

KERN, BISHOP PAUL

Bishop Paul Kern, Of Nashville

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 16 (AP).—Former Bishop Paul Kern, seventy-one, widely known Methodist Church leader, died in a Nashville hospital today. He retired as Bishop of the Nashville area in June, 1952, and was succeeded by Bishop Roy Short.

Bishop Kern was a native of Alexandria, Va., and received various degrees from Vanderbilt University, Randolph - Macon, Emory University, Ohio Wesleyan, Duke University and Victoria University.

He was licensed in 1902 and became an ordained elder of the Methodist Church in 1907. He taught at Vanderbilt, was pastor of Blakemore Church here, served pastorates at Bell Buckle and Murfreesboro, Tenn., and was a professor on the staff of Southern Methodist University from 1920 to 1926. He was pastor of Travis Park Methodist Church, San Antonio, Tex., before being elected Bishop in 1930.

He was author of a number of books on church work.

Surviving are his wife, a son Dr. John Campbell Kern of Burnett, Tex., and two daughters, Mrs. Frank W. Buckner and Mrs. Julian M. Aldridge.

89th St., 6:45 p. m.; Welch Chorus, Town Hall, 8:30 p. m.; Columbia University Band, McMillin Theater, Broadway and 116th St., 8:30 p. m. (free); N. Y. U. School of Education Chorus, School of Education Auditorium, West Fourth and Greene Sts., 8:15 p. m.

Also Brooklyn Conservatory of Music, excerpts from "Messiah," 58 Seventh Ave., Brooklyn, 8:30 p. m. (free); Christmas concert, Music School Settlement, 55 E. Third St., 8:30 p. m.; Student concert, School of Music Education, 57 W. 94th St., 4 p. m. (free);

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ENGING

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ENTERTAINMENT NEWS

*Bishop Paul Kern
Dies in Nashville*

✠ BISHOP PAUL BENILEY KERN OF THE Southeastern Jurisdiction died on Dec. 16 at Nashville, Tenn. He had retired in 1952. His age was seventy-one.

Bishop Kern was ordained in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in 1902. He taught at Vanderbilt University 1905-07 and at Southern Methodist University 1915-26 and was dean of the Perkins School of Theology at the latter institution 1920-26. He served as pastor of churches in Tennessee and of Travis Park Church, San Antonio, Texas.

Elected bishop in 1930, his assignments included the Orient, 1930; North and South Carolina, 1934; and the Tennessee and Holston Conferences, 1938-52. Bishop Kern was president of the Council of Bishops and a delegate to the World Council of Churches in 1948. He delivered the episcopal address at the 1952 General Conference.

Bishop Kern founded the Summer Conference for Christian Workers in

Avoca in 1912. He had served on nearly all the general boards and agencies of The Methodist Church. Bishop Kern, who held degrees from ten colleges and universities, had served as lecturer at several universities and was the author of a number of books.

He is survived by his widow, the former Lucy Goodall Campbell, whom he married in 1907, a son, two daughters, a brother, and a sister.

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FROM THE N

Church Loses Bishop Paul B. Kern

The great, but tired, heart of Bishop Paul B. Kern has given out.

The retired bishop died Dec. 16 in Nashville, Tenn., after an acute illness of a few hours. He had been in poor health with a heart ailment most of the time since his retirement in 1952. He was 71.

It was characteristic of Bishop Kern that his valediction looked to the future—not the past. It was delivered at his last public appearance on Sept. 24 when he welcomed the Council on World Service and Finance to his "Episcopal Area" of Lake Junaluska, where he lived summers.

"I believe, honestly," he said, "that more has happened in Methodism of significance since the close of the General Conference [1952] than in any one similar period in our history.

. . . The soil has been prepared for a new emphasis upon the values, not alone of the individual gospel, but of the social gospel. . . This is a great day for the cause of Christ and the greatest challenge that Methodism ever had!"

