

# The President Speaks

To the Fifth Episcopal District Conference Presidents, Officers, Members and Lay Friends: Greetings.

Let us this new year rejoice in the fact that our friend Bishop D. Ormonde Walker has once more found favor with that physical hidden power he oftentimes speaks about and we will have him at Chicago, strong in body and mind and strong for our cause. Let us continue to pray.

My lay co-workers, I want to thank all who in any way have cooperated with this office this past year and beg for helpful consideration in the present year for a bigger lay-conscious service for God and the church. I want to list a few things I think we should accomplish this year.

1. Dress Up on Laymanship. That is, to be more layman conscious.

2. Laymen's Day. I hope the conference presidents insist on several laymen's days throughout their conferences.

3. Cooperating Laymen. We are the church. Let us this year establish lay cooperation with the bench, pulpit, and ourselves so as to ever preserve the church.

4. Our Publication, The Laymen's Voice. It is our number one project. Mrs. Rubie Shakespeare, our efficient editor, has given us a plan as follows: one hundred subscribers for each conference. This plan is workable, plain and easy to perform. I hope this year we will put our paper in a class with other organizations' publications (with less membership than ours) that have proved so helpful to their cause that every household member is an essential subscriber. Please think on this.

5. District Support. We are far apart on this side of the lay program. I am sure many were embarrassed, along with myself, at our St. Louis meeting when we had just about one-half enough funds to finance our first annual get together I hope to get from the Bishop helpful advice, and send it on to you, in this small matter. I call it small because I have faith in you.

6. Questions for My Information. Shall we have a meeting in 1952? Shall we call an executive board together in 1952? Shall we appoint a treasurer or use our secretary as financial secretary?

7. Douglass Hospital. I am sure we all can feel a little disappointed in our effort, but as it was immediately before the holidays, we can feel we accomplished something and it was worth the effort. I hope we can find the reason to make this an annual affair with the laymen of the district.

In conclusion, I say for myself, as president of the district, I expect to be more alert and give more time to the office work this year. May I expect a better year's work from my conference presidents who are the only persons responsible for much of our success. I call your attention to this stubborn fact: everything I have listed to do this year depends on your activity. You can depend on immediate cooperation from my office. I will be glad to have a letter from any layman of the district who has some suggestion to make for the good of the organization.

Yours for the church,  
George Jones,  
District Lay President

## So. Calif. Laymen Ready For Action

To the Lay Delegates elect in the 5th Episcopal Dist.

To the President, Laymen's League 5th Episcopal Dist.

To the Conference Presidents of the 5th Dist.

To the Local Lay League Presidents, 5th Dist.

Greetings: The day of the Laity has come. Greed, politics and apostasy in the church of the rankest sort have ushered in the day. Today, unlike any other time in history of the A.M.E. Church, calls united laymen to join with a few stalwart, unafraid ministers in the wholesale church-cleaning needed to save our Zion. Prayerful, thoughtful, painstaking action is needed to do the job, which, by no means, can be accomplished over night. True, far-seeing members will sense the crying need for support and join the ranks of the few who have thus far so nobly advanced.

Education—yes, religious education, coupled with a liberal understanding of the laws of God and of our church, is the weapon necessary to spur us to action. This is the task that lies before us, and, to the accomplishment of which the SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE LAYMEN ELECT pledge themselves.

It seems to us that the first act is to organize, and then to strengthen every unit in our organization so that the league in each church may be a potential bulwark in the maintenance of self respect, courage and zeal, to carry on the great battle in which we shall be engaged. When our forces shall have been organized fully and our league strengthened and schooled, then, under God, we shall be invincible against wrong. It matters not whether the ugly image of demagoguery shows itself, or whether corrupt politics creeps into the workings of our most worthy sanctuaries, or whether greed and avarice ven-

ture forth in all their hideousness, our organized forces will be a mighty fortress, and, with God's help and the strength of our own might we shall crush evil wherever it may be found.

Then, shall not we get busy, today? Communicate throughout the district freely; know what your neighbor in Washington State is thinking, as well as the one next door, or vice versa. Be sure that our policies and aims are the same. Agree upon issues, candidates and laws. These are a few of our objectives. What are yours?

