



AME Laymen New Look For Research

CHICAGO.—Holding its annual meeting Aug. 4-6 in Chicago, the Laymen's Organization of the AME church advocated a bold reorganization and education program for the African Methodist Episcopal church.

The tenor of the meeting was spearheaded by the inspired address of National President Herbert L. Dudley of Detroit. Recommendations made by Dudley in his speech were indorsed by various panel groups and committees.

The meeting covered ten areas of improvement for the church as a whole:

Public relations—A public relations officer should be appointed by the bishops council.

The general conference—A seven-point program covering administrative procedure and elections was recommended.

Church departments—Eliminate various departmental boards and reorganize them into one general board:

Connectional overhead expense—Reduce overhead expenses so that they will not be a burden on local churches, the backbone of African Methodism.

Dignifying the active pastorate—Cut out "rat race" among ministers seeking the bishopric so they

may serve their churches. Episcopal districts—Reduce the number of districts, and do not add any new ones.

Episcopal pronouncements—Regular statements concerning church policies should be issued by the Bishop's council during the interim between general conferences.

Education—Reduce the number of schools and improve the quality by reorganizing the whole setup.

Qualifications and fitness of bishops—All candidates for bishop should be screened in advance by a special committee which will make its findings available to the Laymen without recommendations of any kind.

Youth—Build up a catechism to improve religious education; set up junior churches. Appoint a director of religion or committee on religious education at each church.

About 150 delegates registered for the meeting held at Grant Memorial AME church at which the Rev. Harvey Walden is pastor; thus making it the largest meeting in the laymen organization's history.

Two bishops, Presiding Bishop George W. Baber of the Fourth

Civil Rights Champions

Sen. J. Howard McGrath



—Courtesy of Lincoln Journal.

McGrath found no glamour in the justice department, where he was once solicitor general.

He went to Providence college and Boston university; was U. S. district attorney for Rhode Island.

Mr. McGrath proved himself an ardent civil rights supporter during the Truman campaign.

Episcopal district, the host area, and Bishop John H. Clayborne, attended the meeting.

McGrath Given Senate's Okay

The senate Thursday unanimously approved President Truman's selection of Sen. J. Howard McGrath (d., R. I.) to succeed Atty. Gen. Tom Clark, after approving Clark's nomination to the supreme court.

McGrath will resign both his seat in the senate and his post as chairman of the democratic national committee. William Boyle of Kansas City, now democratic vice-chairman, is in line to get his party post.

Both Clark and McGrath are relatively young for their new posts. Clark, who will be 50 Sept. 23, is a native of Dallas, Tex. He took office as attorney general June 29, 1945, after serving as assistant attorney general in charge of the criminal division. He was a leading campaigner for the Truman ticket last year.

McGrath, who ran the last Truman campaign, is a native of Woonsocket, R. I. He is only 45. He resigned the governorship October, 1945 after serving almost three terms to become solicitor general of the U. S. and resigned a year later to run for the senate.

