


February 2019

Series I. Personal Materials. Folder 1. Articles about Reverend M. Homer Cummings, 1923-1978

Melville Homer Cummings

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Mrs. Nannie Cummings

93rd Birthday Celebrated By Mrs. Nannie Cummings

"Give your heart to Jesus and live for Him." This is the recipe for a long and happy life given by Mrs. Nannie Cummings who celebrated her 93rd birthday on Sunday.

Mrs. Cummings was honored with a family birthday dinner in the home of her daughter Mrs. W. S. Cavendish of 215 Locust Dr.

Born in Gilmer County, Va. on March 17, 1863, she has been a member of the Baptist church for 80 years. Before marrying Hugh M. Cummings of Monroe County, she

was Miss Nannie Talbott.

She is the mother of 13 children, six of whom are still living. They are: E. E. Cummings and Mrs. Thomas Carter, St. Albans; Mrs. G. N. Shirey, Sink Grove; the Rev. M. Homer Cummings of Glasgow, former pastor of the Fayetteville Methodist Church; Mrs. Cavendish and A. B. Cummings of Beckley.

Mrs. Cummings, who recently moved here from St. Albans, has 10 grandchildren and 26 great grandchildren.

A Good Friend Is Leaving

We are going to miss Rev. M. Homer Cummings, who on Sunday completes 12 years as pastor of the local M. E. church, and who will not return to this pastorate.

In the several years we have known him, we have disagreed with him many times. He and this writer have fought many word battles. Both of us have struck hard at times in voicing our opinions.

But through it all, we have had the greatest respect for him, he has told us that he feels the same way about us. There has never been a moment when we have been other than good friends, each believing the other entirely sincere.

Mr. Cummings has never hit below the belt. He has even warned us in advance that he was going to throw another punch.

We shall miss him. And may the future provide happiness and peace and sincerity for him and his family.

Cleric Added Honoree At 'Authors Luncheon'

Opening the sixth annual Autumn Regional Authors Luncheon today at 12:30 p. m., at the Hotel Frederick, the Rev. M. Homer Cummings, retired Methodist minister who is poet laureate of the West Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church, will give the invocation.

Mr. Cummings is the fifth area writer chosen to be honored during the program. A native of West Virginia, he held pastorates in the state for more than 50 years before his retirement in 1959. He was the author of a couplet column, "Chuckles," carried for years in several newspapers of the state, and is the author and composer of many hymns.

Dr. Ruel E. Foster, English professor at West Virginia University, will speak on "The Advancement of Creative Writing in West Virginia." Edgar E. Noel of Bethesda, Md., a State Department employe, will tell of his experiences as a poet in Japan leading up to the publication of his book of poetry, "Plum Blossoms."

Others to be honored are Dr. Eugene Hoak, professor of speech at Marshall University; Estelle Belanger, art and drama critic for The Herald-Dispatch; and The Herald-Advertiser; Helen Price Stacy of West Liberty, Ky., a freelance writer and correspondent for The Herald-Dispatch and Herald-Advertiser, and David Peyton, reporter and feature writer for The Advertiser and The Herald-Advertiser.

Mrs. T. Smith Brewer, chairman of the advisory committee on the luncheon sponsored by women's organizations in this area, will conduct the program.



Rev. Cummings

Mrs. L. Creed Neff will introduce the speakers and honorees.

Mrs. Brewer said Friday reservations had been received from Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Stuart of Greenup, Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Clark of Bowling Green, Ky., Editor in Chief Raymond Brewster of the Huntington Publishing Co. and Mrs. Brewster, Dr. Harry Barba and Mrs. Herman E. Kirby of the Marshall University English department; H. R. Pinckard, editorial page editor of The Herald-Dispatch and The Herald-Advertiser; Bruce Bennett Brown, Pikeville (Ky.) College librarian; Quentin Reynolds, Pike County, Ky., author; Mrs. Kathleen Hensley Browning of Charleston, a South Charleston High School faculty member, and other authors, educators, etc., who encourage creative writing.

discover makes us happier than one who has found golden spoil. Every attentive audience is a delight; every look of interest on a human countenance flashes back to illuminate our own. Above all, when the tears of penitence course down the cheeks of a soul coming to the Saviour, there is not only joy in heaven over the return of the wanderer, but there is also joy in our own hearts too great to utter. It is then that we are fully repaid for our labors.

While many regard the ministry with more or less contempt, it is, nevertheless, superior to any other calling in life. Hear the sublime words of Theodore Cuyler, "When the most splendid talent has attained the loftiest round in the ladder of promotion, that round is many rungs lower than a pulpit in which a consecrated tongue proclaims a living Christianity to a dying world. What Lord Eldon from the bar, what Webster from the Senate chamber, what Sir Walter Scott from the realms of romance, what Darwin from the field of science or what monarch from Wall street can carry his laurels or his gold up to the judgment seat and say, "These are my joy and crown?" The laurels and gold will be dust—ashes." But with the minister it is different. He has something far more abiding. He deals with immortal souls and labors for eternity. And when arrayed before the great white throne as he sees men and women that he has led to Christ, he can then say, "These are my glory and joy."

And now this personal word today marks the close of my 25th year as a pastor. For a quarter of a century it has been my privilege to be a spiritual shepherd. In 1910, I was assigned to the Monterey circuit, and preached at Boomer, Longacre, Edgewater, Union, Donwood, Mt. Carbon, Kimberly, Powellton and Elkridge. From there I was sent to Clay, then to Ripley and on to Proctor. Later I was stationed in Wheeling. While there I took unto myself a wife, and then the war broke out—I mean the world war. I enlisted with the colors and was sent to Camp Meade, Md. After the Armistice was signed, I returned to West Virginia and for a few months did evangelistic work. At Glen White, it was my pleasure to organize a charge and I remained there some five years. From there I was moved to Ceredo and was in that city four years. And then, as you know the bishop sent me to Fayetteville circuit eight years ago. Just how long I shall reside here, I do not know. The future is wisely concealed from me. But whether I go or stay, my prayer is that I may be faithful to the trust that has been committed to me.

CUMMINGS AT CONFERENCE

Rev. M. Homer Cummings, of the local M. E. church, left Tuesday for Buckhannon to attend the 89th annual session of the M. E. conference which began its sessions there on Wednesday, with Bishop Adna W. Leonard presiding. About 500 are present at the gathering.

Merging of the northern and southern wings of the church will be the chief consideration at this session of the conference.

Rev. Cummings, Composer, Checker Player Horseshoe Pitcher, Is Preparing to Leave Fayetteville After 12 Years Service

Homer Cummings is leaving next week.

He is Rev. M. Homer Cummings, nationally known composer of sacred songs, ardent prohibitionist who has never quit that fight, a very good performer in the ancient game of horseshoe pitching, and one of Fayetteville's crack checker players.

He has been here 12 years as pastor of the local M. E. church, and that is one of the longest periods of service at one station ever known in the history of the West Virginia Methodist conference. He has long since become a "residentifier," and it has been only since the Fairmont conference that Fayetteville actually realized that he is leaving.

To the nation, of course, he is a composer. He has written at least 500 songs and possibly 1,000. He doesn't know himself. Both words and music have come from his talented pen.

In addition he has set to music a number of the famous poems of Fanny Crosby. These include "My Grace Is Sufficient For Thee," "Come Unto Me," "The Soul Cheering Promise," "What is Your Hope of the Future," and "No Sorrow in Heaven."

Many of his songs have been broadcast over WLW through the "Hymns of All Churches" program conducted by Joe Emmerson, and Mr. Cummings himself has conducted devotional services over a nationwide hookup from there on nine occasions. More than 100 stations have sent this program into every nook and corner of the nation, and Mr. Cummings has received much "fan mail" from listeners.

The popularity of his songs is shown too, in the fact that the

16 books which he has published have sold more than 700,000 copies to date.

In Fayetteville, Mr. Cummings has been, not a nationally known composer, but just the Methodist preacher who while a hard fighter for the things in which he believed, was nonetheless a fair one. And, though the fight itself be bitter, his greatest antagonist might be his companion in a sparkling tussle across the checker board or at the horseshoe pegs.

He is a personable man, somewhat slight of build with a soft voice that, once he is known "turneth away wrath" in a pleasing manner. He is not an orator, neither is he a stammerer in his sermonizing. Rather, he speaks as he would to an individual. His manner is kindly, his sincerity is unquestioned, and as the years pass his tolerance has become noteworthy.

As "The prophet is not without honor save in his own country," so has it been with him here. To be sure, Fayetteville and the surrounding communities have known of his compositions and the fame attendant upon them, but rather, he has been seen here as one whose musical renditions—both instrumental and vocal—have brought peace to the griefstricken, whose sincerity of purpose has endeared him as a man, and whose kindness has marked him as a doer of good deeds.

Mr. Cummings will preach his last sermon here on Sunday morning. That an overflow crowd will hear him is certain. On Tuesday of next week he leaves for Williamstown, where a much larger field awaits him.

And Fayetteville is beginning to realize that it will miss Homer Cummings very much.

COMPOSER TELLS OF CHURCH NEEDS.

At a ministerial meeting held Monday at the Fourth Street Methodist Episcopal Church in Wheeling, "Hymnology of the Church" was the topic of a most interesting paper presented at the afternoon session by Rev. M. Homer Cummings, of Proctor.

Rev. Cummings is a composer of the "Songs of Buelah" and a number of other hymns. He recommends a book of hymns for the West Virginia churches in order that every church hymnal might be uniform. The presentation of the paper led to an interesting discussion, in which a large number of the ministers took part.

Rev. Cummings is well known in this city and the hymns of which he is author are highly esteemed by the church people of this community.

SONG ON MOTHER

Rev. M. Homer Cummings Composes
Song That is Very Appropriate.

Rev. J. Homer Cummings, well-known local Methodist minister of the gospel, pastor of the Steenrod, and Greggs M. E. churches, is being complimented on a splendid new song that he has composed and which was rendered for the first time on last Sunday at the First M. E. church of this city in connection with the appearance of Miss Elinor Stafford Millar of Australia, who is delivering a number of addresses in the city.

The words are very catchy and pay a glowing tribute to "Mother," while the song is one that will appeal to all and one that has been endorsed by music critics throughout the local district. It promises to be one of the big hits of the season and the young artist is to be complimented on his able work, it being one of a number of very fine songs composed by him.

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As "The prophet is not without honor save in his own country," so has it been with him here. To be sure, Fayetteville and the surrounding communities have known of his compositions and the fame attendant upon them, but rather, he has been seen here as one whose musical renditions—both instrumental and vocal—have brought peace to the griefstricken, whose sincerity of purpose has endeared him as a man, and whose kindness has marked him as a doer of good deeds.

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Compiles Songs



HOMER CUMMINGS

CEREDO MINISTER PUBLISHES SONGS

Rev. M. Homer Cummings Compiles Books of "Choice Collections"

HAS WRITTEN SINCE YOUTH

More Than Three Hundred Productions Published—"Mother" Has Had Mig Sale

Rev. M. Homer Cummings, pastor of the First Methodist church in Ceredo, is the compiler of "Choice Collections," a group of old favorite hymns of the church and the most popular of the recent evangelistic songs, which has just come from the press.

Mr. Cummings, who has been in Ceredo for the last two years, has been a writer of verse since he was fourteen years old. He is probably the only person in the state who ever published a book of gospel songs.

"Choice Collections" differs from other song books of that kind in that it gives a brief biographical sketch of most of the composers, and their songs classified in one group.

Mr. Cummings' song entitled "Mother," recorded by Homer Rodeheaver, has had a wide sale. In the verses Mr. Cummings delights that his mother taught him to pray at her knee when he was still a small boy.

"I Want My Life to Count for Jesus," and "Come Home," are sacred songs from Mr. Cummings' pen which

have a wide appeal, and which are in sheet music.

One of his books which is generally used in the churches is "Songs of Salvation and Service." This volume contains probably one of his best published songs, "My Savior Cares."

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CUMMINGS WILL SING NEW WORK

Ceredo Pastor, Composer of New Song, Will Sing It Next Sunday.

Having already attracted wide attention in his three short months at the Ceredo Methodist church with his remarkable musical programs which accompany his sermons, Rev. M. Homer Cummings, the new pastor, has written and set to music another hymn called "Come Home."

Mr. and Mrs. Cummings, both of whom have rare musical talent, will sing the new hymn for the first time at the morning and evening services at the Ceredo M. E. church, Sunday.

Mr. Cummings has composed many church hymns now sung throughout the country. He is widely known as a composer-musician. Since his coming to the Ceredo Methodist pastorate recently he has become known to the church goers of Huntington, Kenova and Ceredo and is admired and liked by all who know him. He has accomplished much with his Ceredo charge, directing the choir each Sunday.

CUMMINGS' SERMON

One of the largest congregations attended church last Sunday evening at the Ceredo M. E. church that has ever attended for many years. The church was crowded to capacity to hear Rev. Cummings deliver a sermon on the subject of Mother's Day. Rev. Cummings held the congregation interested throughout service, and many were they that wended their way homeward thinking very seriously of what they had heard. The following is summing up of the Mother's Day sermon delivered by Mr. Cummings:

"For a number of years our churches have been observing Mother's Day. This is a beautiful custom and is proving very helpful to the work of the kingdom. It is also an inspiration and a blessing to the mothers and to the children, but unfortunately the fathers have been almost entirely forgotten or neglected in these services. He has come to think too often that he has no part either in the church services or in the home. This is a sad mistake. The time has arrived when he should be given to understand that he is an important factor in the life of the child and in the progress of the church of the living God. I would not for a moment take away one particle of the honor and responsibility from the mother, but I want to emphasize the father's duty and influence.

"Too many men are brother-in-laws of the church. All of their religion is in their wives' names. They expect the mothers to look after the spiritual welfare of their children while they (the fathers) provide for the temporal needs of the family. But the child can not receive the proper religious training unless both parents perform their respective parts. It is not enough to clothe and feed your offspring. Their souls, as well as their bodies and intellects, should be nurtured and developed. This can not be done by the mother alone; the father must also help.

"Children are born imitators. They do that which they see others do. The boy often follows in the footsteps of his father. If his father swears, drinks, gambles, desecrates the Sabbath, scoffs at religion and stays away from the church, in nine cases out of ten his son will do likewise. He wants to be like the greatest man in the world."

GEORGE THACKER

Wise and Otherwise

By M. Homer Cummings, O. Y.

Beauty is only (chamois) skin deep. A woman likes to be called bright. But don't tell her that her nose shines.

If you come out at the little end of the horn, turn around and blow it.

Your wrist watch is very modest. It keeps its hands over its face and runs itself down.

Some of our boys are so musical they take the bands off their hats and play them.

Americans can't fight, eh? Ask the clown prince.

Sergt. H. J. McCann, 5th Company, 154th Depot Brigade, is recovering from an injury sustained a few weeks ago. While in the hospital he received such royal treatment from the nurses he still is singing, "I Don't Want to Get Well."

Corp. Carter of P-19, 5th Company, asked "Ambition" the number of his fire box, and he replied, "Two by four," meaning twenty-four.

One of the Y men went to Washington last Monday for two reels of comedy. They gave him "The Widow's Mite."

Those who saw the movie, "My Four Years in Germany," Thursday and Friday, learned that in addition to crucifying babies, slaughtering women and children, poisoning wells and sinking hospital ships, the kaiser has another hobby—a hobby horse.

Private Jacob Weikel of B-15, 29th Company, says that if women were soldiers they would be constantly using the "powder" puff.

We asked one of the men at the mess hall at O-13 for a joke. He handed us the B. and O. time table.

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paid little or no attention to West Virginia as a state. Altho admitted to the Union on June 20, 1863 the state was still looked upon as Virginia by John E. Dempsey, a Lieutenant of Thurmond's Company.

"Camp Wolf Creek, Monroe Co., Va., February 4th, 1865.

C. A. DeQuasie, member of my company has leave of absence from camp for (13) thirteen days.

John E. Dempsey,

Editor Gazette:

Who is this man of whom I write?
The front page is his chief delight.
He cuts all kinds of shines and capers
To get his name put in the papers.
He works for headlines day and night
With fervor and bombastic might.
He does not stick to truth and facts
Whene'er he launches his attacks;
The innocent he'd gladly smear
If he a hero could appear.
He is a New and Fair Deal hater
And calls a Democrat a traitor—
Should he refer to Harry Truman,
His words would be almost inhuman.
Who is this person, what's his name?
'Twas from the Badger State he came.
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—A Reader

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ST. ALBANS GIRL BECOMES BRIDE

Miss Ruth Cummings Is Wed at Home of Uncle at Fayetteville

—ST. ALBANS

Mr. and Mrs. Edgar E. Cummings, of the "Pines," on College hill, announce the marriage of their daughter, Ruth, to Mr. George W. Pride, of Morgantown, May 21, at the home of the bride's uncle, Rev. M. Homer Cummings, at Fayetteville, who read the ceremony.

Mrs. Pride, who has lived in St. Albans all her life, is a graduate of the high school and the state university. She was a member of the Kappa Tau Phi sorority and the Kappa Delta Phi, national educational fraternity. Mrs. Pride taught in the Fairview junior high school for three years.

Mr. Pride has been connected with the engineering section of the war department for three years. He was graduated from Morgantown high school and West Virginia university and is a member of Scabbard Blade fraternity and Red Dragon, an honorary military fraternity. Mr. and Mrs. Pride will make their home at Morgantown.

Guests at the wedding were Miss Belle King, of St. Albans and Mr. Gene Dunbar, of Gauley Bridge.

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FORMER HOME
DEMONSTRATION PRICE
KROGER'S MAJESTIC
ALUMINUM 2 QT.
SAUCEPAN
... Thick, molded alum
... Steamtight cover
Cool, insulated handle.
JUST DO THIS: Ask for ex
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SAVES FLAVOR • SAVES V
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AUTHOR OF 1,000 HYMNS

Cummings Marks 50 Years In Methodist Church Pulpits

A Kanawha County pastor will celebrate the 50th anniversary of his entry into the ministry this Sunday.

Rev. M. Homer Cummings of Glasgow, who has held 12 pastorates in the West Virginia Methodist Conference, was licensed to preach in 1907.