We shall be glad to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,  
Phillip M. Robinson, 4256 Hooper Ave., Los Angeles, California.

Henry H. Pettigrew, 5612 Fortuna Street, Los Angeles, California.

Moses E. Webb, 115 East Adams Blvd., Los Angeles, California.

Arthur E. Prince, 717 South Fourth Street, El Centro, California.

Ralph Jones, 1331 W. Third Street, Santa Ana, California.

Benjamin Wesley Inghram, 982 Sixth Street, San Bernadino, California.

## Annual Laymen's Day At California 1st A.M.E.

The Laymen of First A.M.E. church in Los Angeles, California, observed their third annual Laymen's day Sunday, January 20th, with Mr. R. R. Wright III, as guest speaker. The program committee was composed of Joseph Ellis, chairman; Mr. Phillip Robinson, Miss Barbara Bradley, Mr. James Deny, Mr. A. A. Thomas, Mr. Paul Greenway and Mrs. Mary Person.

Persons participation on the days program were: Benjamin W. Inghram, M. E. Webb, Arthur Prince, Henry H. Pettigrew, Alfred



BY JESSE L. GLOVER, D. D.

## Straight From The Shoulder

The Laymen's Rightful Place In The A.M.E. Church. The Laymen's place is everywhere, but in the pulpit of the A.M.E. Church. They raise the money, they pay the bills. Certainly the Minister must lead the way. He is called of God to lead the way. The true Laymen appreciates his own minister being a strong leader. The Laymen do not appreciate, pussy foot cowards, jelly fish ministers, yes, yes, leaders. You cannot blame the Laymen for the fight they are advancing in our great church. They have found the minister in many respects too weak, and fearful to stand for the rights of his people.

## We Must Save the Church

The Laity must continue their united movement for protection of the church. It is always wise for both the Minister and Layman to walk hand in hand, but in many cases the minister will dodge out because of economic reasons, he fears his bread and meat, Yet he preaches to the Laity each Sunday to stand fast, fear no one but God, and keep the Faith. The Laity is tired of such false preaching when they know their pastor is the biggest coward in the conference.

## What of This Gen. Conf?

What will we do at the forthcoming General conference? Not just go there political minded. Of course we have the full right to be concerned about the type of men and women the church elects. Of course your concern dies, when you accept large cash gifts for payment of your political actions. Such Layman, as well as ministers are injurious to Christian advancement.

We must see that we elect men who will immediately reduce these heavy assessments upon the people, relieve the Pastor and laymen of over burden local assessments upon their churches, so they can render a greater community service. The Salvation Army, The Y's and other Christian movements, are sweeping in our local communities, while we just raise money and send it away to make a big connectional name for ourselves; the Laymen can make this adjustment, they can lead out in re-vamping the church. Protect the mission preacher, he is your best servant, when he has courage enough to be a man, see that the general church pays him at least \$50.00 a month to serve the small churches.

Demand a Laymen's and Minister's Council at each conference with the presiding bishop. Fix the law to make them hold a two hour conference private, with the above named persons, and hear all facts concerning the complete need of the people, and demand a favorable vote before the bishop can thrust some minister upon the people unsatisfactory.

Read my latest article on If I Were A Bishop. I mean what I have said. I would not sell out. I would not attack my ministers and laymen and expect them to be loyal.

Jesse L. Glover

Smith, Ronald Brunner and Marland Bunner.

Special guests included all the lay delegates from Southern California conference to the General Conference at Chicago, in May.

## Young People Make Advance

KANSAS CITY, Kans.—For the past two years under the leadership of the Rev. B. J. Martin, the Junior department at Grant Chapel A.M.E. church, Kansas City, Kansas has been making rapid progress with their choir work and general young people's department.

The fifteen members meet the second and fourth Saturdays in each month at 6 p.m.

The following officers were elected for the year: Marie Williams, president; Edward Hogans, vice president; Betty St. Clair, secretary; Harry Reynolds, assistant secretary; Roy Gene Johnson, treasurer; Thurman Reynolds, chaplain; Marlene Williams, sergeant-of-arms, and Roy Gene Johnson, reporter.