Born in Alexandria, Va., June 16, 1882, the future bishop grew up on the campus of Randolph-Macon college, Ashland, where his father, Rev. John A. Kern, was president.

He attended Vanderbilt university, then the educational center of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. In 1905, at 23, he became an instructor at Vanderbilt. He had been ordained in 1902, and after two years of teaching, he went into the pastorate.

But it was not long until the classroom called again—this time at Southern Methodist university, where he became a professor in the theological school in 1915. Five years later he became dean, serving until 1926.

From SMU he went back into the pastorate, at Travis Park church, San Antonio, Tex. The Methodist Episcopal Church, South, made him a bishop in 1930 and sent him to the Orient.

Back in the States, he served in North and South Carolina and then, 1938-52, in the Nashville Area.

As a bishop he continued his interest in Christian education. His service on the Board of Education was so valued that the board's new building in Nashville contains a Kern room. He was a trustee of Scarritt college for 23 years, and board chairman 1938-1952. This interest was so close to his heart that the family requested friends to contribute to the Scarritt scholar-



Bishop Kern and 1952 Episcopal Address

ship fund instead of sending flowers.

Commanding universal respect, Bishop Kern was an important personal factor in welding together the reunited Methodist Church after 1939. He was president of the Council of Bishops, 1947-48 and in 1948 was a delegate to the World Council of Churches assembly in Amsterdam.

Perhaps the high point of Bishop Kern's career was his presentation of the Episcopal Address to the 1952 General Conference. There his reconciling influence was felt in the facing of such explosive issues as church reorganization and social action.

Meek in appearance, Bishop Kern was not ashamed of his small stature; rather, he was proud that his physical dimensions were the same as those of John Wesley.

Tribute has come from near and far, but none is more apt than that of Bishop William C. Martin, president of the Council of Bishops (and of the National Council of Churches). He expressed to the bereaved family "a real joy that you were privileged to live with so great a soul."

Funeral services were held Dec. 18 at West End church, Nashville. They were led by Bishop Costen J. Harrell, Bishop Roy H. Short and the pastor, Rev. James W. Henley.

Surviving are Mrs. Kern; a son, Dr. John Campbell Kern, Burnet, Tex.; and two daughters, Mrs. Frank W. Buckner, Asheville, N. C.; Mrs. Julian M. Aldridge, Rocky Mount, N. C.

A second Methodist has been named Mr. Pennsylvania. He is Floyd Chalfant, publisher of the Waynesboro *Record Herald* and official board

member of the Waynesboro church.

The 1953 Mr. Pennsylvania is a certified lay speaker, member of the Wesley foundation development committee and a reserve Harrisburg district steward.

Orchestra Leader Fred Waring was Mr. Pennsylvania of 1952.

RECENT DEATHS

V. R. Bell, retired Nebraska Conference pastor and father of Joe Bell, member of the Board of Education's youth department, in Grand Island, Neb., Nov. 26.

S. Lee Whiteman Sr., 75, a Methodist minister for 51 years and father of two Ohio ministers, in Painesville, O., Dec. 11.

Frank J. Batterson, missionary to South America (1902-1922); member of the Defiance (O.) college faculty (1922-31); member of West Ohio and Ohio Conferences (1925-43); on the Bluffton (O.) college and Ohio Northern university (Ada, O.) faculties after 1943; in Bluffton, Dec. 3.

Wilbur F. Tomlinson, 83, retired member of West Wisconsin Conference serving the Congregational church in Fulton, in Edgerton, Dec. 15.

Mrs. Edward J. Fuller, 69, religious work director for the YWCA in Kansas City, Mo., Denver, Colo., and Battle Creek, Mich.; member for 30 years in First church, Seattle, Wash., in Seattle, Dec. 9.

Kathie Boyd, 4, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Boyd of Jamestown, Pa., on Dec. 11, two days after falling into a stairwell in the Jamestown church which Mr. Boyd serves.