ANNIVERSARY ceremonies will be held at Glasgow Methodist Church, of which he has been pastor for 10 years, at 11 a. m. DST Sunday. Rev. Cummings will reflect on his years in the ministry and Rep. Robert C. Byrd (D-WVa) will speak.

Mr. Cummings was graduated from Trevecca College in Nash-



Rev. M. Homer Cummings
A Half Century's Service

ville, Tenn., and attended the University of Chattanooga. He did evangelistic work for three years before being assigned to a pastorate at Boomer. He served in Fayetteville for 12 years and was at Coalwood before coming to Glasgow.

He is the author of almost 1,000 hymns, of which 300 have been published and many included in standard hymnals. Among his best known works are "I Want My Life to Count With Jesus" and "The Old Brick Church."

His hymns will be used during the Sunday anniversary service.

A native of Monroe County, he is married and the father of two sons—Dr. M. Homer Cummings Jr., a Huntington surgeon, and Dr. J. Hugh Cummings, a Williamstown pastor. He has 10 grandchildren.

Surprise Party Tendered Pastor

A large number of the members of the M. E. church tendered the pastor, Rev. Homer Cummings, and wife a very pleasant surprise last Friday evening with a donation party. Each participant "pounded" Mr. and Mrs. Cummings in a most delightful manner, although no physical harm was done to neither of them. The dining and kitchen tables were laden with edibles and useful articles which came in very nicely, as the couple are just setting up housekeeping in our town. Several pleasant hours were spent by all at the parsonage and the donors were the recipient of the heart-fest thanks from Mr. and Mrs. Cummings.

REV. CUMMINGS' FATHER DIES

Rev. M. Homer Cummings and family left for Sinks Grove, Monroe county, the first of last week, having been called there on account of the serious illness of Mr. C.'s father, H. M. Cummings.

The sufferer, who had pneumonia, passed away on Tuesday of last week. He was 69 years of age.

Funeral was held on Thursday and the body was buried in a cemetery near the deceased's home.

Rev. M. Homer Cummings, the new M. E. minister, preached his first sermons to a Ceredo audience last Sunday. He made a very favorable impression, all those who heard him being well pleased. His family will arrive here some time this week.

CORNER COUPLET

By M. HOMER CUMMINGS

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WISHES

"If wishes were horses," folks say,
"Then beggars would ride ev'ry day."

Former Local Minister Writes 300 Hymns

Rev. Homer Cummings, pastor of the Glen White M. E. church, in the southern part of the state; and a former minister at Fulton M. E. church, is an interesting visitor at the conference.

Rev. Cummings has written close to 300 Methodist hymns in the past few years, which are used in five different hymn books. One of his songs, entitled "Mother," recently appeared on the Rainbow records, which are sung by Homer Rodeheaver, the famous singer and choir leader of the Billy Sunday party.

Rev. Cummings in an interview, gave an interesting discussion of Glen White, which he claims is almost a model mining town, in sharp contrast to many of the towns in the coal sections. Glen White has the reputation of being the most beautiful mining town in the country, and although it only has a population of a little more than a thousand people, twelve governors have visited it within the last two years, and Billy Sunday stopped there for services. The coal operators of the district are interested in religious work, and Rev. Cummings gets splendid co-operation on the part of the population. The operators also take a personal interest in their workers, endeavor to share their profits, and pay good wages, the average wage of each man being \$2,000. There are children's playgrounds, free motion pictures and a free mining school, where workers can become more proficient in the trade.

MONROE BOY NOW A TALENTED MAN AND MINISTER

The following taken from the Huntington Herald-Dispatch relates to a native-born son of Monroe of whom the old county is proud, the Rev. M. Homer Cummings, now pastor of the Ceredo (W. Va.) M. E. Church South:

"Having already attracted wide attention in his three short months at the Ceredo Methodist church with his remarkable musical programs which accompany his sermons, Rev. M. Homer Cummings, the new pastor, has written and set to music another hymn called "Come Home."

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INSPIRING BOOK OF GOSPEL HYMNS

"Songs of Salvation and Service" is the title of a most inspiring singing book that comes to us from the publisher, M. Homer Cummings, of Wheeling, W. Va. It is the revised edition, and embraces a collection of the very choicest of gospel hymns for Sunday schools, young peoples' societies, revivals, devotional meetings and the home.

After a careful examination of the book, we very cheerfully testify to its worth. We find it contains a large number of the old favorites and many new selections that are soul-thrilling and sure to make the book one of the most popular on the market. It cannot otherwise than prove a blessing wherever used. The book is compiled by M. Homer Cummings, Millard F. Compton and L. B. Bowers, with E. O. Excell as musical editor. Send 35 cents for a cloth bound copy.

ROCK ME TO SLEEP, SUMMER (A Parody.)

By M. Homer Cummings,
Wheeling, W. Va.

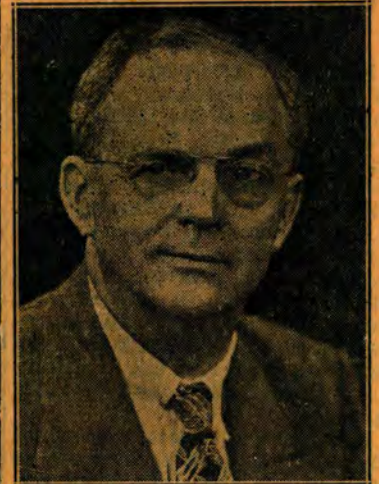
Backward, turn backward, O Time
In your flight,
Give me July again just for tonight!
Summer, come back from your far
away shore,
Let me abide in your presence once
more;
Kiss from my forehead the winter's
cold blast,
Melt the snow-flakes that are flying
so fast;
Over my slumber your loving watch
keep,
Rock me to sleep, Summer, rock me
to sleep!

Backward, flow backward, O Tide of
the heat!
I am so weary of frost-bitten feet,—
Toes that are frozen and stinging
with pain—
Oh, for the breath of the summer
again!
I have grown weary of zero each day.
Weary of having more gas bills to
pay;
Weary of freezing while howling
winds sweep,
Rock me to sleep, Summer, rock me
to sleep!

Tired of December and January, too,
Summer, O Summer, my heart calls
for you!
Oh, how I long for the hot, sultry
breeze—
Flies and mosquitoes and busy sweat
bees;
Woods that are smiling and harvests
of grain,
Birds sweetly singing their joyous
refrain,
Come from your silence so long and
so deep;
Rock me to sleep, Summer, rock me
to sleep.

M. Homer Cummings To Speak Here

Rev. M. Homer Cummings, former pastor of the Fayetteville Methodist Church, will be the guest speaker at that church this coming Sunday, October 19. Rev. Cummings is known throughout this section of the United States for his song writing. He will use some of his latest hymns in the service. Rev. Cummings who



was pastor of the Fayetteville church for twelve years, is now retired and lives in Huntington.

This Sunday will also mark the Day of Remembrance in the West Virginia Methodist Conference. On this day, retired Methodist ministers are honored in West Virginia. A special offering will be taken for this cause.

Rev. M. H. Cummings arrived here last Friday to assume the pastorate of this charge, M. E. Church, in place of Rev. G. R. Thomas, who very recently resigned the charge. Rev. Cummings is a young man, but he is an eloquent and forceful speaker and, judging from his sermon delivered here Sunday night, a good preacher. He is a pleasant, affable and genial gentleman, and we bespeak for him a successful and profitable year on the charge. We are not advised as to the plans of Rev. Thomas, but infer that he is called to work elsewhere. He was a good pastor and was well liked by the people of his several congregations.

CORNER COUPLET
By M. HOMER CUMMINGS
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BURDEN AND BLESSING
Life is a burden to bear;
Also a blessing to share.

READERS' FORUM

They Who Get Slapped— But in a Very Nice Way!

Editor The Gazette:

At last it has happened! The impossible has been accomplished, the incongruous amalgamated, and the harmonious confluence of incompatible elements consummated. The pewter handle has been welded to the wooden spoon. Oil and water have mixed. The wolf and the lamb feed together and the spider and the fly are boon companions. The Gazette and the Mail, in the midst of a political campaign, are occupying the same building. O tempora! O mores!

One paper cries: "Let Richard Milhoan Nixon do all our nation's fixin'." The other answers, "Nay, let us go all the way with Kennedy and L. B. J."

The Prophet Daniel in the night visions beheld beasts, "dreadful and terrible," but it is doubtful if he ever saw one that had the head of an elephant and the tail of a donkey; or a fowl with two heads—one an eagle and the other a rooster.

But dispensing with all nonsense, you have two great newspapers and I want to take this occasion to thank you for the kindness that you have shown me in a ministry of more than half a century. You have been more than courteous. I wish you well.

(Rev.) M. Homer Cummings
130 Cedar St.
Huntington

Pastor Reviews Evolution From Rail Bike to Highway

Twenty - Six Years a Preacher, Has Three Charges Now

Fayetteville, July 11—The Rev. M. Homer Cummings, of this city, has evolved from a circuit rider on a railroad bicycle to an automobile rider on modern highways.

He is not a hold-over from the horse-and-buggy days, he explains. For prior to his purchase of an automobile in 1926 he either walked or rode his wheel along the railroad.

It is 26 years since Mr. Cummings accepted his first charge which consisted of nine appointments—nine different places to preach. Those nine were scattered along Kanawha river and Armstrong Creek and were, nominally, Boomer, Mt. Carbon, Edgewater, Kimberly, Powellton, Deepwater, Elkridge, Longacre and Donwood.

The railroads permitted the pastor to ride a rail wheel along the branch lines, but not on the main lines, and he had to have his schedules down fairly pat.

The open saloon was in its heyday and the patrons of it were wild and wooley. Incidentally, Mr. Cummings says, the situation is just about reverting to type in many of the modern "beer joints."

Some of the places he went to preach were so steep that "a cow would fall out of the pasture," the pastor declared.

Most of those, however, were in his "walking" parishes. These were found in the more rural counties of Clay and Webster, and even in the mining county of Raleigh, where he preached at Glen White, Stotesbury, Fams, Devil's Fork, and Metalton. As a rule he didn't have to walk more than five miles to get to the church where he was scheduled to preach.

In all his career as a preacher, Mr. Cummings has had just one station charge—where he stayed in one place. That was at Ceredo where he remained four years. It was during the period of that charge that he bought and learned to drive his first automobile.

Today Mr. Cummings preaches at the church here, at Minden and Cunard. He travels at a leisurely rate for motoring but it would be a breakneck pace for a rail wheel or, say, Shank's mare.

When he sees a hitch-hiker doing more hiking than hitching it touching a sympathetic chord somewhere down deep within him as he recalls the days when he trudged his way to preach at a church five miles down some dusty road or winding near-cut. But when he sees a hitch-hiker begging for a hitch to avoid a hike, he ponders on modern progress and improvement.

Orfe didn't flag for a ride in the horse-and-buggy age—it might have scared the horse.

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By M. HOMER CUMMINGS
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LOOK BEFORE YOU LEAP
Don't plunge head-long o'er
chasms deep
But always look before you leap.

Corner Couplet

Copyright 1946
By M. HOMER CUMMINGS

BETTER TO BE CHEATED
'Tis better to be cheated than to
cheat,
And lose, than by foul means some-
one defeat.

NOTE here from Rev. M. Homer Cummings, who served as chaplain of the regular and extended session of the Legislature when it convened in the Kanawha Court House in 1931.

He recalls that the Hon. Alfred Taylor, then Speaker of the House, showed him a letter received from one of the ministers in the Kanawha Valley. It read:

"Dear Mr. Taylor. If you

will appoint me as Chaplain of the House of Delegates, I will pray twice as long and twice as loud as Preacher Cummings — for just half the price! . . ."

Mr. Cummings was paid the princely sum of \$4 a day to seek divine guidance for our lawmakers. What this state didn't need in those tedious times was a \$2 prayer.

Gilmore Will Graduate 22

Commencement Exercises to Be Held May 20; Cummings To Give Sermon on Sunday

Twenty-two graduates of Gilmore high school at Sandyville will receive their diplomas at exercises to be held in the high school auditorium at 8 o'clock Thursday evening, May 20. The address will be given by H. Laban White of Glenville State Teachers' college.

The other features of the program follow:

Invocation, the Rev. L. N. Fowler; music, high school glee club; salutatory address, "Give Us This Day an Inspiration," Stanley Taylor; music, glee club; valedictory address, "Future Obligations of the Youth of Today," Bobby Jean Coe; valedictory reading, "Carry On," Willa Mae Coast; music, glee club; Mr. White's address; special music, Marjorie Mallett, Lucille Shimp, Betty Jane Curry, Edith Boggess, Reva Bradley; Helen Weekley, Frank Critchfield, Clair Hill, and Howard McGrew; present members of class, M. J. McDermott, principal; presentation of diplomas, by a representative of the board of education, and benediction.

Cummings Will Talk

The annual graduation sermon will be delivered at 8 p. m. Sunday, May 16, by the Rev. M. Homer Cummings, pastor of the Walton Memorial Methodist church of Ravenswood. The program follows:

Processional; invocation, Mr. Fowler; song, glee club; anthem, glee club; sermon; hymn, glee club; benediction, Mr. Fowler, and recessional.

The class night program is being held at 8 o'clock Thursday evening in the high school.

Following are members of the Gilmore senior class:

Evelyn Angus, Cecil Boyce, Gloria Barnett, Emma Lee Callahan, James Coast, Willa Mae Coast, Bobby Jean Coe, Carol Davis, Bernice Dragoo, Mart

(Please Turn to Page 6)

Will Present Sermon



The Rev. M. Homer Cummings, pastor of the Walton Memorial Methodist church, will give the graduation sermon at the Gilmore high school on Sunday at 8 p. m.

Corner Couplet

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By M. HOMER CUMMINGS

BOASTERS

'Tis not the folks who boast
Who always do the most.

NO PRAYERS

Editor, The Herald - Advertiser:

As a native of West Virginia and a retired Methodist preacher who has spent 56 years in the ministry, I am distressed and alarmed at the recent ruling of the Attorney General of our state in regard to Bible reading and prayer in the school room. I did not think that it could happen here!

According to news dispatches, "A moment of silent prayer where each student composes his own prayer" is prohibited by the order. Can it be possible that little children are not permitted to offer silent prayer to their heavenly Father in the school room? What would happen if they violated this decree and felt that they should obey God rather than man? Would they like Daniel be thrown into a den of lions?

West Virginia reached the century mark in June of this year. For 100 years, the Bible could be read and prayers offered in our schools. We have been proud of our great state and noble heritage. Our motto was; Mountaineers are always free!

But now alas! this has changed. As the Centennial year draws to a close, we hang our heads in shame. Religious liberty has suffered a stunning blow. "A moment of silent prayer where each student composes his own prayer is not allowed in our schools."

Our Saviour said, "Suffer little children to come unto Me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God."

M. HOMER CUMMINGS,
130 Cedar Street.

IT happens to the best of them, and Rev. M. Homer Cummings, former Glasgow minister now living in Huntington, certainly qualifies.

Visiting his son, Rev. J. Hugh Cummings, pastor of Central Methodist Church in Charleston recently, the elder Mr. Cummings celebrated his 70th birthday.

His granddaughter, Margaret Ann, 11, asked, "How old are you, Grandpa?"

"I'm a septuagenarian," Mr. Cummings stated with a smile.

"What's that?" the granddaughter queried.

"Well," Mr. Cummings cagily replied. "That's three score and 10 . . . which, according to the Psalms, is the allotted time of man on earth."

"Oh, no, Grandpa," gasped Margaret Ann. "That couldn't be right. Why, Abraham Lincoln was four score and seven years old!"

HANDSOME TRIBUTES TO MONROE NATIVE

(From Fayette Tribune)

Homer Cummings is leaving Fayetteville. He is Rev. M. Homer Cummings, nationally known composer of sacred songs, ardent prohibitionist who has never quit that fight, a very good performer in the ancient game of horseshoe pitching, and one of Fayetteville's crack checker players.

He has been here 12 years as pastor of the local M. E. church, and that is one of the longest periods of service at one station ever known in the history of the West Virginia Methodist Conference. He has long since become a "residentifier", and it has been only since the Fairmont conference that Fayetteville actually realized that he is leaving.

To the nation, of course, he is a composer. He has written at least 500 songs and possibly 1,000. He doesn't know himself. Both words and music have come from his talented pen.

In addition he has set to music a number of the famous poems of Fanny Crosby. These include "My Grace Is Sufficient For Thee," "Come Unto Me," "The Soul Cheering Promise," "What is Your Hope of the Future," and "No Sorrow in Heaven."

Many of his songs have been broadcast over WLW through the "Hymns of All Churches" program conducted by Joe Emmerson, and Mr. Cummings himself has conducted devotional services over a nationwide hookup from there on nine occasions. More than 100 stations have sent this program into every nook and corner of the nation, and Mr. Cummings has received much "fan mail" from listeners.

The popularity of his songs is shown too, in the fact that the 16 books which he has published have sold more than 700,000 copies to date.

(Rev. Mr. Cummings is a native of near Union and is a son of the late Mr. Hugh M. Cummings and Mrs. Cummings. He was transferred by the W. Va. Conference from Fayetteville to Williamstown in Parkersburg District.)

(From Shirley Donnelly's Article)

When the Methodist powers that be transferred the Reverend M. Homer Cummings from this section of the Lord's mortal vineyard to another and less favored one, I for one, was sorry indeed. It isn't often that you hear a minister say complimentary things about one of his own calling and most especially when the minister is one of another denomination. When a Baptist minister with distinct Southern leanings can say something nice about a Methodist minister with Northern antecedents you can bet your bottom dollar the fellow really has it coming to him or else the millenium has come. But once in a while extremes like this have a happy way of meeting or else coming pretty close together.

I have known Homer Cummings for over 25 years. I first met him at Ripley, West Virginia, when he was in charge of the Methodist flock at the ancient Jackson county seat. I heard him preach several times there. A quarter of a century ago back in Jackson county if a fellow wore white trousers in the summer time he was looked upon as somewhat of a dandy. Cummings wore the said white trousers and some of the old saints arched their eyebrows in a disapproving manner. Cummings was then right much of a checker player and that brought down upon him a tirade of which he never knew. I was then getting ready for the ministry and all this made quite an impression upon what I called my mind. I saw that a minister would have a lot to put up with and have no easy time of it in this unfriendly world.

