UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
MISSION BIOGRAPHICAL SERIES

BISHOPS – MISSIONARIES

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189
RICHARDSON, BISHOP ERNEST G.
Bishop E. G. Richardson

Bishop Ernest G. Richardson, for 16 years bishop of the Philadelphia Area, died September 5 in the Philadelphia Methodist Hospital. He had retired in 1944, but last winter had been recalled to service by the Council of Bishops to administer the Wisconsin Area following the death of Bishop Schuyler Garth last January.

Taken ill in Wisconsin about a month ago, Bishop Richardson returned to Philadelphia and entered the hospital where, for a time, he showed improvement.

Funeral services were held in Arch Street Church, Philadelphia, Monday, September 8, his successor in the Philadelphia Area, Bishop Fred Pierce Carson, officiating, assisted by Bishop Charles Wesley Flint and others.

Born in St. Vincent, West Indies, February 24, 1874, the son of a Wesleyan minister, Bishop Richardson's early education was received in the islands. Soon after his father's death he took a position in a law office on the island of Barbados. Coming to the United States he took a similar position in New York. In 1892 he entered Dickinson College, where he supported himself by operating the college bookstore. Following graduation with honors in 1896 he took a pastorate in Connecticut and attended Yale University, receiving a master of arts degree in 1899. Meanwhile he had been ordained into the Methodist ministry in the New York East Conference.

His ministerial life was spent in the pastorate until 1917 when he was made superintendent of the Brooklyn North district Churches served by Bishop Richardson include Wallingford, Conn., Seventh Street, New York City, Williams Bridge, Bronx, Fleet Street, Brooklyn, Bristol, Conn., Simpson, Brooklyn.

A member of the General Conferences of 1908, 1912, 1916 and 1920 he was elected to the episcopacy in 1926 at Des Moines, Iowa. He was assigned to the Atlanta Area, serving it for eight years. In 1928 he came to Philadelphia.

During much of his residence in Philadelphia he was president of the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension of the former Methodist Episcopal Church. He was also, for a time, president of the Anti-Saloon League of America. He was a trustee of Dickinson College, and served several southern colleges similarly during his residence in Atlanta. In 1941-2 Bishop Richardson was president of the Council of Bishops of the united church. For a number of years Puerto Rican Methodism, in which he was greatly interested, was under his administration.

Bishop Richardson was married on April 21, 1897 to Miss Anna E. Fenberg of Altoona, Pa., who survives him. Their home has been at 6333 Emlen Street, Philadelphia. They had one son, Hallam M. Richardson of Brooklyn, N. Y., an attorney, and two daughters, Winfred and Marion Van Steenberg, neither of whom is living. There are four grandchildren.

RECENT DEATHS

Mrs. Anna Isenberg Richardson, widow of Bishop Ernest G. Richardson, in Philadelphia Feb. 14 after a year of declining health. She served with her husband during his episcopal assignments at Atlanta, 1926-34, Philadelphia, 1928-44, and for a few months in Wisconsin just before his death in 1947.

Floyd W. Woodcock, beneficiary of Methodist television work, in Wilmington, Del., Feb. 20. Struck with its possibilities while watching TV as a convalescent, he financed a program, "The Circuit Rider," later gave for the first "The Pastor" series and for research for "The Way."

Mrs. Willkie Martin, widow of the late pastor of Wilshire church, Los Angeles, Feb. 5, at her home.

O. W. Tate, 78, retired member of Central Kansas Conference, at Brown Memorial home, Abilene, Kan., Feb. 2.

William Haggarty, retired Nebraska Conference member, at Coffey, Calif., Jan. 15.

Mrs. John J. Place, wife of retired Oregon Conference member, in Portland, Ore., Jan. 23.


W. H. L. Carruth, 83, in Hattiesburg, Miss., Feb. 11. Mr. Carruth had served as district lay leader, Conference delegate, lay speaker and teacher, and was prominent in civic affairs in the South. He was the father of Rev. Thomas A. Carruth of the Board of Evangelism staff.

Everett Hall, 73, pastor of Mahtomedi, Minn., church, in White Bear Lake, Minn., Feb. 15.

John T. Frazier, 55, retired supply pastor in Louisville Conference.

Henry E. Rompel, 84, retired Rock River Conference member, in Chicago, Jan. 29.

Ralph G. White, 53, pastor of South Greensburg (Pa.) church, Jan. 16.

Mrs. Lawrence A. Stahl, wife of the retired Pittsburgh Conference member, Jan. 2, in her Pittsburgh home.

William Gay Feather, pastor of Triadelphia and Pulten (W. Va.) churches, in Wheeling, W. Va., Feb. 2.

