

Minutes of the Eighty-Third Session

of the

*Southern Illinois
Conference*

Methodist Episcopal Church

Held in the

FIRST METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Vandalia, Illinois

September 25-30, 1934



BISHOP WALLACE E. BROWN, *President*

ROY N. KEAN, *Secretary*



HISTORICAL FACTS

The first Annual Conference of Methodism in this State was held in St. Clair County, Illinois, 1824. (within the boundary of this Conference), presided over by Bishop Roberts, secretary, John Scripps. The entire state of Illinois was then included in what was known as the Illinois Conference. In 1852 this vast territory was divided and the Southern Illinois Conference was formed. The first session of what is now Southern Illinois Conference was held at Belleville, Bishop E. R. Ames presiding, secretary, J. Leaton.



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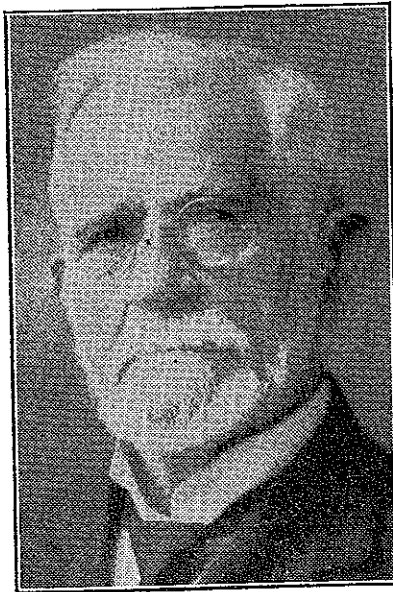
by his faithful laymen to Holden Hospital, Carbondale, Friday afternoon. The disease had settled upon him and with the exception of a slight rally on Saturday his condition remained unchanged and he joined the Church Triumphant at five o'clock Sunday afternoon.

Funeral services were held in the Wood River Methodist Episcopal Church, conducted by C. C. Hall, assisted by F. W. Pilmott and other members of the Conference. The body was laid to rest in Sunset Cemetery, near Edwardsville, Illinois.

REV. WILLIAM SCHUTZ

Death claimed one of God's noble soldiers of the Cross March 13, 1934, when William Schutz passed from earth to heaven from the home of his daughter, Mrs. John A. Neu, at Springfield, Illinois.

During the Civil War Brother Schutz marched with Sherman in that famous pilgrimage to the Sea. Previous to that, however, he had begun the Christian journey with Christ as his Leader, and for many years his marching orders led him into large fields of service.



Long after most ministers had reached the retiring age Brother Schutz labored on at a salary considerably less than what his pension would have been, but finally he was forced to give up active work at the ripe age of eighty-one. His generosity led him even then to turn back a portion of his pension each year to the Old Folks' Home or the Conference.

In 1896 Rev. Schutz was a delegate from the German Conference to the General Conference at Cleveland. He was honored again in 1928 with the degree of Doctor of Divinity from McKendree College. He was a member of the G. A. R., and the Southern Illinois Conference at the time of death.

Rev. Schutz is survived by five children, two daughters Jaenicken, Chicago, Ill.; Mrs. John A. Neu, Springfield, Ill.; John W., Central City, Nebr.; and three sons: Mrs. F. H. Henry W., St. Louis, Mo.;

Herman J., Jubbulpore, India; also by one sister, Miss Mary Schutz of Maywood, Ill.; and ten grand children and two great grand children.

Funeral services were conducted at First Church, Springfield, Ill., March 15, by Dr. E. G. Sandmeyer and Dr. W. H. Whitlock, assisted by Rev. Chris Galeener, Rev. P. F. McDaniel and Rev. S. N. Beggs. On March 16 services were conducted at Memorial Church, St. Louis, Rev. Charles Guenther presiding, sermon by Rev. Jonathan Gislter, assisted by Dr. Campbell, Dr. Alpha Kenna, D. S. Wahl and Roy N. Kean. Interment was made at Lakeview Park Cemetery in St. Louis.

Mere words from another cannot reveal the heart of a man like Brother Schutz. Something of his sterling character is shown in the brief auto-biography appended below and written some years ago on request of others.

"Short History of My Life," by William Schutz.

"I was born in Germany, Feb. 22, 1847. My father and mother were devout Lutherans. In 1852 they came to this country with four sons and one daughter, settled at Peru, LaSalle County, Ill. A year later a German Methodist Church was organized in Peru and my father became a member after a powerful conversion. My mother was converted a year later and joined the church. Hence I was reared in a Christian home in which the family altar was a living factor.

"At the age of 16 years I joined the Church at Peru, and one year later, Feb. 12, I enlisted in Co. B, 14th Ill. Cav. Reg., served under Generals Sherman, Scofield and Thomas till war ended. After having served 18 months I returned home and worked on father's farm from 1866 to 1869. At the end of this year in a watchnight service I became "A new creature in Christ Jesus," a transformed man, and received a very clear witness of the Holy Spirit and a call to preach the gospel. That night I began to exhort.

"The first three months (1870) I attended the educational institution of the Northwest German Conference at Galena, Ill. From April to September I assisted Rev. John Spicker in Webster City, Iowa Mission. We did pioneer work. The climate of Northwest Iowa being too cold in the winter I came south to St. Charles, Mo., attended the seventh session of the Southwest German Conference which convened at that place the first week in Oct., 1870, with Bishop Simpson presiding. His sermon, I Cor. 1:23, is still ringing in my heart. About a score of souls were saved by his appeal, "Come to the Cross." I was 23 years old and was appointed pastor of Bunker Hill and Staunton in the Belleville District. In Sept., 1872, Bishop Gilbert Haven assigned me to Appleton and Cape Girardeau Circuit. On the way there I was married at Belleville to Miss Mary Mueller, who for 37 years was the cloudless sun of my home. In 1874 we were assigned to Red Bud, Ill., a circuit; in 1877 to Decatur, Ill. In 1878 the St. Louis German Conference was organized. In 1881 I was assigned to Warrenton, Mo., in 1882 Belleville, in 1885 the large Warren Circuit, being successor to my father. In 1889 I was again appointed to Warrenton, after which I was made Presiding Elder of the Quincy District. In 1897 I was appointed to Memorial Church, St. Louis; in 1903 to the Elmbank Church. Here by beloved companion was called to our celestial home in 1909 with the words, "Safe in the Arms of Jesus," upon her lips. In 1910 I was appointed to Summerfield, Ill. In this year I was married to Mrs. Louise Jaenichen, mother of my son-in-law, who was an excellent minister's wife for 13 years. In 1915 we served the church at Bunker Hill, Ill., where in June, 1928, my wife departed in peace, aged almost 80. In Sept. of the same year I retired after having served as pastor fifty-eight and one-half years.

"I am thankful to God for permitting me to labor in His kingdom so many years, and for the health he gave me. Only four times was I prevented from meeting my appointments and preaching at the designated hour.

"I am grateful to the Lord for what the Church is to my children, and that all five are active members in it. A son has been a missionary in India since 1906. The youngest died in 1905 uttering Psalm 23:4. I entertain precious memories of many dear brethren who for more than 50 years were my associates in the service of Christ, and who have been transferred from the Church militant to the Church triumphant."

Signed, WILLIAM SCHUTZ, August 12, 1931.