

CHUNG, BISHOP CHUN-SO

Mourn Korean Leader

Former Bishop Chung Chun-So, head of the independent Methodist Church of Korea 1939-45, is dead.

The 78-year-old churchman died in a war-refugee camp in Taegu. He was in ill health when evacuated from Seoul in December, 1950, and his illness reportedly was aggravated by conditions in the crowded camp.

Associate secretary Thoburn T. Brumbaugh of the Board of Missions says the independent Korean church, under Bishop Chung's leadership, had tended toward increasing "co-operation" with the Japanese during the latter part of their occupation of Korea.

In March, 1949, his arrest on a charge of having collaborated with the Japanese was ordered by the Korean government.

This "co-operation," Dr. Brumbaugh says, was opposed by another section of the native church. The two have since merged to form the autonomous Korean Methodist Church.