GATTINONI, BISHOP JOHN
ERMETTE
I was born in Italy on July 24, 1878. At the age of five I entered the kindergarten, but the following year my parents came to Argentina, where I have spent the rest of my life. Here I completed the primary grades, and at the age of twelve began to learn the carpenter's trade, which was also the trade of my father. I continued studying, however, in night schools in order to round out the training I needed for my chosen work.

My parents had settled in the city of Chivilcoy, in the province of Buenos Aires, and there I lived until I was nineteen. They brought me up in a Roman Catholic home, but their form of religion hardly penetrated below my skin. I liked to be considered an unbeliever. I was about sixteen when a friend took me to hear the preaching of the Gospel in the Methodist Episcopal Church. I did not understand much of what I heard, but I returned again and again, making friends among the people who attended the services and growing more and more deeply interested. I was about seventeen when I felt a deep desire to surrender myself to the Lord, and from that moment I was conscious of an intimate inward relation with Christ. Directly upon my conversion there was born in me an ardent desire to carry to my neighbors the knowledge of the source of spiritual riches which I had found. This desire drove me to the Bible and to every other useful book I could secure, in order that I might impart to others the new light which I had discovered.

That was a time when different philosophical and religious tendencies struggled for supremacy in Argentina. Atheism was rampant (although few understood what it meant, everybody talked about it); anarchism was rife among the workers; and the Roman Catholics, although they were losing much of their power, did everything they could, in their own ways, to gain the upper hand. This situation awakened in me a combative and controversial spirit. I used to go out into the public squares with my Bible and with religious tracts written for the purpose of refuting atheism, anarchism, and Catholicism. I learned by heart the arguments by which I could defend myself from my adversaries.
The tracts were the opening wedge; they were like a spark to set off the flame of discussion. How happy I was in those debates! I cultivated satire and irony,—a form of discussion which I had learned in a Roman Catholic school which I attended for a time after finishing the primary grades. These are methods which I can no longer approve.

The anarquists were the ones who were most difficult to overthrow; and even though I was generally defeated, I would never admit it. My defeat was only a fresh stimulus to read and study the books which would provide new arguments against my opponents, many of whom were personally my friends. This was how I spent the holidays and moments of leisure.

I was about eighteen when I decided to go to Buenos Aires to complete my training as a carpenter. There I joined Third Church, and later our church in Barracas. I was granted a Local Preacher's license and made a teacher in the Sunday School. I was often invited to preach in some service and in the public "plazas".

In order to prepare myself better for life and to increase my knowledge, I enrolled in a night school to study bookkeeping and other subjects.

After a year in the city, I felt the call to give my life to the service of the Lord. I went to the Rev. Andrew M. Runem, Agent of the American Bible Society, and offered to begin work as a colporteur.

Mr. Runem accepted me, gave me many wise counsels, and put me in the care of a veteran colporteur named John Suarez. Suarez was a very curious individual, most original in his ways, most extraordinary in the way he could sell books. Every day he sold out his stock of scriptures.

If contentious spirit, on the other hand, made me lose time in a fruitless discussion, and I raged nothing; and, selling nothing, I learned nothing. I left Buenos Aires with a black suit; I returned with a green one, not because it was new, but because it had changed its color.

And so after a year's work I confessed defeat. I thought the call I had heard was nothing but an illusion and deceit. Just as Simon, after the death of Jesus, said, "I go fishing," so I said to myself, "John, back to the carpenter's bench!"
But God had other plans for me. Carpenter's work was scarce, and I found employment in an office. I soon gained the confidence of the head of this commercial house, and my financial future seemed to be assured. My new work left me considerable time for work as a layman in the church and for study. I was altogether happy in this position, when suddenly a cloud arose on the horizon and for a time covered the sky of my life. On June 24, 1901, the Rev. John Robles, pastor of the church in Barracas, Buenos Aires, invited me to his home. There he said to me: "I have a letter from Dr. Greenman, District Superintendent, who tells me there is a scholarship awaiting you in the theological seminary, and he hopes you may go at once to begin your studies." It was a terrible moment for me. I thought of my former illusory call and of the failure I had suffered. I asked myself, "Is not this another diabolical form of deception, which will make me lose the promising position I have? My work leaves time for work in the church. Would I not fail again in the ministry?"

