



**DR. JOSEPHUS ROOSEVELT COAN**

Returned Missionary after nine years of faithful and far-reaching service in the South African field. Formerly, Superintendent of Wilberforce Institute.

Dean of the School of Religion, Transvaal, South Africa.

General Superintendent of the Missionary Work of the A.M.E. Church in South Africa.

Demonstrated for two quadrenniums high standards of Executive and Administrative ability.

Now, Professor of Missions and Old Testament, Morris Brown College.

He is willing to dedicate his life to the cause of the Advancement of African Methodism abroad.

He will eliminate the characteristic weaknesses of discontinuity and bring African Methodism in the foreign field to its rightful place of power and prestige.

For greater advance in foreign Missions, Elect J. R. Coan in 1952, as a Missionary Bishop of the Church.

### S.W. Lay League Holds Convention

The second annual conference of the South West Laymen's Organization held at Allen Chapel, Kansas City, Missouri was one of the more informative and interesting meetings of the series. "A panel discussion on "The Duties of a Layman" proved educational and extremely helpful to unorganized groups. Sub topics of the discussion were Personal Evangelism, Miss Mary L. Peeler; Christian Stewardship, Mrs. Cecil Anderson; New Areas of Service, Mrs. Mitchell; Circulations of Church Papers, Mrs. Laura Boyd; Ministerial Support, Mrs. Albert Carter; Training for Leadership, Mrs. Arzelia Gates and Connectional Fellowship, Mr. Raymond Burgin.

Vice president, Mrs. Cecil Anderson told of some very effective work done in organizing units throughout the conference.

Officers elected were: Clarence Owens, president; Cecil Anderson, first vice president; Lester Smith, second vice president; Louise Peeler, secretary; Clifford Hopkins, treasurer, and Mrs. Fannie Dunn, chaplain.

President George Jores was present and outlined the Douglas hospital project and other important issues of interest to laymen.

Mr. J. L. Bell, president St. Paul Lay League, St. Louis, Mr. J. Parks, president Nebraska Lay organization and Mrs. Rubie W. Shakespeare, editor of the Laymen's Voice, were introduced.

### REV. J. S. BROOKENS WILL LIVE ON

Every true African Methodist has been touched over the sudden passing of Rev. J. S. Brookens, a high churchman, a firm and a live stone in our building; he was a proven friend of the laymen, so much so that he became one of our choice candidates for bishopric in 1952, he felt and acted the part of a general officer. All of South-

### Meeting

Continued from Page 1) minder, president 4th District Laymen; Mr. R. J. Gardner, president 3rd District Laymen; Mr. John F. Shack, president 1st District Laymen; Mr. H. R. Sumlin, Dayton, Ohio; Dr. J. W. Wiberton and Dr. R. L. Flagg, Memphis; Dr. J. S. Bimm, Pennsylvania; Dr. Carlisle Stewart, Ebenezer, Detroit; Rev. Mason, 3rd District; Dr. S. S. Morris, Secretary-Treasurer Dept. Religious Education; Dr. Singleton, Des Moines, Iowa; Dr. M. E. Jackson; Dr. E. C. Hatcher, Editor, Southern Christian Recorder; Dr. A. O. Richardson, Georgia; Dr. Mason, P. E., Ohio; Mr. John Day, Indiana; S. M. Porter, Trinity, Kansas City, Kansas; Dr. Davis, Texas; Dr. O. A. Burk, West Virginia; Dr. Anderson, Youngstown, Ohio; Dr. Bell, Zion, Philadelphia; Dr. Blakely, Arkansas; Dr. Brookins, Editor, A.M.E. Church Review; Dr. W. E. Alexander, Michigan; Dr. Pointer, Prof. Mimms, Mr. Moses S. Thompson, N. J., and Rev. David Readey, Joliet, Ill.

Attorney Freeman L. Martin, General Chairman, represented the Honorable Mayor, Joseph M. Darst, in extending the keys of the city and the gavel of authority to the convention. Attorney Martin, an able and loyal layman, is president of the Missouri Conference Lay Organization, a former Alderman of St. Louis.

