

# The Laymen's Voice

official news of the

Fifth Episcopal District  
of the African Methodist Church

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Fifth District Lay Organization

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## Results of Bishop J. H. Clayborn's Resolution

### RESOLUTION

Whereas, We are living in an age of standardization, where scholarship requirements and culture are among the chief requisites, and

Whereas, this age calls for preparedness in all fields of labor and education, and

Whereas, We want the best for our youth, as relates to these matters, and

Whereas, Just any type of training is insufficient, inadequate, injurious seeing that the age calls for thorough and specialized training, and

Whereas, Such training cannot be obtained in poorly equipped schools with inefficient personnel, and

Whereas, All students completing the curriculum sponsored by these poorly equipped schools, non-standardized institutions, are crippled, handicapped, in that they cannot enter the graduate schools to take their Master and Doctorate work, because their basic work and college structure is inadequate,

Therefore, Be It Resolved, That this General Conference, now in its 34th Quadrennial Session do hereby recommend and issue a directive to the General Board of Education of the African Methodist Episcopal Church for actions, to merge the present schools, thus reducing the number ten to five more or less standardized four year Liberal Arts Colleges.

Whereas, The ten schools we are striving to operate, all except two, are non-accredited in any of the National Accreditation Agencies:

Be It Further Resolved, That this 34th Session of said Conference go on record as approving the merger:

Be It Finally Resolved, That all of the African Methodist Episcopal Schools and the Presidents, Deans of the Schools of Liberal and Industrial Arts, Chancellors, and local Trustees, be so instructed and fully informed that immediately following the third annual Commencement, in 1953 that all schools, colleges, owned and controlled by the A.M.E. Church elect officially, be duly notified that all schools that have not fully qualified with all requirements be closed, and the Bishop, or Bishops, violating, failing to carry out the full purport of said resolution, been penalized, silenced by the Bishop's Council and Judicial council. The Presidents who attempt to continue to operate as Presidents be dealt with as any other suspended col-

lege officer.  
The 34th Quadrennial Session of the A.M.E. General Conference just closed in Chicago, was regarded by many as being hectic, but was constructive. I think more sane legislation was done in Chicago than during any other of the General Conferences.

### JUDICIAL COUNCIL

The birth of the "Judicial Council" was a step forward. The step made in the right direction for peace, harmony and better understanding between Episcopalates. I stood for it from its inception. I wanted it without Bishopric personnel: To have had Bishops on it would have had membership on it advantage over those that were not on it. The next reason I was against Bishops being on the Judicial Council was if when any would appeal from a Bishop's decision (if that Bishop were a member of the Council) you would be appealing from him to himself. At that rate it would be hard to convict him. This Council can make a mighty contribution in breaking down Episcopal Tyranny. It makes all concerned have more respect for the law in the A.M.E. Church. It means the curbing of ungodly power heretofore exercised.

We thank God, that many of the helpful measures, and reforms recommended by your humble servant, prior to the convening of the General Conference were adopted by the General Conference. Many helpful mergers we prayed for came to pass.

I. The Southern and Western Recorders were combined-made one "South-western Recorder".

II. The Department of Education and Christian Education plus the Sunday School Union, are one General Board, known as the "General Board of Education." This cuts out a board. Heretofore there were two boards—now one.

III. There is no such thing any more as the old "Book Concern" Publishing Board. It was merged with the Sunday School Union Board. Many thousands of dollars were saved in these mergers. The school merger was a problem that could not be worked overnight, hence some time for careful study had to be made but the time is short for the continued life of poorly equipped, slipshod, money sucker institutions, running just to give some friend a job, and some to say "I am Chancellor of this school," and he assesses the poor preacher and members just what

## A Message From Your President

To the Laymen of the Fifth Episcopal District of the A.M.E. Church: Greetings:

I am indeed very happy over the accomplishments of the Thirty-fourth Quadrennial Session of the General Conference, held at Chicago May 7 to May 21, 1952. I rejoice with many co-working ministers and laymen who have worked and prayed in yesteryears for such legislation as was enacted at this session. But this is just the beginning of laws for our church. We are still top-heavy and must unload; for we at the bottom who are carrying the load can persuade no help from any source under conditions. Facts are stubborn things, but must be faced and acted on to survive.