As I listened to the fatherly exhortation of Mr. Robles, my doubts were like a tempestuous sea. I asked for two weeks in which to give my answer. It was a fortnight of real agony. I prayed to God with deep earnestness that He would show me the way I should go. I did not wish to refuse His call, nor did I want to be deceived again. After the two weeks were gone, I asked for ten days more. I found it almost impossible to decide. The displeasure it would cause my parents, the financial aspect of it, the fear of failure, all joined to make my decision most difficult and painful. The sermons I heard and the books I read only served to increase my torment. At last I resolved to accept the invitation; and making my preparations, I left at the end of July for the Seminary.

The financial problem seemed to me especially difficult, for my savings were very small and were soon gone. After a few months in the Seminary, I was offered the place of janitor in our nearby church. I took the place gladly and gratefully, for though I received only ten pesos a month, this small sum covered my personal expenses during the
four years of study in the Seminary. During the vacations I was supply pastor in the churches of Mercedes and Chacabuco, some two hours apart on the Pacific railroad, and thus I earned my board. When I entered the Seminary it was with the firm conviction that during the months of study nothing should be allowed to interfere with my preparation for the pastorate. For the same reason I avoided all "entangling alliances" with the young women of our congregations. But during my fourth year I relaxed a bit (and thank God for that!). A girl of English parents succeeded in drawing me out from that hermit-like existence, we came to understand one another, we became engaged, and on March 2, 1906, we were married. From that moment I began to do things better. My wife was a wise counsellor, the most severe critic of my sermons, and the exemplary mother of my children. She has suffered and rejoiced with me, "for better, for worse," always courageous, never complaining, never discouraged by any circumstance.

After finishing my Seminary studies, I was pastor successively in Mercedes (Uruguay), Junin and Chacabuco (Argentina). In 1911 Bishop Bristol appointed me to Central Church in Montevideo. The following year the theological seminary was transferred to Montevideo, and I was asked to take charge of a number of classes. This work of teaching has been a great blessing to me through the years, for it has obliged me to go on studying and searching. During my pastorate in Montevideo we were able to complete the church. It stands upon a strategic corner as a permanent testimony to the faith of Uruguayan Methodists. A picture of it may be found on page 82 of Dr. Diffendorfer's report, "A Voyage of Discovery."

In 1919 our much loved Bishop Odhem appointed me a delegate to the Centenary celebration in Columbus, Ohio, as a representative of Uruguay.

In 1921 I was transferred to Second Church, Buenos Aires. After nine years as pastor of this church, Bishop Miller appointed me Superintendent of the Districts of Buenos Aires and Uruguay. During the same period I was continually teaching in the Seminary, which had been transferred again to Buenos Aires.
Through the kindness of my brethren in the ministry, I have had the privilege of attending all the Central Conferences which have been held since 1924.

In 1922 Bishop Miller appointed me again pastor of Second Church, Buenos Aires, which had just undertaken the building of a new church. A picture of the completed structure may be seen on page 63 of Dr. Diffendorfer's report.

In the same year (1932) Bishop Miller, resident bishop for South and Central America, after making three appointments, was obliged to enter the hospital for an operation on the 6th of January, the very day that our East South America Annual Conference met in annual session. The Conference had to elect its president, and the honor fell to me. All the pastors cooperated splendidly in the work of the Conference.

