

# M. E. BISHOPS APPROVE 'MERGER' WITH TWO OTHER CHURCHES

## South Group Yet to Act; Roberts Park Is Assured Of Recognition in State

Unified Organization of Three Conferences Pledge 7,200,000 Members Aid in Campaign to Lift Debt.

Recognition of the Roberts Park Church, Vermont, and Delaware Sis. as the state church of Indiana Methodism was assured today following approval by the Methodist Episcopal Board of Bishops here this week of the proposed merger of their church with the two other Methodist churches.

With the Methodist Protestant Church already on record favorably, only the Methodist Episcopal Church South has yet to act. Results of balloting now taking place will be announced at its general conference next May. Unofficial count to date indicates that the plan will be accepted by a 10-to-1 majority.

Result of Methodist Episcopal balloting, announced by Rev. J. Arters, Bangor, Me., was: Ministers — for, 10,375; against, 1,277. Laymen — for, 6844; against, 585.

The Bishops, in their annual fall meeting here, also announced plans for the United Methodist Council on the Future of Faith and Service, "which will touch off a world wide spiritual crusade."

### Council to Meet

The council suggested by Bishop Charles Wesley Flint of Atlanta, will meet at the Stevens Hotel, Chicago, Feb. 3 and 4. More than 4000 leading Methodists will attend. Notables from all Protestant churches are to be invited.

"You can't build the new order with the old men—whose hearts are still worshipping the idols that are falling all about us," said Bishop Edgar Darby of the Detroit area, sounding the keynote of the campaign.

Bishop J. Ralph Magee of St. Paul, reported that from 1923 to 1935, nearly 3000 Sunday Schools were lost, with more than 730,000 scholars dropping from the rolls.

A more intelligent approach to the problem of disseminating Christian education seemed to different educational levels, and a broadening of the scope of lesson materials were two methods suggested by the bishops to combat that decline. A program of adult education also was approved.

### Take No Stand on War

Without taking a definite stand on the Chinese-Japan war, the bishops were urged by the nearly five million M. E. Church members to contribute a special fund to the relief of war refugees. Sunday, Dec. 4, was designated as a "China Emergency Sunday," and collections will be taken that day in all 25,000 churches.

The bishops spent most of their time in executive sessions discussing numerous problems, particularly concerning missions, but even these were given to addresses, attended by hundreds of persons.

Among the speakers were Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, former Depauw University president and now head of the Omaha M. E. area; Bishop Adna W. Leonard of Pittsburgh, and Bishop Edwin H. Hughes, Washington, senior bishop.

Marietta, O., was chosen as the site for the spring meeting next May.

Bishop Oxnam sounded a warning to democracy in his address. He decried "mere lip-service" to the cause of freedom and said that positive action was necessary before the masses turned to the easily bluffed panaceas, telling of the promised land but leading men to the desert.

"There is enough engineering and political genius in the United States, coupled with a knowledge of economics, to create a society grounded on the principles of equal rights and complete justice for all men, he said."

## Rally Event Is Arranged

The Central Baptist Church and Bible School, 23d St. and Park Ave., will hold their Rally Day services tomorrow at 9:30 a. m.

The church has just acquired the building on 23d St. between Park and Central Aves., formerly owned by the Seventh Day Adventists.

Shane McGuire, Indianapolis Association of Baptist Churches secretary, and the Rev. R. Jewell, Indiana Baptist Convention director of religious education.

## Guest Speaker Named for Fete

H. M. Glossbrenner is to be guest speaker at the Union Chapel M. E. Church when it celebrates Family and Loyalty Day tomorrow.

## GRACE CHURCH COUNCIL'S HOST

Grace M. E. Church will be host to the Tuxedo Council Young People's organization at union services at 4 p. m. tomorrow.

Dr. D. H. Gilliat, Indiana Central College, is to speak. Others on the program include the Rev. Ray Mueller, Wallace Street Presbyterian Church pastor; Rev. R. W. Wilson, Linwood Christian Church, and the Rev. W. C. Calvert, Grace Church pastor.

## RENAME PASTOR FOR FIFTH YEAR

The Rev. Arthur W. Womack has been reappointed pastor of the Grace Church, N. West and Drake Sts., for the fifth year. His appointment was affirmed at the annual conference in Dayton, O., this week.

The church is having a revival under the leadership of Miss Ruth Lacy, Philadelphia, Pa.

## BIBLE CLASS TO PRESENT SKIT



Members of the Anoma Bible Class of Memorial Baptist Church, shown above in costume, will present the "Old Family Album" at 7:30 p. m. Wednesday in the church auditorium. Class officers are Mrs. George Luetzel, president; Mrs. A. B. Hoover, vice president, and Mrs. Chester Flank, secretary-treasurer.

## Homecoming Tomorrow At Morris Street M. E.

Annual home-coming services, celebrating the 80th anniversary of the Morris Street Methodist Episcopal Church, will be held tomorrow in the church, 331 E. Morris St.

## Plan Bazaar At St. Roch's

St. Roch's Catholic Church is to hold its 15th anniversary bazaar next Wednesday, Thursday and Friday in the church hall.

A ticket supper is to be held Wednesday at 5 p. m. A barbecue feast Thursday is to be in charge of Mrs. Harold Pfeifer, and Friday's feature is to be a pancake supper with Mrs. Lou Weber in charge.

The Altar Society, with Mrs. Pete James in charge, is to entertain with a card party at 2 p. m. Friday. Bazaar attractions are to be presented each night, and a turkey supper is to climax activities at 8:30 p. m. Friday. Ed Dietz is general chairman.

The morning sermon by the Rev. Kenneth C. Rogers, pastor, will begin at 9:30 o'clock. Sunday school will meet at 10:15 a. m. A basket dinner will be served at noon.

The Rev. Clifford L. Flit, Laurel, will give the afternoon sermon. Music will be included on the afternoon program. A basket supper will be followed by the Epworth League meeting and a program by Sunday school pupils.

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