Given to music, blessed with a good gospel singing voice and the ability to compose both the words and music to hymns, Cummings has become a national figure in the realm of hymnology. He has written and published scores and hundreds of hymns. His hymn books have had wide circulation for years. Lots of local people here never knew that the Homer Cummings who wrote many of the hymns they sing and love was the same Homer Cummings of Fayetteville, West Virginia. It is the old story of a prophet in his own country, you know, and of blessings brightening as they take their flight. Cummings was an ardent prohibitionist and wrote much along that line. He once told me that he liked to write but always found himself winding up on a "dry" note when he wrote for the newspapers. He dedicated a hymn or two to me and I have always appreciated it. Once he heard me speak at a funeral and then set down my thought in song, making a special trip to my church to give me a private audition of the song.

The radio audiences all over the country well knew Mr. Cummings. He occasionally spoke over the Nation's Station, WLW, Cincinnati, Ohio. On one occasion he spoke over this station and received over two hundred letters and cards from those who heard him speak and sing. I was happy to hear he was received with such acceptance. The Charleston station, WCHS, used my old friend a lot and his ministry over the air from there blessed multitudes. Once or twice, for whole sessions, he served our state legislature as Chaplain,

journeying back and forth from Fayetteville to Charleston to pray for our legislative Solons.

Written By Local Man

Hymn Commemorates 'Aldersgate Sunday'

By DORIS MILLER

Aldersgate Sunday will be observed May 19 by Methodist churches around the world. The Rev. M. Homer Cummings, retired minister of the West Virginia Conference of the Methodist Church, who lives in Huntington, has a hymn he wrote for the 200th anniversary of the occasion Aldersgate Sunday commemorates which will be used in several area churches next Sunday. It is entitled, "Has your Heart Been Warmed?"

Mr. Cummings, the conference poet laureate, has written hundreds of hymns, many of which are in use in area churches. He also has written the following explanation of John Wesley's Aldersgate experience.

John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, was born in England on June 17, 1703. He was the 15th child in a family of 19.

He was reared in a parsonage. His father was a minister and his mother was a devout Christian. His parents brought him up in the "nurture and admonition of the Lord." At the age of 22, he received his holy orders and was licensed to preach.

As a clergyman, he was faithful and energetic. He visited the sick, studied the Scriptures, prayed earnestly and in every way possible sought to perform his sacred duties.

But there was a longing in the young minister's soul that was not satisfied. In vain, he sought to obtain salvation by good works. Once in despair, he cried out, "I went to America to convert the Indians, but oh, who shall convert me?"

After searching for 13 years to find peace and rest in Christ, he began to feel light dawning on him on May 24, 1738. In the morning of that day, his eyes fell upon these words of the Bible, "Thou art not far from the kingdom."

In the evening, he went very unwillingly to the meeting of a young men's society on Aldersgate Street in London, where he heard a reading of Luther's preface to the Book of Romans. At about a quarter of nine, as he was listening to the description of the change God works in the heart, he felt his heart "strangely warmed."

It was then that he felt he did trust in Christ alone for salvation. He said, "An assurance was given me that He had taken away my



REV. M. H. CUMMINGS

sins, even mine, and saved me from the law of sin and death." The events of that evening since have become known to Methodism as his "Aldersgate experience."

After that important epoch in his life, John Wesley became one of the greatest preachers of all time. He was a flaming evangel. Although he lived back in the horse and buggy days, he traveled some 225,000 miles and preached more than 40,000 sermons, some of them to congregations exceeding 20,000 persons.

John Wesley died March 2, 1791, in his 88th year. His last words were, "The best of all is, God is with us."

Has Your Heart Been Warmed?

"I felt my heart strangely warmed. An assurance was given me that He had taken away my sins."—John Wesley's Aldersgate experience, May 24, 1738. "Did not our heart burn within us, while He talked with us by the way?"—Luke 24:32.
M. H. C. Copyright, 1938, by M. Homer Cummings M. HOMER CUMMINGS

DUET

1. Has your heart been warmed by the pow-er of God? Have you
2. Has your heart been warmed by a jour-ney with Him? Have you
3. Has your heart been warmed by His in-fi-nite love? Are you

felt His Spir-it with-in? Do you walk the path that the
talked with Him in the way? Does your light shine bright-ly or
seek-ing souls gone a-stray? To re-deem the lost, Je-sus

CHORUS

saints of old trod? Does He cleanse you now from all sin?
has it grown dim? Do you strive His will to o-bey? Has your
came from a-bove, And He longs to save them to-day.

heart been strangely warmed by His pow'r? Do you feel His presence each hour? Is your

soul a-flame? Are you praising His name? Has your heart been warmed by His pow'r?

ALDERSGATE SUNDAY HYMN

Just Look For The Nearest Piano To Find The Rev. M. H. Cummings

By FRANK BALL

"Where's Rev. M. Homer Cummings?" someone asked in the Agnes Howard hall of West Virginia Wesleyan College in Buckhannon while the Methodist conference was in session there.

"I don't know," was the answer.

"Then where's the nearest piano?" came the next question.

The questioner knew he would likely find the Rev. M. Homer Cummings, the Charles Wesley of West Virginia, at a piano somewhere trying out one of his latest compositions.

Rev. Cummings has been writing hymns since 1910. He has over 1,000 poems which he has set to music and has had over 400 published in various hymnals.

Several Published

He has had several hymnals published himself and many churches throughout West Virginia and nearby states use his hymnals and sing songs of his composition. His first song, a hymn titled "Some Day," was published in sheet music in 1910. And only the author of prose or music knows the thrill that comes with seeing his first song, story or article in print.

"Choice Collections," "Let Everybody Sing," "Golden Gospel Gems," "Comforting Carols," and "Sing Hosannas" are a few of his books. Choice Collections has sold over 300,000 copies.

While the Cummings carols are sprinkled heavily through-



THE REV. M. HOMER CUMMINGS

out all these books, not all songs contained in them are by his authorship. Some of his songs are "The Old Brick Church," "I Want My Life to Count For Jesus," "Only the Best," "Ask and It Shall be Given You," "Christ is the Answer," and "Christ Above All," are a few of the songs he has written.

Began At Boomer

Rev. Cummings began his ministry at Boomer in Fayette county in 1907 and is the oldest minister in the West Virginia Conference in point of service. He served the following charges in the order named:

Clay in Clay county; Ripley in Jackson county; Proctor in Wetzel county; Fulton in Ohio

county; Camp Meade, Maryland; Glen White in Raleigh county; Ravenswood in Jackson county; Coalwood in McDowell county; and he is serving his twelfth year as pastor of the Glasgow Methodist Church in Kanawha County. His total length of service is 51 years.

Born in Monroe county, he married Miss Mary Kachman. They have two children: the Rev. J. Hugh Cummings, Th. D., pastor of the Methodist Church

Less Than Thi

WASHINGTON (AP)—The National Housing Conference said Saturday that fewer than 30 per cent of all American families can afford to buy and maintain a new house at present prices.

It made this estimate on the

Fire Destroys Korean Village

TAEGU, Korea (UPI)—Sparks from an overheated rice mill started a fire which burned down an entire village of 98 houses near here, police reported Saturday.

Police said the fire left 431 persons homeless. Two persons were slightly injured.

at Williamstown in Ohio county; and Dr. M. Homer Cummings, Jr., Huntington surgeon and member of the Cabell County Board of Education.

Rev. Cummings has written a short feature for the Welch Daily News for 12 years.

Mr. Cummings doesn't know where his talent for music comes from. Neither of his parents played any kind of musical instrument. His father was a very good singer, however.

The Rev. M. Homer Cummings known as the Charles Wesley of West Virginia, has written gospel songs that have brought considerable attention to this area. Frank Ball tells the story in Sunday's paper.

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SONG ON MOTHER

Rev. M. Homer Cummings Composes Song That is Very Appropriate.

Rev. J. Homer Cummings, well-known local Methodist minister of the gospel, pastor of the Steenrod and Greggs M. E. churches, is being complimented on a splendid new song that he has composed and which was rendered for the first time on last Sunday at the First M. E. church of this city in connection with the appearance of Miss Elinor Stafford Millar of Australia, who is delivering a number of addresses in the city.

The words are very catchy and pay a glowing tribute to "Mother," while the song is one that will appeal to all and one that has been endorsed by music critics throughout the local district. It promises to be one of the big hits of the season and the young artist is to be complimented on his able work, it being one of a number of very fine songs composed by him.

CORNER COUPLET

By M. HOMER CUMMINGS

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TWO THINGS DON'T DO

There are two things that everybody should abhor:
To tell a man to marry or to go to war.

Life Is Coming and Going, Says Fayetteville Pastor

The Rev. M. H. Cummings Discusses Text
From Psalms

"Life is a coming and a going", according to the Rev. H. Homer Cummings, pastor of the Fayetteville Methodist church, who has contributed to The Gazette a sermon entitled, "Going Out and Coming In".

The sermon follows:

"Text. The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in, from this time forth, and even forevermore."—Psalms 121:8.

"More people are familiar with the Psalms than any other book in the Bible. Two reasons may be assigned for this: first, its brevity. There are many professing Christians who like to be able to say that they read a portion of the Scriptures every day. They awaken in the morning, go to their work, rush to their meals at noon, per-

(Please Turn to Page 5.)

Life Coming and Going, Says Fayetteville Pastor

(Continued from Page 1)

form the various tasks that are assigned to them in the afternoon, return home, eat supper, glance over the magazines and newspapers, attend the show, and come back tired and weary and just before retiring with their eyes so heavy that they can hardly keep them open and with their minds so confused that they can not concentrate upon anything, they pick up their Bibles and hunt the shortest Psalm that they can find and read it in such an indifferent and unconcerned way that if their very existence depended upon it, they could not tell you the next day what it contained. Dwight L. Moody, the famous evangelist, informs us that when he was a boy he worked on a farm and hoed corn so poorly that when he left off, it was necessary for him to take a stick and mark the place, so he would know the next morning where he had stopped the night before. If he had not done this, he would probably have hoed the same row over again. Do we peruse the word of God in such a careless manner?

"There are others who read the Psalms because of the spiritual help and comfort that they receive in so doing. What can afford one more implicit trust and confidence in Jehovah than the twenty-third Psalm—'The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul; he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Yea, tho' I walk thro' the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.' What can more vividly portray His watchful care for all those who trust in Him than the 121st Psalm, 'I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth. He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber. Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord is thy keeper: the Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand. The sun shall not smite thee by day nor the moon by night. The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil; he shall preserve thy soul. The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.'

Out of Infancy

"Our lives are one continuous round of going and coming—going out of infancy and coming into youth, out of youth into manhood, out of active life into age and feebleness, and out of this world into the next.

"I. Out of infancy into youth. The average weight of a boy at birth is seven and one half pounds and a girl six and one half pounds. In length, they measure about 20 inches. It hardly seems possible that we were all this small at one time, but such is the case. However, we do not remain that size very long. The first week of our sojourn here we lose steadily in weight. Sometimes a full pound is lost, but usually not more than a half pound. And then if we are normal, we continue to grow until at the age of 25 we are three and one-third times longer and about 20 times heavier than we were at birth. The first year of the child's life is the period of the greatest internal activity plasticity and adjustment to surroundings—hence the mortality. But considering the dangers to which the child is exposed, it is indeed miraculous that so many survive this period.

"II. Out of youth into manhood. This is the formative period. 'As the twig is bent, so the tree is inclined.' Impressions made then linger in our memories. Heaven seems so near. For that reason, we are commanded to remember our Creator in the days of our youth, and to seek first the kingdom of God.

"And then, after a few brief years we pass out of active life into old age and feebleness and then into the great Beyond. But how blessed it is for us to know that 'The Lord shall preserve our going out and coming in from this time forth, and even forevermore.'

"When as a child I laughed and wept.

Time crept.

When as a youth I thought and talked,

Time walked.

When I became a full-grown man,

Time ran.

When older still I daily grew,

Time flew.

Soon I shall find in passing on,

Time gone."

Dollar Day

Ditties

Arranged by Josh Hayseed

SHOE DEALERS.

And if you want a new pair shoes
Of kids or patent leather,
We'll make a discount of
one buck;

Our shoes will stand the
weather.

BOWLING SHOE STORE
Beckley, W. Va.

GROCERS.

And in the line of groceries
A dollar has the power,
To buy bargains in every-
thing

From canned goods up to
four.

SELF-SERVICE STORE.
Sugar 6c per lb. with other
goods.

Beckley, W. Va.

STATIONERS.

And when you see our line of
goods
You'll dance a joyful ca-
per!

We've bargains in most ev-
erything

From books to writing pa-
per.

**BECKLEY OFFICE EQUIP-
MENT CO.**

"The Book Store."
Beckley, W. Va.

CANDY

I know that you have got a
girl,
I'll bet she is a dandy.
And would appreciate your
gift—

A dollar box of candy.
WATKINS DRUG STORE.
A Tooth Brush with every
\$1.00 purchase.

Beckley, W. Va.

**"BECKLEY'S STYLE
CENTER"**

If you're looking for gifts
to please the feminine
heart,

Go to Sisler & Peck, you've
made the right start;
Our styles are the latest, our
prices are low,

And this is the place where
most women go.

SISLER-PECK CO.
Beckley, W. Va.

ROOSTER'S ROW.
(Court House Fence)

All day we'll sit
And chew and spit,
And watch the people shop-
ping
Until the light
Fades into night,

And then we'll go home hop-
ping.

This space is donated by
the Executive Committee of
Rooster's Row. All sittings
free.

DRY GOODS.

Our dollar bargains can't be
beat—
straw hats, silk hose, and
shirtings.

And discount on all other
goods—
Men's clothes and women's
skirtings.

Call and see us. \$1.00 off
on every purchase of \$10.00,
except \$1.00 specials. Won-
derful bargains.

E. M. PAYNE CO.
Beckley, W. Va.

TAILOR-MADE SUITS

For prices and quality and
all that is good,
By thousands of people, it is
now understood:

That the Home Tailoring Co.
is surely the place
To buy all your clothes of
superlative grade;

If their goods and materials
and styles you should see,
You'll note there's a reason
why this came to be.

The HOME TAILORING Co.
Beckley, W. Va.

FRESH FRUIT

The appetite
Is always right
When fresh fruit is its diet;
Make no delay

But come today
And from our grocery buy it.
UNION CASH STORE
Beckley, W. Va.

MEN'S FURNISHINGS.

KITTS & COLEMAN in
Beckley are well known by
all

In their line they excel and
they make prices fall.
So go there for clothing
and furnishings for men.

And this much is certain,
you will sure call again.
KITTS AND COLEMAN.
Beckley, W. Va.

JEWELERS.

We have nice dollar jewelry
For husband, wife, or lov-
er.

No greater bargains in this
town
Can anyone discover.
BECKLEY JEWELRY CO.
The Corner Store.
Beckley, W. Va.

2. M. HOMER CUMMINGS, PUBLISHER



M. HOMER CUMMINGS

Joining the ranks of SESAC's distinguished Southern Gospel Music Publishers is M. Homer Cummings of Coalwood, West Virginia. Mr. Cummings, a music publisher for over 30 years, has personally composed several hundred gospel songs and compiled them, along with many other original sacred melodies, into numerous song collections of his own publication.

The Cummings catalog in-

cludes well over 800 religious melodies published in attractive song books. The most outstanding of these are "Choice Collections," "Let Everybody Sing," "Comforting Carols," "Sacred Songs," "Special Songs" and "Heartwarming Hymns."

The popularity of Mr. Cummings' compositions is evidenced by the fact that they are extensively used on the "Hymns Of All Churches" radio program, appear in over thirty different hymn books, and some of them have been printed well over a million times. Among his best known songs are "Come Unto Me," "Nearing My Home," "It's Beautiful Over There" and "Only The Best."

For a complete catalog and copies of this refreshingly original religious music, write direct to the publisher, Coalwood, West Virginia.

Man Cites His Wife's Jealousy In Divorce Suit

CHICAGO, Sept. 11 (AP)—Gilbert Johnson, 38, a sales representative, in a suit for divorce against Ester Johnson, 43, says his wife's "excessive jealousy" has made his life miserable.

Johnson charged that his wife, whom he married three years ago:

1. Forbade him to read newspaper articles pertaining to women, movie star, or any moral or social question because of their association with women. She censors all newspapers for such articles.

2. Refuse to let him listen to any radio programs sing female voices.

3. Forbids him to read magazines because of the prevalence of women characters in fiction.

4. Makes disparaging remarks concerning the appearance of women whom she might meet on the street when he is present.

5. Objects to any attention he shows to children. (They have no children.)

The suit said that the reason for Mrs. Johnson's action is her attempt to compensate for feelings of inferiority in her attractiveness and charm as compared with other women.

Johnson also charged in his suit his wife struck and beat him twice within the last few months.

Methodist Pastor To Move Here

The Rev. M. Homer Cummings of Glasgow, W. Va., expects to be a Huntington resident next year.

The oldest active member of the West Virginia Conference of the Methodist Church in point of service, Mr. Cummings has been in the ministry 51 years. He plans to retire from the active ministry next year and come to Huntington to live near his son, Dr. M. Homer Cummings, Huntington physician and member of the Cabell County Board of Education.

Mr. Cummings was born at Pickaway in Monroe county. He attended West Virginia public schools and is a graduate of two Tennessee institutions, Trevecca College Nashville, and the University of Chattanooga.

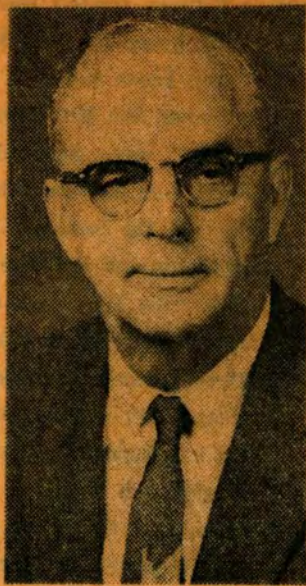
Licensed In 1907

Licensed to preach in 1907, the Glasgow pastor did evangelistic work for three years. Since being assigned his first charge in 1910, he has served congregations of the state continuously, being pastor of the Ceredo Methodist Church from 1923 until 1927. He has held his present pastorate for 12 years.