It was during that Conference that the question of the election of a Bishop was raised, since the Central Conference would meet the following month in Santiago de Chile. The date was fixed for proposing candidates. In the meantime I was approached by several pastors, who surprised me by saying, "We believe that you should be a candidate for the episcopacy." As was only natural, I smiled at them for such an idea and plainly told them not to think of such a thing. It had never passed through my mind. They presented a series of reasons for my acceptance of the candidacy. I insisted that I could not. When the hour came for naming candidates, my name appeared again. I asked my brethren in the Conference to count me out, for I did not feel able to carry such a load. We gave ourselves for a time to prayer. When the voting was resumed, my name appeared again in the list, and I protested. But it was pointed out that we had been praying and asking God for His guidance, and that I should not stand in the way. From that moment I maintained silence, hoping that God would free me from this thorn which my brethren—though with much love—were placing in my flesh. God did not free me from it. As it turned out during the year 1932, I had to occupy three positions at the same time: pastor, district superintendent and bishop.
To add to all these surprises, on May 7, 1933, during the service of consecration of the new Central Church, Buenos Aires, and after reading the ritual, Bishop Miller said, "I have a surprise for Bishop Cattinoni." (Let me confess my sin. I thought the Bishop would surprise us with several thousand dollars to cover the debt on our church!)

"I have the honor," he went on to say," of announcing to you and to this congregation that the famous Willamette University, the first university founded in the great Northwest of the United States, has entrusted to me the task of conferring upon you the degree of 'Doctor of Divinity.'" I hardly dare mention this unmerited honor. I have done nothing to justify it. I have only tried, in whatever position I was placed, to do my duty as I saw it. But I am bound to express my gratitude to Bishop Miller and Bishop Lowe, as also to the President of the University, Dr. Carl G. Doney.

To whom do I owe all these distinctions? First of all, to God; then to the Methodist Episcopal Church, which proclaimed to me the Gospel of Christ, a Gospel which changed the whole plan of my life.

I have given my life to the Church, in order to contribute my part to the establishment of the Kingdom of God among men. Whatever may be the place which God assigns to me in the future, I shall do my part with all faithfulness, whether on the mountain top or in the plain; for the work of God is to be found among men who need Christ, for all are sinners who need redemption. The positions we occupy represent different responsibilities only in form; all tend toward the same great end, the salvation of the world.

My prayer is this: that God may bless the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which I form a part; that He may preserve in her a fire of divine enthusiasm, to the end that she may faithfully fulfill her task of awakening a personal Christian experience in the hearts of men.
Caption for picture of Bishops at Latin American Central Conference at Santiago, Chile -- Nov. 2-9, 1952

Left to right:

Bishop Juan E. Gattinoni (retired bishop of the L.A. Central Conference)
Bishop Julio M. Sabanes (newly elected bishop of the L.A. Central Conf.)
Bishop Enrique E. Balloch (retired at this session)
Bishop W. Angie Smith (representative of the Council of Bishops from U.S.A.)
Bishop Canti Uberto Barbieri (reelected at this session)
Bishop Robert F. Finighan (retired bishop)
Longest in office of the four Methodist Bishops of Latin America is Bishop Juan Gattinoni, of the Buenos Aires area, who was elected in 1932. He is a man of evangelistic zeal, held in love and esteem by all his preachers. His area includes Argentina, Uruguay, and Bolivia. The membership is small, but its per capita giving is high, reaching last year an average per member of $13.50 in Argentina, and $16.90 in Uruguay. For over a decade, there has been no net gain in membership, the strength of the church being absorbed in its own support. But the tide now seems to be turning. Aided by small financial grants from the Board of Missions, a general evangelistic campaign is being carried on with enthusiasm. Protracted meetings are being held in every church, and a large use is made of the secular press, tracts and pamphlets, and radio. Freely given cooperation of secular newspapers in inland towns is especially gratifying.

By A.W. Warren in Ana. Xian Adv. 2/17/43
Women of some forty Methodist Episcopal churches in Oil City and in the surrounding communities of the Brookville and Grove City Districts of the denomination, are planning to send delegations to the special missionary meetings to be held in Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church, Oil City on Friday, March 27. They will also attend other meetings at which visitors from South America will speak in the same community.

Members of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, which has auxiliaries in these churches, are especially interested in this "Mission of Fellowship from South America" of which the women's meeting is a part. These auxiliaries are helping to support the missionary work which Methodism has carried on in Chile, Peru, Bolivia, Argentina and Uruguay during the past one hundred years.