First, I want to report that we are doing very well in the Fifth Episcopal District with the League. We called the Executive Board together while at the Conference in Chicago. Mr. Benjamin W. Ingraham of the Southern California Conference was elected treasurer of the district.

OUR NEWSPAPER caught the eye and praise of many at the editor, should have our sincere Conference. Mrs. Shakespeare, our thanks for her Conference work without pay, by bringing to the General Conference a fine Conference issue and proving its worthwhileness to the church, as the three Bishops elected advertised their candidacy in the paper. At a meeting of the Connectional

### AME Church Districts Contribute to Wilberforce

WILBERFORCE, Ohio—(ANP)—Five episcopal districts of the A.M.E. Church contributed \$533,741.96 for the operation of Wilberforce university here according to a quadrennial report released this week by Dr. Charles L. Hill, president of the university.

The A.M.E. Church has been the sole support of Wilberforce since 1947 when the state of Ohio withdrew its funds and formed Central State college adjacent to the 96-year-old institution.

The quadrennial report also disclosed that the church raised \$94,000 for the current expenses of Payne seminary and \$131,000 toward the seminary's building fund.

With \$10,865 received from the department of education and board of trustees, together with \$300,000 provided from fees and private donations the total amount showed a sum in excess of \$1,000,000 for the operation of Wilberforce over the four year period, the report stated.

In 1948, the church enlarged Wilberforce university support, and sent five of its bishops to direct district support. Five districts were included in what was called the First Education Area. They are the first, the third, the fourth, the fifth, and the 13th.

he pleases. I say the sun is rapidly setting on those things. I thank God and our friends who stood by us and who voted for all these reforms. "These seventy-five and one hundred student-schools" without well equipped laboratories, no standard modern libraries and poorly trained personnel faculties, are on their way out.

In less than ten years, the African Methodist education institutions will face the world with one of the finest, best equipped set of religious colleges operated for and by our group. We are going to have nothing but the best. Our clergy and laity are going to demand the best as well as a strict, honest accounting of our funds put into our Christian schools, or they are going to stop giving.



GEORGE JONES

Lay Organization, I offered a motion that President Dudley appoint a committee to meet with Mrs. Shakespeare, myself and other representatives of the Fifth District on the proposition of making our paper an official Connectional Lay paper. This unanimously carried and President Dudley named the District Presidents and any lay paper representative on the committee.

Owing to the interest manifested in the electing of church officers and Bishops, President Dudley and I agreed to bring it to the Connectional meeting in Tulsa in 1953 and this proposition will be favorably considered. So, I am appealing to my conference presidents to be responsible for the small amount necessary to keep his paper alive until you can conference to take care of this have sufficient subscribers in your monthly expense.

The four or five church papers with their salaried editors and planned subscribers render but very little service to laymen. So let each lay home be a subscriber.

I am hoping that after the layment co-operated with the ministers in Chicago, the ministers will co-operate by encouraging their members to subscribe, send news, and read The Laymen's Voice. Will you do this & Thanks. I believe you will.

THE DOUGLASS HOSPITAL is to be remembered by a directive from the Executive Board that I am to send out in a letter later in the year with plans for the gathering of pennies, nickles, dimes and quarters for this gift fund for 1952. I wrote our Bishop D. Ormonde Walker for his blessings and help in our efforts for this year's work; also to express appreciation of the laymen for his fairness in discharging the duties of the office of bishop, especially where the laymen are involved; and, further, to express our re-joicing in his return to our district.

