

WATTS, BISHOP H. BASCOM

Former Texan *Texas Christian
Advertiser*

Third Bishop Dies in Year

For the third time in less than a year, death has removed an active bishop from the leadership of The Methodist Church.

Bishop H. Bascom Watts, head of the church's Nebraska Area since 1952, and a former resident of Texas, died in Bryan Memorial Hospital in Lincoln Nov. 3, just three days short of his 69th birthday.

He had suffered a cerebral thrombosis Aug. 31 in Estes Park, Colo., but seemed to be recovering and was able to return to his home in Lincoln early in September. He had carried on most of his normal episcopal duties until about two weeks before his death, when his condition grew worse and he was taken to the hospital.

Other Methodist bishops who died during the past year were Bishop John W. Branscomb of the Jacksonville (Fla.) Area, on Jan. 15, and Bishop Ralph A. Ward, on Dec. 10 in Hong Kong.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Funeral services for Bishop Watts were held Nov. 6 in the Boston Avenue Methodist Church, Tulsa, Okla., where he served for 11 years as pastor and two years as district superintendent before becoming a bishop. A memorial service was also held in St. Paul Methodist Church, Lincoln, on Nov. 5.

The father of Mrs. Sterling Wheeler, wife of the vice president of Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Bishop Watts is also survived by his wife, and a son Dr. Fward G. Watts



Bishop H. Bascom Watts

and in 1939 went to Boston Avenue Church, Tulsa, Okla.

At the time of his election to the episcopacy by the 1952 South Central Jurisdictional Conference in Wichita, Kans., he was superintendent of the Tulsa district and chairman of the Jurisdictional Council.

He was assigned as the first Bishop of the newly-created Nebraska Area and has served in that capacity ever since. Before 1953, Nebraska and Kansas were tied together in one episcopal area.

Bishop A. Frank Smith of the Houston-San Antonio Area delivered the memorial address at the Tulsa funeral service, which was conducted by Bishop Watts' successor in the Boston Avenue Church pulpit, Dr. Paul V. Galloway. Other participating bishops were Bi-

and two years as district superintendent before becoming a bishop. A memorial service was also held in St. Paul Methodist Church, Lincoln, on Nov. 5.

The father of Mrs. Sterling Wheeler, wife of the vice president of Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Bishop Watts is also survived by his wife, and a son, Dr. Ewart G. Watts, pastor of First Methodist Church, Topeka, Kans.

SMU TRUSTEE

At the time of his death, Bishop Watts was vice chairman of The Methodist Church's Interboard Committee on Town and Country Work and a member of the Coordinating Council, the General Board of Education, and the Advance Committee. He was also a trustee of SMU, Nebraska Wesleyan University, and other agencies of the denomination.

Born in Yellville, Ark., Nov. 6, 1890, Bishop Watts received the bachelor of arts degree from Southwestern University, Georgetown, in 1913, and the bachelor of divinity from SMU in 1918. He was also ordained an elder in the Methodist ministry that year. He received honorary doctorates in divinity from both Southwestern and SMU, and was awarded an honorary doctorate in humane letters from Nebraska Wesleyan in 1953.

TEXAS PASTORATES

Texas pastorates served by the Bishop included University Church, Austin, (1926-30) and Laurel Heights Church, San Antonio, (1930-36).

In 1936 he was appointed to First Church, Little Rock, Ark.,

and his Texas pastorates were tied together in one episcopal area.

Bishop A. Frank Smith of the Houston-San Antonio Area delivered the memorial address at the Tulsa funeral service, which was conducted by Bishop Watts' successor in the Boston Avenue Church pulpit, Dr. Paul V. Galloway. Other participating bishops were Bishop William C. Martin, Dallas-Fort Worth Area, Bishop W. Angie Smith of the Oklahoma-New Mexico Area, and Bishop Paul E. Martin of the Arkansas-Louisiana Area.

In Lincoln, the memorial service was conducted by Dr. Frank A. Court, with Bishop Dana Dawson of the Kansas Area delivering the address and Bishop Eugene M. Frank, Missouri Area, sharing in the service.