Two women members of the South America fellowship will tell of the work of the Methodist Episcopal Church on that continent, and picture the changing condition of womanhood there during recent years. They are Mrs. Margaret Ross Miller, wife of Bishop George A. Miller of Santiago, Chile, and Mrs. Minnie E. Gattinoni, wife of Bishop Juan E. Gattinoni, of Buenos Aires, Argentina. Mrs. Miller will speak on "Women Under the Southern Cross," which is also the title of a book she wrote in 1928; and Mrs. Gattinoni will speak on "Women's Work for Women."

Mrs. Miller has shared Bishop Miller's journeys and his service as minister-interpreter of North to South, and of South to North. She
has been especially active in work among the women of Chile. She was born in California, and educated at Leland Stanford University.

Mrs. Gattinoni was born in England, and removed to Argentina at the age of five. She was educated in Methodist and government schools in Buenos Aires, and was a teacher in Nicholas Lowe Institute. After her marriage to Dr. Gattinoni, she helped in the educational work of the churches of which he was pastor. Mrs. Gattinoni is the mother of a wonderful family of ten children, one of whom is a Methodist minister. She was for years president and is now the honorary president of the Methodist Federation of Women in Argentina.

The Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church, under the auspices of which the "Mission of Fellowship from South America" is visiting this region, carries on not only religious work but medical and educational services as well in the southern continent. Its Santiago College for girls has pioneered in the emancipation of Latin womanhood and stands at the head of women's colleges south of the Rio Grande. Other colleges and secondary schools for boys and girls have been leaders in the educational field. It has pioneered also in medical and school service for the neglected Indian population of the highlands and for the peons on the farms and estates.

"The influence of women in every sphere of life is increasing in the more progressive republics of South America," says Mrs. Miller. Everywhere men have come to a new respect for women as contributors to our advancing civilization. Women are interested in international peace ideals and in other educational ideals such as are shared by the best-trained women of the United States. The winds of intellectual freedom and advance are today blowing in through the windows of state universities and evangelical missionary schools."
A "Mission of Fellowship from South America," consisting of six prominent church leaders from that continent, will visit Cincinnati, and vicinity on Sunday and Monday, April 26 and 27, and speak at a number of meetings especially arranged for them. The meetings are for all Methodists throughout the Cincinnati district, of which Rev. James R. Cooper, of Cincinnati, is superintendent.

The visiting deputation consists of Bishop and Mrs. Joaquin R. Rettig, of Buenos Aires, Argentina; Mr. Marta Espinoza, of Montevideo, Brazil; Mr. Henry L. Mott, of Barquisimeto, Venezuela; Mr. Joseph M. C. de la Higuera, of Lima; and Mr. John H. M. Wilkes, of Lima. Their mission of fellowship is in celebration of the first one hundred years of missionary work of the Methodist Episcopal Church in South America. It was in 1826 that the Rev. John Wagner, a prominent pioneer in the mission work, rendered the visitation of the mission, in excess of all.
wood Church, Cincinnati; Mr. Bell, Oakley Church, Cincinnati; Dr. Jacob, Hartwell Church, Cincinnati. Also in the evening there will be a rally of young people from the Sunday schools and youth groups of the district, held at the Oakley Church, Cincinnati. The speakers will be Mr. Forrest and Dr. Bell.

The program of Monday, April 27, will include sessions of ministers, laymen and laity of Cincinnati and vicinity. At 1:15 p.m. in Grace Church, Hortwood, all the speakers will address these meetings.

At 7:45, Monday evening, a men meeting for the ministers and elders, will be held in Oakley Church, Cincinnati. The attendant officers will preside, and the speakers will be Mr. Forrest and Dr. Bell.

In their major addresses, Mr. Gattinoni will speak on "The Brother of the North"; Mr. Gattinoni on "Men's Work for Women"; Mr. Howard on "The religious awakening of the Gallican youth"; Mr. Forrest on "Our Children's Church"; Dr. Jacob on "Our Christian To-Day"; Mr. Bell on "Our Youth Movement in Cincinnati." They will speak on other related topics before special groups. There will also be opportunities for questions and discussions.