Samuel Souroe, 84, retired member of West Wisconsin Conference, in Richland Center, Wis., Jan. 13.

Charles A. Briggs, retired Wisconsin Conference member, in Wautoma, Wis., Jan. 27.


Mrs. Hattie Parham, 76, for 16 years lay delegate to South Dakota Conference, and for 62 years, a Methodist, at Wonooocket, S. D.

CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE
of wise observations upon the essence is an injunction to "keep the heart
ded: "For out of it are the issues of
men of old as "the seat of the intellect, ly went to the heart of goodness for e. The acts by which we judge the Within.
1 diligence implies that evil can get watchman guards every gate and all
nges anyone who should not gain an language of the guard. Every person foul desires, strong temptations, and I mind in foul moral atmosphere is
ors of the heart that swing outward try. What we do with evil that gets
must make. To act on some foul de-

He hath showed thee, 0 man, what

onal and social, is found in the mem-

One goodness. The desires and mo-
be checked with the moral standards us the way, the truth, and the life. nige personal goodness. Anyone can

sin is a reproach to any people" is a ness. Other proverbs are cited in our
fications for both personal and na-

s is aimed at the sentimental and is, sacrifices, and sickly piety for just

of Christian public goodness. It is a nation have sinned against God and our how far our public life has fallen s living. We sanction sins committed : motives that we would not tolerate

passes a sleepy guard and enters an st also be understood by every good made up solely of the sum total of all ute, corporate, national behavior in all

passage in a statement released by the council.

Layman J. Howard Pew, chairman of the now disbanded NCC lay com-
mittee, writing in U. S. News & World Report, charged that "the clergy in-
variably outvoted us 10 to 1" (see Advocate editorial, Feb. 23).

Council statistics show:
• There is an almost equal division between clergy and laity among the 4,230 men and women who shape pol-
icy and program. There are 2,165 ministers and 2,065 laymen.
• The 254-member policy-making General board has 115 laymen and 139 clergy men on its rolls.
• The General assembly has a total membership of 1,039, 375 laymen, 684 clergy men.
• The council has 20 officers, headed by a clergymen, Rev. Eugene Carson
Blake. Eleven officers, including sev-
eral vice-presidents, the treasurer and recording secretary, are laymen. Nine are clergy men.
• Laymen outnumber the clergy two to one on the Business and Finance committee which supervises the NCC's finances and the administration of a $13,000,000 budget. Out of 93
members, 62 are laymen, including the chairman and vice-chairman.
• There are 86 laymen and 33 clergy-
men on the 119-member committee which directs the affairs of the De-
partment of the Church and Economic Life.

Boy Scouts

Set Up Asbury Award

The pioneer circuit-riding Method-
ist preacher, Francis Asbury, is being honored by a special hiking award established by the Boy Scouts.

Called the Asbury Trail award, it will go to Explorer Scouts who com-
plete a hiking course in the life of Bishop Asbury and hike the old Cata-
lochee trace between Lake Junalu-
ska, N. C., and Cosby, Tenn.

The 35-mile trail was first blazed by Cherokee Indians across the Ap-
palachians. Asbury's Journal records that he crossed the then-uncharted mountains more than 60 times be-
tween 1771 and 1816.

The Association of Methodist Historical societies prepared the hiking assignments for the hiking award.

March 8, 1956
Richardson, Bishop Ernest Gladstone

Died - September 5, 1947

WISCONSIN AREA LAY LEADERS' RETREAT

Under the leadership of Dr. C. O. Miller, Lay Leader of the Wisconsin Annual Conference, the Wisconsin Area Lay Leaders' Retreat was held at the Ramif Hotel, Oshkosh, Wisconsin, September 6-7, 1947. About forty leaders, lay and ministerial, attended the Conference.

The subjects presented by local and guest speakers were as follows: Rev. Clifford Fritz spoke on “Patterns for Modern Saints” at the various devotional services; Rev. Tom Parr Jones delivered the keynote address; Rev. James Buxton spoke on “Achievements of the Crusade for Christ.” Rev. Fred Smith and Rev. Walter Eyster, Executive Secretaries of the two Boards of Education within the Area, presented phases of the Area program for the Crusade emphasis on increase in enrollment and attendance in the Church School; Mr. Eyster also made a report on “Carol Jean Brill and the Youth Program”; Mr. Marvin Meyers spoke on “The Whitefish Bay Family Living Program”; Mr. William P. Bider presented “The Methodist Layman” in chart form and took subscriptions for this magazine; Rev. Lyle Stephenson and others reported on the Rural Life Conference in Lincoln, Nebraska; Mr. Frank O. Whitaker, Lay Leader of the West Wisconsin Conference, reported on the Annual Meeting of the General Board of Lay Activities and the National Council of Conference Lay Leaders at Des Moines, Iowa; and Dr. E. Lamont Geissinger, Associate Secretary of the General Board of Lay Activities representing the Division of Church Schools, presented the Crusade emphasis on increased enrollment and attendance of membership in the church schools in the Area.

