DENNY, BISHOP COLLINS
Denny, Collins, Bishop

University of Virginia Library

Many papers still in possession of
son Collis Denny, Jr., Attorney,
Travelers Bldg., Richmond, Va.

11/15/63 L.P.
North Carolina Conference taught a course on "The Methodist Church" at a standard Leadership Training School in Waynesville, May 3-7.

Bishop Edwin H. Hughes was the guest speaker at a series of services May 3-9, at First Church, Anniston, Ala.

Bishop Collins Denny

Death ends long career of distinguished churchman

Richmond, Va.—Bishop Collins Denny, retired, a distinguished churchman, died at his home here May 12. He would have been eighty-nine on May 28.

Bishop Denny was born in Winchester, Va., and attended Princeton University and the University of Virginia, receiving A.B., A.M., and LL.B. degrees. He practiced law in Baltimore for two years before joining the Baltimore Conference in 1880. By episcopal appointment, he visited the Asian missions of his church in 1886-87. Returning to America, he became a member of the University of Virginia in 1889, leaving there in 1892 to become professor of mental and moral philosophy at Vanderbilt.

In 1894 he was a General Conference delegate—the first of five times before his election to the episcopacy—and served as acting secretary of the Conference. The same year he became a member of the Book Committee, and four years later was named its chairman—a post he held until 1910, when he was elected a bishop.

In 1908 Bishop Denny served as fraternal delegate to the Methodist Episcopal Church's General Conference in Baltimore. Surviving are his son, Collins Denny, Jr., of Richmond, and four daughters: Mrs. J. A. Williams, president of the Eastern Shore District in the Virginia Conference; Mrs. E. E. Vann, of New York; Mrs. R. L. White, of Richmond; and Mrs. Ida White, of Ann Arbor, Mich.

After the report of the committee on ministerial supply and training was presented by Rev. L. P. Bland, Rev. H. M. Spinks presented the conference director of the work, Dr. N. L. Latham. In connection with the Christian education report by Rev. W. R. Reed, Rev. H. H. Smith, Jr., Conference director of adult and rural work, addressed the group. The principal speaker of the conference session was President J. Earl Mondell of Randolph-Macon College.

The retired ministers were introduced to the congregation, and Rev. J. N. Latham was re-elected district lay leader. Resolutions requesting the return of Bishop Peele and Dr. Bell to their respective dioceses were introduced and passed. The conference voted to hold its next session at Monroe.

Western North Carolina
First Church, Charlotte, pays $82,000 on its indebtedness

By E. D. B. Brewer Charlotte, N. C.—First church in this city, where Rev. G. Ray Jordan is pastor, paid $82,700 on the church debt since last Conference. In the same period 300 members have been added. The church has been paid on World Service, $64 collected for the Homeless Child, $172 contributed to Brevard College and $1,472 given to the Children's Home. The church also has its Conference claimants, Episcopal Fund, and district superintendent's fund paid for the entire Conference year.

The Rev. Henry Hitt Crane, pastor of Central Church, Danbury, led a preaching mission at Wadesboro church May 7, and delivered the address at the Charlotte District Conference in Monroe on May 7. The Rev. Charles P. Bowles is the pastor of the Wadesboro church.

A training school for Christian workers.
COLLINS DENNY JR.,
A SEGREGATIONIST

Attorney for Prince Edward in Integration Suits Dies

Special to The New York Times

RICHMOND, Jan. 15—Collins Denny Jr., chief counsel for the school board of Prince Edward County, died yesterday at his home, Monacan, an old Huguenot plantation, in nearby Powhatan County. He was 64 years old.

Since 1959, Prince Edward has been the only county in the United States without a public school system as the result of efforts to desegregate the schools. Under a plan worked out last summer with the assistance of President Kennedy and his brother, Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy, a private system was set up for Negro children after they had been without classroom training for four years.

Mr. Denny was the driving force behind the many maneuvers in the Virginia General Assembly to thwart the Supreme Court's desegregation order.

Opposed Court Stand

During four days in the Federal District Court in Richmond, in July, 1961, he defended the Prince Edward School Board from an action designed to force the reopening of the public schools and the admission of Negro children.

"I partake of the vices and virtues of my people," he remarked during one of the trial recesses. "Had I not been led into this fight because of my strong aversion to the Supreme Court's usurpation of legislative power, I, in all probability, would have gotten into it because of my racial views."