Finally, just before closing, the assembly will be closed with songs of the members of the Gallican church, in an emphasis of the recognition of the International Alliance of Christian Women, furthering the cause and the principles of the Alliance.
Central Conference of Latin America. He was re-elected for a four-year

term in February, 1935.

Mrs. Minnie G. Cattaloni, wife of the Bishop, was born in England,
and removed to Argentina at the age of five. She was educated in Metho-
dist and government schools in Buenos Aires, and was a teacher in
Nicolas Love Institute. She was for years the president and is now the
honorary president of the Methodist Federation of Women in Argentina.

The Rev. Daniel S. Hurl is pastor of the Central Church (Spanish)
of Montevideo, Uruguay, as a youth he was an active lay worker, and in
1921 joined the East South America Conference. He was pastor in Buenos
Aires, in Concordia, and in Cordoba before appointment to Montevideo.
He has translated many Christian books from English to Spanish.

Dr. George H. Morrow, evangelist to the studying youth and the
educated classes, makes a unique contribution to the evangelical movement
in South America. Born in Argentina, the son of Methodist missionaries,
educated in Argentina and at the Northwestern University and Garrett
Theological Institute, he is equally fluent in English and in Spanish. He
understands the Latin psychology, and is an outstanding interpreter of
evangelical Christianity to the Latin. His lectures on religious and
moral questions drew large crowds as he traveled his continent-wide cir-


cuit.
time of his election to the episcopacy, he was pastor of First Methodist Episcopal Church, Santiago, and superintendent of the Central District of the Chile Annual Conference. He visited the United States in 1926 and in 1928 as a delegate to General Conference.

Dr. Torregrossa is a leader of the younger evangelical ministers of Chile. He is pastor of the largest church in the city of Concepción, and superintendent of the Concepción District.
BISHOP JUAN E. GATTINONI
Buenos Aires
Argentina

CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION
Preceding Bishop
The Rev. Edgar Blake—Bishop of the Detroit Area
Pastor of Host Church
The Rev. Allen B. Rice
District Superintendents
THE REVEREND REMONT E. FRIBBLEY, Ft. Wayne District
THE REVEREND CLYDE G. VOFMANS, Kokomo District
THE REVEREND FRANK K. DAUGHERTY, Muncie District
THE REVEREND TREFLAND A. HALL, Richmond District
THE REVEREND HURRELL O. LESTER, Wabash District
THE REV. FRANK W. T. MARTIN, Warsaw District
Conference Secretary—
The Reverend Samuel L. Yoeller, Elwood
Conference Treasurer—
The Reverend A. Wesley Pugh, Noblesville
Conference Registrar—
The Reverend True S. Haddock, Dunkirk
Conference Auditor—
The Reverend Edgar L. Jones, Latonia
Conference Statistician—
The Reverend Clyde Miller, Middletown
Conference Music
DIRECTOR—The Reverend Floyd Seelig, Pendleton.
ORGANIST—Mrs. Ethel Sough, Kokomo.
Assistant Organist—Mrs. Schnell and Mrs. Johnson.
CHOR DIRECTOR—Mrs. W. E. Jack.

CONFERENCE PROGRAM
(Central Standard Time)

Monday Afternoon, April 14
1:00 p.m. Board of Examiners—W. B. Freeland, Dean

Tuesday Afternoon, April 15
Opening Conference Session
1:30 Devotions—Bishop Blake

Wednesday Afternoon, April 15
Morning Conference Session

MEMORIAL SERVICE
In Memoriam
JOHN J. McCRORY
EMORY M. DUNBAR
FRANCIS J. MCBRIDE
RICHARD M. MONTGOMERY
MRS. H. A. BROWN
MRS. CORPUS ALLEN, PHILIPSP
MRS. NICHOLAS M. MANN
MRS. MUNRO B. MANN

