

remain in the American Baptist Association. For a number of years Bethel was the only American Baptist Association work in the state.

He served the American Baptist Association on the Missionary Committee from 1952 to 1963, the Baptist Sunday School Committee from 1963 to 1989 and as Vice-President in 1969 and 1970.

On November 4, 1976, he was awarded the Doctor of Divinity degree by the Eastern Baptist Institute.

Sarah Elsie Ellen, his wife of forty-three years, preceded him in death on October 1, 1971.

On February 1, 1969, after thirty-five years at Bethel, Brother Ridgeway retired from the pastorate. He remained an active member of Bethel Church. The church provided him a substantial retirement income until his death.

Corbett E. Mask

Vice President, 1956, 1959-1960, 1962, 1965, 1967-1968(99)

President, 1969 -1970

Dr. Corbett E. Mask was born in 1921 and departed this life on December 13, 1996, at the age of seventy-five.

He was a native of Wattensaw in Lonoke County. He graduated from Des Arc High School, attended the Beebe Junior College, Ouachita Baptist College and the Missionary Baptist Seminary in Little Rock.

Bro. Mask surrendered to preach in June of 1940. His pastorates included several churches in Arkansas, including Spring Creek and Forest Hills in Benton.

Bro. Mask was also active in holding revival services in the churches composing the American Baptist Association. He was numbered among the best in this field of the Lord's work. He also showed skill as a debater

Bro. Mask was elected as a Vice President in several years beginning in 1956 and then as President in 1969. He moderated the annual meeting in Louisville, KY in 1970.

Bro. James F. Holmes paid tribute to Bro. Mask:

"Corbett Mask preached more revivals and was in demand as a preacher in the fifties and sixties probably more than any other preacher in the American Baptist Association. Many people were brought to Jesus through his preaching.

He suffered poor health for many years and was confined to the Chambers Nursing Home in Carlisle, Arkansas prior to his death."

