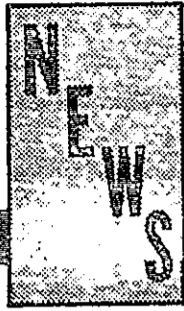


HAMMAKER, BISHOP WILBUR C.



COMMISSION ON PUBLIC RELATIONS AND

Methodist Information

ARTHUR WEST
GENERAL SECRETARY AND DIRECTOR
777 UNITED NATIONS PLAZA, ROOM 7D
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10017
TELEPHONE 661-2547

NEW YORK • NASHVILLE • CHICAGO • WASHINGTON

THE GENERAL NEWS SERVICE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

From

WASHINGTON OFFICE
WINSTON H. TAYLOR, DIRECTOR
100 MARYLAND AVE. N. E.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20002
TELEPHONE 543-5038

For Immediate Release

WASHINGTON, D.C.--Memorial services were held here and in Denver, Colo., Aug. 14 for Bishop Wilbur C. Hammaker, 92, who died Sunday evening, Aug. 11, in Denver.

A resident of Washington since his official retirement in ~~1942~~¹⁹⁴⁸, Bishop Hammaker had stopped in Denver on his way to Honolulu, Hawaii, for the Western Jurisdictional Conference of the United Methodist Church. While there, he suffered a stroke on July 21 and was in a hospital until his death.

Bishop Hammaker was most widely known for his 1915-36 pastorate of Trinity Methodist Church, Youngstown, Ohio, where he gained a reputation as "Mr. Relief" in the downtown area; as bishop in Nanking, China, 1936-39, and in Denver, Colo., 1939-1948, and as a leader in temperance efforts in and beyond the church.

Born Feb. 17, 1876, in Springfield, Ohio, Hammaker graduated from Wittenberg College and Drew Theological Seminary and was ordained in the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1901. That year he also married Willamine Weihrauch, who died in May, 1967.

All of his pastorates were in Ohio. In 1944 he was elected president of the Methodist Board of Temperance and served until retirement, when he became executive vice president in charge of counseling and public relations for another four years. He also served as president of the National Temperance and Prohibition Council, as interim superintendent of the International Reform Federation and

(more)

Bishop Hammaker--2

as editor of its Progress magazine. He was a 32nd degree Mason.

Survivors include two sons, Paul H. of Charlottesville, Va., and Roger of St. Helena, Calif.

Bishop Hammaker in recent years had been active in Capitol Hill Methodist Church, Washington, where memorial services were conducted by Bishop John Wesley Lord of Washington and the Rev. Dr. Edward B. Lewis, pastor. At the service at Trinity United Methodist Church in Denver, officiants were Bishop R. Marvin Stuart of Denver, the Rev. Dr. Rufus C. Baker of Boulder, Colo., the Rev. Dr. John L. Spargo and the Rev. Leslie B. Logan of Denver. Interment was at Springfield, Ohio.

8-13-68

#####