Memorial Service—"Saluting Life"—The Rev. Earl Pranger
First Church, Kokomo

Friday Evening at Grace Church
Music by Musicians of Kokomo
Memorial Service—"Jesus, Lover of My Soul"—Kokomo

PROGRAM

Friday Morning, April 17
8:00 Devotions—Bishop Blake
9:00 United Business Session
Combined Report of District Superintendents
12:15 luncheon
12:30 Assembly
12:40—Asbury College Luncheon
1-2:00 Veterans of the Cross Luncheon—Main St. Church

Friday Afternoon
2:00 United Business Session
Reception of World Service Commission
Charles P. Hanger and T. J. Barmes
Dr. T. L. Couple, Rev. P. J. White, President
Prayer
Rev. James C. Bean
Morning
Rev. W. S. Hoyt
1:00—Bible Baptist—1st Presbyterian Church

Friday Evening at Grace Church
Music by Musicians of Kokomo
Memorial Service—"Jesus, Lover of My Soul"—Kokomo

Rev. Wm. Arnold, President
Rev. Fred Hill
"Broken Baskets"—Dr. M. S. Rice
Memorial Methodist Church, Detroit, Mich.
Agnes Lee Smith, organist. Mrs. Loren E. Goodyear, pianist.

1. Jolly Fellow W. Rhys-Herbert
   A Toast.................. Francis Adams
   Morning.................. Oley Speaks
   The Meistersingers

2. Selected—
   Mr. Newell Schmalzried, Tenor
   Bless This House........ May Brabe
   Holy Art Thou........... Handel
   The Meistersingers

3. Selected—
   *Mr. George M. Cameron
   Kentucky Babe......... Adam Geibel
   Plztation............. Steiner
   That’s Why Darkies Were Born
   The Meistersingers

4. Selected—
   Male Quartet
   The Radiant Morn Hath Passed Away H. F. Holden
   On The Sea...... Dudley Buck
   In A Monastery Garden (Chant Of The Monks)... Ketelle
   The Meistersingers

5. Selected—
   Song of The Marching Men Proctor
   *Dear Land of Home (from the Tone Poem “Findlund”)... Sibelius
   The Meistersingers

6. Selected—
   *Mr. George M. Cameron our most valued singer. a
   true Scowman pass eighty-one years of age.
   *Special piano and organ accompaniment

   The Meistersingers, founded November, 1913, were organized
   in Kokomo, Indiana, January 18, 1913, for the purpose
   of promoting group singing, a greater musical appreciation,
   understanding and interest in the moral and spiritual improve-
   ment of the community. It is non-sectarian and non-political.

   BISHOP JOHN L.
   NUELS
   Zurich,
   Switzerland

   Wednesday Evening

   7:15 Program of Music by Kokomo Spiritual Harmonizers
   * The Old Ship of Zion.
   Good news.
   My Lord what A morning.
   Let the church roll on.
   Hard trials.
   Sit down.
   King Jesus is listening
   Swing low sweet chariot.
   Heavy load.
   Climbing up the mountain.
   My good Lord’s done been here.
   Good by.
   7:45 Allen B. Rice Presiding
   Address—“New Frontiers in Christian Education”
   Dr. W. W. Whitehouse. Dean of Albion College.
   Albion, Mich.

   Thursday Morning, April 16

   8:30 Devotions.................. Bishop Blake
   9:00 Conference Business Session
   Conference Organization
   Address of Welcome........... Rev. Rees
   Vice Pres. of Kokomo Ministerial Association
   Response for Conference....... Bishop Blake
   Introduction of Kokomo Ministerial Assn. by Dr. Kemper
   10:00 Laymen Association at Grace Church for Program
   see page 8
   10:30 Annual Meeting of Preacher’s Aid Society
   12:15 Adjournment of Conference