I HOPE A LAY DAY will be recognized by every individual church co-operating in some way. I hope the time is near when laymen will have a day set by the General Conference. It could be the first fifth Sunday in the new

## Entzminger to Organize Post

WILLIAM ENTZMINGER—For the past ten years president of the Fourth Episcopal District Laymen Organization, who was appointed connectional organizer of the Laymen at the 34th Session of the General Conference by Atty. H. L. Dudley, Connectional President. Mr. Entzminger, a member of St. Stephen A.M.E. Church, Detroit, Michigan, has been a member of the last five consecutive General Conferences. He will assume his new duties August 1st, 1952.

## Schedule For Annual Conf. 5th District

The Rt. Rev. D. O. Walker, presiding prelate of the Fifth District has announced his schedule of annual conferences to begin August 6th.

**PUGET SOUND CONFERENCE**  
August 6, 1952  
Spokane, Washington, Rev. Velton Randall, host-pastor.  
**Annual Sermon**—Rev. J. L. Boyd.  
**Missionary Sermon**—Rev. V. N. Reaves.

**CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE**  
August 20, 1952  
St. Andrews, Sacramento, Calif., Rev. L. Sylvester Odom, host-pastor.  
**Annual Sermon**—Rev. E. David Chappelle.  
**Missionary Sermon**—Rev. Willard Leake.

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE**  
September 3, 1952  
First A.M.E. Church, Pasadena, Calif., Rev. Alfred K. Quinn, host-pastor.  
**Annual Sermon**—Rev. Harley Akers.  
**Missionary Sermon**—Rev. L. T. Thorhill.

**COLORADO CONFERENCE**  
September 17, 1952  
Salt Lake City, Utah, Rev. L. K. Williams, host-pastor.  
**Annual Sermon**—Rev. Jerry W. Ford.  
**Missionary Sermon**—Rev. G. Daniel Choice.

**KANSAS CONFERENCE**  
October 1, 1952  
St. Paul, Wichita, Kansas, Rev. T. J. Burwell, host-pastor.  
**Annual Sermon**—Rev. H. H. Brookins.  
**Missionary Sermon**—Rev. G. R. Woods.

**NEBRASKA CONFERENCE**  
October 8, 1952  
St. John, Omaha, Nebraska, Rev. S. H. Lewis, host-pastor.  
**Annual Sermon**—Rev. L. R. Hayes.  
**Missionary Sermon**—Rev. S. H. Lewis.

**NO. MISSOURI CONFERENCE**  
October 22, 1952  
Columbia, No. Missouri, Rev. E. W. Hall, host-pastor.  
**Annual Sermon**—Rev. F. L. Whitlock.  
**Missionary Sermon**—Rev. E. B. Martin.

**S. W. MISSOURI CONFERENCE**  
November 5, 1952  
Ebnezer, Kansas City, Mo., Rev. George F. Martin, host-pastor.  
**Annual Sermon**—Rev. A. A. Morgan.  
**Missionary Sermon**—Rev. Paul E. Kidd.

**MISSOURI CONFERENCE**  
Nov. 19, 1952  
St. James, St. Louis, Mo. Rev. Fred Stephens, host-pastor.  
**Annual Sermon**—Rev. S. M. Pointer.  
**Missionary Sermon**—Rev. H. C. Cummings.

year. Cold or hot, we could make it a big day in Georgia, New York, California, Africa, the Isles of the Sea, or anywhere where there is an A.M.E. Church. What a day the laymen could have!

**OUR SECRETARY**, Mr. Henry H. Glass, 2106 E. 27th St., Kansas City, Mo., has plenty of by-laws and constitutions on hand and will send them to you at 15c a copy. Get as many as you wish and organize a Laymen's League in your church, or, if you have one, revive it. We will be glad to have a letter from any layman on any thought or suggestion for the good of the church.  
Yours for the good of the Church,  
GEORGE JONES, President  
5th Episcopal District  
Laymen's League