Mr. Cummings is a "rhymester" (as he terms it) of considerable ability; formerly he contributed "Corner Couplets" to West Virginia newspapers. His rhymes are noteworthy for down-to-earth philosophy and humor, such as:

"When angry, better walk away
Than utter words you should not say."

Another way the Glasgow pastor has used his poetic talent is in the writing of songs. Over the years, some 400 of his hymns have been published; he has personally edited at least 18 hymnals. "Christ Above All," a theme song for



REV. M. H. CUMMINGS
Preached Longest

the Methodist Youth Fellowship, is his latest lyric.

Versatility is part of the appeal of Mr. Cumming's personality. An amateur magician, he quickly draws a group of children around him and holds their attention with his legerdemain, which often is used to illustrate the point of a moral lesson.

The minister's family include his wife and another son, Dr. John H. Cummings, pastor of St. Andrews Church in Parkersburg.

CUMMINGS A COMPOSER

Glen White Pastor Composes Music to Seven Songs Last Week—Author Is James Rowe.

Rev. Homer Cummings, of Glen White, on Friday of last week composed the music to seven songs which had been submitted to him by the author, James Rowe. Rev. Cummings has composed the music for a number of other songs, and only recently published a book of songs for church, revival and Sunday School work.

The songs for which he recently composed the music to were, "My Song of Joy", "The Lord's Forever", "I'm Free", "I Will Follow Jesus", "Some Day", "The Golden Grain", "Grace Delivered Me". Mr. Rowe is the composer and author of more than nine thousand songs which perhaps, "I Walk With a King", and "How Sweet Is His Love," are best known.

NOTE here from Rev. M. Homer Cummings, who served as chaplain of the regular and extended session of the Legislature when it convened in the Kanawha Court House in 1931.

He recalls that the Hon. Alfred Taylor, then Speaker of the House, showed him a letter received from one of the ministers in the Kanawha Valley. It read:

"Dear Mr. Taylor. If you

will appoint me as Chaplain of the House of Delegates, I will pray twice as long and twice as loud as Preacher Cummings — for just half the price! . . ."

Mr. Cummings was paid the princely sum of \$4 a day to seek divine guidance for our lawmakers. What this state didn't need in those tedious times was a \$2 prayer.

INSPIRING BOOK OF GOSPEL HYMNS

"Songs of Salvation and Service" is the title of a most inspiring singing book that comes to us from the publisher, M. Homer Cummings, of Wheeling, W. Va. It is the revised edition, and embraces a collection of the very choicest of gospel hymns for Sunday schools, young peoples' societies, revivals, devotional meetings and the home.

After a careful examination of the book, we very cheerfully testify to its worth. We find it contains a large number of the old favorites and many new selections that are soul-thrilling and sure to make the book one of the most popular on the market. It cannot otherwise than prove a blessing wherever used. The book is compiled by M. Homer Cummings, Millard F. Compton and L. B. Bowers, with E. O. Excell as musical editor. Send 35 cents for a cloth bound copy.

MINISTRY SUPERIOR CALLING, DECLARES LOCAL PASTOR, 25 YEARS IN THE SERVICE

That the ministry is superior to any other calling in life, and the meager salaries and obscure pastorates can be well afforded if one is privileged to serve in this work, was the declaration of Rev. M. Homer Cummings, pastor of the local M. E. church, last Sunday, the day marking the twenty-fifth anniversary of his ministry.

Mr. Cummings has been a minister since 1910, at which time he was assigned to the Boomer pastorate. Since that time he has served a number of pastorates in West Virginia, and has been located here with his family for the past eight years.

A large crowd attended the anniversary service here Sunday. His sermon was as follows:

TEXT: "For Ye are our glory and joy."—I Thes. 2:20.

This is the language of the most remarkable minister, pastor and evangelist in the annals of the Christian church. It should be of special interest to us from the fact that these words are a part of the first inspired epistle that Paul ever wrote. It should also be borne in mind that this letter is probably the earliest as to date of all the books of the New Testament. When this message was written, the greatest of all the apostles was then at Corinth, about 53 years of age, in the full vigor of his splendid prime. His spiritual son Timothy visits him and brings him good tidings from the infant church at Thessalonica. This awakens his solicitude and he longs to go to see them and be with them once more, but inasmuch as this was impossible he decides to write to them. And so one day as he was busily engaged in making tents, he stops work, lays his needle aside and seizes his pen, and when that pen touches the papyrus sheet, the book of inspiration for this dispensation is begun. He expresses his gratitude to them for their eager acceptance of the gospel; he encourages them by means of his own example under trial; he thanks them for their constancy and sends prayers for their continuance in the faith. His noble heart warms and glows as he proceeds, and at length, he bursts out in this impassioned utterance: "For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ, at His coming? For ye are our glory and joy."

When we read the thrilling words of this golden sentence, it no longer seems strange to us that the weariness and painfulness, the hunger and the thirst and the nakedness and cold, that ever confronted him in his ministry, did not discourage him and prevent him from running the race that was set before him. We do not wonder at his not being moved by the bonds and afflictions that awaited him in every city that he entered. We can understand why



REV. M. HOMER CUMMINGS
Local M. E. Pastor for Eight Years.

treasures in heaven; and although homeless, he had a mansion not made with hands, eternal in the heavens and by and by there, he will meet myriads of souls who will say to him, "Brother Paul we are so glad we ever heard you preach. Had you not visited our town we would have died in our sins. You led us to Christ. We shall never cease to praise God for you." And there as his face radiates with an unearthly beauty he will reply "O my brethren dearly beloved and longed for my joy and my crown! Night and day have I prayed that that which is lacking in you might be perfected, and that he who is able to keep you from falling might present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy. And now that you have fought the good fight and have finished your course I realize that I have not run in vain neither labored in vain. I have been more than paid for every stone that has been cast at me, for every rod with which I have been beaten, for every friend that has deserted me, and for every trial that I have received. Ye are my crown of rejoicing; ye are my glory and joy."

To my mind, there are but few messages that should be of more encouragement to the despairing minister of the gospel than the thought contained in the text: "Ye are our glory and joy." The greatest pleasure that it is possible for us to experience is that of bringing the lost to the foot of the cross. There is no joy that can be compared to it. John Bunyan, in speaking on this subject, said in substance "I would rather be engaged in the work of saving souls than to be emperor of all the world or lord of all the earth." Solomon said: "He that winneth souls is wise." Daniel informs us, "they

that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever." It is thought that the joy that was set before Jesus that caused Him to endure the cross and despise its shame was that of redeeming fallen humanity. There are some who have erroneous views concerning the work of the ministry. Often we are grossly misunderstood, severely criticized, and maliciously maligned. One reason that many persons assign for one selecting this calling is

(Continued on 5th Page)

he glorified in tribulation. We can see how he could exclaim when troubled on every side and when his soul had no rest, "I am filled with much comfort; I am exceedingly joyful." He rises above the scorn and ridicule and gloom that surrounds him and reaches forth his hand and grasps his royal diadem. It is a crown of blazing stars flashing before his eyes; each star is an immortal soul plucked from the darkness of sin into the light and liberty of a child of God. Although Paul is poor he is making many rich; although he has no earthly possessions, he has laid up

MINISTER, SUPERIOR CALLING DECLARES LOCAL PASTOR 25 YEARS IN THE SERVICE

(Continued from 1st Page)

that it requires less labor to preach than to do anything else. They maintain that we live on the principle of least resistance. But if you think the life of the minister is an easy one, study the career of the Apostle Paul. Read of his persecutions, his afflictions, his distresses, and his imprisonments. Ponder over the sacrifices that he made for the sake of the gospel. Hear him exclaim, "Besides those things which are without, that which cometh on me daily, the care of all the churches."

And then there are those who argue that we are engaged in the work of the ministry because of the "enormous" amount of money we receive for our services. The facts, however, do not substantiate this charge. The most of preachers are very poorly paid.

No, my friends, it is not the desire to avoid work nor the hope of becoming rich, that has caused us to become ambassadors of Christ. It is the joy of having a part in redeeming souls. And it seems we can well afford to have scanty purses, meager salaries and obscure pastorates, if honored with the privilege of being co-workers with God. Difficulties may sadden us and discouragement may bring us to our knees, but we have a joy vouchsafed for us that a Frederick never knew on the bloody field of triumph or that a Rosthchild never dreams of in his mansions of splendor or a Mellon with his treasures untold. Every new truth that we

ETTA NEWS

STITUTE

5, 1954

October 5, 1945

"Divine Love" Is Rev. Cummings' Topic at Clwd. Evening Service

Assumes Pulpit



REV. M. H. CUMMINGS

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The Rev. M. Homer Cummings, who this week assumed the pastorate of the Coalwood Community Church, brings to Coalwood not only a distinguished career within the West Virginia Methodist Church but also talented accomplishments in the fields of religious music and public speaking.

With him is Mrs. Cummings, who was Miss Kochman, of Wheeling, before her marriage. The couple have two adult sons, Dr. M. Homer Cummings, resident surgeon of the Laird Memorial Hospital, of Montgomery, and a second minister in the family, the Rev. Hugh Cummings, associate pastor of the Johnson Memorial Methodist Church, of Huntington.

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(Continued on Page 14)

• Preaching to a congregation of about 175 at evening services last Sunday in the Coalwood Community Church, the Rev. M. Homer Cummings, new pastor, took for his text: "A new commandment I give unto you that you love one another as I have loved you," St. John, Chapter 13, verse 34. He discussed the virtue of love, or charity, as the highest attribute of a Christian.

Explaining that Christ gave this commandment of love to His disciples toward the end of His ministry on earth and citing the many previous instances when He had admonished them likewise, as related in the passages of scripture, Rev. Cummings recalled Napoleon's worldly tribute to God's Kingdom of love.

Napoleon's Tribute

"Napoleon Bonaparte," he said, "brooding on lonely St. Helena over his disastrous defeat at Waterloo, referred to the glory of God when he said: 'Alexander, Caesar, Charles and I established kingdoms by force only to have them perish, while Jesus of Nazareth, alone, a peasant Jew, established a kingdom on love which shall never perish from the earth. Millions are still ready to die for Him.'"

Taking first the kindness of love, Rev. Cummings reminded his congregation that even when Christ was hanging on the Cross, He saved the thief and cried aloud: "Forgive them, Father, for they know not what they do."

He next discussed the kindness of love. "Do not be like the vulture that flies over the field of golden grain and watches only for the carcass in the shady glen to destroy it," he admonished his listeners. "Do not uncover the weaknesses of your brother men. When a man stumbles and falls, cover him with the mantle of your Christian kindness.

Love Is Practical

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(Continued on Page 14)

REV. M. H. CUMMINGS

(Continued From Page One)

mings, Rev. Cummings has lived all his life within this state and his ministerial service has always been within the West Virginia Methodist Church. He was educated in West Virginia secondary schools and completed his higher education in Trevecca College, Nashville, Tenn., and the University of Chattanooga where he took his theological course.

Entering the ministry at an early age, he had charge during his youth of a number of parishes within the State. His last five charges have been Glen White where he was pastor for five years; Wheeling, two years; Ceredo, four years; Fayetteville, 12 years; Williamstown, three years; and Ravenwood, from where he came here, three years.

Served the House

Among his very interesting experiences have been his services as chaplain of the West Virginia Legislature for the year '45, of the House of Representatives for 1931, '32, and '39, and of the State Senate for the years '41 through '43. Among those with whom he became acquainted while there were the colorful Rush Holt, who later became United States Senator for West Virginia, and Clarence Meadows, now state Governor. Well-known as a public speaker, Rev. Cummings has been heard on more than one occasion over station WLW, having recently spoken there daily for two weeks over a Y.M.C.A. program.

In the field of music, the new pastor is author of several hundred hymns, well known in the Methodist Church and often heard over national radio hook-ups. He has compiled 16 song books, best-known of which are "Songs of Salvation and Service" and "Choice Collection." Numbered among his hymns, he is composer of both words and music, are "I Want My Life to Count for Jesus," "Nearing My Home," "Only the Best," "Has Your Heart Been Warmed?" and many others equally recognized. He has a tenor voice, and he and Mrs. Cummings, who is a soprano, often sing duets at church services. He is also a pianist and organist.

Rev. Cummings has also successfully tried his hand at writing. A book, "Daily Bible Devotions," written by him, is now in the hands of its publishers. Its introduction is written by the Rev. James H. Straughn, resident Bishop of the Pittsburgh area.

"DIVINE LOVE"

(Continued from Page 1)

congregation. "It is not love unless it is expressed in word and deed. Be of practical service to your fellow men. Follow the apostle, Peter, who after the resurrection, loved more than the law demanded and spent his life helping, serving and ministering to mankind.

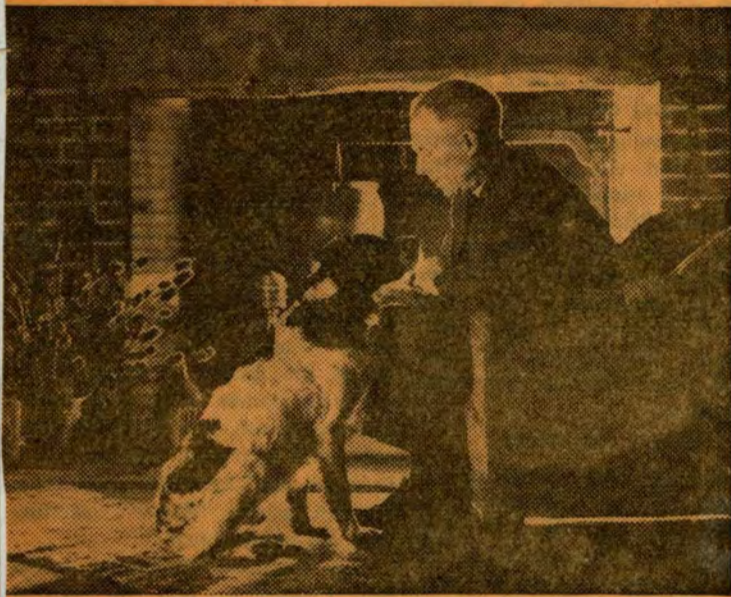
The "eternalness" of love was Rev. Cummings' last consideration.

"Prophecies shall fail, tongues shall cease and knowledge shall pass away," he continued, "but every mite of silver and gold, given in the name of the Master, every prayer offered will meet us at the throne of God. When the time comes when our hearts cease to throb, our pulses to beat and men say that we are dead, then we shall hear His voice from Heaven, saying, 'Blessed are they who die in the Lord'."

The scriptural lesson, given by Rev. Cummings, was the reading of the 13th chapter, of St. Paul's talk to the Corinthians.

The services were enhanced by the singing of a duet, "I Want My Life to Count for Jesus," by Rev. and Mrs. Cummings. The hymn was composed, words and music, by Rev. Cummings. The choir offered "Draw Me Nearer," and the congregation sang in unison, "Tell Me the Story of Jesus" and "Love Divine."

my eye on a business I can purchase clear and free,
 ng my pay for the lucky day when I start to work for me!



ay I want to retire, I'm saving my cash for then,
 onds around I won't be found in a home for broke old men!

come true!

tever your plans for the future you'd better buy

d work...

ee every Bond till

ve put by

AND TO HOLD!

-prepared under
 ertising Council

Coalwood and Six

Mrs. Cox Hostess To Bridge Club And Guest Tables

Mrs. Guy Cox was hostess to her bridge club members and other guests at her home at the Coalwood clubhouse last Saturday night, Oct. 6 when five tables were in play. A profusion of fall flowers decorated the rooms.

High score for club members went to Mrs. E. D. Gibson while high for guests went to Mrs. David Appew. Second high for club members went to Mrs. W. F. Freeman. Second high for guests went to Mrs. Moore of War. Floating prizes went to Mrs. H. C. Fulton, Mrs. E. W. Lindsey and Mrs. David Appew.

Refreshments were served to those already mentioned and to Mrs. M. L. Mahoney, Mrs. James Martin, Mrs. H. H. Hicks, Mrs. T. A. Mann, Mrs. Elmer Cox, Mrs. V. G. Mason, Mrs. Sarah Brown, Mrs. Roy Allen, Mrs. Chap Johnson, Jr., Mrs. Charles Tonik, Mrs. Nell Walden and the Misses Reba Kiley and Gladys Cox.

COALWOOD PERSONALS

Lt. Commander Hugh Love and Mrs. Love were recent visitors in the home of the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. Woodson.

Mr. and Mrs. James Martin and son attended the funeral services of the former's aunt, Miss Dora Lee Jennings which was held at Hillsville Thursday. They were accompanied by Mrs. E. L. Stilwell.

Mrs. E. D. Gibson attended the McDowell Woman's club luncheon held in Welch last Saturday.

Herbert Kirby recently spent several days at Richmond, Va. with his cousin, Miss Margaret Hicks, who is a senior at the William and Mary School, there.

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Kirby have had as their recent house guests, Mrs. Kirby's brothers and their wives Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Boyles and Mr. and Mrs. James W. Boyles both are from Baltimore, Md.

Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Mason and daughter, Elizabeth, left Sunday to spend a two weeks vacation with Mrs. Mason's relatives, who reside in Oklahoma.

Miss Mabel Stowers, accompan-

Religious Services, Mark Rev. Goodma

The Rev. G. E. Goodman was "at home" to friends on his seventy-second birthday anniversary last Sunday when he celebrated the occasion with religious services.

The Rev. M. H. Cummings, local minister, opened the informal services by asking the group to sing in unison. Following the singing, he read, the 121 Psalm. A vocal duet by Rev. and Mrs. Cummings, "Have Thine Own Way" was very inspiring, followed by a brief message by Rev. Cummings.

Rev. C. R. Woodard also spoke briefly, using as his text, the 91st Psalm. Other speakers were Rev. B. F. Overby and Rev. Sprigg of War, the honor guest Rev. Goodman and Eli Roberts.

A cake with 72 candles was the only decoration at the refreshment table.

Attending the celebration were the Rev. and Mrs. Cummings, the Rev. and Mrs. Overby of War, the Rev. and Mrs. Woodard of War, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Stilwell, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Surratt,

Mr. and Mrs. S. S. Hinkle, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Erps, Mr. and Mrs. Eli Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Goodman, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Goodman, Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Goodman, Mrs. Ruth Snow, Mrs. Rush Brooks, Mrs. Isaac Tate, Mrs. G. C. Richardson, Mrs. Beulah Carrol, L. H. Culler, M. K. Henley, John Coffey and Mr. Spriggs of War.

Mr. Goodman, who received \$26.30 in cash and various gifts of wearing apparel, wishes to thank each and everyone who helped to make the occasion a happy one.

MAIN STREET PERSONALS

Mr. and Mrs. Coy Cook have as their guests, the latter father O. M. Snodgrass, of Meadow View, Va.

Miss Connie Lineberry of Hillsville, Va., is visiting her sister, Mrs. Clayton Flannigan, here.

Mrs. R. Elzea of Glen Alum visited her daughter, Mrs. Ralph Miller here last Tuesday.

The Misses Mary Virginia and Lois Snodgrass of Meadow View, Va., spent the past week with

- CARETTA NEWS

OWN NEWS — IT HAS NO SUBSTITUTE

D, W. VA., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1954

October 5, 1954

Coalwood P. T. A. Holds 1st Meeting Of Fall Season

An inspirational talk on "The Child and the School," by the Rev. M. Homer Cummings featured the season's first meeting of the Parent-Teachers Association of the Coalwood Junior High school, held last Tuesday night in the school. The Rev. Cummings and Mrs. Cummings were introduced to the gathering by R. L. Likens, principal, who presided. The call to order was given by Mrs. Walter Dillon, president.

The session opened by the singing of "America," led by the Rev. Cummings. The scripture was read by Pauline Quesenberry, followed by "The Lord's Prayer."

Mrs. Trula Williams' first grade won the prize for grades. She has 26 pupils on roll and 24 parents were present. Mrs. Catherine Powell's 7-B section won the prize.

After the meeting, refreshments were served in the cafeteria by Mrs. H. H. Hicks, dietitian, and a group of eighth grade girls.

Dr. J. T. Browning To Speak Tuesday At Clwd. Service

Dr. James Tilden Browning, district superintendent, will be guest speaker at the prayer meeting to be held next Tuesday at 7:30 p. m. in the Coalwood Community Church, the Rev. M. Homer Cummings, pastor, has announced.

Following the prayer meeting, a Quarterly Conference, the first of this church year will be held, Dr. Browning presiding.

Next Tuesday Dr. Browning has called a District Pastors' Retreat and Planning Conference, to be held in Glenwood Park. All laymen, committee members, charge lay leaders and representatives of Youth Fellowships of district churches are urged to attend the supper at 6:30 p. m. and the evening session which will open at 7:30 p. m. and the evening session which will open at 7:30. The principal address at this session will be given by Dr. H. V. Wheeler, superintendent of the Lewisburg District.

The retreat and conference will open at 10 a. m., when a Spiritual Clinic will be held. Luncheon will take place at 12:30 following which committees will meet to plan the year's work.

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Mr. and Mrs. James Martin and son attended the funeral services of the former's aunt, Miss Dora Lee Jennings which was held at Hillsville Thursday. They were accompanied by Mrs. E. L. Stilwell.

Mrs. E. D. Gibson attended the McDowell Woman's club luncheon held in Welch last Saturday.

Herbert Kirby recently spent several days at Richmond, Va. with his cousin, Miss Margaret Hicks, who is a senior at the William and Mary School, there.

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Kirby have had as their recent house guests, Mrs. Kirby's brothers and their wives Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Boyles and Mr. and Mrs. James W. Boyles. Both are from Baltimore, Md.

Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Mason and daughter, Elizabeth, left Sunday to spend a two weeks vacation with Mrs. Mason's relatives, who reside in Oklahoma.

Miss Mabel Stowers, accompanied by Miss Martha Clay, spent

Religious Services, "At Home" Mark Rev. Goodman's Birthday

The Rev. G. E. Goodman was "at home" to friends on his seventy-second birthday anniversary last Sunday when he celebrated the occasion with religious services.

The Rev. M. H. Cummings, local minister, opened the informal services by asking the group to sing in unison. Following the singing, he read, the 121 Psalm. A vocal duet by Rev. and Mrs. Cummings, "Have Thine Own Way" was very inspiring, followed by a brief message by Rev. Cummings.

Rev. C. R. Woodard also spoke briefly, using as his text, the 91st Psalm. Other speakers were Rev. B. F. Overby and Rev. Sprigg of War, the honor guest Rev. Goodman and Eli Roberts.

A cake with 72 candles was the only decoration at the refreshment table.

Attending the celebration were the Rev. and Mrs. Cummings, the Rev. and Mrs. Overby of War, the Rev. and Mrs. Woodard of War, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Stilwell, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Surratt,

Mr. and Mrs. S. S. Hinkle, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Erps, Mr. and Mrs. Eli Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Goodman, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Goodman, Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Goodman, Mrs. Ruth Snow, Mrs. Rush Brooks, Mrs. Isaac Tate, Mrs. G. C. Richardson, Mrs. Beulah Carrol, L. H. Culler, M. K. Henley, John Coffey and Mr. Spriggs of War.

Mr. Goodman, who received \$26.30 in cash and various gifts of wearing apparel, wishes to thank each and everyone who helped to make the occasion a happy one.

MAIN STREET PERSONALS

Mr. and Mrs. Coy Cook have as their guests, the latter father O. M. Snodgrass, of Meadow View, Va.

Miss Connie Lineberry of Hillsville, Va., is visiting her sister, Mrs. Clayton Flannigan, here.

Mrs. R. Elzea of Glen Alum visited her daughter, Mrs. Ralph Miller here last Tuesday.

The Misses Mary Virginia and Lois Snodgrass of Meadow View, Va., spent the past week with their aunt, Mrs. Coy Cook.

Lonely River Gang To Play for Dance Tuesday at Theatre

The combination round and square dance, held in the local theatre last Tuesday night and sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign War club, was declared an outstanding success, both in a financial and recreational way. Both young and old danced to the music of the Lonely Rivers Gang, WBRW radio entertainers.

Although due to previous arrangements only round dancing will take place the following Tuesday at the same place, the gang will again appear in person to play for the second combination dance on Tuesday, Oct. 23.

SIX PERSONALS

Mrs. Eleck Furni and son, Robert Lee, of Bluefield spent last weekend in Six as the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Curto and family. Mrs. Furni is the Curto's daughter.

Mrs. John Crowder was a visitor at Stevens Clinic Hospital last Friday.

Miss LaVerne Shlosar has returned to Chicago, Ill., after spending a two week's vacation in Six with friends and relatives. En route to Chicago she stopped in Wheeling to visit her sister who attends school there.

Mrs. Daisy Pettus and daughter Mrs. Ruby Blevins, of Welch were guests of Mrs. Goldie Carver of Yukon last week.

Bear Tote of Maitland visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Tote in Six last week.

Mrs. Isaac Tate and daughter Mary, spent last week-end with relatives in Davy.

Mrs. Julia Korlok spent last week end in Gary.

Mrs. Garnett Pettus attended a miscellaneous shower in the home of Mrs. Jack Shannon in Court Street, Welch, last Tuesday a week ago. The shower was given in honor of Mrs. Herman Blevins by Mrs. Bill Summers and Mrs. Jack Shannon. Mrs. Blevins received many gifts. Refreshments were served to the guests.

Mrs. Ransom Likens and son, Billy were in War last week.

Miss Margie Richardson and brother, Roland of Caretta, were the overnight guests of Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Richardson, recently.

Garnett Pettus was in Berwind last Monday.

Miss Mable Rose visited in Welch recently.

No Permanent Peace While Sin Rules, Says Chaplain

Sermon Contributed by
the Rev. M. Homer
Cummings

There will be no permanent peace as long as sin rules in the human heart, declared the Rev. Homer Cummings, chaplain of the house of delegates and pastor of the Fayetteville M. E. church, in an Armistice sermon prepared for The Gazette. The text and the sermon are respectively as follows:

Text—"He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth; he breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder; he burneth the chariot in the fire."—Psalms 46:9.

For more than four years, in countless homes throughout Europe were heard lamentation and bitter weeping. Millions, yea, hundreds of millions refused to be comforted because their loved ones went down into the valley of the shadow of death from which many never returned. Husbands, fathers, brothers and sweethearts said good-bye to their friends for the last time.

On a thousand battlefields the Grim

(Please Turn to Page 5, Col. 3.)



THE REV. M. HOMER CUMMINGS,
Pastor of Fayetteville M. E. Church
and Chaplain of the House of
Delegates.

The Charleston Gazette, Monday, November 16, 1931.

No Peace While Sin Rules

(Continued From Page 1.)

Reaper took his heavy toll. Young men, with the bloom of youth on their cheeks, died in awful suffering without a gentle hand to soothe the pangs of torture or ease the sting of pain. Others with eyesight gone, limbs shot away, and bodies mutilated, were doomed to agony as long as life lasted.

That terrible war, so unspeakably horrible in its nature and so amazingly tremendous in its magnitude, reached its bloody hands across the Atlantic and our own country was drawn into the colossal struggle. How our hearts ached as we bade farewell to the boys as they departed from our midst! We realized that on a number of faces we would never be permitted to look again. And oh! the days, and weeks, and months of suspense. How anxiously we awaited the arrival of the mail, hoping in vain that it would bring us a message from over the seas! How eagerly we scanned the columns of the daily paper and how fervently we prayed for the success and safety of our soldiers, our sailors, and our brave allies!

How gladly we purchased Liberty bonds, bought War Savings stamps and donated to the Y. M. C. A., Y. W. C. A., K. of C., Salvation Army, and the various welfare movements! In fact, we were willing to make almost

any possible sacrifice to win the victory. To defeat the Kaiser and his confederates, was the theme of sermons, the purpose of editorials, the object of prayers, the inspiration of poems and the subject of conversations.

But on the eleventh of November, in the autumn of 1918, the news was flashed throughout the entire world, "The Armistice was signed this morning at eleven o'clock and hostilities have ceased," and thus it came to pass that on the eleventh month of the year and the eleventh day of the month and the eleventh hour of the day, the greatest war of all history was brought to a close. Once more there was "peace on earth; good will toward men." Whistles blew, bells rang, men threw their hats into the air, women screamed for joy, and everywhere there was rejoicing and thanksgiving. With the Psalmist we could exclaim, "He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth; he breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder; he burneth the chariot in fire."

Saved From Despotism

Thirteen years have elapsed since then and we have maintained friendly relations with the countries of the world. There has not been a disturbing cloud in our national sky.

The militarism against which we fought and over which we triumphed was completely crushed and never again will it threaten the foundations of civilization. The autocratic rule of the Kaiser is forever past. Our noble soldiers and the allies saved us from this despotism. Of the 4,500,000 who enlisted in the service of the United States, the vast majority returned. But there were some who did not come back. There are many thousand brave American lads sleeping on foreign soil.

It has been said that if the bodies of all of those who were slain in the World war could be placed in caskets, side by side, allowing only two feet for each, they would make a line that would extend from New York to San Francisco. Should a person start out to take a last look upon the face of each of these dead soldiers, allowing only one minute for each, it would require nearly two whole years to do so, with never a halt in the sad mission.

It is fitting and proper that at this time we should pause to pay our tribute of respect to those who gave their lives for their countries. The Saviour said, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." They made

the supreme sacrifice and we should honor their memories. As we do so, we earnestly pray that the day may speedily arrive when "swords shall be beaten into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks and nations shall learn war no more."

However, there can be no permanent peace as long as sin rules the human heart. It is foolish for us to insist on disarmament when a wave of crime is sweeping over our own land and many

of our large cities are clamoring for more police protection. A nation is no better than its citizens. Therefore, in order to abolish war, each individual should accept Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

Our Weekly Message

By REV. M. HOMER CUMMINGS

Happy Thanksgiving greetings! It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord for His goodness and His wonderful works to the children of men. "I will bless the Lord at all times: His praise shall continually be in my mouth!" shouted the Psalmist. On another occasion he said, "Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord."



God's blessings are so numerous that it is impossible to number them. They are as countless as the stars of the sky, the sands of the sea, or the waves of the ocean. Why should we withhold from Him our praise?

Thank You

When a glass of water is handed to us, a handkerchief picked up, a door held open, or some other favor is bestowed upon us, we do not forget to say, "Thank you!" Over and over again, this word is said to man. But how often we neglect saying it to God, the "Giver of every good and perfect gift."

Let us cultivate the habit of praise.

The Bishop Was Cheerful

When asked why he was always so cheerful, Bishop William Burt replied: "Maybe the remarks of a child that I once overheard helped me to complain and grumble as little as possible."

While I was studying in Wilbraham Academy, I spent a few days with this child's father, a good man, but a chronic growler. We were all sitting in the parlor one night, when the question of food arose. The child, a little girl, told cleverly what each member of the family liked best.

Finally it came the father's turn to be described. "And what do I

like best, Nancy?" he said, laughingly. "You," said the little girl, slowly, "Well you like 'most anything we haven't got."

Are we thankful to God for that which He has given us, or are we always wanting what we do not possess?

Not To Return Thanks

An honest farmer was asked to dine with a gentleman, and there he returned thanks at the table as he was accustomed to do at home. His host said jeeringly, "That is old-fashioned, it is not customary for well educated people to pray at the table."

The farmer answered that with him it was customary, but that some of his household never prayed over their food. "Ah, then," said the gentleman, "they are sensible and enlightened. Who are they?" The farmer answered "They are my pigs."

Always More to Follow

Rowland Hill used to tell the story of a rich man and a poor man in his congregation. The rich man sent a sum of money to a friend to be given to this poor man as he thought best. The friend sent him just five pounds, and said in the note: "This is thine; use it wisely; there is more to follow." After a while he sent another five pounds, and said, "More to follow." Again and again he sent the money to the poor man, always with the cheering words, "More to follow."

How this illustrates the giving of our gracious Provider, whose gifts are always accompanied with promises that cover and guarantee the future of His children!

"The young lions do lack and suffer hunger: but they that seek the Lord shall not want any good thing." (Psa. 34:10.) "For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly." (Psa. 84:11.)

Glen White Pastor Praises Operators

In Leaving Gulf District Rev. Cummings Extends Thanks to His Friends

Rev. M. Homer Cummings, pastor of the M. E. Church at Glen White, and also former pastor of the Fulton M. E. Church, has just returned from the Annual Conference held at Wheeling from which he has been sent to serve in other fields. Mr. Cummings has written close to three hundred hymns in the past three years which are printed in five different hymn books. One of his songs entitled "Mother" recently appeared on the Rainbow Records which are sung by Homer Rodeheaver, the famous singer and choir leader of the Billy Sunday party.

In a recent interview, the Rev. Mr. Cummings gives an interesting discussion of the mining town of Glen White, which he claims is almost a model mining town in sharp contrast to some of the incorporated towns in the coal sections of the state. The town of Glen White has the reputation of being one of the most beautiful mining towns in the state of West Virginia, and, although its population is only a trifle over a thousand, it has had the honor of entertaining some very distinguished visitors within the past two years. Twelve governors have visited the town. The great evangelist, the Rev. Billy Sunday, not only held services at Glen White, but took a personal tour through the mines. During the past week the town has had the honor of entertaining one hundred and fourteen delegates of the National Tax Association, who made a special trip from their annual convention at White Sulphur Springs to secure first-hand information with reference to mining conditions in the Winding Gulf district. These delegates from the National Tax Association represented every state in the Union, the Dominion of Canada and the Republic of Mexico.

The Rev. Mr. Cummings states that all coal operators in the Winding Gulf District are deeply interested in religious work and that he has secured splendid cooperation on the part of those interested in the coal mines of the district; that they take a personal interest in their workers, endeavor to share their profits and pay good wages, the average wage of each man in the district being something over \$2,000 per year, says

Corner Couplet

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By M. HOMER CUMMINGS

THE SILENT SUN

Though mortal man has much to say,
The sun in silence shines each day.

JOSH HAYSEED



"Folks now a-days is keerness, and fergitful, and too onthankful."

The Parson Writes

Dear Mr. Publisher:

The last letter I got from you, you asked how I was getting along at my new church in the city. Well, as you know, Sir, I've always had a church in the country until I got this call to the city. I can honestly say I don't see much difference — folks are esually bad in the country and the city. Just ike changing a snakes roosting place ain't gonna help his personality much, so is the humans I've met. I used to think that maybe country churches were a little more set in there ways, but if any congregation ever got more set than the one I got now, they would probably hatch.

Back years ago churches use to fight tooth and nail to make sure nobody changed their doctrines. They had the doctrine of the Holy Trinity, the doctrine of the Holy Spirit, the doctrine of the Virgin Birth and such like. Well, there shore ain't nothing wrong with that, but now we done come up with all sorts of new doctrines.

First off, theres the doctrine of the holy hour. Church has got to be held at 11 o'clock on Sunday morning. I tried to change it to 9 o'clock at our church and it almost tore the congregation apart. They don't care much about the doctrine of the virgin birth one way or the other, but they don't want you fooling with the doctrine of the Holy hour. To hear them talk the Good Book has a commandment "Thou shalt worship at 11 o'clock." One woman swore I was trying to change the Bible by switching the time. I reckon if our folks had a been the shepherds when Jesus was born they would'a told the angels to go away and come back at 11 o'clock Sunday morning. Then, there's the doctrine of the Holy seat. We got some folks that won't set in but one seat. If somebody else gets it they'll stop coming. They don't mind what you preach. You can talk about Jesus setting on the throne as long as he or nobdoy else don't try to get their seat. I reckon holding on to that one seat is like a baby holding on to his blanket — it gives him a sense of security. So we been kinda cautious about taking folks sitting places away cause we don't want to make neurotics out of 'em.

I know you've heard of the doctrine of the holy comfort. Some folks believe that the Holy Comforter is the one who makes everything comfortable in church. Lotsa my folks won't come unless the heat is just right and the seats ain't to hard. They're more inerested in heat than they are holiness. As a matter of fact, Mr. Publisher, we've got one group known as the cushion committee to make sure some of our soft reared friends don't become callosed.

Well I reckon you can see how the church has come along way. We've still got "holy" things in the church but they've changed a mite.

I've gota go now. By the way, would you be interested in a pocket watch that chimes at 11 o'clock. Holy smoke, its later than I thought.

Yours truly,

Parson Jones

POETRY TODAY

By DORIS MILLER

ANOTHER POET LAUREATE: During its recent busy session, the West Virginia Conference of the Methodist Church took time in its later hours to name itself a poet laureate, the Rev. M. Homer Cummings of Huntington, pastor of the Cox's Landing Church.

Papa Cummings, who is another of the gentlest and best men imaginable, has been recognized by this writer as the Edgar A. Guest of West Virginia for a good many years. He can spin rhymes on a moment's notice, verses which delight with their kindly humor and homeliness.

Now retired, though still serving a church here, Mr. Cummings sang his "swan song" at the 1959 Conference in verse, some of which was reprinted in this column. He is the author of many hymns, among them the following one to the Father of all mankind, which was sung at the conference meeting this year.

HOW GREAT THOU ART

*How wondrous are the works of Thy creation!
In wisdom Thou has planned and made them all;
I stand amazed in awe and adoration
When I Thy greatness and Thy deeds recall.*

*The universe—the worlds and constellations,
The sun and moon which beautify the sky;
The tribes of earth and people of all nations
Are guarded ever by Thy watchful eye.*

*Thy love divine surpasses comprehension!
'Tis marvelous, it reaches even me;
I cannot grasp such gracious condescension —
Christ took my place and died on Calvary.*

*When by Thy grace I see Thy face in glory
And humbly kneeling at Thy feet I bow;
I'll worship Thee, I'll bless Thee and alone adore
Thee
And cry, O Lord, my God, how great art
Thou."*

—M. Homer Cummings

— YESTERDAY'S PREACHERS: Just at Methodist Conference time, the Rev. M. Homer Cummings has contributed a copy of "Yesterday's Preachers," a little book compiled and partly written by Minnie Crowder of Chesapeake, W. Va., who is Mrs. H. E. Crowder, wife of a retired Methodist minister.

The Saturday Review is not likely to publish a review on Mrs. Crowder's book, but to West Virginians who love the history and lore of their state, it is a gem. It contains a wealth of anecdotes which are often amusing or touching, and generally filled with references to experiences and customs remembered by all who were familiar with churches of the area 40 and 50 years ago: ramshackle parsonages, leaky roofs, pound parties, circuits, Burnside stoves, cutaway coats, horse-and-buggy and horseback travel, coal field charges, camp meetings, mission boxes, revivals, and "The Old Time Religion."

Three Huntington writers represented in the book are Mr. Cummings, Mrs. J. H. Dawson, and Dr. John W. Hollister. The latter has written a memorable and thought-provoking experience of his service as a chaplain in World War II, "A Methodist At War."

Mr. Cummings verses which follow were written a number of years ago, long before his own retirement.

MINISTERS OF YESTERDAY

*We owe a debt we cannot pay
To ministers of yesterday.
These men of God are now retired
But oh, the lives they have inspired!
They paved the way, they blazed the trail,
O'er hosts of sin they did prevail;
They stood up bravely for the right,
Against the wrong they waged the fight.*

*They faithfully performed their work,
From duty's paths they did not shirk;
They walked the valleys, crossed the rills,
They climbed the mountains and the hills.
In rain and sunshine, heat and cold,
They preached the Word to young and old.
They cheered the lonely and distressed,
They helped the fallen and oppressed.*

*Immortal souls, lost and undone,
Were by their earnest efforts won;
Lives wrecked by evil were transformed
And hearts once cold were strangely warmed.
They toiled with all their might and main —
Not for themselves or wordly gain
But for the glory of the cross;
For Christ, they gladly suffered loss —
No task too hard to undertake,
No sacrifice too great to make.*

—M. Homer Cummings.

POETRY TODAY

By DORIS MILLER

Books

POETRY TODAY

By DORIS MILLER

— ONLY THE BEST

*Only the best is good enough
For Jesus who died for me;
Only the best—the road was rough
That led up to Calvary.
Only the best, only the best,
Is good enough for Jesus;
Oh, may I give, while on earth I live,
The best that I have to Jesus.*

— M. Homer Cummings

IDEAS TRAVEL: Almost 50 years ago, when the Rev. M. Homer Cummings, pastor of Cox's Landing Methodist Church, was a young man, he heard Dr. James W. Engle, then a district superintendent and now the oldest retired minister of the West Virginia Conference, tell a story from India.

It was once customary in India for mothers to sacrifice one of their children to their gods by throwing it in a great river, perhaps the Ganges. One mother had but two sons, a vigorous child and a sickly one. She threw the strong child into the river.

"Why didn't you sacrifice the sickly child and keep the well one?" a neighbor inquired in wonder.

"Only the best is good enough for the gods I serve," the heathen mother replied.

For 20 years the story stayed in Mr. Cummings' mind, and in the early 30s he wrote a song, the first verse and chorus of which appear above, on the theme, relating it to his own life.

Recently Dr. M. H. Cummings, Jr., Huntington physician, recognized his fathers' song as he listened to an album of recordings made by the "Vocal Ambassadors," a quartet of young Africans touring America this year as representatives of 42,000 Rhodesian Methodists.

From India to West Virginia to Africa and back to West Virginia, for the Vocal Ambassadors toured the state a few months ago, the thought has traveled. Mr. Cummings has no idea how the song came to their attention, though it appears in his Golden Gospel Gems. He is the author of more than 400 sacred songs.

PREACHER CUMMINGS RETIRES AT GLASGOW





Rev. M. Homer Cummings' last prayer meeting at the Glasgow Methodist Church was interrupted last week by the congregation, which had arranged a surprise farewell party for him. In these pictures, Mr. Cummings is shown (upper left) with a group of the church's young people. Mrs. Cummings is shown (upper right) with a multi-autographed apron

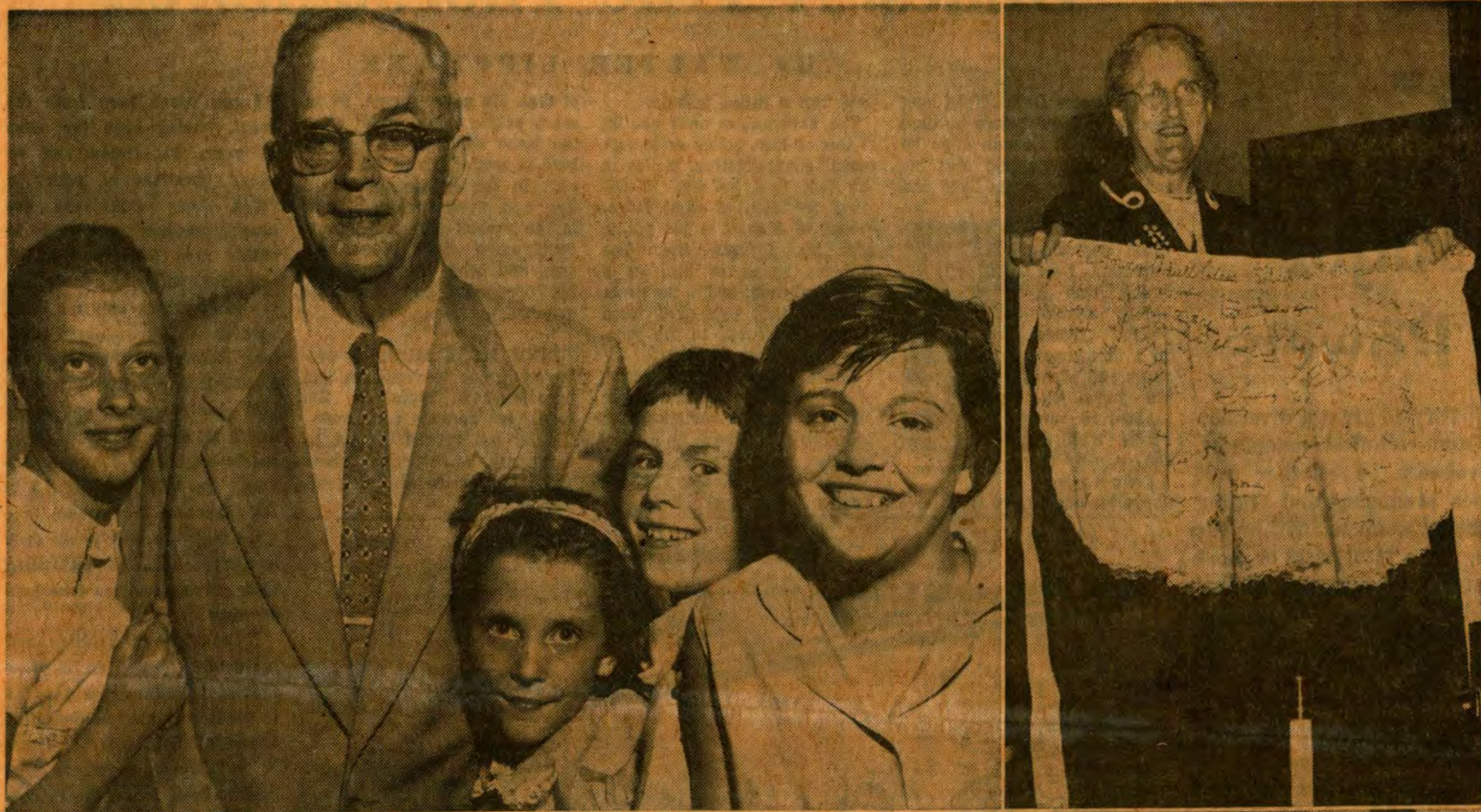
given her by ladies of the church. At lower left, Mr. and Mrs. Cummings examine gifts from the congregation, and at lower right, the veteran clergyman bids his flock good-bye. His retirement ends 52 years in the ministry. The farewell party followed the "This Is Your Night" theme.

(Staff Photos by Lewis Raines)

7A—May 31, 1959

Sunday Gazette-Mail

PREACHER CUMMINGS RETIRES AT GLASGOW





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given her by ladies of the church. At lower left, Mr. and Mrs. Cummings examine gifts from the congregation, and at lower right, the veteran clergyman bids his flock good-bye. His retirement ends 52 years in the ministry. The farewell party followed the "This Is Your Night" theme.

(Staff Photos by Lewis Raines)

1959
No. 22

MAIL

TODAY AND TOMORROW

12-The Charleston Gazette Monday, May 6, 1957

A REPORTER GOES TO CHURCH

Glasgow Pastor Honored on 50th Year as Clergyman

By James A. Haught
Staff Writer for The Gazette

A veteran poet with the apt name of Homer had a big day yesterday at Glasgow Methodist Church.

Rev. Melville Homer Cummings — who has written more than 1,000 hymns and religious poems — was honored in a special ceremony marking his 50th anniversary as a clergyman.



Haught

A U. S. Congressman, a State Supreme Court Judge, and dozens of old friends joined in the celebration, filling the small church building where Mr. Cummings has been pastor for the past 10 years.

...
THEY PRAISED his life's work, sang many of his hymns, and presented him with an expensive gold watch inscribed: "To M. Homer Cummings, for 50 years of faithful service to God."

The occasion had an air of informality, as groups of guests were introduced from the 12 different West Virginia churches Mr. Cummings has served since

being ordained as a minister in 1907.

The personable, graying clergyman then read to the congregation a lengthy poem he had written only the day before, giving an account in verse of his past.

And he added with a chuckle: "This is sort of like a funeral for me, except that I'm getting to see it."

...
THE PRINCIPAL address of the service was given by Rep. Robert C. Byrd, Sixth District Congressman, who praised Mr.

Cummings as a "man who has been diligent in the business of the Lord."

"He has planted a flower in the breast of all whom he has chanced to meet," the lawmaker said, "and his beautiful songs will bring joy to men long after he is gone."

"Rich must be the reward that awaits you, Brother Cummings."

"We may never get to take part in another service for you such as this," he concluded, addressing the clergyman, "but we hope the years ahead will be as happy as those behind."

AFTER THAT Rep. Byrd presented Mr. Cummings with the watch, which had been purchased by members of the congregation.

Another guest at the event was Judge J. B. Riley of the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals.

The observance ended with a picture-taking session on the church steps.

Mr. Cummings, a native of Monroe County, has served the following pastorates during his 50-year ministry: Boomer, Clay, Ripley, Proctor (Wetzel County),

Wheeling, Glen White, Ceredo, Fayetteville, Williamstown, Ravenswood, Coalwood and Glasgow.

...
HE HAS written nearly 1,000 hymns, of which 300 have been published in hymnals. (Only his hymns were used in yesterday's service.)

And he also has written numerous religious poems, specializ-

ing in brief couplets such as these gems:

"Some folks are sick on Sunday, but well and strong on Monday."

"If everybody missed, the church could not exist."

"Some seem to think that Sunday . . . is nothing but a fun day."

Retired Pastor's New Song, 'God Is Not Dead'

A retired Huntington minister has written a song to refute the Christian atheism theory espoused by Phillip Alitzer, Jr., Charleston, W. Va.

Alitzer, who teaches that God is dead, is an associate professor of religion at Emory University, Atlanta, Ga.

The Rev. M. Homer Cummings, 75, retired Methodist minister, wrote the lyrics in January to "God Is Not Dead." The music is from "How Great Thou Art," an old Swedish melody.

The Rev. Mr. Cummings, 130 Cedar St., retired with more than 53 years service in the pulpit. He has written 1,000 or more poems and songs and usually writes both words and music.

Pastor of the Ceredo Methodist Church from 1923-27, he was elected Poet Laureate of the West Virginia Methodist Conference in 1960. He was born in Monroe County, W. Va., and attended Chattanooga University and Travecca College in Nashville, Tenn.

Second Coming of Christ Discussed by Minister

'Be Ready!' Warns the Rev.
M. Homer Cummings
Of Fayetteville

"Be ready for the second coming of Christ" said the Rev. M. Homer Cummings of Fayetteville in a sermon prepared for the Gazette. The sermon was based on the text, "Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh."—Matthew 24:44. The sermon follows:

"These solemn words of warning were given by Christ to His disciples on the Mount of Olives. It was the last week of His ministry on earth. He had just departed from the temple and His followers had come to Him to show Him the various buildings of this place of worship. And Jesus said unto them, 'See ye not all these things? Verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another that shall not be thrown down.'" When they

(Please Turn to Page 2)



The Rev. M. Homer Cummings

Second Coming of Christ Discussed by Minister

(Continued from Page 1)

asked Him privately, "Tell us when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of Thy coming, and of the end of the world?," He gave them a little glimpse of that which should happen in the future. He told them of that awful time when nation shall rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom, and when there shall be famines and pestilences and earthquakes in divers places. He also predicted the severe persecutions that they would receive as a result of the gospel and how they would be delivered up to the synagogue and be afflicted and killed and be hated of all men for His name sake. "And because iniquity shall abound," He declared, "the love of many shall wax cold." He then gave a graphic description of the last days and informed them of how the sun would be darkened, the moon refuse to give her light, the stars fall from heaven, and the powers of the firmament be shaken. And then He added, "Watch ye therefore; for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. . . . Therefore, be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of Man cometh'.

Three Truths Taught

"There are three important truths taught in this admonition. The first is the second coming of Christ. This doctrine is clearly set forth in the New Testament. In the fourteenth chapter of St. John, Jesus says, 'In My Father's house are many mansions. If it were not so, I would have told you; I go to prepare a place for you and if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself, that where I am, there ye may be also.' The two angels in shining apparel who stood by the disciples as Christ ascended to the skies, said to the apostles, 'Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven.' In the next to the last verse of the Bible, we read, 'Surely I came quickly; Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus'.

"Our text implies our Lord is likely to come at any moment—in such an hour as ye think not'. In the thirteenth chapter of Mark, Jesus warns us, 'But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father. Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is. For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch. Watch ye therefore; for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning; lest coming suddenly, he find you sleeping. And what I say unto you, I say unto all, Watch'.

"Be Ye Ready"

"That leads us then to the thought of preparation for His coming. 'Be ye also ready'. May I ask all who read this sermon—

"Should the Saviour come this moment,
Would your loins be gird about?
Would your lamp be trimmed and burning?
Would you greet Him with a shout?"

"Should He come in kingly
splendor
From His regal throne so bright,
Would you gladly go to meet Him,
Hail His advent with delight?"

"Should the sun and moon be
darkened,
Should the mountains flee away,
Should the stars fall from the
heavens,
Could you in His presence stay?"

"Should the Lord descend from
glory
And the dead in Christ arise,

Would you, too, be caught up with
Him
To the meeting in the skies?"

Are you ready now to meet Him,
Should He come, should He
come?
Would you hasten now to greet
Him,
Should He come, should He
come?"

LOCAL PREACHER GETS 'FAN' MAIL

Rev. M. Homer Cummings, pastor of the local Methodist church who presented devotional services over WLW at Cincinnati, 2 weeks ago, has received approximately 500 "fan" letters from listeners. He has been invited to return to the program next January.

Mr. Cummings was in charge of the service for five mornings during the week, and in addition to his addresses one of his songs, of which he composes both words and music, was presented each morning.

The letters have come to him from thirteen states and Canada, and range in length from just a few lines to one of six full pages.

The address "Mother" received the most commendation, he said.

side her par-
Skaggs Cas-
Funeral 10
ger Funeral
odmers-Me-
may call at
the funeral

PAGE SR.,
ington, died
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son, both of
son, Kenneth
Funeral 1
lman Funer-
burial in
Circleville
the funeral

SLEY, 53, of
ington, died
gton hospital.
son, Michael
ake. Funeral

VIRGIL ALBERT OILER, 62, of
Galveston, husband of Polly Ad-
kins Oiler, died yesterday in a
Huntington hospital. Funeral ar-
rangements are incomplete. The
body is at Hall Brothers Funeral
Home, Martin.

JAMES ANDREW GAUZE, 85, of
3101 Greenup Ave., Ashland, hus-
band of Virginia Shanks Gauze,
died yesterday in an Ashland hos-
pital. He was a retired con-
servator officer. Area survivors
include two sons, Harold and Wil-
liam D. Gauze, both of Ashland,
and one daughter, Mrs. Gladys
Clark of Ashland. Funeral 1 p.m.
Tuesday at John Steen Funeral
Home, burial in Rose Hill Burial
Park. Friends may call from 5 to 9
p.m. tomorrow at the funeral
home.



**Tire Tube
Blast Fatal
To Farmer**

HARMAN, W. Va. (AP)—
A Randolph County farmer was
killed Friday when an
inner tube he was inflating
exploded at a garage here.
State police identified the
victim as Estyl Roy Paint-
er, 39, of Harman.

He was helping his cus-
tomers inflate the inner tube at Hinkle's
garage when the mishap oc-
curred.

Investigating officers
said the explosion caused
the wheel, tire and tube to
rocket off the floor, hitting
Painter in the head.

Elville Cummings
the West Virginia United
Methodist Conference and
former chaplain of the
state Virginia House of
delegates and State Senate.

He body will be taken to
church one hour before
service. Friends may
at Reger Funeral Chap-

**Man Innocent
Of Theft Charge**

CATLETTSBURG, Ky.—
A Boyd County Circuit
Court jury Friday found
Gordon Davis of Rush Rt. 1
innocent on a charge of
theft by unlawful taking.

Davis was indicted by a
Boyd County grand jury
April 10, 1978, on a charge
of taking an International
Crawler Dozer, an Inter-
national rubber-tired tra-
ctor with end-loader and
backhoe and a two-ton
dump truck owned by Don
Crisp and James D. Gibson.

Theater
night, but Kenyon Col-
Theater.

Kenyon graduate, had
ago to return and di-
y at the new facility
of "The Shadow Box,"
for a script and turned
in the Bunton Derby."

on a true story, deals
continental foot race.

**SALES
rest.**

#230 Beam-type
doctor/clinic scale
ical precision engi-
neered. Waist height
numbers are easy to
read. 350 pound
capacity.

Models #230 and
#130 are available
in white, beige, blue,
green or black and
gold.

4 pound
leath-o-meter scale.
ical profession
than 55 years.
light-weight steel.
s of fashion colors.

HOLLYWOOD (UPI)—
Harrison Ford, who rose to
fame from obscurity play-
ing Han Solo in "Star
Wars," will star in "No
Knife" for Warner Bros.

McColm-Sears
Suggest you make your selection
NOW in time for . . .
Christmas
For A Departed Loved One . . .

McColm-Sears Monument Co.
1221 4th Ave., Huntington, W. Va., Phone 522-4371
We Guarantee Our Work
NEXT TO THE GREYHOUND BUS STATION

services scheduled

West Virginia

MRS. LYNETH L. McCOY of Mallo-
ry, 2 p.m. today, Kistler Free Will
Baptist Church; Highland Memory
Gardens, Goshy.

**MRS. JOSIE HUNTER McCUL-
LOCH** of 561 Rocky Step Road,
Winfield, 2 p.m. today, Chapman-
Erskine Funeral Home, Winfield;
Lone Oak Cemetery, Point Pleas-
ant.

MRS. ESTELLE HARRISON of 448
5th Ave. W., Huntington, 1 p.m.
Tuesday, Reger Funeral Home;
White Chapel Memorial Gardens.
Friends may call from 7 to 9 p.m.
today at the funeral home.

MRS. ALTA K. PETRY of 1701
Franklin Ave., Huntington, 2:30
p.m. today, Chapman's Mortuary;
White Chapel Memorial Gardens.

**MRS. MARY BROWNING MAY-
NARD** of Wayne, services post-
poned indefinitely.

**THE REV. MELVILLE HOMER
CUMMINGS** of 130 Cedar St., Hun-
tington, 2:30 p.m. today, First
United Methodist Church; Wood-
mere Memorial Park.

**MRS. PATRICIA THOMPSON POR-
TER** of Salt Rock, 2 p.m. today,
Salt Rock United Methodist
Church; Porter Cemetery. The

body will be taken to the church
one hour before the service.

**MRS. ESTHER CRADDOCK
RAABE** of 1645 5th Ave., Hunting-
ton, 2 p.m. tomorrow, Klingel-Car-
penter Mortuary; Spring Hill
Cemetery. Friends may call from
7 to 9 p.m. today at the mortuary.

MRS. MARY LETRA CRAIG of St.
Petersburg, Fla., formerly of Hun-
tington, 2 p.m. tomorrow, Schnei-
der Funeral Home, Chesapeake;
Woodmere Memorial Park, Hun-
tington. Friends may call from 6 to
9 p.m. today at the funeral home.

Ohio

MRS. MAMIE KING of 221 State St.,
Proctorville, 2 p.m. tomorrow,
Hall Funeral Home, Proctorville;
Mount Pisgah Cemet'y. Friends
may call after 6 p.m. today at the
funeral home.

**MRS. SADIE LAWSON DUVEN-
DECK** of Pedro Rt. 2, at 1 p.m. to-
morrow, James V. Hayes Funeral
Home, Ironton; Woodland Ceme-
tery. Friends may call after 6 p.m.
today at the funeral home.

MRS. PEARL FERGUSON of Col-
umbus, 1 p.m. today, McCoy-
Moore Funeral Home, Vinton;
Vinton Memorial Park.

Kentucky

MRS. HATTIE JANE MIDDLETON

of Rush, 2 p.m. tomorrow, Carman
Funeral Home, Flatwoods; Dan-
leyton Cemetery. Friends may call
from 2 to 9 p.m. today at the fune-
ral home.

RUSSELL L. ABDON of Worth-
ington, 2 p.m. today, Evans Funer-
al Home, Raceland; Bellefonte
Memorial Gardens, Flatwoods.

ROY O. JUDD of 4300 Blackburn
Ave., Ashland, 1:30 p.m. today
Miller Funeral Home; Rose Hill
Burial Park.

**MISS GRACE BEULAH WECH-
SLER** of 5230 Winchester Ave.,
Ashland, 2 p.m. today, Kilgore &
Collier Funeral Home, Catletts-
burg; Catlettsburg Cemetery.

JOHNNY RICHARDSON of Paints-
ville, 11 a.m. tomorrow, Jones-
Preston Funeral Home; Highland
Memorial Park, Staffordsville.

THE REV. NATHAN VAN HOOSE
of Paintsville, 1 p.m. today, Mouth
of Rush Free Will Baptist Church,
Nippa; Sycamore Cemetery.

MRS. BESSIE HOLMES SLUSHER
of 3131 Winchester Ave., Ashland,
1 p.m. tomorrow, Westwood Wes-
leyan Church; Golden Oaks Memo-
rial Gardens. The body will be
taken to the church one hour be-
fore the service.

DEATH NOTICES

**Death notices are paid
announcements arranged
by local and area funeral
directors.**

**MRS. ESTELLE B. HAR-
RISON, 68**, of 448 W. 5th
Ave., Huntington, died Fri-
day, Dec. 8, 1978, in a Hun-
tington hospital. Funeral
services will be conducted at
1 p.m. Tuesday at Reger
Funeral Chapel by the Rev.
W. Dayton Lockard. Burial
will be in White Chapel Me-
morial Gardens. She was
born April 11, 1910, at Reed,
W. Va., a daughter of the
late Allen and Dora Belcher
Brown. She was a retired
Owens-Illinois Glass Co.
employee, with 27 years of
service. She was a member
of the Golden Emblem Club
of Owens-Illinois and the
Ladies Auxiliary Club. Sur-
vivors include her husband,
Ogle Harrison, one daugh-
ter, Mrs. Susan J. Blanken-
ship of Charlotte, N.C., one
brother, Kenneth Brown of
Charleston, and one sister,
Mrs. Johnnie Belle of Port
Richey, Fla. Active pall-
bearers will be Herbert
Walters, Lionel Napier,
L. P. Adkins, Gene Pan-

MR. JOHN W. NICHOLS,
95, of Kenova Rt. 1, died
Friday evening, Dec. 8,
1978, in a Huntington hospi-
tal. Funeral services will be
conducted at 2 p.m. Monday
at Rollins Funeral Home,
Kenova, by the Rev. Ever-
ett Gilbert. Burial will be in
Docks Creek Cemetery. He
was born Sept. 17, 1883, in
Catlettsburg, Ky., a son of
the late Harvey and Babe
Shockey Nichols. He was a
retired farmer. He was pre-
ceded in death in 1943 by his
first wife, Tilda McSorley
Nichols, and in 1959 by his
second wife, Oida Gibson
Nichols, and by one son,
John. Survivors include four
sons, Charles Nichols,
James R. Nichols, Floyd
"Zack" Nichols and Jay
Nichols, all of Kenova; one
daughter, Mrs. Vina Belle
Sanders of Kenova Rt. 1,
and 12 grandchildren and 16
great-grandchildren.
Friends may call after 6
p.m. Sunday at the funeral
home.

**THE REV. MELVILLE
HOMER CUMMINGS, 88**, of
130 Cedar St., Huntington,
died Friday, Dec. 8, 1978, in
a Huntington nursing home.
Funeral services will be
conducted at 2:30 p.m. Sun-
day at the First United
Methodist Church by the
Rev. Garrett Evans. Burial
will be in Woodmere Memo-
rial Park. He was born Aug.
23, 1890, in Pickaway,
W. Va., a son of the late
Hugh and Nannie Talbott
Cummings. Mr. Melville
was a Methodist minister in
West Virginia from 1910 to
1963. He was the author and
composer of more than 1,000
poems and sacred songs. He
attended Monroe County
schools, graduated from
Trevecca College in 1909,
and attended the University
of Chattanooga. He was the
author of the newspaper
feature "Josh Hayseed"
and "Corner Couplets" for
many years. He appeared in
"Who's Who" of the Meth-
odism. He served in World

War I and was former chap-
lain of the West Virginia
House of Delegates and
state Senate. He was poet
laureate of the West Vir-
ginia United Methodist Con-
ference. He married Mary
Kachmar in 1918. She pre-
ceded in him death. Sur-
vivors include two sons, Dr.
M. H. Cummings Jr. of
Huntington and Dr. J. Hugh
Cummings, president of In-
ternational College, Cay-
man Island; one brother,
Beecher Cummings of
Beckley; two sisters, Mrs.
Launa Shirey of Beckley
and Mrs. Verna Welling of
Charleston; 13 grand-
children and 16 great-grand-
children. The body will be
taken to the church one hour
before the service to lie in
state. Friends may call at
Reger Funeral Home.

**MRS. HELEN L. HEN-
SLEY, 53**, of 1326 4th Ave.,
Huntington, died Saturday,
Dec. 9, 1978, in a Huntington
hospital. Funeral services
will be conducted at 10:30
a.m. Monday at Schneider
Funeral Home, Chesapeake,
by the Rev. Neil Hoppe.
Burial will be in Getaway
Cemetery. She was born
Nov. 21, 1925, in Lawrence-
County, Ohio, a daughter of
the late Collis and Virginia
Baize. Survivors include
two sons, Herman S. Hen-
sley of Alexandria, Va., and
Michael L. Hensley of
Chesapeake, Ohio; two
brothers, Eugene Baize of
Columbus, Ohio, and Elmer
Baize of Huntington; three
grandchildren. The family
will receive friends from 5
to 9 p.m. Monday at the
funeral home.

**MISS JENNIE LOUISE
CASKEY, 27**, of Homo-
sassa, Fla., formerly of
Huntington, died Thursday,
Dec. 7, 1978. Funeral ser-
vices will be conducted at 10
a.m. Tuesday at Reger Fu-
neral Chapel by the Rev.
Warren Dean. Burial will be
in Woodmere Memorial
Park. She was born Oct. 18,
1951, in Huntington, a
daughter of Cordis and Ber-
ty Skaggs Caskey of Bar-
boursville. She was a data
processor. Additional sur-
vivors include one brother,
David Caskey of Barbours-
ville, and her paternal
grandmother, Mrs. Bertha
Burks of Circleville, Ohio.
Friends may call after 2
p.m. Monday at the funeral
home.

**\$1,000 Instant
Credit**
If you have SAC,
M/C, Carte Blanche,
Bancor Club, Amer-
Business — You qual-
ify for \$1,000 imme-
diate purchase
power.

Hunting Herald-Dispatch

musical notes



STORY OF A NEW SONG

The author of this song, the Rev. M. Homer Cummings, is a Methodist minister in his native state of West Virginia. He is a graduate of the Literary and Bible Training School (now Trevecca College) and has been a member of the West Virginia Conference for more than forty years. He is now pastor of the Methodist Church at Glasgow, W. Va.

Mr. Cummings has compiled sixteen books and has written several hundred Gospel songs and hymns. Here is the line of thought, in his own words that prompted him to write this song, "Hitchhiking to Glory."

The hitchhiker rides in a car that is owned and driven by another. He defrays none of the expenses of transportation. The owner and operator of the automobile pays all the bills—the initial cost of the car, the gasoline, oil, license, tax, upkeep, and repair. The hitchhiker does not assume any of those obligations—he rides "without money and without price."

He is typical of many professing Christians of today. They reap what others have sown. Often they bind heavy burdens, which are grievous to be borne, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers. (See Matt. 23:4).

This is not as it should be. Every man should bear his own burden. (Gal. 6:5) Slackers and shirkers never accomplish anything for God.

"Must Jesus bear the cross alone,
And all the world go free?
No, there's a cross for ev'ry one
And there's a cross for me.

"The consecrated cross I'll bear,
Till death shall set me free;
And then go home my crown to wear,
For there's a crown for me."

The author had the truth expressed in the above verses in mind when he wrote the song "Hitchhiking to Glory."

No. 2 Hitchhiking To Glory

St. Matthew 16: 24
Copyright, 1953, by M. Homer Cummings
(SEAC Affiliate) M. HOMER CUMMINGS

M. H. C.

1. Man - y peo - ple to - day Try to hitch-hike their way To that
2. You should nev - er with - hold Of your sil - ver and gold, To yon
3. When it's rain - y or cold, Be cou - ra - geous and bold, Do not
4. Pre - cious souls are un - done And they need to be won To the

bles - ed land be - yond death's sea; They will not give a cent, Yet they
cit - y none can thumb a ride; If you bring in your tithes, You will
sit at home and watch T V; Go with joy - ful ac - cord To the
Christ who died on Cal - va - ry; Come and take up your cross, Counting

loud - ly la - ment That the church is not what it should be.
hear from the skies - Heaven's win - dows God will o - pen wide.
house of the Lord And like Je - sus ev - er strive to be.
all things but loss, Say, "O Mas - ter, here am I, send me!"

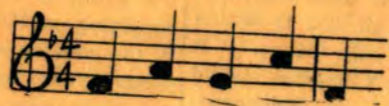
D. S.—They re - joiced to make the sac - ri - fice.

CHORUS

No, you can not hitch-hike your way to glo - ry; All - who trav - eled this

road have paid the price; Stephen, Pet - er, and Paul Glad - ly gave up their all,

musical notes



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And all the world go free?
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And there's a cross for me.

"The consecrated cross I'll bear,
Till death shall set me free;
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3. When it's rain - y or cold, Be cou - ra - geous and bold, Do not
4. Pre - cious souls are un - done And they need to be won To the

bles - ed land be - yond death's sea; They will not give a cent, Yet they
cit - y none can thumb a ride; If you bring in your tithes, You will
sit at home and watch T V; Go with joy - ful ac - cord To the
Christ who died on Cal - va - ry; Come and take up your cross, Counting

loud - ly la - ment That the church is not what it should be.
hear from the skies - Heaven's win - dows God will o - pen wide.
house of the Lord And like Je - sus ev - er strive to be.
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D. S.—They re - joiced to make the sac - ri - fice.

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Story of a New Song

No. 2 Hitchhiking To Glory

M. H. C. St. Matthew 16:24 Copyright, 1953, by M. Homer Cummings (SEAC Affiliate) M. HOMER CUMMINGS

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L. T. Anderson—In Reverse

The Exceptional Preacher

AS YOU may imagine, a man who has sneered at motherhood, the southern Caucasian, doctors, lawyers, and that most sacred of all institutions, school teaching, has to fight strongly against the temptation to attack the ministry.

But every time I sit down to write nasty things about the notorious intolerance of clergymen, a little voice tells me that some of you more stupid readers would conclude that I was talking about ALL clergymen. This would include Rev. Homer Cummings of Glasgow.

I can't think of anything nasty to say about Mr. Cummings.

This isn't because he once wrote a letter to the editor saying he liked one of these columns. That made me beam, of course, and put Mr. Cummings in a rather select circle, but it hasn't influenced this column in the slightest.

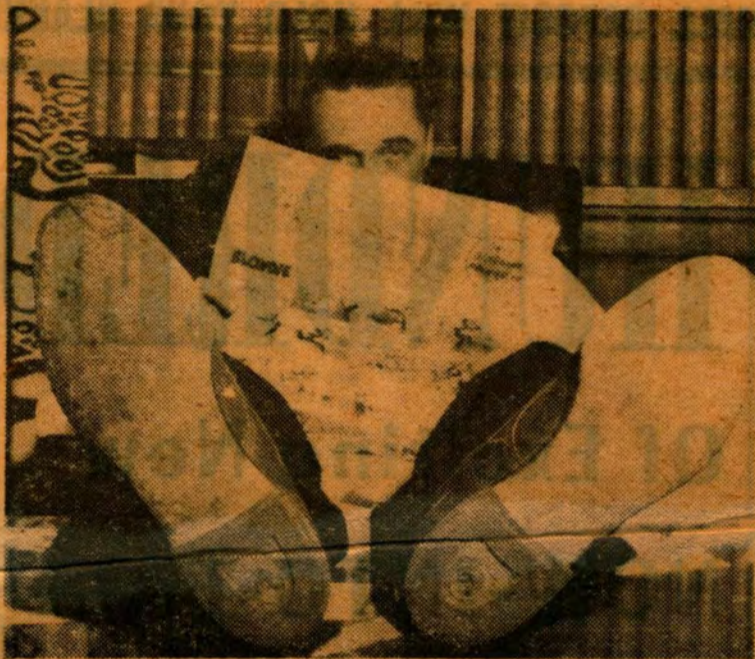
So if Mr. Cummings' colleagues are saved embarrassment by not being scorned in this space it is due entirely to my friendship with him.

I GOT TO know this preacher when he dropped in a few years ago to inquire about engraving the score of a hymn, one of dozens he has written.

We graduated to drinking together. (We drink coffee in the shop next door.)

Well, sir, he's a pretty nice guy, even if he is a preacher. We disagree on a number of things, but you have to give him credit for venturing opinions on local matters that other clergymen avoid like poison.

It must be because Mr. Cummings isn't afraid of offending the



Mr. Anderson

more prominent people in his congregation that he cheerfully talks about "touchy" local matters. He could follow the pattern, you know, and deliver sermons on safe, obscure, far-away situations not likely to get him into trouble.

ANOTHER THING about Mr. Cummings is that he doesn't wallow in spurious Christian zeal to the extent of advocating that we wage bloody war on the unbelievers. Wait a minute, now; I HEARD another clergyman advocate that policy rather vigorously last month.

Mr. Cummings believes in peace. I think that's nice. And unusual, too, nowadays.

He isn't very grim. That's a fine attribute. Most preachers are grim. I have always been afraid of preachers for this very reason. Mr. Cummings tells jokes, and doesn't take himself very seriously at all.

FURTHER, he never begs for money. Nor does he bawl, whoop and heave over the radio. He never refers to anybody as "my good man," and I once actually heard him advocate that churchgoers occasionally visit other churches and study their dogma, doctrine and code of conduct.

If you think Mr. Cummings doesn't act much like a preacher, you're right.

CORNER COUPLET

BY
M. HOMER CUMMINGS



GO TO CHURCH

Let not sin your soul besmirch;
Live for God and go to church.

Tomorrow Is Bible Sunday

Tomorrow is Universal Bible Sunday, and this year is the 350 anniversary of the original publication of the King James Version of the Bible, in 1611.

In observance, the Rev. M. Homer Cummings retired minister of the West Virginia Conference of The Methodist Church now living in Huntington and serving as pastor of the Cox's Landing Church, has written new music to Bishop H. B. Hartzler's poem, "Holy Bible." The hymn, which appears elsewhere on the page, will be sung in the morning service at the church tomorrow.

The shaped notes of the music are preferred by singers of churches in the Appalachian area, where Mr. Cummings' hymnals are most popular. A composer of both words and music, he has had more than 400 songs published.

Also noted for the originality of his sermons, which occasionally are delivered in verse, Mr. Cummings recently outdid himself in selection and treatment of an unusual text. Having preached sermons on the shortest verse of the Bible, "Jesus wept," he decided to speak on shortest in the Old Testament.

The verse proved to be a succession of three names in the genealogical accounts, "Eber, Peleg, Reu," I Chronicles 1:25. Beginning with the thought that these names represented three generations and going on to the explanation that all Hebrew names have meanings, Mr. Cummings proceeded to build quite an effective sermon.

Mrs. Harry T. Bridwell, president of United Church Women of Huntington, will be the Woman's Day speaker at Central Christian

Church tomorrow at 10:45 a. m., speaking on "For the Living of These Days," nation-wide theme for the observances in Disciples of Christ churches. The wife of the minister of the Madison Avenue Christian Church, Mrs. Bridwell also is a member of the national board of directors of United Church Women.

Mrs. J. H. Miller, president of the Christian Women's Fellowship, by which the program is sponsored, will be in charge of the service. Other CWF officers assisting will be Mrs. J. A. Lacock, president of the Fellowship Guild of the West Virginia Convention; Mrs. James A. Cox, worship chairman; Mrs. Norman Naylor, vice president, and Mrs. W. E. Richardson, treasurer.

The Rev. Richard H. Clossman will preach his last sermon as assistant minister of the Fifth Avenue Baptist Church tomorrow at 10:45 a. m., speaking on "The Word Became Flesh." He will have entire charge of the service in the absence of Dr. Woodrow W. Clark, pastor, who will be preaching at the First Baptist Church of Kenova at 11 a. m.

Mr. and Mrs. Clossman will leave Huntington next Friday for their new home at Mt. Gilead, O., where Mr. Clossman will be pastor of the First Baptist Church. They will be honored by the Fifth Avenue congregation at a farewell dinner in the church social hall Wednesday at 6:30 p. m.


Audience participation will be a feature of the Christmas musical program to be presented at the Fifth Avenue Baptist Church tomorrow at 7:30 p. m. Scripture and song will be used together to tell the Christmas story, with the choir singing and the congregation reading in unison. Musical selections will include "For Behold, Darkness Shall Cover the Earth" from Handel's "The Messiah," with John Bressler as soloist; "Lullaby of the Christ Child" by Scott, with Mrs. Walter Ryzek as soloist, and "I Wonder As I Wander" arranged by Niles, with Mrs. Fred Moore as soloist. Jack A. Clinard, minister of music, will direct the choir.

The Rev. and Mrs. Darrell Fisher, missionaries to the Island of Formosa, Japan, will speak at the Walnut Hills Baptist Church tomorrow in Sunday School at 9:45 a. m. and worship at 10:45 a. m. A former Huntington resident, Mrs. Fisher has relatives living here. He and Mrs. Fisher, who serve under the Baptist Bible Fellowship, plan to return to Formosa soon. The Rev. Henry A. Bryan is host pastor.


Gayle Lunsford, a graduating senior at Kentucky Christian College, Grayson, will preach tomorrow at 11 a. m. at the Chesapeake Christian Church. Ordained by the Chesapeake church, Mr.

Holy Bible

© MCMLXI, by M. Homer Cummings, SESAC Affiliate
Bishop H. B. Hartzler M. Homer Cummings



1. Like a star of the morn-ing in its beau-ty, Like the sun is
2. 'Tis a light in the wil-der-ness of sor-row, And a lamp on
3. 'Tis the voice of a friend for-ev-er near me, In the toil and
4. It shall stand in its beau-ty and its glo-ry, When the earth and

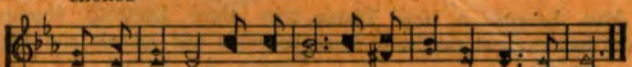


the Bi-ble to my soul; Shin-ing clear on the path of love and
the wea-ry pil-grim way; And it guides to the bright, e-ter-nal
the bat-tle here be-low; In the gloom of the val-ley it will
the heav-ens pass a-way, Ev-er tell-ing the bless-ed, won-drous



du-ty As I has-ten on my jour-ney to the goal,
mor-row Shin-ing more and more un-to the per-fect day,
cheer me Till the glo-ry of His king-dom I shall know,
sto-ry Of the lov-ing Lamb, the on-ly liv-ing Way.

CHORUS



Ho-ly Bi-ble, book di-vine, Pre-cious treas-ure, thou art mine.

"HOLY BIBLE" SONG FOR TOMORROW
New Music By Rev. M. H. Cummings
(Story in Adjoining Column)

Lunsford has accepted a call to the ministry of the Brandon, Iowa, Church of Christ (Christian). R. E. Bream is minister of the Chesapeake church.

A joint meeting of the Unitarian Fellowships of Huntington and Charleston will be held this Sunday at 7:30 p. m. at Charleston's Fellowship Church. The speaker will be the Rev. Robert Killam, minister of the First Unitarian Church, Shaker Heights, Cleveland. His sermon is entitled, "Science and Moral Responsibility." Robert Newman, President of the Huntington Unitarian Fellowship, will speak for the Huntington group at the joint meeting.

Miss Anna Christine Deppe, German exchange student at Huntington High School sponsored by youth of the West Virginia Diocese of The Episcopal Church, will talk to the Laymen's League of Trinity Episcopal Church at its annual father and daughter dinner, Monday at 6 p. m. in the parish house, Murray I. Forbes, Jr., president of the league, will have charge.

Delegates from Huntington congregations of Jehovah's Witnesses will attend the semi-annual assembly of witnesses to as-

semble in the Logan High School auditorium next week end, Friday through Sunday. James M. Stark, an associate minister of the Huntington West Unit congregation, said that both adults and children would attend the assembly, which is expected to have an attendance of about 850.

Virgil Barbour will have charge of a singing convention at the Thirteenth Street Tabernacle, 1300 Monroe Avenue, tomorrow at 2:30 p. m.

Bishop W. O. Howard, pastor of the Original Glorious Church of God, 1516 Tenth Avenue, will be honored by his congregation on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of his pastorate, in services at the church all day tomorrow. A dinner will be served at noon in the church dining room.

12 Miners Killed In Elevator Fall

CERRO DE PASCO, Peru (AP)—Twelve copper miners plunged 350 feet to their deaths when the cable on the elevator broke at the Atacocha mine near here Thursday.

Trevecca To Hear Writer of Hymns

The Rev. Homer Cummings, minister of the Methodist church, Glasgow, W. Va., and composer of more than 400 hymns, will speak at 11 a.m. today at Trevecca Nazarene college.



Cummings, 68, will deliver an oration, "The Twentieth Century," that he first gave when he graduated from Trevecca 50 years ago. The school then was known as the Literary Bible Training school.

Cummings has served 52 years with the West Virginia Methodist conference—the longest service of any of the active ministers in that conference. He has edited and produced 16 hymn books, including, "Golden Rule Gems."

WINDING GULF OPERATORS ASSOCIATION

BECKLEY, WEST VIRGINIA.

October 5, 1923.

Rev. Homer Cummings, pastor of the M.E. Church at Glen White, West Va., and also former pastor of the Fulton M.E. Church, has just returned from the Annual Conference held at Wheeling, W. Va. The Rev. Cummings has written close to three hundred hymns in the past three years which are printed in five different hymn books. One of his songs entitled "Mother" recently appeared on the Rainbow Records which are sung by Homer Rodeheaver, the famous singer and choir leader of the Billy Sunday party.

In a recent interview, the Rev. Mr. Cummings gives an interesting discussion of the mining town of Glen White, which he claims is almost a model mining town and in sharp contrast to some of the incorporated towns in the coal sections of the state. The town of Glen White has the reputation of being one of the most beautiful mining towns in the state of West Virginia and, although its population is only a trifle over a thousand, it has had the honor of entertaining some very distinguished visitors within the past two years. Twelve governors have visited the town. The great evangelist, the Rev. Billy Sunday, not only held services at Glen White, but took a personal tour through the mines. During the past week the town has had the honor of entertaining one hundred and fourteen delegates of the National Tax Association, who made a special trip from their Annual Convention at White Sulphur Springs to secure first-hand information with reference to mining conditions in the Winding Gulf District.

These delegates from the National Tax Association represented every state in the Union, the Dominion of Canada and the Republic of Mexico.

The Rev. Mr. Cummings states that all coal operators in the Winding Gulf District are deeply interested in religious work and that he has secured splendid cooperation on the part of those interested

in the coal mines of the district; that they take a personal interest in their workers, endeavor to share their profits and pay good wages, the average wage of each man in the district being something over \$2,000 per year, says the Rev. Mr. Cummings. There are school play grounds, free motion pictures and free mining schools where workers can become more proficient in their trade.

Having served the Glen White charge five years, the Rev. Mr. Cummings will preach his farewell sermon at that place next Sunday, October 7th, and next week he will leave the district, having been assigned a charge close to Charleston, W. Va. In leaving the Winding Gulf District, the Rev. Mr. Cummings wishes to extend his personal thanks to the operators and to the people who have so splendidly assisted him in his religious work during the past five years.

George Wolfe,
Secretary.

George Lawless THE GAZETTEER

MANY people regard preachers as grim, humorless men. Actually, the best of them serve up their messages with spices of wit.

Such a one is Rev. M. Homer Cummings, of Glasgow and Huntington. Couple of days ago he related an incident concerning a new widow.

It was bitterly cold at the cemetery during the funeral. Later, the beraved



Lawless

woman returned to her farm home in the company of a few close friends who sought to console her.

To fight off the chill, one of them built a roaring log fire in the fireplace. The poor woman sat warming her hands and staring at the blaze.

"Fred always enjoyed sitting in front of the fire," she sobbed, then added: "I hope there's a nice warm fire where he is now."

★ ★ ★

WHILE we shun morbidity, Prosecutor Charles M. Walker tells about the husband who was completing arrangements for his dear departed. Questioned on what material he preferred for the headstone, he mused:

"Well, Ethyl always said I took her for granite . . ."

★ ★ ★

BACK to Rev. Cummings: He has written new lyric to our official state song. He loves "The West Virginia Hills," but feels that the words are a bit outdated.

For example, the second verse begins:

"Oh, the West Virginia hills! Where my girlhood's hours were passed . . ."

That was the original version. But last year the Legislature formally adopted a newer version. Dr. Cal-

vin Buell Agey changed the word "girlhood's" to "childhood."

Another phrase objectionable to Rev. Cummings is the prophetic, ". . . I must bid you now adieu. In my home beyond the mountains I shall ever dream of you . . ."

Dr. Agey allowed that line to stand.

We're losing population, Rev. Cummings admits, but we don't have to go around singing about it.

Wise, Unwise and Otherwise.

By M. HOMER CUMMINGS,
O. HAT. Y. M. C. A.

Will some one kindly sing "From Greenland's Icy Mountains?" At this writing it is 100 degrees above zero in a refrigerator.

If your head doesn't rattle, the reason is simple. It has nothing in it. Many of the boys in this section are very illiterate. They write (home) for money.

Two colored soldiers from the same village met in camp, for the first time last week. The following conversation ensued.

"Hello, Sambo, 'war you now?"

"Yse in de infant department; 'war is you, Raastus?"

"Yse in de cemetery (sanitary) corps."

Corporal—I never could understand why they call a boat "she."

Sergeant—Evidently you never tried to steer one.

Private Carter says that the most pathetic music that he has heard since leaving Indiana has been the song of the mosquito around his cot at night.

"I want to be procrastinated at de nex' corner," said Private Bones Pinkly to the street car conductor in Baltimore the other day.

"You want to be what?"

"Port lose your temper. I had to look in de dictionary myself befo' I found out dat procrastinate means put off."

Y. M. C. A. Secretary—Well, is there something we can do for you?

Soldier—W-a-l-l, ef, yes, My wife writes me that our baby six months old can't talk yet and we are very much alarmed about it.

Y. Secretary—I see no occasion for

worry. A child of that age is not expected to talk.

Soldier—I didn't know, but I read in the Bible that you gave me of where Job cursed the day he was born.

Having been deluged with questions as to when the war will end, we have at last been successful in finding a reply. Here it is:

"Absolute knowledge have I none, but my aunt's washerwoman's sister's son heard a policeman on his beat say to a laborer in the street that he had a letter just last week.

Written in the finest Greek. From a Chinese coolie in Tiniancton. Who said the biggers in Cuba know.

Of a colored man in a Texas town. Who got 't straight from a circus clown. That a man in Klamath heard the news from a gang of South American Jews.

Of somebody in Bozjoo. Who heard a man who claims to know of a swell society female rike.

Whose mother-in-law with indigestion has proved that her husband's sister's niece that she has a son who has a friend who knows just when the war will end."

Providing Some Fine "Feeds."

"Same" fine "feeds" is the verdict placed on the menus which are being prepared for the 34th Company, 154th Depot Brigade, by the mess sergeants, cooks and bakers. The company occupies two mess halls, but the amount of work to be done doesn't interfere with the appetizing "feeds." Sergt. William Stover is at the helm and keeps things running smoothly all the time. His assistants are Sergt. Franklin Fitzsimons and Sergt. William C. King. The bakers' and cooks' line-up is as follows: William Robinson, Albert Wilson, Roy Baker, Alfred Rainey, Harry Mittids, Russell Mangel, Augustino Calito, Louis Diamond, Chris Kocokanis and George Frankous.

A GEM FROM THE POETS

VOTE FOR DAVIS

Do you love your native state?

Vote for Davis!

Now's the time to make her great,

Vote for Davis!

He was born upon our soil,

Vote for Davis!

He is not afraid of toil

Vote for Davis!

And he's not besmirched by oil—

Vote for Davis!

West Virginians, now's your chance,

Vote for Davis!

Every heart with pride should dance

Vote for Davis!

Lay aside all petty views

Vote for Davis!

And our nation's ruler choose

Vote for Davis!

From the state our foes abuse—

Vote for Davis!

Let this be our battle cry,

Vote for Davis!

Wave the banner to the sky,

Vote for Davis!

Let it sound throughout the earth

Vote for Davis!

West Virginia's given birth

Vote for Davis!

To a president of worth—

Vote for Davis!

West Virginia is 61 years old and this is the first opportunity that we have ever had to elect a president who was born upon her soil. Shall we fail? Let all loyal West Virginians regardless of their political affiliations vote for JOHN W. DAVIS.

Sum & Peck's ad.

Work: A Song of Triumph

Work !

Thank God for the might of it,
The ardor, the urge, the delight
of it,
Work that springs from the
heart's desire,
Setting the brain and the soul
on fire—
Oh, what is so good as the heat
of it,
And what is so glad as the
beat of it,
And what is so kind as the
stern command,
Challenging brain and heart
and hand?

Work !

Thank God for the pride of it,
For the beautiful, conquering
tide of it,
Sweeping the life in its furious
flood,
Thrilling the arteries, cleansing
the blood,
Mastering stupor and dull
despair,
Moving the dreamer to do and
dare—
Oh, what is so good as the
urge of it,
And what is so glad as the
surge of it,
And what is so strong as the
summons deep,
Rousing the torpid soul from
sleep?

Work !

Thank God for the pace of it,
For the terrible, swift, keen
race of it,
Fiery steeds in full control,
Nostrils a-quiver to meet the
goal.
Work, the power that drives
behind
Guiding the purposes, taming
the mind,
Holding the runaway wishes
back,
Reining the will to one steady
track,
Speeding the energies, faster,
faster,
Triumphing ever over disaster;
Oh, what is so good as the pain
of it,
And what is so great as the
gain of it,
And what is so kind as the
cruel goad,
Forcing us on through the
rugged road?

Work !

Thank God for the swing of it,
For the clamoring, hammering
ring of it,
Passion of labor daily hurled
On the mighty anvils of the
world.
Oh, what is so fierce as the
flame of it?
And what is so huge as the aim
of it?
Thundering on through dearth
and doubt,
Calling the plan of the Maker
out,
Work, the Titan; Work, the
friend,
Shaping the earth to a glorious
end,
Draining the swamps and
blasting hills,
Doing whatever the Spirit
wills—
Rending a continent apart,
To answer the dream of the
Master heart.
Thank God for a world where
none may shirk—
Thank God for the splendor of
Work!

—#— Morga

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