   Thursday Afternoon

   2:00—John Anniversary
   Women’s Foreign Missionary Society, Mrs. W. Moreike
   Women’s Home Missionary Society, Mrs. Fred Thorp
   "A Centenary Nobody Knows” Bishop Gros. A. Miller
   Cheli, S. A.
   “Women Under the Southern Cross,” Mrs. Geo. A. Miller
   Cheli, S. A.
   “Women’s Work for Women” Mrs. Juan L. Gutierrez
   Buenos Aires
   4:00—Evangelistic Hour........... Rev. A. P. Teter Presiding
   Prayer...................... Rev. R. G. Plank
   “It Must”........................ Dr. M. S. Rice
   5:40—Taylor University Banquet 1st Presbyterian Church

   Thursday Evening

   * 14—Music by Taylor University Choir
   Professor R. F. Kretz, Director
   Mr. Heid, As Pastor (Redemption)
   Blessed Jesus on the Mount (Nabivi Martry)
   Nderk
   Swithin, The Hush Born (Messiah)
   Handel
   Open Our Eyes............ McClean
   Mixed Chorus
   Return Ye.................. Soper
   The Vesper Hymn........... John Betsold
   God so Loved the World... Russian Air
   Bless the Lord.............. Handel
   Alleluia! Christ is Risen
   Mixed Chorus.............. Kopshoff
NEW YORK (UMI) -- Bishop Juan E. Gattinoni, 91, the first South American to be elected a Methodist bishop, died January 7 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Since retiring from the episcopacy in 1945, he had made his home with a daughter in the Buenos Aires suburb of Ramos Mejia.

Prior to Bishop Gattinoni's election by the Latin America Methodist Central Conference in 1932, all Methodist bishops in Latin America had been North Americans, either elected in Latin America or assigned by the church in the United States.

The first bishop of the newly-formed (in October) autonomous Methodist Church of Argentina is Bishop Carlos T. Gattinoni, eldest son of the late bishop.

Born in Italy July 24, 1878, Bishop Gattinoni emigrated with his family to Argentina at the age of six. At 12 he began to learn carpentry and study at night school. He became an Evangelical (Protestant) Sunday school teacher, local preacher and colporteur.

At 24 Bishop Gattinoni enrolled at Union Theological Seminary in Buenos Aires. After graduation, he entered the Methodist ministry and was pastor of leading churches in Argentina and Uruguay. At the time of his election to the episcopacy, he was a district superintendent in Argentina.

For 13 years, Bishop Gattinoni served as episcopal leader of Methodism in Argentina, Uruguay and Bolivia. After retiring he was for a time advisor and preacher on the Union Theological Seminary faculty, as well as a member of its board of directors. He had taught at the seminary before becoming a bishop.

Bishop Gattinoni received the honorary doctor of divinity degree from Methodist-related Willamette University, Salem, Oreg., in 1933. He served as a representative of Methodism in Uruguay at the celebration of the Centenary of Methodist Missions in Columbus, Ohio, in 1919.

He is survived by two daughters and eight sons.

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(January 13, 1970)
BISHOP JUAN B. GATTINONI

Bishop Juan B. Gattinoni, the first South American to be elected a bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church, is an embodiment of the romance of recent migration to that continent. Born in Italy, on July 24, 1876, he was taken to Argentina at the age of six. At twelve, he began to learn carpentry, and studied in the night schools. He became an Evangelical Sunday school teacher, a local preacher, and then a colporteur.

At 24, he entered Union Theological Seminary in Buenos Aires. He held important pastorates in Argentina and Uruguay under the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Dr. Gattinoni was a district superintendent when elected a bishop in 1952 by the Central Conference of Latin America. He was re-elected for a four-year term in February, 1955.

In 1955 Willamette University conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity.

Bishop Gattinoni was married on March 2, 1906. His wife, Gattinoni was born in England, and removed to Argentina at the age of five. She was educated in Methodist and government schools in Buenos Aires, and was a teacher in Nicholas Lowe Institute. After her marriage to Dr. Gattinoni, she helped in the educational work of the church, in which she was active. She and Bishop Gattinoni were the parents of a devoted family of two children. One of them is a Methodist deacon. Mrs. Gattinoni was for 30 years president and is now the honorary president of the Methodist Federation of Women in Argentina.
Photographs from this file have not been included but are available upon request. For more information please contact research@gcah.org