Institute Held On Pastoral Care

An Institute on Pastoral Care was held at Methodist Hospital of Dallas recently, led by The Rev. LeRoy G. Kerney.

Rev. Kerney, professor of pastoral care at Houston's Institute of Religion, spoke on "A Christian Understanding of Illness." The institute, which was attended by pastors of all denominations, was subdivided into the following topics: "Disease as a Problem of the Doctor," "Illness as Experienced by the Patient," "Suffering as Interpreted by the Bible and Christian Theology," and "Implications for the Pastor's Hospital Ministry."

METHODIST COLLEGES

by
William A. Ward
Assistant to the President
Texas Wesleyan College

1. They are owned and operated by the Methodist Church. The privilege of ownership carries with it the responsibility for financial support.
2. They are one of the important outreaches of the Methodist Church, performing a function of vital importance to the future strength and effectiveness of the Church.
3. They are free of governmental control. Because of this, they are literally a highly important means of preserving our American way of life.
4. They are Christ-centered—unapologetically and unashamedly.
5. They pour a continuous supply of well-educated, deeply dedicated supply of ministers and Christian laymen into the mainstream of local Methodist churches. The future leaders of Methodism are now enrolled in your Methodist colleges and universities. (It is reported that 85% of the students in Methodist schools of theology received their undergraduate preparation in church colleges.)
6. They are in truth a priceless heritage from our forefathers, and an absolute necessity for the good of future generations.
7. They are the leaven of American higher education, giving witness to the fact that God is the source of all truth.



Union Bower, Irving, where Maxie Burch is pastor, was without his services Sunday . . . his people received the guest preacher cordially . . . meeting in a school building has its disadvantages, but the sacrifice is worth it when a new building in a strategic new location is in the offing.

I like the way the little children at Union Bower come up

his poetry is questionable . . . if you don't believe it, listen to this.

I slept on an editor's bed
When no editor seemed to
be nigh.
And said to myself as I lay
down my head,
"How easy do these editor's
lie."

The roses were having their

Maxie Burch is pastor, was without his services Sunday . . . his people received the guest preacher cordially . . . meeting in a school building has its disadvantages, but the sacrifice is worth it when a new building in a strategic new location is in the offing.

I like the way the little children at Union Bower come up to speak to the preacher after the service.

Amarillo: Preachers came from Amarillo and near-by towns for a 7:30 breakfast and 2 hour session on the TEXAS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE . . . interest was good . . . suggestions helpful.

Dr. Eugene Slater, Polk Street pastor, and H. L. Thurston, First Church, Hereford, took on some volunteer work for the paper which will help a lot.

Ed Landreth, D. S., arranged the breakfast and meeting place at the Y.M.C.A.—an attractive and relatively new building . . . Ed believes in the value of the Advocate for news and promotion . . . has valuable ideas about its make-up and promotion.

The wide-open stretches on the road to Amarillo gives one time to be alone with God and his sunsets West-Texas sunsets are always thrilling . . . sometimes they pile high like mountain after mountain of whipped cream upon which colored lights are constantly playing . . . sometimes they stretch out like placid lakes—grey and quiet in the twilight.

if you don't believe it, listen to this:

I slept on an editor's bed
When no editor seemed to
be nigh,
And said to myself as I lay
down my head,
"How easy do these editor's
lie."

The roses were having their last bloom at the children's home and the trees were getting their first fall colors . . . children at the home must surely learn to love beauty in such a setting.



It is worth a trip to Waco just to walk on the beautiful campus and swell with joyful pride at being a part of church with a big heart.

Incidentally, Coats is a good place to eat at Waco . . . food is excellent . . . and no beer or other alcoholic drinks are sold.

The bank at near-by Wesley, Texas must have fully recovered from being robbed by a T.U. student a few years ago . . . its sign offered new car financing at 4 per cent . . . now

U. S., Area Methodism Mourns Passing of Dedicated Leader; Memorial Planned

Following a period of declining health, Bishop H. Bascom Watts died in Bryan Memorial Hospital, Lincoln, November 3.

