

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MISSION BIOGRAPHICAL SERIES

BISHOPS – MISSIONARIES

ID#

158

MOORE, BISHOP JOHN M.

Bishop John Monroe Moore

(With feelings of shock and grief at the news that Bishop Moore had closed his earthly ministry, THE CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE turned to his close friend and ours, President Umphrey Lee of Southern Methodist university, for an appropriate editorial tribute. It is printed here.—EDITOR.)

Those who write about Bishop John M. Moore will say much about his contribution to the unification of American Methodism and about his statesmanship, particularly in education. But when the books are balanced there will be a good deal in the celestial ledger about matters unconnected with institutional machinery. Not least among these will be the simple fact that a man small in stature but mighty in will and in the gifts of friendship went about this country for half a century opposing everything that was cheap and shoddy.

With his own good training in this country and in Europe, Bishop Moore was impatient with intellectual pretensions, and he punctured many an inflated ego. Years ago when a small college was gracious enough to confer upon the writer an honorary degree, the bishop acknowledged the event, "I congratulate you on your honor," he said, "such as it is." In his conferences, in the colleges and universities which he constantly visited, among the young friends who were always consulting him, he was like a breath of pure air. Many men in The Methodist Church today were persuaded by him to a contempt not only of pretense but of all the jargon which is a sign of intellectual inflation.

This the bishop did with a tongue that was frequently sharp, but he did it also through his power to make friends of young and old. Because he spoke his mind and because he had an almost inflexible will, not everyone knew that he was a friendly man. Early in his ministry he formed the habit of memorizing his church rolls. As a result he was famed for his memory. But he remembered people because he was interested in them. All ages and all sorts and conditions of men were his friends.

The bishop preached for a long time, but for at least 60 years he made friends as teacher and minister. And to his friends he made one great contribution, a love of the genuine.

Many worthy and important things were done by John M. Moore. On great institutions and on great ecclesiastical bodies he left an indelible mark. But all that he did was only because of what he was.

August 26, 1948



Bishop John M. Moore, 81, retired of Dallas, Texas, died July 20. He was born in Morganton, Ky., and was licensed to preach in 1887. He was made managing editor of the Christian Advocate in 1906 and was elected to the bishopric in 1918. Bishop Moore was one of the leaders in the unification of the three branches of Methodism. He was a scholarly and forceful preacher. He was in charge of the two Georgia Conferences for a quadrennium and had many admirers in the State.

discipline. The Methodist Church should not lag behind
Kiwanis International in any moral matter!

Amsterdam

At the moment that this issue of THE CHRISTIAN AD-
VOCATE comes into the hands of its readers there will be
assembled in the historic city of Amsterdam, Holland,
what is being described as "the greatest gathering of re-
ligious leaders in all of the twentieth century." The official
representatives of 134 Christian churches from 39 countries
will be gathered for the purpose of bringing into existence
the World Council of Churches. This editorial is being
written in the beautiful city of Stockholm, Sweden, which

has played such a unique role in the consummation
of this highly significant and impressive event.

It was in the year 1910, and in the city of Edin-
burgh, Scotland, that the first great missionary
conference was held which could really be called
"representative of all Protestantism." Dr. John R.
Mott, the famous YMCA secretary, missionary,
and Methodist was one of the guiding geniuses
of that gathering, and to him high honor is being
paid as he mingles in the councils at Amsterdam.

It was out of the exalted vision and illumina-
tion of the Edinburgh Conference that Nathan
Soderblom, Archbishop of Uppsala and Primate of
the Church of Sweden, conceived the plan for the
conference on "Life and Work" which assembled
in Stockholm in 1925 and which sought to "con-
centrate the mind of Christendom on the mind of
Christ as revealed in the Gospels toward those great
social, industrial and international questions which
are so acutely urgent in our civilization." This
conference was perpetuated in the Universal Chris-
tian Council for Life and Work, which continued
the studies in a program of international and inter-
denominational research and conference.

Meanwhile Bishop Charles H. Brent of the
Protestant Episcopal Church in America had been
working along somewhat similar lines and his
movement blossomed in a World Conference
on Faith and Order, which met at Lusanne,
Switzerland, in the year 1927. As a direct result

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side again. I'm sure that poor ol
Dude was wishing that she ha
never been hatched because sh
was really having a miserabl
time of it, as Freddie and I be
came angrier and angrier becaus
the other was hitting our side o
Dude.

Our Mama was sick abed bu
somehow she always had a wa
of finding out if we did anythin
not just right and soon she ser
for us to come to her. We went in
never dreaming that she kne
about Dude's hard luck but sh
did, and in her usual kind wa
she made us know that a lick o
either side of Dude hurt her a
t over. We hadn't thought abou
that, and through our eagernes
e to make our own side of Dud
the finest we had developed
h jealousy which had kept us fror
e caring for any part of Dude ex
cept our own side of her. Now
when we learned that we ha
g hurt our own side of her just a
e much as we had hurt the othe
g side we were really and trul
it sorry that we had ever take
s spite out on her. From that da
n to this I have always known tha
if a fellow tries to spite anothe
it that that spite will come bac
t- sometime and cause their ow
e heart to ache, too.