Attorney J. Ernest Wilkins, Chicago, was a guest speaker, explaining the working of the Judicial Council of the Methodist Church. Mrs. Lucille Wilkins, was also present and extended greetings.

A workshop was conducted by Mrs. Eleanor Woodcock, of Ebenezer, Detroit, assisted by Mrs. Herbert L. Dudley, Mrs. Pearl V. Collins, Youth Director of the 4th District Lay Organization, and Mrs. Bertie DeLyles. Addresses were made by Mrs. Woodcock on the "Role of the Laymen in the Local Church" and Mrs. Dudley on "What the Modern Psychiatric Social Work can contribute to the Church."

After substituting the name R. J. Gardner, for Dr. R. R. Williams, the officers were re-elected.

The Convention opposes Communism in any form and renews its unchanging devotion to the constitution of the United States.

A Judicial Council is on the

## Mason Devereau, Jr., To Study At Wilberforce, O.

Mason Devereau, Jr., left on Wednesday, October 10, 1951 to enter Payne Theology Seminary, Wilberforce University, Wilberforce, Ohio.

Mr. Devereau is a member of the St. John A.M.E. Church Omaha, Nebraska where he has been a very active worker. The past 6 years he has served as the Official Reporter for St. John writing in the Omaha Star, Western Christian, and South Christian Recorder, and the Guide. He has been a member of the Wetmen Club, Men's Chorus. Served as Secretary of the Minute Men and Auxiliary for over 2 years, a member of the St. John Usher Board.

For the past 3 years he has

served as one of the Religious Counsellors for the St. John, Jr. Choir. The past year he was the President of the Youth Advisory Council of St. John.

Mason Devereau was born and reared in the city of Omaha, attending Public and High School; where he was quite active in civic affairs. He worked part-time in order that he could complete 3 years at the University of Omaha at Omaha in the College of Business Administration.

He has worked with the Hi-Y, Y.C.A. and the Urban League.

On leaving for Ohio Mr. Devereau asked us to thank his many friends that did anything to make this progressive Christian effort possible.



**JONATHAN A. DAMES**  
Minister Bethel A.M.E. church, Indianapolis, Indiana.  
Candidate for the Bishopric 1952.

## The State of the Church California Conference

Report on the State of the Church as given by Mrs. Georgia Marshall, vice president of the Fifth Episcopal district Laymen's meeting held July 31st and Aug. 1st in St. Louis, Mo.

**MRS. GEORGIA MARSHALL**  
In these times of stress and strain, with the world in a turmoil of confusion with all the suffering we look to the church more than ever for solace. Religion still holds its place in this modern life.

When we say "The Church" we do not mean the materials, edifices, members, etc., yet these are desirable assets, and may be used as an ultimate end; but the church is a force, a power and a manifestation of the kingdom of God. It is no longer localized at Jerusalem, nor in the Holy Lands where the fathers of old worshiped, but it is wherever and whenever man enters that spiritual state that lifts him from the low plan of life and living up into communion with God.

The primary objective of the agenda of measures to be supported at the 1952 session of the General Conference to be held in Chicago.

The body went on record renewing our faith and belief in the fundamental traditions and tenets of our denomination; and reverence and respect for our Episcopal and Ministerial Fathers and pledging our devotion to the loyal laymen and lay women, whom we are privileged to represent.

Church is to call a people to bear Christ's name and to carry out His will on earth; or better yet, to call men from the low walks of life to the true mission of the kingdom of God, and to establish that kingdom in their hearts and lives.

The Church has a program of Evangelism, Christianizing the people and preparing them for active, faithful, Christian service. It also has a great expansion program and a program for the youth.

Nearly two thousand years this old Zion of ours has been moving on. It is the great part of God's Universal Church.

In speaking of this great Church of ours, recognizing and admitting her shortcomings and imperfections, nevertheless this A.M.E. church stands today the greatest organization for Negroes.

To be cont.