Memorial services were held at St. Paul Church, Lincoln, November 5 and at Boston Avenue Church, Tulsa, Okla., November 6, where Bishop Watts served the Tulsa church for a decade and received over 5,000 members in that period.

Bishop Watt's death is a great loss both to Nebraska Methodism, and to the church at large. He had served on numerous boards and committees of the South Central Jurisdiction and General Conferences.

Before his death, Bishop Watts indicated his desire that churches, ministers, and friends contribute funds instead of flowers, the gifts to be used as a memorial in completing buildings at the Summers Memorial High School in Sarawak, Borneo.

Bishop and Mrs. Watts visited this school on their missionary journey to the orient recently and had given this cause high priority among the Advance Specials.

The able leadership and genial spirit of Bishop Watts will be keenly missed in the Nebraska Area. But also, parsonage families and lay folks will equally regret the moving of Minnie Watts from their midst. Her gracious spirit and kindly sympathies have endeared her to parsonage families and lay people across the Conference.

Our Conference missionary secretary says:

"You know of the Watts's great interest in missions and of the visit they made to Borneo. Most of you have seen some of the pictures they took and have heard the story of their visit there. Our bishop lives in the hearts of the people in Borneo.

Newspapers, television, and radio stations announced that Bishop Watts is dead. As Christians we know this is not true. Who ever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Bishop Watts is alive in our hearts and in the work of the Conference. The English word is 'missionary' so nearly one with selfless devotion.

Bishop Ivan Lee Holt of St. Louis, former president of the World Methodist Council who retired in 1956 has been reactivated and will fill the Nebraska post until a successor is named by the South Central Jurisdictional Conference in San Antonio next June.



Bishop H. Bascom Watts—1890—1952—1959

LETTER FROM SARAWAK

'With Funds You Raise'

Before his death Bishop Watts received a letter from Douglas P. Cook in Sarawak which read in part as follows:

After returning to Sarawak last year and discussing the new building plans with the Rev. Ralph Kessel, our present principal, it was decided to build a smaller two-story science building which includes three science labs and a domestic science room.

To receive part of the cost of the building from government, Mr. Kessel had let the contract early so that the

(Continued on page 12)

MRS. WATTS WRITES

'Victory Through Faith'

My dear friends of the Nebraska Conference:

How I wish there were some way to put into words the thoughts and the feelings I have as I write to you. Seven years ago my life and mine have been struggling. You read this year's message. A wave of grief and sorrow swept over me and I felt my strength and courage slipping away.

But now there comes a new dimension of friendship—in it which comes through sharing a common sorrow and experiencing together the victory that is ours through faith. Oliver Wendell Holmes wrote:

Fame is the scentless sunflower, with gaudy crown of gold;

But friendship is the breathing rose, with sweets in every fold.

Truly there have been sweets in every fold of our growing friendship with you wonderful people; but at this time I want especially to express appreciation for the sweets in this last fold.

It will not be possible for me to write personal acknowledgments for the hundreds of expressions of concern and sympathy that have come; so I do hope you will accept this as a sincere and earnest expression of my deepest gratitude.

Your letters and telegrams, your many deeds of thoughtfulness and kindness, your presence at the memorial service, your memorial contributions for the Gerald Summers School, and your continuing prayers individually and in groups—all have done so much to give encouragement and strength.

In one of his books, Bishop Gerald Kennedy quotes a letter from Thomas Jefferson to John Adams, his companion and co-worker during the Revolution. He wrote:

"Laboring always at the same oar, with some wave ever ahead, threatening to overwhelm us, and yet passing harmless under our bark, we knew not how we rode through the storm with heart and hand, and made a happy port."

This, I feel, is the kind of friendship we have had with the Methodists of Nebraska. In the years ahead, we may no longer be "laboring at the same oar," but we shall be serving the same Lord; and I know that through him, come what may, our's will be the victory!

Sincerely,

Mrs. H. BASCOM WALLS

Conference Youth Active

• The Nebraska Conference Methodist Youth Fellowship held its annual fall conference at Camp Comeca, October 29-31. Eighty-seven youth and adult workers took part in the program planned by the Executive Council of the Conference MYF.