Thomas Campbell Clark

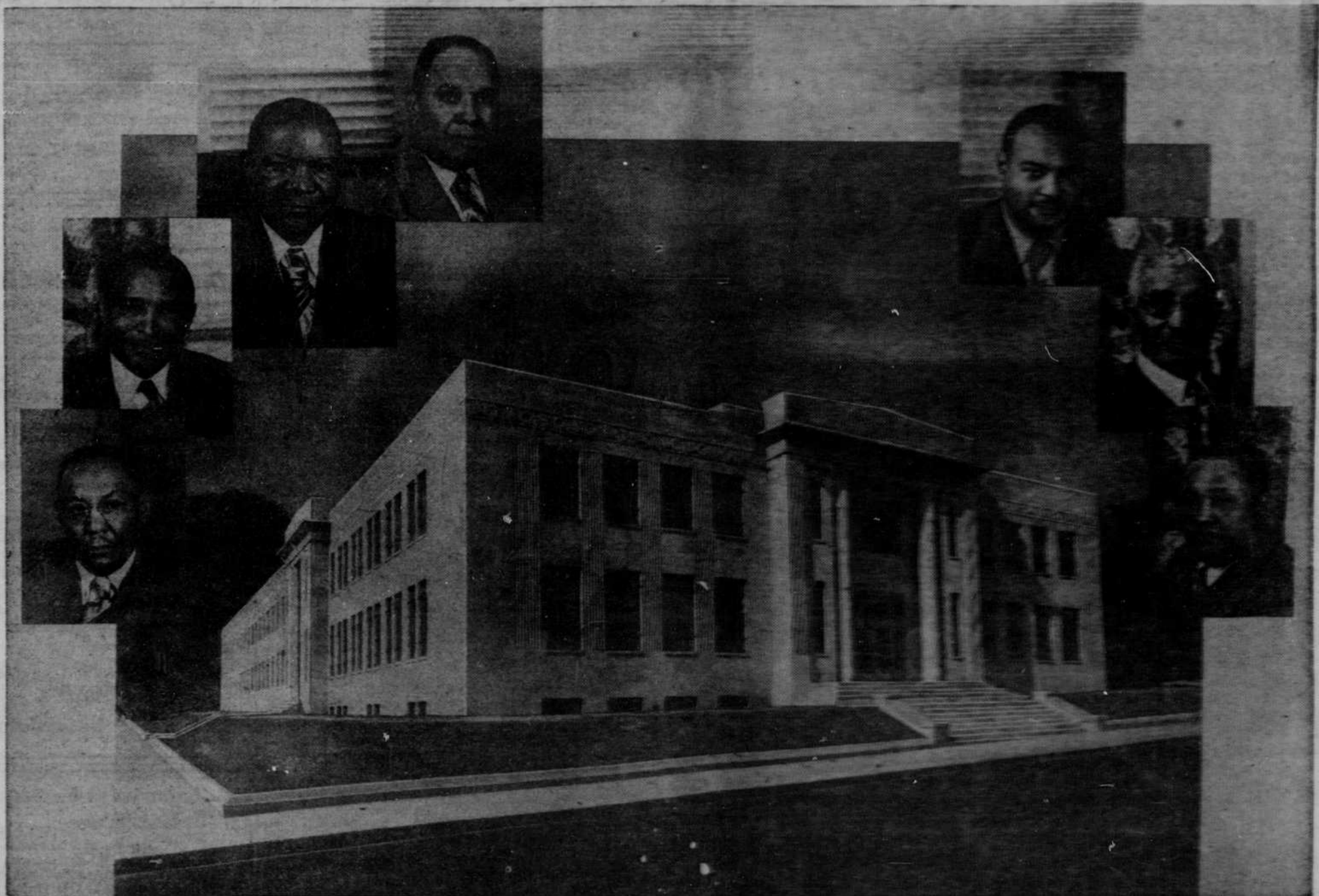


—Courtesy of Lincoln Journal.

Clark has proven himself a champion of civil rights. He insisted that the Federal Bar association admit Negroes.

Despite a sullen mutter of disapproval from the nation's press ("A low ebb," snorted the New York Herald Tribune), few voices of protest were raised in the senate. Mr. Clark was well liked by the men on Capitol Hill, who appreciate a man whose ability is not oppressive and whose principles are not alarming.

New Home Office Building Dedicated



Universal Life Insurance company of Memphis, Tenn., now the fourth largest Negro insurance organization, celebrated its 25th anniversary and dedicated its new half-million dollar home office building on Thursday and Friday. Thousands of visitors from all over the country attended the two day exercises. C. C. Spaulding, Durham, N. C., and Mayor Watkins Overton of Memphis, were the principal speakers.

The above officers of the company, left to right, include: B. J. Olive, Jr., vice president-agency director; A. W. Willis, 1st vice president; Dr. J. E. Walker, president and founder; M. W. Bannar, vice president-secretary; A. Maceo Walker, vice president-actuary; J. A. Swagoe, vice president and Dr. Julian Kelso, vice president-medical director.

The stone and brick building was designed and built by Negro architects and contractors, McKissack and McKissack of Nashville. (ANP).