San Bernardino San-Tele-gram

Herschel H. Hedgpeth, pastor, takes a 20-pound fruit cake out of the oven at St. Paul's church, San Bernardino, Calif. This batch was part of 215 pounds he baked this year, some of which was sent to Turkey, Denmark, England, Hawaii, Japan and Korea. The remainder was served during the Hedgpeth family's traditional Christmas week-end open house for the members and friends of St. Paul's church



• Relief hospital staff treats children for disease



• War widows earn living remaking old clothing



• In Seoul 25 per cent of population is on relief



• Cooper—typical K-3 missionary

NEEDED IN KOREA

by HELEN POST

THE majority of Korea's 90,000 orphans are now in institutions. Through private and governmental agencies, the churches in Korea and abroad, and the Army and Army personnel, their minimum, immediate needs—shelter, a ration of rice, clothing and a blanket—are being met. In some cases supplementary sources are providing vitamins, milk, a broader diet, additional clothes and books and toys.

In all this, Methodism has played an important part. But attention is swinging to the question: What of the future of these children?

First, of course, the immediate, material needs must continue to be met and augmented. But even when the minimum provisions are made available, good management must be exercised in their distribution and use. At present many of the orphanages are being staffed by people with no previous experience in children's work. Means of self support must be found for these orphanages.

IN Korea today more than 100,000 war widows must find ways of supporting their families. The war widow project in Seoul is one example of what can be done. Mrs. William E. Shaw, who was responsible for starting it, pointed out the need. "We could start one hundred of these if we only had the personnel and funds to get them going."

Individual cases of need are at every turn. Twenty-five per cent of the population of Seoul is on relief. Bold steps must be taken to overcome this problem.

THE challenge to Methodism today is to provide personnel which can help the Koreans help themselves to solve these problems through Christian principles. "We are so few, and there is so much to do," said Rev. William E. Shaw. "We need personnel desperately to help plan and carry out the plans for the use of the money we receive. We need an expert accountant, we need a mission secretary, we need orphanage workers, teachers and social workers and doctors. We also need people who will come out for life-time service, who will learn the language and go out to preach."

CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE

Concern salutes

A friend of youth

The report of the passing of Bishop Paul B. Kern has just come and it brings a sense of genuine loss to this writer. Bishop Kern will long be remembered for his more than a score of years as a distinguished member of the Council of Bishops of our church. Others will pay tribute to the many rich contributions he has made to the general life of our church and the world of Christendom. I want to call attention of today's generation of Methodist youth the debt of gratitude they owe to this longtime leader of youth in the church.

In a sense, Bishop Kern is a parent of the Methodist Youth Fellowship. It was his leadership in the Commission on Education in the southern branch of Methodism that brought about the reorganization of the educational structure of that church in 1930. Out of that reorganization came the type of youth organization which was adopted by the General Conference of 1940, following the unification of the three branches of Methodism in 1939. Bishop Kern's youthful spirit, his genius for organization, and his genuine interest in Methodist youth find their reflection in many phases of our current youth program.

I first met Bishop Kern at the Uniting Conference. But it was not until I was elected director of the Youth Department in December, 1944, that I came to know him well and to gain the deep personal affection for him that has characterized our friendship since then. It was Bishop Kern who insisted that the new director of youth work in 1944 should be under 30 years of age. (That was about my sole qualification, as I recall.) In my first day in the office at 810 Broadway, Bishop Kern came across the hall from his office into mine and welcomed me to my new work. He was chairman of our division in the Board of Education at the time. Said he, "This is your job. I don't propose to tell you how to do it, but always remember the door across the hall is open, and I'll be glad

to help in any way I can." Well, it's no secret that I availed myself of this offer many times during the years I was there. And always there was this friendly interest in youth, this insatiable desire that Methodist youth should be constantly challenged with Christ and His way.

Came the Cleveland Conference in 1947 which many of the older readers of



Bishop Kern

these words attended with 11,000 other Methodist youth and leaders. Bishop Kern was an active member of the directing committee, and few will ever forget the inspiring communion service he conducted for the entire conference on New Year's Eve. On several occasions he spoke of that being one of the truly high moments of his ministry.