Highlights of the program were discussion groups and training in the areas of citizenship, the function of the Council, beyond the local church programs, and resources to help in all MYF programs. Other areas of concern were worship, fellowship, and the job of the MYF president.

International Exchange students and Miss Lee Chew of Sarawak were special guests.

The group voted to raise \$12,000 for the MYFund in 1959-60 to declare February as campus promotion month in the MYF, and to give encouragement to efforts to ban pornographic literature.

• The Rev. Joseph W. Bell, director of the Youth Department of the General Board of Education, was resource leader for two important meetings in Nebraska in November. He was speaker and discussion leader for the interdenominational



Executive Council of the Conference MYF U. to U.S. front row: Sarah Jensen, Leibel Tompkins, Tom Cunningham, Ruth Ann Troutman, back row: Al Johnson, Dave Wood, Jim Harding, Mae Sigler, Kay Hoff, and John Cronn planned Conference program.

meeting of youths in Hastings, November 27-28. On November 30 he was the leader in a consultation on the work of The Methodist Church in Nebraska with juniors and seniors in high school. This consultation was planned by the youth work committee of Nebraska Conference in order to give thought to the future trends of youth work in Nebraska. The Rev. Bell is the son of Mrs. Ray Bell and the late Rev. Ray Bell, longtime Methodist pastor in Nebraska.

• The Commission on Christian Vocations of the Nebraska Conference met at the Wesley Foundation, November 10, to plan the Conference on Church-Related Vocations to be held at Nebraska Wesleyan, February 12-14. The Rev. J. Benton White will be dean of the Conference which is held annually to give information and guidance to young people in considering church-related vocations.

• Observation and lab schools have been proving themselves as training opportunities in the youth as well as the children's divisions of the church. Accordingly the youth department has planned a junior-high section in the O'Neill Observations School, January 29-30. There will also be a youth observation school with both junior and senior high sections in Aurora, March 13-14.

• The curriculum committee of the Board of Education expects the new closely graded materials for junior highs to be ready for use in October, 1961. There will also be new evening fellowship materials ready for use at that time. All materials for grades seven, eight, and nine will be called junior high rather than intermediate.

• District youth rallies have been huge and exciting this autumn. Omaha District had an especially fine institute with discussions on subjects relating to Christian Faith and Action.

LETTER FROM SARAWAK

(Continued from page 11)

building should be completed in April or May.

"The school committee met a few nights ago and decided to put on a fund-raising campaign locally to help in furnishing this building and also to help in constructing the classroom building when adequate funds are available. Government will also help on this project and with the funds your friends in Nebraska are raising for us, these two buildings plus a good start on the boys' hostel should be made.

"We are delighted with having Sandra McCaig here with us. She has entered into the life of the school in a new way. Just yesterday in chapel, the principal announced that she would sing a solo. The youngsters immediately began giving her an ovation and at the close of the hymn another one. She is taking some time each day in Chinese language study. This will serve her well.

"I trust that the fund-raising campaign for Summers School projects is progressing well. We are very anxious to get the much needed buildings completed this year. However, we know that your share is to be raised on a three year basis. The hostel will not be done this year though, for the type needed and construction plans are just in the talking stage as yet."

JANUARY 1960 Vol. 4 No. 1
TOGETHER is an official organ of The Methodist Church, issued monthly by the Methodist Publishing House, 740 N. Rush St., Chicago 11, Ill. Publisher: Lovick Picree.

Nebraska Area—Bishop Ivan Lee Holt
Area Edition Editor—Sidney L. McCaig, 2640 North 48th Street, Lincoln 4, Nebr.

Subscriptions: Order through your local Methodist church. Basic rate under All-Family Plan is 60¢ a quarter (\$2.60 a year) billed to the church. Individual subscriptions are \$4 a year in advance. Single copy price: 50¢.

Second-class postage has been paid at Chicago, Ill., and at additional mailing offices.

Student Recognition Day

The future leadership of Methodist churches—ministerial, professional and lay—hinges on the quality of Methodist youth in colleges and universities.

