

**KELLY, BISHOP EDWARD  
WENDELL**

Central Christian  
Advocate Sept 15, 1964

### Bishop Kelly Dies

Funeral rites for retired Bishop Edward Wendell Kelly, Sr., were conducted July 31, in Scott Memorial Church, Detroit, Mich., with retired Bishop Matthew W. Clair, Jr., of St. Louis, Mo., presiding at the services.

The eulogy for the 83-year-old prelate, who died Tuesday, July 28, was delivered by retired Bishop Marshall R. Reed.

Bishop Charles F. Golden of the Nashville-Carolina Area and the bishop's pastor, Dr. Clarence T. R. Nelson of Scott Memorial Church added remarks.

Bishop Kelly, a native of Texas, served as pastor of charges in Marshall, Galveston, and Dallas, Scott Church, Detroit, and Union Memorial Church, St. Louis, Mo., before he was elected to the episcopacy in 1944.

He served eight years as resident bishop of the St. Louis Area before retiring in 1952 at which time he went to Detroit to live.

Born December 27, 1880, in Mexia, Texas, Bishop Kelly attended Wiley College, Marshall, Texas. After graduation he taught in Comanche Public School, Ferris, Texas, before going to Waxahachie, Texas, to teach.

He married Miss Oma A. Burnett on December 25, 1902, and to this union one son was born. Mrs. Oma Kelly died in 1953.

In 1955 he married Mrs. Frances Cleaves Grant Kelly, who survives him.

He is also survived by his son, Dr. Edward W. Kelly, Jr., Detroit; two brothers, Harvey, Grand Rapids, Mich., and Andrew T., Atlanta, Ga.; a stepson, Aaron Piper, Detroit; and two grandsons, Burnett and Edward W. Kelly, III.

Honorary degrees had been conferred upon Bishop Kelly by three colleges—Philander Smith College, Little Rock, Ark., Gammon Theological Seminary, Atlanta, Ga., and Wiley College.

### Bishop E. W. Kelly Translated

Bishop Edward W. Kelly, retired, of Detroit, passed Tuesday, July 28, following an extended period of illness.

Elected to the episcopacy of The Methodist Church by the 1944 Central Jurisdictional Conference, Bishop Kelly was highly renowned for the strong persuasive preaching gifts with which he was endowed. These outstanding traits which he applied with a high degree of diligence had won for him a lofty place in the pastoral ministry prior to his elevation to the highest office of the Church.

His noble role as a pastor, yielding large fruition, was played in several of the denomination's most influential pulpits including Wesley Tabernacle, Galveston, Texas; Scott Church, Detroit, Mich.; and Union Memorial of St. Louis, Mo.

As a chief pastor he served with wide acceptance on the part of ministers and laymen for eight years in the former St. Louis Area.

Numbered among the most valuable contributions of his ministry are the men whom he inspired to sense and answer the call to preach. Evidences of the deeply seated impressions of the touch of his hand can be seen in the lives of many younger ministers who endeavored to emulate his manners.

Many of Bishop Kelly's colleagues in the Council of Bishops often said of him, that though he was a man of few words, whenever he spoke in the Council his judgments usually rendered decisive effects upon the members of the Council.

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## Arlington Session

associate with Morgan College as registrar, served as toastmaster. The Rev. Roscoe Williams, who shared this honor with Dr. Wilson, introduced Miss Ella Jenkins, a native of Harrisonburg, Va., whose knowledge of Bishop Love and parents was incomparable as the basic sources of his success in the Methodist ministry.

Bishop W. Vernon Middleton of the Western Pennsylvania Conference, was the main speaker. He spoke of his high regard for Bishop Love as a person, a Christian brother, a friend, and a bishop. Sharing the honor with her husband, was Mrs. Middleton who expressed her thoughts about Mrs. Love.

On Sunday morning, Bishop Love gave his closing message to the conference, using as a theme, *Preach the Word*.

Transfers of ministers to other conferences were announced by Bishop Love as follows: Raymond E. White to the Oregon Conference, and Nathaniel P. Perry, Louisiana Conference.

The Rev. James R. Cannon served as reporter of the conference.

### Ask Hero Burials for 3 Civil Rights Workers

Hero burials in Arlington National Cemetery for three young civil rights workers murdered in Mississippi were urged by a New York Protestant leader.

"These young men gave their lives in the cause of liberty as truly and heroically as any American ever has in war or in peace," said Dr. Dan M. Potter, executive director of the Protestant Council.

The churchman, preaching at Rockville Centre Presbyterian Church, Long Island, called on members of the congregation to communicate with President Johnson and New York Senators Kenneth B. Keating and Jacob K. Javits and request that Arlington Cemetery be

**T**HE METHODISTS have always had difficulty in actually being one people. Historically, they have divided again and again. Sometimes it has been over matters of polity; sometimes over differences of opinion upon pressing social issues; and sometimes merely for purposes of convenience in the operational life of the church. Today, despite unions that have been consummated, there are still some 40 bodies which bear the name of Methodist.

Perhaps this tendency to divide is to be expected in a church such as Methodism is. It has gone everywhere gladly preaching the Gospel. It has refused to confine its efforts to any one section of the country or the world. It has sought to address its appeal to all classes and conditions of men. Because it has gone everywhere and has had some measure of success in reaching all kinds of people, all shades of opinion are to be found within its membership, all measures of cultural attachments and all manner of conflicting loyalties.

On the other hand, so also there has been a strong tendency to unite, to coalesce, and to stay together.

The jurisdictional system, which in one form or another has marked every plan of Methodist union from the beginning, has been basically an

attempt to reconcile tendencies.

There is a some- position today to re- dictional system. v plan of union ad- only an unworthy signed purely as a gate permanently bership of The Me-

Undoubtedly th- whose acceptance made easier by the Central Jurisdiction who can recall th- cannot believe that reason or even th- for the devising of system.

Segregation in Church did not b- The pattern was a- in the M.E. Chur- Negro conferences '70s and the electi- eps on separate ba-

Doubtless the cl- and the strongest jurisdictional syst- tural recognition v- the obvious fact th- ing in different lo- mg situations an- quite different. can no more divor-

Kelly, Bishop Edward Wendell

Died - July 28, 1964

Obituary (short) - Christian Advocate,  
August 27, 1964. p.23.

Retired bishop of the Central West Annual Conference  
(1944 - 1952).