The influence of Bishop Paul Kern will long be felt among Methodist youth. He led in setting up the first Methodist Youth Caravans. He was instrumental in bequeathing to the current generation of youth their MYF organization. But, most of all, to those who knew him, heard him speak, and read his books, the rich deposit of his ministry in our lives will provide dividends of faith for years to come. For he put "Christ Above All."

—BY HOOVER RUPERT

Bishop Paul B. Kern, an eminent leader of The Methodist Church for nearly half a century, died December 16 in Nashville at the age of 71. He had been in ill health since his retirement in June, 1952. This tribute to a great leader comes from Hoover Rupert, now pastor of First Church, Jackson, Mich., for five years director of the Youth Department of the General Board of Education.

Churches plan attendance drive

More than 17,000 Methodist churches across the country are taking part in a special church attendance campaign now through Easter. The Lenten project is sponsored nationally by the General Board of Evangelism.

By the end of last month churches of 285 districts in 64 annual conferences had organized their campaigns.

In the South Central jurisdiction 6,682 churches in ten states are conducting a joint crusade. The Richmond episcopal area has planned an intensive campaign with 1,961 churches of Virginia and eastern North Carolina participating. District crusades are organized in 13 other annual conferences: Central Pennsylvania, Erie, Florida, Holston, Idaho, Iowa-Des Moines, Illinois, Northwest Indiana, North Dakota, Oregon, Pacific Northwest, West Wisconsin and Wyoming State.

"Give God a Chance Now!" is the campaign slogan. Pastors and laymen will visit the homes of inactive church members and call upon families who belong to no church in a special effort to increase attendance at church schools and worship services.

Trick-or-treat supports UNICEF

Last Hallowe'en many young pranksters changed their usual tactics and did something constructive. They took the old trick-or-treat game, and instead of seeking cats for themselves, collected small coins to help the world's underprivileged children through the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

Preliminary reports indicate that over a million homes learned about UNICEF as a result of the country-wide Hallowe'en campaign. By the first of this month, over 1200 groups in almost as many communities in 47 states had reported to the U. S. Committee for UNICEF.

With approximately 1000 centers still to be heard from, the total collection through December amounted to \$87,000. With this sum, UNICEF can buy enough powdered milk to give almost

800,000 children a cup of milk a day for a week, or enough DDT to safeguard over 1,100,000 children against malaria, or enough vaccine to immunize about 2,000,000 against tuberculosis.

Because want is the rule rather than the exception, UNICEF is helping to fight malnutrition and disease among the children of 75 countries of Asia, the Middle East, Africa and Latin America. Encouraging self-help, UNICEF furnishes supplies, while assisted countries match UNICEF funds with an equal amount on other expenses.

Many community leaders praised the Hallowe'en campaign for its educational value among U. S. children, as well as for its value in terms of better health among the under-privileged children of the world.

Yes, Hallowe'ens are different this day and time.

Poll answers 'go-it-aloners'

A recent national public opinion poll on the United Nations has been hailed by a church leader and expert on international affairs as "the answer" to the "go-it-aloners."

Dr. Walter W. Van Kirk of the National Council of Churches maintains that the percentage favoring the U. N. would be still higher in a poll taken among the people of churches, but the fact is that a cross section of American people were 73 per cent in support of the U. N.

Some 35 per cent of those polled by Elmo Roper want a stronger U. N., 21 per cent are satisfied with the present international machinery, 11 per cent believe the U. S. should work to transform the U. N. into a federation of states with the goal of world government, and 6 per cent believe that the U. N. should be supplemented by partnership arrangements in which friendly states form democratic unions.

"In spite of the sound and fury of the opposition, the overwhelming majority of the American people remain steadfast in their loyalty to the United Nations," Dr. Van Kirk observes. He heads the National Council of Churches' Department of International Justice and Goodwill.

Photographs from this
file have not been
included but are
available upon request.
For more information
please contact
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