Student Recognition Day, December 27, 1959, is a time for emphasis in local churches of the significance of our Methodist student programs in colleges and universities.

A special worship service *The Church and Its Students* has been prepared by the Department of College and University Religious Life.

A one-act play entitled *The New Frontier* has also been written for use on this day. It depicts Methodism's historical interest in Christian higher education. Highlights of the church's 175-year ministry to college students is included. Copies may be purchased at 10 cents each from the Service Department, P. O. Box 871, Nashville 2, Tenn.

Excellent suggestions for Student Recognition Day in local churches can be found in the November issue of *The Methodist Story* and *The Methodist Woman*.

Church Musicians Confer

An outstanding conference on church music was held November 23-24 at First Church, Lincoln.

Nationally known leaders as follows appeared on the program.

Dr. Austin C. Lovelace, minister of music, First Church, Evanston, Ill., was in charge of choral directing, service playing, use of the hymnal, and anthem repertoire. He presented an organ recital on the new First Church organ on the second evening.

Mrs. Helen Hawk Carlisle, director of children's music, First Church, Evanston, discussed use of music in children's classes and procedures in conducting children's choirs.

A highlight of the conference was the organization of NLFOMM, the Nebraska Chapter of the National Fellowship of Methodist Musicians.

Project Rings a Bell

The Rev. Leonard Hartwig, now of Elsie, reports completion of a project started while he was pastor at Laurel on the Northeast District—delivery of a bell.

Pastor James K. Nimmo of Liberia, Africa, superintends the work at Barclayville for the Liberia Annual Conference and for the Methodist Mission. He is a member of the native Kru tribe and was elected as ministerial delegate to the General Conference in 1956.

While in America he visited several Nebraska churches. At the Laurel Church he reported need for a bell at the Methodist Mission Station, Laurel. Methodists procured the bell which started on its journey in 1958 and arrived at the mission station, 250 miles from Monrovia, in August, 1959. Carriers trans-



Bell started on its journey in 1958, arrived last August. Liberians carried it over 250 miles to the mission station.

ported the heavy bell a distance of seven miles from the seacoast. The bell is used each day for public school conducted by the Mission and twice on Sunday for worship services.

Leaders of the Barclayville congregation on September 13, 1959, wrote: "We, the members of the above Methodist Church mentioned are very much grateful indeed for your free gift of brass bell to us. This said gift is very much appreciable and such will ever be remembered . . ." Beside their written name, some of the leaders made "His X." A teacher in the Mission school wrote the letter they requested.



A series of marriage counseling seminars sponsored by the Conference Committee on Family Life in co-operation with the General Board of Education, has proved very popular this fall. Dr. W. Clark Elzey, professor from Stephens College, Columbia, Mo., has been resource leader.

Four ministers from the Nebraska Conference Board of Evangelism, Richard Dinsdale, Alan Justel, Henry C. Beatty, and Donald V. Rose, attended the Fellowship of Evangelism in Hollywood, Calif., in October. A part of the Fellowship was a three-day visitation campaign resulting in 13,000 commitments in the Southern California-Arizona Conference. "This is the greatest thing we have ever done in the Southern California-Arizona

GUEST TICKETS

Those desiring guest tickets for the 1960 General Conference, to be held in Denver, April 27-May 11, should send requests to the Rev. J. Otis Young, 740 North Rush St., Chicago 11, Ill.

Conference," said Bishop Gerald H. Kennedy formerly pastor at St. Paul Church, Lincoln.

The Board of Missions has approved purchase of a 32 x 80-foot steel chapel for use in new churches beginning a building program. The building includes oak flooring, interior of plywood walls and acoustical tile ceiling, concrete foundation, a furnace, and rest rooms. The front is designed to look like a church.

A probable move of the Interboard Council offices is being explored. More space is needed to make room for a part-time publicity and Methodist Information director, the episcopal office secretary, and additional storage. The location being considered is on North 50th Street, Lincoln, facing the Wesleyan Campus. The ten-room building would allow for immediate Conference headquarters requirements and would serve until completion of the new building at St. Paul and 49th Streets.