Mr. Denny was born on June 30, 1899, in Nashville in a family that lived and believed in all the traditions of the pre-Civil War South. At one time his father, a Methodist Bishop, fought against the reunification of the Southern and Northern wings of his church with the same degree of anti-Northern prejudice that his son displayed in his personal battle against integration.

The church was divided during the Civil War and reunited in 1912. Young Denny attended Mercer Academy and graduated from the University of Virginia in 1924. He received his law degree from the University of Virginia in 1928.

Defended Tradition

Early in his law career he won the reputation of being a believer in the established Southern order of race relations.

He was a founding member of the Dunbar of State Sovereignty and Individual Liberty, the Virginia version of the White Citizens Councils.

Mr. Denny was a tall, spare, lean-featured man with close-cropped gray hair, stern blue eyes and a vibrant baritone voice. He wore a hearing aid and perhaps because of this his voice would rise to the high pitch.

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Mr. Denny was a tall, spare, lean-necked man with close-cropped gray hair, stern blue eyes and a vibrant baritone voice. He wore a hearing aid, perhaps because of this, his voice often rose to the high decibels.

Politically, he was a Byrd Democrat, a follower of Senator Harry F. Byrd, the conservative maven of Virginia politics. Mr. Denny voted for the Republican nominees in the last three presidential elections.

Despite his outspoken opposition, his friends did not identify him as a racist. They said he had many friends whom he regarded with affection and respect. The family requested that in lieu of flowers contributions be made to the Prince Edward Free School Association or the Virginia Education Fund, the two private school systems in the county.

Mr. Denny is survived by his widow, the former Rebecca Miller; two sons, Collins 3d and Clifford, and four sisters, Mrs. Elizabeth Vann, Mrs. Lucy Slosson, Mrs. Edith White and Mrs. Margaret Dixon.
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Mr. Denny was a chief counselor for the school board of Prince Edward County and was active in efforts to thwart the Supreme Court's desegregation order in the county. He was a proponent of separate schools for whites and Negroes.

Mr. Denny was born in Nashville. His father, a Methodist bishop in Virginia, fought against reunification of the Northern and Southern wings of his church. The Methodist Church was divided in the Civil War and reunited in 1939. Denny was a graduate of Princeton University and received his law degree at the University of Virginia.

He was a founding member of the Defenders of State Sovereignty and Individual Liberties, the Virginia version of the White Citizens Councils.

Surviving are his wife, the former Rebecca Miller; two sons, Collins Jr., and Robert; and two daughters, Dr. Rebecca Miller and Virginia Denny.
 COLLINS DENNY JR.  
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As reported in The New York Times

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Since 1939, Prince Edward had been the only county in the United States without a public school system as the result of attempts to segregate the races.

White children attend a system of private schools. Under a plan worked out last summer with the assistance of President Kennedy and his brother, Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy, a private system was set up for Negro children after they had been without classroom training for four years.

Mr. Denny was the driving force behind the many measures in the Virginia General Assembly to thwart the Supreme Court's desegregation order.

Opposed Court Stand

During four days in the Federal District Court in Richmond, in July, 1961, he defended the Prince Edward School Board from an action designed to force the reopening of the public schools to Negro children.

"Imagine the shock of my people" he once remarked during one of the trials. "Had I not been led into this fight because of my standing as a Negro in Virginia for the admission of Negro children to public schools?"

Mr. Denny was a tall, lean, features man with cropped gray hair, stern blue eyes and a vibrant Virginia voice. He wore a tailored suit and perhaps because of this his voice often rose to the high notes.

Politically, he was a loyal Democrat. A follower of Senator Harry F. Byrd, the conservative trumpet of Virginia politics, Mr. Denny voted for the Republican nominees in the last three presidential elections.

Despite his outspoken opposition to integration, his friends did not identify him as a racist. They said he had many Negro friends, whom he regarded with affection.

Mr. Denny is survived by his wife, the former Rebecca Clifford; two sons, Collins 3d and Clifford; and four grandsons, Mrs. Elizabeth Vann, Mrs. Lucy Blount, Mrs. Edith White and Mrs. Margaret Denny.  

Early in his legal career he was the promoter of being a "sausage"—the established classification of man at that time.

He was a founder member of the Defenders of State Sovereignty and Individual Liberty, a coalition of the White Citizens Councils.

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