REV. F. M. MASON

## Rev. F. M. Mason

Presiding Elder of Columbus District of the Ohio A.M.E. conference, 51 Jefferson Avenue, Columbus 15, Ohio.

Candidate for Bishopric in 1952 Pulpit and loyal churchman. Pastor 27 years. Presiding Elder 14 years.

A special friend to rising ministers.

Believe in financing Colleges, Universities, Theological Seminaries and Church expansion.

Feels that every mission church should pay, or be helped to pay their pastor not less than \$25 per week.

He has a program which he feels will benefit the great A.M.E. church. He craves your support in 1952.

## Who Is My Neighbor?

By Mrs. J. E. Anderson  
Kansas City, Kansas

Not one who does me great amount of harm;  
Not one who leans for Sucoz on my arm;  
But one that all the time will do me good;  
Clothe me when bare; when hungry give me food;  
That's my neighbor

One who when I'm in trouble Comfort brings and helps;  
to smooth life's road for traveling  
One who will come and tell me  
When I'm wrong and when my spirit is low  
Will sing a song!  
That's my neighbor.

He who will cheer me when affliction come  
will visit me help cheer my home  
Who helps to make lifes heavy burden light  
and bring the day when all before was night;  
That's my neighbor.

One who do me good his life will spend  
and console me to my journeys end  
Who magnifies to me Gods love and power  
and helps to cheer me in my dying hour.  
That's my neighbor.

## Circuit Supplied By Rev. S. Davis

The Rev. Stephen Davis was selected to supply the Hiawatha Circuit in the 5th district recently which makes his churches total five. Following is a listing of his Sunday services. HORTON, KANSAS—Sunday School, 10:00 a.m.; morning service, 11:30 a.m. HIAWATHA, KANSAS—Sunday School, 10:00 a.m.; afternoon service, 2:30 p.m. FALLS CITY, NEBRASKA—Evening service, 6:30 p.m. SABATHA, KANSAS—Sunday school, 10:00 a.m.; Morning service, 11:00 a.m. FAIRVIEW, KANSAS—Sunday School, 10:00 a.m.; afternoon service, 3:30 p.m. Meeting are held monthly.

## Sentence Sermons

By Rev. Frank Clarence Lowry for ANP

1. Animals and men are quite different in form and habitation, but made by God from the beginning of creation.

2. Animals remain true to the order of their species, while man of high intelligence continues to show varied deficiencies.

3. He has had nearly 2,000 years since the Christ Child came, but he still delights in the things that tinge of ill-fame.

4. Corruption in high places is meeting with approval, while justice soft-soaped by bribes, attempts no removal.

5. But here and there some real men and women, though they be few, rise to fight this mad onslaught, and vow to carry their fight through.

6. Think of it—instead of spending considerable sums to lift the fallen and raise the morale of the slums; inscrupulous men who spend billions to kill their brother are worse than those who beat the tom toms.

7. Unlike animals, he is not true to his kind, or in his intellect he would be trying to lift his fellowman to heights sublime.

8. But instead, some are so vicious for the love of a dollar, they will stick a dope needle into a Sunday School scholar.

9. The Adamic propensities of an unregenerated man, can hardly be compared in meanness even with creatures of the animal plane; for with normal sense, some seem to act insane.

10. Man, without God, is too weak and feeble . . . slow toward righteousness, but split-second quick in things evil.

11. The only hope for each of us and the world as one great nation, is implicit faith in the Crucified Christ and the God of our Salvation.

12. Until then, men lower than animals will always be, and for self satisfaction, and a mess of pottage, will hang a brother to a tree.

## Mother Church Burns

Quinn Chapel, our Mother Church of African Methodism in the city of Chicago, recently suffered a loss by fire. Worship was not interrupted, however, and was held in the Sunday School assembly room. The entire auditorium is being repaired and redecorated and stain glass windows that were damaged are being replaced. The Rev. Archibald James Carey, Jr., who is the minister there, will have a beautiful church for the General Conference.

Christian living pleases God, blesses our fellowmen and we ourselves grow in grace and our lives are very much enriched.

Christian living will bring about the peace that the world craves today.