The Rev. Graham Howe former Congregational pastor, York, will assume part-time responsibilities for Nebraska Conference publicity and promotion, January 1. He will work primarily in the promotion of Conference benevolent causes and dissemination of Methodist information. Mr. Howe's church last year led its Conference in per capita giving to benevolent causes. He will give two days a week to the Nebraska Conference and four days a week to Nebraska Wesleyan University.

McCOOK DISTRICT

- A premarital counseling clinic for ministers held November 4 in the McCook Church featured Professor Clark Elzey of Stephens College, Missouri.
- The district staff, including not only age-group directors but also heads of district missions, evangelism, social relations, camps, lay groups, and woman's societies, met November 16.
- A leadership-training school was held at Oxford November 22-24, for churches on the east end of the district.

OMAHA DISTRICT

New Church, West Omaha

• The new Rockbrook Church in West Omaha was organized by District Superintendent Everett E. Jackson, on November 1. The pastor, the Rev. Merle A. Zook, presented 95 members to be received by the superintendent, after which a Board of Stewards was elected together with trustees, commissions, committees and special officers. Currently the congregation meets in an unused restaurant, but a portable chapel is being built for the new site at 99th Avenue and West Center Street Road. It is hoped this will be ready by January.

• The Rev. Robert E. Naylor, pastor First Church, Omaha, recently reported a thrilling response to the double worship

and church school services in October.

- Hanscom Park Church is raising \$100,000 toward its new church building, to be erected at 45th and Frances Streets in the next two years. The canvass is under the direction of the Rev. Harold Bryant. He is being assisted by Dr. Benjamin F. Schwartz, pastor, and Mr. Carr Hume, lay director.

- The church at Valley is showing real growth under leadership of the Rev. Gary Bruening, pastor. Steps are being taken to rent an unused store building near the church for Sunday school.

- Dr. Harold G. Crume, director of Wesley House, attended the Intercity Conference at Gary, Ind. He brought home plans for organizing an intercity larger parish for smaller Omaha churches

NORTHEAST DISTRICT

Auction Takes in \$4,500

- Homer MYF members were guests of the Dakota City MYF at a Halloween party.

- The Rev. Lisle Wewmaw reports the Neligh Church has inaugurated Sunday evening services including the study of *Know Your Bible* series by Roy L. Smith. He reports 204 present in church school on Rally Day; the goal was 200.

- The Springview and Norden Churches served by the Rev. Curtis Norlin report their annual auction sale, October 22, with receipts in excess of \$4,500. WSCS members served the Harvest Home dinner. Norden Woman's Society members sponsored a bazaar and supper at the County Fair Grounds.

- Dr. Charles F. Craft, Garrett Biblical Institute, Evanston, Ill., was resource leader at the Bible conference in the O'Neill Church in November.

- The Conference Interboard staff directed literature conferences at the parsonage clubs at Laurel, Creighton, and Atkinson, November 16-18.

Students Visit Aged

Wesley Foundation students at the University of Nebraska have undertaken a program of worship and study in preparation for the Christmas festival. Along with the regular programs, special emphasis has been placed upon preparation during the Advent season. Included in



The 7 a.m. Study Group



Kearney's Wesley Fellowship holds a party. K. Roy Bailey (bottom center) is leader.

this has been special Advent worship programs at 7 a.m.

The students shared their fellowship in the traditional Yule Log party by visiting Westview Home for the Aged and singing Christmas hymns and carols under the leadership of Richard Morris.

The Foundation choir presented an original Christmas cantata, written by its director and organist, C. Richard Morris, on December 6, and later on KUON-TV. It will be repeated on KUON-TV during the Christmas season.

KEARNEY DISTRICT

Two Church Anniversaries

- Two district churches held anniversary services recently. Riverdale Church celebrated its 50th anniversary on October 18 with District Superintendent Glen W. Marshall presenting the morning sermon. The Rev. Dale Coakley is pastor. Merna Church observed its 75th anniversary, November 15.

- Two churches—Boelus and Walbach—have installed new electric organs with appropriate dedication services. District Superintendent Marshall was the speaker at both services. The Rev. Gordon Patterson is pastor at Boelus, Miss Bonnie Gilmer at Walbach.