A number of periods were devoted to discussions in which the various Lay Leaders participated. The Retreat voted to support with vigor the total educational program for the period now starting and until December 31, 1948. Plans were consummated and a schedule of dates agreed upon. A series of churchmanship conferences was arranged to carry plans to the entire Area under the guidance of the Boards of Education.

One of the items of the program of the Retreat was, “Greetings to Bishop Richardson.” He was planning to be present throughout the Retreat. The entire group was deeply grieved when it was announced that Bishop Richardson had died. A memorial service led by Dr. James Buxton was conducted in his memory, for he had already become very dear to these leaders who just a few short months previously had lost their faithful and
Bishop Ernest G. Richardson

G. Stanley Lynch

BISHOP ERNEST G. RICHARDSON was not a native of America but was born in the West Indies, February 24, 1874. He was the son of a Wesleyan minister. At an early age he entered Dickinson College and paid his way through school by operating the book store. This doubtless was one of the reasons why he was always so interested in books.

Bishop Richardson was elected to the episcopacy in 1920 at the General Conference held in Des Moines, Iowa. Following that Conference, he was appointed to the Atlanta Area.

Those of us who have attended General Conferences and other Conference sessions where Bishop Richardson presided recall that the business was always conducted with efficiency and dispatch.

Bishop Richardson passed away on September 5, 1947. His funeral was held in the Arch Street Methodist Church of Philadelphia. Bishop Fred Pierce Corson was in charge and was assisted by Bishops Hughes, Welch, Hartman, Straughn, and Flint. Mrs. Richardson, the former Miss Anna E. Iseberg, survives and is now living in Philadelphia.

Bishop Richardson served our Philadelphia Area 16 years and was greatly beloved by all our people.

He was one of the great leaders of our Church.


A RESOURCEFUL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

In a recent communication from Dr. M. E. Van de Mark, Superintendent of the Glacier Park District, Montana Annual Conference, we note the following: "I am planning to emphasize the work of the Lay Leader in my first round of Quarterly Conferences. As preparation I plan to send them a copy of the booklet entitled 'Lay Activities 1945-1948' and ask them to report on their duties and plans for the year. This should get the work before the Quarterly Conference in a good way."

It is a wise District Superintendent who sees clearly just what a wonderful lay potential he has in the various Lay Leaders of his District. These men are related not only to the local church but to the Conference and General Board of Lay Activities and are being informed regularly concerning the work for which they are responsible. An invitation to report on their duties and a request for their plans for lay activities for the Conference year should bring forth a fine expression of devotion to the cause.
Luther Albert C. Richardson, resident bishop of the Methodist Church in the United States, and vice-president of the Division of Home Mission, who has served on the Board of Missions and Church Extension of the Methodist Church, will be the keynote speaker at the session of the North Carolina Annual Conference, to be held in the Fifth Avenue Methodist Church, New York City, on Sunday, November 8.

Prior to the reorganization of the board, he served for a number of years as president of the Home Mission Board of the Methodist Episcopal Church and was responsible for administering its work throughout the United States, Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico. Several years ago, under Richardson's leadership, a trip around the world in behalf of missionary interests was sponsored by the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Before his election to the presidency of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in 1926, he served as president of Connecticut and New York City, during which time he served prominent leadership in church affairs.

Born in the state of Ohio, where Richardson received his college education in the church school, he is a graduate of Bucknell College, Candia, New Hampshire, and holds the degrees of Doctor of Divinity, Doctor of Laws, and Doctor of Science. He is from New York University.
Bishop Ernest C. Richardson, resident bishop of the Methodist Church in the Philadelphia area, is vice-president of the Division of Home Missions and Church Extension of the newly organized Board of Missions and Church Extension of the church. Prior to his election as bishop he served for a number of years as head of the home mission board of the Methodist Episcopal Church and was prominent in administering its work throughout the United States, Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico. Several years ago Bishop Richardson made a trip around the world on behalf of missionary interests.

He is a forceful and inspiring speaker.

Before his election to the episcopacy of the Methodist Episcopal denomination in 1930, Bishop Richardson served pastorate in Connecticut and New York City, during which time he assumed prominent leadership in church affairs.

Born in the West Indies, Bishop Richardson received his college education in this country. He is a graduate of Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pa., and holds his master's degree from Yale. Dickinson conferred a Doctor of Divinity degree upon him and his LL.D. degree is from Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn.