A Joint Meeting of the Association of Methodist Historical Societies and the Evangelical United Brethren Historical Society was held at the United Theological Seminary, Dayton, Ohio, March 21-22, 1968. Twenty-five of the 30 members of the Association’s Executive Committee were present, and 14 E.U.B. Society members were in attendance. The presidents of the two organizations, Bishop T. Otto Nall of Minneapolis and Dr. Alfred J. Thomas of Red Lion, Pennsylvania, shared the duties of presiding officer.

Albea Godbold, Executive Secretary of the Association of Methodist Historical Societies, presented his annual report and closed with the announcement of his forthcoming retirement. Upon motion of Robert Bull, the body adopted a resolution of esteem and appreciation for his leadership, and resolved to recommend to the Commission on Archives and History of The United Methodist Church that Godbold be elected honorary Executive Secretary of the Commission, thereby providing for his expenses to the meetings of the Commission.

John H. Ness, Jr., Secretary and Curator of the Evangelical United Brethren Historical Society, presented his report. Charles B. Way and Cawley Stine, treasurers of the two organizations, gave financial reports.

The fact that the Methodist Board of Missions must dispose of some of its library holdings in order to make room for a larger collection to be operated jointly with the Presbyterians was brought to the attention of the group, and a resolution was adopted formally inviting the Board of Missions to place these materials in the historical library at Lake Junaluska.

The need for locating and preserving records of annual conferences which have merged or will merge with other conferences was discussed and certain individuals were asked to try to locate some of these records.

Professor Arthur C. Core of United Theological Seminary presented a paper entitled, "Philip William Otterbein: Churchman Catholic and Ecumenical."

The group discussed procedures for merging the Methodist and E.U.B. historical agencies, and Bishop Nall stressed the need for making the church aware of the importance of archives. It was agreed that for the foreseeable future the Commission would maintain offices and libraries at Lake Junaluska and Dayton. The Legislative Committee recommended and the joint meeting adopted a resolution to the effect that the two bodies continue to operate under their present officers and staffs until the newly elected Commission on Archives and History is organized.

The Joint Meeting voted unanimously to request the Council of Bishops to assign Bishop Nall to the Commission on Archives and History, effective July 29, 1968. The body also went on record as favoring the election of John H. Ness, Jr. as Associate Executive Secretary and Archivist in the Commission.

At dinner on March 21, the Jesse Lee Prize for the best book-length manuscript on some phase of American Methodist history was presented to Dr. Lester B. Scherer of Adrian College. The title of his essay is, "Ezekiel Cooper, 1763-1847: An Early American Methodist Leader." Guests at the dinner were E.U.B. and Methodist ministers and their wives from Dayton and faculty members of the Seminary.

August R. Suelflow, Archivist of the Missouri Synod Lutheran Church, delivered an address on "Church Archives Responsibility: Whose Is It?" in the Seminary Chapel following dinner on March 21.

Bishop Roy H. Short delivered a devotional message at the regular Seminary chapel service on the morning of March 22.

The Grave Marker Committee presented a design for a grave marker, and the Committee on Historical Shrines and Landmarks proposed a marker for historical shrines and landmarks. Both designs were adopted with two dissenting votes.

The Committee on Historical Shrines and Landmarks recommended that several structures and locations be nominated to the Uniting Conference for designation as historical shrines and landmarks. With one exception, the recommendations were adopted by the group.

Roland Kircher, President of the Methodist Librarians' Fellowship, reported for that organization, stating that the Union List of Serials being prepared by John Batsel is nearing completion. The group agreed to finance the printing of the work up to $2,000.

Elizabeth Hughey reported on the Union Catalog of Methodist Materials, and recommended that the committee point toward publishing a supplement to rather than a revised edition of the Preliminary Union Catalog.

The group's attention was called to the need for urging local churches to provide fireproof files for the storage of their records. Plans were announced for celebrating the 200th anniversary of the arrival of Richard Boardman and Joseph Pilmoor at Gloucester Point, N. J., October 24, 1969, under the sponsorship of the New Jersey Conference Historical Society. Color slides and sound tape of Jerry Walker's Bicentennial drama, "Warm Hearts and Saddlebags," are available on loan from the library at Lake Junaluska.