- A baby girl, Heidi Laura, arrived in the parsonage home of the Rev. Dwight and Ruth Kemling, Hershey, October 11.

- Numerous activities have been included in the district program during the fall. A fine program and attendance characterized the district conference at Kearney, October 6. Commission train institutes were held at Broken Bow, North Loup, Gothenburg, and Shelton later in the

ceedingly profitable seminar on marriage counseling was held in Kearney, November 3. Nineteen pastors of the district were in attendance for the annual pastor's school and conference on the ministry in Lincoln.

- The Wesley Fellowship of Kearney State Teachers College meets on the college campus every Tuesday evening. The group also meets as a class at the Methodist church on Sunday morning with breakfast together before their session. The Rev. K. Roy Bailey, director of Christian education in the Kearney church, is also director of the Wesley Fellowship.

- President Vance D. Rogers, Nebraska Wesleyan University, presented the Reformation Day address at Lexington

GENEVA DISTRICT

U. S. Senator Speaks

- On November 22 the congregation of the Avr Church, Blue Hill Larger Parish, celebrated its 75th anniversary of service. The Rev. Albert Monkman, Geneva, District superintendent, preached the morning sermon and U. S. Senator Carl Curtis delivered the anniversary address in the afternoon. The Rev. Lawrence D. Boyer is pastor.

- The Rev. L. O. Seeger, Bladen, recently broke three ribs in a fall from a ladder. He has recovered nicely.

- Clay Center Church reports dedication of a new educational unit including seven classrooms, church office, and rest rooms at a cost of \$13,045.

- Recent important meetings on the district include a District Youth Rally at York, November 8; Missionary Institute at Aurora, November 8; a Bible Conference, Kenesaw, November 11-13 with Dr. Charles F. Craft, Garrett Biblical Institute, as leader, and a Leadership School at Kenesaw, November 29-December 1.



Student leads Wesley House worship.

What's Coming

- Dec. 19-20—South Central executive secretaries' conf.
- Dec. 27—Student Recognition Day
- Dec. 28—Lincoln District Adult Council
- Dec. 21—Worship Night
- Dec. 28—Interim Preview—First Church, Lincoln
- Jan. 3-6—Regional Int. Conf. Conference—Omaha
- Jan. 8-9—Orientation School—Nebraska

Higher Call

Bishop Watts Dies at 69 in Nebraska

For the third time in less than a year, death has removed an active bishop from the leadership of The Methodist Church.

Bishop H. Bascom Watts, head of the church's Nebraska Area since 1952, died in Bryan Memorial Hospital in Lincoln Nov. 3—just three days short of his 69th birthday.

He had suffered a cerebral thrombosis Aug. 31, in Estes Park, Colo., but seemed to be recovering and was able to return to his home in Lincoln early in September. He had carried on most of his normal episcopal duties until about two weeks before his death, when his condition grew worse and he was taken to the hospital.

Other Methodist bishops who died during the past year were Bishop John W. Branscomb of the Jacksonville (Fla.) Area, on Jan. 15, and Bishop Ralph A. Ward, on Dec. 10, in Hong Kong.

Funeral services for Bishop Watts were held Nov. 6 in the Boston Avenue Methodist Church, Tulsa, Okla., where he served for 11 years as pastor and two years as district superintendent before becoming a bishop. A memorial service was also held in St. Paul Methodist Church, Lincoln, on Nov. 5.

At the time of his death, Bishop Watts was vice chairman of The Methodist Church's Interboard Committee on Town and Country Work and a member of the Co-ordinating Council, the General Board of Education, and the Advance Committee. He was also a trustee of Southern Methodist University, Nebraska Wesleyan University, and other agencies of the denomination.

Bishop Watts was a native of Arkansas and had served as minister of Little Rock's First Methodist Church from 1936 to 1939. His earlier pastorates included University Church, Austin, Texas (1926-30) and Laurel Heights Church, San Antonio (1930-36).