Neither of us girls was eve
unkind to any of God's creature
after that because Mama he

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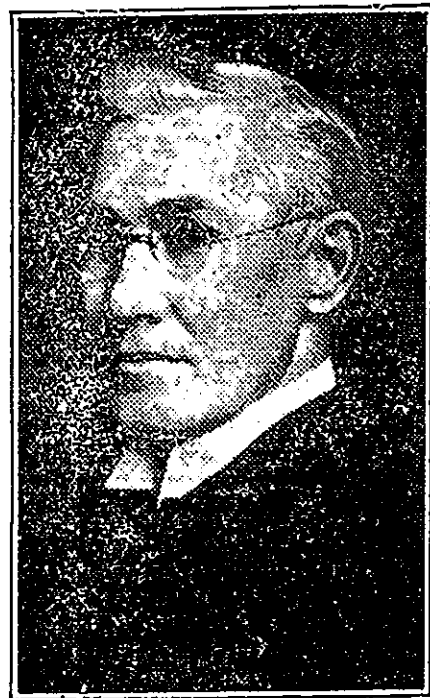
Moore, John Monroe, Bishop

Papers at Southern
Methodist University Library

Bishop John M. Moore, Noted Unification Leader, Dies; Diamond Jubilee of Mexican Methodism

RETIRED CHURCHMAN PASSES IN
DALLAS, TEX., AT AGE OF 81

DALLAS, Tex.—Bishop John M. Moore, retired, one of the leaders in the unification of the three branches of the Methodist Church, died Friday night, July 30, at his home. His age was 81.



Bishop Moore had been ill for some time.

Born at Morgantown, Ky., he attended public schools there and later received degrees from Lebanon College, Ohio, and from Yale University.

He became a licensed minister in 1887, and came to Dallas as pastor of the First Methodist Church in 1902, leaving in 1906 to become managing editor of the Christian Advocate at Nashville, Tenn. He began his work on unification of the Methodists in 1910.

At Rockport, Ark., at the opening religious service for the Arkansas Centennial in 1936, Bishop Moore preached while the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt stood bareheaded in the rain. The President spoke briefly after Bishop Moore concluded.

Bishop Moore was the senior bishop in the former Methodist Episcopal Church, South, at his retirement in 1938. He was secretary of the College of Bishops from 1927 to 1937, chairman of the general board of missions from 1934 to 1938, a member of the Joint Hymnal Commission to prepare a Methodist Hymnal from 1904 to 1906, and of the revision commission for the same from 1931 to 1934.

In 1927 he was a member of the first protestant World Conference on Faith and Order in Lausanne, Switzerland, and the second in Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1937. In the latter year he belonged to the Universal Christian Council for Life and Work which met in Oxford, and from 1924 to 1928 headed the executive committee of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America.

He was chairman of the department of schools and colleges of the Methodist Episcopal Church, 1934 to 1938, and of the board of trustees of Southern Methodist University, Dallas, 1932-1938.

Bishop Moore was the son of Joseph A. Moore and Martha Ann Hampton. His

first pastorate was at Marvin Methodist Episcopal Church, St. Louis, 1895-98. He left there to be pastor of the Travis Park church, San Antonio, Tex., and then went to Dallas.

He studied at the Universities of Leipzig and Heidelberg from 1894-95. Several universities conferred doctorates upon him.

His last post before he became bishop in 1918 was that of Secretary of Home Missions, held from 1910-1918. He was then appointed bishop in charge of work in Brazil. His other bishoprics were: Oklahoma and East Texas, 1922-26; West Texas and New Mexico, 1926-30; Georgia and Florida, 1930-1934; and Missouri and Arkansas, until retirement.

Surviving is his wife.

Cross Memorial to Josephus Clubs to Promote Oratorio

Honorable mention for outstanding scholastic standing for the same period in the rising senior class went to Misses Margaret Hartsell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Hartsell, Charlotte, in second place, and Martha Hoffner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James L. Hoffner, Salisbury, in third place. In the rising junior class, second honors went to Miss Marilyn Allred, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Allred, Jacksonville Fla.

In the rising sophomore class, second honors went to Miss Joella Richardson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Richardson, Fremont; third to Miss Fetty Davis, daughter of Mrs. J. S. Davis, Raeford; and

EFFORT BEING MADE TO REVIVE INTEREST IN RELIGIOUS DRAMA

A SERIOUS effort is now being made by the State Federation of Music Clubs to revive interest in religious drama, and the idea is being well received.

The first efforts along this line had to do with the performance of a dramatized version of Mendelssohn's oratorio, "Elijah," one of the most stirring and forceful of all the Bible stories. Four performances of this drama were given in Mount Airy in April 1947. Another was given in July 1947, and in April of this year performances were given at Campbell College and at Fenson.

Ministers who have witnessed this performance, many of whom have participated, have nothing but praise for it.

The North Carolina Federation of Music Clubs is anxious to promote this oratorio in as many churches and communities as



Eunice Floyd

possible during the next year. A plan has been worked out whereby a skilled director may be assigned, and where the local community is unable to supply a particular voice, one may be made available from some other point. A. J. Fletcher, P. O. Box 1406, Raleigh, is Oratorio Chairman for North Carolina, and will be glad to supply detailed plans, upon request.

METHODIST CHURCH ORGANIZES IN EAST ALBEMARLE

ALBEMARLE.—The formal organization of a new Methodist church in East Albemarle was held at the East Albemarle school Sunday afternoon, July 25, with Rev. Ralph Taylor, pastor of Central Methodist Church, presiding in the absence of Rev. Walter B. West, superintendent, unable to attend because of illness.

Rev. Brooks Jerome of Stanfield will continue to serve the church as pastor until formal appointment of a minister by the Conference.

VESPERS ARE BROADCAST

THE FIRST interdenominational youth vesper service for Stanly County was broadcast last Sunday evening at 8 o'clock over radio station WABZ, Albemarle. Miss Ruth Lewis, director of Christian education at Central Methodist Church, Albemarle, was in charge of the broadcast. The vesper services will be broadcast until the polio ban in that county is lifted.

ORTH CAROLINA CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE