

February 2019

Series I. Personal Materials. Folder 3. Correspondence, 1922-1968

Melville Homer Cummings

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Sept. 2, 1930

Dear Rev. Cummings:

It is the desire of the members of the First M. E. Church of New Martinsville that they be sent a new minister at the next meeting of Conference. I know of no one that could fill this position better than you.

The salary is \$3000 per year and a beautiful new parsonage has been built just recently.

Should you feel that you would like to come here and would be in position to come, we should be very glad to recommend you.

Hoping to hear from you soon

I remain,
Yours respectfully,
Blanche Gost Berger

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R. C. FENTON, Vice Pres., Sec. & Sales Mgr.
J. E. FENTON, Eng. Dept.

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Philadelphia, Pa.
T. Downs, Jr.
Burd Bldg.
Les L. Holloway
South-Eastern Representative

Rev. M. Homer Cummings,
Ravenswood, W. Va.

My dear Cummings:

I herewith enclose a copy of a little poem that came to us from New York State that I thought you might be interested in. It strikes me as being rather appropriate in these days.

Hoping that this finds you all well and everything going along nicely, with very best regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

F. L. Fenton

FLF:g

GEORGIE B. MINTER

Sat - Aug 14/43

Form #18 - M.D. #2

834 MASON STREET
WARREN, OHIO
TELEPHONE 3539-L

Mascillon, Ohio

Dear Hamed & Aunt Mary:-

It has been so long since I have heard from you. You, perhaps, will be surprised to know I am in the Hospital here, had an operation for a "Cyst-tumor" 3 weeks ago yesterday. It could have turned into a cancer, but it was not cancerous. They removed the uterus also.

I am in a Hospital, 75 miles from Warren. This is the State Hospital and it is a fine building, cost \$200,000 besides the equipment. There were four doctors ^{my} operated on me, one gave the ether and Dr. Hyde the Head-Psychiatrist stood by. He has charge, has been here 22 yrs, without a vacation. They have 6000 patients here. They have cottages or houses for the Incurables. The Hospital has Hydros-Baths, Shots, Shocks (Electric) and now it has flow is operating room etc.

1st floor is Dining-room - Hydros-baths, reception rooms, offices etc, 2d floor is Medical #2 for ladies they can accommodate about 75 here.

3d floor is men (Med #3) " " " there

I have gotten on remarkably well. The Doctors have been surprised at my improvement. Are also taking Vitamins, and Freelin shots. The Freelin supplies a fluid for wastes.

Pauline came home from California, but couldn't wait for the operation, her father-in-law died of heart attack.

Paul is Corporal at Arsenal - he is ^{well} neat - ^{care} - ^{well} radio operator. They have the cutest little boy, will be 2 in October - he is beautiful.

June is Captain, graduated in ~~Ohio~~ State got the scholarship to Boston for intern work. Am glad he had to go to Army for he had the big head and that will level him out.

He is at ~~Shafter~~ - field Texas was married last August. They are expecting a little one. Harold will be 26 in October, was married the

26th June to a girl in Ohio State University. She is taking teachers training course will graduate in March D.V. He was victim 6-weeks of his

B.A. when he was called to the Army, but he passed the Military exams, will be going back to school some place after his furlough of 2-weeks

He & Joey are both at Ft. Bragg N.C. Joey is also going to military school some place in the Carolinas

I wrote Joey if he could find a good N.C. girl that could fry chickens and take his suit he had better get married too, I meant it too these awful days.

John & Maude have their store, but think they are going to sell out and buy a farm. William & Delma have 3 children - 2 girls and a boy - He & his Dad have a Super-market working themselves almost to death

can't get help. Raymond is a Bachelor working for a Defense plant, the only one at home!

Mary & Kemron are in Malak, the heart of Borneo. They didn't get out before Singapore was bombed. Haven't had a letter since Oct 1941, but have seen a missionary, who saw Kemron the night before they got out. The bombs were bombed 5-times.

How are the boys? Where is Homer & Hugh? Will

mother winter still alive & 73 yrs old

is another Cummings? How are you all? Army & plane

C O P Y

March 12th. 1952.

Dr. Henry R. High,
828 Court Avenue,
Weston, W. Va.

Dear Dr. High:-

I am writing this letter as Chairman of the Official Board of the Gassaway church and also on behalf of the Pastoral Relations committee.

At the regular meeting of the Official Board last week, it was agreed that the minister's salary should be \$3600.00 for the coming year. It should be clearly pointed out, however, that this action was taken with the understanding that Dr. Cummings be returned as pastor. No such action would have been taken without this understanding and without Dr. Cummings' commitment which was given at this time.

There is no question whatever regarding the high esteem in which Dr. Cummings is held not only by the people of the church but also by the community as a whole. As I look over the Sunday morning congregations I never cease to marvel at the number of people who are being reached by the services who formerly were non-attendants. He preaches acceptably, works hard at the job of church administration and pastoral work but first and last he is his own best sermon.

It would not be out of place to bracket with his name that of Mrs. Cummings, even though she is not "hired" by the Board. She is certainly a great help to her husband and her charming personality

is sufficient to win her recognition in her own right. We are
delighted that she is here.

I sincerely trust that this letter will be sufficient
to bring about the desired result.

We shall be seeing you shortly at the District Conference.
With every good wish to you and kindest regards to Mrs. High, I
am,

Most sincerely yours,

W. J. Trustall
Chairman, Official Board.

JOE EMERSON
520 NORTH MICHIGAN AVE., CHICAGO

September 14, 1940

Mr. M. Homer Cummings
Box 390
Wheeling, West Va.

Dear Friend:

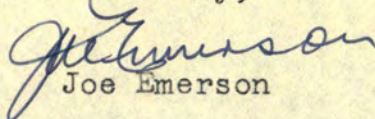
About a year ago this office took over the handling of all copyrights in connection with clearing them for use on the "Hymns of All Churches" program. Previous to that time, as you no doubt remember, it was handled by the Knox Reeves Advertising Agency in Minneapolis. Now we have been under the impression that you were a member of ASCAP and MPPA. Only this morning were we advised to the contrary.

Upon looking up our old records, we found that Knox Reeves at one time secured a release from you, covering the use of your material on "Hymns of All Churches", for an indefinite period of time. However, there is no copy of that release in our files.

Just to keep our records in order, and to satisfy the broadcasting stations in case of inquiry, would you mind signing the enclosed broadcasting license? You will note that it is for one year. If you wish, you may cross it out and write in "for an indefinite period", or perhaps "a three year period", and we will not have to write you again at the end of a year for a renewal.

With kind personal regards, I am

Sincerely,


Joe Emerson

cb



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RICHMOND, IND., U. S. A.

September 15th, 1934

Cable Address:
"Starr Richmond, Ind."

M. Homer Cummings
Fayetteville, West Virginia

My dear Sir:

Referring to yours of the thirteenth, your tests are not as yet through our laboratory, but should be through next week and we will send you a test pressing of each.

Very truly yours,

THE STARR COMPANY
Champion Record Division

By.

Lee A. Butt:IMH



Office of the Governor
Atlanta

LESTER MADDOX
GOVERNOR

August 27, 1968
Dict. August 24

Mr. M. Homer Cummings
130 Cedar Street
Huntington, West Virginia 25705

Dear friend Cummings:

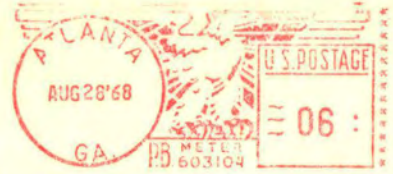
Thanks for your thoughtfulness for sending copies of your beautiful and inspiring songs; "How Great Art Thou", "He Knows What Is Best", "God Is Not Dead", "I Want To Walk With God", and "No Room For Christ". I know nothing about music, but I can tell from reading the words that they had to come from one strong in his faith for our Lord Christ Jesus. I thank God for you and other real Christians who publicly and unashamedly profess their faith in Christ and especially for you and your ability to serve Him through song.

It is my sincere hope that God's richest blessings will continue to be upon you and yours.

Sincerely,

LM:jsp

*"It's Great
To Be
A Georgian"*



Mr. M. Homer Cummings
130 Cedar Street
Huntington, West Virginia 25705

Office of the Governor
State Capital
Atlanta



Our Weekly Message

By REV. M. HOMER CUMMINGS

We have heard the old adage, "When angry count ten before speaking." This is wholesome advice for it gives the enraged person a brief cooling off period before he expresses his opin-



Well, before starting to write this article, I counted one hundred. I did not do this because I was upset or offended at anybody but I wanted to ascertain how much time would be consumed in the process. It took me thirty seconds. At that rate, I could count two hundred in one minute, twelve thousand in one hour, ninety-six thousand in an eight-hour working day, thirty-five million and one hundred and forty thousand in one year, and seven billion and twenty-eight million in two hundred years.

Seven Billion

Yes, it would take a person, if he could live that long, about two hundred years (working eight hours each day) to count seven billion. Why am I interested in this figure? It is because the American people spent more than seven billion dollars for alcoholic drinks in 1944, (the figures for 1945 are not yet available.) This staggering sum is practically as much as was expended in the United States during the same period of time for all public and private schools, colleges, universities, educational institutions for the deaf, dumb, and blind, the American Red Cross, the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, hospitals, crippled children, old age assistance, aid to the maimed, unemployment compensation administration, libraries and churches.

19 Attend Clwd. Prayer Meeting

The Rev. M. Homer Cummings pastor of the Coalwood community church, gave a talk from the book, "Daily Bible Devotions", Thursday night a week ago at the cottage prayer meeting held in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lige Overby. The meeting opened with singing of hymns and prayer. Song, "Love Held Him There" was given by special request by Rev. and Mrs. Cummings.

The meeting closed with the forming of the Friendship Circle with prayers.

At the last meeting were Mr. and Mrs. Neal Collins, Mr. and Mrs. Willie Surratt, Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Durham, Mrs. Robert Vinson, Mrs. Eugene Robinson, Mrs. Lige Overby, Mrs. Okey Sargent, Mrs. E. L. Stilwell; Mrs. Bill Dunn, Mrs. Arthur Cook, Mrs. Mullen C. McMillan, the Misses Peggy Sargent, Mary Lou Robinson, Janet Dunn, Frankie Seach, Charles McGlothlin and the Rev. and Mrs. M. Homer Cummings.

Evangeline Booth

The enormous amount of money wasted for booze is bad enough but it does not portray the true picture. Evangeline Booth of the Salvation Army says: "Drink has drained more blood, hung more crepe, sold more homes, plunged more people into bankruptcy, armed more villains, slain more children, snapped more wedding rings, defiled more innocence, blinded more eyes, twisted more limbs, dethroned more reason, wrecked more manhood, dishonored more womanhood, broken more hearts, blasted more lives, driven more to suicide, and dug more graves than any other poisoned scourge that ever swept its death-dealing waves across the world."

Strong Drink Is Raging

Solomon says: "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging; and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise." (Proverbs 20: 1.) "Who hath woe? Who hath sorrow? Who hath contentions? Who hath babbling, Who wounds without cause? Who hath redness of eyes? They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine. Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth its color in the cup, when it moveth itself aright. At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder." (Proverbs 23: 29-32.)

The Methodist Church

West Virginia Conference

CHARLESTON DISTRICT

Phone 3-6648

ROSS CULPEPPER
District Superintendent

1580 Quarrier Street
CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA

April 18, 1958

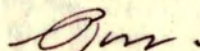
Dear Homer:

I have sent your name into Rev. Billee Scott Mick as our Charleston District Rural Minister of the Year. Hope you have no objections.

You have served well the people of Glasgow for many years and in this your 50th. year it is one of the best.

Rev. Mick would like to have some things for the Town and Country Display at Conference. Have you something? If so let Rev. Mick know and have it ready for Conference.

Many thanks,



Ross



Charleston, W. Va., Mar. 22, 1922.

Rev. M. Homer Cummings,
Glen White, W. Va.

My dear friend Cummings:--

I am sorry I could not follow up my plan to send Ruth up there to help you with some of your work but she had made some plans which I did not know about; she would have been willing to cancel these plans, had I insisted upon it but she has been going rather hard for the last few weeks and I thought it might be best for her to have this little time for rest and recreation. I still may be able to send her up there to be with you over Sunday. Will let you know as soon as I can decide about it. I do appreciate your fine spirit. The girls are both great boosters for you. They think you are a live-wire and enjoyed their work with you very much indeed. I feel very sure they would like to come back and be with you again. If I cannot arrange for Ruth to come now, possibly I can do it a little bit later. Will expect to see you over in Beckley next Monday night. I think the girls are going to go to Ronceverte, Lewisburg and Alderson next week.

Thank you for sending the clipping. The girls enjoyed them very much indeed. Be sure and plan to come down and see me here so we can go over those songs. With my very kindest regards and best wishes, I am,

Most cordially yours,

Homer Rodeheaver



Rev. M. Homer Cummings,

Glen White,

W.VA.



Charleston, W. Va., Feb. 28, 1922.

Rev. M. Homer Cummings,
Glen White, W. Va.

My dear friend Cummings:--

Mighty glad to get your good letter. Will be especially glad to talk over the matter of the Beckley date with you when you get down and I hope you will come down very soon. Ruth and Miss Carmichael will be here next week. Ruth may possibly be here next Sunday. They are going to be filling three or four engagements for Rev. Jessee in some little towns in his territory around Helen, W. Va. Monday, the 13th, they are to be up in Canton, O. for a concert there for Mr. Manker, in his church. I feel very sure they could come and fill some engagements for you during the rest of that week, if you could secure the engagements for them.

I was with them down in Florida and we gave three or four concerts there. They are exceptionally popular everywhere they appear and I am sure they would be able to please your people up there and you would have a good time.

Let me know if you can fill some engagements for them as soon as possible, so we can plan accordingly. I am going to remake the records of your song, Mother, just as soon as I can get into the laboratory. Would like also to put another one of your songs on the other side of this same record. Come and see us just as soon as possible. We are having a good meeting down here. Please accept for yourself and extend to your good wife and to our good friends, the Whites, my very kindest regards and best wishes.

Most cordially yours,

Homer Rodeheaver



Rev. M. Homer Cummings,

Glen White,

W. Va.





Winona Lake, Ind., July 7, 1923.

Rev. M. Homer Cummings,
Glen White, W.Va.

My dear friend Cummings:--

Thank you for your letter. I congratulate you on the arrival of that new baby at your house. Hope the mother is well.

We have succeeded in getting through a good record of your song and my brother just tells me it will be released in August. I have asked them to send you 10 copies of it so you might have it for yourself and for some of your friends. No, I will not be at Mountain Lake Park this season. Will be mighty glad indeed to have you with us at the conference here at Winona Lake. There are a lot of things I want to talk over with you. I will be leaving in September for a trip to Japan and China and India.

With my very kindest regards and best wishes to Mrs. Cummings and yourself, I am,

Your sincere friend,

Homer Rodeheaver



CHICAGO
JUL 9
7 PM
1923
ILL.

REGISTER
OR
INSURE
VALUABLE
MAIL



Rev. M. Homer Cummings,

Glen White,

W. Va/



Cawthon Hotel
Mobile, Ala.
Feb. 1, 1927

Mr. M. Homer Cummings
Ceredo, W. Va.

My dear friend Cummings:

Thank you for your letter and for sending me your new songs. I am always glad to see your new songs. Mighty sorry I did not get them just a few weeks earlier because we have just gotten from the press during the past four or five weeks our new book which we call "Praise and Service Hymns." It will be some little time now before we will be publishing any other book, but I am certainly glad to know the new songs you are writing and I hope I may be able to use them both for my sake and for yours too. I like the one especially entitled "Just Where You Are." I believe Mrs. Asher and I could use that as a duet. I will look it over with her anyway and see if we cannot use it in the meeting and boost you a little in that way.

Have not heard from you for so long! I hope you are having a great work. We are just now in the midst of a meeting here in Mobile, Ala. Will be here for two weeks yet and then we go to Tampa, Florida.

With my very kindest regards and best wishes, I am

Most cordially yours,

Homer Rodeheaver



RODEHEAVER
218 S. WABASH AVENUE
CHICAGO

Mr. M. Homer Cummings
Ceredo, West Virginia

MOBILE
FEB 1
7 30 AM
1927
ALABAMA





Feb. 5th, 1932.

Rev. M. Homer Cummings,
Fayetteville, West Va.

Dear friend Cummings:-

Thank you for your letter, and thank you for sending your new songs.

I think they are above the average. I believe you have here some of the best you have written, and I appreciate seeing them very much.

In case you have not seen our new song book, PRAISE AND VICTORY SONGS, I am asking the office to send a couple copies to you.

We did have a good time over in Charleston. Mighty sorry you didnot get over. It is hard to tell when I will be back that way again. We talked about the splendid visit we had up in your place when I was there before. I hope your work is going wonderfully well. I hope you will plan to be with us in our Conference at Winona. This year we are going to have Dr. Clarence Dickinson, who has written so many wonderful anthems, and who is the head of the music department of Union Theological Seminary. He will be a great help to us. Mrs. Dickinson will be along, and do some lecturing on the use of pictures and art in music. We will begin about August 12th this year, and go through to the 26th.

With best wishes to all your family and yourself, I am

Your sincere friend,

M. Homer Rodeheaver



28 EAST JACKSON BLVD.
CHICAGO

CHICAGO
FEB 6
9 PM
1932
ILL.



Rev. M. Homer Cummings,
Fayetteville, West Va.

HOMER RODEHEAVER
Y. P. RODEHEAVER. J. N. RODEHEAVER

GEO. W. SANVILLE, Eastern Manager

SACRED MUSIC PUBLISHERS

CHICAGO,
28 EAST JACKSON BLVD.

PHILADELPHIA
721 ARCH STREET



The Rodeheaver Company

28 EAST JACKSON BLVD.

Chicago

Oct. 11th, 1932.

Mr. M. Homer Cummings,
Fayetteville, West Va.

Dear Mr. Cummings:-

We are very glad to have your letter of the 10th, and to hear from you again, and note your check for \$2.50 for duplicate of a 4X7 round note plate of "We Are Going Down the Valley", and we can furnish you a duplicate of this plate all right, and will be very glad, indeed, to do it, but I am just wondering if you know this is a Fillmore Copyright, and still in force, as they have lately refused us permission to use some of their copyrights, and I am just wondering if you have permission to use the song. I would hate to lose this order, but again I would not like to sell you a plate you could not use, so I think we will wait until we hear from you again.

In the meantime, I am wondering if we might not be able to save you a lot of money by furnishing you a lot of other duplicates of plates you might be using, if you are getting out a new songbook of some kind, and furthermore, I am wondering if we might not have the pleasure of figuring with you on making this book for you, and if you will give us some description, from which we might be able to make you an estimate, we will be very glad to figure on it, which would include the free use of a few of our own copyrights. We might just say we printed a large Hymnal for some people a few months ago, who had all their plates made at Armstrongs, but they preferred to have us do the printing and binding for them.

We have hundreds and hundreds of 4X7 plates, and a lot of which we already have duplicates, which we will furnish to you at \$1.50 each, but any others for which we might have to make duplicate casts, we would make a dozen or more at the rate of \$2.00 each, but that would not include changing the folio, if it would have to be changed.

Page Two.

You might send us a list of a few you are needing, and you think we might have, or if you would really be interested or think it worth while, we could send you a list of the plates we have, and from which we could select what you would need. We would ask you to be careful and return the lust, as we only have the one.

Yes, it was quite a shock to learn of the death of Mr. Gabriel, and we have been planning to publish an appropriate memorial, with just a few of his most popular songs, and a few testimonies from some of his most intimate friends and acquaintances, and song writers, but I just donot know how soon we may get it out.

Very sincerely yours,

THE RODEHEAVER COMPANY.

YPR*M

J. Rodeheaver

THE SONG OUR FATHER SANG AND LOVED SO WELL.

There's a picture in my memory that will never fade away
Though years may come and roll along and I be old and gray;
My father standing by me and with lips that now are cold
Sang Home Sweet Home the song he loved so well.

Chorus.

O, home! Sweet Home! O how I'd like to hear that voice again!
Beyond the pearly gates many mansions wait
Is the song our father sang and loved so well

(2).

As we sat beside our father's cot with aching heart one day
He sang *again* this dear old song before he went away.
But now he's gone we'll never hear that dear old voice again
Sing Home Sweet Home, the song he loved so well.

(3).

One evening father left us for his home among the blest
To be with loved ones gone before and ever be at rest.
With aching hearts we gathered near *and listened while the choir*
was Sing Home Sweet Home the song he loved so well.

The words of this song came to me, one night
^{3 months} after my father ^{L. B. clay} had gone to his "Home sweet Home"
I had retired after a day of hard toil, working
it was possible for me to see him and
again hear him sing, "Home sweet Home."
I was awakened near midnight with these
words running in my mind. Through my mind
I immediately arose and wrote them. I
dedicated them to his memory, Kathryn clay

Rev Cummings if you can
use these words with any
revision you may ~~see~~ ~~fit~~ ~~to~~
think best. I will appreciate
it if not, all I ask is to
return them to me.
perhaps they will be useful to
some one. Kathryn Clay

DOMESTIC SERVICE	SYMBOL
TELEGRAM	
DAY LETTER	BLUE
NIGHT MESSAGE	NITE
NIGHT LETTER	N
If no symbol appears after the check (number of words) this is a TELEGRAM; otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol	

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Dated

Staunton Va 11.

19

To

M. Homer Cummings

Union W. Va.

called for your Bro in Meeting to Nite
 but no respond is there any thing else
 I could do accept my most sincere
 sympathy because of your fathers
 death I will say good night here but
 good morning of up there.
 Homer Rodheaver.

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A fast cable service to all parts of the world at regular rates. Code language permitted.

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Cable Letters

Over-night cable service to certain countries at greatly reduced rates. Due for delivery the following noon. Code language not permitted. Minimum of 13 words (including necessary prefix) charged for.

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The slowest cable service of all. Accepted at any

M. Deane Cummings