At the time of his election to the episcopacy by the 1952 South Central Jurisdictional Conference in Wichita,

Kansas, he was superintendent of the Tulsa district and was chairman of the Jurisdictional Council. He was assigned as the first bishop of the newly-created Nebraska Area and had served in that capacity ever since. Before 1952, Nebraska and Kansas were tied together in one episcopal area.

Bishop Watts received the bachelor of arts degree from Southwestern University, Georgetown, Tex., in 1913 and the bachelor of divinity from Southern Methodist University in 1918. He was also ordained an elder in the Methodist ministry that year. He received honorary doctorates in divinity from both Southwestern and SMU, and was awarded an honorary doctorate in humane letters from Nebraska Wesleyan in 1953.

He is survived by Mrs. Watts, the former Minnie E. Keyser, a son, the Rev. Dr. Ewart G. Watts, pastor of First Church, Topeka, Kansas, and a daughter, Mrs. Sterling F. Wheeler, whose husband is vice-president of Southern Methodist University.

Bishop A. Frank Smith of the Houston-San Antonio Area delivered the memorial address at the Tulsa funeral service, which was conducted by Bishop Watts' successor in the Boston Avenue Church pulpit, the Rev. Dr. Paul V. Galloway. Other participating bishops were Bishop Paul E. Martin of the Arkansas-Louisiana Area; Bishop William C. Martin of the Dallas-Fort Worth Area; and Bishop W. Angie Smith of the Oklahoma-New Mexico Area.

In Lincoln, the memorial service was conducted by the Rev. Dr. Frank A. Court, with Bishop Dana Dawson of the Kansas Area delivering the address and Bishop Eugene M. Frank of the Missouri Area sharing in the service.

The Rev. Walter F. Whitney, former field agent for ZIONS HERALD, died Nov. 1 in Nashua, N. H. Born at Westminster, Mass., he studied at Tilton (N. H.), Seminary and was graduated in 1905. He was ordained in 1907 and graduated from the Boston University School of Theology four years later.

He held pastorates in Massachusetts, Maine, New York, Nebraska and Florida. He served as assistant professor at Nebraska Wesleyan University. He leaves a wife, Lillian of Nashua; a daughter, Mrs. Raymond E. Wilson of West Newton, Mass.; a son, Walter, of Nashua; eight sisters and two grandsons.

ictly Personal

35 persons attending. Mr. Reimer married the Coopers at the Methodist parsonage in Beverly in 1909 and had the unique privilege of "re-marrying" them fifty years later.

Mr. and Mrs. Cooper have lived in Lynn practically all of their married life. They attended the little Methodist Church on the Highlands before transferring to Maple Street where they have been faithful members since 1918.

They have two daughters: Mrs. Arlene Thistle and Mrs. Leila Weatherbee and four grandchildren. Their only son, Fred, was lost in action in the Pacific in World War II. A large number of friends and neighbors attended the Open House on Sunday from 4 to 8 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edward L. Thistle, 19 Rowell Avenue. Carol Thistle was in charge of the guest book.

John F. Brown, lay leader of the First Methodist Church, in No. Andover, Mass., was stricken with a heart attack on Friday, November 13 and is now a patient at the Lawrence General Hospital.

Along with his duties as lay leader, Mr. Brown is also head usher, chairman of the Board of Education, and a member of the Memorial Fund Committee.

The *Wesley Herald*, published by the Wesley Methodist Church, reports that Mrs. Mary J. Pierce of 128 Lincoln St., Worcester, observed her 93rd birthday on October 14.

NOT -- BUT

For pain I do not thank Thee, Lord:
But that, where it is found,
Angels in guise of skill and care
So often heveer round.

For grief I do not thank Thee, Lord:
It is so hard to bear:
But this means all the world to me—
That there are those who care.

For wrongs I do not thank 't hee, Lord:
They curse Thy world tonight:
But that there are both brave and strong
Who champion the right.

For sin I do not thank Thee, Lord.
It I, with Thee, abhor:
But rather that where it abounds,
There grace abounds much more.

I do not thank Thee, Lord, for death:
But that within my creed
There lies beyond its narrow stile
Life which is life indeed.

REV. FRANK P. FLETCHER

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