The generosity of the following newspapers is acknowledged: St. Louis Argus, The Associated Negro Press, St. Louis Globe Democrat, St. Louis Post Dispatch, Chicago Defender, The Voice, Lincoln, Nebraska; Common Sense Historical Reviews, of Chicago, Pittsburgh Courier, Kansas City Call, Atlantic World, Amsterdam News, New York, Los Angeles Eagle, Detroit Tribune and other members of the press for the news releases they have carried.

## The Southwest Mo. Laymen's League

**PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS**  
C.E. Owens

To the Bishop D. Ormonde Walker, Presiding Elders, Officers, Members and Friends of the Laymen's Organization of Southwest Missouri Annual Conference.

### GREETINGS:

We have assembled here this afternoon to report on our stewardship for this past year. We have gained considerable ground since 1948, when the General Conference granted us the privilege to organize the Laymen into units.

**THIS AWAKENED** us to the great opportunity afforded the League to join in the task of creating a more wholesome atmosphere outward correcting many of the complained evils in the church.

**MANY MINISTERS** have trained and encouraged a knowledge of the law of the Church and organization of leagues in the Church.

There are other ministers that have made no attempt to organize at any time, **but the movement is here to stay.**

**THE PROGRESSIVE** and highly qualified pastors seldom protest, for they know that as the intelligence and economic standards of the Laymen are raised, they will be relieved of much of the detail work and obligation operations of the Church, permitting them opportunity to devote proper time to the spiritual and social service of the community in which they serve.

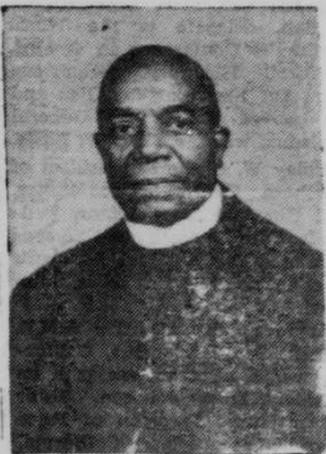
**THE LAYMEN** are interested in the problems and welfare of the Great A.M.E. Church, and are eager to serve in every possible way.

**IT'S PURPOSE**, as stated by J. R. Gardner, President of the Third District Lay Organization; is to enlist and coordinate the manpower of the local congregation for an effective performance of the essential Christian activities; to cultivate the Christian life of the laymen through study, worship, fellowship and service.

We give thank to God for the progress made in several churches. Mentioning a few:

**EBENEZER** brought to Kansas City the Connectional Lay Organization president, Atty. Herbert L. Dudley, of Detroit; Bethel purchased and presented to the Church, an oil painting of the ascension; Ward Laymen purchased a large number of disciplines and catechisms; others have made contributions in many ways.

The Southwest Missouri Conference had the largest representation of all the conferences attending the Fifth District Connectional Meeting held in St. Louis, Missouri July 31st through August 4th.



**DR. O. A. BURKS**  
**CANDIDATE FOR BISHOP**  
Vote for him he has all the faults that a good man should have. The Candidate is Chairman and Treasurer of Connectional-Commission of Evangelism.

ern California will cherish the memory of his presence at our annual conference Aug. 15, 1951, assisting our Bishop D. Ormonde Walker in closing one of the greatest conferences here at First A.M.E. church, 8th & Towne, Rev. Alvin A. Shaw, host pastor.

Coley W. Stafford, President.  
Camilla LeTridge, Reporter.



**REV. A. O. WILSON**  
Pastor Steward Chapel A.M.E. church.

Endorsed as the Connectional "Good-Will Candidate" for the bishopric—1952 by the Evangelistic convention of the African Methodist Episcopal church, July 28, 1950 at St. John A.M.E. church, Birmingham, Ala.

He is true and tried—often denied, and willing to be tried again. He has been faithful to the church through every crisis.

He is a hard worker, faithful servant, and a brother to all men. Give him your prayers and a vote, and a chance.



**CARLYLE F. STEWART**  
Pastor of Ebenezer A.M.E. Church, Detroit, Michigan. Recently elected President of the Detroit Pastors' Union of the Detroit Council of Churches, the first Negro minister to be elected to the office of presidency. Candidate for the Bishopric at the 1952 General Conference.

**Be sure your church is in the news. Choose your reporter today.**