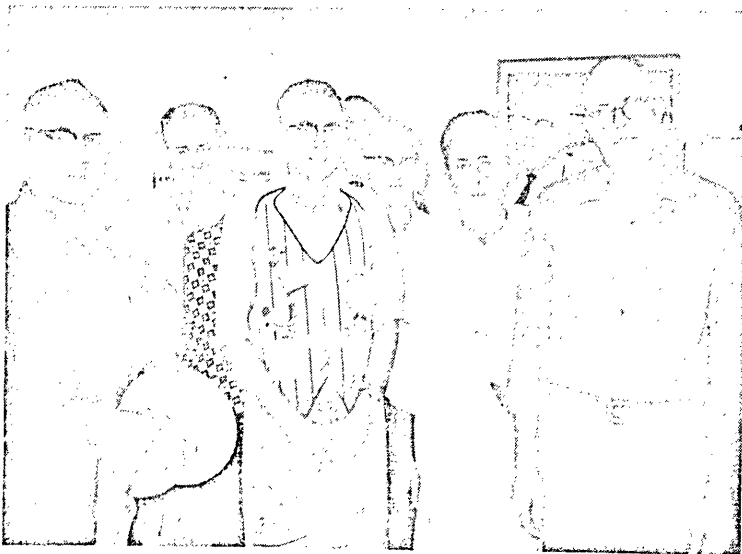
So much theology,
So many views —
"This you must do,
That's what is vital" —
And everyone sure
His way only is right.

Will You please help a sinner
Who needs You and wants You,
Who has never considered
Life, Godless, worth living?

Will You help me to be
What You want and I need?
Will You save me alive?

Lord, are You listening?

—by Annee O'Connor



This group of United Methodist Men along with other men of the Cherry Valley Church (in Forrest City District) realized a profit of \$296 when they prepared (except for the pies) and served a dinner for the purpose of raising money for their Building Fund. Howard Beasley (second from right, at back) is president of the Men's group and charge lay leader. Pastor Harry W. Price stands at the rear in picture.

LWF WILL ASSIST MEMBER CHURCHES STUDYING UNION WITH OTHER BODIES

VEDBAEK, Denmark (RNS)—Lutheran Churches considering union with non-Lutheran denominations will, upon request, be assisted by the Lutheran World Federation.

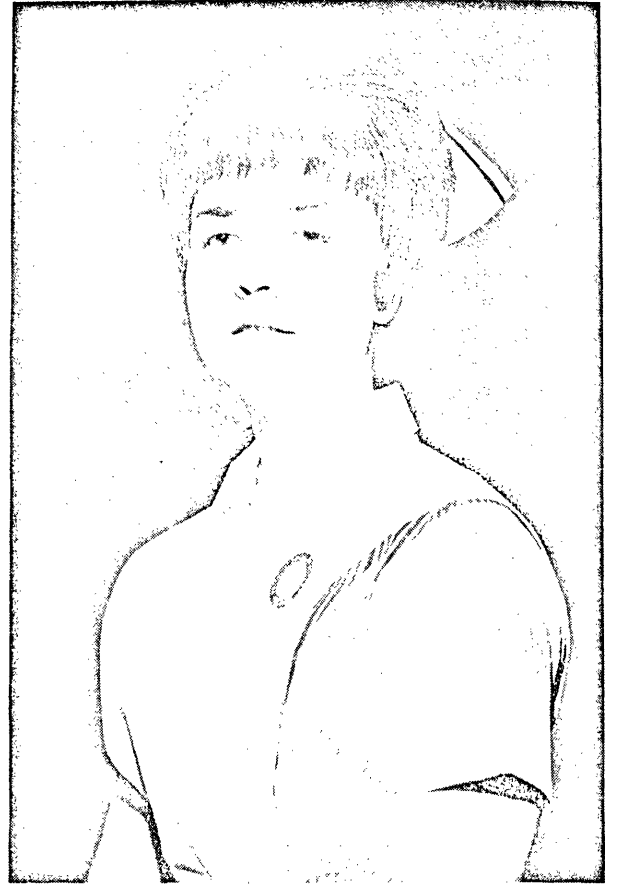
The LWF's executive committee in

adopting a set of guidelines, said that aid rather than efforts to prevent union conversations is "consistent with respect for both the fellowship and autonomy of member Churches."

The Fourth Assembly of the world confessional body asked in 1963 that guidelines be developed on Lutheran unions with non-Lutheran Churches.

With 79 member Churches, the LWF

Miss Beverly Bryson, a student nurse at Memphis' Methodist Hospital School of Nursing, will be among those competing for the national honor of Miss Health Careers. Miss Bryson, a native of Mississippi, was selected by the faculty of the Nursing school. She said, "for as long as I can remember, nursing has been my ambition. From early childhood when I practiced on dogs and cousins, until high school when I worked as a Nurse's Aid, I have been concerned with the well-being of others." The national winner will be announced at the March 1 annual meeting of the National Assn. of Health and Welfare Ministries to be held in Washington, D. C.



H/W Ministries revises awards schedule

EVANSTON, Ill. (UMI)—A revised schedule of awards for leadership in United Methodist health and welfare work has been announced.

The seven honors, including three new ones and revisions in two others, will be presented during the annual convention of the National Association of Health and Welfare Ministries of the United Methodist Church March 2-4 in the Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D. C.

New awards this year, according to Dr. Roger Burgess, general secretary of the General Board of Health and Welfare Ministries, include an "Institutional Award," a "Trustee Award," and an "Administrator's Award."

A "Health Careers Award" will be given to a youth now in training for health services. This honor replaces the Methodist Student Nurse recognition of the past.

Other honors to be presented this year include a membership in the United Methodist Hall of Fame in Philanthropy, a "Service Award" to persons of merit based upon years of service in an affiliated agency, and the "President's Certificate" to the outgoing head of the National Association of Health and Welfare Ministries.

The new "Institutional Award" will be given in recognition of new and outstanding programs to the recipient's surrounding community. The "Trustee Award" will go to a person who has served for at least six years, who "views his service as a part of Christian Ministry" and "shows consistent evidence of personal dedication of time and talent." Both of these honors, and the Hall of Fame in Philanthropy award, are given by the board.

New among the awards given by the national association is the "Administrator's Award" to a person "selected on the basis of his administrative skill, public relations, and ability to activate new and creative ministries." The national association also presents the "Health Careers" and "Service" awards and the "President's Certificate."

Nominations for all the honors are now being received in the Board of Health and Welfare Ministries here.

For
GOLDS
take 666

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